



## EC Region 1

NH Early Childhood Region 1 was established in September of 2021 through Preschool Development Grant Funds as a collaborative effort between the NH Department of Education (DOE) and Health and Human Services (DHHS). Funding is intended to support, at a regional level, the development of a state-wide system of partnerships that enhance early childhood care and education (ECCE)-school-family support collaborations and build coalition infrastructure for cross-sector collaboration within the region.

Monadnock United Way is the Lead Backbone Agency for EC Region 1.

## Meet the New Systems Manager



Hi! I am Ellen Taetzsch and am so excited to be working in this region. There is so much passion, ingenuity and collaboration already existing that I am learning all about. Before this I worked in Vermont with Building Bright Futures where I facilitated regional councils focused on sharing information and planning action to create meaningful opportunities and improve the system for young children and families. I am excited to bring this experience to New Hampshire and learn from you all. I live in Gilsium with my partner Zach and 4 dogs. In my free time I

enjoy hiking, paddle boarding, finding the best ice cream places and trying new things. Currently I am learning how to knit.

Please feel free to [reach out](#) to me at any time with questions, ideas or just to say hi.

## EC Region 1 Updates

### Strengths and Needs Assessment

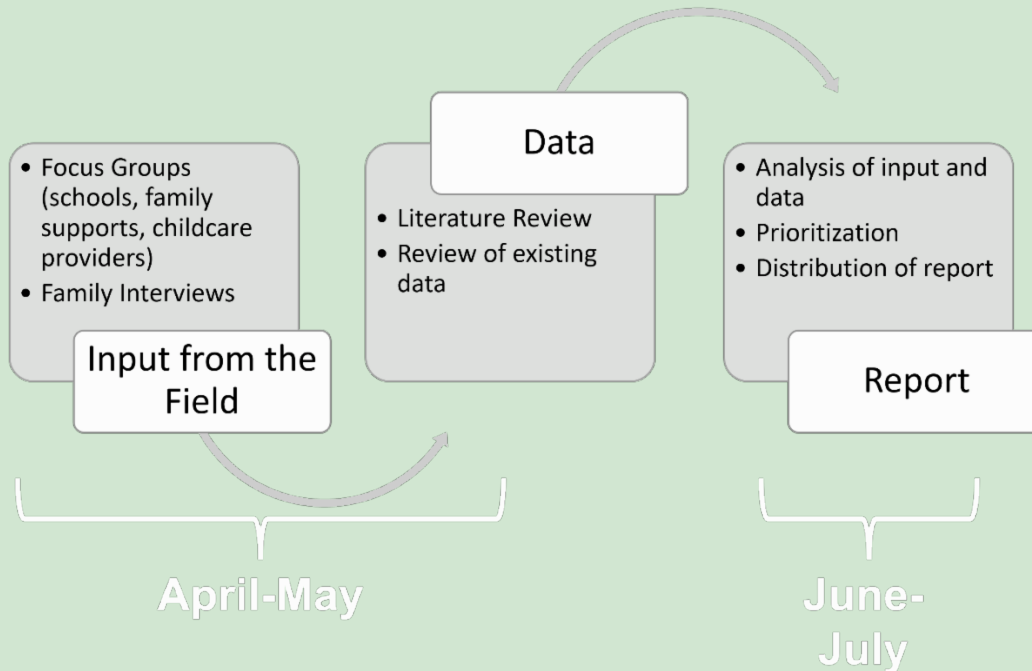
Early Childhood Region 1 is conducting a strengths and needs assessment to gain a better understanding of:

- Families' experience raising their children in the region
- Where resources and services exist within our region and who uses them that would benefit from funding
- Assets, gaps, and barriers in early childhood services that need additional attention

Our guiding questions are:

1. What is working well that needs more funding/continued funding?
2. What are the gaps that need new funding?
3. What are the opportunities for collaboration with other agencies/organizations?

Here is the process we will be following.



If you would like to participate in a focus group, have data or information to contribute, or would like to assist in any other way reach out to Ellen at [ellen@muw.org](mailto:ellen@muw.org).



\*Photo provided by The River Center

## Introducing Collaboration Through Mentoring

The Coaching Through Collaboration project has been successful in elevating professional development within the region through Practice-Based Coaching. It is evident, however, that there could be additional opportunities to share the wealth of knowledge and skills across the region on a smaller scale.

The Collaboration Through Mentorship (CTM) initiative aims to support short-term collaborative partnerships between individuals or organizations in various sectors of early childhood across the region.

- Potential mentors can offer to share their knowledge and skills by applying to work

with others.

- Those seeking skill or knowledge development can apply as a mentee in search of a mentor.
- Individuals or organizations can apply together as matched mentors/mentees.

The intent of the rolling application process is to be flexible and quickly meet the individual needs of the applicants. CTM will maximize impact through matching mentors and mentees for short-term collaboration.

If you're interested in learning more about Collaboration Through Mentorship, please watch our webinar or contact [IM@muw.org](mailto:IM@muw.org).



