

# HOME FOR ALL

Fall/Winter 2023 Newsletter

## Speak Up For Housing

The **Home for All Coalition**, in collaboration with the **Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast** will be hosting a **Housing Advocacy Workshop** on January 9th from 6:00-8:30pm to equip Seacoast residents with the education, resources, tools and support to speak up in favor of affordable housing in their communities.

The event is **FREE** and open to all. No prior housing knowledge or experience is necessary to participate.

We hope you'll join us to learn what you can do to advocate for housing affordability, availability, and diversity.

### Seacoast Housing Advocacy Workshop

Speak up for Housing

JANUARY 9TH, 2024  
6:00-8:30 PM

3S ARTSPACE  
319 VAUGHAN ST.  
PORTSMOUTH, NH 03801

Scan to RSVP



Special thanks to **Cross Roads House** and **3S Artspace** for making this event possible.

Home for All Coalition is a recipient of the 3S Artspace Community Use Grant. The grant was developed in 2020 by 3S Artspace in direct response to the persisting challenges nonprofits face in reaching their audience and mission goals, particularly during the pandemic.

## 2024 MEETING DATES

**January 11th, 9-11:00am**  
Full Coalition Meeting at CAP-SC  
577 Central Ave #10, Dover, NH

**April 11th, 9-11:00am**  
Full Coalition Meeting  
Location TBD

**July 11th, 9-11:00am**  
Full Coalition Meeting  
Location TBD

**March 14th, 9-11:30am\***  
Strategic Planning Workshop  
Location TBD (in-person)

**May 16th, 9-12:00pm\***  
Strategic Planning Workshop  
Location TBD (in-person)

**October 10th, 9-11:00am**  
Full Coalition Meeting  
Location TBD



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# Fall / Winter 2023 in Review

## DECEMBER 2023 *Housing We Need Conference*



On December 8th, the **Center for Ethics in Society** hosted the **6th Annual Housing We Need Roundtable Forum** at **Saint Anselm College**. The forum brought together stakeholders from around the state to discuss barriers and solutions to the housing crisis.

**Home for All Coalition** was featured in the “**Housing Success Stories**” portion of the event highlighting the coordination of an effective regional coalition, the success of **Home for All’s Developer Roundtable** in September, and the innovation behind the **Affordable Housing Incentive Program**, which is now an initiative of **Granite United Way**.

## NOVEMBER 2023 *Seacoast Women’s Giving Circle Learn Forum*

On November 14th, the **Seacoast Women’s Giving Circle** hosted their 18th Annual Learn Forum and invited a panel of community experts on the Seacoast to discuss housing insecurity.



Panelists included Director of Home for All Coalition, **Kara Anne Rodenhizer**, and many other Home for All partners, including:

- **Emily Flinkstrom**, Executive Director of Fairtide, Co-Founder of Mainspring Collective
- **Wildolfo Arvelo**, Executive Director of Cross Roads House
- **Craig Welch**, Executive Director of Portsmouth Housing Authority
- **Nick Taylor**, Executive Director of Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast
- **Andrea Pickett**, Resident Services Coordinator at Portsmouth Housing Authority

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## OCTOBER 2023

### *Budget & Policy Conference*

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On October 16th, the **New Hampshire Fiscal Policy Institute** hosted its **8th Annual Budget and Policy Forum** in Concord, NH. The conference brought stakeholders together and featured leading policy experts from various areas to address cross-cutting issues and elevate impactful policy solutions.

The Housing Panel was moderated by **Ben Frost**, Deputy Executive Director and Legal Counsel for **New Hampshire Housing** and featured Home for All Coalition Director, **Kara Anne Rodenhizer** and **Housing Action NH** Director, **Elissa Margolin**.



## SEPTEMBER 2023

### *HFA Developer Roundtable*

On September 28th **Home for All Coalition** hosted a Developer Roundtable in Portsmouth, in partnership with the **Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast**, **Housing Action NH**, **Granite United Way**, and **New Hampshire Housing**.

The event engaged **22 private and non-profit developers** in a roundtable conversation to better understand the unique challenges they face in developing affordable housing in the Greater Seacoast as well as more broadly in New Hampshire and Maine. Also in attendance, were **35 key housing stakeholders**, representing housing and community development organizations, regional planning commissions, housing finance and lending institutions, local municipalities, government entities, elected officials and policy makers from the local, state, and national level.

We are very grateful to our event sponsors who made the event possible: **Northeast Credit Union Foundation**, **Great Bay Community College**, and the **New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's Geoffrey E. Clark and Martha Fuller Clark Fund**.

