At its core, the Carsey School of Public Policy is committed to making positive change for a sustainable future.

Our degree and certificate programs give our graduates the tools to have an impact.

Our research is actionable.

Our faculty and staff are out in the world working with communities, advising policy makers, and building socially driven institutions.
Interim Co-Directors’ Message

Dear Carsey friends,

Since our last annual review, we saw the departure of the Carsey School’s founding director, Michael Ettlinger, followed a few months later by its interim director and director of academic programs, Dan Bromberg. At that point last spring, University administration looked inside Carsey for temporary support at the helm. It’s in that role that we have the pleasure of writing to you now, as interim co-directors of the Carsey School: Melanie Higgins Dostie, Jess Carson, and Michele Holt-Shannon. We’ve each been at Carsey between 10 and 20 years, and while we have our own beloved roles, it’s been a privilege to serve our colleagues and students in an additional interim role during this transition.

Despite the flux of 2023, Carsey had a fruitful year. Amid ongoing global unrest, we welcomed a new master’s degree program, Global Conflict and Human Security (GCHS), which gives students the tools to address these important issues. We published more than two dozen policy-relevant research briefs and papers, including a seven-part guide to assessing local civic health, which was downloaded more than 1,000 times in the months following publication. Amid the warmest year on record and complex social problems, three Carsey alumni were named “Graduates of the Last Decade” in the University’s Sustainability Awards. Our Center for Impact Finance launched its Community Development Financial Institution Research Consortium, a groundbreaking national network of scholars and practitioners focused on quantifying the field’s impacts and guiding lenders and other stakeholders on how best to channel capital to historically disadvantaged people and places. We continued to graduate a record number of students across our academic programs, and we had an all-time high number of students graduating from the MPA program. And throughout the year, we welcomed new colleagues, brought existing colleagues into new roles, and wistfully supported the departure of valued others.

Beyond our programmatic successes, 2023 also posed important opportunities for strategic vision-building. The search for the next director of the Carsey School of Public Policy offered an opportune time for reflection. Our staff and faculty seized the chance to examine our core—the things that make Carsey special across our research, engagement, and educational arms, and found that our commitments to well-designed, community-connected, and fairness-focused work span the gamut.
This insight informed the search and offered a framework for exploring possibilities on which to build this next chapter.

In all our areas, we’re finding ways to recommit to those core values. Our research is increasingly engaging new stakeholders. We’re expanding our collaboration across shared projects within Carsey. We’re connecting with colleagues across campus, and bringing our research tools into the community, where we put them to work for good. And as ever, we continue to bring with us the persistent thread of policy for impact.

In the following pages, you’ll get a glimpse into our ongoing efforts and unwavering commitment to supporting communities as they confront challenging issues through dialogue, student engagement, and applied research. We are so grateful to our colleagues, funders, supporters, neighbors, students, and friends for accompanying us on this journey as we reflect warmly on where we’ve been and look eagerly toward the exciting developments in the year to come.

All our best,

Melanie Higgins Dostie, Jess Carson, and Michele Holt-Shannon
Carsey Adds Fourth Academic Degree Program

It was an exciting year at the Carsey School as we integrated the Global Conflict and Human Security master’s degree program into our academic offerings. Dr. Melinda Negrón-Gonzales, an associate professor and department chair of security studies at UNH, heads up the program. “The transition to Carsey couldn’t have come at a better time, as an ever-greater number of students have expressed an interest in studying how to address issues with worldwide effects,” she says. The program equips students with skills in international development policy and practice to build resilient societies in countries affected by state fragility, humanitarian crises, and conflict.

Student Capstone Projects Span the Globe

Over the lifetime of Carsey’s four degree programs, more than 875 capstone projects have been completed or are underway. These have spanned 26 countries on 5 continents. Projects range from adolescent leadership training in Haiti; a student enrichment program in Lake Chad, Africa; and building health service systems in New York City for immigrants in transition.

Fighting the Good Fight for Human Rights

Alioune Sidi Mzeirigue, a Master of Global Conflict and Human Security alum and a member of the former Hratine slave community in the Sahel region of Africa, realized early on that “to break free of the limitations embedded in their slavery heritage, the Hratine need access to education.” To help those in need he works as a rights expert at the Global Forum of Discriminated Communities and is the founding director of his own consulting firm. This follows roles with the United Nations’ Inclusivity Project and the High Commissioner for Refugees agency. A native of Mauritania, Alioune says, “Mauritania is my home. The United States is my home. I am home wherever I am free to express myself. Justice is my dream for the global community.”

