

**STEPPING STONE & NEXT STEP
PEER SUPPORT CENTERS
MAY 2025**

Stepping Stone
132 Pleasant Street, Suite 1
Claremont, NH 03743
603-543-1388

Next Step
109 Bank Street
Lebanon, NH 03766
603-448-6941

★ **Members Spotlight** -a place for your thoughts on peer support to take center stage★

★ ★



Lenni Aiken

Lenni Aiken passed away March 2025. She had a bubbly personality and was an easy person to talk to. She brought peace with her. She was also an artistic person. Lenni was kind and willing to share her story in hopes that she would somehow heal. She will be missed by her friends, family and acquaintances.

If you are interested in contributing a story, poem, or other idea, please call Shanon at 603-543-1388.

Wish List

- Word Search books
- New 6' Christmas tree
- Canvas to paint

Change to May's schedule

Next Step

5/16, Open 11 AM-7 PM

Stepping Stone

5/16, Open 12-4 PM



Thursday, 5/15, 4-6 PM, Lebanon

Please sign up for transportation from either site.

Sign-up Deadline: Monday, 5/12.

If you want to buy items, please bring your own spending money.



Picnic at Moody Park with Walking and Hiking



Thursday, 5/29, 11 AM-1 PM, Claremont.

Please sign up for transportation from either site.

Sign-up Deadline: Friday, 5/16.



On the 3rd Friday of every month at Stepping Stone, we have a cake to celebrate all the birthdays in the month.

On the 2nd Wednesday of every month, Next Step will have cake to celebrate all the birthdays in the month.

Please join us for cake and celebration.

Quote of the Month

“Success isn’t always about greatness. It’s about consistency. Consistent hard work leads to success. Greatness will come.”

-Dwayne Johnson
-born May 5, 1972



Peanut Butter Chocolate Fudge

- 18 oz milk chocolate
- 14 oz sweetened condensed milk
- ½ cup peanut butter

In a mixing bowl, combine chocolate with sweetened condensed milk and melt in the microwave in 15-second increments. Once chocolate is fully melted pour into a parchment paper-lined 8x8 inch (20x20 cm) baking tin. Chill for 10 minutes. Add peanut butter and spread evenly. Chill for 2 hours or until the fudge is firm. Cut into bite-sized pieces and enjoy!

Trip & Event Planning July 2025-June 2026

Brainstorming Meetings #1:

Tuesday, May 7, 2-3 PM, Stepping Stone

Wednesday, May 8, 2-3 PM, Next Step

Come join our meeting and bring all your ideas. All suggestions are welcome. The sky is the limit.

Meeting #2:

Tuesday, May 14, 2-3 PM, Stepping Stone

Wednesday, May 15, 2-3 PM, Next Step

Our second meeting will break ideas down to create a list for the ballot.

Voting:

The ballot will be available 5/26–6/8/2025.

Our Vision: We envision a world where peer support promotes social change and eliminates the stigma associated with mental health.

Our Mission: To support our mental health peers on their personal paths toward wellness within a community free from judgment where we share feelings, experiences, and tools in a respectful way.

Our programs are funded in part by a SAMHSA Block Grant and the NH Department of Health and Human Services. Our supports are free to NH residents.



MOBILE SYRINGE EXCHANGE

Anonymous, confidential & COST-FREE
BY APPOINTMENT
UPPER VALLEY VT & NH

We offer:

- **Support For People Who Use Drugs**
- **Harm Reduction Supplies**
syringes and safer injection works
- **Narcan**
- **Fentanyl and Xylazine Test Strips**
- **Overdose Prevention Training**
- **Hepatitis C & HIV prevention, testing and referrals to care**
- **Education & Referrals**
- **Connection to recovery support, medical and social services**
- **Help signing up for health insurance and other support services**

Meeting You Where You're At.

For more information
or to schedule a meetup:

Ryan (603) 276-9698
Ryan@H2RC.org

Laura (603) 306-1105
Laura@H2RC.org

OUR MISSION IS TO SUPPORT,
ASSIST, & EMPOWER
THOSE WHOSE LIVES ARE
IMPACTED BY HIV & HEPATITIS C
TO LIVE FULLY WITH DIGNITY.
AND TO STOP THE SPREAD OF
THESE VIRUSES THROUGH
EDUCATION & UNDERSTANDING.

SUPPORT FOR ANYONE LIVING WITH OR
AT RISK FOR HIV & VIRAL HEPATITIS:

SYRINGE ACCESS, CASE
MANAGEMENT, AND COMMUNITY
EDUCATION

2 BLACKSMITH STREET
LEBANON, NH
(603) 448-8887
(800) 816-2220
WWW.H2RC.ORG

Board of Directors News

We're looking for volunteer Board members. If you can contribute your time and ideas and are interested in exploring this opportunity, contact Shanon Laferte at 603 543-1388, and she will give your contact information to the Governance Committee.



