Inside

ON A MISSION
Cedarcrest Center for Children with Disabilities helps kids learn and thrive
PAGE 12

FOCUS ON
Investing in the youngest among us
PAGE 6

GREATER GIVING
The Casey family’s gift will support the changing needs of communities
PAGE 14
UP FRONT
Instruments for city kids; efforts for Coös kids get published; supporting nonprofit missions; our newest colleague

FOCUS ON
Investing in the youngest among us

MY VIEW
Dr. Lisa DiBrigida, Child Health Services at Manchester Community Health Center

THE POWER OF MANY
Giving together for a stronger New Hampshire

ON A MISSION
Cedarcrest Center for Children with Disabilities helps kids learn and thrive

GREATER GIVING
The Casey family’s gift will support the changing needs of communities

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION is New Hampshire’s statewide community foundation, founded in 1962 by and for the people of New Hampshire. We manage a growing collection of 2,000 funds created by generous individuals, families and businesses, and award more than $40 million in grants and scholarships every year. We work with generous and visionary citizens to maximize the power of their giving, support great work happening in our communities, and lead and collaborate on high-impact initiatives. Learn more at www.nhcf.org or call 800-464-6641.

Through this program, 11 young people learned about philanthropy and community needs, created guidelines and recommended grants for youth-serving and youth-led organizations in the North Country.

And, of course, this Foundation is for the people: Look through this magazine. Michelle Porter getting scholarships to become a professional welder. Justin Milliken and other children with disabilities receiving the care they need at Cedarcrest. Project LAUNCH aiming to give Lincoln and every other child in Manchester the chance to succeed. And so much more.

Every grant, every scholarship, every initiative: Of, by and for the people.

That’s community philanthropy. That’s the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation.
A fleet of new cellos, trumpets, trombones, flutes, violins and more will be arriving in Manchester schools and a fleet of guitars, keyboards, ukuleles and xylophones are heading to children in Laconia thanks to grants from the David M. Brooks Music Fund. The new instruments mean more children will be able to participate in music programs because their schools will have more instruments to loan to children whose families cannot afford to buy or rent one. The grant to the Manchester district will also pay for school workshops by professional jazz musicians and for transportation for high school bands to travel to play for younger students. The Brooks Music Fund, from which the first grants were made in 2018, supports music departments and music and voice programs in New Hampshire public schools.

■

Michael Turmelle has joined the Foundation as director of education and career initiatives. He is working with partners in education, business, government and the nonprofit sector to advance and help coordinate efforts for “65 by 25” — the shared goal that 65 percent of the New Hampshire adults will have a high-value degree or credential by 2025. Michael’s position is a key part of the Foundation’s New Hampshire Tomorrow initiative to increase opportunities for young people in need.

Michael worked in public education in New Hampshire for 20 years — as a classroom teacher, principal and assistant superintendent of schools. He has been a key leader in New Hampshire’s move to competency-based education, and has worked closely with students, staff and parents to prepare students for success in communities and careers.

■

Multiyear operating grants totaling nearly $3.3 million were made to 68 organizations through the Foundation’s Community Grants program last year. Grants are helping to connect young people with life-changing mentors, ensure elders can live with dignity and independence, feed our neighbors in need, help the arts to flourish, improve the quality of early-childhood learning, boost our economy, protect natural resources, build workforce housing, safeguard civil liberties — and much more.

In 2017, the Foundation announced that its Community Grants program, through which qualified nonprofit organizations apply for funding, would be dedicated to providing multiyear operating support starting in 2018. (Nonprofits can still apply for “express” grants of $5,000 or less to fund specific projects.)

“The nonprofit sector does amazing work under often challenging conditions. And nonprofits are always being asked to do more and innovate more,” said Katie Merrow, the Foundation’s vice president of community impact. “They need this kind of flexible capital that helps them meet their important missions.”

■

A decade-long collaboration supported by the Foundation’s Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund has resulted in a coordinated system of care and services aimed at improving outcomes for every child in Coös County. A research brief about that work, “By Us and For Us, A Story of Early Childhood Development Systems Change and Results in a Rural Context,” has been published in the The Foundation Review, a national, peer-reviewed journal.

