

PURPOSE



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CHANGE LIVES**
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American Dream

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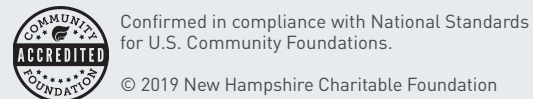
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Cover: Yahya Nasser Eddine of Manchester is working toward his dream of becoming a teacher with help from a Foundation scholarship

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION is New Hampshire's statewide community foundation, founded in 1962 by and for the people of New Hampshire. We manage a growing collection of 2,000 funds created by generous individuals, families and businesses, and award more than \$40 million in grants and scholarships every year. We work with generous and visionary citizens to maximize the power of their giving, support great work happening in our communities, and lead and collaborate on high-impact initiatives. Learn more at www.nhcf.org or call 800-464-6641.

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PERSON-TO-PERSON PHILANTHROPY

By Richard Ober, president and CEO

It's not like to think of scholarships as person-to-person philanthropy. More than 400 New Hampshire people and families have set up scholarship funds at the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation to help other New Hampshire people get the education they need.

Kaylee Downs is studying to be a firefighter and paramedic, just like her dad — with help from three New Hampshire families who set up scholarship funds. A New Hampshire business created a scholarship that is helping Yahya Nasser Eddine earn his teaching certificate so he can teach English to speakers of other languages. And Stephanie Ferland is about to realize her dream of becoming a nurse with help from a man who dedicated his scholarship to students studying in medicine and science.

Since 1972, New Hampshire generosity has made it possible for the Foundation to award more than \$100 million in scholarships to nearly 30,000 students (see article, page 6). About 1,500 people are helped by this person-to-person philanthropy every year.

The Foundation's work is all about making communities stronger, and scholarships are a critical component of that work. My colleague, Michael Turmelle, director of education and career initiatives at the Foundation, puts it this way: "For students who face



A Foundation scholarship is helping Kaylee Downs of Rochester achieve her dream of becoming a firefighter and paramedic

barriers to opportunity — like those who are the first in their families to go to college — a scholarship can provide a rung up on the economic ladder that represents a huge advance in economic and social mobility. And not just for them, but for the next generation as well."

Bill Levy, who set up a scholarship fund to help kids from the Mount Washington Valley, said simply: "If they have the gumption to go to school, but not the money, I'm going to help them." When students get the education they need to thrive and build rewarding careers in New Hampshire, then our communities and our economy thrive, too.

For 32 years, our Student Aid program has been overseen by Judy Burrows, who retires at the end of 2019 (see page 4). During her tenure, the Foundation's Student Aid program has grown nearly tenfold, from awarding

\$750,000 per year to \$6 million per year to students. The number of scholarship funds has jumped twelvefold: from 34 to 421. Judy has worked with scores of generous people to establish the scholarships that will help New Hampshire students for generations to come. People whom Judy has worked with over more than three decades sing her praises — and for good reason.

Among my favorite days of the year are when we send out scholarship checks. Stacks of envelopes are addressed to people in almost every city and town in New Hampshire, and the funds have come from people in almost every city and town in New Hampshire. It's person-to-person philanthropy. And it makes New Hampshire better for all. ■



The Granite State News Collaborative hosted "Solutions from the Frontlines," a community conversation on behavioral health in May

Courtesy photo

NEWS GOES COLLABORATIVE

The Granite State News Collaborative is a new enterprise that breaks down barriers of competition among news outlets in favor of collaboration. The collaborative formed in response to the hollowing out of the traditional news gathering industry (60 percent of news-industry jobs in New Hampshire have disappeared since 2001), and shares reporting duties and content across its 16 member media outlets.

A Foundation grant for core mission support helped the collaborative as it undertook its first statewide reporting project on behavioral health and expanded its member base. The collaborative has secured additional funding from the Knight Foundation and is about to launch its second year-long statewide reporting initiative.

To learn more, visit www.collaborativenh.org. ■

THANK YOU, JUDY

Judy Burrows, who retires at the end of 2019, made helping people get an education the focus of her life's work. During her 32-year tenure as the Foundation's director of student aid, scholarship awards to students increased from \$750,000 per year to \$6 million per year.