World

In 2023, with global conflict in the foreground with unrest between Russia and Ukraine, Israel and Hamas, and in Sudan, the Carsey School worked diligently behind the scenes to equip Master of Global Conflict and Human Security (GCHS) students with the skills to contend with these complicated issues. We hosted an event featuring Dr. Audrey Osler on human rights education and celebrated the work of GCHS alum Alioune Sidi Mzeirigue who works as a human rights expert. Our students worked to resolve problems in communities across the world with their capstone projects and our S. Melvin Rines fellow worked in the Democratic Republic of Congo to address issues around schools, jobs, and migration. The Changemaker Speaker Series featured events on clean energy, careers for impact, and building an inclusive and thriving workforce. Instilled in all our work, we strove to incorporate the principles of the United Nations’ 17 Sustainable Development Goals as a blueprint for “peace and prosperity for people and the planet...all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.” Our work is ongoing.
Carsey Hosts Event on Human Rights Education

Carsey held a conversation featuring Dr. Audrey Osler, renowned human rights education expert, and Dr. Carrie Portrie, Carsey program manager and research assistant professor, on what human rights education can teach us. The discussion touched on the distinction between the right to education and human rights education. Then the conversation turned to how the convention on human rights and the universal declaration on human rights is useful for educators in the United States. Thanks to Dr. Osler who joined us all the way from Norway!

Making a Difference in Africa

Master in Community Development student Bienfait Polepole continued working with youth in Munigi Village in the Democratic Republic of Congo to address issues around enrollment in schools, jobs, and migration to cities. Polepole is the recipient of the S. Melvin Rines Fellowship—endowed by UNH alum S. Melvin “Mel” Rines ’47—for MCD students committed to making a difference in Africa through work in financial innovation and enterprise development.

Changemaker Speaker Series Shines Light on Innovative Solutions

A signature program of the Changemaker Collaborative, the Carsey School’s partnership with the Peter T. Paul College of Business and Economics and the UNH Sustainability Institute, the Changemaker Speaker Series covers a diverse range of topics related to the world’s most pressing challenges, including the climate crisis and racial injustice. The Collaborative, led by the Sustainability Institute, was formed to foster collaboration across public, private, and nonprofit sectors to address the scale and complexity of world challenges.

2023 Changemaker Speaker Series:

- A Clean Energy for NH: How do we make the necessary transition?
- Careers for Impact with Alumni
- Dismantling to Build a More Inclusive and Thriving Workforce
Our program areas on demography, impact finance, social policy in practice, and community engagement were a whirlwind of activity in 2023! Projects revolved around equity, housing, solar finance, opportunity finance, health, early childhood education & care, food systems, migration patterns, and more. We launched a Community Development Financial Institution Research Consortium, co-hosted the 2023 Financial Innovations Roundtable, and made continued progress with the Enhancing Solar Finance Capabilities project. We held webinars, hosted events, and joined communities across the country in celebrating National Rural Health Day. Our publications series addressed changes in our nation’s population, child care, housing, economic issues, and more. Our Coffee and Conversations series touched on the status of the Americans with Disabilities Act and public administration. (See the full listing of both publications and coffee talks on page 11). And kudos to Michael Swack who was named visiting scholar at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York!

Center for Impact Finance Leads Research
The Center launched a groundbreaking Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) Research Consortium to convene CDFI practitioners, intermediaries, policy groups, funders, government entities, and academic institutions. Funding for the Consortium and awards for research comes from Citi Foundation’s Community Finance Innovation Fund, which selected 12 organizations to collectively receive $50 million to advance the field of community finance and create a positive impact on low-income communities and communities of color.

Center for Impact Finance Holds Equitable Greenhouse Gas Reduction Webinar Series
In partnership with the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Center for Impact Finance held a seven-week Equitable Greenhouse Gas Reduction Webinar Series, providing road maps for delivering equitable greenhouse gas reduction in low-income and disadvantaged communities through traditional lending lines of business in key market sectors.

Webinar Shares Findings of Multifamily Affordable Housing Report
HP Sustainability and Housing Sustainability Advisors, in collaboration with the Center for Impact Finance, and with the generous support of the Wells Fargo Foundation, spoke with many experts in the field and developed a white paper outlining the most impactful federal policy levers to advance decarbonization in multifamily affordable housing. In this webinar, the team shared their findings and recommendations alongside other experts who helped elevate practical, high-impact policy levers.