The efforts, researchers wrote, “have transformed Coös’ early childhood organizations and systems.”

“We are thrilled to see this work published nationally — and hope that what we have all learned over more than a decade here in rural New Hampshire can be applied in other places to improve outcomes and opportunities for kids,” said Kirsten Scobie, director of the Neil and Louise Tillotson Funds.

■

NEW INSTRUMENTS HEADED TO LACONIA, MANCHESTER

COLLABORATIVE EFFORT FOR COÖS KIDS RECOGNIZED

$3.3 MILLION FOR MISSIONS

MEET MICHAEL TURMELLE

KUDOS

Judy Burrows, the Foundation’s director of student aid, was honored by Granite State College with a Granite State Award for her 32 years of service helping New Hampshire students get the education and skills they need to thrive in the workforce.

Foundation friends Jack Middleton and Geoff Clark and Martha Fuller Clark were honored with Lifetime of Service Awards at City Year’s Starry Starry Night Gala.

Bobby Bagley, Nashua Region advisory board member, is a recipient of NH Magazine’s 2019 Excellence in Nursing Awards for her work leading Nashua’s Division of Public Health and Community Services.

The Laconia Middle School Band plays for local elementary school students.
FOCUS ON

I health a routine part of pediatric visits; coaching and development for early interventions; professional developmental screening that leads her needs to learn, thrive and grow: that every one of those little kids has of services and care to make sure been building a coordinated system Project LAUNCH, a coalition of Charitable Foundation’s “New Hampshire Tomorrow” 10-year initiative Investments in early childhood are a critical component of the Charitable Foundation’s “New Hampshire Tomorrow” 10-year initiative.

ALL-IN FOR THE YOUNGEST AMONG US

In Manchester, the largest city in the state, there are about 12,000 children under the age of 8. Project LAUNCH, a coalition of nonprofits and public agencies, has been building a coordinated system of services and care to make sure that every one of those little kids has the social and emotional supports she needs to learn, thrive and grow: developmental screening that leads to earlier interventions; professional coaching and development for early childhood teachers; making behavioral health a routine part of pediatric visits, parenting classes and home visiting; a rapid-response team for children who have been affected by trauma. Too many young children in the state’s population center start life facing down an array of obstacles that would make a grown person quail. In some neighborhoods of the Queen City, poverty is insidious — at some schools, more than 80 percent of children qualify for free and reduced-price lunch. Those children navigate to school through streets where violent crime is more than three times as high as in the rest of the state. Some rarely leave neighborhoods that are the epicenter of the state’s drug crisis. Just a few streets away from those places, Manchester boasts a growing high-tech sector and an increasingly vibrant business district in one of the richest states in the union. “All children deserve the opportunity to reach their potential, and Project LAUNCH is working to make sure all children in Manchester have that opportunity,” said Christina Lachance, New Hampshire Charitable Foundation director of early childhood and family initiatives. “We know that children who thrive today grow into the adults who will sustain our communities and economy tomorrow.” Project LAUNCH was initially funded by a five-year federal grant. After that funding ran out, the Charitable Foundation made a $175,000 bridge grant for continued coordination of the programs and coaching for early childhood professionals, with the goal of improving outcomes for more children.

LAUNCH in the classroom

Easterseals Child Development Center is one of four Manchester centers where teachers have been working with a behavior support coach to bolster skills and tools related to social-emotional learning and to improve classroom practices. This is not just about being able to sit still and share nicely. This is about being able to function in a community: to make choices that lead to positive relationships; to understand and learn to direct one’s own emotions and reactions; to learn to lead, and to trust.

When children can do those things, reading, writing and arithmetic become possible.