Suggestion Boxes are at both sites for your ideas and suggestions regarding the Centers. Please place your constructive suggestions in the box. Your name is optional.

The Giving Room



You may shop by appointment only and must be accompanied by staff on the following days:

Next Step - All day Monday and Thursday.

Stepping Stone - All day Monday and Wednesday.

In New Hampshire we make connections, not judgments.
Reach out.

In need of mental health or substance use support? Call, text or share this card with a friend in need.



dhhs.nh.gov/strongasgranite

833-710-6477

NH Rapid Response

988

Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

211

Your Local Doorway for Substance Use Resources

24/7. Confidential, no cost to you.



62 Pleasant St.
Claremont, NH 03743
603-287-7127

24 Hanover St.
Lebanon, NH 03766
603-790-3779

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/recoveryresourcecenter>

We believe that the key to long-term recovery is a strong foundation of support and community. We host an array of peer-based, non-clinical programs, and services including recovery coaching, support groups, educational workshops, and drug-free/sober community events.



141 Mascoma Street, Lebanon, NH 03766

Phone: 603-448-4872

Email: info@headrest.org

Headrest supports individuals and their families, friends and neighbors affected by substance use, navigating recovery, or in crisis, by providing effective programs and treatment options that support prevention and long-term recovery. Headrest will never turn anyone away.



Mon-Thu 8:30am-6pm

Fri 8:30am-4pm

Food Shelf opens at 9 am

713 Hartford Ave, White River Junction, Vermont ∞ 802-295-6500 info@uppervalleyhaven.org

a non-profit, private organization that serves people struggling with poverty by providing food, shelter, education, service coordination, and other support.

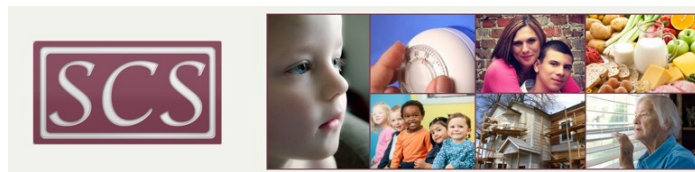
Southwestern Community Services

96-102 Main Street
Claremont, NH 03743

Phone: 603.542.9528

Toll Free: 800.529.0005

TTY-NH Relay: 800.735.2964



Please call the Sullivan County shelter at 603 542.3160 for more information about the Emergency Shelter Program or Housing Stabilization Counseling.

NH GIVES

24-HOUR ONLINE FUNDRAISER FOR ALL NONPROFITS IN NH

JOIN US!

JUNE 10-11TH
5PM - 5PM

NHGIVES.ORG #NHGIVES

We are excited to be part of NH Gives again this year! NH Gives us an opportunity to reach folks from all over to raise money and awareness to support our Mission. This year's donations will help us provide Member trips and events, build a wheelchair ramp at Next Step, upgrade our computers, and more!

We are in the process of enhancing our profile:

<https://www.nhgives.org/organizations/stepping-stone-drop-in-ctr-assn>

Please remember us on June 10 and 11, and help us continue to offer FREE peer support.

Mascoma Community Healthcare seeks to help improve access to care

Mascoma Community Healthcare in Canaan will host 80 meetings in 16 Upper Valley towns to talk to residents about why they struggle to get physical, mental, and dental healthcare. Gatherings will start with a group discussion before moving into confidential, one-on-one conversations to discuss solutions to overcoming barriers to accessing healthcare. No pressure, no commitment.

The upcoming meeting schedule is as follows:

- Thursday, April 24, 6:30 PM, Canaan Assembly of God, 1162 Route 4, Canaan
- Friday, April 25, 3 PM, Kilton Public Library, 80 Main St., West Lebanon
- Monday, April 28, 3 PM, Canaan Elementary School Media Center, 31 School St, Canaan
- Monday, April 28, 6:30 PM, Orange Town Hall, 8 Townhouse Road, Orange
- Wednesday, April 30, Noon, Springfield (NH) Town Office, 2748 Main St., Springfield
- Thursday, May 1, 5 PM, Canaan Town Library, 1173 Route 4, Canaan

For more information call 603-707-9349.

Groups Descriptions

*****Next Step*****

Walking Group—Come join our walking group. We will walk for 30-60 minutes. GET YOUR BLOOD PUMPING!

Puzzles and games—Do you like playing games or working on puzzles? Come join our group and have some fun!

Creative Writing—Do you have a creative side? Let it flow out through writing. Express yourself on paper.

