

The New Hampshire Children's Trust 2023 Annual Report

# MISSION

# VISION

New Hampshire Children's Trust is leading the drive to ensure safe, stable, and nurturing relationships and environments for children by educating, advocating, and collaborating.

We envision a New Hampshire where all children grow up free from abuse and neglect.



# Letter from the Executive Director

A New Hampshire where communities are resilient is a New Hampshire in which children and their caregivers can thrive. While building community resilience is an objective of New Hampshire Children's Trust, supportive communities are points of departure for families to realize their unique aspirations.

After all, the family unit is where we first learn foundational life skills. Family is where we first nurture physical and mental health and wellbeing. When we invest in it, family creates the first footings for economic stability and mobility. In other words, supporting families builds individual strength and resilience.

Over the past year NH Children's Trust has worked diligently to create a shared understanding of the importance of family and foster the cross-sector relationships that both engage community as well as foster a state of readiness, so all Granite Staters can navigate life's challenges.

In the pages ahead, please join us for a celebration of our communities, the organizations that make them strong, safe, and supportive, and all of New Hampshire's families on their journey toward long-term success. Because when families succeed, New Hampshire succeeds.

Family is by far New Hampshire's best investment.

Cliff Simmonds

**Executive Director** 

As the Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) state lead, NHCT invested supplemental American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in 2023 to make investments promoting the safety and wellbeing of children and families.

#### The Claremont Project

In 2023, NHCT renewed funding to the Claremont Project, an initiative with a mission to expand and support partnerships among schools, family support agencies, childcare, regional collaboratives, businesses, community agencies, the city, and families in Claremont, NH. Throughout the year, the project helped community schools, organizations, and state legislators coalesce around child food insecurity, focusing their collective efforts on SNAP and school lunch enrollment.

### Boys & Girls Club of Souhegan Valley

In 2023, NHCT provided funding to support an initiative at the Boys & Girls Club of Souhegan Valley to develop a trauma responsive care team at BGCSV and enhance the community-based system of support for youth and families in the Souhegan Valley Region. In the first 6 months of the project, BGCSV hosted community cookouts attended by over 1,000 people, provided mental health and addiction training to staff and parents, and hosted resiliency retreats for youth affected by substance use disorder.

NEW HAMPSHIRE CHILDREN'S TRUST



# STRENGTHENING PARTNERS

#### **NH Family Resource Centers**

A Family Resource Center (FRC) is a community organization that offers free, confidential services to support families. FRCs serve all families with evidence-based home visiting, parenting education, youth enrichment, concrete supports, and other programs to help build and maintain healthy families in NH.

#### **Collective Impact Reporting**

Since 2020, NHCT has managed the Family Support Data System (FSDS), a database used by all Family Resource Centers (FRC) in New Hampshire to collect and report-out information about the families they support in their community. Information in the data system includes demographics of children and caregivers, household income and composition, family need, and services received. Because all FRCs enter data into a common system, NHCT can identify statewide trends, elevate the collective impact of FRC efforts, and generate reporting and data visualizations about children, caregivers, and families served across the state during any time period.

#### **Family Support New Hampshire**

A program of NHCT, Family Support New Hampshire serves as the statewide coalition of FRCs and family strengthening programs through which learning, resources, and funding flows in support of stronger NH communities.

> In 2023, 14 Family Resource Centers in 24 locations across NH supported over 7,000 families and 15,400 children and adults.

Kinship Navigators, which provide kinship caregiver support services at each FRC location, served over 480 families including 700 caregivers and 700 children placed in their care.





# MEETING FAMILY NEED

Concrete supports in times of need are one of the five protective factors that can prevent neglect and help families thrive. Concrete supports are often described as the "basic necessities" that all families need to support their children including food, clothing, housing, transportation, childcare, and health care.

In 2023, NHCT disbursed:

\$638,000 in funds to support

1,785 children from

1,150
NH Families

The New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, NH Children's Trust, and Family Resource Centers across New Hampshire partner to provide flexible funds to families in our communities. These funds, made possible by generous donors, help meet the immediate concrete needs of families and also provide children with positive experiences they otherwise may not be able to afford. Funds can be used to help families facing various challenges that are not covered by public assistance programs, bridge financial gaps while benefits applications are in process or stalled, and cover unexpected home and auto repair bills.