Judy's family experience made her a believer in education as the key to economic mobility: Her father had worked his way out of poverty by working his way through college during the Great Depression.

Under her leadership, the Foundation began awarding significantly more scholarships for two-year degrees and workforce training, and clearly articulated its philosophy of awarding scholarships to students with the greatest financial need.

Judy's life's work made life better for thousands of people. ■



Courtesy photo

CULTIVATING SEACOAST ARTISTS

Victoria Elbroch of Kittery, Maine, has been awarded the 2019 Piscataqua Region Artist Advancement Grant from the Foundation.

The \$25,000 annual grant is one of the largest unrestricted grants awarded to an artist in the country. Runners-up, each of whom received a \$1,500 award, were Shaina Gates of Exeter and Mary O'Malley of Rochester.

Trees are the prominent feature in Elbroch's prints and collages, and the award will allow her to travel to her native England to study ancient trees. She hopes her works prompt viewers to ponder how nature's clock is ticking on the oldest trees in their "relentless confrontation" with changing climate, more violent storms and pollution. ■

THE CENSUS COUNTS

New Hampshire has a lot is riding on the 2020 Census. The Granite State receives more than \$3.7 billion annually in federal funding for 55 different programs informed by the census count, many of which affect the most vulnerable among us: from school lunch for kids who need it to Medicaid, energy assistance and Head Start. The fair and equitable distribution of those funds depends on an accurate count of the population.

The Foundation has joined forces with other local funders to help ensure an accurate count, pooling resources to fund a consultant who will support state and local efforts to make sure that a complete count is achieved in New Hampshire — including among hard-to-reach populations, such as immigrants, people without Internet access, off-campus college students, young children and elders.

The U.S. Census is recruiting workers to help achieve an accurate count for New Hampshire. To learn more, visit 2020census.gov/en/jobs.html. ■

KUDOS



Courtesy photo

Foundation Directors **Sister Paula Marie Buley** (left) and **Dianne Mercier** (right) and Foundation President **Dick Ober** (center) along with **Maureen Beauregard**, **Mary Jo Brown**, **Barbara Couch**, **Lucy Hodder** and **Sherry Young** (not pictured) were named to the NH Business Review's NH 200 list, honoring New Hampshire's most influential leaders.



