May 13, 2020
Coffee & Conversations
THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING TO OUR FOCUS GROUP.
FREE BEER
Regional Young Professionals Networks

- Catapult (Seacoast Region)
- Confluence (Three Rivers and Franklin Region)
- Concord Young Professionals Network (Greater Concord Region)
- Manchester Young Professionals (Greater Manchester Region)
- Newfound Professional Network (Newfound/Bristol area)
- NH C.O.R.E. (Sullivan County)
- Contoocook Valley Young Professionals
- Fusion (Lakes Region)
- Greater Rochester Young Professionals
- North of the Notch Young Professionals Network (White Mountains Region)
- Supporting the Area’s Young Professionals (Mount Washington Valley Region)
- Upper Valley Young Professionals
- IUGO (Greater Nashua Region)
- Keene Young Professionals Network ( Monadnock Region)
- Lake Sunapee Region Young Professionals Network (Sunapee Region)
**STAY**
- Outdoor Recreation
- Tight-Knit Community
- Plentyful Resources
- Quality of Life
- Access to Nat Resources
- Family
- Live Where You Vacation

**LEAVE**
- Housing Affordability
- Lack of Quality Jobs
- No Growth
- Student Debt
- Quality of Public Education
- Funding of Public Education
- Nat'l Chains
- Big Box Store
- Rate of Pay
- Lower Wages
- Increased Costs

**STAY**
- Day Care
- Lack of Activities for Teens
- Transportation
- Commute Length
- Built for Tourists
- Reliable F/T Employment
- Lack of Amenities
- Boomerang Mentality
- Rentals
- Local Regulations
- Central Gathering Place

**LEAVE**
- Quality
- Access
- Driving Distance
- Cost of Living
- People
- City
- Quality
- Time
- Geographic Distance
- Short vs. Long
- New York
NEW HAMPSHIRE POLICY & POP-UP SERIES

307 YOUNG PEOPLE GATHERED ACROSS THE STATE BETWEEN SEPT. 2019 & JAN. 2020, TO DISCUSS THE REASONS THAT LEAD THEM TO STAY IN, OR LEAVE, THEIR REGION OF THE STATE.

TOP REASONS YOUNG PEOPLE CONSIDER LEAVING NH

UNAFFORDABLE HOUSING  LACK OF DIVERSITY  HARD TO MEET PEOPLE

ALSO: LACK OF GOOD JOBS  LACK OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  LACK OF ADEQUATE PUBLIC REVENUE  LACK OF EQUALITY IN K-12 SCHOOLS  HIGH COST OF LIVING  LACK OF AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE  LACK OF EDUCATION FUNDING  LACK OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN POLITICS  OVER-RELIANCE ON PROPERTY TAXES

stayworkplay
NEW HAMPSHIRE HOUSING
The Nature Conservancy New Hampshire
Greater Manchester Policy & Pop-Up Series

On Wednesday, December 11, 24 young people gathered at Great North Alesworks in Manchester to discuss the reasons that lead them to stay in or leave the Manchester region. Potential solutions were also discussed.

Top Reasons Young People Stay
- Proximity to everything
- Growing diversity
- Availability of jobs

Proposed Solutions
- Child care tax credits
- Educate voters without kids about benefits of funding schools
- Reduce exclusionary zoning

There are so many colleges here in the Greater Manchester region. Why isn't this part of our brand?

Greater Nashua Policy & Pop-Up Series

On Monday, October 28, 32 young people gathered at the Flight Center in Nashua to discuss the reasons that lead them to stay in or leave the Greater Nashua region. Potential solutions were also discussed.

Child care, if you can find it, is super expensive.

Top Reasons Young People Stay
- Employment opportunities
- Growing arts community
- Great location

Proposed Solutions
- Develop cultural infrastructure - hair salons, grocery stores, etc.
- Incentivize the renovation of older housing stock and of new development
- Relax restrictive zoning laws that limit things like building height and tiny houses
- Increase funding to more challenged schools

There's not much to do downtown other than eating or drinking.
GREATER CONCORD POLICY & PINTS POP-UP SERIES

ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2020, 25 YOUNG PEOPLE GATHERED AT AMOSKEAG BEVERAGES IN BOW TO DISCUSS THE REASONS THAT LEAD THEM TO STAY IN OR LEAVE GREATER CONCORD. POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS WERE ALSO DISCUSSED.

