

PURPOSE



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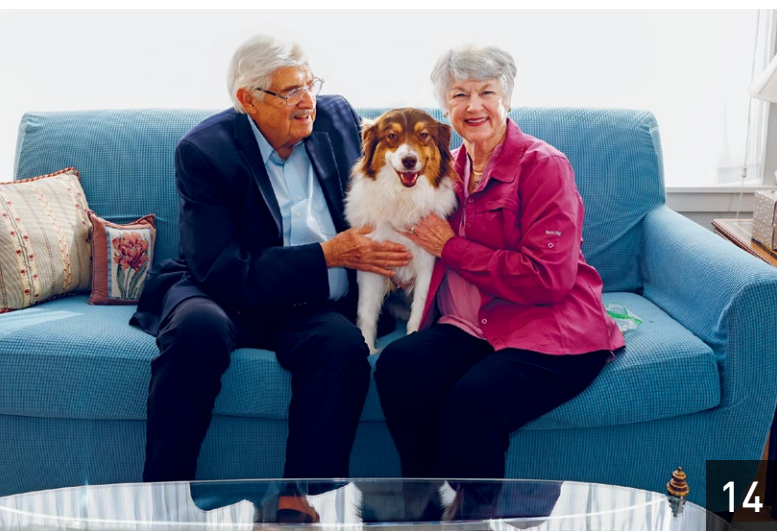


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Cover: Sara Mendes, a music therapist at Nashua Community Music School, strums a guitar and sings along with Betty in Nashua, NH



THE NEW HAMPSHIRE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION is dedicated to making New Hampshire a more just, sustainable and vibrant community where everyone can thrive. As New Hampshire's statewide community foundation, we are the place where generosity meets the dedication and ingenuity of nonprofits and the potential of New Hampshire students. Since 1962, thousands of people have entrusted their charitable resources to the Foundation, creating a perpetual source of philanthropic capital. That generosity makes it possible for the Foundation to award more than \$80 million in grants and scholarships every year and collaborate and lead on high-impact initiatives.

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Managing Editor: Kristen Oliveri | ko@nhcf.org
Staff Writer: Lois Shea | lrs@nhcf.org
All photos by Cheryl Senter unless otherwise noted.

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ONWARD

By Richard Ober, president and CEO



“As we prepare to welcome the Foundation’s next president and CEO this summer, I am filled with the same confidence and conviction that animated our founders six decades ago. Because the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation is here. For good.”

The seed of our Foundation was a charitable trust by former Governor Huntley Spaulding, his wife, Harriet, and his sister Marion Potter. Their bequest, said attorney Dudley Orr, expressed “confidence in the future, conviction that justice and mercy would endure in America.”

At a time when justice and mercy seem in short supply, we are blessed that Orr and his fellow trustees of the Spaulding-Potter Trusts, John McLane and Eugene Struckhoff, took seriously that defining verb “endure.” In 1962, they created the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation — a permanent source of philanthropic capital of, by and for the people of New Hampshire.

It was, Orr said, an act of hope. Hope that other visionary families and individuals would start funds of their own — and they did. Hope that generations of nonprofit leaders would dedicate their lives to centering equity and opportunity; protecting the environment; advancing arts and culture; fighting for access to education, health care, child and elder care; and

other basic rights — and they have.

And hope that even in the most difficult times, New Hampshire’s community foundation would not only endure, but thrive — and it will. Not despite periods of stress and change, but because of them.

The stories in this issue of Purpose illustrate that:

- New Hampshire faces a severe housing crisis caused by soaring costs and stagnant inventory. That’s why the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund is investing in Homes NorthNH (page 6).
- Overdose deaths are way down, but even one is too many. That’s why our staff helped develop new grant programs from the state Opioid Abatement Fund (page 4).
- Federal cuts to Medicaid undermine health access and affordability for everyone, especially in rural areas. That’s why we helped the state’s Department of Health and Human Services secure \$204 million for the Rural Health Transformation program (page 4).
- People who experience discrimination simply for who they

are know how to bend the arc toward justice. That’s why we are so inspired by the community leaders who designed and are running our new Racial Justice Fund (page 4).