Intentional Peer Support—Intentional Peer Support is different than other types of support in that we are mutual with each other. We talk about hope-based rather than fear-based issues. This is about building healthy relationships for ourselves and the world. Let's get to know each other and learn from each other as we brainstorm together what support looks like.

WHAM—Join us for a discussion about various wellness tools and techniques. From mindful to peer supportive relationships. We will be sharing our experiences around wellness and finding new ways to be as healthy and happy as we can be. As experts on ourselves, we have unique and individualized experiences the are valuable and worth sharing.

Patterns, Behaviors, & Relationships—Identifying patterns in our behaviors that keep us feeling “*stuck*” is the first step. What can we change or learn from about why we do things this way or what could we do differently for a better outcome? So, let's discuss and find some new and better ways of living. *The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different results.*

Community Meeting—Come join Members, volunteers, staff, and visitors to find out what is going on at the Centers, hear news, learn about changes, voice your concerns, and vote on issues. *We each have a voice, so let's use it.*

Meditation & Relaxation—Feeling stressed? Come join our group and find way to deal with these feelings!

Check-in—Checking-in gives Members a chance to learn things about each other and build value for each other's interests, talents, and circumstances. Please join us as we generate a compassionate community and make some new acquaintances.

Art Wellness—Creativity is an important wellness tool. Self expression has a powerful impact on our well-being. It increases positive emotion and can reduce stress. Creativity is a wellness practice, so let's go make something together!

Life Goals—You are ready to take charge, exercise your LIFE GOALS and recreate your life in a way that will enhance MOVING TOWARDS what you want! In order to make long lasting and meaningful change you must begin to distinguish who you are and what you want in life. So let's set some LIFE GOALS and talk about them every week.

Community Eats—Come join us in having a bite to eat, fuel our bodies, and enhance our relationships.

Inspirational True-Life Experiences—Join us as we look for inspiration in our lives as well as news stories from around our area and around the world. There is good stuff happening!

Movie & Conversation—Come watch a movie and share your thoughts.

Empathy Group—Feeling tired, alone or sad? Come join us for empathy group where we may be able to relate and find comfort as we share these difficult feelings. We will be practicing IPS and empathy vs. sympathy as we learn and grow together. Let's try and bring hope to one another.

Community Healing—As our life proceeds, we experience both joy and trauma on many levels. We want to support one another and share what we find healing and what is difficult. What many of us forget to look at is that communities need healing as well. As we discuss healing, let's consider the whole community and how we can heal together.

Groups Descriptions (continues)

*****Stepping Stone*****

Journaling/Writing - Can you express yourself better on paper? Does writing help clear your mind? Come join us and let's get creative!

Addiction—Do you have or have you had an addiction? Come share positive ways to approach real situations. Share the struggles you may be having. You might find support in ways you didn't realize you needed!

Proactive Behaviors—Do you want to be aware of your behavior and how you interact with others? Come bring your positive thoughts and actions to the group.

Movie & Conversation—Come watch a movie and share your thoughts.

Community Eats—Come join us in having a bite to eat, fuel our bodies, and enhance our relationships.

Stretching—Come join us with light stretching to loosen up our bodies after a meal.

Community Meeting—Come Join, members, volunteers, staff, and visitors to find out what is going on at the Centers, hear news, learn about changes, voice your concerns, and vote on issues. *We all have a voice so let's use it.*

Intentional Peer Support—Intentional Peer Support is different than other types of support in that we are mutual with each other. We talk about hope-based rather than fear-based issues. This is about building healthy relationships for ourselves and the world. Let's get to know each other and learn from each other as we brainstorm together what support looks like.

Nutrition—Interested in changing some eating habits? Do you want to be healthier but don't know how? Come join our group and learn ways to eat what we love, with nutrition mixed in! Let's get after it!!!

Rhythms & Expression—Do you have positive ways to express yourself? Another way to show how you're feeling? Come share and explore together and create ways of expression.

Community Healing and Personal Healing—As our life proceeds, we experience both joy and trauma on many levels. We want to support one another and share what we find healing and what is difficult. What many of us forget to look at is that communities need healing as well. As we discuss healing, let's consider the whole community and how we can heal together.

Collaging & Paper Crafts—Bring your style and design to this group! Design your personality or your feelings that day on paper! We will work on projects individually and is open to anyone. Materials will be provided, and you may also bring your own.

Walking Group—Come join our walking group. We will walk for 30-60 minutes.
GET YOUR BLOOD PUMPING!!

True Emotions—Let's inspire and support each other in reaching our goals while we stay focused on what makes us happy in life. We'll talk about moving toward what we want using peer support. We will use the teachings of IPS and Co-reflection.

