



COMMUNITY CONNECTION

A PUBLICATION OF MONADNOCK UNITED WAY

June 22, 2021

Welcome to the first edition of the Community Connection Newsletter!

Here's what you'll find inside:

- Partner updates and news
- Upcoming Events
- Partner wish lists and community resources



Partner Updates



NH WIC Benefit Increase

Did you hear? The Cash Value Benefit for fruits and vegetables has temporarily increased to \$35 for women and children on your June through September sets of benefits in New Hampshire! #NHWIC

The WIC (Women, Infants and Children Supplemental Nutrition) Program provides supplemental foods, nutrition education, and referrals at no cost to income eligible pregnant women, new moms and infants, and children up to 5 years of age. Call Southwestern Community Services WIC Program at 603-719-4234 for more information or go to [WIC Pre-Application Portal](#).



Is Head Start Right for You?



Every child deserves a Head Start

SCS Head Start has locations in Ashuelot, Drewsville, Claremont, Jaffrey, Keene, Newport, & Swanzy.



For more information, contact Ella Weber at 603.719.4160



To apply please use the following web address:

<https://www.childplus.net/apply/en-us/5537AB3491F9B248F49FE9D66B7CC777/A456AFD5B342D7549C1B8A99F6087D4>

Is Head Start right for you?

Benefits for Parents

- Tuition-free
- Nutritionist available for consultation
- Family supports and resources
- Parent-to-parent connections
- Home-to-school connections
- Transportation assistance to all Head Start-sponsored events

Benefits for Children

- Healthy, family-style meals
- Meets the developmental needs of individual children
- Inclusive of children with disabilities
- Health screenings: hearing, vision, educational, dental, and nutrition
- NAEYC accredited education





Spreading the Word About the Monadnock Alliance for Families

For the Monadnock Alliance for Families, spreading the word has been part of the mission from the very beginning. Many families facing challenges don't realize the help available – or who to turn to when help is needed. Since the Alliance was first created in

2017 as the Monadnock Home Visiting Alliance, that question – what is the best way to reach families? – has been a constant topic of discussion.

Thanks to support from the Monadnock United Way and Impact Monadnock, the Alliance has been able to fund an outreach program with a part-time outreach coordinator who works to creatively share the news about available family support.

Currently, the Alliance is using social media as its primary way to share news about programs, events, and services designed specifically for children and families. Launched in January, the Alliance's [Facebook](#) page is constantly updated with information about programs around the region. The focus is on programs from the five Alliance agencies but programs from other local organizations are also included. After all, the goal is to be a broad and reliable source for this information, giving busy parents an easy way to find the programs that will best meet their needs.

With programs considering changes for summer and a new school year, as well as changing COVID protocols, the Alliance's Facebook page promises to be an even more important resource in the next few months. We know COVID has presented lots of challenges for families over the last 16 months, and that those challenges continue. Through classes, groups, events, and individual family support/home visiting, all five Monadnock Alliance for Families agencies are ready to help families grow and thrive!

The Monadnock Alliance for Families is made up of [The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center](#), [Healthy Starts at HCS](#), [Monadnock Family Services](#), [Rise for baby and family](#), and [The River Center Family and Community Resource Center](#). Together they provide programs and services for families throughout the entire Monadnock Region.



Active Antrim Volunteer Remembered

Longtime Antrim resident Ben Pratt, 88, died on May 27. Ben was one of the original founders of [The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center](#), more than 25 years ago. He was the organization's longest standing board member and a treasured volunteer. Among many other things, he helped to create the [Community Wood Bank](#), which continues to help local families with their heating needs. Thoughtful with his words, when Ben spoke, people listened. He will be greatly missed, and Antrim is a better, stronger community because of him.

In addition to his work with The Grapevine, Ben lent his time and energy to many other local organizations. He served as a library trustee, chair of the Antrim Zoning Board, served as the town's treasurer, and sat on the town's Select Board as well as the Antrim Water and Sewer Commission. He founded the Southwestern New Hampshire Hospital Equipment "Lend a Bed" program, which provides equipment to homebound patients in need. He also worked with the state MATHCOUNTS program, a national math competition for middle school students.

[The Grapevine](#) is part of the Monadnock Alliance for Families, a collaborative helping families all around the Monadnock Region. The other members are [Healthy Starts at HCS](#), [Monadnock Family Services](#), [Rise for baby and family](#), and [The River Center Family and Community Resource Center](#). Supported by the Monadnock United Way, they work together to provide programs and services for families throughout the entire Monadnock Region.

Donations may be made in Ben's name to the [NH Charitable Foundation](#), to be added to the Monadnock Region Fund.



Events

Jaffrey Chamber's Ron Despres Memorial Golf Classic

Player registration is now open for the Jaffrey Chamber's Ron Despres Memorial Golf Classic to be held Monday, July 12th (rain date, July 13th) at the Shattuck Golf Club. There are three ways to register:

- Online: <http://www.jaffreychamber.com/events/details/2021-ron-despres-memorial-golf-tournament-10985>
- By phone: Call (603) 532-4549
- By email: info@jaffreychamber.com

NH Association of Fire Chief's Golf Tournament

- Player registration is now open for the NH Association of Fire Chief's Golf Tournament to be held August 9th at the Lochmere Country Club in Tilton, NH. For more information email scarrier@gilfordnh.org

Kurn Hattin Homes Fall Conference

Friday, October 22 from 8:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Learn to:

- Identify and incorporate lessons from the COVID pandemic in your thinking and planning
- Understand the history and causes of poverty in the United States
- Identify the effects of poverty on a child's social, emotional, and cognitive development
- Utilize tools to help recognize and alleviate the strain of poverty on children
- Develop strategies for advocacy and building successful community partnerships with government officials and administrators
- Discuss plans for implementing effective problem solving strategies in your own work

Register at conference.kurnhattin.org



Wish Lists and Resources

Covid-19 Recovery Funding Application Process Now Open

Monadnock United Way is accepting applications for Covid-19 recovery funding. MUW plans to distribute \$130,000 to qualifying programs and initiatives that are working to help families and individuals in need due to the pandemic. The application deadline is July 19, 2021. For full details and an application for funding, please go to our website muw.org/covid19recovery.

PPE Available

Are you in need of PPE face masks? Corning Specialty Materials has facemasks in lots of 100 that are available for donation. If interested, contact Angela King at KingAL@corning.com

Rent and Utility Payment Assistance

The New Hampshire Emergency Rental Assistance Program provides assistance to eligible residents who cannot pay their rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Learn more from [Southwestern Community Services](http://SouthwesternCommunityServices.org). Apply at CAPNH.org OR call 2-1-1