PEOPLE IN CONCORD ARE ALWAYS WILLING TO HELP.

TOP REASONS YOUNG PEOPLE STAY
CLOSE TO OUTDOOR RECREATION
VIBRANT DOWNTOWN
EASY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

TOP REASONS YOUNG PEOPLE LEAVE
UNAFFORDABLE HOUSING
LACK OF DIVERSITY
LACK OF ADEQUATE PUBLIC REVENUE

PROPOSED SOLUTIONS
INCENTIVIZE "REGULAR" HOUSING - NOT McMANSIONS OR TINY, PRICEY APARTMENTS.
MORE ASSISTANCE FOR STUDENTS & ENTREPRENEURS OF COLOR.
EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ON THE "COST" OF NO BROAD-BASED REVENUE SOURCE.

THE POWER STRUCTURE HERE IS OLD AND WHITE.

SEACOAST POLICY & PINTS POP-UP SERIES

ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2020, 29 YOUNG PEOPLE GATHERED AT SEA DOG BREWING IN EXETER TO DISCUSS THE REASONS THAT LEAD THEM TO STAY IN OR LEAVE THE SEACOAST. POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS WERE ALSO DISCUSSED.

IT'S EASY TO GET INVOLVED AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE HERE.

TOP REASONS YOUNG PEOPLE STAY
ARTS & CULTURE SCENE
NATURAL BEAUTY
ENGAGED COMMUNITIES

TOP REASONS YOUNG PEOPLE LEAVE
UNAFFORDABLE HOUSING
LACK OF DIVERSITY
HARD TO MEET PEOPLE

PROPOSED SOLUTIONS
ORGANIZE AND TRAIN "YIMBY" HOUSING ADVOCATES.
CREATE & FUND SUPPORTS & RESOURCES FOR PEOPLE OF COLOR IN NH.
HOLD MORE TRULY SOCIAL EVENTS, NOT JUST BIZ OR POLITICAL EVENTS.

NEW HAMPSHIRE IS A GREAT PLACE TO RAISE A FAMILY, BUT IT'S NOT SO GREAT A PLACE TO BE SINGLE.
MT. WASHINGTON VALLEY

POLICY & PINTS

POP-UP SERIES

On Monday, September 16, 2019, 36 young people gathered at Tuckerman Brewing Company in Conway to discuss the reasons that lead them to stay in or leave the Mount Washington Valley. Potential solutions were also discussed.

It feels like the Mount Washington Valley is just for the tourists. It doesn’t feel like it’s for the people who actually live here.

Top Reasons Young People Stay

- Tight knit community
- Proximity to world class outdoor recreation

Top Reasons Young People Leave

- Low rates of pay/high cost of living
- Unaffordable housing
- Lack of connections (friends, people to date, and gathering places)

Proposed Solutions

- Encourage employers to increase wages
- Lower regulatory barriers to developing more long-term rental housing
- Incentivize existing property owners to offer affordable long-term rentals
- Create additional gathering places for residents and promote those that currently exist

There aren’t enough higher-level jobs in the valley...I’m going to have to choose between advancing my career and living in the community of my choosing.

NORTH COUNTRY

POLICY & PINTS

POP-UP SERIES

On Thursday, December 19, 2019, 34 young people gathered at Crumb Bar in Littleton to discuss the reasons that lead them to stay in or leave the North Country. Potential solutions were also discussed.

It can be difficult to build a career here that pays well and is fulfilling.

Top Reasons Young People Stay

- Outdoor recreation
- Lower cost of living
- Nice people

Top Reasons Young People Leave

- Lack of good jobs
- Unaffordable housing
- Lack of environmental protection

Proposed Solutions

- Benefit pools for small employers
- Allow for greater housing density
- Mandatory free recycling and composting

I have a 40-minute commute just to buy food.
LAKES REGION POLICY & POP-UP SERIES

ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2019, 36 YOUNG PEOPLE GATHERED AT TWIN BARN BREWING COMPANY IN MEREDITH TO DISCUSS THE REASONS THAT LEAD THEM TO STAY IN OR LEAVE THE LAKES REGION. POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS WERE ALSO DISCUSSED.

YOU CAN'T EVEN HAVE A BABY DELIVERED HERE IN THE LAKES REGION ANYMORE.

