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POLICY + ADVOCACY CONFERENCE

SPEAKING UP FOR WHAT MATTERS

# Policy **Roundtables**

## Substance Use Disorder Prevention, Treatment & Recovery



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# Your **Presenters**



## Jake Berry

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## Kate Frey

*Vice President of Advocacy*

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## Sarah Cain

*Community Engagement Coordinator*

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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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Policy Area Overview

# Substance Use Disorder Prevention, Treatment & Recovery




## Access to Treatment

- Workforce/licensure
- Regulation
- Insurance coverage

## Recovery Supports

- Recovery Community Organizations (RCOs)
- Housing

## Criminal Justice

- Recovery/Drug courts
- Treatment behind the walls

## Co-Occurring

- Mental health

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Policy Area Overview

# Substance Use Disorder Prevention, Treatment & Recovery



- **Preventing Substance Use Disorder**
- **Regulation of Addictive Products**
- **Harm Reduction Strategies**
- **Ensure Revenues of Addictive Products are utilized for SUD efforts**

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# Why we **care**




**23.1%**

of NH teens reported currently drinking alcohol in 2023 — that's nearly 1 in 4 teens.

**4,419**

NH residents died of overdose between 2014 and 2023.

**$756.7 million**

in revenue was generated by the 65 New Hampshire Liquor and Wine Outlets in 2023.

# 2026 Policy Priorities



## Dental Coverage

- Strengthen access to dental services for individuals in treatment/recovery

## Recovery Housing

- Ensure **all** houses are supporting residents by meeting health, safety standards

## Outpatient Treatment

- Support patient health and safety by requiring outpatient treatment facilities to be licensed

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# Changes to Medicaid

## Timeline of Medicaid and Health Insurance Changes in NH

Medicaid MATTERS

### 2025

**July**

**Family Planning Medicaid Restrictions**

**July 4, 2025 - IN EFFECT**

Prohibits Planned Parenthood from receiving Medicaid payments, even for services like cancer screenings.

**Fall**

**Medicaid Prescription Costs**

**Fall 2025 - IN EFFECT**

Pharmacy co-pays increased to $4 for some individuals (primarily those enrolled in Medicaid expansion).

### 2026

**January**

**ACA Enhanced Premium Tax Credit Expiration**

**January 1, 2026 - EXPIRED**

Enhanced premium tax credits under the ACA will expire, driving up costs for those who buy their own health insurance.

**CHIP Premiums**

**January 1, 2026 - AWAITING APPROVAL**

Families enrolled in CHIP earning 255% of FPL* and above will have to pay monthly premiums.

**FPL = federal poverty level. You can find yours at povertylevelcalculator.com.*

**July**

**Medicaid Expansion Premiums**

**July 1, 2026-DELAYED**

Individuals enrolled in Medicaid expansion earning 100% of FPL* and above will have to pay monthly premiums.

**December**

**Medicaid Work Requirements**

**By December 31, 2026**

Some individuals (mainly those enrolled in Medicaid expansion) will be required to work or engage in other approved activities to be eligible for Medicaid.

**More Frequent Medicaid Eligibility Redeterminations**

**On or After December 31, 2026**

Individuals enrolled in Medicaid expansion will need to complete eligibility paperwork every 6 months.

### 2027

**January**

**Reduced Retroactive Medicaid Coverage**

**January 1, 2027**

Retroactive coverage will be reduced to 30 days for Medicaid expansion and 60 days for traditional Medicaid programs.

### 2028

**October**

**Medicaid Expansion Cost-Sharing**

**October 1, 2028**

Medicaid expansion adults earning above 100% of FPL* will be required to pay for certain medical services, excluding primary care, ER, mental health, and other services.

**Medicaid Provider Tax Reductions**

**October 1, 2028**

Reduces provider tax thresholds (mainly for hospitals) by 0.5% each year until it reaches 3.5% in FY 2032 (October 2031).

For more details on these changes, scan the QR code or visit **NHNeedsMedicaid.com/Medicaid-Changes.**

*Last Updated: 4/23/2026. Please verify all Medicaid information with official government sources before making any decisions.*

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# Alcohol Fund



- Alcohol Fund law created in 2003
- Fund historically underfunded over its 20 years of existence
- Fully funded for the first time in 2024 only to be underfunded and liquor revenue to swapped out  in the 2026 budget




# Protecting **Addiction Fund (formally Alcohol Fund)**

***Policy priority for 28 Session***

- Utilize the Fund for the intended purpose of supporting contracted prevention, treatment, and recovery programs.
- Continue to fund the Addiction Fund at 5% of liquor gross profits ($9.5 million) in 2028 and 2029.

