

NH Alliance for Healthy Aging: Creating a Collective Approach to Addressing an Aging NH

June 18, 2026

Guest WiFi: We1Baldrige



Agenda

- Welcome, Introductions, and Housekeeping
- Listening to Participant Voices: Insights from the First Year of NH's NCI-AD Survey Results
- Services and Supports for Veterans
- Updates from Washington DC from Congressman Pappas
- Break
- ATinNH: Supporting Older Adults Access to Technology
- NHAHA Updates
- NHAHA Advocacy Update: Celebrating Cheryl Steinberg
- Adjourn and Lunch

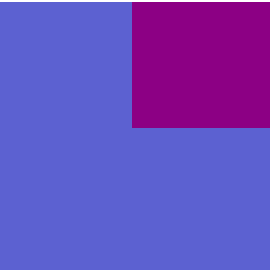


Advancing Quality and Choices: New Hampshire's 2024-2025 National Core Indicators Aging and Disability Adult Consumer Survey Findings

June 18, 2026



Department of
**HEALTH &
HUMAN SERVICES**



Acknowledgements

The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NH DHHS) and the University of New Hampshire's Center on Aging and Community Living (UNH CACL) are **grateful to all individuals who dedicated time to sharing their experiences** while receiving publicly funded long-term services and supports in New Hampshire.

NH DHHS and UNH CACL are also appreciative of the **assistance of Choices for Independence case management agencies and assisted living facilities** in connecting our team with individuals who participated in the survey.



Who's Involved?



Department of
**HEALTH &
HUMAN SERVICES**



Project Leadership and Oversight



**Center on Aging
and Community Living**



**Assists DHHS by completing
surveys, analyzing data, and
designing
survey process**



2024–2025 National Core Indicators–Aging and Disabilities (NCI-AD) Adult Consumer Survey (ACS)

Population:	Choices for Independence Waiver Participants
Number of Surveys to Qualify for National Analysis:	400
Survey Delivery:	In-person, video conference, telephone
Length of Survey:	45 min or more

Survey Responses Are:

Anonymous and aggregated
 Used to understand the person’s experience
 NOT used to evaluate or measure service delivery

The National Core Indicators–Aging and Disabilities (NCI-AD) survey is a nationally standardized survey that captures the experiences and outcomes of older adults and individuals with disabilities who receive publicly funded long-term services and supports.

It allows New Hampshire to benchmark performance against national quality indicators and **assess alignment with the federal Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Rule**, including person-centeredness, choice, and community integration.



The goals of NH's *Advancing Quality and Choices* report are to:

1

Outline the policy landscape including recently implemented and planned policies that may impact the CFI participant experience

2

Describe the individuals who participated

3

Identify findings related to the quality of CFI participants' experiences and provide recommendations to NH DHHS on strategies to address findings



The information contained within this report provides new and unique insights that can inform policy moving forward.

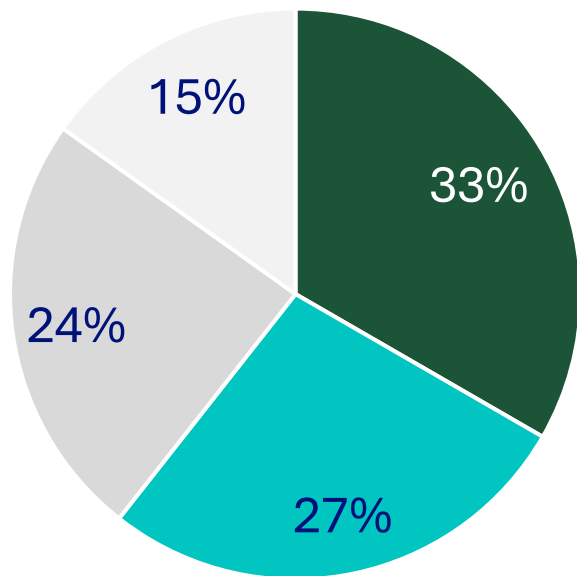
However, it is important to note that this data cannot be used as evidence of cause-and-effect relationships.

Readers are encouraged to avoid generalizations and are instead asked to utilize this report as one of many sources informing state-level policy decisions.