\*Photo provided by The River Center

## EC Region 1 Project Collaboration Through Coaching

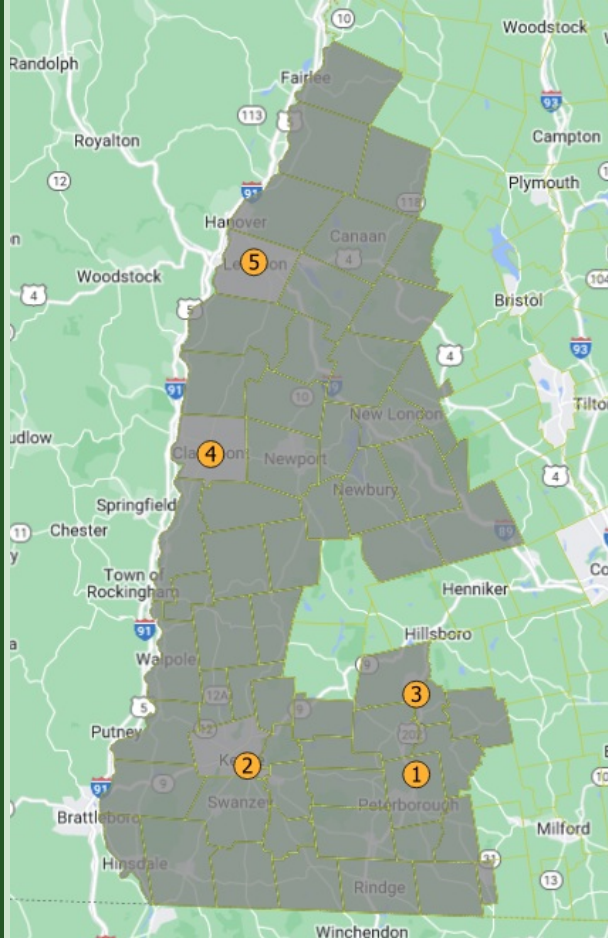
The ECR1 Collaboration Through Coaching project was approved for funding in December 2021. By the beginning of March 2022, 9 coaches were trained in the Practice Based Coaching model and completed the Strengthening Families online training modules. Each area of the region (Upper Valley, Greater Sullivan County and the Monadnock Region) has at least one trained coach in this cohort. Early Childcare and Education, Schools, Family Supports and Higher Education are all represented.

The coaches are beginning to use their new coaching skills to each coach two others in the field with a focus on a variety of promising practices (Trauma Informed Care, Pyramid Model for Social Emotional Competence in Young Children, Inquiry-based Learning, Nature-based Education, Play-based Learning, Child Development Associate Credential).

The coach coordinators will continue to support the cohort with Professional Learning Community sessions, individual coach meetings and sharing of resources. We look forward to sharing their progress with others in the region!

## Field Notes: Family Resource Centers

**Family Resource Centers are community-based programs that provide a variety of services to children**



and families, including parent education, information and referrals, grandparent support groups, mentoring, educational support, cultural and arts events, and other services.

We have 5 Family Resource Centers in our Region:

1. [The River Center- Peterborough](#)
2. [HCS Services- Keene](#)
3. [Grapevine Family and Community Resource Center- Antrim](#)
4. [TLC Family Resource Center- Claremont](#)
5. [Upper Valley Family Resource Center Waypoint- Lebanon](#)

## The River Center



**THE River Center**  
*Supporting Our Community for Generations*

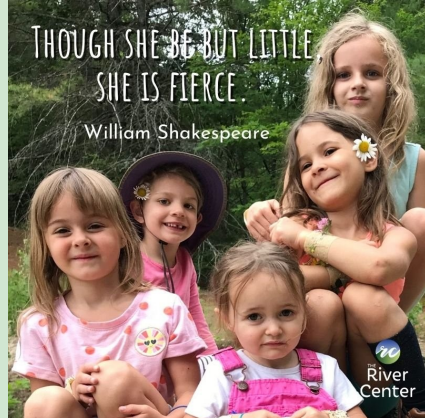
In addition to parenting education, in-home support for families, and activities for children and caregivers, The

River Center Family and Community Resource Center also provides free tax preparation and assist eligible families to apply for the Child Tax Credit.

Family resource centers throughout New Hampshire have access to funding to support families with 0-12 years old in the household. This is provided by a generous donation given through the NH Charitable Foundation. This additional funding has enabled The River Center to support families through assistance with car repairs, dental bills, bicycle repairs, wood pellets, plumbing and more.

Supporting children and their families is vital to building strong communities.

[Find Out More Here](#)



## HCS Services

Our [Family Resource Center](#) is available to all community members as a drop-in center and place for arranged gatherings, meetings, or



workshops. Those who utilize the space will have access to kitchen and bathroom facilities as well as appropriate furniture and supplies for infant care, and toys and activities for older children. Access to the Center is wheelchair accessible as well as easy to enter with a stroller. Hours for drop-in times are:

- Monday 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- Wednesday 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- Thursday 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM

[Find out more information here](#)

## Grapevine -Antrim

Now a Family Resource Center of Quality



[The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center](#)

in Antrim is excited to announce that it has been designated as a Family

Resource Center of Quality (FRC-Q) by the Wellness and Primary Prevention Council.

[To learn more click here](#)

**TLC Family Resource Center-Claremont**  
Expands to Newport and Open house in Claremont



[TLC Family Resource Center](#) is holding an open house on April 11th. Click on the image to the left for more information.

TLC Family Resource Center has been providing services to people living in and around Newport for more than 30 years. Now, people in Newport and the surrounding community will be able to meet in person with TLC staff at Millie's Place and Epiphany Episcopal Church.

[Click here for more information on the Newport satellite office](#)

## Upper Valley Family Resource Center- Waypoint New Director and Services Available

My name is Lisa Bozogan, and I started at the [Upper Valley Family Resource Center](#) during February 2022. I look forward to collaborating with individuals and agencies throughout the Upper Valley towards creating opportunities and supports for our community that could not be offered by one person or group alone.



[To learn more about Services, supports and group offerings click here.](#)



\*Photo provided by The River Center

## Contact Information

**United  
Way**



**Monadnock United Way**

Subscribe

**Monadnock United Way is the Lead Backbone Agency for EC Region 1.**

**Please email [ellen@muw.org](mailto:ellen@muw.org) for more information.**