Carsey Publishes Research Brief Series
Continuing its partnership with the Couch Family Foundation, the Center for Social Policy in Practice published an Early Childhood in the Upper Valley brief series. The series’ three briefs explore the post-pandemic early childhood education and care landscape through the lens of New Hampshire and Vermont’s Upper Valley region. This, and earlier work with the Couch Family Foundation, set the stage for a substantially larger project funded by the Foundation in fall 2023. That work will establish an Early Childhood Education Research Consortium, housed at the Carsey School.
New Hampshire Listens Hosts Speaker Series on Local People, Local Work, Local Change: Navigating Public Life in a Diverse Democracy

This series explored community engagement practitioners’ journeys working with communities to generate meaningful change. Speakers included Andres Mejia, New Hampshire SAU 16, Merle McGee, Everyday Democracy, and Manuela Heinz & Gerry Mac Ruairc of the University of Galway, Ireland.

Carsey Holds Affordable Housing Crisis Webinar

This webinar addressed the current affordable housing crisis in the United States, identifying barriers that stand in the way of progress and exploring steps being taken to help solve the issues. Moderated by Michael Swack of the Center for Impact Finance, panelists included Master in Public Policy (MPP) student and Carsey fellow Antonio Serna and MPP ‘17G alum Sarah Wrightsman.

Center for Impact Finance Co-Hosts 25th Annual Financial Innovations Roundtable

In June, the Center for Impact Finance, in partnership with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, hosted the 2023 Financial Innovations Roundtable (FIR) at the New York Fed. Now in its 25th year, the FIR creates cross-sector partnerships among community-based lenders, investors, and markets to provide low-income and other underserved communities with increased access to capital and financial services. This year’s focus was on the intersection of climate, equity, and the social drivers of health. The event brought together key players and institutions in health, climate, and community development to investigate investment models to achieve better health, equity, and environmental outcomes.

Michael Swack Named Visiting Scholar at Federal Reserve Bank of New York

Congratulations to Michael Swack, founding director of Carsey’s Center for Impact Finance, who was selected as a visiting scholar to help enrich the New York Fed’s outreach and education programs. As a visiting scholar, Michael advised and collaborated with New York Fed staff on groundbreaking ideas, analytical products, and programs; presented at internal seminars; and conducted workshops on community development topics.
Solar & Green Lending Professional Series

Since 2020, the Carsey School’s Center for Impact Finance has partnered with Inclusiv’s Center for Resiliency and Clean Energy to deliver multiweek, online solar and green lending trainings for community-based financial institutions (CFIs), with support from the U.S. Department of Energy and the Wells Fargo Foundation. Since November 2020:

263 participants from 143 organizations have completed the consumer or commercial solar lending courses, and an additional 125 participants from 410 organizations have completed the self-paced Intro to Solar Finance course.

66 CFIs that participated in trainings have developed solar lending products and/or collaborated with other CFIs to provide solar financing.

66 CFIs that participated in trainings have deployed new loans or investments, collectively serving over 17,775 households.

Carsey Celebrates National Rural Health Day

The Carsey School was proud to join communities across America in celebration of National Rural Health Day (NRHD) on November 16. Carsey’s Senior Demographer Kenneth Johnson wrote a research brief, Recent Demographic Trends Have Implications for Rural Health Care, to contribute to the conversation. This annual event is an opportunity to celebrate the “Power of Rural” and honor the individuals and organizations dedicated to addressing the unique healthcare needs of nearly 46 million people living in rural America. Carsey has a long history of rural research, including on food availability, housing, safety net programs, child care, the impact of Covid, and demographic trends.

Highlights from the 2023 Opportunity Finance Network Conference

In October, the Center for Impact Finance (CIF) team attended the 2023 Opportunity Finance Network (OFN) Conference in Washington, D.C., along with over 2,000 of their peers in the community development finance field. The Center hosted a session introducing the CDFI Research Consortium, where they featured several of the consortium’s first-round research award winners, who delivered a series of flash-talks on their funded projects. The Center’s Tina Poole Johnson led another session on building climate resilience into projects, organizations, and communities, and Hannah Vargason helped organize the Annual CDFI Women’s Network Breakfast at OFN and the network session on best practices for serving women entrepreneurs.