Martha Sharp’s pre-K classroom is arranged to teach those principles, with emotion charts on the walls, visual schedules, activity stations. There is a yoga and stretching area, a reading corner, a chart of “I can” statements: “I can ask others to play. I can share. I can have a calm body. I can use kind words. I can help others.” Sharp wears a lanyard with a dozen picture-cards attached. One boy with autism responds best when shown a picture of what he is being asked to do. A thin girl who seems perpetually close to tears stays close to Sharp’s side. “All of them have different needs, but they all have beautiful gifts, and that is what we want them to know,” Sharp says. Almost three-quarters of the children here receive child care scholarship assistance. Seventeen percent have been diagnosed with a disability or special need. The state’s opioid crisis is a very real monster in these children’s lives. Nearly 20 percent of the children at this center live in foster care or with grandparents or other relatives. Some have parents in jail. In one classroom, two children from separate families each lost a parent to drug overdoses within two weeks of one another.

“These children are 4 and 5 years old, and they have been through more than some people will go through in a lifetime,” Sharp said of the students in her classroom.

Experts talk about “adverse childhood experiences” and the effect they have on the developing brain. The more adverse experiences a child has, the more likely she will have developmental delays, behavioral and other health problems.

Negative outcomes in adults, said Project LAUNCH director Lara Quiroga, “have a direct correlation to what those people experienced as a kid.” But interventions like the ones Project LAUNCH offers, and connects families with, can offer hope, and help. Project LAUNCH tracked children in these classrooms whose developmental screenings indicated

“Ultimately, we want every child in New Hampshire — regardless of where she was born or if her parents are struggling to make ends meet — to have a fundamentally equal shot at success. It’s that basic.”

– Christina Lachance, director of early childhood and family initiatives, New Hampshire Charitable Foundation

(Continued, p. 8)
Narrowing the opportunity gap
Investments in early childhood are one critical component of the Charitable Foundation’s “New Hampshire Tomorrow” initiative, which is focused on narrowing the “opportunity gap” — the vastly unequal access to opportunities that keep too many of New Hampshire’s children from reaching their full potential.

New Hampshire Tomorrow was informed, in part, by a decade-long investment in the success of a similar system of early learning and care in Coös County. The Foundation is also supporting other regional initiatives to improve outcomes for children.

Christina Lachance joined the Foundation in 2016, her position funded by a generous grant from the Couch Family Foundation. She has spearheaded the Foundation’s work in early childhood since, including:

- Providing leadership and serving in an advisory role with partners in nonprofit, state government and academic settings. Lachance is part of a leadership team creating a new system of quality-rating for the state’s almost 700 early childhood development centers, shifting the focus from administrative-level measures to measures of teacher effectiveness and student-teacher interaction.

- Improving the quality of early childhood education in the classroom setting. Foundation support helped the state secure a $3.8 million federal preschool development grant to coordinate and strengthen delivery of early childhood programs statewide.

- The University of New Hampshire is leading the work, and additional funding is helping UNH to develop, pilot and evaluate a coaching model to improve teacher-child interaction.

- Funding advocacy to drive policy change and increased investments in early childhood. Advocacy helped to secure $1 million in state funding for quality improvements to the state’s family resource centers — critical hubs where young families access services from prenatal care to parenting classes to developmental screening and after-school programs.

- “Ultimately, we want every child in New Hampshire — regardless of where she was born or if her parents are struggling to make ends meet — to have a fundamentally equal shot at success,” Lachance said. “It’s that basic.”

Lincoln’s launch
Lincoln is a student in Sharp’s classroom. He has a speech disorder that, in the past, led to full-on rages of frustration: throwing, kicking, pushing — behavior that could have led to expulsion from some programs. A variety of interventions has helped with his speech, his mom and dad both took parenting classes at Easterseals, Sharp and behavior support coach Stephanie Therrien have helped Lincoln learn the social-emotional skills to succeed.

Lincoln has gone from refusing to learn letters to pointing them out with delight. “Oh, an ‘L1’ I have an ‘L’ in my name! How funny!” From refusing to participate in activities to being the kid who distributes blankets for naptime. His scores on developmental screens have jumped.

Sharp meets the team from the school district, to ensure continuity for Lincoln. He will enter kindergarden ready to soak in new lessons and experiences.

