



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

Some hopeful things in our lives are...

My son and granddaughter
Friends, kids, grandkids
Stepping Stone & Next Step
West Central
Having good work ethic
My ability to change
Getting needs met
The resilience to bounce back

My future plans give me a lot of hope

Seeing my growth over the years-to know there is more and that I can

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

We have weekend Warmline shifts available

Hours: Saturday and Sunday, 4-9 PM

Locations: Stepping Stone, 132 Pleasant St, Claremont, or Next Step, 109 Bank St, Lebanon

We are seeking individual(s) with lived experience to provide evening telephone peer support.

For a complete posting and job description visit Stepping Stone, Next Step, or www.steppingstonenextstep.org

Wish List

Word Search books
Canvas to paint on
Art projects
Standing floor lamp
Full length mirror
Christmas cards

Change

to December's schedule

Next Step

12/12, Open 11 AM-7 PM

12/25, Closed

12/26 Open 11 AM-7 PM

Stepping Stone

12/12, Open 12-4 PM

12/25, Closed

On November 14, nearly 40 Members, Board members, staff, and Claremont area business leaders gathered at The Common Man Restaurant to celebrate 30 years of peer support in Claremont! Our time together was filled with connection, Member stories, music & trivia, food & drink, and fun. One highlight of the day was the presentation of our inaugural Stepping Stone Peer Support Dedication Award to Theresa Partridge. Theresa was nominated by her peers as a role model with almost 30 years of dedication to peer support.

Another highlight was reading messages from special friends who were unable to attend:

From Stepping Stone's Founder, Shery Mead and Co-Director of Intentional Peer Support, LLC, Chris Hansen:

"We are deeply grateful to have been part of the beginnings of this work and for all who have carried it forward. While we cannot join you in person, we remain proud of the vision of Intentional Peer Support that inspired the original respite, and we celebrate everyone who continues to find ways to keep that spirit alive."

From former Executive Director Lenora Kimball:

"Today we celebrate thirty years of community, compassion, and courageous connection at Stepping Stone Peer Support Center. What began with Shery's founding vision as a local experiment in genuine human relationship has become a beacon of hope, healing, and possibility in Claremont, New Hampshire. At the heart of this work is the creation of Intentional Peer Support, which redefined what it means to be with one another in struggle and in growth. Shery's ideas taught us that recovery is not a service, it is a relationship, and that healing does not come through fixing but through discovering new possibilities together. Through IPS we learned to ask not "What is wrong?" but "What happened?" and even more, "What is possible between us?" These ideas have now reached over two dozen countries and have been translated into nine languages, with more in development. Thirty years later, the story of Stepping Stone continues in the lives of the many people who were part of its evolution. The principles of mutuality, empathy, and shared power remain as relevant as ever, and we hope they continue to inspire connection and possibility in new forms and new places."

Thank you to our Development Committee and everyone else who helped make this a day to remember.

Next year, Next Step in Lebanon turns 30, and we look forward to celebrating that milestone in 2026!



On the 3rd Friday of every month, Stepping Stone will have 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.



Tuesday, 12/16, Lebanon

Please give your \$3 deposit and sign up for transportation from either site.

Sign-up Deadline: Wednesday, 12/10

Tortellini Soup

Ingredients:

- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 carrots, chopped
- 2 celery stalks, chopped
- 4 cups chicken broth
- 1 package tortellini (fresh or frozen)
- salt and ground black pepper to taste

Directions:

Heat a large pot or Dutch oven over medium heat. Add the chopped onion, carrots, and celery and cook for about 5-7 minutes, or until the vegetables are tender. Pour in the chicken broth and bring to a boil. Once boiling, add the tortellini to the broth and cook according to the package directions. Taste the soup and add salt and pepper as needed. Serve hot.

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.



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

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



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, call Shanon
Laferte at 603 543-1388, and
she will share your contact in-
formation with the Governance
Committee.



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

Quote of the Month

"Say sorry when you need to. Say I love you more."

-Taylor Swift

-born December 13, 1989



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;



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.



Upper Valley Haven

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.





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 that 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: 603-287-8436

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

By appointment only Tuesday–Friday 8 AM–3 PM

Peer Support Warmline

Phone: 603-543-1388 or toll free in NH at 888-582-0920

Sunday–Thursday, 4–9 PM

Friday, 4–8 PM

Saturday, 4–9 PM

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, 12/4, 2–3 PM

Thursday, 12/18, 2–3 PM

Sign up for transportation from either site.

Newsletter Workgroup

Monday, 12/8, 11 AM–12 PM

Next Step

Monday, 12/8, 2–3 PM

Stepping Stone

Educational Event

The Center for Safer Communities with Amanda Mase

Tuesday, 12/9, 1–2 PM, Stepping Stone

WISE with Bailey Ray

Wednesday, 12/17, 1–2 PM, Next Step

NH Mental Health Peer Alliance

Tuesday, 12/16, 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

Entertainment Cinema Lebanon

Tuesday, 12/16

Sign up for transportation and pay your \$3 deposit
at either site.

NH Behavioral Health Planning

& Advisory Council

Meets quarterly in January, April,

July, and October.