Discussion relating to IPS—Come join us in a safe & healthy conversation in all depths of IPS.

Rock on Cardio—Come join us for some fun and movement. We will exercise using DVD's, YouTube and Yoga.

Puzzles and games—Do you like playing games or working on puzzles? Come join our group and have some fun!

Art Wellness—Enjoy working in all mediums, creating projects for your own portfolio or to contribute to Stepping Stone portfolio.

Check-in/Goals—Checking-in gives Members a chance to learn things about each other as people and build value for each other's interests, talents, and circumstances. Please join us as we generate a compassionate community and make some new acquaintances.

How to Reach Us

Stepping Stone

Phone: 603-543-1388

Fax: 603-543-0131

Center hours:

Monday 8 AM–5 PM

Tuesday 8 AM–5 PM

Wednesday 8 AM–5 PM

Thursday 8 AM–5 PM

Friday 8 AM–4 PM

Next Step

Phone: 603-448-6941

Fax: 603-448-0702

Center hours:

Monday 9 AM–3 PM

Tuesday 9 AM–5 PM

Wednesday 9 AM–5 PM

Thursday 9 AM–5 PM

Friday 9 AM–7 PM

Saturday 10:30 AM–2:30 PM

Transportation Phone: 603 287-3231

Peer Support Warmline

Our Warmline is available Sunday-Thursday, 4-9 PM;

Friday, 4-8 PM; Saturday, 4-9 PM.

To reach our Warmline, call 603-543-1388. If calling long distance within NH, you may call toll free at 888-582-0920.

Peer Respite in New Hampshire

H.E.A.R.T.S. Peer Support Center of Greater Nashua

5 Pine Street Extension Suite 1-G

PO Box 1564

Nashua NH 03060

Telephone: (603) 864-8769

Monadnock Peer Support

24 Vernon Street

Keene, NH 03431

Telephone: (603) 352-5093

NH Recovery Oriented Step-Up/Step-Down Programs (SUSD)

Connections Peer Support Center

161 1st NH Turnpike, Northwood, NH 03261

603.427.6966 Office; 603.373.6519 Fax

kali@connectionspeersupport.org

H.E.A.R.T.S. Peer Support Center

5 Pine St. Ext. 1G, Nashua, NH 03060

603.882.8400 Office; 603.864.8482 Fax

cheryl@heartpsa.com

Monadnock Area Peer Support

24 Vernon Street, Keene, NH 03431

603.352.5093 Office; 603.550.5506 Fax

karen@monadnockpsa.org

On the Road to Wellness

59 Sheffield Road, Manchester, NH 03103

603.232.6250 Office; 603.232.6158 Fax

susd@otrtw.org

Upcoming Events & Meetings

Community Meetings

Stepping Stone, Tuesday, 1-2 PM

Next Step, Wednesday, 1-2 PM

Arbor View Connections

Thursday, 5/8, 2-3 PM

Sign up for transportation from either site.

Newsletter Workgroup

Monday, 5/12, 11 AM-12 PM

Next Step

Monday, 5/12, 1:30-2:30 PM

Stepping Stone

Lebanon Farmer Market & Concert

Thursday, 5/15, 4-6 PM

Lebanon

Sign up for transportation from either site.

NH Mental Health Peer Alliance

Tuesday, 5/20, 10 AM–12 PM

Via computer or smartphone:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84071785517?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84071785517?pwd=Z2FrNnRybnBnWDcyQU40ck5hQlozZz09)

[pwd=Z2FrNnRybnBnWDcyQU40ck5hQlozZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84071785517?pwd=Z2FrNnRybnBnWDcyQU40ck5hQlozZz09)

Meeting ID: 840 7178 5517

Password: 269641

Educational Event

Tuesday, 5/20, 1-2 PM

NHPA with Ken Lewis, via zoom, Stepping Stone

Sign up for transportation from Next Step

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, 5/21, 3:30-4:30 PM

via computer:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87115911999?pwd=MGxxUU](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87115911999?pwd=MGxxUUw5RG9jb0RpbUxrMGVqZXB6Zz09)

[w5RG9jb0RpbUxrMGVqZXB6Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87115911999?pwd=MGxxUUw5RG9jb0RpbUxrMGVqZXB6Zz09)

Meeting ID: 871 1591 1999

Passcode: 684790

via smartphone or Tablet:

+13126266799,,87115911999#,,,,*684790# US (Chicago)
+16465588656,,87115911999#,,,,*684790# US (New York)

via Telephone:

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 871 1591 1999

Passcode: 684790

Picnic & Hike at Moody Park

Thursday, 5/29, 11 AM-1 PM

Claremont

Sign up for transportation from either site.