



# LOOKING FORWARD: NHAHA ADVOCACY PRIORITIES 2024-2029



Building on past successes, our advocacy priorities for 2024-2029 will continue to strengthen and enhance our advocacy infrastructure and promote policies that improve the health and well-being of all of us as we age in New Hampshire.

## 1 A strong State Commission on Aging that advises the Governor and General Court on policy and planning related to aging in New Hampshire.

- Participate in and advise the State Commission on Aging on policy priorities.
- Identify older adults as potential leaders and voices for the Commission.
- Advise on the development of a multi-sector plan on aging.
- Utilize best practice policies of other states and similar organizations to inform our work.



## 2 A robust System of Care for Healthy Aging in New Hampshire, implemented by the NH Department of Health and Human Services as mandated by current law.

- Monitor implementation of law, funding requests, and rules changes required under the System of Care for Healthy Aging legislation.
- Advocate for adequate infrastructure within the NH Department of Health and Human Services to ensure expedient system development.
- Analyze data to measure the progress towards reducing gaps between needs and access to care.
- Secure adequate and sustainable funding to support healthy aging in New Hampshire.
- Advance solutions identified by an empowered workforce, caregivers, community-based organizations, and older people to address challenges.



With the burgeoning growth of our state's older population, it is essential that older Granite Staters have a voice to direct the systems, support and services that need to be in place to promote healthy aging.





# LOOKING FORWARD: NHAHA ADVOCACY PRIORITIES 2024-2029 CONTINUED

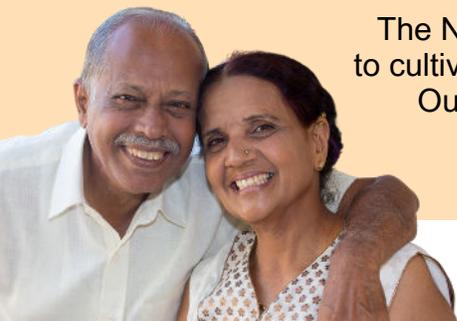
## 3 An age-friendly New Hampshire that supports older adults and their families, providing them with a wide range of choices that advance healthy aging.

- Advocate for state and local policies and access to services that meet the needs of older people across NH-rural and urban-such as transportation, housing, and food security so that all of us can access the supports we need as we age.
- Support the choice to age at home and in the community by ensuring adequate health and caregiver support, civic and social engagement, employment, and volunteer opportunities.
- Support community-based programs for mental health and substance abuse statewide.
- Fight ageism in all policy, media, and community work we do.
- Advocate for digital equity for older adults to reduce social isolation and access to care through telehealth and expansion of the state's broadband capabilities.



## 4 A deep and wide base of advocates, partners, legislative champions, engaged policy makers, and state agencies supporting the system of care, and healthy aging more broadly, across the state.

- Convene and inform policy makers on key issues.
- Identify and cultivate legislative champions.
- Seek media opportunities related to key policy or legislative topics to inform decision makers and the public at large.
- Secure and disseminate data and stories that reflect the progress made and gaps that remain.
- Grow advocacy base statewide of older adults to be ready to engage with elected officials and state agencies and partner with diverse communities, organizations, and experts to ensure that our work is relevant and effective for all of us.
- Build out the infrastructure for a sustainable future, that continues to support the needs of older adults in the state.



The New Hampshire Alliance for Healthy Aging (NHAHA) has been actively working to cultivate a strong and cohesive advocacy infrastructure for older adults since 2014. Our advocacy work is rooted in a collective effort that draws on the expertise and lived experience of older individuals and statewide stakeholders.