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# Kratom




- The kratom industry has grown into a multi-billion-dollar market, giving manufacturers significant financial incentive to resist regulation and exploit gaps in state law.
- Manufacturers are free to sell dangerous, highly potent synthetic and semi-synthetic kratom products without restriction.
- Effective Lobbyists with lots of money.

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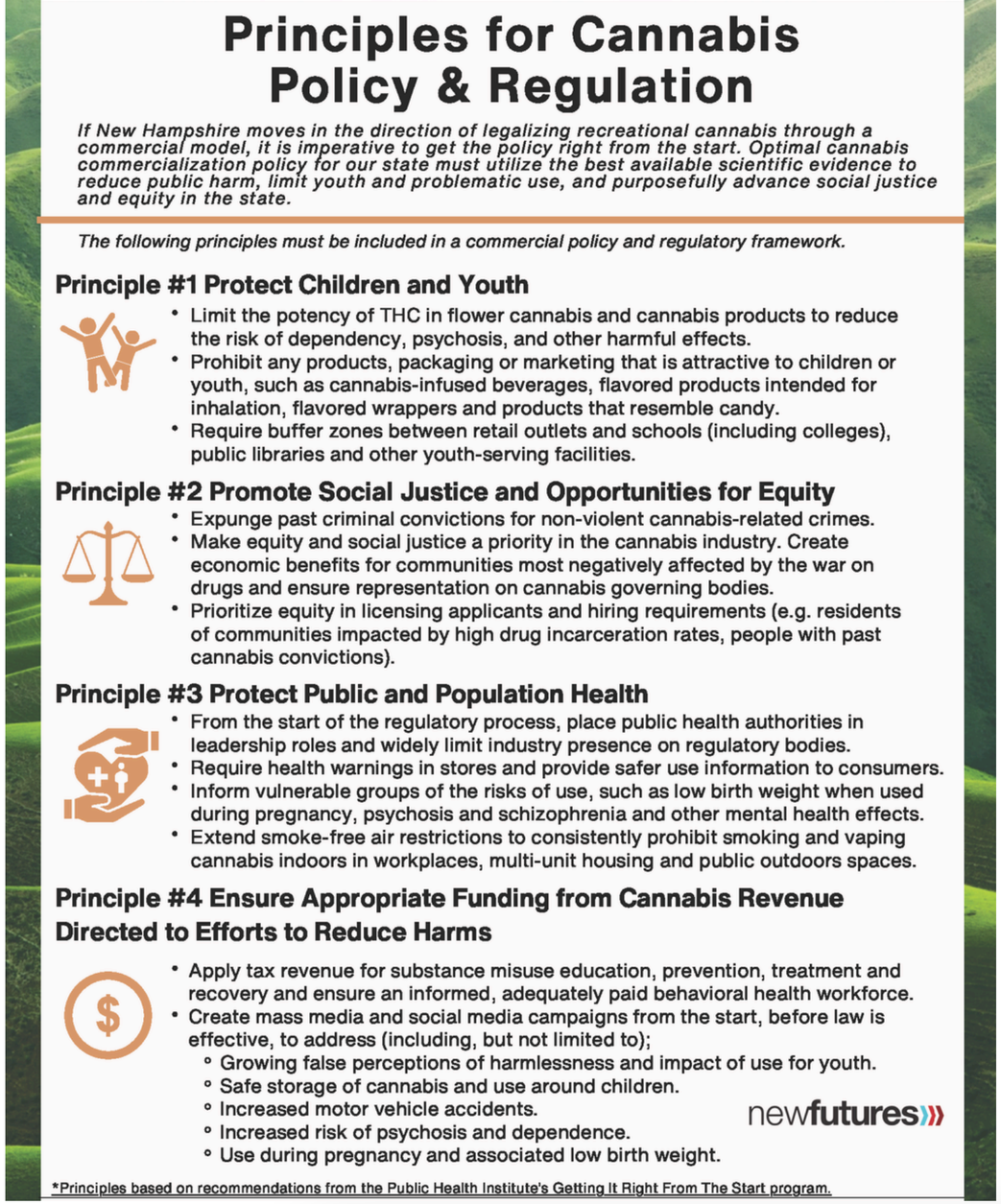
# Upcoming Legislation




- Legislation to ban Kratom stalled in 2026 legislative session
- Bills filed in House and Senate to place Kratom on Schedule 1 in NH
- Governor Ayotte supports efforts to ban Kratom

# Upcoming Legislation

- With new make-up of the House and Senate- Cannabis Regulation and Legalization back on the table
- New Futures will continue to advocate for public health and prevention principles to be embedded in legislation

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# Partners weigh in



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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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