

## **PRESS RELEASE**

March 8, 2017

### **CONTACT**

Meghan Farrell, Communications Coordinator

[mfarrell@new-futures.org](mailto:mfarrell@new-futures.org)

603-225-9540 Ext. 129

### **NEW FUTURES EXPANDS MISSION TO HEALTH AND EARLY CHILDHOOD POLICIES**

CONCORD, NH – New Futures, a state-wide health policy and advocacy organization, will grow their advocacy focus from substance use disorder issues to general health and early childhood policy with an expansion of their mission, to improve the health and wellness of all Granite Staters.

New Futures expansion, supported by the Endowment for Health, New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, and HNH Foundation, will center on building advocacy capacity in New Hampshire and include partnering with organizations working to advance positive health and early childhood policies in the Granite State, providing shared services, trainings, and convening power to the field.

As part of the expansion, New Futures is partnering with Civix Strategy Group to bring forward targeted campaigns around these specific issue areas. Currently, New Futures and Civix Strategy Group are focused on building up long-term advocacy through a targeted early childhood campaign known as Smart Start New Hampshire. Smart Start priorities include encouraging state-wide investments in child care, home visiting programs, and Family Resource Centers of Quality.

“Expanding into health and early childhood policies is a natural next step for New Futures, building on using our successful advocacy model in substance use disorder issues and putting it to use to benefit even more Granite Staters with proactive policies.” said Linda Saunders Paquette, President and CEO of New Futures. “We have the ability to put policy experts, coordinated communications, and community engagement behind current successful organizations and initiatives in these policy areas to increase advocacy capacity and make a bigger impact in New Hampshire than any one advocacy organization can have alone.”

As part of the expansion, New Futures is also taking on a new initiative: [New Futures Kids Count](#), funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. New Futures Kids Count will focus on collecting and disseminating New Hampshire-based data and providing policy recommendations and tools to advance positive policies for Granite State children and families.

New Futures will continue to maintain its focus on substance use disorder policies, including advocating this legislative session for [Five Points for New Hampshire’s Future](#) to turn the tide on our state’s opioid epidemic.

**ABOUT NEW FUTURES:** New Futures is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that advocates, educates and collaborates to improve the health and wellness of all New Hampshire residents. For more information, visit [new-futures.org](http://new-futures.org).

###