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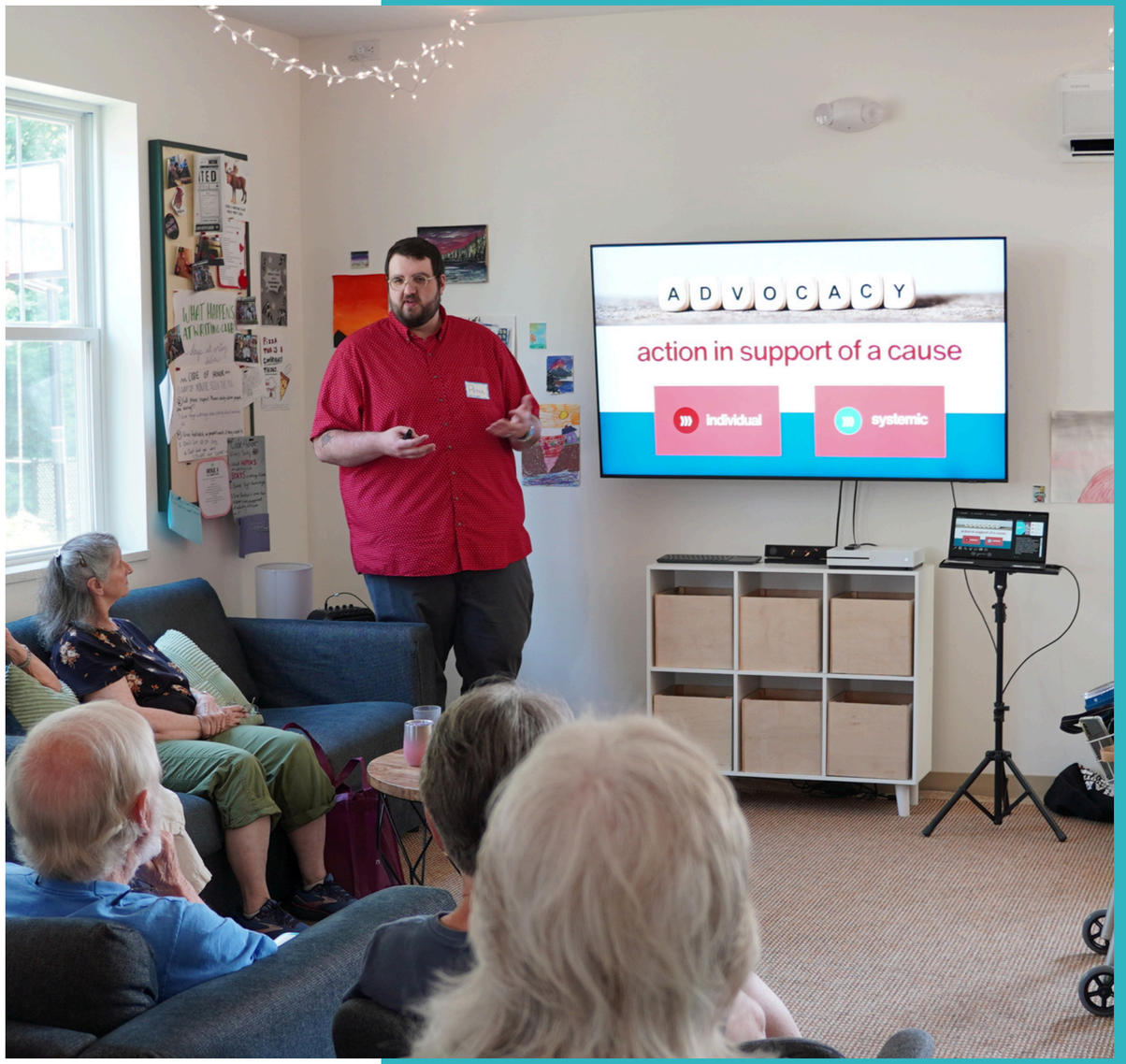
POLICY + ADVOCACY CONFERENCE

SPEAKING UP FOR WHAT MATTERS

Policy **Roundtables**

Children's Behavioral Health



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Your **Presenters**



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Who we are

Solving problems through policy change.

New Futures works to improve the health and well-being of all Granite Staters through public policy change and civic empowerment.



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How we **do it**



Promoting Civic Engagement

to empower Granite Staters to take action on issues they care about.

Educating Communities

about the legislative process in NH.

Building Partnerships

to work together to solve NH's health problems.

Advancing Public Policy

to build a brighter, healthier NH.

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What we **support**

Our policy priority areas span all stages of life.



Early Childhood

Improving access to quality child care, strengthening families, and reducing adverse childhood experiences.