Generous donors can provide hope in challenging times. That’s why they work in creative partnership with the Foundation (page 14).

We are in deeply unsettling times — globally, nationally and locally. The threats and impacts are real, especially for our neighbors who are most vulnerable because of background, identity and circumstance.

And yet these stories and countless others like them speak of justice, mercy and endurance. They conjure Langston Hughes’ description of the United States as “The Land that never has been yet / And yet must be.”

As we prepare to welcome the Foundation’s next president and CEO this summer, I am filled with the same confidence and conviction that animated our founders six decades ago. Because the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation is here. For good.

So I will sign off as always...
Onward. ■



The Racial Justice Fund Community Design Team: (Left to right standing) Alissandra Rodríguez Murray, Anna Kual, Emma Shapiro-Weiss, Marina Vaz, Keisha Venson, (Left to right seated) Akilah Campbell, Michael Truong, Mollay Jallah

NEW GRANT PROGRAMS ANNOUNCED

The Foundation has announced three new grant programs to support nonprofits and communities.

The Responsive Grants program features a simple application process, a rolling deadline and a turnaround of 20 business days from application to funding decisions. Grants of up to \$10,000 will be available for one year of support, and funding may be used for operating expenses, projects or initiatives. This program replaces the Foundation's previous Community Grants program.

The Foundation's Racial Justice Fund has launched a new grantmaking program to invest in the leadership, vision and

solutions of organizations working to advance racial justice in New Hampshire. Initial grants from this program will be made this year.

Granite United Way and the Foundation are administering an Opioid Abatement Community Grants Program to support long-term, high-impact initiatives that address the ongoing opioid crisis and strengthen community recovery across New Hampshire. Funding for the program comes from national opioid settlement agreements. ■

LEARN MORE @ [NHCF.ORG/GRANTS](https://nhcf.org/grants)

GRANT HELPS SECURE \$204M FOR RURAL HEALTH

New Hampshire was awarded more than \$204 million for 2026 as part of the federal Rural Health Transformation Program. The funds are to be used for rural health initiatives, access to care, innovation and coordination to improve health outcomes, technology innovation and workforce development. The Foundation provided

funding for a grant writer to prepare the application for the state Department of Health and Human Services. New Hampshire received the largest award of all the New England states. New Hampshire's application requested similar annual funding over a five-year period. ■



SUPPORTING SEACOAST ARTISTS

This summer, the Foundation will celebrate Seacoast artists at the Artist Advancement Grant exhibition at 3S Artspace in Portsmouth. On view June 4 through July 26, the exhibit will feature 2025 grant recipient Jihye Han alongside finalists Cozette Russell and Isabella Rotman. The Foundation's Piscataqua Region Artist Advancement Grant provides an annual award of up to \$25,000 to a Seacoast-area visual artist or craftsman to promote artistic growth and deepen their practice. The program reflects the Foundation's long-standing commitment to the arts and recognizes the importance of artists who live and work in the region, helping to sustain the vibrant cultural life of Seacoast communities. ■

ALLIANCE FOR PROVIDERS



A new organization is supporting people and organizations working in addiction services in New Hampshire. The Addiction Supports &

Advocacy Professional Alliance of New Hampshire was launched with Foundation funding and will advance the work of professionals and organizations in New Hampshire's expanding substance use disorders care sector through advocacy, awareness building, representation and technical assistance. ■

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KUDOS



Courtesy photo

Bobbie Bagley, Foundation director and director of the Division of Public Health and Community Services for the City of Nashua, has been selected by the National Association of Social Workers, New Hampshire Chapter (NASW-NH) as its 2026 Citizen of the Year.



Courtesy photo

Former Foundation Directors **Dick and Barbara Couch** will receive **City Year New Hampshire's** Lifetime of Service Award at the annual Starry Starry Night gala in April.



Courtesy photo

Former Foundation Director **Donnalee Lozeau** has been appointed by Governor Ayotte as director of the Governor's Office of New Opportunities & Rural Transformational Health, which will administer New Hampshire's Rural Health Transformation Program (see story on page 4).



