

# HORIZONS

SUMMER 2026



Accessibility is the Missing Piece  
to a Thriving Community



# Advancing an Accessible World for All

A full 13% of the American population has a diagnosed disability, and this population leads a very different life than the other 87%. If you are over 61 years old, the numbers rise dramatically, with 25% of the population living with a disability. The data demonstrates that most of these individuals do not have access to the same services and experience a much-reduced quality of life along with increased social isolation.

While progress has been made, these challenges remain:

- Unemployment rates for people with disabilities are 3× higher
- Poverty rates are double
- People with disabilities have much lower wages
- Only 0.15% of housing in the U.S. is wheelchair accessible
- 50% of the unhoused have at least one disability
- Gaps in healthcare access and other services can translate to years on waitlists
- 20% of all public-school students—or 1 in 5 NH students K–12—have a disability

Accessibility is not a single issue—it spans education, employment, housing, healthcare, recreation, and art. An accessible world requires coordinated, aligned systems that work together to support the whole person. Individuals with disabilities are often included in name, but face barriers to full engagement in school, work, and community life.

True accessibility ensures individuals can actively participate, contribute, and lead. This is the world that CMF aspires to achieve.

CMF's work across programs demonstrates that when barriers are intentionally addressed—through early education, workforce investment, innovative service models, and community partnerships—access expands, participation increases, and outcomes improve. This contrast underscores both the urgency of the need and the possibility of change.

CMF is not only responding to need, but actively shaping a future where accessibility is not the exception, but the expectation. Thank you so much for making this happen—we could not do it without you.

Warm regards,



Ned Olney  
President and CEO



Letter from  
the President



# THE FACE OF PHILANTHROPY

## Join us for the Annual Volleyball Classic on June 6

The sands of Lake Winnepesaukee beckon! You're invited to the 7th Annual Winnepesaukee Volleyball Classic at the Akwa Marina Yacht Club on June 6.

This all-ages event is one of the social highlights of the year, as we welcome a large, fun-loving group of beach volleyball enthusiasts—as well as casual players—for a day filled with food, music, and friendly competition.

And here's the best part: there is still time to sign up your team for free! Or, if you'd like to support the event, sponsorships are still available.

The event began when Kurt and Sarah Mailloux, who have a child with autism, were motivated to support Crothed Mountain Foundation's mission through the use of their marina. A beach volleyball bonanza made perfect sense considering the picturesque location on the shores of Winnepesaukee. Eight years later, the Classic has become one of the liveliest times you can find in the New Hampshire Lakes region.

"We are so grateful to the Mailloux family for their ongoing, generous support of Crothed Mountain's mission to help children with autism live, learn, and thrive in the community," said Kevin Harte, Vice President of Advancement for Crothed Mountain Foundation. "We look forward to the Volleyball Classic every year, and the new and familiar faces who show up always have an amazing time."



While the joy of the day is infectious (just look at those pictures), the true power of the Volleyball Classic comes from its support of Logan's Giving Fund for Autism. This fund, named for Kurt and Sarah's son, provides much-needed co-pay relief to families with children with autism, helping ease the costs of essential services for their child. Every dollar raised from the Volleyball Classic—through peer-to-peer fundraising and sponsorships—goes directly to help families who need it most.

Even if you don't feel like playing volleyball, you are welcome to attend the event for free. There are attractions for the kids too: a bouncy house, a sandy beach area, and a swimming pool. Stop by and say hi—we'll be there all day!



**7th Annual Winnepesaukee Volleyball Classic**  
Akwa Marina Yacht Club  
95 Centenary Ave, Laconia, NH 03246

Sign up your team or sponsor at: [www.volleyballclassic.org](http://www.volleyballclassic.org)



# WHAT'S HOPPING AT LILYPAD

## How Logan's Giving Fund for Autism—and you!—strengthens families and skills for children with autism

LilyPad Learning Center, located in Barrington, NH, is an inclusive environment designed to support children with autism with applied behavior analysis (ABA) as well as other preschool-aged children from the community. LilyPad families receive support from Logan's Giving Fund for Autism, which comes in the form of needed co-pay support for clinical services.

In the coming months, CMF Kids will partner with LilyPad Change to launch a comprehensive Autism Learning Series designed to support both professionals and families across New Hampshire communities. The series will include live webinars, unique learning opportunities, downloadable resources, podcast-style conversations, and interactive Q&A sessions to increase accessibility and flexibility for participants.

We took a moment to speak with Allie Tompkins, M.S. Ed., BCBA, co-founder of LilyPad, who shared the impact of Logan's Giving Fund on parents as well as the importance of creating a learning area that includes children of all abilities.

## What are you seeing on the landscape as far as need goes for young children with autism and other disabilities?

I feel like parents are looking for inclusive spaces where their kids can be part of a bigger community and not be isolated. I think that they're looking for places where their children can get intensive and highly skilled services, but also still have the experience of childhood and get access to play and access to peers.

