



Meeting Challenges, Embracing Opportunities

Welcome to the New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition's 2024-2025 Annual Impact Report

Like virtually all of our friends and partners in public health and oral health over the past two years, the New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition (NHOHC) has often found itself navigating change to meet the needs-often evolving- of those we serve. Due to a dedicated core of staff and volunteers, committed and collaborative partners, and amazing charitable funders, our coalition has been able to remain true to its work and keep the underserved and access to oral health care in the very center of what we do.

Over the past year, we welcomed key public health leaders to our Steering Committee including **Dr. David Staples**, retired public health dentist and consultant, **Elaine Michaud**, JD, MPH, Deputy Public Health Director, City of Manchester Public Health Department, **Alia Hayes**, MPH, Oral Health Program Manager, State of New Hampshire, **Megan Henly**, PhD, Research Assistant Professor, UNH Institute on Disability, and **Dr. Barry Chang**, Medicaid Dental Director, State of New Hampshire. Each provides valuable perspectives on our work!

On the advocacy and policy front, NHOHC was active on the state and federal level, working alongside a broad range of partners and advocating to protect public health and support access to care. We met with our federal delegation in Washington, DC, hosted a spring legislative reception at the State House and convened a Oral Health Policy Webinar with local and national experts.

We also hosted, or participated in numerous oral health and public health educational events as part of our core mission to support access to quality oral health care and services-*something everyone deserves!*

As 2025 comes to a close, we see this moment in time not as an ending, but as an opportunity to recognize and celebrate healthy progress to date and share our excitement about the year ahead.

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We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank and salute the many individuals, organizations, foundations, businesses and others who have supported our mission and helped make our communities healthier, better, and stronger!

Bedrock support

Our funders, sponsors, and supporters play a critical role in our work. They include:

CareQuest Foundation
Cogswell Benevolent Trust
DentaQuest
Elevate Oral Care
Foundation For Seacoast Health
New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
New Hampshire Children's Health Foundation
Northeast Delta Dental Foundation
New Hampshire Dental Society Foundation
Revo Casinos (Charitable Gaming Program)
Solve Health
State of NH Oral Health Program
VOCO

United in care and community

The New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition is buoyed by a committed and caring group of oral health and public health champions, ambassadors, and advocates from across the state. They provide a broad and varied range of strategic leadership and volunteer support and include:

Board of Directors

Interim Board President-Billie Lunt –
Allied Health Dental Program, NHTI
Secretary-LeaAnne Shampaine – Northeast Delta Dental
Treasurer- Helen Taft – Community Member
Dr. Sarah Finne – Community Member
Dr. Neil Hiltunen – Community Member

Alphonse J. "Skip" Homicz Jr. Legacy Committee

Chair-Helen Taft – Community Member
Co-Chair-James Williamson – Community Member
Dr. Sarah Finne – Community Member
Dr. Hiltunen – Community Member
Dr. Shannon Mills – Community Member

Billie Lunt, RDH, BA, MSDH

Interim Board President
NH Oral Health Coalition



Finance Committee

Chair-Helen Taft-Community Member
Member-Dr. Neil Hiltunen
Member-Dr. Sarah Finne

Policy Committee

Lisa Beaudoin – Disability Strategies
Mary Duquette – Traveling Tooth Fairies
Joan Fitzgerald – Oral Healthcare At Home
Alia Hayes – Oral Health Program, State of New Hampshire
Dr. Neil Hiltunen – Community Member
Audrey Johnston – Schoolyard Smiles
Cami Paras – Community Member
LeaAnne Shampaine – Northeast Delta Dental
Dr. Earle Simpson – NH Dental Society
Helen Taft – Community Member

Steering Committee

Lisa Centrella – Allied Health Dental Program, NHTI
Dr. Barry Chang – Medicaid Dental Director, State of NH
Dr. Sarah Finne – Community Member
Alia Hayes – Oral Health Program, State of NH
Megan Henly – Institute On Disability, University of NH
Dr. Neil Hiltunen – Community Member
Elaine Michaud – Public Health Department, City of Manchester, NH
Kim Mohan – NH Nurse Practitioner Association
Myra Nikitas – Traveling Tooth Fairies
Stephanie Pagliuca – Bi-State Primary Care Association
Dr. Kelly Perry – Midstate Health Center
Laura Remick – Northern NH Area Health Education Center
LeaAnne Shampaine – Northeast Delta Dental
Dr. Earle Simpson – New Hampshire Dental Society
Paula Smith – Southern NH Area Health Education Center
Dr. David Staples – Community Member
Catrina Watson – NH Medical Society.