Ongoing Collaboration with the UNH Food Systems Lab

The Center for Social Policy in Practice continued its work with the UNH Food Systems Lab with two USDA-funded projects on strengthening the connections between food producers and consumers through local food channels across New England. Locally, the Center partnered with UNH Cooperative Extension to analyze data it collected for the Carroll County Food Action Network.
Examining Migration Patterns in the Northern Forest Region of New England Post Covid

The Center for Social Policy in Practice completed a project aimed at unraveling some questions posed by the popular press in the wake of the pandemic. Did people really move to “rural” places to escape Covid? Was Northern New England a destination of special interest? The researchers found that overall, the Northern Forest region of New England grew, with some pockets disproportionately attractive to migrants. Analysis of IRS tax data showed that movers were higher income than existing residents, although interviews with movers also suggested that the newcomers value many of the same things as the old-timers, including beautiful outdoor recreation opportunities, privacy, and nearness to family. Interviews with local real estate agents shed light on some of the challenges associated with influxes of movers, particularly as related to pressures on the housing market.

RELATED 2023 PUBLICATIONS

- Advancing Decarbonization in Regulated Multifamily Affordable Housing by Housing Sustainable Advisors and Eric Hangen
- Are Income Tax Breaks for Seniors Good for State Economic Growth? by Ben Brewer, Karen Conway, and Jon Rork
- Changing Child Care Supply in New Hampshire and Vermont’s Upper Valley by Jess Carson and Sarah Boege
- Child Care Investments and Policies in the Upper Valley, in the Pandemic and Beyond by Sarah Boege, Jess Carson, and Kamala Nasirova
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- Latest Data Show All New England States Are Gaining Population by Kenneth Johnson
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RELATED COFFEE & CONVERSATIONS

- A New Chapter in Public Administration
- Increasing Expectations: Participation, Inclusion, and Belonging 33 Years After the Passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act
State

Our projects in 2023 involved collaborations across Carsey groups, UNH partners, local communities, and state organizations. The New Hampshire Priority Climate Action Plan project alone involved several Carsey teams, the UNH Survey Center, and the NH Department of Environmental Services. Other projects included a guide on building community & bridging divides and a research series that assessed New Hampshire families’ needs. We hosted workshops and events, presented in webinars and at conferences, and collaborated with philanthropic state partners. Our publications series covered topics including child care, civic health, demographics, and health. Our Coffee and Conversations series addressed the challenge of staffing government positions, housing affordability challenges, human trafficking and labor exploitation, opportunities for the state’s child care sector, agricultural policy, and more. (See the full listing of both publications and coffee talks on page 15.)

Carsey School, UNH Survey Center, and NH DES Collaborate on Climate Action Program

Starting in the fall, Carsey’s Center for Impact Finance, Center for Social Policy in Practice, and NH Listens—along with the UNH Survey Center—worked with the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) to ensure public engagement activities are infused in their Priority Climate Action Plan. This work is funded through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program. Carsey’s NH Listens engagement team worked with DES and UNH partners to bring together people across New Hampshire to weigh in on plans and priorities that address the effects of greenhouse gases in our state.

NH Listens Releases Guide Fostering Civic Health in Communities

In the same way that doctors conduct annual check-ups to assess health, we can collect information to assess the civic health of our communities. Civic health includes factors such as how much people trust each other, show up at public meetings, get involved, vote, and help neighbors. This seven-part guide, Local Civic Health: A Guide to Building Community and Bridging Divides, helps people at the local level collect data to better understand what factors bring people together or push them apart. This information can help communities thrive and strengthen democracy at the local level.

NH Listens Helps Facilitate Workshop With Leadership Seacoast

In January, NH Listens’ director Michele Holt-Shannon joined Angel Simone, director of international learning and development for the Trevor Project, to facilitate a day of reflection and learning for the new class of Leadership Seacoast. The mission of Leadership Seacoast is to develop a base of effective, knowledgeable, and engaged community members through the exploration of community issues and opportunities for personal involvement. The group of about 40 cross-sector leaders from the Seacoast area asked questions such as: “How do we have hard conversations at work?” and “How can we foster a community of belonging in my organization?”
Center for Social Policy in Practice Releases Family Needs Assessment Series

The Center completed the Family Needs Assessment series for the NH Preschool Development Grant (PDG). This body of work, focused on gathering data that the state would use for decision making, included two research briefs and two infographics related to family perspectives on child care in the state. Accompanying those writings were five white papers on two workforces providing critical developmental and health supports, including the Family Centered Early Supports and Services workforce & the staff of the state’s community mental health centers. The Center has been re-engaged for a final round of PDG work beginning in early 2024.