The Buteaus in their new home in Berlin, NH

'IT'S LIFE-CHANGING'

The Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund at 20: Investment in community, at the speed of trust, is making people's lives better in the North Country

It is supertime at the Buteau home, a compact 1900s New Englander in a welcoming neighborhood at the base of a wooded hill in Berlin. The five Buteau kids — ranging in age from 8 to 15 — take their plates and gather at the table.

This home is why this family is a family. Adoptions had been pending for two of the Buteau kids, Asherah and Gavin, but the family's previous rental home (a 900-square-foot mobile home) did not provide requisite space for their adoptions to be approved.

Shannon Buteau is the director of the Gorham Public Library; her husband, Jake Buteau, is a college and career counselor. In a tight and expensive housing market — and with rising costs on everything from

groceries to utilities — they could not afford to save for a home.

In a desperation move, Shannon emailed Affordable Housing Education and Development and learned about a program funded by the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation for families just like theirs.

Through the Pathways to Homeownership program, the Buteaus got help with all the details of their FHA loan, home ownership education — and, critically, funds to cover their closing costs.

"Our family as we know it depended on this opportunity," Shannon said.

Ripple effects

Neil Tillotson of Dixville Notch did not set out to make sure the Buteaus

could buy their home and stay living and working in the region.

He did not foresee new vibrancy on Main Street in Lancaster, or nurses and police officers in Gorham able to go to work because child care was available for their kids. He did not envision people from across the region working together to address shared community problems. He did not picture a beloved skating rink brought back to rollicking life in Whitefield, solar panels making energy more affordable for towns from Stratford to Pittsburg, world-class performing arts acts coming to Colebrook, a mobile STEM lab delivering lessons for local children or North Country kids trekking out on snowshoes into the same landscape that he dearly loved. He just wanted the

North Country to be a great place for people to live.

Neil Tillotson, a businessman and entrepreneur fondly known as "The Mayor of Dixville Notch," left his assets simply "to charity" when he died at 102 in 2001. His wife, Louise Tillotson, entered into a partnership with the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation 20 years ago that helped make all of those things — and many more — happen.

"He was so brilliant and so creative, and that creativity and entrepreneurial spark is something I see in the Tillotson Fund," said Chuck Henderson, a lifelong North Country resident who works on projects and policy in the region for Sen. Jeanne Shaheen. Without the Fund, he said, Coös County would be worse off today "in almost any way imaginable. But with it, there is all this hope."

Since 2006, the Tillotson Fund has distributed more than \$68 million in grants and scholarships in Coös County and surrounding communities — and it is positioned to continue in perpetuity. The Fund awards more than \$5 million annually.

Benoit Lamontagne works in the North Country for the state's Department of Business and Economic Affairs. He said that the Fund is especially critical for a region that relies on local innovation and commitment to surmount challenges brought about by decline of the pulp and paper and furniture industries.

"I applaud the fact that the Tillotson Fund continues to be steadily involved in good projects and to help the good people that Mr. Tillotson loved so much," he said.

Rooted in community

In 2026, the Tillotson Fund is focused on supporting well-being for people and families, a thriving workforce, healthy environment and resilient communities. All of the work is

"When we are thinking about some need in Coös, we often say 'Let's see if Tillotson has some ability to address this.' And there are very few times when the first word is 'No, we can't do that.' It's 'Let's think of a way to address that.'"

— Chuck Henderson, a lifelong North Country resident who works on projects and policy in the region for Sen. Jeanne Shaheen

informed by a wide cross-section of people from the region. "Moving," as Tillotson Fund Director Sonya Salanti often says, "at the speed of trust." (Salanti manages the fund with colleagues Phoebe Backler and Christa Hollingsworth — all of whom live and work in the region).

The Fund's Homes NorthNH initiative grew from years of engagement with people, municipalities, nonprofits and businesses. The current housing crisis combined with local economic realities mean that many people are unable to buy homes because they cannot save for a down payment or closing costs. One solution: remove that barrier by covering those costs.