Who Is Represented

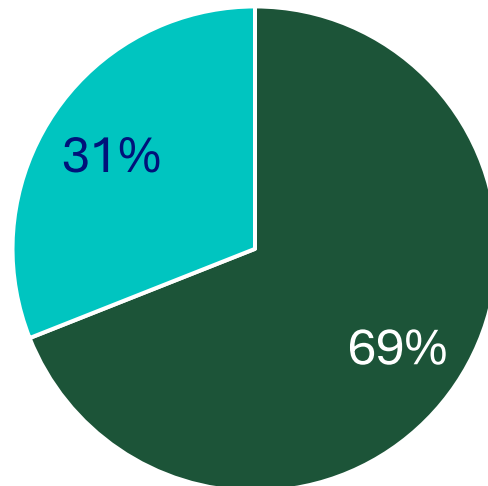
Age



■ 18 - 64 ■ 65 - 74 ■ 75 - 84 ■ 85+

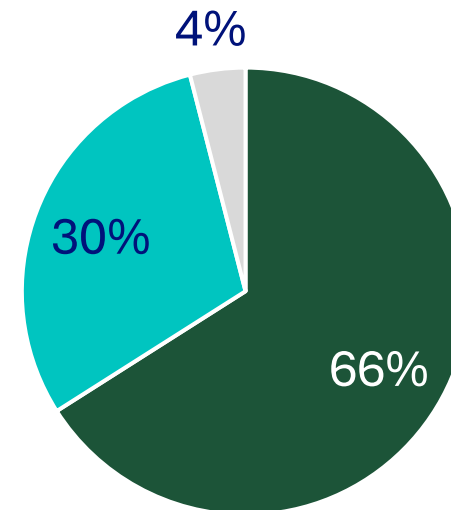
Average Age:
67.8 years

Gender



■ Female ■ Male

Residence Type

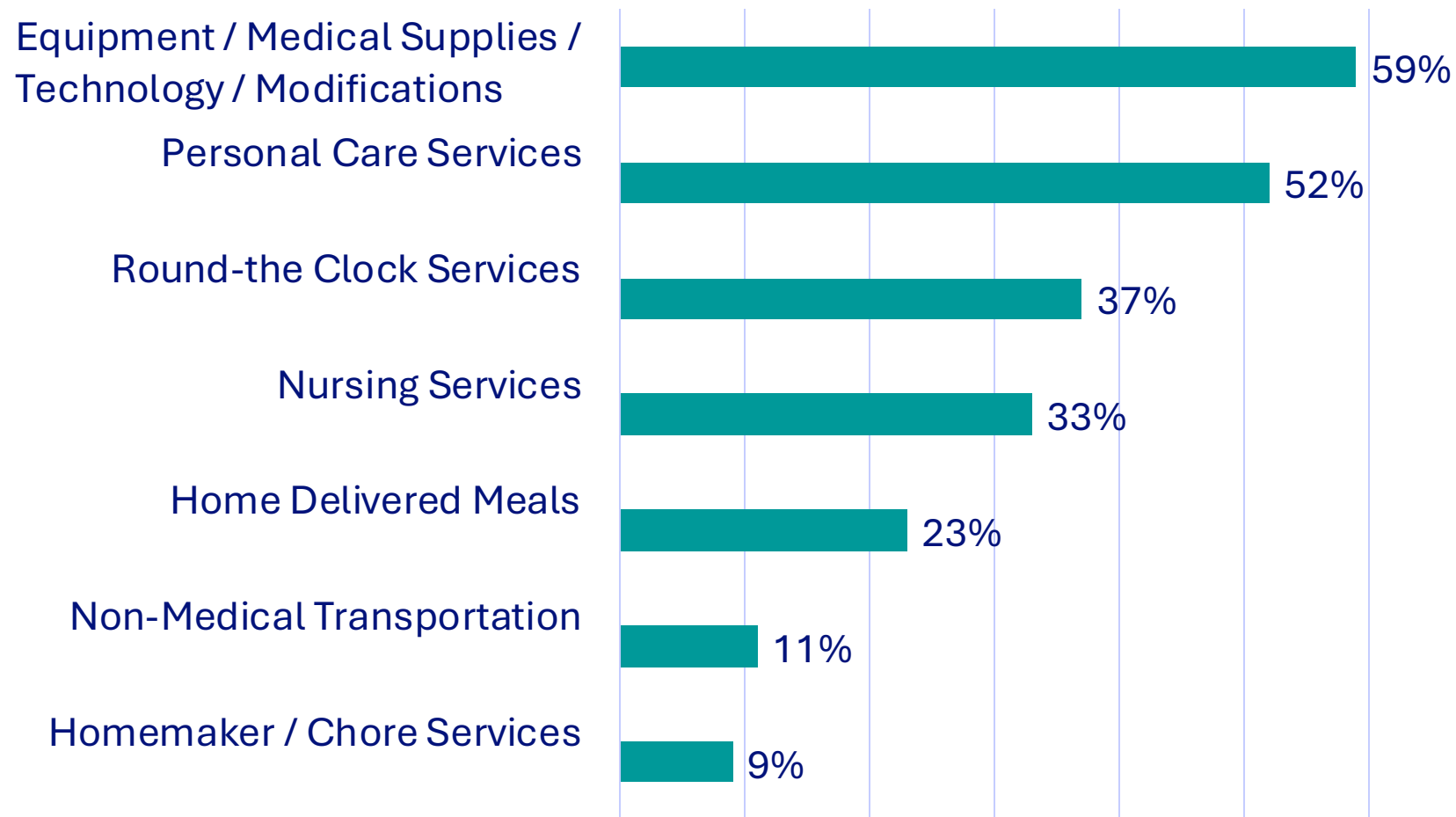


■ Own or family house or apartment
■ Assisted living, residential care home
■ Other

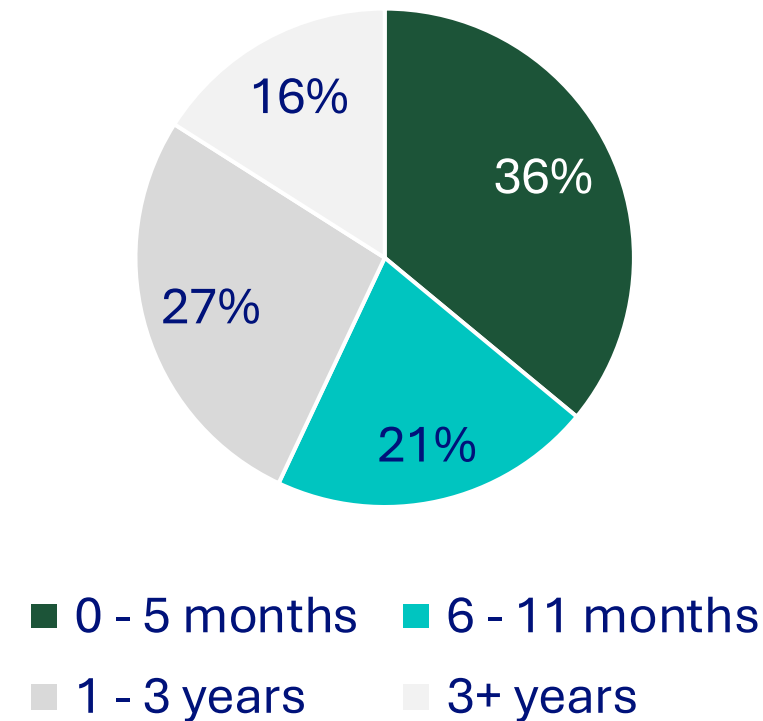


Who Is Represented

Most Common Paid Support Types



Duration of CFI Services



Services To Meet Needs and Goals

Measure	Yes, all needs and goals met	Some needs and goals met	No, not all needs and goals met
Services meet your current needs and goals _a	65.80%	25.70%	8.50%

Notes: _a(n = 389); proxies respond to this question.

Specific Service: Non-Medical Transportation

A little more than half (55.2%) of participants indicated that they do have transportation to do things outside of their home, while 44.8% did not.

- Provide transportation education and support for CFI participants
- Standardize information on local transportation options and ride scheduling
- Clarify access to public transit, paratransit, and volunteer driver programs
- Share clear contact, cost, and eligibility information
- Strengthen volunteer driver recruitment, education, and support



Specific Services and Supports Needed to Meet Needs and Goals (Top 10)

Service	Total % (#) that indicated yes
Transportation	42.40% (56)
Personal care assistance, personal care services	19.70% (26)
Homemaker / Chore services	19.70% (26)
Dental care	11.40% (15)
Healthcare home services, home health	9.90% (13)
Other	6.80% (9)
Companion services	6.10% (8)
Home delivered meals	6.10% (8)
Housing assistance	6.10% (8)
Skilled nursing facility, nursing home services	5.30% (7)



Community Participation and Socialization

Community Engagement (DHHS, Community Providers, individuals with lived experience)

- Explore barriers limiting community engagement
- Assess transportation, accessibility, workforce, health, and financial barriers
- Identify structural, service-related, and preference-based barriers

Digital Inclusion (DHHS)

- Strengthen digital inclusion for CFI participants
- Share information on low-cost broadband and device access
- Support digital literacy training through community partnerships
- Encourage digital access assessment during service planning

Measure	Yes, always or chooses not to _b	No, rarely, sometimes, usually _b
Can see or talk to friends and/or family _a	88.10%	11.90%
Measure	Yes _d	No _d
Get to do things as much as would like outside of home _c	50.43%	49.57%
Take part in activities with others _e	56.70%	43.40%
Measure	Yes _g	No, sometimes _g
Access to internet _f	87.50%	12.50%

Notes: _a(n = 320); proxies did not respond to this question; 41 respondents were omitted from being asked this question as they indicated that they did not have any friends or family. _bResponses of “yes, always or chooses not to” and “no, rarely, sometimes, usually” are for the “can see or talk to friends and/or family” measure. _c(n = 351); proxies did not respond to this question. _dResponses of “yes” and “no” are for the “get to do things as much as would like outside of home” and “take part in activities with others” measures. _e(n = 346); proxies did not respond to this question. _f(n = 400); proxies responded to this question. _gResponses of “yes” and “no, sometimes” are for the “access to internet” measure.

Back Up Planning and Emergency Situation Response Across Home Settings

Measure	In-Home ^a	Assisted Living Facility
Has a back-up plan if support staff does not show up ^b	58.90%	71.60%
Has an emergency plan in case there is a widescale emergency such as a natural disaster or public health crisis ^c	64.70%	69.00%

Notes: ^aIn-home defined as own or family house or apartment or other residences including senior living apartment or complexes; group, adult family, foster home; homeless; and nursing facility. ^b(n = 290); proxies responded to this question. ^c(n = 367); proxies responded to this question.

Backup Planning

- Strengthen backup planning in community-based settings
- Require documented backup plans for worker absences
- Confirm backup contacts are willing and able
- Use teach-back and periodic feasibility reviews

Emergency Planning

- Clarify participant understanding of emergency plans
- Ensure plans are specific, actionable, and current
- Coordinate with state emergency preparedness systems
- Include disaster and public health readiness in case management reviews



Living Arrangement and Service Needs

Measure	Service and Supports are Meeting Current Needs and Goals	Services and Supports are Not Meeting Current Needs and Goals
Want to live/stay in current residences _a	73.60%	26.40%

Notes: _a(n = 324); proxies did not respond to this question.