NH Listens Hosts Panel with School Administrators at Annual NHSAA Gathering

Moises Nuñez, education and engagement specialist at the Carsey School, hosted a panel including three New Hampshire school leaders and NH Listens’ director Michele Holt-Shannon where they discussed lessons learned in navigating racist incidents at their respective school districts.

NH Listens Provides Professional Development for Educators in Manchester, New Hampshire

NH Listens faculty and staff designed professional development sessions for the Manchester School District with the support of Tina Philibotte, Chief Equity Officer, and Nicole Ponti, former Executive Director of English Learner Instruction. The sessions focused on dialogue-based reflective practice where English as a Second Language educators worked to develop an understanding of shared practices while also naming school-based strengths, needs, and challenges. In addition, the team provided professional development workshops centered around restorative practices for the Concord school district. It also ran workshops focused on family engagement for the Weare school district, as well as hosted several evening community conversations at the high school. The team provided professional development for the school liaisons at City Year Manchester.
Michael Swack Speaks at “Immigrants in New Hampshire’s Workforce” Conference

This conference addressed the importance of embracing, integrating, and celebrating the vital partnership between immigrant workers and the labor market in New Hampshire. The event convened and engaged with CEOs, human resource staff, employers, service providers, academic institutions, non-profit organization leaders, staffing agencies, ethnic-based organizations, immigrants, and state and municipality officials. It was presented by NH Songa, an organization founded by MCD alum Jean Hakuzimana, ’21G.

NH Listens Presents at Environmental Business Council of New England Webinar

Michele Holt-Shannon and Mikayla Townsend presented at the Environmental Business Council of New England’s webinar on environmental justice in New Hampshire. This NH Listens team discussed More than a Seat at the Table: Practices and Mindsets for Authentic Engagement with Environmental Justice Communities with a group of over 75 experienced environmental leaders in the Granite State.

Center for Social Policy in Practice Collaborates with Philanthropic Partners

The Center worked with its philanthropic partners in the region, bringing its research skills to the table for problem solving. It finished the inaugural New Hampshire Funders Forum report, “Institutional Grantmaking to New Hampshire Nonprofits,” which compiled and analyzed data from charitable tax filings to better understand the ways that philanthropic dollars flow within the state. The Center supported the Endowment for Health as part of a thought leadership group aimed at defining poverty, vulnerability, rurality, and resilience in the state, a conversation that culminated in a panel discussion at the Endowment’s annual retreat.

NH Listens Hosts Local Lunch Box Series and Facilitator Trainings

Throughout the year, NH Listens offered a lunch box series which provides “bite-sized” conversation about practical skills and facilitation over the lunch hour, as well as more extensive facilitator trainings.
Center for Social Policy in Practice Shares Its Research on Child Care

Sharing findings from the multiple child care projects, Director of the Center for Social Policy in Practice Jess Carson presented to the Governor’s Council for Thriving Children, served on a panel at the New Hampshire Fiscal Policy Institute’s annual conference, and delivered a Coffee & Conversations presentation to spread the word.

NH Listens Hosts Community Conversations in Colebrook, New Hampshire

In the fall, NH Listens helped moderate and facilitate conversations about the proposed school building renovation and addition project in Colebrook.

RELATED 2023 PUBLICATIONS

- **Aligning Investments to Improve Population Health** by Michael Swack, Sarah Boege, and Kevin Barnett
- **Changing Child Care Supply in New Hampshire and Vermont’s Upper Valley** by Jess Carson and Sarah Boege
- **Child Care Investments and Policies in the Upper Valley, in the Pandemic and Beyond** by Sarah Boege, Jess Carson, and Kamala Nasirova
- **Local Civic Health: A Guide to Building Community and Bridging Divides** by Quixada Moore-Vissing, Carrie Portrie, E. Michele Holt-Shannon, Bruce Mallory, Jess Carson, Daniel Bromberg, Sarah Boege, Carly Prescott, Stephanie McNally, and Mikayla Townsend
- **Migration Sustains New Hampshire’s Population Gain** by Kenneth Johnson
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- **Retaining Residents Is Important to New Hampshire’s Future** by Kristine Bundschuh and Kenneth Johnson
- **Supportive Program Strengths and Gaps for New Hampshire Families** by Sarah Boege and Jess Carson

