

A Message from Cliff

We know that when people in communities interact, those communities gain strength. They grow and become greater than their parts, providing the necessary structure and resources that help families thrive.

The New Hampshire Children's Trust has supported those communities, acting as the backbone organization for the primary prevention of child abuse and neglect for decades, and has the honor of supporting an amazing network of 16 Family Resource Centers over the past several years as a partner, facilitator, funder, and advocate.

We have accomplished much in those years, including lifting up a robust Kinship Navigation program, assisting Family Resource Centers (FRCs) on their pathway to becoming FRCs of Quality, developing the Family Support Data System that has shown the incredible results of FRC efforts to reach families and impact their lives, and providing a series of progressive marketing and communications initiatives designed to further the understanding of how we all play a part in prevention and its positive impact on strengthening families throughout NH.

As we look to the future, we aim to tie the many threads of NH's child well-being system together through a lens of primary prevention—keeping families strong and children safe. We continue to prioritize support for family strengthening programs through public engagement, education, and advocacy, and will become more intentional about our role in supporting early childhood initiatives as an essential part of supporting NH families.

This Impact Report illustrates how working together with our FRC partners and other childserving organizations can make a positive impact on families and build healthy communities.

CLIFF SIMMONDS
Executive Director
New Hampshire Children's Trust

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. We provide innovative programs and trainings for child and family service professionals who in turn provide high quality comprehensive resources and services to parents. Our collective goal is to raise healthy children who develop into healthy adults.



Advocate & Advance

#IAmPrevention Campaign

I AM Prevention. YOU ARE Prevention. WE ARE Prevention.

These were the resonant themes for the New Hampshire Children's Trust (NHCT) in April with the unveiling of the dynamic #IAmPrevention campaign for National Child Abuse Prevention Month, conducted in partnership with the Family Resource Centers and family strengthening organizations throughout the state.

The campaign was designed to establish a pathway to positively identify primary prevention and Strengthening Families protective factors. NHCT created a mix of content that included a resource guide, activity calendar, social media posts, webinars, and video.

200,000

#IAmPrevention social media reach

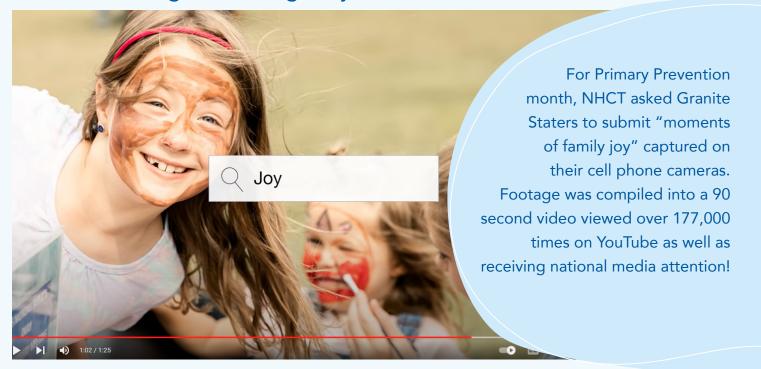
177,000

"Moments of Joy" video views

3,000

PSA placements on 50 NH radio stations

A little **JOY** goes a Long Way!



NH Family NOW Season 2 Podcast

NHCT published 20 new podcast episodes in Season 2 of

New Hampshire Family NOW. The guests included First Lady

Valerie Sununu, NH DCYF Director Joe Ribsam, President & CEO of

Prevent Child Abuse America Dr. Melissa T. Merrick, and NH State

Senator Becky Whitley. Topics included, but were not limited to,

Adverse Childhood Experiences, identity, race and equity,

mental wellness for new mothers, and kinship caregiving.

▶ 10,000 Listens

Celebrating

Primary Prevention

In May, NHCT gathered with partners to recognize the tremendous contributions of NH family support and strengthening professionals committed to building supportive communities that benefit all children.



Above: Congressman Chris Pappas, NH-01

Strengthening FamiliesAnnual Summit

"The Power of Stories"

NHCT's annual Strengthening Families
Summit returned as an in-person
conference in Concord in September 2022.
The event featured a keynote
presentation followed by 10 workshops
across 2 breakout sessions.

230 engaged attendees learned how stories can promote protective factors and how we can harness the power of stories to strengthen families and build stronger communities.

SPOTLIGHT



New Hampshire Fiddle Ensemble Bringing Community Together through Music

In what has become an annual rite of spring in the Granite State, the talented singers, musicians, and "hula-hoopers" that comprise the NH Fiddle Ensemble performed two shows in 2022 in collaboration with New Hampshire Children's Trust (NHCT) to coincide with National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

The NH Fiddle Ensemble is a 501c3 community orchestra made up of nearly 100 musicians of all ages and abilities who play a variety of acoustic instruments. The group brings community together by partnering with local non-profits like NHCT to play benefit concerts across New Hampshire and New England.