- Lincoln wants to be an airline pilot when he grows up. His eventual college degree will matter to that goal. His early education and care may prove to matter even more.

Medicine to Treat the Whole Child
Margaret is a single mom with three children, two with severe asthma and one with developmental delays. Spanish is Margaret’s native language and she has a hearing impairment. She is unable to drive and walks to our office for most appointments.

- Her boys have had multiple emergency room visits for their asthma. In December, they came in for a recheck after one of these episodes. Margaret brought all three children.

- Sharp meets the team from the school district, to ensure continuity for Lincoln. He will enter kindergarden ready to soak in new lessons and experiences.

- Lincoln wants to be an airline pilot when he grows up. His eventual college degree will matter to that goal. His early education and care may prove to matter even more.

- Improving the quality of early childhood education in the classroom setting. Foundation support helped the state secure a $3.8 million federal preschool development grant to coordinate and strengthen delivery of early childhood programs statewide.

- The University of New Hampshire is leading the work, and additional funding is helping UNH to develop, pilot and evaluate a coaching model to improve teacher-child interaction.

- Funding advocacy to drive policy change and increased investments in early childhood. Advocacy helped to secure $1 million in state funding for quality improvements to the state’s family resource centers — critical hubs where young families access services from prenatal care to parenting classes to developmental screening and after-school programs.

- “Ultimately, we want every child in New Hampshire — regardless of where she was born or if her parents are struggling to make ends meet — to have a fundamentally equal shot at success,” Lachance said. “It’s that basic.”

Lincoln’s launch
Lincoln is a student in Sharp’s classroom. He has a speech disorder that, in the past, led to full-on rages of frustration: throwing, kicking, pushing — behavior that could have led to expulsion from some programs. A variety of interventions has helped with his speech, his mom and dad both took parenting classes at Easterseals, Sharp and behavior support coach Stephanie Therrien have helped Lincoln learn the social-emotional skills to succeed.

Lincoln has gone from refusing to learn letters to pointing them out with delight. “Oh, an ‘L1’ I have an ‘L’ in my name! How funny!” From refusing to participate in activities to being the kid who distributes blankets for naptime. His scores on developmental screens have jumped.

Sharp meets the team from the school district, to ensure continuity for Lincoln. He will enter kindergarden ready to soak in new lessons and experiences.

- Lincoln wants to be an airline pilot when he grows up. His eventual college degree will matter to that goal. His early education and care may prove to matter even more.

- Improving the quality of early childhood education in the classroom setting. Foundation support helped the state secure a $3.8 million federal preschool development grant to coordinate and strengthen delivery of early childhood programs statewide.

- The University of New Hampshire is leading the work, and additional funding is helping UNH to develop, pilot and evaluate a coaching model to improve teacher-child interaction.

- Funding advocacy to drive policy change and increased investments in early childhood. Advocacy helped to secure $1 million in state funding for quality improvements to the state’s family resource centers — critical hubs where young families access services from prenatal care to parenting classes to developmental screening and after-school programs.

- “Ultimately, we want every child in New Hampshire — regardless of where she was born or if her parents are struggling to make ends meet — to have a fundamentally equal shot at success,” Lachance said. “It’s that basic.”

Lincoln’s launch
Lincoln is a student in Sharp’s classroom. He has a speech disorder that, in the past, led to full-on rages of frustration: throwing, kicking, pushing — behavior that could have led to expulsion from some programs. A variety of interventions has helped with his speech, his mom and dad both took parenting classes at Easterseals, Sharp and behavior support coach Stephanie Therrien have helped Lincoln learn the social-emotional skills to succeed.

Lincoln has gone from refusing to learn letters to pointing them out with delight. “Oh, an ‘L1’ I have an ‘L’ in my name! How funny!” From refusing to participate in activities to being the kid who distributes blankets for naptime. His scores on developmental screens have jumped.

Sharp meets the team from the school district, to ensure continuity for Lincoln. He will enter kindergarden ready to soak in new lessons and experiences.

- Lincoln wants to be an airline pilot when he grows up. His eventual college degree will matter to that goal. His early education and care may prove to matter even more.