From this forum, **Home for All** will be focusing on identifying and amplifying collective solutions and strategies to overcome barriers and encourage the development of affordable housing.

In response to feedback from developers around the need for community engagement, education, and awareness, Home for All will be hosting a **Housing Advocacy Workshop on January 9th, 2024 from 6:00-8:30pm**. The workshop will educate, engage, and empower Seacoast residents to advocate for diverse and affordable housing options in their local communities.

**In 2024 Home for All will continue these important community conversations through a series of networking events, advocacy workshops, a housing roundtable with business leaders, and more!**



# UPCOMING EVENTS

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SAT  
DEC  
16TH

**The Community Action Partnership of Strafford County (CAP-SC)** will be hosting their **Annual December Holiday Food Basket Distribution** on Saturday, December 16th. CAP-SC is looking for **volunteers to assist with distribution on Friday December 15th and Saturday December 16th.**

To learn more email **Silas Garcia** at [sgarcia@straffordcap.org](mailto:sgarcia@straffordcap.org) or to sign up to help, visit: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DA4AE2FA4F5C16-46321980-december#/>

THURS  
DEC  
21ST

**Cross Roads House** invites you to join their Executive Director, **Will Arvelo** for the final **One Man Vigil for Homelessness. All are welcome to join Will** from **8-9:00am** in front of the **North Church in Market Square** to raise awareness on the issue of homelessness and housing insecurity.

THURS  
DEC  
21ST

**The New Hampshire Office of Planning and Development's (OPD)** will be hosting their **Planning Lunches at Noon "PLAN" webinar series from 12-1pm** featuring **OPD** Principal Planner, **Noah Hodgetts** and **NH Housing** Deputy Executive Director/Chief Legal Officer **Benjamin Frost.**

The webinar will discuss legislation enacted during the 2023 legislative session that affects the responsibilities and authority of municipal planning and zoning boards and provide a preview of the planning, zoning, land use, and housing related bills proposed for the 2024 legislative session.

To register, visit: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/2fefbc2e-1abf-4bb3-a76c-96a7de826fc4@992deae9-1c4c-42c8-a310-5088af55ba74>

THURS  
DEC  
21ST

Join **Cross Roads House** and local advocates for the annual **Homeless Persons Memorial Vigil.** The vigil begins at **5pm** in front of North Church in Portsmouth's Market Square.

## What is the significance of December 21st?

December 21st is the first day of winter and the longest night of the year. It is also **Homeless Person's Memorial Day**, a day of remembrance for those who have died in the past year without stable housing. These people were once little kids with big dreams. They were mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, sons, and daughters. They were friends, neighbors, and REAL people in OUR communities.

The symbolism of winter solstice is an intentional call to reflect on the privilege of having a home in which to spend long nights such as tonight. As light begins to return to our days, let us think critically on how we show up in our communities and who we include in our understanding of home. We hope you will join us on the 21st!



# SEACOAST WINTER WARMING CENTERS

## Rockingham County

### **Cross Roads House** **Winter Warming Center**

600 Lafayette Road Portsmouth, NH

Open from 7:00pm to 8:00am when the temperature is 28 degrees or lower, and/or there is forecasting for 6 inches of snow or 1 inch of rain.

### **Operation Blessing** **Winter Warming Center**

600A Lafayette Road, Portsmouth, NH

Open through April 1, 2024 from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00a.m., with additional hours added during dangerous weather conditions.

## Strafford County

### **Willand Warming Center**

30 Willand Drive Somersworth, NH

To receive notifications for when the warming center will be activated, TEXT "WILLAND" to : (855) 935-4402.

The Willand Drive Warming Center is open 5pm-9am when activated and has a capacity for around 80 individuals. It is only open during winter weather emergencies. There are supports for things like transportation, along with breakfast and dinner.

## York County

### **York County Shelter Programs** **Winter Warming Center**

69 Brook Street, Sanford, Maine  
(Lafayette School Building)

The Warming Center will remain open 24-7 throughout the winter and can serve up to 44 people.

The center offers guests a place to rest, meals, and case management and housing navigation services.

People can stop by (access is through the rear door) or call ahead, (207) 324-1137, ext. 139 or (207) 888-3291 to see if there is space available.

### **Seeds of Hope Neighborhood Center** **Drop-in/Warming Center**

35 South Street  
Biddeford, Maine 04005

The center is open Tuesday through Friday from 9 AM-1 PM.

For more information, call: (207) 283-1783



# Partner News & Updates



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## Gather 6TH ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DISTRIBUTION

On November 16th, one week before Thanksgiving, **Gather** held its **6th Annual Thanksgiving Distribution**.