Thank you, one and all!

Gail T. Brown, JD, MSW

Executive Director
NH Oral Health Coalition



2024-2025 Milestones and Highlights

The past two years have been marked by outreach and educational sessions throughout the state, connecting and convening with key partners, and engaging hundreds of stakeholders in support of quality oral health care and access for NH's children, teens, adults, families, and seniors.

December 2024

NHOHC Holds First Ever Annual Meeting as separate 501 C3 Non-Profit, The Common Man Inn and Spa, Plymouth, NH

NHOHC Holds 2024 Annual Forum attracting over 100 providers, healthcare advocates and community leaders. **Stephen Hoffman**, Dental Health Works in Keene, NH named as honoree for 2024 Alphonse J. "Skip" Homicz, Jr. Legacy Award



January 2025

NHOHC welcomes **Alia Hayes** to Steering Committee!

February 2025

NHOHC Executive Director **Gail Brown** joins with public health leaders from throughout NH testifying as to oral health benefits of water fluoridation.

March 2025

NHOHC welcomes **Dr. David Staples** to Steering Committee!

April 2025

NHOHC joins with oral health leaders and advocates across the county at 2025 National Oral Health Conference



NH's own Dr. Richard Rosato-president of the American Dental Association and Gail Brown, NHOHC Executive Director

May 2025

Interim NHOHC Board President **Billie Lunt** and **Chris Dugan** join with colleagues from over 30 states in advocating for support for Medicaid and oral health access as part of the 2025 OPEN (Oral Health Progress and Equity Network) Hill Days in Washington, DC



NHOHC team participates in 2025 NH Dental Society Annual Meeting in Meredith, NH



Gail Brown, Tom Raffio-Northeast Delta Dental, and Dr. Barry Chang-State of NH

June, 2025

NHOHC teams with key partners and advocates to host 2025 Legislative Event in Statehouse in Concord, NH, attended by over 100 elected officials. We were also thrilled to celebrate the two year "birthday" of NH's Adult Medicaid Dental Benefit.

NHOHC hosts virtual state-wide Medicaid Policy Meeting featuring local and national experts

NHOHC welcomes **Megan Henly** to Steering Committee!

July 2025

NHOHC welcomes **Elaine Michaud** and **Dr. Barry Chang** to Steering Committee!

August 2025

NHOHC celebrates our second year as an independent non-profit!

September 2025

NHOHC pleased to announce major grants from the NH Children's Health Foundation. Pictured are Gail Garceau, president NHCHF and Gail Brown, Executive Director-NHOHC



October 2025

NHOHC participates in 2025 Advocate NH Conference – Let it Grow, presented by ABLE NH and UNH-IOD in Durham, NH



November 2025

NHOHC partners with Revo Casino and Social House in Keene, NH as part of our first ever charitable gaming partnership.

December 2025

Dr. Earle Simpson named as 2025 Alphonse J. "Skip" Homicz Jr. Legacy Award Honoree

NEW HAMPSHIRE ORAL HEALTH COALITION

To promote optimal oral health for the people of New Hampshire

About the New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition

The Coalition's mission is to advance and promote oral health for the people of New Hampshire, and we continuously look for opportunities to engage and educate stakeholders on the link between oral health and overall health. It is the vision of the Coalition that through improved oral health, the people of New Hampshire will have enhanced quality of life and opportunity.

In conjunction with our community, state, and national partners, we work to achieve optimal health throughout the state by operationalizing key objectives including:

- Improving and promoting medical-dental knowledge and service integration in the communities
- Leading change strategies to educate, convene, and sustain high quality, integrated health practices
- Promoting access to affordable and accessible oral health programs that are available for prevention and restoration across the lifespan through public resources and programs
- Celebrating and supporting the transformational work of oral health providers and professionals, clinical and community partners, and oral health and public health advocates and leaders



Our Team

Gail T. Brown, JD, MSW
Executive Director

Christopher R. Dugan
Director of Communications and Community Engagement

Judith Nicholson
Manager, Special Projects

Christina Wellbeloved
Manager, Special Projects



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Donate Today!

Help support the New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition in promoting optimal oral health by donating today. Scan the QR Code.



Heart-felt thanks to DentaQuest for serving as presenting sponsor for our 2025 Annual Forum

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