



**THE FOUNDATION**  
for New Hampshire Community Colleges



*Annual Report 2025*

**Give Opportunity**

# Welcome Letter

Dear Friends,

This past year has been one of extraordinary progress and opportunity for our students. Thanks to your partnership, the Foundation awarded over **\$850,000** in scholarships, the largest amount in our history. This investment is providing critical support to students across New Hampshire's seven community colleges. These scholarships not only ease financial burdens but also empower students to pursue their educational goals and strengthen the future workforce of our state.

We are grateful to the many individuals, companies, and foundations that have joined us in advancing this mission. Your support has fueled innovative programs, established new scholarships, and expanded access to essential resources, ensuring that no student is forced to set aside their education due to financial hardship or emergency situations.

On behalf of the Foundation Board of Directors, the CCSNH Trustees, and our community colleges, **thank you** for your continued generosity. We look forward to working alongside you as we expand this important work in the year ahead.



*Kathleen D. Cook*

Kathleen Cook  
Chair, Board of Directors



*Tim Allison*

Tim Allison  
Executive Director

## Opening Doors for Students – Then and Now

### Giving Back: Rachel Connell Pays it Forward

In 2007, Rachel Connell enrolled at New Hampshire Community Technical College at Nashua – now known as Nashua Community College (NCC) – in pursuit of a quality education at a cost she could afford. “The opportunity within reach was community college. It was affordable, and I could work while earning my degree,” she explained.

Now director of business analysis for Fidelity Investments in Merrimack, Rachel is passionate about highlighting the value of community college for both students and employers. “My peers at NCC worked hard, they wanted to be there, and they had grit and resilience. These are qualities you want in employees,” she commented.

Grateful for the “smart financial decision” she made, Rachel now supports NCC students through The Foundation as a way to give back to the institution that helped launch her career. Her gift helps ensure that current students can access the same affordable, high-quality education that allowed her to work, earn a degree, and build a successful professional path.



### From Manchester to Mars: How Welding Student Pavel Novikov Earned NASA Recognition

Everything about Pavel Novikov's journey has been long, winding and sometimes complicated, but each step has helped shape his character and strengthen his resolve. A Russian native, Pavel moved to the U.S. in 1998, at age 12, with his family in search of a better life. As a child, he was fascinated by how technology could be replicated and improved—an early spark that inspired his lifelong curiosity.

This fascination with technology, deeply rooted in science, engineering, and imagination, led Pavel to pursue an associate degree in Welding Technology at Manchester Community College, focusing on robotic fabrication and engineering. One of his proudest achievements to date was completing the Accelerated Submarine Welding Program. This program is designed to help support the need for welders in the submarine shipbuilding supply chain.

His drive and academic excellence helped him earn a NASA Space Grant scholarship through The Foundation for New Hampshire Community Colleges. The award recognizes students with a minimum GPA of 3.0 enrolled in NASA-relevant STEM associate degree programs. Pavel was one of just ten students honored this fall. “I don't just participate in STEM — I live it,” he said. His first call after learning the news was to his mom.

Pavel remains proud of his Russian roots and keeps a letter opener engraved with Cyrillic letters, a symbol of the dream he has carried since childhood. He is set to graduate from Manchester Community College in 2026.



# Philanthropy in Action



## Granite Edvance Tackles Nursing Staffing Shortages to Strengthen the Future of Healthcare in New Hampshire

Granite Edvance is helping address New Hampshire's growing nursing shortage by easing financial barriers for students pursuing healthcare careers. Earlier this year, the organization added \$15,000 to a scholarship fund that supports tuition for prerequisite courses for nursing students participating in the Granite State P.A.R.T.N.E.R.S. (People Aligning Resources Towards Nursing Expansion & Retention Strategies) program. The new contribution builds on \$25,000 in seed funding from last fall, allowing eligible students to apply for up to \$1,050 in tuition assistance at New Hampshire's community colleges. Administered by The Foundation, the fund has already covered 130 courses for 67 students.

P.A.R.T.N.E.R.S. is a federally funded statewide program helping to address workforce shortages by removing barriers for individuals seeking nursing careers. Participants receive financial aid and wraparound support, including mentoring and career guidance, while working toward becoming registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, or licensed nursing assistants. The program creates a direct pathway for students to enter or advance in the field.

Hospitals and workforce partners are critical to this collaboration. Elliot Health System oversees the grant and collaborates with over 40 state, educational and community partners to support grant participants and address the state's healthcare worker shortage. The program has filled its 300-participant cohort, helping those already in healthcare to advance their careers and opening new opportunities for individuals who were previously unemployed or underemployed.



## Northeast Delta Dental Supports Dental Hygiene Students at NHTI

Northeast Delta Dental has funded a scholarship to assist dental hygiene students in covering essential educational supplies and related costs. The \$250,000 grant, managed by The Foundation, will help offset the cost of instruments, uniforms, supplies, licensure exam fees, and other out-of-pocket expenses for second- and third-year students. To be eligible for funds, students must demonstrate financial need, maintain a minimum GPA of 2.5, and live in New Hampshire.

Northeast Delta Dental provided \$100,000 of the total gift in late spring, and 23 students enrolled in the program have already benefited. The remaining funds will be allocated in spring 2026 to help third-year students with licensure fees.

NHTI offers the only dental hygiene program in New Hampshire accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Over the next three years, the college expects to graduate nearly 125 dental hygiene students, most of whom will remain in the Granite State to meet the continuing need for dental services.