- View service adequacy as a driver of housing stability
- Review unmet needs related to transportation and personal care
- Ensure timely service adjustments as needs change
- Monitor unmet needs across regions and populations
- Add housing stability questions to service plan reviews
- Track transitions to assisted living or nursing facilities related to unmet needs



From Findings to Action

• Considerations

- Administrative data changes
- Findings do not control for other factors
- Snapshot in time
- Not an evaluation of providers
- Survey responses are self-reported

• Next Steps

- UNH finishing collecting 2025-2026 survey Adult Consumer Responses. Will complete report including any trends between 2024/2025 and 2025/2026.
- Identify areas for quality improvement



Questions?

Thank you!

Laura.Davie@unh.edu



Find the NCI-AD
State Report on
the Money
Follows the
Person Website
(QR Code)



Department of
**HEALTH &
HUMAN SERVICES**



Department of Military Affairs and Veteran Services



New Hampshire State Department of Military Affairs and Veteran Services

With the
New Hampshire Alliance for Healthy Aging
18 June 2026



Who Are NH's Military and Veterans?



Veteran Population	New Hampshire
Number of Veterans	81,535
Percent of Adult Population that are Veterans	7.0%
Number of Women Veterans	6,981
Percent Women Veterans	8.6%
Number of Military Retirees	19,735
Percent of Veterans that are Military Retirees	24%
Number of Veterans Age 65 and Over	45,529
Percent of Veterans Age 65 and Over	50.2%
Age Distribution	New Hampshire
75 years and over	32.3%
65 to 74 years	22.7%
55 to 64 years	18.8%
35 to 54 years	20.4%
18 to 34 years	5.8%
Period of Service	New Hampshire
World War II	0.3%
Korean War	3.6%
Vietnam War	34.4%
Gulf War I (8/1990 to 8/2001)	20.7%
Gulf War II (9/2001 to later)	23.5%
Household Income	New Hampshire
200K or more	17%
100K to 199.9K	34.1%
50K to 99.9K	27.4%
25K to 19.9K	17.7%
Less than 25K	6.9%
Educational Attainment	New Hampshire
Some College or Associate Degree	32.5%
Bachelor's or higher	35.7%
VA Healthcare and Benefits	New Hampshire
Number of Veterans Receiving Disability Compensation	26,012
Number of Veterans Receiving Pension	376
Number of Dependency & Indemnity Comp Beneficiaries	1975
Number of Education Beneficiaries	17,801
Number of Enrolls in VA Healthcare System	46,417
Number of Unique Patients Treated	31,732

Veteran Population

- 81, 525 Veterans... 3,833 National Guard and Reservists... and 1,258 Active Duty in New Hampshire
- WW2 to the Global War on Terror
- ~30% or 28,045 from Vietnam era
- 55% or 44,844 are 65 and older
- 8.6% or 6,891 are Women

Economic wellbeing

- Veteran unemployment rate 1.4% (NH was 2.7%)
- Veteran median household income (\$56,719) (NH was \$48, 957)
- 31% of Veterans earn between \$50-99K
- 29% of Veterans earn between \$100-199K
- 30% of Veterans earn less than \$50,000 a year
- ~5% of NH Veterans live at/below poverty level

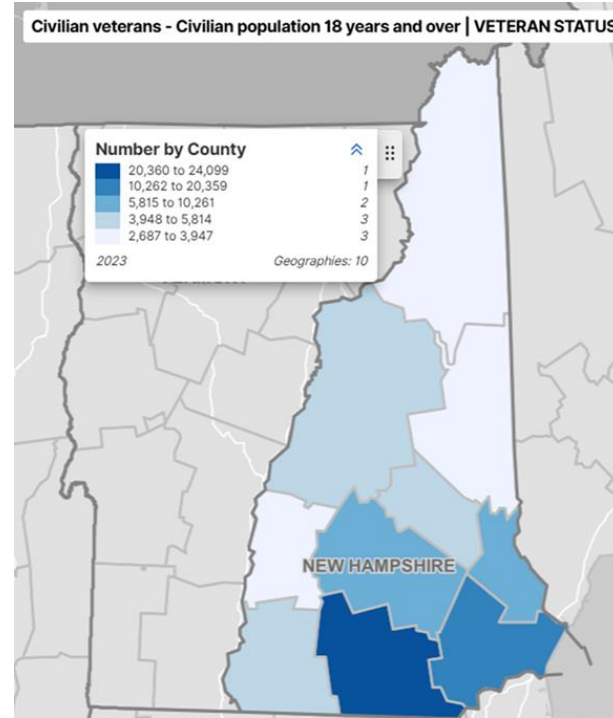
Housing situation

- Approximately 80% own their own homes
- ~150 Veterans reported homeless any given time
- 2024: 269 Veterans experienced homelessness - 9% increase from 2023. 173 Veterans permanently housed in NH (27% increase over 2023).
- 2025: 140 Veterans permanently housed in NH
- Manchester Veteran homeless task force - permanently housed 53 since 20 Sept 24

Whole Health (Physical and Mental Health)

- 46, 417 Veterans enrolled in VA Healthcare system
- 26,012 Veterans receiving disability compensation
- 17.5 Veteran suicides a day
- NH, after accounting for age differences, suicide rate was not significantly different than national Veteran suicide rate but was significantly higher than national general population. A Veteran Suicide reported in NH about every ~2 weeks

Where Are NH's Military and Veterans?



Hillsborough, NH (22,792)
Rockingham, NH (16,692)
Merrimack, NH (10,580)
Strafford, NH (7,156)
Grafton, NH (4,677)
Cheshire, NH (3,720)
Belknap, NH (5,336)
Carroll, NH (3,947)
Sullivan, NH (3,325)
Coos, NH (2,687)





DEPARTMENT OF

Military Affairs and Veterans Services

Community Based Military Programs



Service Member Transitions...
Military Skills Transfer, Licensing,
and Certifications

Rewarding & Gainful
Employment

Promoting
Well Being
(Physical, Mental,
Suicide Prevention...)

Housing Stability

Educational benefits

Justice Involved Veterans

Aging Veteran Demographic

MISSION: *DCBMP collaborates with military and civilian provider groups, Veteran service and support organizations, non-profits and businesses, federal, state, regional and local leaders, SMEs and key stakeholders from across all domains and sectors in order to facilitate partnerships focused on operationalizing approaches for solutions to improve Granite SMVFs quality of life.*



Team of Teams' Approaches, operationalizing solutions on behalf of Veterans, Service Members and their Families



Team of Teams' Approaches, operationalizing solutions on behalf of SMVF



Veteran Well Being (physical and mental)

- ❖ NH's *Ask the Question (ATQ)* - Identification, Screening, and Referral
- ❖ NH Veterans "Freedom to Smile" - low to no cost oral health care options for qualified Veterans
- ❖ VA/SAMHSA Governor's Challenge to prevent SMVF Suicide Team
- ❖ NH Suicide Prevention Council's Military and Veteran Committee
- ❖ Increasing Veterans' access to mental health care – ESNH Veterans Count; Veteran Coalitions; VA enrollment
- ❖ *NH Care Connections* – integrating SMVF through the ATQ framework...
- ❖ Supporting NH DHHS' *Strong as Granite* initiatives...