Children's Behavioral Health

Supporting a comprehensive system of care for children's mental health.



Health Care Access

Ensuring access to quality, affordable health care.



Healthy Aging

Supporting choices and access to care for older adults.



Substance Use Disorder

Addressing stigma and discrimination in care for those struggling with substance misuse.



Public Health

Protecting New Hampshire's public health system.



Regulation of Addictive Products

Preventing substance use through community education and regulatory strategies.





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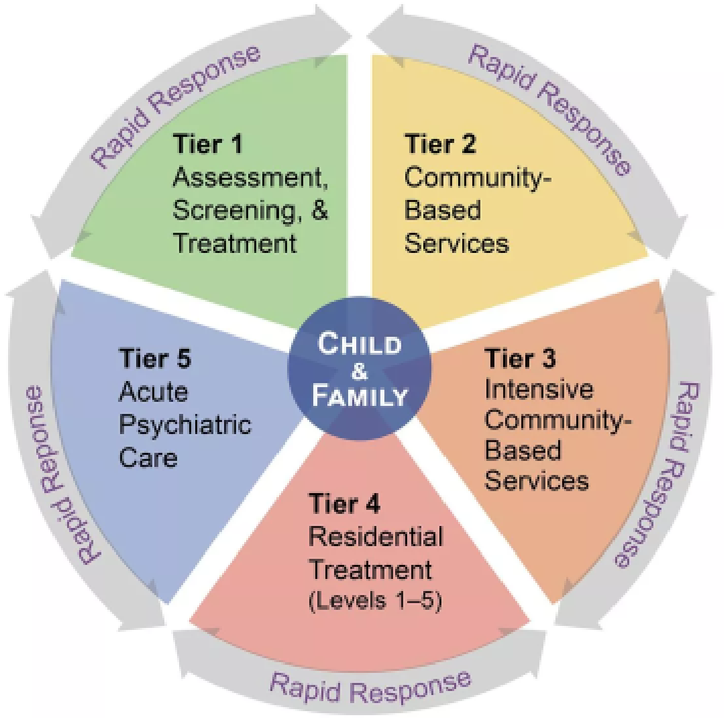
Supporting the **System of Care**



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Our **history**



- Children’s Behavioral Health Collaborative in 2010
- System of Care established by state law in 2016
- Child welfare reformed by state law in 2019

Why we **care**



20%

Approximately 20% of U.S. children meet the criteria for a mental health disorder

39.6%

Percentage of students who reported feeling sad or hopeless on YRBS

12%

Percentage of children in NH under the age of 7 that have experienced multiple Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)



Supporting the **System of Care**

Policy priority for 28 Session

- Establish sustainable funding for 988 Crisis Lifeline
- Close the coverage gap for children and families who need wraparound care

Opportunities

988 Lifeline



- Provide sustainable funding through a telecommunications surcharge
- Same structure as 911 is funded, a tested model that works
- Bipartisan support

Opportunities

Wraparound Coverage Gap



- Ensure all children and families in New Hampshire have access to community-based care when they need it
- Create a public-private partnership to recover state funds that are expended for privately insured children
- Governor Ayotte Supports, bi-partisan support



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Supporting the **System of Care**

Long term vision

Long-term Systems Investment

Meta Settlement Funds
10-Year Mental Health Plan

Sustain Existing Resources

Interventions & Services Across the 5 Tiers
CDC Youth Risk Behavior Survey
Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)

Identifying Needs & Opportunities

Eliminate Emergency Department Boarding
Enhance Services to Keep Kids in Community

Challenges



- Misunderstandings of the role of the System of Care
- Budget that is already tight and stressed with the demand for services
- Effective Lobbyists with lots of money

Partners weigh in



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Next Steps



Support 988 Bill
Sustainably funds 988 Lifeline using telecommunications surcharge

Support Wraparound Bill
Closes coverage gap by creating public-private partnership

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Advocating for a Healthy NH

Opportunities for Engagement



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Writing for **change**

LTE or Op-ed

Letter to the Editor is usually 250 words while Op-ed are about 800 targeting legislators and the public

Email your Legislator

Make subject line searchable (constituent of town, Bill # and Issue) and personalize your message

Written Testimony

State your position and print out copies to deliver in person or email entire committee through gen-court website



Using your **voice**

Testifying
Prepare bullet points and print copies for committee members

Calling your Legislator
Prepare a concise message and leave a message on voicemail, or if staff or family answers

Social Media
Share information and ways to advocate with your network to raise awareness

Remote Sign-in
GenCourt website has senate and house links where you can input the hearing information to state your position on the bill



Sign Up for **Action Alerts**



new-futures.org/training/sign-up

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Questions?



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