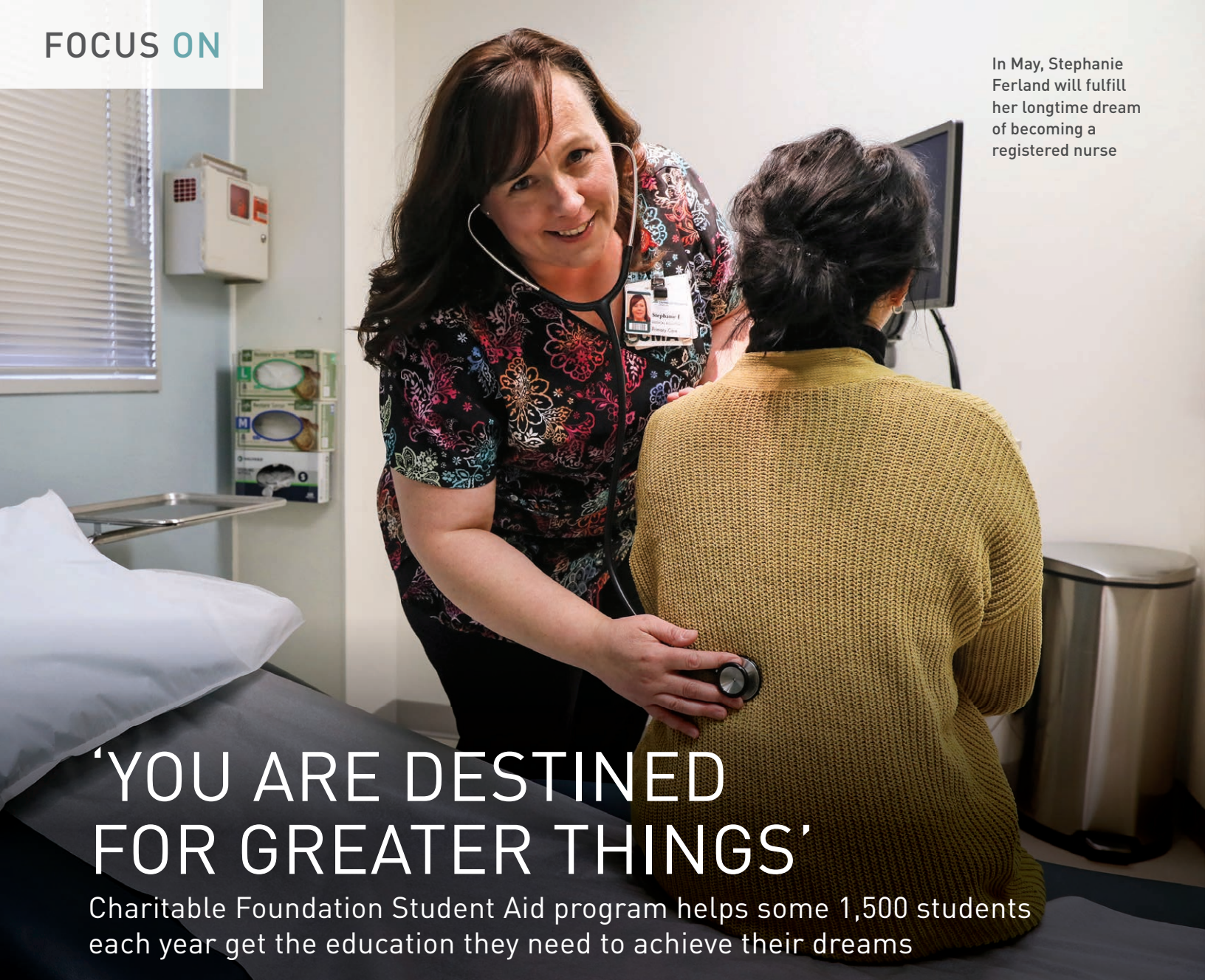
Courtesy photo

Howard Brodsky, Foundation friend and founder of CCA Global Partners, received the International Cooperative Alliance's 2019 Rochdale Pioneers Award. Brodsky is the first American to receive the award.



Courtesy photo

Foundation friends **Joseph McQuaid**, Union Leader; **Larry Gammon**, Easterseals NH; and **Joan Goshgarian**, New Hampshire Business Committee for the Arts, were honored with lifetime achievement awards by the Business and Industry Association of New Hampshire. **Allison Joseph** of MY TURN received the New Hampshire Advantage Award.



In May, Stephanie Ferland will fulfill her longtime dream of becoming a registered nurse

'YOU ARE DESTINED FOR GREATER THINGS'

Charitable Foundation Student Aid program helps some 1,500 students each year get the education they need to achieve their dreams

Stephanie Ferland had been waitressing at the diner in the town where she grew up. It was the work her mother and her aunts did, and seemed like the work she would always do.

And then her grandmother Marjorie got sick. As Stephanie watched the nurses who took care of her, she realized she had found her calling. Her grandmother realized it, too. "You," Marjorie said to her granddaughter, "are destined for greater things."

Stephanie became a licensed nursing assistant and then a medical assistant,

jobs she has been doing for a combined 14 years.

When Stephanie's daughter graduated from high school and became a licensed nursing assistant herself, Stephanie took her own next big step. With help from Charitable Foundation scholarships, this 42-year-old single mom is now studying to become a registered nurse. She still works full time and goes to school at nights and on weekends. Her daughter takes care of Stephanie's 10-year-old son while Stephanie goes to school. Stephanie will graduate in May with

her bachelor's degree from Rivier University.

"I can't wait to be a nurse," she said. "Without that scholarship, it wouldn't have been attainable."

Increasing opportunities for New Hampshire students

The New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's Student Aid program has, since 1972, awarded more than \$100 million in scholarships to nearly 30,000 students. It is the largest source of publicly available student aid in New Hampshire, and awards more than \$6 million each year to students

of all ages attending two- and four-year colleges, and to people studying to attain professional licenses and credentials.

All of the more than 400 separate scholarship funds that the Foundation administers were created by generous individuals, families or business to help New Hampshire students get the education they need to succeed.

