



## Safer Drinking Water for Maine Families

### A Report to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing

August 2019

In 2017, the Legislature transferred \$500,000 to MaineHousing to address contaminated private drinking water wells.<sup>1</sup> The funds were to be distributed “to increase the affordability of water treatment filtration systems for households with contaminated private drinking water wells” with incomes at or below 120% of the area median. The primary targets were wells with arsenic but other contaminants were covered.<sup>2</sup> Maine Housing was required to report by January 1, 2019 on the number of wells treated.

The program status at July 31, 2019 is:

Total inquiries	226
Total applications	88
Total jobs completed	70
Total jobs in process	9
Total applications under review	7
Total applications denied	2
Total funds received	\$500,000
Less outreach and marketing	\$50,000
Less direct treatment costs	\$282,842
<u>Less MH administration (@ 15%)</u>	<u>\$42,576</u>
Balance available	\$123,582

MaineHousing is satisfied with the program and is pleased to be able to make a difference in the lives of Maine people. For more information, please contact Peter Merrill at [pmerrill@mainehousing.org](mailto:pmerrill@mainehousing.org).

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<sup>1</sup> LD 1263 – Resolve, To Increase the Affordability of Safe Drinking Water for Maine Families; PL 2017, Chapter 28.

<sup>2</sup> Microorganisms, disinfectants, disinfection by-products, inorganic chemicals, organic chemicals or radionuclides exceeding the maximum contaminant levels for public water systems established by 40 CFR Part 141.