- **Why Interstate Child Care Scholarship Policy Choices Matter in the Upper Valley** by Sarah Boege and Jess Carson

RELATED COFFEE & CONVERSATIONS

- **The Challenge of Staffing State and Local Government in New Hampshire**
- **Human Services Education for the Future**
- **A New Chapter in Public Administration**
- **Opportunities for New Hampshire’s Child Care Sector**
- **Supporting Children’s Behavioral Health in a Post-Pandemic World**
- **Increasing Expectations: Participation, Inclusion, and Belonging 33 Years After the Passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act**
- **To Stay or To Go: Why Young People Stay in New Hampshire, Why They Might Leave, and Why It Matters**
- **Human Trafficking and Labor Exploitation in New Hampshire**
- **2023 NH Agricultural Policy Forum**
Faculty, Students, Fellows, & Alumni

The Carsey School’s educational mission is realized through the dedication of the stellar group of individuals who comprise the Carsey community. Our master’s degree programs bring passionate students together with instructors at the top of their professions. We pride ourselves on a faculty that combines leading practitioners with academic scholars to bring the best hands-on experience and scholarly expertise to the classroom. We are proud of the many contributions made by our engaged faculty, students, fellows, and alumni to build a better, more sustainable future for our communities, state, country, and planet.

Kudos to Carsey Alumni Who Received UNH “Sustainability Graduates of the Last Decade” Awards

We couldn’t be more excited that three of our alumni were recognized for their significant multi-year bodies of work in the professional or civic lives of graduates of the last decade.

- Andres Mejia ’14, ’18G (Master in Community Development), Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice Initiatives, SAU 16 (Exeter, NH)
- Andreanea Morris ’20G (Master in Community Development), Executive Director, HousingNOLA
- Sarah Wrightsman ’15, ’17G (Master in Public Policy), Community Engagement Coordinator, New Hampshire Housing
Meet the Newest Members of Carsey’s Team!

We are excited to introduce this group of talented people who joined the Carsey team in 2023.

Lu Butterfield-Ferrell, Program Manager, New Hampshire Listens

Working in higher education for over ten years, Lu has been committed to building community, creating inclusive and equitable spaces, and bringing systemic change to various University settings.

Chuck Hotchkiss, Interim Director, Center for Impact Finance

Over his 45-year career, Chuck has worked as a policy researcher, a professor teaching undergraduate and graduate courses, a community organizer, and a higher education administrator at the department chair, dean, and associate provost levels.

Anne Kimball, Student Services Coordinator

Anne has worked as an engineer in the semiconductor and aerospace industry as a quality engineer, and most recently as a facilities and administrative assistant at the Oyster River Cooperative School District.

Melinda Negron-Gonzales, Associate Professor; Chair, Department of Security Studies; Carsey School Program Faculty

Dr. Negrón-Gonzales teaches courses on peace and conflict studies, international development, and global affairs and is the founding program director of the Global Conflict and Human Security master’s program.

Yusi Turell, Training Director, Center for Impact Finance

Yusi oversees the Center’s growing portfolio of training and capacity-building activities. The Center offers applied trainings in community development finance, with an emphasis on clean energy and an equitable climate transition.

Michele Holt-Shannon, Director of NH Listens, brought people together in conversation
Carsey Fellowships Provide Meaningful Work and Support for Students

The Carsey School offers five fellowships for University of New Hampshire undergraduates and graduate students to engage in meaningful, fulfilling work in communities and organizations. All of Carsey’s fellowships include a stipend.

1. The Nordblom Fellowship, established through the generosity of Peter C. Nordblom ‘80 and Kristin Van Curan Nordblom ’83, offers UNH students and faculty the opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of youth in northern New Hampshire.

2. Public Policy fellowships for Master in Public Policy students focus on policy areas including social and fiscal policy, law enforcement, New Hampshire youth retention, and others.

3. Created in 1982 in memory of the late New Hampshire Governor John G. Winant, the Winant Fellowship program encourages the professional development of undergraduates with a strong commitment to public service.