Homes NorthNH includes funding for the Pathways to Homeownership program administered by AHEAD — which helped the Buteaus — as well as funding for housing development and other housing solutions.

In just two years, the Pathways program has helped teachers, electricians, nurses, firefighters, mechanics and more into their own homes — 55 households in all across Coös County. That success has prompted additional funders to help the program expand to Grafton County. The downpayment assistance is given free and clear — people simply need to

qualify economically and agree to keep the homes as a primary residence for five years.

"This is how you reignite people to be part of a community — you give them ownership in the community," said Harrison Kanzler of AHEAD. "These are future selectmen and planning board members and school board members."

Other areas of the Fund's work are similarly community focused: A long-term initiative to improve early care and education for children has supported coordination and professional development for early childhood providers, and strengthened early childhood care and interventions and supports for families.

"This work has helped align and prioritize our goals across families, health care providers, early learning professionals and schools," said Kelly Dussault, executive director of the Coös Coalition for Young Children and Families. "We are no longer working in parallel, we are working together with a shared purpose. The result is stronger collaboration and a healthier start for young children in Coös."

Long-term work focused on teens and young people has created opportunity for deeper community

[Continued, p. 8]



Since 2006, the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund has distributed more than \$68 million in grants and scholarships in Coös County and surrounding communities.

involvement, leadership development, outdoor experience, positive school environments and more.

The Fund helped to launch the Community Builders Hub, which has three “community stewards” working with their neighbors on a slew of homegrown ways to bring joy, connection and opportunity to their communities.

Tillotson Fund grants helped provide for emergency needs during the pandemic, have helped the New Hampshire Food Bank improve food availability in the region, supported community health centers and mental health centers, economic development efforts, nonprofit news coverage — and much, much more.

Chuck Henderson’s work brings him to many tables where addressing North Country needs is foremost on the agenda.

“When we are thinking about some need in Coös, we often say ‘Let’s see if Tillotson has some ability to address this.’ And there are very few times when the first word is, ‘No, we can’t do that.’ It’s, ‘Let’s think of a way to address that.’”

Not foreordained

Neil Tillotson’s directive was simple. Implementing it was not.

He had named more than a dozen trustees from around the country

— family, business associates and longtime advisors — to determine what would happen with the money. Louise Tillotson was foremost among them.

Everyone had an opinion, said Ben Gayman, who was Mrs. Tillotson’s attorney. “But they were sort of paddling in different directions.” The discussions, at times, seemed endless. At one meeting, Mrs. Tillotson leaned over and whispered to her attorney: “Mr. Gayman, will you tell them to stop?”

Gayman suggested that the group consider the Charitable Foundation. The Foundation “provided the organization, the expertise, the resources and the infrastructure needed to operate,” Gayman said. “They stepped in and filled the void perfectly.” Over time, the advisors would agree to move all of the assets that Neil Tillotson had designated “for charity” to the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund and smaller affiliated funds at the Foundation, including one that benefits Coaticook, Quebec.

Tom Deans of Conway was a vice president at the Foundation who was instrumental in the Fund’s establishment, and became a Fund advisor after he retired — helping guide the Fund’s work as part of a team of advisors. Gayman would also be part of that team.

“With the wonderful leadership of

Racheal Stuart and Kirsten Scobie and now Sonya, we have been blessed with outstanding leaders who have been very committed to this notion of a community based and driven charitable fund,” he said, “it has been really wonderful to watch that evolution.”

“If Mrs. Tillotson were here now, she would be so impressed,” Gayman said. “I can imagine her sitting at the table and appreciating the evolution, the thought and the impact of the philanthropy.”

A family Thanksgiving

On the family’s first Thanksgiving in their new home, the Buteaus welcomed their entire extended families. Shannon’s side came first — 21 people for dinner, featuring a turkey that Jake smoked out back. There were folding tables, serving stations, people sitting out on the front porch. Then Jake’s side came, 18 strong, and enjoyed a buffet of pies (made by the five Buteau kids) for dessert.

It was the first time Shannon and Jake had ever been able to host their families for a holiday.