# THE FACE OF PHILANTHROPY

## It's kind of mixed in there, right?

We're a licensed child care facility, and we run our ABA practice out of the child care facility. For our ABA clients, we do some center-based sessions and we do home sessions so that we can work with the families directly. At the center, there is a lot more shared space for group activities like eating meals with other people. This approach allows us to work on all the different things that they need in different environments.

## What are the benefits for the children who don't have an autism diagnosis having those experiences with peers who do?

They are so interested in how the other kids are learning and communicating. They like to learn about how different kids communicate. Everyone is part of the classroom. Everyone is friends with each other.

## That must be valued by all the families!

The families are so great, and even beyond school, our kids with autism are getting invited to birthday parties. The parents understand that the kids have different needs, and these connections allow their children to go into different settings and try different things.

## What have you seen as far as positive impact from Logan's Giving Fund for Autism?

It's one stressor taken away—and it's a big stressor—because these parents are thinking about a million things at once. They are making sure that their kids are getting good, high-quality services now while also thinking about their future. Some of the kids are receiving services five days a week, so the cost comes at them really quickly. Helping parents with his huge financial burden allows them to focus on helping their kids build skills.

## Foundation Partners Making a Difference

Thank you to these foundation partners for supporting Crotched Mountain's Mission of helping people of all abilities live, learn, and thrive in the community.

**Athletic Brewing Company**

**Bailey's Team for Autism**

**Norwin S. and Elizabeth N. Bean Foundation**

**M.L. Billings Trust**

**C&S Wholesale Grocers**

**DCU for Kids**

**Eastern Bank Foundation**

**Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism**

**Harry Gregg Foundation**

**John A. and Carol A. Hubbard Charitable Foundation**

**James and Fernande Kelly Trust**

**Mascoma Bank**

**Northeast Delta Dental Foundation**

**RBC Foundation-USA**

**Thompson Endowment Fund**





## Northeast Delta Dental Foundation Steps Up to Make More Smiles for Crotched Mountain Community Care Clients

The Northeast Delta Dental Foundation has awarded a \$15,000 grant to Crotched Mountain Foundation to improve dental health care for low-income adults with disabilities and chronic health conditions served by Crotched Mountain Community Care (CMCC).

Crotched Mountain Community Care provides independent case management to individuals served by the Choices for Independence (CFI) waiver. CMCC case managers coordinate needed services to help adults with disabilities and other unique needs remain independent in their communities.

Funding from Northeast Delta Dental Foundation offers support for diverse, critical oral health needs of CMCC clients. As CMCC serves a population that frequently has barriers to accessing dental care, which includes a lack of insurance or the personal funds, this grant is likely their only option for treatment. Northeast Delta Dental Foundation has provided previous grants to support CMCC clients receiving dental services.

“The Northeast Delta Dental Foundation continues to be an incredible partner,” said Kara Nickulas, Executive Director of Adult Programs for Crotched Mountain Foundation. “Thanks to their generous grant, our clients have the opportunity to

receive proper oral care, which greatly improves their quality of life. We are grateful for their support. They are truly making a difference.”

“We are proud to support the Crotched Mountain Community Care Program in their vital mission to provide the comprehensive oral healthcare its clients deserve,” explained Jennifer Beyer, Senior Manager, Corporate Giving Northeast Delta Dental. “By funding preventive treatment for low-income adults with complex disabilities, we hope to help eliminate the barriers of cost and accessibility that too often result in painful, avoidable emergencies.”

### About Northeast Delta Dental Foundation

The Northeast Delta Dental Foundation supports organizations and initiatives in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont that provide oral health education and dental care to uninsured and underserved people. The mission of the Foundation is to advance the importance of good oral health. In 2025, the Foundation donated more than \$974,000 for oral health programs throughout the tri-state area. To learn more, visit [nedelta.com](https://nedelta.com).



# WHEN A PHONE LINE BECOMES A LIFELINE

A month ago, Jackie received a simple thing that changed her life: a phone. For most people, this device would not seem so transformative. In fact, these days, mobile phones are so taken for granted they are largely considered an appendage for most people.

But not for Jackie. Her new phone is precious. And she is nothing but grateful.

“It means communication,” she says. “It means freedom.”

“I’m not the kind of person that carries it around in my hand all the time,” she adds. “But I do keep it with me, and I get a lot of spam, though.” (Welcome to the world of mobile phones, Jackie!)

When she’s not deleting spam, she’s resting easy in the knowledge that she has a critically needed tether to the outside world within reach.

“This allows me to keep in contact with my physicians, with my case managers,” she says. “It’s basically my lifeline.”

Keith is one of those case managers, who provides specialized supports through Crooked Mountain Community Care’s CFI Case Management. Jackie receives these services due to her participation in the Medicaid Choices for Independence waiver, which supports lower-income individuals with unique needs. The primary goal of the CFI program? To ensure that folks like Jackie remain in their communities and out of nursing homes.