4. The Treat Fellowship program, established in 2018 in memory of the late New Hampshire Judge William W. Treat, provides students a platform for engaging in civil discourse across differences.

5. The S. Melvin Rines Fellowship—named after UNH alum S. Melvin “Mel” Rines ’47—is offered for Master in Community Development students who are committed to making a difference in Africa through work in financial innovation and enterprise development.

Carsey Fellowships Awarded in 2023

- **One** Peter C. and Kristin Van Curan Nordblom Summer Fellowship
- **Three** Public Policy Fellowships
- **Twelve** Judge William W. Treat Fellowships
- **One** S. Melvin Rines Fellowship
In 2023, we published important research on topics related to child care, civic health, finances, housing, population trends, and much more.

- **Advancing Decarbonization in Regulated Multifamily Affordable Housing** by Housing Sustainable Advisors and Eric Hangen
- **Aligning Investments to Improve Population Health** by Michael Swack, Sarah Boege, and Kevin Barnett
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- **Why Interstate Child Care Scholarship Policy Choices Matter in the Upper Valley** by Sarah Boege and Jess Carson
COFFEE & CONVERSATIONS

Our Coffee & Conversations discussion series engages policymakers, public service professionals, active citizens, and organizations in the issues and policies that affect the people and places of New Hampshire. The series, which was rebranded to the Carsey Policy Hour in 2024 to reflect our permanent shift to an online format, is jointly organized by the Carsey School, the State of NH Bureau of Education and Training, and the NH Association of Certified Public Managers.

- **The Challenge of Staffing State and Local Government in New Hampshire**—In January, Brian Gottlob, Director of the State Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau, discussed the challenges New Hampshire faces in maintaining public sector employment.

- **Human Services Education for the Future**—In February, panelists Dr. Nicole Kras, William Morgan, Jo Oliver-Yeager, and Dr. Janine Spinola Taylor discussed human services education and its importance in shaping how integral services are delivered to communities.

- **A New Chapter in Public Administration**—In March, panelists Ann Hess Braga, Dr. Marc Holzer, and Dr. Aaron Smith-Walter from the American Society of Public Administration (ASPA) discussed ASPA’s expansion into a Northern New England chapter and what it will mean for public servants around the region.

- **Opportunities for New Hampshire’s Child Care Sector**—In April, Dr. Jess Carson, director for the Carsey School of Public Policy’s Center for Social Policy in Practice, shared some of the Center’s most recent research on child care in the state. She also discussed policy opportunities in New Hampshire, as well as actions in other states.

- **Housing Affordability Challenges in New Hampshire**—In May, Robert Tourigny, Executive Director of NeighborWorks Southern New Hampshire, discussed the current state of housing affordability in New Hampshire and what—if anything—can help relieve the crisis.

- **Supporting Children's Behavioral Health in a Post-Pandemic World**—In June, the DHHS Director of the Bureau for Children's Behavioral Health, Rebecca Ross, discussed new developments in how the Bureau is collaborating with providers to support the wellbeing of our youth and what other opportunities may lie ahead to strengthen behavioral health care for young New Hampshirites.

- **Increasing Expectations: Participation, Inclusion, and Belonging 33 Years After the Passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act**—In September, Dr. Kelly Nye-Lengerman, Director of the Institute on Disability at UNH, discussed the current opportunities and challenges in supporting the inclusion, belonging, and participation of all people in community life since the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

- **To Stay or To Go: Why Young People Stay in New Hampshire, Why They Might Leave, and Why It Matters**—In October, Stay Work Play Executive Director Will Stewart discussed the results of the organization’s 2023 survey of young people in New Hampshire. This post-pandemic survey shows what has changed—for the better and for the worse—about how young people feel about life here in the Granite State.

- **Human Trafficking and Labor Exploitation in New Hampshire**—In our November talk, the speakers discussed what they have learned about human trafficking and labor exploitation in New Hampshire from their collaborative work with the NH Human Trafficking Collaborative Task Force, as well as the next steps to address vulnerabilities in the state.

- **2023 NH Agricultural Policy Forum**—In December, in preparation for the 2024 legislative session, we heard from New Hampshire’s most well-informed food policy minds. Each speaker provided insights on the state level legislation being considered this session, as well as insight into what individuals, communities, organizations, and businesses can do to get involved in the legislative process and support positive change in our food system.
FUNDERS

Fiscal Year 2023

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Fiscal Year 2023

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