“We love Coös County,” said Shannon, sitting in her family living room surrounded by children’s artwork, school portraits and family photos. “Being able to offer all of the kids stability and being able to stay in our community...it’s life-changing.” ■



FROM HOMES TO CLASSROOMS

The relationship between new housing and school enrollment in New Hampshire is often misconstrued. Sarah Wrightsman of New Hampshire Housing spoke with the Foundation’s Lois Shea about “From Homes to Classrooms,” a report prepared by Urbanomics for New Hampshire Housing.

Why is it important to understand the relationship between housing and school enrollment?

There are a lot of misperceptions when it comes to housing development in New Hampshire, and I approach this with a lot of empathy and compassion because people are worried about their tax bill and property values. Our schools are largely funded on local property taxes, and so there has been this concern: ‘If we build more housing, will there be more schoolkids and will our taxes go up?’ Our most recent study found that across housing types, the fiscal impact of housing was positive to school districts — new housing is bringing in more in tax revenue than would be spent on new students in the district.

This study showed that many findings have remained consistent over time — but you also looked at some different questions.

We have done similar studies in the past, but this time we wanted to look at not just the relationship between ‘If we build housing units, how many school kids will come?’ but also: ‘What does that mean for school funding and local taxation?’

This is where what you call a ‘three-part myth’ comes into play.

Yes. First, people tend to overestimate how many kids are going to live in housing when it’s built. If we build 100 units of housing, it is not going to be two kids per unit, which is what we often hear. It is more like .29 kids per unit averaged across housing type — so 29 kids for 100 units of housing. Second, folks confuse marginal and average costs. So: ‘If we add 29 kids to our school district and it costs \$15,000 per kid it’s going to increase our taxes by that much, right?’ But that’s actually not how it works. The average cost per kid will go down when we add kids, because most costs associated with schools are fixed — salaries, heat, utilities, maintenance costs do not change. So the marginal cost is usually pretty low to zero, assuming there is capacity in the school district. Third, we forget that new housing adds to the tax revenue in our community.

How does this vary across different housing types?

The report showed that new, single-family housing is going to bring in a lot more kids to a district than multifamily housing or manufactured housing or

town houses. For every 100 units of single-family housing, we’re looking at about 40 schoolkids. For multifamily rentals, condos, townhouses, it is more like six kids per 100 and for manufactured housing there is about one kid for every 100 units.

If a New Hampshire town wants to add housing and increase tax revenue, what is the best thing to do?

Lean into the most dense area of the community — your downtown or your village district — and increase density there and embrace mixed-use (commercial and residential). A lot of communities will say ‘We need more commercial base to support our property taxes,’ which is totally valid — commercial is a great way to increase revenue without adding expenses. But you need people to be able to support those commercial ventures. People who work there need somewhere to live. The next best thing is to allow for gentler housing types — allow old single-family homes to be converted into duplexes or triplexes, allow accessory dwelling units. You are increasing property values and revenue without damaging the character of that community. ■
READ THE FULL STUDY @NHHFA.ORG

IN COMMUNITY

People working together to make New Hampshire a community where everyone can thrive.



A PLACE TO THRIVE

Foundation and donor-advised fund grants are helping Visions for Creative Housing Solutions to offer permanent, affordable housing and round-the-clock support for adults with developmental disabilities in the Upper Valley. Rooted in the belief that everyone deserves to thrive in community, the Visions program supports residents in pursuing meaningful work, volunteer opportunities, and social, recreational and faith connections.



NEIGHBORS FEEDING NEIGHBORS

For more than forty years, the Community Kitchen in Keene has helped to ensure Monadnock Region residents don't have to choose between food and other necessities. Foundation and donor-advised fund grants support its work providing free evening meals, grocery distribution and a Gleaning Project that has brought more than 100,000 pounds of fresh produce from local farms and gardens into the community.