Service Member Transitions... military skills transfer, licensing, certification and employment

- ❖ *NH Veteran-Friendly Business network* - over 100 members strong: attracting, hiring and retaining SMVF
- ❖ *NH First for Veterans*
- ❖ *Live Free and Choose NH*
- ❖ NH OPLC – Veterans' pathways and initiatives: Electricians, Troops to trucks, Medics to LNA, Helmets to Hardhats,...
- ❖ "Trades" and "apprenticeships"
- ❖ Community of practice U.S. Department of Labor-Veterans, U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Hiring Our Heroes, DoD Skill Bridges, NH State Departments, Swim With A Mission, Employer Support of the Guard ...



- **SMVF Housing Stability** - Ending Veteran Homelessness in NH Project – a Team of teams approach!



- **State Approving Agency for U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs Educational Benefits**

- ❖ Approval and oversight and Outreach and Liaison
- ❖ 200 plus facilities in the Granite State approved for VA eligibility



- **Justice Involved Veterans**

- ❖ VA Justice Outreach Program; 603 Legal, Hope for Heroes, Veterans Legal Justice Program, NH Judiciary Sequential Intercept model and Veteran / Treatment Courts



New Hampshire Judicial Branch



VETERANS LEGAL JUSTICE
LEGAL BOOTS ON THE GROUND



General Service and Support

- Facilitate NH Military Leadership Team
- Integrated with NH State Veteran Advisory Committee
- Facilitate NH State Veterans Council
- Engage with State Legislature and NH G&C
- Bridge gap with NHNG - DMAVS Wellness Division
- Working to increase understanding of the implications of an aging Veteran demographic in order to develop solutions
 - NH Commission on Aging
 - Age Friendly Public Health Systems
 - NH Alliance for Healthy Aging

NH Veteran Employment Resources

NH Employment Security



New Hampshire Employment Security (NHES) serves all military service members, veterans and eligible spouses, assisting them to maximize their employment opportunities. NHES staff are available to serve veterans by providing expertise in job and training opportunities to gain employment in the New Hampshire workforce.

Disabled Veteran Outreach Program (DVOP) staff, who are Veterans themselves, are located in our offices and are trained to assist Veterans and eligible spouses when they encounter more severe challenges to obtaining employment.

INCLUDING:

- Resume and cover letter writing
- Career exploration and counseling
- Job search assistance
- Helping to align military experience with civilian job qualifications
- Interview tips and techniques
- Labor market information to identify current employment trends
- All jobs posted on the Job Match System have a 24 hour hold for Veterans to be first to view
- Referrals to other supportive and training resources
- Connections to training and education opportunities, including apprenticeships



NH VETERANS VIRTUAL HIRING AND RESOURCE FAIR

Tuesday, April 14, 2026
11:00am to 1:00pm

Connecting the Military Community with Veteran-friendly businesses in New Hampshire

Employers and Job Seekers must register to attend <https://tinyurl.com/nh-job-fairs>

Please contact JobFair@nhes.nh.gov with any questions



Manchester VA Careers & Employment

Chapter 31 or VR&E—helps [service-connected disabled Veterans] explore employment options and address education or training needs. In some cases, [their] family members may also qualify for certain benefits. VA Chapter 36, -- offers free educational and career guidance, planning, and resources to Veterans and their dependents who are eligible for a VA education benefit. If you have a Veteran-Owned Small Business, you may qualify for advantages when bidding on government contracts—along with access to other resources and support—through the Veteran Small Business Certification program (VetCert).

Healthcare CAREER EXPO

Join us!

Thursday, May 14, 2026
10:00am - 2:30pm
Auditoriums A-D
DHMC
Lebanon, NH

Discover your future at Dartmouth Health!

ApprenticeshipNH



New Hampshire is consistently recognized as a great place to live and work. Our advanced manufacturing, construction & infrastructure, hospitality, business & finance, automotive tech and IT companies are looking to hire trained workers.

- Access affordable education
- Opportunity to earn while you learn
- Explore something new
- Limited education or experience required
- Get the skills you need to land a new job or promotion

WorkReadyNH



WorkReadyNH is a tuition-FREE course that builds career confidence and enhances the professional skills that NH employers value most.

Enhance your professional skillset & apply new strategies

Strengthen your resume | Interview better | Communicate more effectively | Prevent & resolve workplace conflicts | Practice solving real workplace problems | Build better teams

Small Business Administration



Veteran-owned businesses:
SBA offers support for veterans as they enter the world of business ownership. Look for funding programs, training, and federal contracting opportunities.

Military spouse businesses:
Supporting a military career can be a job all on its own. Military spouses looking to start or grow a small business need help. For this reason, SBA offers the same flexible resources for spouses as we do for veteran business owners.

INCLUDING:

- Boots to Business (B2B) Training Series
- Women Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Program (WVETP)
- Service-Disabled Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Program (SDVETP)
- Resources for Spouses
- Veteran Federal Procurement Entrepreneurship Training Program (VFPEPT)

For more NH Veteran Resources visit us online at nhveterans.nh.gov/employment-resources



2026 MEMBER WELCOME KIT

Recognized NH Veteran-Friendly Businesses

For information about joining visit nhveterans.nh.gov

Merrimack County Associated Generators of New England City of Concord First Command GOBI Library Solutions from EBSCO McLean ToolKing Granite Share Power Greenline Solutions, LLC MEXIX PMO Merrimack County NAMI NH NH Department of Safety NH Department of Transportation NH Dept. of Military Affairs NH Employment Security NH Federal Credit Union NH Hospital Association NH Division of Parks & Rec PMA P.S. Audley Werts Water Technology Lenox The Overwatch Foundation H.L. Turner Group Concord School of Music SAM Mechanical NH Mutual Bancorp	Grafton County Cottage Hospital Grafton County Senior Citizens Council LLC Hypertherm, Inc West Central Behavioral Health Dartmouth Health Medical Center	Coos County White Mountain Community College
Carroll County Clason Remodeling Company	Belknap County Haris Turkey Farm Restaurant Lakes Region Community Services NH Veterans Home Village, Amherst Fly Fishing New England Franklin Savings Bank Partnership for Public Health	Strafford County Forward Merch, LLC Leddy Group Northeast Passage - UNH The Strand Eastern Propane USPS CentTech Thermal, LLC Cloutier Construction The Ridge RTC
Cheshire County Corning Badger Balm	Hillsborough County AKIMA AutoFair Automotive Group BAE Systems, Inc Connection, Inc Easternsails of NH Forge V&R Harbor Care Holiday Cards 4 Our Military Dead River Company Liberty House BARNW Staffing Granite State Manufacturing Valliantcourt Recruitment Partners Rehabilitation Equipment Ass., Inc. Home Instead of Central NH Mobius Mobility Next Step Biotech Probiotics, Inc, Pannichuck Waterworks Securitas USA Silver Tech Southern NH University Trusted Internet, LLC Revolution Furnishings Work Opportunities Unlimited Granite State Manufacturing Valliantcourt Recruitment Partners Smart Installs, LLC	Rockingham County A&R Servers Co., Inc Advantage Truck Group AKIMA ArgusTech Solutions Boise Cascade Clear Choice Software Frontgrade FeedPoint Homestead Oil Plains Service Hydroflow, LLC Jewett Construction Cardinal Point Property Mgmt Procha Pest Solutions LDM, LLC Nvest Financial Group, LLC SIG SAUER, LLC Will Waste Innovations Subcom, LLC Teledyne DGO Visiting Angels Service Credit Union PortCity Air Great North Property Management The ATOM Group Ironwood Industrial Solutions Allied Universal Security Services

HIRE-A-VETERAN DAY JOB AND RESOURCE FAIR

Honoring those who served

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2026
11am - 1pm
Edward Cross Training Complex
722 Riverwood Drive
Pembroke NH

ARE YOU A VETERAN LOOKING FOR YOUR NEXT MISSION?
Join us to connect with:
• Local and National Employers
• Veteran Service Organizations
• Resume & Interview Support
• Networking Opportunities

Employers must register to attend this free event
<https://jobfairs.nh.gov>

BRING YOUR RESUME & DRESS FOR SUCCESS!
Job seekers are encouraged to register but are not required to. To register and view more information please visit: <https://jobfairs.nh.gov>



What is Ask the Question?