"Scholarships are a critical part of the Foundation's mission to make New Hampshire communities stronger," said Foundation Director of Education and Career Initiatives Michael Turmelle.

"For students who face barriers to opportunity — like those who are the first in their families to go to college — a scholarship can provide a rung up on the economic ladder that represents a huge advance in economic and social mobility. And not just for them, but for the next generation as well."

The Foundation's Student Aid program, said Ross Gittell, chancellor of the Community College System of New Hampshire and vice president of the New England Economic Partnership, "is meeting a very strong need in the state."

New Hampshire has the second-highest in-state tuition in the country at its public colleges and universities — and the lowest-in-the-nation state funding for higher education. And New Hampshire students graduate with the highest debt load in the nation.

These trends affect New Hampshire's workforce and economy as well.

High tuition cost is one factor that drives many New Hampshire students — 61 percent — to go to college out of state. When students leave their home state for college, they often end up building their careers elsewhere as well. So New Hampshire's workforce takes a hit. And demographic trends in New Hampshire already point to a

"For students who face barriers to opportunity — like those who are the first in their families to go to college — a scholarship can provide a rung up on the economic ladder that represents a huge advance in economic and social mobility. And not just for them, but for the next generation as well."

— Michael Turmelle, director of education and career initiatives, New Hampshire Charitable Foundation

decrease in the state's working-age population while available jobs are projected to increase.

"We have to treat every graduate of high school as a precious asset," Gittell said. "And encourage them to advance their education and training and stay in the state."

As part of its New Hampshire Tomorrow initiative to increase opportunity for those who need it most, the Foundation has redoubled efforts to do just that. The Foundation has tripled the amount of scholarship aid given to students studying at New Hampshire's community colleges, and committed to awarding \$500,000 a year in scholarships to community college students through 2022.

Community colleges offer two-year degrees and short-term certificates that can put people on a faster track to employment in high-demand professions. In New Hampshire, community colleges also offer an affordable on-ramp to four-year degrees: a broad array of transfer agreements enable students to complete their first two years at a community college, at a far lower tuition rate, and then transfer 100 percent of those credits to a four-year university to complete a

bachelor's degree. And at the other end of the pipeline, the community colleges have thousands of New Hampshire high school students every year earning college credit through programs like Running Start, where college-level courses are taught in high schools.

Medallion Fund scholarships bridge the gap

The Foundation's Medallion family of scholarship funds — 26 funds in all — is geared specifically toward students studying for trade and professional credentials.

Alexandra Gimby of Hudson was cashiering at a general store, unable to make ends meet for herself and her toddler son. A Foundation scholarship covered half the cost for her to attend a microelectronics "boot camp" program at Nashua Community College. In just 10 weeks, she earned a certificate that enabled her to work in a high-demand field in New Hampshire. The hire rate from the program is 95 percent.

"This opens up so many opportunities," she said. Gimby is now working full time at a small company in Hudson, and plans to build a career in a sector where she can continue her education and eventually become a chemical engineer.

[Continued, p. 8]

Yahya Nasser Eddine of Manchester is fluent in four languages and has a master's degree in Marketing Management from a university in Europe. Growing up in Tripoli, in northern Lebanon, he had dreamed of being a teacher. When he married a New Hampshire native and settled in Manchester, he had trouble finding work that matched his education. In New Hampshire, he re-embraced his dream of teaching and decided to re-train through the New Hampshire Technical Institute's Teacher Educator Conversion Program to teach English to students who speak other languages.

He remembers being that student — enrolled in college, in Switzerland — who was alone in a foreign country and struggling mightily with a language barrier.

"They will not be able to seize opportunities if they cannot speak the language," he says of his students. He had been tutoring and driving for Uber while he was in school, but his student-teaching semester required a full-time commitment, which meant he had to give up his sources of income. A Medallion Fund scholarship helped bridge the gap.

"Teaching has always been my dream," he said. He will graduate in December and hopes to have his first classroom posting soon after.

About 1,500 students get scholarships from the Foundation every year.

"A more highly educated and trained citizenry creates stronger communities and a stronger economy and creates more opportunity for everyone. And when you add that up," Gittell said, "we have a stronger state."