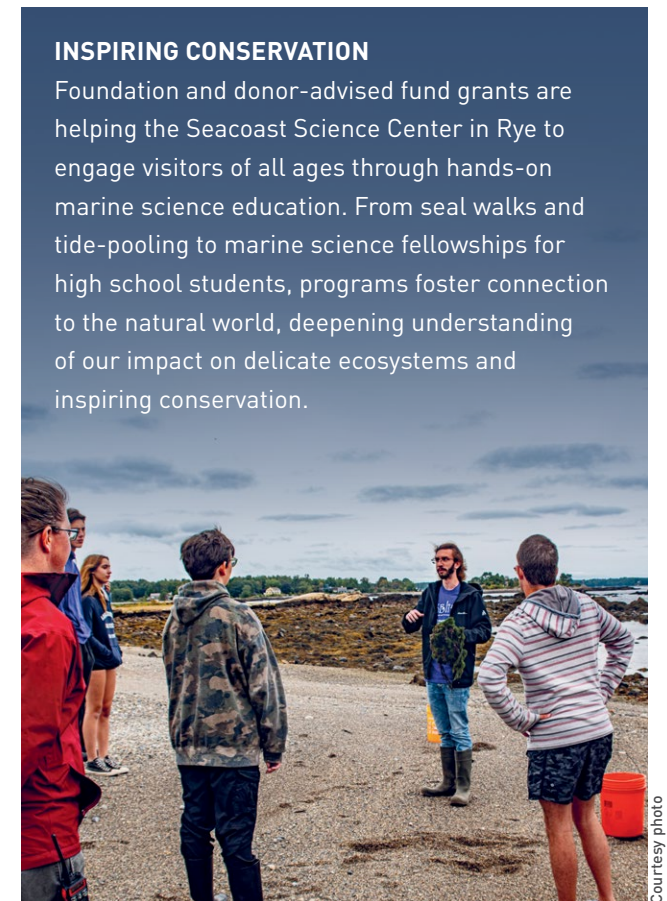
A HUB OF COMMUNITY

The Tillotson Center is a hub for community life in Colebrook, with a calendar of events ranging from children's theater and summer camps to yoga classes, book clubs, knitting groups and musical performances. The "Tilly" was made possible by a contribution from Louise Tillotson and named in honor of her love of the arts. Support from the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund and other donor-advised funds helps ensure The Tilly remains a space where neighbors can gather, learn and create together.



EQUITABLE MATERNAL CARE

Black Lives Matter New Hampshire is bringing people together to help ensure that all prospective parents have access to compassionate, respectful and equitable care. The Foundation sponsored its second annual Black Maternal Health Conference at Saint Anselm College in February, where participants explored topics including antepartum and postpartum care, mental health, breastfeeding and doula support.



INSPIRING CONSERVATION

Foundation and donor-advised fund grants are helping the Seacoast Science Center in Rye to engage visitors of all ages through hands-on marine science education. From seal walks and tide-pooling to marine science fellowships for high school students, programs foster connection to the natural world, deepening understanding of our impact on delicate ecosystems and inspiring conservation.



HISTORY, TRUTH AND ACTION

The Foundation was proud to sponsor the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire's 19th Annual Black New England Conference in October. The gathering explored the question, "Where does Black America stand?" Through intergenerational dialogue, participants examined truth and history, reflected on burnout and rest in activism, and considered how social media can drive awareness and change.



STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

Foundation and donor-advised fund grants are supporting the mission of the Family Resource Center at Gorham to build healthier families and stronger communities in the North Country. The Center's offerings range from parenting education and afterschool programs to resource navigation and support groups. In the colder months, the organization also hosts a free winter coat closet to help people stay warm.

TOUCHING LIVES ACROSS GENERATIONS

Music therapy program at Nashua Community Music School helps young children, adults and veterans

By Jim Graham

By her mid-20s, Lindsay Rinaldi had everything an aspiring soprano opera singer could hope for: a master's degree in opera performance, a year's study at the prestigious Accademia Internazionale della Musica in Milan, appearances in Italy and across the U.S., and voice instructor positions at three colleges. But as her opera prospects flourished, Lindsay found herself growing weary of the constant travel and a career where success demands a self-centered focus, 24/7. She also missed Nashua, and yearned to do something to give kids access to music that could enrich their lives.