The ATQ initiative is designed for providers of ALL services to ask their clients “***Have you or a family member ever served in the military?***” and to provide information, assistance and tailored support if the answer is “Yes”.



Lt. Col. Riley died of lung cancer in December of 2014, but her message and spirit were the catalyst for positive change across the Granite state and the nation.

NH's ATQ is identified as a best practice for connecting Veterans to service and support and for the first step (Identify, Screen, Refer) toward Veteran suicide prevention.

**Granite State Service Members, Veterans and Family (SMVF)...Identified, Informed, and Meeting their Objectives
Resources and help, if and when you need them.... Opportunities to give back...**

Why Suicide Prevention?

- Duke University School of Medicine research shows **suicide rates are 52.3% higher among Veterans than those who never served in the military**
- **17.5 Veteran suicides a day nationwide** as reported in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs 2025 National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report (data from 2023).
- ~80,000 Veterans in the Granite State
- **A Veteran dies by suicide in NH ~every two weeks**



Resources when the “Answer to ATQ is Yes”

- **Link with a U.S. Veterans Affairs**– (VA Medical Center Manchester and White River Junction as a start...) – not all Veterans are eligible for VA care, but don’t self select out... reach out:
 - ❖ Manchester VA: (603) 624-4366 ask for **Eligibility**.
 - ❖ White River Junction VA: (802) 295-9363 ext 5118 **Eligibility**.
- **Link with an Approved Veteran Service Officer** to evaluate situation, facilitate connecting with the VA, filing a claim... NH Division of Veterans Services: (603) 624-9230.
- **Collaborate** with professionals on screening SMVF to refine and target care, seek information on earned benefits, resources, services and support (whole health, mental health, suicide prevention, housing stability, employment and vocational rehabilitation, justice involvement...).
 - ❖ Manchester VA Call Center: (603) 624-4366.
 - ❖ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs... <https://www.mentalhealth.va.gov>
 - ❖ NH Veteran Coalitions: <https://www.nhveterans.nh.gov/nh-veterans-coalitions>
 - ❖ ESNH Veterans Count: <https://vetscount.org/>
 - ❖ NH Department of Military Affairs and Veteran Services: <https://www.nhveterans.nh.gov/>
 - ❖ NH First for Veterans: <https://nhfirstforvets.com/>
 - ❖ NH Department of Health and Human Services “Strong as Granite” campaign, <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/health-care/behavioral-health/strong-granite>

For emergent and crisis situations:



Ending Veteran Homelessness in NH Project

PURPOSE: Veteran Steering Committee and Veteran Case Conferencing sustaining a system that engages Veterans within 24 hours of them being entered into Coordinated Entry (CE) allowing Veterans quick efficient and simple of access to permanent housing within 90 days.

FY2026 Objectives

- ❖ Sustain by name, prioritized, bi-weekly Veteran case conferencing
- ❖ Identify singular, centralized access point
- ❖ Create centralized, statewide housing inventory listing
- ❖ Conduct Training
- ❖ Develop Partnerships with real estate agencies / associations
- ❖ Support Communities owning the problem set... Mayoral Challenge
- ❖ Enhance communications across the Justice continuum
- ❖ Assess implications of aging Veteran population
- ❖ Explore opportunities for Veterans to be part of solution

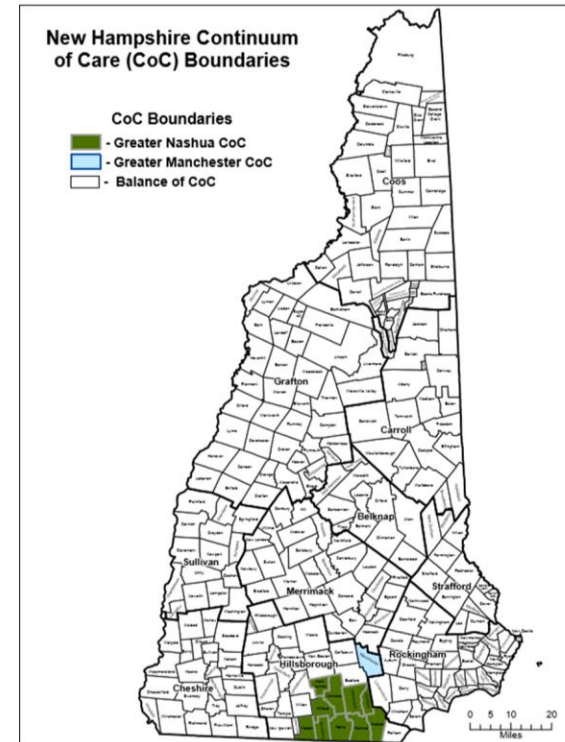
In Coordination with

- Greater Nashua
- Manchester
- Balance of State

MCoC / BoS
Veteran Sub-Committee



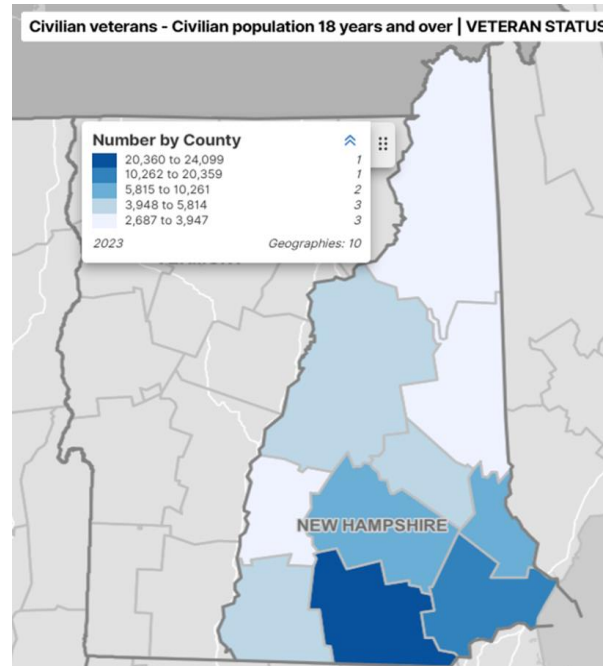
NH Council on
Housing Stability



Manchester Mayor's Task Force to end Veteran homelessness, and other cities and towns across the State who are prioritizing ending Veteran homelessness

New Hampshire: "First for Veterans"

Attracting and Retaining Veterans to New Hampshire
Executive Steering Committee



New Hampshire: "First for Veterans"

NH First for Veterans is a public/private partnership orchestrating an international initiative approved by the Governor to attract and retain Veterans to the Granite State and is the foundation for actionable objectives to NH's goal to be the most Veteran-Friendly State in the nation. Veterans make great citizens, neighbors, and employees,... contribute to critical NH work force needs... support maintaining a viable, vital segment of the population... establish a legacy for youth to follow into service... Veterans benefits along bring millions into the Granite State... Opportunity for Granite Staters to give back in support of Veterans' service and sacrifice through development of funding to address some of our Veterans toughest challenges

Main Initiatives

- Veteran-Friendly advocacy, policy, & laws
- Veteran employment support
- Improved focus on Veteran well-being
- Raising Awareness