- Improving the quality of early childhood education in the classroom setting. Foundation support helped the state secure a $3.8 million federal preschool development grant to coordinate and strengthen delivery of early childhood programs statewide.

- The University of New Hampshire is leading the work, and additional funding is helping UNH to develop, pilot and evaluate a coaching model to improve teacher-child interaction.

- Funding advocacy to drive policy change and increased investments in early childhood. Advocacy helped to secure $1 million in state funding for quality improvements to the state’s family resource centers — critical hubs where young families access services from prenatal care to parenting classes to developmental screening and after-school programs.

- “Ultimately, we want every child in New Hampshire — regardless of where she was born or if her parents are struggling to make ends meet — to have a fundamentally equal shot at success,” Lachance said. “It’s that basic.”
THE POWER OF MANY
Giving and working together to make a difference for New Hampshire

DAIRY FARM IN MONDANOCK AREA CONSERVED
Thanks to the Monadnock Conservancy — and a $40,000 grant from a Foundation donor-advised fund — the 200-year-old, 350-acre Chickering Family Farm in Westmoreland is now protected in perpetuity. The farm is one of the last of its kind in the area and is the largest remaining dairy farm in the Monadnock region.

EMPOWER COÖS YOUTH COMMITTEE MAKES FIRST GRANTS
A $4,000 grant from the Empower Coös Youth Grant Committee is helping the Tilly Players, a group of middle and high school theater enthusiasts in Gorham, bring theater pros to town for workshops; fund travel to other theaters; and establish a scholarship fund for kids who want to be involved in theater.

CHRISTA MCAULIFFE’S ENDURING LEGACY
Kearsarge Regional Elementary School teacher Kristin Lizotte, the Foundation’s 2019 Christa McAuliffe Sabbatical recipient, will spend the next school year making the traditional three R’s more meaningful to young students by exposing their teachers to three C’s — creating, collaborating and connecting.

SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS
The Patriot Resilient Leader Institute of Gilford helps disabled veterans throughout New England to recover their physical, mental and emotional well-being. A $4,000 grant is helping to support its “Camp Resilience” retreats which provide life skills workshops, peer-to-peer counseling, and outdoor experiential learning and sports activities to veterans.

ARTS AND MUSIC FOR ALL
A $60,000 grant will help the Portsmouth Music and Arts Center in its mission to build community through the arts by providing all people with the opportunity to achieve their full creative potential by offering high-quality music and visual arts education programs.

PLAYGROUND UPGRADE FOR CHICHESTER
Kids in Chichester will have spiffier playground equipment to enjoy, thanks to a $1,000 donor-advised-fund grant to the Chichester Youth Association.

PRESERVING MANCHESTER’S HISTORY
A $30,000 grant will help the Manchester Historical Association collect, preserve and share the history of Manchester. The association runs the Millyard Museum and Research Center and presents a variety of programs including lectures, walking tours, concerts and programs for students.

DAIRY FARM IN MONDANOCK AREA CONSERVED
Thanks to the Monadnock Conservancy — and a $40,000 grant from a Foundation donor-advised fund — the 200-year-old, 350-acre Chickering Family Farm in Westmoreland is now protected in perpetuity. The farm is one of the last of its kind in the area and is the largest remaining dairy farm in the Monadnock region.
Dot Sawyer and Eleanor “Clemmie” Clement were an occupational therapist and nurse who retired in the mid-1940s — and then immediately un-retired when faced with a community need: Six-year-old Judy, a neighbor’s child, had disabilities that required more complex care than her family could provide. Dot and Clemmie brought Judy to live with them. But Judy was not the only child who needed them. By the early 1950s, the women were caring for 10 children with physical and intellectual disabilities, 24/7, in their hilltop farmhouse. In the early 1960s, they built an addition so 20 children could be in their care.

Now, the legacy of those two remarkable women is the Cedarcrest Center for Children with Disabilities in Keene, a combination specialized pediatric medical facility, home and school serving children from infants to age 21.

