



BOYS TO MEN QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | FEBRUARY 2015

A Message from Matt Theodores, Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your continued interest and support of Maine Boys to Men! I feel tremendous gratitude for the entire "Maine Boys to Men Community" that gives **so generously to support our work**. Your guidance, insight, and contributions are greatly appreciated and we could not do it without you!

You will see in this update that **it's an exciting time for Maine Boys to Men** as we extend our work in interesting ways. It's also inspiring to see our cause begin to get the broader national and worldwide attention it deserves. In 1998, a group of visionaries formed Maine Boys to Men to support boys as they develop into emotionally healthy, respectful, non-violent men. We quickly began to receive national recognition for our unique ability to engage boys and men in their personal growth, while also holding them accountable for ending male violence against women and girls. Today, a decade and a half after our work began, we are seeing broader awareness around issues of gender based violence and increased recognition that everyone needs to be part of the solution. It's encouraging to see such strong momentum around the work we have been doing for the past 16 years!

Last month, the documentary, "**The Mask You Live In**" was released at the **Sundance Film Festival**, providing a lens into the damaging aspects of American masculinity and challenges boys face. **Maine Boys to Men and Yarmouth High School are excited to present a community screening of this documentary on April 2nd. I hope you can join us!** I also hope to see you at our **Annual Benefit Gathering on May 8th** to celebrate the important work that you all make possible.

Please follow us on **Facebook** and **Twitter** for ongoing updates. I can be reached at matt@maineboystomen.org and I encourage your thoughts, ideas, feedback and suggestions.

Thank you for your continued support!

Matt

Matt Theodores
Executive Director

The Mask You Live In Film Screening



Maine Boys to Men and Yarmouth High School are very excited to co-host the screening of an important and timely film **The Mask You Live In**. The film will be shown on **April 2nd**,

6:30PM, at the Yarmouth High School Performing Arts Center. The film follows boys and young men as they struggle to stay true to themselves while negotiating America's narrow definition of masculinity. **The Mask You Live In** ultimately illustrates how we, as a society, can raise a **healthier generation of boys and young men**. This film is recommended for an audience that is 17 years or older. There is no fee for attending the film, but donations are welcome. Space is limited, so please [REGISTER](#) today!

[Click here to watch a trailer of the film!](#)

Save The Date

~ SAVE THE DATE ~

Maine Boys to Men 5th Annual Benefit

May 8, 2015 ~ 6:30-9:30

Frontier Cafe, Brunswick, Maine

Stay tuned for details....



Reducing Sexism and Violence Program (RSVP)

Congratulations to all the student leaders at **Windham High School, Gardiner High School, Maranacook High School, and Thornton Academy** who participated in multiple RSVP training sessions during recent months. We are enjoying our continued work with **Jobs for Maine Graduate** students at the **Portland High School**. And lastly, thank you to the wonderful group of students brought together by the **Portland's Multicultural Center 'Make it Happen'** program. We held two very engaging multicultural workshops and came away with great insights to further adapt our curriculum. It is wonderful to see the growing and increasingly diverse population of nearly **1,000 students** in Maine carry this work forward everyday within their communities. An overview of our RSVP program can be found [\(HERE\)](#).

RSVP Facilitator Orientation and Training Session

We are offering an RSVP Facilitator Orientation and Training Session on **Friday, March 6th from 9:00AM to 3:00PM**. Once trained and approved by Maine Boys to Men, RSVP Facilitators become eligible for the paid co-facilitation role at high schools across Maine. Space is limited and attendees need to be pre-approved and registered, please contact matt@maineboystomen.org if you or someone you know has interest.

BOLD 2015

It seems so far away, but summer plans are in the works!

BOLD (Boys Outdoor Leadership Development) will be held again at the Mallet Barn on Wolfe's Neck Road in Freeport, Maine:

Session 1: July 6-10

Session 2: July 13-17

We will have fun activities which help the boys reflect on characteristics of **"True Strength"**, along with teaching them the importance of taking care of the natural world and their part in this lifelong endeavor.

Space is limited to 20 boys per session - so please register soon.



Click [here](#) to download the registration forms. Scholarships are available upon request. Please mail the forms along with your payment to:

Maine Boys to Men
Attn: Katherine Doughty
81 Bridge Street, M201
Yarmouth, ME 04096

Boys to Men Partnering with Mid Coast Hospital

Beginning January 2015, **Maine Boys to Men** and **Mid Coast Hospital** in Brunswick began offering **Boot Camp for New Dads** to soon-to-be and recent fathers in the Mid Coast region. For the last six years, we have delivered Boot Camp twice monthly in conjunction with [Mercy Hospital](#) and [Maine Medical Center](#). With generous support from **Unum**, Boys to Men has served **1,300 new fathers in Portland**.

Boot Camp for New Dads is an evidence-based workshop that teaches men different ways of fathering than they might have been exposed to as children and opens up their eyes as to how they can be equal participants in the parenting of their children. It helps them make informed decisions about what attitudes and behaviors to carry forward in this important role. As one new dad said:

"When I attended Boot Camp as an "expecting" dad, I walked away with a whole new outlook at what lied ahead. I knew that even though my history wouldn't provide me with much to draw on, I could still be an amazing father to my son and an equal partner in raising him with my wife, as long as I was willing to put in the hard work."

To register for a class at Mid Coast Hospital, click [here](#) or call 207-373-6500. For more information, please contact Katherine Doughty at Maine Boys to Men, 207-774-9994 or katherineb2m@maine.rr.com.



Connected Fatherhood Community



On Sunday, **January 11th**, **Maine Boys to Men** hosted a **Connected Fatherhood Community** event. This group of fathers and their children met at **The Children's Museum and Theatre of Maine**. They spent time talking and getting to know one another and exploring all that the Museum had to offer. We would like to thank

The Children's Museum and Theatre of Maine for hosting this great event. Stay tuned for more Fatherhood events this Spring!

Stay Connected:

Staff:

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