Community, Belonging, Place

"The Teen Project"

In the spring of 2022, NHCT partnered with Avenue A, a teen center of the Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center, to create a documentary-style short film to help destigmatize the teen experience and connect teens to community resources before risky behaviors arise. The result was a 12-minute film on the lives, experiences, and hopes of a group of local teens in the Monadnock Region which premiered at the Peterborough Community Theater in June.



Meeting Family Needs

SPOTLIGHT

The Trestle Fund

Concrete Support for NH Families

In 2022, the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, New Hampshire Children's Trust (NHCT), and Family Resource Centers (FRCs) across the state collaborated to establish a program to provide more direct concrete support to families in the community.

The Trestle Fund pilot, which launched statewide in January 2022, provides flexible funding for FRCs to help support families with minor children who are experiencing acute economic challenges. The fund is unrestricted and can be used to help families facing various challenges that are not covered by public assistance programs, like car repair bills or a security deposit for a new apartment. In addition, funds can be used to support child care, summer camps, and other activities that enrich children's experiences and ease the financial burden on parents and caregivers.

The New Hampshire Charitable Foundation provided \$675,000 in funding for 2022 to NHCT to distribute to families through FRCs. In addition to facilitating the disbursement of funds, NHCT developed a common data system to track all Trestle Fund dollars distributed. These funds and the disbursement database have helped bridge gaps in unmet concrete needs, identify regional emerging needs and trends, and enable FRCs to utilize statewide data to inform the response moving forward.

During 2022, FRCs provided:

- ▶ 1,292 disbursements to
- > 972 families in
- 145 towns in New Hampshire

77% of fund dollars were used to support families with housing, transportation, and childcare-related costs.

"I did a home visit today with a family we were able to help with funding from the Trestle Fund and the change in their lives has been amazing. One positive change has led to many more, the ripple effect is so far reaching."

- New Hampshire FRC Director

*From New Hampshire Charitable Foundation article: TRESTLE FUND HELPS BRIDGE THE GAP

Kinship Navigation

The Kinship Navigation Program, implemented by NHCT within FRCs across the state, was designed to support grandparents, family members, and close family friends that are raising children whose biological parents are unable to care for them.

This community-based program is free, voluntary, and confidential and links kinship caregivers with state benefits, community resources, concrete supports, and referrals to other services in the community.

NHCT and FRCs worked collaboratively throughout the year to expand the Kinship program, create new partnerships with community service providers, and enhance Kinship Navigators' capacity to serve Kinship families across the state.

Kinship Family Data

In 2022, the NH Kinship Navigation program, supported 234 additional Kinship families, with 336 children

Factors that led to those placements in the Kinship Navigation Program were:

- Substance misuse by the biological parents 73.6%
- ► Death of one, or both biological parents 12.3%
- ► Incarceration of a parent 12.3%

2022 Kinship Navigation Program highlights:

- NHCT partnered with New Hampshire Legal
 Assistance to host twice-monthly "office
 hours" sessions to provide Kinship Navigators
 and family support staff with a forum to discuss
 legal issues facing the families they serve.
- In response to increased need for Kinship Navigation services in the Upper Valley, Waypoint created a new Kinship Navigator position in their Lebanon office to support families in the region who previously did not have access to Kinship Navigation services.
- NHCT partnered with the Parent Information Center (PIC) to provide new learning opportunities for Kinship Navigators to increase their knowledge and understanding of supporting Kinship families working with the special education system.
- Over the course of the year, NHCT collaborated with the Behavioral Health Improvement Institute at Keene State College to develop a new online, on-demand learning curriculum to deliver training to Kinship Navigators which launched statewide in January 2023.



Capacity Building

Family Resource Centers of Quality (FRC-Q)

While NH FRCs have a diversity of structures, funding streams, and constituencies, they share important foundational frameworks, specifically the Strengthening Families Framework and the Principles of Family Support. The Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening & Support are used by multiple community stakeholders as a tool for assessing alignment with these two frameworks. NH FRCs and community stakeholders created a process to designate FRCs committed to these standards and other indicators of exemplary practice as Family Resource Centers of Quality (FRC-Q). Families, funders, and center staff can be confident of quality practice, professionalism, and respect when they encounter a program designated as FRC-Q. The NH Wellness and Primary Prevention Council (WPPC) is charged with overseeing the designation process. In 2022, NHCT continued its three-pronged focus to support the FRC-Q designation process through:

- ► Technical Assistance and support to the FRCs regarding quality improvement related to meeting criteria for FRC-Q designation;
- Coordinating the Standards of Quality certification training and representing Family Support New Hampshire with the National Family Support Network; and
- Supporting the WPPC in carrying out the process of reviewing FRC-Q designation applications

12 of New Hampshire's Family Resource Centers have been designated FRC-Q's by the WPPC:

- Archways
- Family Connections Resource Center at Children Unlimited
- Families First Health and Support Center
- Family Resource Center of Central NH
- Family Resource Center of the North Country
- Grapevine Family and Community Resource Center
- The River Center, A Family and Community Resource Center
- The Upper Room, A Family Resource Center
- TLC Family Resource Center
- Waypoint Concord
 Waypoint Manches
- Waypoint Manchester
- Waypoint Nashua

Training & Technical Assistance

- ▶445+ hours of training provided for 1110+ community members and professionals
- **≥270+** hours of technical assistance to FRC staff
- ▶ 146+ hours of facilitated group meetings

SPOTLIGHT

The New Hampshire Children's Trust & Family Support New Hampshire Merger

During 2022, NHCT continued its role providing backbone support for New Hampshire's network of Family Resource Centers and integrating primary prevention into the child well-being conversation.

Family Support New Hampshire (FSNH), a member of the National Family Support Network, is a coalition of FRCs throughout New Hampshire that exists to share best practices and support one another as they collectively strive to provide quality services for Granite State families.

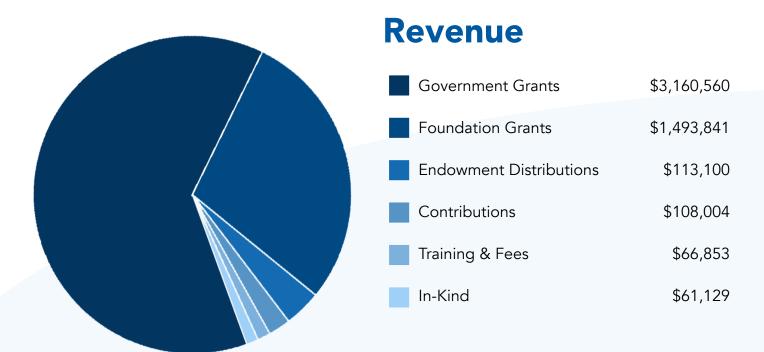
Following a 2021 needs assessment, FSNH identified opportunities to streamline New Hampshire's statewide family strengthening and support infrastructure by formalizing a partnership with NHCT. After a fourmonth facilitated planning process, FSNH transitioned from an independent 501c3 to a signature program of NHCT.

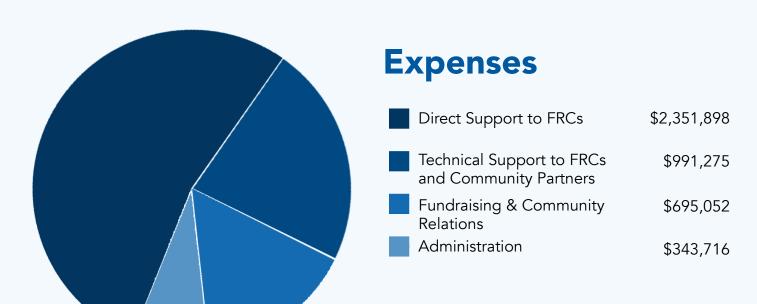
In June, NHCT hired a full-time staff member to coordinate the network and help FSNH establish goals to continue to meet member needs. As a first step, the FSNH Advisory Committee was formed to ensure an effective and sustainable partnership. Over the course of the year, FSNH accomplished multiple objectives, including refining membership structure, streamlining group communication, and tailoring member meeting content to meet the diverse needs of FRC staff.





Collective Impact





THANK YOU to all 2022 donors for your support of Granite State children and families! The following foundations, organizations, businesses, and donor advised funds supported the mission of the NH Children's Trust in 2022 through grants, sponsorships, and donations:

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Hews Company, Inc.	Youth Supports Fund
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Use Disorders Fund

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's

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New England Employee Benefits Company	NH Association for Infant Mental Health
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New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's	NH Chapter of the American Society
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Youth Villages

NEW HAMPSHIRE CHILDREN'S TRUST : 2022 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

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Kingston Family Dental

Kiwanis Club of Concord NH

Knights Construction, LLC

Ride For Resilience

Now an annual event connecting Family Resource Centers (FRCs) across the Granite State, New Hampshire Children's Trust's (NHCT's) Ride for Resilience highlights family strength and the many ways New Hampshire's Network of Family Support helps build individual, family, and community resilience!

On October 21, four riders hopped on their bicycles and pedaled 100 miles across southern New Hampshire to raise awareness about the statewide resources available to all NH families.

Ride Founder and NHCT Board Vice Chair Mark Knights and his fellow participants began their journey at Healthy Starts at HCS Services in Keene. They then headed east, making stops at The River Center in Peterborough and The Upper Room in Derry. The ride concluded at Vernon Family Farms in Newfields for food and music.

The Ride benefits NH Network of Family Support and those organizations who work to create safe, stable, and nurturing environments.







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