The event resulted in **Gather's** biggest distribution of the year - **serving 1,435 individuals and feeding 489 families with 472 turkeys, 875 pies, and all the fixings!**

Over **22,629 pounds of food** was distributed with the help of **77 volunteers**.

**The Alliance for Greater Good** also partnered with **Gather** to give out over **2,000 warm gear items**: hats, socks, scarves, and gloves. With the anticipation of another cold winter ahead, providing these items to members of the community who will be facing higher utility bills and harsher conditions is vital.

## Mainspring Collective GROUND BREAKING

On November 16th, **Mainspring Collective** broke ground at 22 Shapleigh Road in Kittery Maine, which will be the new home for **Fair Tide, Footprints Food Pantry**, and other local social service agencies.

By bringing multiple organizations under one roof, the social service collective will be able to better serve and meet the needs of the nearly 4,500 people on the Seacoast struggling to make ends meet, while ensuring dignity and empowerment for everyone who walks through the doors.

To learn more visit: [www.mainspringcollective.org](http://www.mainspringcollective.org).



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PRESS

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## NH MUNICIPAL LAND USE REGULATION ANNUAL SURVEY

**NH RSA 675:9** established the **New Hampshire Office of Planning and Development (OPD)** as the state repository for all local land use regulation. It also authorized OPD to conduct an annual survey of all municipalities to collect information pertaining to new and/or amended land use ordinances.

Findings from OPD's **2022 Municipal Land Use Regulation Survey** highlight that many NH communities passed zoning changes in 2022, with approximately **144 jurisdictions (64%) adopting zoning amendment that were largely adopted through the Annual Town Meeting process. In addition:**

- 1 community adopted a comprehensive Zoning Ordinance in 2022.
- 4 communities amended their Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) ordinances to allow detached units.
- 5 communities adopted or expanded their workforce housing ordinances.
- 13 communities added a definition or adopted short-term rental regulations.
- 11 communities adopted definitions for solar arrays or a solar energy systems ordinance.
- 1 community adopted 79-E, which provides property tax relief to encourage investment in rehabilitation of underutilized buildings in downtowns and town centers.

**Survey results suggest that while some jurisdictions rolled back incentives for workforce housing in 2022, many are utilizing innovative planning and zoning approaches to meet their communities' current needs, while planning proactively for the future.**

To read the full report, visit: <https://www.nheconomy.com/office-of-planning-and-development/what-wedo/municipal-and-regional-planning-assistance/municipal-land-use-regulation-annual-survey>

## THE 2022 STATE OF HOMELESSNESS IN NH REPORT

On December 6, 2023, the **NH Coalition to End Homelessness** released their 2022 Annual Report, **The State of Homelessness in New Hampshire**. The report provides an analysis of statewide trends in homelessness based on available data for 2022.

The report found a marked **increase in homelessness overall from 2021 to 2022** in New Hampshire and identified **significant increases in both chronic and unsheltered homelessness in the state. The overall rate of homelessness in NH increased 31%, from 331 per 100,000 residents in 2020 to 432 in 2022.**

To read the full report, visit: <https://www.nhceh.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/NHCEH-2022-Annual-Report-Final.pdf>





## 2023 PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

**The Community Action Partnership of Strafford County (CAP-SC)** is a private nonprofit founded in 1965 with a mission to reduce barriers to help clients improve their economic stability and well-being through education, advocacy, and partnerships.

**CAP-SC** works with community, state, and federal partners to assist children, families, low-income, and elderly residents in becoming or remaining financially and socially independent through a variety of coordinated programs. Without the services provided by CAP-SC, many local residents would be without a means to provide for their basic needs, including food, education, child care, utilities assistance, transportation, housing, emergency shelter, and access to other services.



## CAP-SC Drop-In Center

**Location:** 577 Central Ave in Dover, NH

**Hours:** Monday through Friday  
8:30am – 11am and 12pm – 4:30pm.

**The Drop-In Center provides a safe place to get essential supplies and services for living outdoors, as well as assistance towards gaining housing.**

**Supplies and Services include:** A space to cool down in the summer and warm up during the winter, free coffee, water, and Gatorade, snacks when available (by donation), toiletries, clothes (when available), Internet access, Phone for client use, Phone acquisition, Access to the CAPSC food pantry, long distance bus/LYFT rides to shelter or services, rides and/or support for court cases, primary healthcare medical bus visits on Wednesdays.

**Assistance includes:** Assistance with applying for government benefits, assistance with applying for housing assistance, ID/Driver license assistance, assistance with obtaining needed documents (ex. Birth certificate), assistance with locating and securing drug and alcohol rehab services, Internal referrals for victims of domestic violence, and referrals to outside agencies.