Every scholarship fund has a story

Every one of the 421 scholarship funds



"Teaching has always been my dream."

— Yahya Nasser Eddine, who is on track to graduate from New Hampshire Technical Institute in December and will teach English to students who speak other languages.

at the Charitable Foundation has a story. One woman started a scholarship to honor her mother, who worked in textile mills and gave her daughter her last \$100 so she could graduate college and become a teacher. Scholarships honor children lost too soon, by helping other children get the education they need. There is a scholarship named in honor of a New Hampshire man who was a video game pioneer (see page 14); scholarships established by businesses, for children of employees. There is even one named in honor of George Herman "Babe" Ruth. Some are specific to professions, like nursing, some for students from specific high schools.

Thousands of students apply for Foundation scholarships each year. Applications are reviewed by staff with help from volunteer committees, who match the students with the greatest need with available funds.

"This program has made a difference in tens of thousands of lives," said Laura Rauscher, Foundation director of philanthropy. "When you create a scholarship fund, you are directly increasing someone's opportunity to achieve the American Dream. I love seeing how gratified people feel when they realize what a difference they can make with a scholarship fund."

For Ferland, becoming an R.N. means achieving the career of her dreams — and puts her a step closer to her American Dream. The median wage in the U.S. for medical assistants, the job she is currently doing, is \$33,610. For R.N.s, the median jumps to \$71,730.

"I just applied for a mortgage," she says proudly. "2020 is definitely going to be my year." ■

LEARN MORE @ [NHCF.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS](https://nhcf.org/scholarships)

Caption

THE URGENCY OF THE HUMANITIES

Anthony Poore is the executive director of New Hampshire Humanities. He spoke with the Foundation's Lois Shea about the urgency of the humanities in this moment, bringing new voices into the conversations, politically conscious hip-hop — and more

What is a good working definition of the humanities?

Former National Endowment for the Humanities chair William "Bro" Adams talked about the humanities in terms of three things: work readiness — building critical thinking skills and using the lens of history to help inform a future; participation readiness — encouraging civil conversation and dialogue; and existential readiness — how do I connect to something larger than myself spiritually, and mentally?

Why are the humanities urgently important right now?

I can't think of a time when we have seen civil discourse at a level below where it is now. Can you think of a time in our lifetime when we have seen the vitriol and the hate and the rise of linguistic and ideological tribalism? And the lack of appreciation for the human condition and the quilt that this country comprises?

I cannot think of a time when the

humanities were needed more. We create safe places for difficult conversations. There is no single phrase that better encapsulates who and what we are and why we exist.

And you're working to bring new voices into the conversation?

Yes, for example New Americans who participate in the New Voices program have an opportunity to share their story and broaden people's understanding so they're not viewed as takers — they can be viewed as makers and contributors.

Last year, we served 174,000 people. That is over 10 percent of the state's population. But when we begin to peel that back, you see who's not there. And what you saw were a lot of people who definitely did not reflect my experience or the experience of some of the newer Americans who are coming into the state (who, frankly, had they not, the state would have suffered a population loss.) My job is to reduce all barriers, to make sure that anybody is welcome to come underneath our tent. No matter

who you are, who you love, what your identity is, where you come from, how big your pocketbook is, we don't care. There's a seat for you.

How are you hoping to reach new audiences?

We go to where people like to congregate. Local pubs are places to build community, so "Ideas on Tap" goes there.

We launched "Humanities at Work," because we spend more time, usually, in the workplace than in our home place. And people want something beyond just salary and benefits. They want to be connected to something larger than themselves.

You were a bass player. Is there a house band at New Hampshire Humanities?

No [laughs]. I grew up around musicians and we all wanted to be punk rockers ... and I also had the benefit of hip-hop culture. For me it was Public Enemy and Tribe Called Quest, all the Native Tongues folks — and they continue to inform my experience to this day. ■

REACHING FOR THEIR DREAMS

Meet nine New Hampshire students who are on their way to achieving their dreams with help from Foundation scholarships — all made possible by the generosity of New Hampshire people, families and businesses.



Alexandra Gimby of Hudson had been cashiering at a general store when her aunt convinced her to sign up for a microelectronics “boot camp” program at **Nashua Community College**. A Medallion Fund scholarship covered half the cost of the 10-week program. She is already working in her field, and better able to support herself and her son.