NHCT's data system collects household information and fund use for each disbursement. In 2023, over 70% of funds supported the top needs of NH families: **housing, utilities, transportation.** 

In the US, diapers are the 4th highest household expense after rent, food, and utilities, for families with diaper needs. In partnership with Baby2Baby, a grass roots California based organization, NHCT has distributed over 150,000 diapers and other baby essentials to New Hampshire since 2021. Through collaborative efforts, working seamlessly with the network of Family Resource Centers and other family strengthening programs throughout the state, NHCT managed the distribution of 77,400 diapers to Family Resource Centers in 2023, more than twice as many as the two previous years combined!



Ensuring families have what they need, when they need it begins with celebrating the strengths families already have. Understanding how families navigate adversity can inform where additional community supports are needed; whether its an ability to bounce back from stress, maintaining a strong support system, understanding children's developmental needs, nurturing empathy, or asking for help before a challenge becomes a crisis.

New Hampshire Children's Trust prioritizes honoring parents and caregivers for NH's most important job—creating safe, stable, and nurturing environments in which children thrive.

Each year NHCT seeks nominations for the Unsung Hero Awards, the Lucy Fowlkes Breed Award, and the Dr. Robert Chamberlin Award, each of which honors Granite State families or the individuals in the field who have dedicated their lives to family-centered service and systems.

Here's to strong New Hampshire families and supportive services providers!

# Keynote speaker Dr. Wendy Ellis posing with an attendee at the 11th Annual Strengthening Families Summit in Concord, NH in September 2023. HAMPSHIRE CHILDREN'S TI

# PROMOTING ACCESS

Building resilient New Hampshire communities requires a transformative approach that fosters collaboration across child and maternal health, public health, and community-based agencies to both address root causes of childhood adversity, as well as build the conditions for frequent positive experiences.



In September of 2023, New Hampshire Children's Trust held the 11th Annual Strengthening Families Summit, where we were honored to welcome Keynote Dr. Wendy Ellis, Assistant Professor in Global Health and the Director of the Center for Community Resilience at the Milken Institute School of Public Health at George Washington University.

Dr. Ellis guided attendees through her co-authored A New Framework for Addressing Adverse Childhood and Community Experience: The Building Community Resilience Model, and set the foundations for a process of assessment and readiness to increase community "capacity to anticipate risk, limit effects, and recover rapidly through survival, adaptability, evolution, and growth in the face of turbulent change and stress." To hear an interview with Dr. Wendy Ellis, visit: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/NHCT-resilient-communities">https://tinyurl.com/NHCT-resilient-communities</a>

# RAISING AWARENESS

#### **Building Together: Prevention in Partnership**

Child Abuse Prevention Month in April highlights the power of commitment and collaboration in ensuring families have the resources they need to raise happy, healthy, and safe children. Primary prevention starts with proactive, "upstream" strategies that build family strength and resilience before challenges arise. Research shows that when caregivers have access to concrete supports, parenting strategies, knowledge of child development, and social connections, they create nurturing environments where children thrive.

#### **NH Family NOW Podcast**

The NH Family NOW podcast is a public facing project which promotes our mission and serves as an auditory community resource guide. Season 3 of the NH Family NOW Podcast produced 23 thirty-minute podcasts bi-weekly providing access and awareness of family services available to all NH families. Experts in the field join the show to discuss the state-of-the-state of New Hampshire's family-friendly landscape and where to turn for practical, evidence-based solutions for the challenges facing families today. NH Family NOW can be found on Spotify, Google Podcasts, Amazon Music, Stitcher, iHeart Radio and on the NHCT website.

330,000+

Social media impressions

66,000+ Social media post reach

3,000+
PSA radio placements
on 50 NH stations

4,500+
Podcast downloads

20,000+ Website page views

10,000+ Downloads



# RIDE FOR RESILIENCE

NHCT's 3rd Annual 100-mile Ride for Resilience, founded by current Board Chair Mark Knights, took place on October 13, 2023 in the Lakes Region in partnership with New Hampshire's Network of Family Resource Centers.

The focus of the ride is to highlight family strength in the Granite State and to build awareness of the many ways the NH Network of Family Support helps foster individual, family, and community resilience.