- House Bill1415: License plate to honor Military and Veterans & establish Fund with Fiscal Note (2 x PAX) – passed house & senate committee w/OTP (July 2026)
- House Bill 1101: Enable NH State Veterans Council to oversee Fund – Signed by Governor (July 2026)
- LSR NH Veterans Freedom to Smile state administrator - TAG requested a billet. (July 2026)
- NH Division of Veteran Services - additional Veteran Service Officer(s) TAG requested a billet. (July 2026)
- LSR NH ID Card/RAPIDS Operator – TAG requested a billet (July 2026)
- Executive Order 2025-07 prioritizing Veteran Hiring by State of NH – Gov signed/implemented. DMAVS & DoP to conduct Executive Agency training (Nov 2025).
- Executive Order encouraging NH Executive Agencies to use Skillbridge – DoJ endorsed. DMAVS & DoP refined, share with ESC 5 MAY (MAY 2026)
- CCSNH tuition waiver for Service Member and Veteran Spouses - overview at upcoming ESC (ongoing)
- CCSNH military skills transfer for credit and links their degrees/certificates with NH workforce... tailoring and matching for Veterans overview at ESC (ongoing)
- CCSNH "Work Ready NH applicable for Veterans - overview at upcoming ESC (ongoing)
- Combined Open Houses: CCSNH, Employers, NHSAA, Veterans – collaboration ongoing for an SMVF job/resource Fair (APR 2027)
- "Veterans Pathway" for licensing and certification. NH DMAVS engaged with OPLC on an approach for Veteran pathway.
- NHES designated Veteran Case Managers.- Local Veterans Employment Representatives (LVER)
- NHES and BEA build an "Employer "Prospects" network
- NH DMAVS & NHES' NH Veteran-Friendly Business Network – 105 x organizations... outreach to align with NH First for Veterans and ATQ (ongoing)
- NHES posting Veteran targeted opportunities... placing on 24 hour "Veteran" hold
- BEA build Veteran content on "ChooseNH" (homeownership; small business; VSOrganizations; health/wellness; benefits) – overview at next ESC (Summer 2026)
- SWAM leading ICW ESC a Transitioning SM/Veteran Landing Page –Governor's goal is FOC by Memorial Day. Great session 28 Apr (FOC MAY 2026)
- Develop video content for Governor, Military and Veterans, Department leadership, key stakeholders to raise awareness on why NH – Governor shared video
- Seek additional resources for NH Regional and Statewide Veteran Coalitions to prevent suicide – Exploring 2027 and 2028-29 (July 2026)
- Seek resources for NH Ask the Question Campaign – to include ATQ pilot – G&C approved ATQ training contract & MH/Suicide Prevention Services (APR 2026)
- Draft Executive Order for NH ATQ – sequence after Skillbridge Executive Order (Summer 2026)
- Seek additional resources for Veteran well-being (ie. ESNH Veterans Count like services) - Exploring 2027 and 2028-29 (July 2026)
- Seek resources to supplement existing DoD/DoL/VA's Transition Program with "Why NH" – not on glide for 202-2029 with existing funds (Unknown)
- NH National Guard and Veterans – Digital media advertising ongoing pre-TSA at Manchester Airport (APR 2026)
- NH DMAVS raise awareness on opportunities for youth at Service Academies – Academies sharing (Spring 2026)
- NH "Week of Service" with Mil and Veterans as pillar - leverage upcoming events such as Mission 250, NH Hire a Veteran day and plan to NH Service week 2027
- Encourage NH towns to become purple heart towns (Perhaps with BEA's housing friendly initiative?)
- Seek resources for Transitioning SMs survey for more granular insights on SM preferences and "Why NH?"
- 250th Anniversary and 10th SWAM anniversary – 10 July at Tuscan Village - opportunity for Military and Veterans programs and initiatives
- Develop Strategic Messaging information paper on NH First for Veterans – DMAVS shared a draft letter with ESC. Integrated 1st round feedback. Re-Sharing

the
Coffee
Break

TIME



designed by  freepik.com



**University of
New Hampshire**
Institute on Disability

Assistive Technology In New Hampshire

Presented by Sara Valli –Director of ATinNH

Definition of Assistive Technology

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY—The term ‘assistive technology’ means technology designed to be utilized in an assistive technology device or assistive technology service.

- **ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY DEVICE**—means any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities.
- **ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SERVICE**—means "any service that directly assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device," encompassing evaluation, acquisition, customization, coordination with therapies and education plans, instruction for the individual and their support network, training for professionals and employers, and, critically, "expanding the availability of access to technology, including electronic and information technology, to individuals with disabilities" (clause G).



The Assistive Technology Umbrella-1



The Legal definition of AT is inherently broad enough to include all of this technology AND MORE, including technology that has not been invented yet!!

1. **Speech Communication** such as dedicated speech generating devices, mainstream tech with apps, low tech picture boards, accessibility features and other access devices, etc.
2. **Vision**-magnifiers, mobile devices with apps, software, talking devices, large print keyboards, etc.
3. **Hearing**-amplified telephones, alerting systems, video communication with ASL, personal hearing systems, etc.
4. **Home Modifications**-ramps, grab bars, walk-in showers, etc.
5. **Environmental Controls**-smart home devices (i.e. smart speakers, sensors, smart plugs, cameras, thermostats, door openers, TV controls, smart deadbolts, remote shades, etc.), built-in accessibility features, and other access devices, etc.
6. **Communications Technology**-telehealth, remote monitoring, care companions, social isolation, built-in accessibility features, mounts and access devices for mobile phones for communication, as well as the connectivity to run the devices, and more.

The Assistive Technology Umbrella-2



The Legal definition of AT is inherently broad enough to include all of this technology AND MORE, including technology that has not been invented yet!!

7. **Learning, Cognitive, Developmental, Behavior Health Technology**-wandering tech (i.e. GPS, alarms systems (analog/smart)), mobile devices and apps (i.e. scan & read), wearables, software, educational tools, memory devices and reminder systems (i.e. medication management systems-analog/smart), robotic pets, etc.
8. **Daily Living Technology**-PERS and fall detection systems, medication management systems (analog/smart), smart devices for living (i.e. wearables, toothbrushes), tech for eating, toileting, dressing, robotics, etc.
9. **Vehicle Modifications & Transportation Tech**-ramps, driving controls, seat assist, etc.
10. **Recreation, Sports and Leisure Tech**-adapted gaming tech, gardening tools, etc.
11. **Mobility, Seating, and Positioning**-wheelchairs, exoskeletons, access controls, Durable Medical Equipment, etc.
12. **Computers and Related**-includes mainstream tech such as computers, tablets and other mobile devices, software, all access methods (i.e. mouth joystick, eye-gaze, onscreen keyboards),
13. **and More!!!**

NOTE: Assistive technology wears many hats; a single device often fits into several different categories depending on how it's used.

ATinNH is part of the IOD at UNH

Mission

Empowering Granite Staters through assistive technology to live, learn, work, and play independently with dignity, inclusion, and access across all stages of life.

Vision

We envision a world where everyone has the tools, support, and freedom to live life on their own terms. Where individuals can readily access assistive technology to unlock independence, choice, and opportunity—making daily tasks easier and freeing time for what matters most.



Understanding Assistive Technology



Low-tech

Simple, affordable supports like magnifiers or pill organizers.



Mid-Tech

Practical powered supports, like amplified phones or manual wheelchairs.



High-tech

Advanced tools like speech-to-text software or smart home systems.

Overview of ATinNH

Program Purpose and Administration

ATinNH is New Hampshire's designated Assistive Technology Act Program, run by the Institute on Disability at the University of New Hampshire.