Marissa and Dalton Courtemarche of Lyndeborough stand on the cusp of careers in work they hold close to their hearts: Marissa is in her third year of veterinary school in Tennessee; her brother Dalton is a senior at **Plymouth State University**, majoring in environmental studies.



Courtesy photo



Kaylee Downs of Rochester is studying to be a firefighter and paramedic — like her dad. She is working her way through school at **Lakes Region Community College**, working part time at fire departments in Milton and Barrington. A Foundation scholarship is helping her achieve her goal. “I almost leaped for joy when I got that in the mail,” she said.

Sawyer Sanschagrín of Berlin is studying for an industrial mechanics certificate in a yearlong program at **White Mountains Community College**. The program is helping to fill a shortage of trained tradespeople. Sawyer hopes to make a career in his native North Country. “I love it here,” he said. “Your neighbors or your friends, they’re always there to help you out.”



Courtesy photo

Munyaneza Ange of Manchester, a junior at the **University of New Hampshire**, is completing a double major in social work and women’s studies and a double minor in French and international affairs — while working weekends as a licensed nursing assistant. She plans to go to graduate school and dreams of a career as a social worker with the United Nations Refugee Agency.



Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo

Meredith Peck of Holderness recently finished medical school and is embarking on her residency. Foundation scholarships lessened the amount she had to take in loans. She plans to return to New Hampshire to practice family medicine in communities that are in need of primary care physicians.

Matthias Page of Claremont is working his way through the **University of New Hampshire**, where he is studying ocean engineering and mathematics. He eventually wants to earn a PhD and work as a research engineer. He works 50-hour weeks during the summer and part time during the school year. Foundation scholarships help bridge the gap. “That’s made it a much lower-stress situation,” he said, “and it’s really accommodated my learning experience.”



Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo

Davina Kabala of Manchester dreams of becoming a pediatrician — just like her mother. Davina’s mother practiced medicine before the family moved to the U.S. from the Democratic Republic of Congo. Davina is studying public health at **Keene State College** with plans to enter a nursing program and then go on to medical school. “My mother was a doctor at a big hospital. I always felt like I wanted to do the same thing she did,” Davina said. “I want to continue that to honor her.”

WISE

WISE staff at their Bank Street office in Lebanon, NH



**‘WE ARE HERE FOR YOU,
WE BELIEVE YOU,
WE WILL SUPPORT YOU’**

WISE of the Upper Valley provides advocacy and support for victims of gender-based violence — and invites the wider community to join in its mission of making that violence a thing of the past

For nearly a half century, WISE has been providing advocacy and support for victims of gender-based violence in the Upper Valley. WISE has established itself as a community presence and community force, working with law enforcement and first responders, health care providers and schools; operating a 24-hour crisis line and a safe home; growing to a staff of 20 who work as advocates and violence prevention educators in communities, courts and

on campuses across the region. “Every day, we show up fully committed to supporting survivors and ending gender-based violence,” said WISE Executive Director Peggy O’Neil. “We want survivors to know that our incredible team of advocates is here for you, we believe you, and we will support you every step of the way.” WISE (formerly known as Women’s Information Service, Inc.) is one of three organizations working against domestic and sexual violence that the

Foundation supported with operating grants through its Community Grants program in 2019. Grants were also made to Haven, in Portsmouth, and Starting Point Services for Victims of Domestic & Sexual Violence in Conway. WISE serves about 1,500 people a year in 21 communities. There is no “typical” day at WISE, because when you support people experiencing crisis, says program advocate Brianne Gallagher, “You don’t know what’s going to unfold.”

Here is some of what happened on a recent Monday:

7:55 a.m.

The coffee is on at the WISE program center in Lebanon, and that matters. The staff at WISE work to create a welcoming atmosphere for people who need help. No one walks into this building without being offered coffee, tea and a snack.

8:00 a.m.

WISE Program Director Kate Rohdenburg readies for a presentation at the Upper Valley Health Priorities Legislative Breakfast, where she will speak to lawmakers and medical professionals.

8:15 a.m.