TOP REASONS YOUNG PEOPLE STAY
- NATURAL BEAUTY/OUTDOOR RECREATION
- CENTRAL LOCATION IN NH
- TIGHT KNIT COMMUNITY

TOP REASONS YOUNG PEOPLE LEAVE
- LACK OF AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE
- UNAFFORDABLE HOUSING
- LACK OF YEAR-ROUND OPPORTUNITIES

PROPOSED SOLUTIONS
- BUSINESSES TO OFFER A CHILD CARE BENEFIT
- ALLOW MORE DEVELOPMENT, INCENTIVIZE YEAR-ROUND HOME OCCUPANCY
- CREATE QUALITY EVENTS FOR LOCALS DURING OFF SEASON

HERE IN THE LAKES REGION WE GET TO LIVE WHERE PEOPLE VACATION. HOW LUCKY ARE WE?
MONADNOCK REGION POLICY & POP-UP SERIES

ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2019, 30 YOUNG PEOPLE GATHERED AT BRANCH & BLADE BREWINING IN KEENE TO DISCUSS THE REASONS THAT LEAD THEM TO STAY IN OR LEAVE THE MONADNOCK REGION. POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS WERE ALSO DISCUSSED.

"THE WAGES AROUND HERE ARE LOW, BUT THE RENT IS SO HIGH."

TOP REASONS YOUNG PEOPLE STAY

- GREAT DOWNTOWN
- HIGHER EDUCATION
- ARTS & CULTURE HUB

TOP REASONS YOUNG PEOPLE LEAVE

- HIGH COST OF LIVING
- LACK OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN POLITICS
- OVER-RELIANCE ON PROPERTY TAXES

PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

- UPDATE ZONING LAWS TO ALLOW MORE HOUSING DENSITY
- MAKE SERVING IN ELECTED OFFICE MORE FAMILY FRIENDLY - OFFER CHILD CARE AT MEETINGS, ALLOW MEMBERS TO SKYPE INTO MEETINGS, BETTER COMPENSATE ELECTED OFFICIALS
- HAVE OUT-OF-STATE VISITORS PAY A PORTION OF TAX BURDEN - TOLLS TARGETING MA & VT RESIDENTS

"THE LOCAL POLITICAL SCENE IS DOMINATED BY AN OLDER DEMOGRAPHIC THAT IS RESISTANT TO CHANGE."

UPPER VALLEY POLICY & POP-UP SERIES

ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2019, 32 YOUNG PEOPLE GATHERED AT SALT HILL PUB IN LEBANON TO DISCUSS THE REASONS THAT LEAD THEM TO STAY IN OR LEAVE THE UPPER VALLEY. POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS WERE ALSO DISCUSSED.

"THE UPPER VALLEY IS A GREAT PLACE TO RAISE A FAMILY, BUT A TERRIBLE PLACE TO TRY AND START ONE."

TOP REASONS YOUNG PEOPLE STAY

- ACCESS TO NATURE AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES
- "BUY LOCAL FIRST" EMphasis
- EASY TO GET INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY

TOP REASONS YOUNG PEOPLE LEAVE

- HIGH COST OF LIVING
- LACK OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY
- HARD TO MEET PEOPLE

PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

- RELAX ZONING REGULATIONS TO ALLOW MORE HOUSING DENSITY
- BE MORE WELCOMING TO IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES, AND CELEBRATE THOSE ALREADY HERE
- BETTER PROMOTE THOSE SOCIAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES THAT CURRENTLY EXIST
- CREATE A NH-FOCUSED APP (LIVE FREE OR SWIPE) FOR DATING, EVENTS, ETC.

"THE INTERNET SPEEDS IN MY TOWN ARE SO SLOW MY GIRLFRIEND AND I CAN'T EVEN STREAM NETFLIX."
For a complete list of bills on which Stay Work Play is advocating in 2020, please visit: stayworkplay.org/advocacy
WELCOME
stayworkplay
NEW HAMPSHIRE
LEGISLATIVE RECESSION
SPONSORED BY: EVERSOURCE
HOW YOU CAN HELP

Nominations Now Open
NEW 2 STEP PROCESS
FIND OUT MORE & NOMINATE SOMEONE TODAY
STAYWORKPLAY.ORG/RISINGSTARSAWARDS

TTYL
(TALK TO YOU LEGISLATOR)

board of advisors
stayworkplay
QUESTIONS?