Core Service Areas

The program focuses on Assistive Technology Services such as:

Demonstrations,

Loans and

Fabrication; and

Training, education,

Outreach to enhance AT access and usage.

Community Collaboration

Services are delivered in partnership with community organizations to promote independence and participation.

Funding and Impact

Funded by the Administration for Community Living, ATinNH supports education, employment, daily living, and recreation for residents. Shifting to ACF.



Equipment Demonstrations

Hands-On Device Demonstrations

ATinNH provides hands-on demonstrations allowing users to explore and compare assistive technology devices and software before purchase.

Wide Range of Device Categories

Demonstrations cover vision, hearing, communication, learning, mobility, daily living, environmental, transportation, and recreational devices.

Personalized for All Ages

Services are available for all ages, tailored to individual goals and environments from children to older adults.

EMAIL to Schedule



Device Loans – schools/families/individuals

Purpose of Device Loans

The program allows short-term borrowing of assistive technology for real-life trial use at home, school, or work.

Benefits for Users

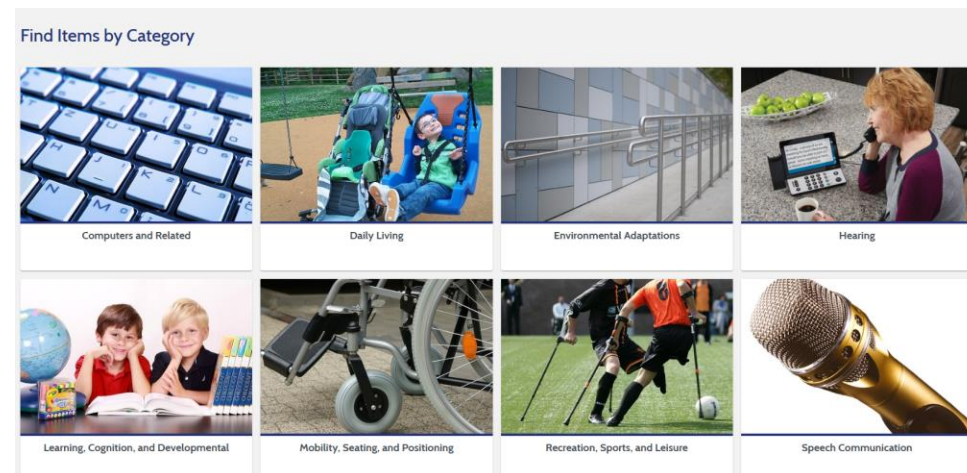
Users can evaluate device effectiveness, reduce risks of unsuitable purchases, and make informed decisions.

Accessibility and Availability

Devices across multiple categories are available via the AT4All NH platform for individuals in diverse settings.

Support for Transition and Independence

The program aids individuals in rehabilitation, environmental transitions, and enhancing independence and participation.



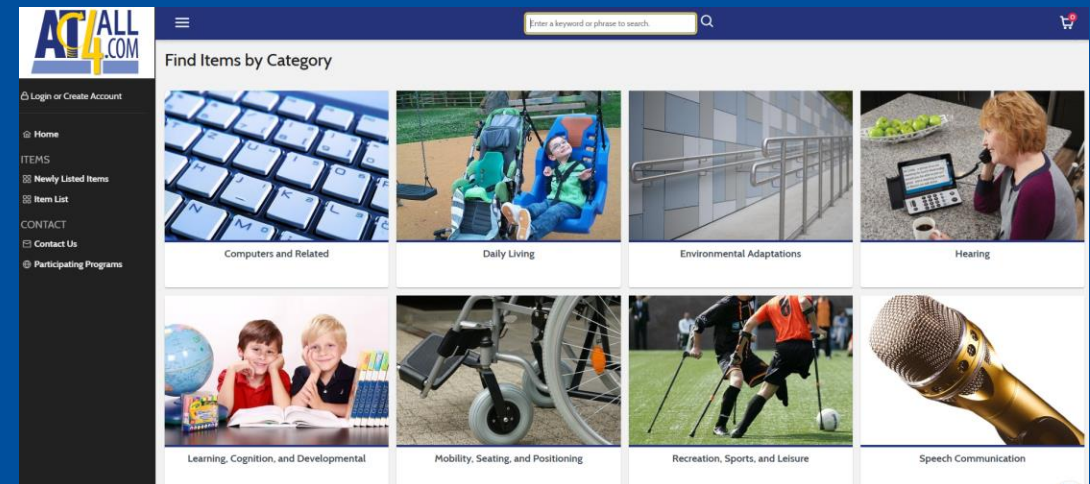
Try before you buy and AT loans

AT4ALL is our inventory and loan center.

HOWEVER: some partners do not have all items in our inventory so call or email if you have a need you do not find.

NOTE: Check your Spam

<https://iod.unh.edu/ATinNH>



NH Partnership with AT Discount Sales

NH AT Discount Booklet has the NH ONLY Discount Items

- * Research discounts on products you need. Remember to email Amanda@atdiscount.net your wish lists to check for possible discounts.
- * Offer ideas on alternate products for your needs
- * Provide quotes
- * Provide invoices to families who are submitting request for waiver funding or other funding sources
- * Accept self pay orders from individuals
- * Accept purchase orders with multiple manufactures items included to save your administrative costs
- * Offer wide variety of resources on our website and Facebook



MakerAbility HUB: ORDER ONLINE

Key Turner



Category: Daily Living

A simple, ergonomic tool that makes turning keys more comfortable when grip or wrist movement is limited.

Kitchen Sink Plug Tool



Category: Daily Living

Helps lift the sink plug when water makes access difficult.

[Welcome to the MakerAbility Hub | Assistive Technology New Hampshire \(ATinNH\)](#)

[ATinNH - YouTube](#)



Giving Assistive Technology a 2nd Life

Devices are donated, repaired when possible, and made available at low or no-cost to individuals, families, and organizations.

This approach helps ensure that assistive technology remains practical, affordable, and available — meeting people where they are and supporting real-world needs.

Open-ended (long-term) equipment loans

Some assistive technology needs are ongoing. Open-ended loans allow individuals to use devices for as long as needed, with the option to return equipment when it's no longer required so it can support someone else next.



Information & Assistance

Personalized Assistive Technology Assistance

ATinNH provides tailored support to individuals and professionals seeking assistive technology solutions.

Technical Assistance & Referrals

Users get technical support and referrals to service providers for effective assistive technology use.

“I have a client who had a stroke and can not dial their phone using their hands. Can you help us figure out how they can make a phone call?”

“I have a teenager who has dyslexia and a speech impairment, is there an app that they can use that will pick up his speech to let him type with his voice?”



Training, Education, and Outreach

Our trainings are designed to:

- Strengthen understanding of assistive technology tools and applications
- Support collaboration across teams and disciplines
- Encourage problem-solving rooted in accessibility and inclusion
- Equip participants with strategies for sustainable, person-centered implementation



ATinNH trainings can be delivered virtually or in person and are tailored to your organization's goals and learning needs.



Community of Practice

Community-based learning

ATinNH's Assistive Technology Community of Practice (AT CoP) connects educators, practitioners, and AT users from across New Hampshire in an ongoing exchange of knowledge, problem-solving, and peer support.

The AT CoP is open to anyone passionate about advancing accessibility and inclusion through technology—whether you're an experienced AT professional or just beginning to explore its possibilities.

Together, we're building a network where ideas are shared freely and innovation thrives.



Consider Assistive Technology Services

1. Instruction -

Is instruction needed to prepare for the new settings?

Is the current AT appropriate?

Will new or different devices or services be needed for new settings?

2. Related Services -

Is there a need for additional related services to prepare for post-secondary/new location/new job/ living situation?

Are the current related services supporting AT use needed in future settings?