# Donors

We are deeply grateful for each gift in support of our students.

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**These lists have been prepared with care. If your name has been listed incorrectly or omitted in error, please email Lisa Clark at lclark@ccsnh.edu so that we may update our records.**



**\$10M**

**Total assets under management**

**154**

**Funds working in support of our students**

**\$1.19M**

**Distributed in scholarships and program support**

**1,333**

**Scholarships awarded**

## New Funds

**Rita Banfield Scholarship** supports students in electrical, plumbing, and automotive technology programs at Manchester Community College.

**CampusWorks Scholarships** has been dedicated to transforming higher education and fostering student success for more than 25 years. This scholarship supports students enrolled at White Mountains Community College.

**Capt. Jack T. Casey Memorial Scholarship** supports students in the Aviation Technology program at Nashua Community College. Captain Jack T. Casey, USMC, was a CH-53E helicopter pilot who was killed, along with four other crew members, in a helicopter crash while on active duty on February 7, 2024. This scholarship was established to ensure Jack's legacy of kindness and leadership continues to inspire future generations.

**Andrew W. Cunningham Scholarship** served on The Foundation for New Community College's Board of Directors for more than twenty years. This scholarship honors Drew's service by providing need-based support to students at River Valley Community College.

**William H. and Denise D. Dyer Scholarship** provides need-based support to students enrolled in Hospitality & Culinary, Industry & Transportation, or Advanced Manufacturing areas of study at any New Hampshire community college.

**Constance M. Gravel Nursing Scholarship** provides need-based support to second-year Nursing students. Preference is for a student attending NHTI - Concord's Community College.

**Healthcare Pathways Initiative** was created by the Foundation for Seacoast Health to help remove barriers, such as transportation and licensing costs, for Great Bay Community College Nursing and Surgical Technology students.

**Newport Community Trust Scholarship** provides need-based scholarship assistance to students from Newport, NH.

**NHTI Housing Scholarship** was created to ease housing costs for students residing on campus and actively pursuing their academic goals at NHTI.

**Northeast Delta Dental Scholarship** helps offset the cost of instruments, uniforms, supplies, licensure exam fees, and other out-of-pocket expenses for second- and third-year Dental Hygiene students at NHTI.

**Melanie Robbins Scholarship** celebrates her 29 years of dedicated service to White Mountains Community College. It provides need-based financial assistance to students pursuing an associate degree or certificate program at the Littleton Academic Center.

**Great Bay Student Nurses Association Scholarship** provides need-based support to students matriculating in the Nursing program.

**Michael and Celeste Wrenn Scholarship** provides need-based financial assistance to students who are making satisfactory academic progress and are enrolled in any of New Hampshire's community colleges.

**These funds will impact hundreds of students across New Hampshire. We celebrate the generosity and vision of those who created them.**

## Financials

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	2025	2024
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 8,338,757	\$ 7,022,427
Revenue and other support		
Contributions	\$ 1,682,618	\$ 1,539,226
Contributed nonfinancial assets	\$ 584,009	\$ 520,364
Interest and dividend income	\$ 270,948	\$ 219,736
Realized and unrealized gains	\$ 886,904	\$ 672,544
	\$ 3,424,479	\$ 2,951,870
Expenses		
Direct support to students (scholarships and program assistance)	\$ 1,190,778	\$ 1,164,961
General and administrative	\$ 343,007	\$ 282,284
Fundraising	\$ 179,803	\$ 138,295
	\$ 1,713,588	\$ 1,585,540
Increase in net assets	\$ 1,710,891	\$ 1,366,330
Net assets, end of year	\$10,099,648	\$ 8,388,757

Net assets represent endowed and restricted funds designated for long-term student support. Full audited financial statements are available at [GiveNHCC.org](https://www.giveNHCC.org).

**\$1.6M+**

**Contributed in fiscal year 2025**  
(July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)

# Board of Directors

The Foundation expanded its board of directors in 2025 with the additions of Rich Ashooh and Kevin Powers. Both bring decades of business experience and a passion for serving local communities to their newly appointed positions.

“We’re honored to welcome Rich and Kevin to The Foundation’s board of directors,” said Tim Allison, executive director of The Foundation. “Their leadership, business acumen and deep commitment to New Hampshire’s workforce and communities align perfectly with our mission to expand access and opportunity through the Community College System of New Hampshire.”

After graduating from the University of New Hampshire (UNH), Ashooh began his professional career in the U.S. Senate, serving as a professional staff member on the U.S. Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs. For much of his career, he was a senior executive with Lockheed and BAE

Systems, where he contributed to the defense organization’s substantial growth. Ashooh currently serves as the corporate vice president of global trade and government affairs for Lam Research Corporation and is a senior fellow of the Carsey School of Public Policy at UNH. He resides in Amherst.

Powers, who lives in Moultonborough, is president and partner at PAK Solutions, a packaging business he acquired and revitalized in 2017. Under his leadership, the company underwent a transformational turnaround that included more than \$14 million in capital investment, facility modernization and merging with Allstate Polyethylene. Beyond his business work, Powers has spearheaded the restoration of two landmark downtown buildings in Lancaster, New Hampshire, reinforcing his commitment to community growth.



**Rich Ashooh**  
Director | Amherst



**Kevin Powers**  
Director | Lancaster

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**THE FOUNDATION**  
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26 College Drive, Concord, NH 03301

**Questions?**

Tim Allison | 603.230.3520 | tallison@ccsnh.edu  
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