Some children come here as babies, directly from the hospital, and Cedarcrest staff teach families how to care with infants with complex medical needs and prepare them to go home. Some children come for short-term stays; some might need to stay for years. When children are close to aging out of services provided here, staff work with families and other agencies to create transition plans for their continued care. In the toddler area, a little one practices walking on sturdy legs, a feeding tube looping from her backpack. Near the middle school classroom, reports on Martin Luther King Jr. and Eleanor Roosevelt are prominently displayed. Outside, children of all abilities can enjoy a fully adaptive playground.

Families who need the services that Cedarcrest provides are often facing a complex series of challenges themselves. Medicaid covers medical services provided, and the children’s home school districts pay educational and therapy expenses — but neither cover the full costs incurred. (And Cedarcrest has not had a Medicaid rate increase since 2009.) But families are not charged for the shortfall — in fact, they are not charged anything by Cedarcrest. To fill the funding gaps, Cedarcrest relies on grants and contributions. The Charitable Foundation recently awarded Cedarcrest a $60,000, multiyear operating grant.

Justin Milliken is a 19-year-old from Charlestown who loves the Red Sox and “Ellen” and adaptive skiing. Like many children, he came to Cedarcrest with multiple diagnoses — including cerebral palsy, seizures, visual impairment and asthma. Justin uses a feeding tube and a wheelchair. His local school district struggled to adapt to meet Justin’s needs. Now, he is a day student at Cedarcrest, and comes for occasional short-term stays. Justin is non-verbal, but his mom and teachers at Cedarcrest understand his cues. A few weeks after he started school at Cedarcrest and Dee came to pick him up, the usually effusive young man put his head down and shot his mom a “what-are-you-doing-here?” look. He didn’t want to leave. Dee knew she had found the right place for Justin. Snow days? Justin is not a fan.

“He is a really happy guy, and I think it is about the environment and the people who care for him,” Dee said. Cedarcrest means that this family can thrive in a way that it would not be able to otherwise. Because Justin has year-round school with built-in medical care and integrated occupational and other therapies, Dee is able to work. Without Cedarcrest, Dee says, “I would not own my own home or have a full-time job or feel safe or comfortable.”

Cedarcrest has been part of this community for more than a half-century. Typically developing students from other local schools come to Cedarcrest to share music and other activities, and Cedarcrest students make frequent visits to the library, Montshire Museum and other destinations. Cedarcrest’s playground is open to all children who want to come and play.

“We are actively helping these children thrive. We are here to help them live the best lives that they can.” — Kristin Targett, director of social services at Cedarcrest

LEARN MORE @ WWW.CEDARCREST4KIDS.ORG
‘TO SERVE AND GIVE AND MAKE SOMETHING BETTER.’

Tricia and Paul Casey have included the Foundation in their will and want their charitable dollars to be deployed where they are needed most — whatever the future may bring.

“T’s all very personal. Tricia Casey’s mom wanted her daughter to have the best education possible. At the time, she was a single mom, and money was tight. Tricia knew that financial aid provided by total strangers allowed her to attend the parochial school that her mom had chosen.

Paul Casey remembers growing up in Boy Scouts, doing service projects, being coached in sports by volunteers and family members, giving at church, always collecting for the United Way and for UNICEF.

Jack and Scarlett Casey are growing up with giving and volunteering much as a part of their family life as family dinner and walking the dog.

Tricia works now for the Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains, and has had a long career in the nonprofit sector. Her mom led her Girl Scout troop when she was a kid, and Tricia grew up deeply connected to volunteering and giving through scouting and church. Now, she leads Scarlett’s Girl Scout troop. She tells the story of her own childhood scholarships as she helps raise money for her kids’ schools.

Paul works for Trader Joe’s grocery store in Nashua and coaches youth sports.

The Caseys know that there will come a time when they will have money to leave in their estate, and they have made the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation a beneficiary, joining the Foundation’s Spaulding-Potter Legacy Circle (see sidebar). They have also planned bequests to other nonprofits and to the college where they met.

