

Oluwakemi Olokunboyo is studying nursing at Great Bay Community College with help from Charitable Foundation scholarships.



NEW HAMPSHIRE
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

EDUCATION AND CAREER PATHWAYS

Goal: Everyone in New Hampshire has access to an excellent education that helps them thrive in communities and careers.

WHY IT MATTERS

Fair access to high-quality education, supported by meaningful state investments, is critical for developing educated citizens, sustaining democracy and growing the economy. Everyone in New Hampshire is better off when every student has access to an excellent education.

But New Hampshire is falling short. Unconstitutionally low per-pupil spending by the state combined with an over-reliance on local property taxes creates broad inequities in which children in the highest-poverty school districts have the lowest student outcomes.

Consistent underfunding of public colleges and universities has resulted in among the highest tuition rates in the country — and in New Hampshire students carrying among the highest rates of student debt. New

Hampshire's community colleges charge among the highest tuition of any in the country, creating another barrier for young people looking to build rewarding careers in New Hampshire.

Additional factors threaten our education systems. The proposed dismantling of the federal Department of Education would have sweeping implications — particularly for the most vulnerable children. A politicized movement in New Hampshire has championed laws targeting LGBTQ+ students; spurred book bans; attempted to limit access to a full and inclusive curriculum; and led to the creation of an education voucher system that is projected to funnel \$50 million away from public schools and into private, religious, and home schools in the current school year.

BY THE NUMBERS

50

New Hampshire's rank in state funding for public K-12 schools and higher education, among the 50 states.

\$500M

Amount by which New Hampshire underfunds its public schools annually.

57%

Percentage of New Hampshire's college-bound students who leave the state to pursue degrees elsewhere — about double the national average of 26%.

\$1M

Increase in lifetime earnings for people who have completed a bachelor's degree vs. those with just a high school education.

Sources: NH Fiscal Policy Institute, National Center for Education Statistics, Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, Reaching Higher NH, citing Superior Court ruling in ConVal lawsuit

WHAT WE'RE DOING

We are funding advocacy for fair funding of K-12 public schools and increased investment in higher education; Supporting apprenticeship programs and other pathways to careers in New Hampshire; providing scholarships to about 2,000 students a year to students of all ages for community college, four-year college and professional training and certificate programs; working with generous people to create additional scholarship funding that is not restricted by region or area of study — and more.



Advocating for excellence and fairness

Operating grants are helping to sustain the work of the **New Hampshire School Funding Fairness Project**, a nonpartisan group advocating for school funding and property-tax fairness; Reaching Higher New Hampshire, which provides research and resources to champion excellence in public education; and nonpartisan advocacy for the rights of educators and students to teach and learn the full scope of history and for the rights of LGBTQ+ young people.



Awarding millions in scholarships

The Foundation is the largest publicly available source of student aid in New Hampshire. Our Student Aid team manages more than 500 scholarship funds created by generous people, and awards about \$8 million annually to New Hampshire students studying for two- and four-year degrees and for industry certificates and credentials.



Courtesy photo

Supporting innovative partnerships

A grant is supporting a partnership between the **Portsmouth Housing Authority** and **Great Bay Community College**, which helps people with low incomes who live in public housing to get the supports they need to enroll in and complete associate's degree programs — an important step toward economic mobility.



Helping adult students with low incomes get degrees

Many adult students with families and full-time jobs work at getting their college degrees one class at a time. Yet college students who are not enrolled in school at least half-time are not eligible for federal aid. The Foundation provides aid to those students.

SHORT-TERM GOALS

Given recent federal and state policy and budget actions, our focus for the next three to five years will be:

Reach more students who need help the most

We are doing community outreach and working with high schools and colleges to make sure that Foundation aid is reaching the students with the greatest barriers to opportunity — including first-generation college students, New Americans and those from families with low incomes.

Increase unrestricted scholarship funding

We are working with generous donors to encourage increased funding for scholarships — that is not restricted by region or field of study — to ensure that more young people who need help get help.

Advocate for an excellent education for all New Hampshire kids

We will continue to fund nonpartisan groups advocating for school funding fairness, increased investment in higher education and an educational system that respects and celebrates and protects all of our kids.

Support effective career pathway options

We are working with partners in business, education and the nonprofit sector to increase options available for New Hampshire students to enter into a variety of rewarding careers.



Helping students thrive

Foundation scholarships help New Hampshire students like Felicia Fekay (pictured) to achieve their goals and enter into rewarding careers in New Hampshire. Felicia became a licensed practical nurse with help from Foundation scholarships. She hopes to become a registered nurse. "I want to be able to provide for my children and give them a good life," Felicia said.



LEARN MORE:

To learn more, scan the QR code or visit nhcf.org/edandcareer

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Hilary Miskoe
Director of Student Aid
603-225-6641 ext 235 or Hilary.Miskoe@nhcf.org

ABOUT US

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 \$70 million in grants and scholarships every year and collaborate and lead on high-impact initiatives.