

# NEW HAMPSHIRE CHILDREN'S TRUST

2019 Annual Report



### SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES

Strong families depend on supportive communities. In 2019, we worked diligently to support the statewide standard of services through technical assistance and leadership, the training of direct service professionals, and by hosting a statewide conference for New Hampshire family service professionals.



### DUFFUKLIVE COMMUNITIE



We know that expertise is essential to developing supportive communities in which families and children can thrive. That is why we strive to strengthen the accessibility, proficiency, and efficiency of the family support network in NH. Family Resource Center of Quality (FRC-Q) designation creates confidence in families, funders, and staff of these programs and raises professionalism in the programs and the field—defining and promoting quality practice.

A CLOSER LOOK



- Convened a learning cohort of **6** FRCs seeking Family Resource Center of Quality designation.
- Provided intensive technical assistance to **6** FRCs to help them increase their readiness for FRC-Q designation.
- Assisted **18** FRCs in FRC-Q designation self-assessments.
- Partnered with BHII and the FRCs to develop, customize, and implement a common service delivery platform (Family Support Data System/FSDS).



In 2019, we hosted the 8th Annual Strengthening Families Summit: HOPE Starts Here, featuring keynote speaker Dr. Robert Sege of Tufts University School of Medicine, coauthor of the "Balancing Adverse Childhood Experiences with HOPE" report, as well as fifteen unique workshop presentations. Dr. Sege and presenters focused on positive experiences resulting in healthy outcomes for children and families. 269 family service professionals and parent leaders from across the state attended the all-day event.

we held 26 trainings and educated 545 direct service professionals.

## STRONG FAMILIES

Families thrive when they have a strong foundation of support. In 2019, we developed new programming to address the unique needs of New Hampshire caregivers, and honored a dedicated family service volunteer and twenty-eight exceptional parents and caregivers throughout New Hampshire.





In New Hampshire and across the United States, grandparents and other relatives play a critical role in the prevention of unnecessary entries into foster care. Despite these efforts, kinship caregivers often experience significant challenges and barriers to the care-taking role. With this in mind, New Hampshire Children's Trust began working in collaboration with NH Family Resource Centers to expand formal support services for grandparents and relative caregivers across the state via the Kinship Navigation Program.

". . . having witnessed the isolation that many relative caregivers experience, I am impassioned to ensure that all families have a place to be heard, to be known, and to feel like they matter."

— Melissa Shadden, Kinship Navigator at The FRC in Gorham



Millie LaFontaine, the 2019 Lucy Fowlkes Breed Family Service Volunteer Award recipient, has spent the last decade as a Master Mentor with the Friends Youth Mentoring Program at the Friends Program in Concord, NH. Millie embodies many of the same attributes as Lucy Fowlkes Breed, who was known for her incredible empathy for others and her ability to meeting individuals "where they're at" no matter the difficulty. Like Lucy, Millie's dedication to others helps build supportive communities, strong families, and safe kids.

In 2019, parents and caregivers for the 28 days we honored of February—Parent Recognition Month.

The 12th annual Unsung Hero Awards recognized twenty-eight New Hampshire parents and caregivers who incorporate the Five Protective Factors into their parenting and build natural support networks within their families and communities. This year's celebration was presented in partnership with Governor Chris Sununu and held at the State House in the Executive Council Chamber.

## SAFE KIDS Children thrive when families have the knowledge and supports they need. In 2019, we fostered safe, stable, and nurturing environments for children by advocating for child abuse prevention and renewing our commitment to expanding statewide supports on community, organizational, and individual levels.



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month! In April of 2019, we co-hosted three benefit concerts with the NH Fiddle Ensemble and joined UNH's Kappa Delta Sorority for their annual Auction. On Wear Blue Day, individuals and organizations across the Granite State wore blue to make a visible commitment to child abuse prevention. Pinwheel gardens were planted around the state—by individuals, businesses, Family Resource Centers, and other nonprofit agencies—to serve as a reminder that creating great childhoods is a community responsibility.

#### WE KNOW THAT...

Safe kids are the result of a multi-pronged effort that involves continuity and sustainability. In that vein, New Hampshire Children's Trust is renewing its commitment by expanding staff and pursuing resources and community partners dedicated to improving nurturing environments for children and families wherever they live in the Granite State.

#### **Staff**

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Brenda Marotto, Director of Finance

Joelyn Drennan, Senior Program Director

Nathan Fink, Director of Advancement

Becky Berk, Data Manager

**Deborah Ross**, *Training Specialist* 

**Diane Hastings**, Community Relations Coordinator

Diane Yeo, Family Support Specialist for Kinship Navigation

Karen Pellicano, Program Assistant

Kat Challis, Administrative Assistant

Kim Maynard, Development Manager

Maria Doyle, Family Support Specialist for FRC-Q Rebecca Planchart, Communications Specialist

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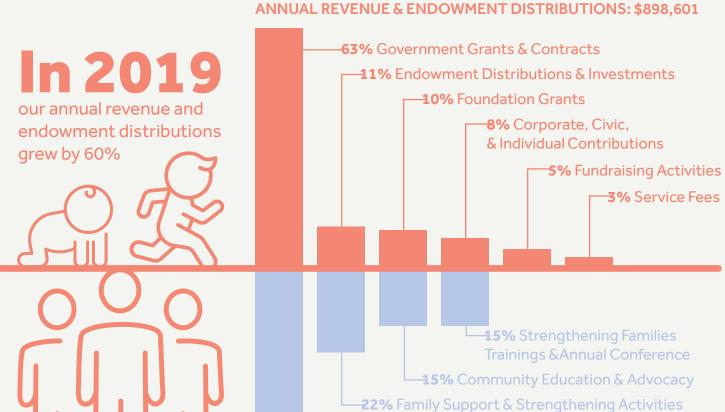
Erin Maskwa

Adam Memmolo

Mandi Werner, Esq.

Lara Quiroga, Ex Officio





### **THANK YOU FOR** YOUR SUPPORT 37%

our annual giving increased by

**48%** Support for Family Resource Centers

**ANNUAL PROGRAMMING EXPENSES: \$889,444** 



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