

FRANCES PERKINS CENTER

Honoring and Preserving the Legacy of the Woman Behind the New Deal

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“Frances Perkins’ moment has come...we get to write her story anew.”

– Historian and author of “Letters from an American,” Heather Cox Richardson
2021 Intelligence & Courage Awardee

Since our founding in 2009, over 1,500 people and organizations (like you) have donated to the Frances Perkins Center. **Each gift is a symbol of hope that in making Frances Perkins’ story better known across the United States, we will help advance a socially and economically just society.**

We continue to need your help. In these challenging times of dramatic inequality in our democracy, **it is vitally important to promote a vision for a better America**, one that Frances Perkins described to Boston’s Charles Street Forum in November 1943:

“The ordinary man in the free world to come must have opportunity to earn his livelihood in useful pursuits. He needs to live in a world which makes provision for the disadvantaged groups of the community – the young, the old, the sick, those without adequate bargaining power and those whose family resources make it impossible for them to develop fully their innate capacities. A free world needs to be a world designed to produce security and comfort for the ordinary man – the wage earner, the farmer, the merchant, the teacher.”

So appropriately, the woman who was the driving force behind Social Security, unemployment compensation, minimum wage, and so many other powerful solutions, further stated, **“To build a new and better world, we must build upon the foundations which already exist.”**

TURNING POINT

Here at the Frances Perkins Center, we likewise are building on existing foundations: Frances Perkins’ powerful legacy of policy change and her ancestral homestead in Newcastle, Maine. **Now is an evolutionary turning point of becoming a public place-based education center and national historical site, significantly expanding programming opportunities when we open in 2023.** We do not do this this alone but in concert with our many donors and volunteers who give generously of their time.

HOPE IN ACTION

Frances Perkins’ life and legacy are based on her belief in a more just society for all people. The Frances Perkins Center focuses on three major initiatives to build on her hope: program outreach; preservation, interpretation, and public access to the Frances Perkins Homestead; and planning for a new education center building.

BE A PART OF OUR NEW ERA

We need your help to make this leap into our hope-filled future. Please help us receive the following offers that end on December 31st:

1. A couple has promised \$40,000 **if we raise the remaining funds** to meet this year's programmatic and operational budget.
We need \$112,000 to succeed.
2. A friend is giving a Triple Crown Challenge to complete our Homestead preservation and restoration project (\$300,000 total gift package).
To meet this triple-your-gift-value match, we need \$77,000.

Please consider two special year-end gifts to help us cross the finish line for each need. We urge you to join us now as we begin this exciting new era for the Frances Perkins Center. Thank you!

With gratitude for your partnership,



Sarah Peskin
Board Chair



Michael Chaney
Executive Director

“Like Frances Perkins, we know the right time to do right is right now...We know that “we” is the most important word in the justice vocabulary. The issue is not what I can do, but what we can do together.

– Justice Advocate Bishop William J. Barber II
2022 Steadfast Awardee

“What we preserve now sends a message to the future about who we are and what we value.”

– Historic Preservationist Monica Rhodes
2022 Open Door Awardee