So, in 2011 Lindsay returned to New Hampshire and joined the Nashua Community Music School as a voice instructor and then, in 2014, as its

executive director. Today, she finds her greatest satisfaction in making music education, performance and therapy accessible to anyone, regardless of their ability to pay or other limitations. She has made music therapy a centerpiece of the school's offerings to the community.

"I wanted to do something to give back to my hometown," Lindsay says. "So, it's really amazing to be here now and to see how far the school has come, to think about the amazing staff and instructors we've brought together, and to realize how many people we're reaching who wouldn't have these opportunities otherwise."

Each week, more than 600 people take part in one of the school's programs — from individual music lessons to group ensembles — nearly half of them tuition-free.

Just over half of the school's students come for music therapy — which has become one of its cornerstone programs.

Unlike traditional music education, which focuses on teaching students to play music, music therapists use music to help people cope with some of life's greatest challenges. The school's three board-certified music therapists are trained in evidence-based treatment that helps people reach goals in areas such as social and emotional skills, physical and academic skills, and cognition. They have created programming that takes into account the nature of trauma and supports healing and healthy social relationships. Their programs for young people are designed to help children process experiences, regulate emotions, build

Children at Marguerite's Place in Nashua, NH sing and dance during a music therapy session led by therapist Sara Mendes

"Right here, you're seeing kids who don't normally get super involved with class or with other kids or adults, and now they're up dancing and singing and interacting with one another and building connections. It's amazing to see what music does for them."

— Krystal Bloom, director of music therapy at Nashua Community Music School

Mendes strums a guitar and sings.

But for the children at Marguerite's Place, who may come from homes where substance use, domestic violence and food insecurity were issues, the music therapy program offers a safe, inviting space — and a playful path to self-expression and healing, says Krystal Bloom, the music school's director of music therapy.

"Right here, you're seeing kids who don't normally get super involved with class or with other kids or adults, and now they're up dancing and singing and interacting with one another and building connections. It's amazing to see what music does for them," says Krystal.

Candace Gordon, Marguerite's Place director of programs, invited the music school to run two therapy programs, for which a Charitable Foundation grant provides funding.

"When you see these groups in person, you realize what a gift this is to everyone, not only to the kids, but to their parents, too," Candace says. "You can really see the difference it makes for them."

The school's therapists perform intake assessments for each client, create individual treatment plans, conduct group and/or individual therapy sessions, and assess and report on progress for each client.

A few hours after visiting Marguerite's Place, the music school hosted an adaptive rock band from the Nashua Center, which serves people

with disabilities or acquired brain disorders. The band's members, some of whom are nonverbal, joined in performing with drums, tambourines, rhythm sticks and guitar.

Katelyn, a band member, explained how she feels visiting the school each week. "Great! Happy!" she beamed. "I love singing so many songs!" And in a flash, she was back with the band, singing "Feliz Navidad."

The music school also provides extended music therapy programming for military veterans. One veteran began meeting with Krystal a year ago, and was intimidated by the idea of learning an instrument, let alone talking about his challenges and feelings.

Now he plays piano smoothly — and recently played the opening piece at one of the school's public recitals.

When Lindsay sees how the school's music therapy programs help people to overcome obstacles, she's grateful she returned to New Hampshire and the music school — even if it meant pursuing a different dream than being a professional opera singer.

"Singing in front of a 60-piece orchestra? Nothing beats that feeling," she says. "But I wanted to think about others, too. And here, I get to see the impact of our work on our students every day — and we still make amazing music together." ■

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‘PEOPLE NEED HOPE RIGHT NOW’

How one couple works in ‘creative collaboration’ with the Foundation to help people thrive

Kent Schneider and Susan Loker Schneider at Riverwoods in Durham, NH

When a family is ready to move into a new home built by Southeast New Hampshire Habitat for Humanity, Susan Loker Schneider bakes bread for them to enjoy with their first dinner in the home that they helped to build. Her husband, Kent Schneider, a retired pastor, offers a blessing for the home and all involved in building it.

Small acts of community and celebration that highlight hope for the future.

For Susan and Kent, generosity is about all of those things. Longtime community volunteers, the two now channel their love of community through giving.

