

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO: Local Media Contacts
FROM: Sunrise County Economic Council
DATE: January 13, 2012
RE: Scholarships Available for Nontraditional Training

Sunrise County Economic Council (SCEC) has received continued support from the Eaton Foundation for its Young Adult Scholarship Program. The program, which provides scholarships of up to \$500 to help Washington County residents attend training or receive certification that will increase their employment and career advancement opportunities, was established with funding from Eaton in 2007.

“There are a lot of folks in Washington County who can benefit from nontraditional training opportunities,” SCEC Assistant Director Jennifer Peters said. “People who need some type of training before they can get a promotion or a new job often can’t afford to pay the tuition. These scholarships are critical because they help fill the gaps and encourage local people to develop their job skills.”

To be eligible for a scholarship, applicants must be enrolled in training that is not covered by traditional forms of financial aid, though trainings can be taken through a college or university such as the University of Maine at Machias or the Washington County Community College. Applicants must be able to show taking this course will allow them access to immediate employment or job advancement opportunities. Scholarships will not be considered for classes taken only for self-enrichment. Scholarship awards may only be used for tuition.

During 2011, SCEC awarded over 30 scholarships to area residents. Training included Certified Nurse’s Aide (CNA), Certified Residential Medications Aide (CRMA), Personal Support Specialist, Phlebotomy, Police Academy, and automotive performance certification

Founded in 1993, SCEC initiates and facilitates the creation of jobs and prosperity in Washington County. The Council has offices on Stackpole Road in Machias and at Washington County Community College in Calais. For more information, visit www.sunrisecounty.org or email wtuell@sunrisecounty.org.