“When you feel that passionate about an organization or a cause, you treat them just like your family,” Tricia said. “I was raised with it and that is how we raised our kids — to serve and give and make something better.”

Making these decisions relatively early — and talking to their kids about them — has been deliberate, and opened the door to new learning and conversations for the whole family.

Each of the kids speaks matter-of-factly about what they would do with a hypothetical windfall: half to family, half to charities. Their giving would help treat diseases, care for animals, feed the hungry.

“One of the really neat things about the Charitable Foundation is that flexibility to pivot to address the most critical needs. What are the needs of our community going to be in 10 years? Twenty years? Fifty years? We like that and we don’t want to get in the way of that.”

– Tricia Casey

Jack, at 15, has a well-developed sense that everyone stands to suffer when some do not have access to opportunity. What if, he asked, the person who has the potential to make “the next huge scientific breakthrough” doesn’t accomplish what they could because they lack resources, and “don’t feel they could achieve anything because they don’t have anything. Giving back could give that person help and determination.”

The Caseys have made all of their bequests unrestricted, for the organizations to use where they are most needed.

“It’s harder on agencies and charities to raise unrestricted funds,” Tricia said. Generous people frequently direct their giving to programs, but are often less enthusiastic about funding staffing or other costs. “I know, from personal experience,” Tricia said, “that you can’t have any of it unless you have the staff who run it.”

The Caseys trust the organizations they have chosen to use the funds wisely.

“The point of giving to a charity is to make a charity better,” Paul adds. “Not to enact your will on their thing.”

They chose to include New Hampshire’s statewide community foundation, in part, for its range and agility to address the state’s needs.

“One of the really neat things about the Charitable Foundation is that flexibility to pivot to address the most critical needs. What are the needs of our community going to be in 10 years? Twenty years? Fifty years?” Tricia said. “We like that and we don’t want to get in the way of that. When we are long gone, we won’t have the benefit of being able to say what is most important.”

Making the bequests, Tricia said, has helped the family feel deeply connected to the organizations and invested in their success.

Twelve-year-old Scarlett has been listening closely. She pipes up from her spot on the couch.

Giving, she explains, “Makes you feel good inside. So it does something good for you, too.”

Estate giving: a legacy for good, forever

One generous family kickstarted the greatest charitable legacy that New Hampshire has ever known.

Former New Hampshire Gov. Huntley Spaulding, his wife Harriet Spaulding and his sister Marion Potter left their family fortunes to charity. They did not dictate what should be done with the money after they died. Instead, they named trusted advisors to distribute the funds.

Over 15 years, those advisors distributed $16.8 million on causes from health care to education and the environment. When $2.7 million remained, they seeded the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation — ensuring a permanent source of philanthropic capital that would continue to do good in New Hampshire forever.

Today, the Foundation comprises nearly 2,000 charitable funds funds totaling more than $750 million and distributes more than $40 million every year.

Now, when generous people include the Foundation in their estate plans, they join the Spauldings and Potters in that legacy for good. We celebrate them as members of the Spaulding-Potter Circle Legacy Society.

To learn more about including charitable giving in your estate plans, please contact Laura Rauscher, director of philanthropy, at 800-464-6641 ext. 274 or Laura.Rauscher@nhcf.org.
Michelle Porter first tried her hand at welding on the New Hampshire farm where she grew up, mending broken tractor parts.

Now, she is about to graduate from Manchester Community College with her degree in Welding Technology. From the day she first visited the program — timid, at first, until she saw other women learning the trade — she was “in love” with welding.

Her plan is to someday own and run her own shop — and fabricate components of buildings and bridges. She likes the idea of stepping back, looking at something tangible and huge, and knowing that she helped build it. Medallion Fund scholarships from the Foundation have helped cover the cost of her degree.

When Michelle finishes classes for the day — like gas and arc welding, manufacturing and repair technique, blueprint reading — she swaps her welder’s hood and gloves for a bartender’s apron. She works three bartending jobs while maintaining a full course load and a spot on the President’s List.

“You gotta want it,” she says, with a shrug.