The Third Annual Riders from Left to Right: Ted Lague, Sean Skabo, Mark Knights, Sonya Misiaszek, Sonya's Training Partner Maureen, Nathan Fink, and Laura Hagley.

Knights, along with Children's Trust Senior Advancement Director Nathan Fink and four other riders, cycled a total of 103 miles from Whole Village in Plymouth, to Lakes Region Community Services in Laconia, to Archways in Tilton and Franklin and then back to Plymouth for an after ride celebration!

**3** FRCs visited

**6** Riders

103 Miles on a bicycle

5,446ft Elevation





# NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

NHCT is the Governor's appointed Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Lead Agency, the State of New Hampshire chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America, and a member of the Children's Trust Fund Alliance and National Family Support Network. As a member of these national child abuse prevention networks, NHCT brings national perspectives and strategies into the state and elevates our state's prevention efforts and outcomes with national partners.

# **Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention**

Federal CBCAP grants ensure that state and local communities have resources to empower families to provide safe homes for their children, reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect, and reduce the need for foster care. As New Hampshire's CBCAP grant recipient, NHCT leverages federal funding to support many initiatives, including the administration of Trestle Fund concrete support disbursements through Family Resource Centers.

#### **Children's Trust Fund Alliance**

New Hampshire is a member of the Children's Trust Fund Alliance, formerly known as the National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds, the national membership organization for state children's trust funds. The Alliance provides leadership and support for a national network of children's trust and prevention funds who are catalysts for positive changes in systems, policies and practices to promote well-being for children, families and communities.

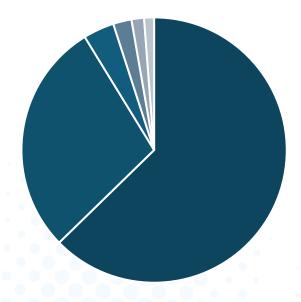
#### **Prevent Child Abuse (PCA) America**

Prevent Child Abuse America is the nation's oldest and largest organization committed to preventing child abuse and neglect before it happens. Since 2004 NHCT has served as the New Hampshire State Chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America.

#### **National Family Support Network**

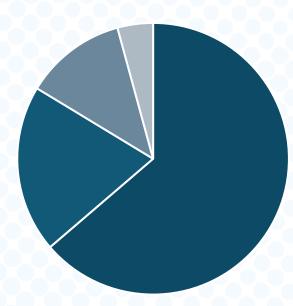
Founded in 2011, the National
Family Support Network (NFSN) is
a membership-based organization
comprised of state's networks of Family
Resource Centers. As a representative
of Family Support New Hampshire,
NHCT is a proud member of NFSN. This
affiliation grants NHCT and the NH's
family resource centers access to a wealth
of resources, including communities
of practice, educational materials,
trainings, and professional development
opportunities.

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY



## Revenue

10101110	
Government Grants	\$4,216,657
Foundation Grants	\$1,393,742
Contributions	\$170,800
Endowment Distributions	\$98,887
Training & Conference Fees	\$75,297
In-Kind	\$54,758



#### **Expenses**

Direct Support for Family	\$2,910,292
Resource Centers	
Technical Support for FRCs &	\$911,709
Other Community Partners	
Fundraising & Community	\$552,457
Relations	
Administration	\$193.333



#### **Board of Directors**

Jenn Cronin, Chair Mark Knights, Esq, Vice Chair Janice Fitzpatrick, Treasurer Brian Beals, MD FAAP Taylor Breed, MBA Laura Goupil, MA Elizabeth Hodgson, MD FAAP Karen Kersting Erin Maskwa, PMP Adam Memmolo Patricia Robitaille, CPA Christine Tappan, MSW, CAGS, Vice Chair

\*2024 new board members include: Jennifer Ganim-Smith, MEd, Cyndi Graniello, MBA, and Rebecca Lozman-Oxman, DNP, APRN, MP

#### Leadership

Cliff Simmonds, Executive Director Nathan Fink, MFA, Sr Director of Advancement

#### Staff

Lindsay Allsop, Data & Organizational
Performance Manager
Becky Berk, Director of Impact & Evaluation
Carroll Berg III, Communications Manager
Kat Challis, Director of Development
Maria Doyle, Primary Prevention Director
Nathalie Gagnon, Accounting Manager
Diane Hastings, Community Relations Coordinator

