Solving the Benefits Cliff in the Granite State

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To join communities and families in providing opportunities for citizens to achieve health and independence.

- “Umbrella” state HHS agency – limited county (10) role
- 3,000 employees
- $3 Billion annual budget
- Provide direct services and oversight of quasi-governmental agencies
- 15% of population on Medicaid
- 90,000 on SNAP
- 9,000 child care scholarships
- 3,500 families and 5,700 children on TANF
- 47,000 children served via child support
NH’s mixed economic and social vulnerability landscape

- 1.3 million people
- 90% white
- Median household income $68,000
- Unemployment rate 2.4%
- Poverty rate 7.7%
- #1 Child Well-Being

- NO SALES OR INCOME TAX

- Livable wage $26 (1Adult:1 Child) - minimum wage $7.25 an hour
- Rapidly changing cultural makeup, 2018 – 1:4 infants born non-white
- 3rd fastest aging state in U.S.
- Workforce crisis felt by ALL employers
- 4,000 children experiencing chronic housing instability - need 20,000 housing units today
- 1,200 in foster care - doubled between 2014 – 2017
- 10,000 grand families
- “Deep” pockets of poverty, along with higher rates of mental illness, suicide, substance use disorders, and child maltreatment
- 1:10 report four or more ACES in NH
Whole Families Approach to Jobs: Parents Working, Children Thriving

- Disrupt poverty
- Two-generational framework
- Families at the center of policy making
- Incentivize work, boost individual effort and responsibility
- Promoting efficiencies in government and multi-sector partnerships

**Learning community to accelerate innovation**
# ACF Region I - State Level “Whole Families” Efforts

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## Tackling the Cliff Effect...

How’s it affecting families and businesses in our state and how can we solve it?
“We need to move away from the stigma of “welfare” - it’s really about strengthening all families.”
Readying the organization

➢ Setting our North Stars
  • Safety Culture as a foundation
  • **Integration** that promotes **prevention** and providing the right service, at the right time, in the right place - and to the **whole family**
  • Alignment towards “**collective**” outcomes

➢ “**Refreshing**” our agency/system and program governance

➢ **Building relationships, partnerships, and mutual responsibility**

➢ Using Data to drive innovation and change
NH Department of Health and Human Services

DHHS Overview*

Office of the Commissioner

Population Health
- Division of Public Health
  - Population Health & Community Services
  - Infectious Disease Control
  - Public Health Protection
  - Laboratory Services
  - Public Health Statistics and Information
  - Public Health Systems, Policy & Performance
  - State Epidemiologist
- Division of Medicaid Services
  - Clinical Operations
  - Medicaid Policy
  - Dental Services
  - Health Care Reform
  - Managed Care

Human Services & Behavioral Health
- Division of Economic & Housing Stability
  - Family Assistance
  - Employment Supports
  - Housing Supports
  - Child Support Services
  - Child Development & Headstart Collaboration
- Division of Behavioral Health
  - Mental Health
  - Drug & Alcohol Services
  - Children’s Mental Health
- Division of Long Term Supports & Services
  - Adult Protection Services
  - Elderly & Adult Services
  - Developmental Services
  - Designated Receiving Facility
  - Special Medical Services
  - Community Based Military Programs
- Division of Children, Youth & Families
  - Field Services
  - Family, Community & Program Support
  - Organizational Learning & Quality Improvement
  - Sununu Youth Services Center

Operations
- Bureau of Information Services
  - Data Management
  - Data Warehouse
  - Information Security
  - Medicaid Management Information System
  - DHHS Systems Oversight
  - Linkage to DoIT
- Bureau of Human Resource Management
  - Organizational Development & Training Services
- Bureau of Facilities Maintenance & Office Services
  - HHS Facilities & State Office
  - Safety & Wellness
  - Office Services
  - Oversight – Institutional Services

DHHS 24/7 Facilities
- New Hampshire Hospital
- Glenciff Home for the Elderly
- Sununu Youth Services Center
- Designated Receiving Facility

Bureau of Facilities Maintenance & Office Services
- DHHS System Oversight
- Linkage to DoIT

Administrative Business Supports
- Legal & Regulatory
- Health Equity
- Program Planning & Integrity
- Finance
- Quality Assurance & Improvement

Communications Bureau
- Emergency Services Unit
- Employee Assistance Program

* Overview represents DHHS program areas, functions and business entities, not necessarily reporting structures.7/18
Final

*From left to right - Emphasis on rapid and holistic engagement with integrated, targeted supports and services to prevent deeper involvement and interventions whenever possible and appropriate.
Health & Human Services Integration “Teams”

- Suicide Prevention
- Child Welfare Transformation
- Early Childhood
- Youth affected by caregiver substance use disorders
- Father Engagement/Parenthood
- Multi-system involved individuals
- Housing
- Data Analytics
- **Whole Families Approach to Jobs**

- Chartered approach
- Varied leadership and membership
- Inter and Intra organizational efforts
New Hampshire’s Whole Family Team

• **Focus on…**
  Parents working **AND** children thriving
  Business needs being matched to workforce needs and creating lifetime pathways for learning

• **Cross-Sector Partnerships**
  Government, business, community providers, philanthropy, legislators, higher education, and parents

• **Addressing the most difficult barriers to family self-sufficiency and well-being**
  Supportive employers/recovery friendly, housing, childcare access and quality, transportation solutions, locally accessible mental health, diverse educational pathways
Helping Business Thrive and Families Prosper

Widen roads to self-sufficiency by closing the Cliff Effect

Governor Sununu Inaugural Address

“It won't be easy but I believe the pathway is there, and I'm calling on the Legislature to join me in tackling the issue

NH HB2 Legislation

Plan to Close the Cliff Effect for Individuals and Families who Receive Public Benefits

• Establishing the vision
• Economic analysis and model development
• Convening key partners, experts, and parents
• Designing and testing a cliff effect calculator
• Building capacity and sustainability
New Hampshire Economic Analysis

Key Elements

- Social Vulnerability Index
- Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Substance Use Disorders Data “Dashboard”

*DHHS – Public Health

Social Determinants of Health

Benefits

Business Climate

- TANF
- SNAP
- Housing
- Child Care
- Transportation
- Healthcare
- Child Support
- WIC/School Lunches
- Energy/Fuel Assistance

*NH DHHS DEHS

Real life “vignettes” will be developed to illuminate regional similarities and differences across the intersection of key elements and the impact on families

- Workforce
  - Employment Supports to promote movement towards high demand labor market jobs with geographic overlay - educational/training pathways

*NHES ELMI
Leveraging all efforts to promote whole family approaches

- Integrating and connecting our “our collective efforts” – across policies, programs, services and partnerships
  - Listening to stakeholders – particularly those with lived experiences
  - Refreshing and modernizing DHHS structure and partnerships
  - Using the Social Determinants of Health as the foundation of alignment and integration across ALL department efforts

- Prioritizing Early Childhood and Community Based Efforts
- Transforming our Child Welfare System
- Creating a 10 Year Mental Health Plan
- Designing a “State” Opioid Response system
- Strengthening Granite Advantage and Workforce
- Establishing a Whole Family Approach to Jobs: Parents Working, Children Thriving Initiative
In NH, we aspire for all families to...LIVE FREE AND THRIVE!!