

Downeast Horizons employment opportunities

Immediate need for part-time Behavioral Health Professionals (BHPs) in our children's programs. BHPs manage fun activities such as playing board games, going to the playground, meal planning, shopping, cooking, hiking, and swimming. These activities help the children we serve learn social and community safety skills, maintain friendships, process emotions, and so much more. **ALL WHILE HAVING FUN!**

Part-time BHP positions are open in Hancock, Penobscot, and Piscataquis counties, with starting wages up to \$23 per hour. All training provided!

\$1,000 BHP SIGN-ON BONUS

Offering flexible scheduling, paid time off, and the opportunity to participate in our 401K retirement program.

Immediate need in Bucksport, MDI, Brewer, and Ellsworth areas!

We are now looking for Part-time Maintenance Staff to join our team. Please call 667-7464 for more information.

Visit our website at dehi.org/employment to apply, or call 667-7464 for more information.

All applicants must have a high school diploma/GED, and valid driver's license.



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Downeast Horizons

Downeast Horizons assists and supports individuals with developmental disabilities to live complete and fulfilling lives.



A Message from Our Executive Director

As we reflect on the events and milestones highlighted in this newsletter, I am reminded of the strength of our community and the dedication of those who make Downeast Horizons what it is today.

From cheering on our athletes as they prepare for the 2026 Special Olympics USA Games, to celebrating meaningful employment successes, to gathering around the table during the holidays, each moment represents something larger than a single event. These experiences reflect opportunity, inclusion, and connection—values that have guided our organization since its founding.

Our mission has always been rooted in supporting the individuals we serve so they may lead full, engaged, and meaningful lives. That work is made possible through the commitment of our staff, the trust of families, the determination of our participants, and the support of our broader community.

DEHI Athletes Chosen for National Special Olympics Games

Congratulations to Downeast Horizons athletes Martha Noddin, Michael Mooney, and Jaron Baude! These incredible individuals will be representing Special Olympics Maine at the 2026 USA Games in Minnesota.

Martha and Michael will compete in swimming, while Jaron will take the court as a member of the basketball team. Their selection is an extraordinary accomplishment and reflects months—and often years—of dedication, training, and perseverance. Being chosen to compete at the USA Games is a tremendous honor, and we could not be more proud of the commitment and determination these athletes bring to their sport and their teammates.

The USA Games bring together thousands of athletes from across the country, celebrating inclusion, resilience, and the power of sport to unite communities.

Martha, Michael, and Jaron will not only represent Special Olympics Maine, they will also carry with them the strength, pride, and spirit of Downeast Horizons.

Join us in cheering them on as they prepare for this exciting journey to Minnesota.



Special Olympics USA Games 2026
Team Maine



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Building Skills Through Shared Storytelling

The Ellsworth Children’s Program has launched an exciting new Dungeons & Dragons (D&D) Club, meeting weekly on Fridays at the Ellsworth Center.

D&D is a tabletop role-playing game where players create characters, embark on adventures, and tell collaborative stories guided by a dungeon master. Through imagination, strategy, teamwork, and a bit of chance (thanks to the dice!), participants work together to overcome challenges in a shared fantasy world.

Beyond the fun and adventure, D&D builds many important skills, including creative thinking, problem-solving, communication, teamwork, and confidence

A special thanks to Dungeon Master Xzavier for helping bring this experience to life! The program participants look forward to their weekly adventures and the friendships that continue to grow through shared storytelling.



Support Downeast Horizons

Make a Donation

Financial contributions help support recreational activities, employment supports, Special Olympics participation, and everyday program needs that enrich the lives of those we serve. Every gift, no matter the size, helps create opportunities for growth, independence, and community inclusion.

Become a Volunteer

Volunteers play a vital role in our events, programs, and community activities. Whether assisting at Special Olympics, helping with events, or sharing a skill or hobby, your time and talents are deeply appreciated.

Partner with Us

Local businesses and community organizations can partner with Downeast Horizons by offering employment opportunities, hosting fundraising events, or sponsoring program activities. Inclusive workplaces and community partnerships make a lasting impact.

Spread the Word

Follow us on social media, share our mission with friends and family, and help us raise awareness about the importance of supporting individuals with developmental disabilities. Community understanding strengthens inclusion.

Giving Thanks, Together



Downeast Horizons had the pleasure of celebrating Thanksgiving together with a warm and welcoming group meal for everyone who was staying home for the holiday.

A huge shout-out and heartfelt thank you go to Mike and Patsy for their incredible hard work and dedication in preparing a wonderful meal and an array of delicious desserts. Their generosity and care made the day truly special for all who attended.

Moments like these remind us that Downeast Horizons is more than a service provider; it’s a community.



Downeast Horizons supports 45 adults that are employed in community integrated employment settings, and three adults that volunteer in community integrated settings regularly (outside of community support programs).

**Data as of October 2025*

Work Supports Spotlight - Flexit Café -

Zachary Johnson works Wednesday mornings at Flexit Café in Ellsworth, where he takes pride in keeping things running smoothly behind the scenes. Zachary works hard washing dishes and supporting the kitchen team, demonstrating reliability and dedication each week.

For the past eight years, Zachary has been a consistent and valued member of the Flexit team. His coworkers affectionately call him the “Dish Train,” and he even has a custom apron proudly displaying the nickname—a testament to the strong relationships he has built and the appreciation he has earned.

His job coach, Jeff Jones, provides support when needed, helping Zachary continue to build skills, confidence, and independence in the workplace.

Employment opportunities like this highlight the importance of community partnerships and inclusive work environments. We are grateful to Flexit Café for welcoming Zachary as a valued member of their team and for supporting meaningful employment in our community.



Giving Back During the Holidays



Program participants and staff from the MDI Day Program came together during the holiday season to donate items for Operation Christmas Child, which were delivered to a local church in Ellsworth for distribution to children in need around the world.

Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan’s Purse, delivers gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 170 countries. These boxes, filled with toys, school supplies, and hygiene items, often represent the first gift a child has ever received.

We are proud of our participants for choosing to give back and spread kindness beyond our local community. Their generosity reflects the compassion and values we strive to foster every day.

Winter Special Olympics do not disappoint

Downeast Horizons proudly joined the Winter Special Olympics held at Hermon Mountain on February 10th. Seventeen athletes participated in the snowshoe competition, showcasing determination, resilience, and sportsmanship.

Each athlete gave their very best effort and returned home proudly wearing ribbons—a wonderful reminder that participation, courage, and teamwork are what truly matter.

A heartfelt thank you to Coach Jeff, DEHI staff, and all the volunteers who made the day possible. Their support and encouragement helped create an unforgettable experience for our athletes.