Who will provide these?

How can the student/family connect with necessary services?

3. Community Experiences -

What opportunities need to be provided for to use the AT and will there be opportunities to practice?

4. Employment -

If AT will be used as part of employability, what services and strategies need to be considered?

What activities using AT are needed to develop work related skills, including job seeking and retention skills, career exploration and paid employment?



Independent Living

[Living independently with Assistive Technology | Assistive Technology New Hampshire \(ATinNH\)](#)



ATinNH Staff – We are here to help

Sara Valli

DIRECTOR, ATINNH HAMPSHIRE

**Assistive Technology New Hampshire
(ATinNH)**

Email: Sara.Valli@unh.edu

Phone: (603) 862-0357

Pronouns: She/her/hers



Jen Daniels

**Program Coordinator, Assistive
Technology in New Hampshire**

<https://atinnh.at4all.com/>

Email: Jennifer.Daniels@unh.edu

Phone: 603-862-3399

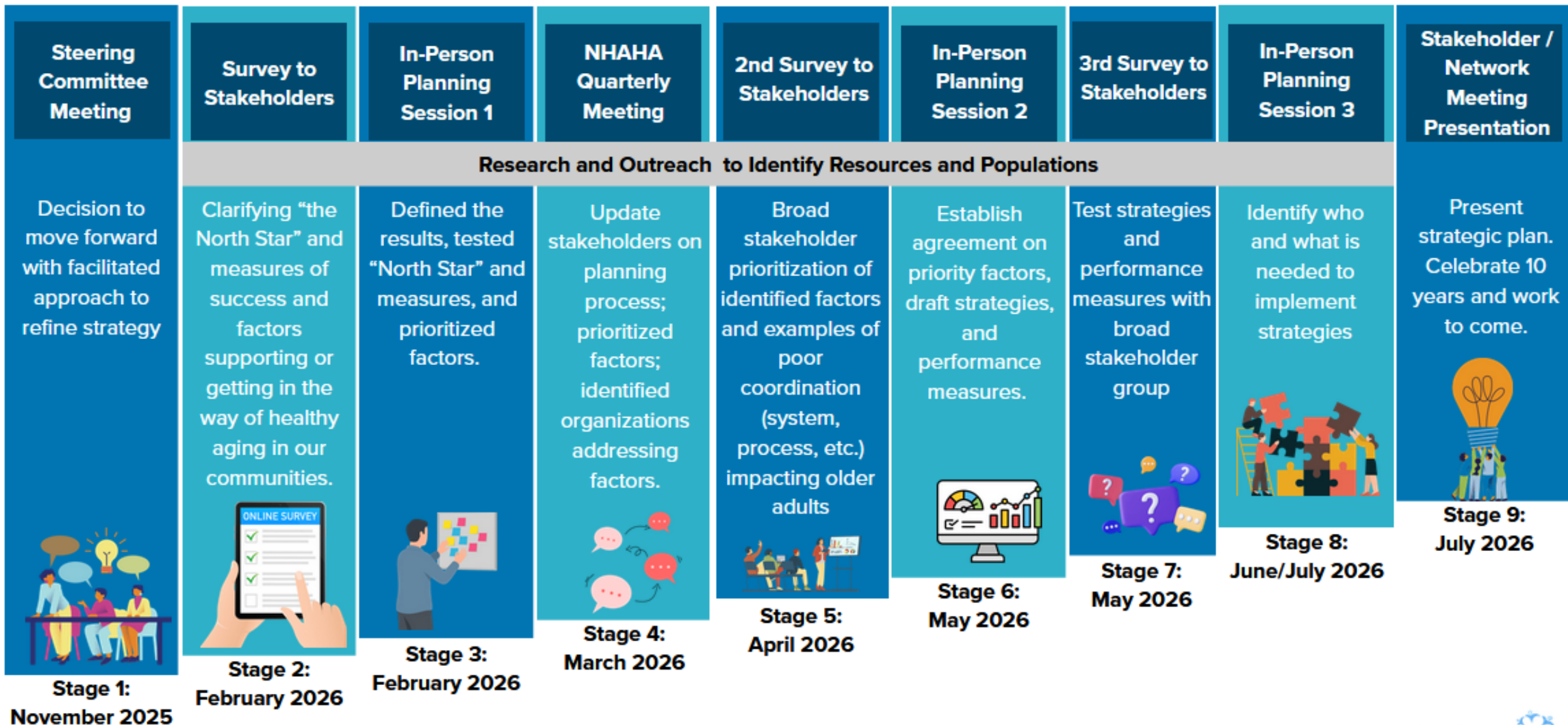
Pronouns: She/her/hers



NHAHA Updates



New Hampshire Alliance for Healthy Aging (NHAHA) 2025 - 2026 Strategic Planning Process





DO YOU CARE?



Do you regularly do any of these things for a family member or friend:

- Help with household chores such as meal preparation, cleaning, and grocery shopping?
- Drive them to appointments?
- Assist with personal business affairs, such as paying bills?
- Make meals?
- Make phone calls to check-in?
- Help someone make decisions about healthcare?
- Provide hands-on-care such as bathing or assistance with eating?

If you answered "Yes" to one or more of these questions, **you are a caregiver.**

You are not alone

Caregiving is a rewarding, yet demanding role, and many others share this experience.



Over 17.7 million people in the United States are family caregivers of someone over the age of 65.



The emotional toll of caring for a loved one can easily lead to physical and mental exhaustion.



Take Care of Yourself. Resources are here to help you.

Your role is important and you deserve support. By recognizing yourself as a caregiver you can find resources, training, and support groups.



New Hampshire Aging and Disability Resource Centers
1-866-634-9412
www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/adult-aging-care/aging-and-disability-resource-centers



Get Connected. Get Help.
Call 2-1-1 for immediate assistance
211NH.ORG

Caregiver Self-Identification

- NHAHA Caregiving workgroup created flyer in 2017
- Flyer translated in multiple languages
- Shared with healthcare providers and statewide partners
- Shared nationally through the NASHP Learning Collaborative on Caregiving
- Shared with libraries via postal mail across the state

NHAHA Webinar

The Road Ahead: Policy, Trends, and State Strategies to Strengthen the Direct Care Workforce

NHAHA Hosted this webinar on June 17 from 3:00 – 4:30 and featured four key speakers including:

- Jake McDonald, PHI
- Wendi Aultman, NH DHHS
- Serena Low, AnereS Strategies
- Kriss Foss, University of Minnesota

This webinar featured discussions on how:

- How federal policy is evolving related to this workforce
- Understanding policy implications on direct care workers
- How NH is investing resources to support direct care workers

The webinar was recorded and will be available on the NHAHA website soon

Celebrating Cheryl Steinberg

- Spearheaded Advocacy for NHAHA
- Key advocate establishing the Commission on Aging
- Essential in securing NH Fiscal Policy Institute report on NH Long Term Care Financing
- Drafted and Advanced the System of Care for Healthy Aging Legislation
- Ensured financial exploitation was a key component of the Justice in Aging Program
- Founding member of NH Financial Abuse Specialty Team (FAST)
- Dedicated to improving the Choices for Independence Program, including working on the litigation team



Save the Date!

2026 Quarterly Meetings

- ✓ **Thursday, September 24, 2026**
- ✓ **Thursday, December 17, 2026**



Engage with NHAHA



NHAHA website
www.nhaha.info



Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/NHAHA603>



Twitter
<https://x.com/NHAHA603>



LinkedIn
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-new-hampshire-alliance-for-healthy-aging>

**Thank you for
participating!**

For questions or additional
information, contact:

Jennifer Rabalais

jennifer.rabalais@unh.edu