Nick Riso, Director of Finance Tracy Vergason, Sr Program Director

Jamie Huard-Ramos, Program Specialist
Deanna LaFrazia, Technical Data Specialist
Kathy Palys, Communications Specialist
Jennifer Paveglio, Office Manager
Liz Scruton, Family Support & Early Childhood
Initiatives Director
Emily Shanahan, Primary Prevention Manager

# **COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS**

Alpha Sigma Chapter of Kappa Delta Sorority-UNH

**Amazon Smile Foundation** 

AmeriHealth Caritas New Hampshire

Amoskeag Health

Associated Grocers of New England

**Autism Care Partners** 

Baby2Baby

**Back Bay Networks** 

**Bangor Savings Bank** 

Bank of New Hampshire

BatteriesPlusBulbs

Behavioral Health Improvement Institute-

Keene State College

Berg Ink LLC

**Black Forest Nursery** 

Burgoo Media

**Checkmate Payroll** 

Churchill James, LLC

City of Manchester Health Department

Cohen Closing and Title

**Compass Travel** 

Concord Food Co-op

Couch Family Foundation

**Cross Insurance Agency** 

Dartmouth Health

Diocese of Manchester

**Donley Foundation** 

**Eastern Bank Foundation** 

**Endowment for Health** 

**Eversource Energy Foundation** 

Exeter Area General Federation of Women's

Clubs

**Exeter Hospital** 

Fidelity Investments

Fraternal Order of Eagles, Ladies Auxiliary

#1887

General Federation of Women's Clubs-NH

GFWC-Hudson Women's Club

Gilbert Verney Foundation

**Granite State Glass** 

**Granite United Way** 

Hannaford

Harbour Light

Healthy Families America New Hampshire JH Spain Commercial Services, LLC

John Snow, Inc.

Kennebunk Savings

**Keystone Press** 

Kingston Family Dental

**Knights Construction** 

Lindt Chocolate

Madelaine von Weber Trust

Marcum LLP

Market Basket

Mascoma Bank

Merchants Fleet

Merrimack County Savings Bank

**MomsRising** 

**Mount Prospect Academy** 

**NAMI NH** 

Nathan Wechsler & Co, PA

New England Employee Benefits Company

**New Futures** 

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's

**Barrette Family Fund** 

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's

Bio X Cell Fund

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's

Bob & Deb Goldstein Family Charitable Fund New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's

**Breed Family Fund** 

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's

**Couch Family Fund** 

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's

Delphinium Fund

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's

**Employees of Associated Grocers NE and AG** Supermarkets

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's

**Grandgeorge Family Fund** New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's

Griffiths Wennrich Family Fund

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's Jake & Cindy Winebaum Fund

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's John & Lelia Lamson Fund

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's

Mary Alice & Kent Warner Family Support Fund New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's

Penny Pitou & Milo Pike Charitable Fund

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's **Robinson Family Fund** 

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's Rogers Family Trust Fund

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's **Rutman Family Fund** 

New Hampshire Children's Health Foundation New Hampshire Department of Education

New Hampshire Group

**NH American Academy of Pediatrics** 

NH Association of Infant Mental Health

NH Fiddle Ensemble

NH Healthy Families-Centene

Nixon Peabody LLP

Northeast Delta Dental

Passumpsic Savings Bank and its employees

Path Resorts

Piscataqua Savings Bank

Salem Area Women's Club

Save the Children Action Network-NH

SFM, LLC

Society of the Sisters of Charity

Spaulding Academy and Family Services

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Woodsville

St. Mary's Bank

St. Peter Church, Auburn

**Stephen and Rosamund Forrest Family** 

Foundation

Tech Pro Marketing

The Blackey Family Foundation

The Immaculate Conception Parish, Nashua

The River Center

Town Fair Tire Foundation

Two Tomatoes Touring, LLC

**United Way of Central Massachusetts** 

United Way of Greater Nashua

**UpReach Therapeutic Equestrian Center** 

W.S. Badger

Waterville Valley Foundation

Waypoint

Wells Fargo Advisors

WellSense Health Plan

William Blair

**Youth Villages** 





# PREVENTION