Amanda Moses, WISE youth advocacy coordinator, takes the report from the crisis line on calls that came in overnight and huddles with colleagues to plan follow-up. During the night, a volunteer crisis-line operator met a victim of violence at the hospital, remaining with her until daybreak. Staff will follow up to offer additional services. They will also call a person who needed advice about talking to a family member who had suffered sexual violence, and a woman who needs an advocate to accompany her to court.

8:30 a.m.

The phone rings at the program center, and Moses picks it up. A woman who describes a harrowing experience of sexual violence and trafficking needs help.

9:00 a.m.

Sophie Bodnar, WISE’s rural advocacy coordinator, is in Windsor County Court in Vermont, where she will spend the morning supporting survivors

“There is no typical day at WISE, because when you support people experiencing crisis, you don’t know what’s going to unfold.”

– Brianne Gallagher, program advocate at WISE

requesting restraining orders. A small team of WISE volunteers is also on hand to sit behind the women in court during their hearings, in silent solidarity.

9:00 a.m.

A woman comes to the door of the program center. Her abusive ex-partner is now in jail, and she cannot afford his portion of the rent. Her landlord is threatening eviction. WISE advocate Pam Bradley and other staff members put their heads together. Precious emergency “special assistance” funds are allocated. A rent check is cut, and Bradley works with the landlord to keep the woman in her housing.

11:15 a.m.

Campus Advocate Bailey Ray is delivering WISE materials around Dartmouth College — from the Office of Greek Life to Health Services to the Athletic Department. Ray works from an on-campus office every Monday, providing crisis support, advocacy and prevention to students, faculty and staff.

1:30 p.m.

Gallagher meets with a survivor who is undergoing in-hospital addiction treatment.

3:00 p.m.

Gallagher arrives at the Child Advocacy Center in Lebanon to meet with a child survivor and her family.

3:15 p.m.

Residents of the WISE Safe Home gather for a meeting with Advocate Pam Bradley. The house, which accommodates three adults and their children, serves as transitional housing in one of the tightest housing markets in the state. It is always full, and there is always a waiting list. WISE also provides emergency short-term shelter in motels.

3:41 p.m.

WISE Educator Celine Guedj hits “send” on one of scores of emails to health educators, making arrangements for a lesson in gender-based violence prevention in one of 34 public and private schools across nine districts in which WISE offers programming.

4:30 p.m.

The coffee pot is washed, and calls are turned over to the overnight crisis line. WISE has 40 volunteers, each of whom undergoes 30 hours of training, to answer the crisis line overnight.

3:49 a.m.

Kate Harrison, a WISE crisis line volunteer (and board member), is woken from sleep. She dresses, grabs her keys and drives to the hospital, where a woman needs support. ■

LEARN MORE @ WISEUV.ORG



SCHOLARSHIP HONORS VIDEO GAME PIONEER

The Ralph and Dena Baer Scholarship will help students from Manchester who want to study in technology-related fields

Ralph and Dena Baer's children Mark, Jim and Nancy sit next to the statue of their father in Arms Park in Manchester

Ralph Baer was sitting on a bench, waiting for a bus, on September 1, 1966, when an idea came to him: People should be able to use the screens on their televisions to play games. His “Brown box” controller would become the original prototype for much of modern video gaming.

Baer was born in Germany and was forced to leave school at 13 because he was Jewish. His family escaped not long before the Kristallnacht rampage of Nazi riots that marked the beginning of the Holocaust. America, and the peace and calm of New Hampshire, provided them a home of refuge and safety. Baer died in his home on Mayflower Drive in Manchester at the age of 92.

Now, his family has started the Ralph H. and Dena W. Baer Scholarship Fund at the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation to help students from Manchester Central High School who want to study in technology-related fields.

“This was an amazing home for him and my mom and an amazing place to grow up for us kids,” said the Baers’ son, Mark Baer. “Ralph and our mom, Dena, always wanted to pay it forward, and this is a great way to support the next generation of technologists.”

The scholarship was announced at the same time that the Ralph Baer Bench Statue and Plaza were unveiled in Manchester’s Arms Park in May. The memorial depicts Baer, sitting on a

bench, holding the now-iconic Brown Box.