Susan and her first husband, Robert Loker, started a donor-advised fund at the Charitable Foundation at the recommendation of a close friend. Robert passed away in 2019. Now, Susan and Kent steward the fund together, expanding their giving horizons and building community around their giving.

Informing all of their giving, Susan said, “is a strong belief in sharing the blessings we have received with others. And why wait to give? The needs are so great right now.”

Initially, Susan said, “our giving was really limited to what we knew.” But a deepening partnership with Janet Guen, Foundation senior philanthropy

advisor, “changed the equation.” Janet brings Susan and Kent a variety of giving opportunities that are aligned with their interests, which the Foundation learns about through its work and partnerships with nonprofits.

“It’s a creative collaboration that we have with the Foundation that has led to some very interesting funding opportunities that we are most happy to be a part of,” Kent said.

Susan and Kent approach their giving with two consistent questions: “What’s needed?” and, “How can we help?”

Janet introduced the couple to the Monarch School of New England in Rochester, which serves students with special learning needs. The Schneiders

“Our giving was really limited to what we knew.” But a deepening partnership with Janet Guen, Foundation senior philanthropy advisor, “changed the equation.”

– Susan Loker Schneider

to attend the University of New Hampshire Summer Youth Music School, where hundreds of young musicians learn from professional teachers and perform together. (Kent is a lifelong musician who benefitted from a similarly intensive music program as a young teen.)

Through their fund at the Foundation, the Schneiders have recommended grants for scholarships for Manchester high school students to learn about marine science at Shoals Marine Lab; for the Franklin Area Children’s Theater summer programs; for children’s summer camp scholarships to Habitat for Humanity families; and for children whose lives have been affected by substance use disorders in their family to attend a camp designed specifically to help them to thrive.

The couple is also committed to

supporting services for veterans and for people with disabilities.

In many cases, Susan and Kent have developed lasting relationships with nonprofit leaders. “It enlarges our enjoyment of giving to stay connected with people,” Kent said.

Most of their giving stays local, and is focused on helping people to thrive.

Recent world events have prompted the Schneiders to support nonprofits helping people in desperate need of food and medicine around the world — recommending grants to World Central Kitchen and Doctors without Borders.

“Looking at the current world situation motivates us to help where we can,” Susan said.

Giving, Kent said, provides an “opportunity to influence the world in a positive, hopeful way. And people need hope right now.” ■

Community foundations increase donor-advised fund impact

Since 1972, generous people in New Hampshire have been creating donor-advised funds at the Charitable Foundation to help make good things happen in their communities.

Community foundations, like the Charitable Foundation, increase the impact of donor-advised fund giving by offering deep knowledge of and partnership with the nonprofit sector, giving opportunities specific to donor interests and ways for donors to combine their generosity with that of others to make an even bigger impact in the communities they love.

For information about donor-advised funds at the Foundation, please reach out to Director of Philanthropy Lorianne Saniuk at 603-225-6641 ext. 274 or Lorianne.Saniuk@nhcf.org.



NEW HAMPSHIRE
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

37 Pleasant St.
Concord, NH 03301-4005

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A BELIEF IN POTENTIAL

Jack Reid has always been interested in medicine. By the time he was six, and carefully bottle-feeding an ailing kitten, his devotion to animals was apparent. When he walked into the Amherst Animal Hospital and applied for his first job at 16, his life's work was clear.

What was less clear was how to get there.

Jack knew that college plus four years of veterinary school would be extremely expensive.

But in 1985, Bernice Perry had created a scholarship at the Foundation to offer significant help to young people who might not yet be "stars," but who had potential and needed financial assistance.

That scholarship followed Jack as he excelled at the University of New Hampshire and has continued through the Veterinary Medicine program at the University of Pennsylvania. To Jack, the award felt like a validation of his dream, a statement of "We believe in you."

During high school, Jack struggled with confidence. Now, just a few semesters from becoming a veterinary doctor, he approaches people and animals with a curiosity, kindness and self-assurance that will help make him great at his work.

Jack wants to practice both primary and urgent care. He already has a job offer. ■