“The Foundation is honored to steward the Baer family’s legacy, and to help the family provide opportunities to the next generation of innovative thinkers,” said Judy Burrows, Charitable Foundation director of student aid. The Foundation is the largest provider of publicly available scholarships in New Hampshire, awarding more than \$6 million to more than 1,500 promising students each year (see story, page 6).

Baer served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He went to college on the G.I. Bill, earning a degree in television engineering. He worked for Sanders Associates, now BAE Systems, before

“We like to say that nobody was more American than Ralph Baer. He was American by choice. He had fled Hitler’s Germany, he had come to America, designed his own home, built his own home, raised a great family, fought for the United States and went on to become a great inventor.”

– David Allison, senior scholar at the National Museum of American History

beginning an independent career. He held more than 150 patents, was inducted into the Inventors Hall of Fame and received the National Medal of Technology.

Baer’s home workshop, prototypes, schematics and notes were donated to the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, where his workshop has been recreated and is on display. There are also displays commemorating his work at the Strong Museum in Rochester, NY, and at the Millyard Museum in Manchester, NH.

David Allison was the head of curatorial affairs at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History when he fielded a call from Mark Baer about his father. Allison came to New Hampshire to learn more. Eventually, a team from the Smithsonian would dismantle, move and reassemble much of Baer’s basement workshop in the Museum of American History in Washington, D.C., where it is a landmark object greeting visitors to the Innovation Wing.

Allison, who now serves as senior scholar at the National Museum of American History, said that Baer merited inclusion in the Smithsonian both for his innovative genius — and for his quintessentially American story.

“We like to say that nobody was more American than Ralph Baer,” Allison said. “He was American by choice. He had fled Hitler’s Germany, he had come to America, designed his own home, built his own home, raised a great family, fought for the United States and went on to become a great inventor.

“It was one of the highlights of my career to get to know him and his family and to bring this to the Smithsonian.”

Baer’s family is hoping to build the scholarship fund to help even more students. ■

To contribute to the Ralph H. and Dena W. Baer Scholarship Fund, visit: give.nhcf.org/BaerScholarship

Help students get the education they need

Scholarships help New Hampshire students who show great potential but have limited resources to pay for the education they need.

The Foundation administers more than 400 individual scholarship funds, set up by generous families and individuals.

Scholarship funds can be set up to support students from a particular community or who graduate from a specific high school, who are entering certain fields of study — or can be open to any qualified applicant. Scholarships can help cover the costs of a two- or four-year degree, or a trade certificate or credential. They can be set up to be renewable, to help students throughout their college careers.

The Foundation’s Student Aid team processes all applications, selects recipients with assistance from volunteer scholarship committees and awards scholarships to about 1,500 students every year.

Scholarship funds can be set up to continue in perpetuity — so that your gift continues to help students for generations to come. You may make additional tax-deductible gifts of any amount into your fund at any time, and you can also invite others to contribute to your fund.

Scholarship funds may be established with \$25,000 — or you may make contributions of any amount to an existing scholarship fund.

To learn more about setting up a scholarship fund at the Foundation, please contact Laura Rauscher, director of philanthropy, at 800-464-6641 ext. 274 or Laura.Rauscher@nhcf.org.



NEW HAMPSHIRE
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LEADING WITH DIGNITY

Maggie Fogarty co-directs the New Hampshire program of the American Friends Service Committee. The Quaker organization works on urgent, often contentious issues — organized around one theme: “The essential dignity of the human person.”

“A fundamental Quaker principle is that there is that of God in everyone,” Fogarty says. “That we are all bearers of divine light and goodness. If we live as if that were true, what does that say about state budgets and what we should be investing in? What does it say about the death penalty? About policies that demean or exclude immigrants? About the treatment of people who are incarcerated? About racism and inequality?”

Fogarty sees her role as being present with and elevating the voices and leadership of people whose essential dignity is threatened.

That means standing with immigrants and refugees, visiting ICE detainees in prison, standing with people experiencing homelessness and against policies that deepen poverty.

Fogarty is soft-spoken, her style far from confrontational. But she recognizes these truths: “When we avoid conflict, we avoid working for social justice,” she says. “There is no way we are going to get where we are going without standing *for* and standing *against*.” ■