“I’ve been part of this program for over 10 years,” Jackie says. “Other case workers that I’ve had have helped me get a wheelchair and dental coverage. Without Crooked Mountain Community Care, I’d be lost.”

Jackie’s fiscal security became especially fraught when her husband passed away and her income was halved. She barely had enough money for food, let alone a phone. (“I had to use my neighbor’s phone,” she recalls.)

Jackie has combated ailments much of her life. When she was 18 months old, she had polio. Thankfully, she was

## When a Phone Line Becomes a Lifeline (cont.)

not hospitalized and didn't need braces. These early medical issues lingered and were compounded when she had a stroke 20 years ago. This severely impacted her balance, limiting her mobility.

"I have trouble walking," she says. "I'm lucky I can even talk after the stroke."

Jackie was able to leverage these tough circumstances into her own bit of impact; she worked providing speech therapy to people with brain injuries. Thanks to her own experiences, she was able to relate to her patients, offering, as she says, "empathy for their conditions" and working in her "dream job."

And in a piece of serendipity, Jackie's involvement with Crotoned Mountain Foundation's CFI program wasn't the first time she had crossed paths with the organization. She used to volunteer at Crotoned Mountain Rehabilitation Center when it was located at the Greenfield, NH campus, providing her time and compassion to the children who lived there.

She gave to us, so it only sounds fair that we can give to her, the gift she appreciates the most:

"My independence," she says.



**For these two long-time friends,  
participating in the community  
is food for the soul**

Freddie and Luis go way back. They first met when Luis worked as a Direct Support Professional in Crooked Mountain Foundation's adult residential program and Freddie was his client. Freddie had suffered a brain injury from a motorcycle accident, forever altering the course of his life and limiting his cognitive ability.

Spin the clock forward and the two are still together, but in a completely new dynamic.

Luis is a home provider for Crooked Mountain's Enhanced Family Care (EFC) program, and Freddie lives with him full time.

The duo share a life together, with one of the highlights of their daily adventures being Freddie's job at Meals on Wheels. Freddie and Luis set up luncheons throughout Hillsborough County, including Amherst, Peterborough, and Antrim.

They set up the tables and chairs, usually in a church or a similar space that is easily accessible for the seniors who attend the luncheons.

"For people that can't get up and get their own food, Freddie will help them," says Terry Blaisdell, Adult Services Program Manager for Crooked Mountain Foundation. "He'll take the tray and ask what they want and bring their food to the table."

He's been at the job for a year and he loves it. And if anyone has the personality and temperament for this job, it's Freddie. As social and amiable as a person can be, Freddie is known for his trademark "I love you," offered to anyone and everyone he meets (granted, this has led to a handful of awkward encounters but, hey, what are you gonna do).

"Freddie absolutely loves this job and they love him," Terry says. "This is an ideal example of the EFC program. It is a good connection between the provider and the client, and the two are active participants in the community."



# THE ADVENTURES OF FREDDIE AND LUIS



**Your foundation granted me \$500 for a travel scooter. And this really changed my life. You guys are beyond amazing.**

This message came into the message inbox of the Harry Gregg Foundation Facebook page. It was sent by Karen, a recent recipient of a Foundation grant. CMF administers the Foundation named after CMF's own founder, Harry Gregg. The Foundation is unique in that it provides funds directly to individuals. Opportunities for grant support include home modifications, educational services, adaptive equipment, therapeutic recreation, medical bills and technology—all with the goal to improve a person's quality of life that will enhance their independence.

This was precisely the case with Karen, whose travel scooter proved to make an incredible impact. Actually, let's have her take it from here:

**My name is Karen Cruz and I am 33 years old. I was diagnosed with RRMS (Relapsing-Remitting Multiple Sclerosis) and SLE (Systemic Lupus Erythematosus) at the age of 15.**

**Since 2021, my health has worsened. I experienced numbness on my entire right side, nerve pain, spasticity, chronic pain, weakness, and fatigue.**

**Ambulation became really hard. I use a standing walker but even that was becoming harder as I was having falls. Because of this, I was unable to go out and be independent.**

**When my insurance did not cover a travel scooter, I came upon the Harry Gregg Foundation and applied for a \$500 grant to receive a travel scooter.**

**When it got approved, my life changed.**

**Not only am I able to go out, I am doing it in a safe way and being more independent.**

**Thank you from the bottom of my heart!**

## A SIMPLE GRANT, A SEISMIC IMPACT

**A powerful example of how the Harry Gregg Foundation makes a difference**

Learn more about the Harry Gregg Foundation at [www.harrygreggfoundation.org](http://www.harrygreggfoundation.org).







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**Horizons Summer 2026**

## VOLUNTEERS COMPLETE THE PUZZLE OF IMPACT

**Did you know?** The Crotched Mountain Accessible Trails, Memorial Garden, and waterfront resources are part of approximately 1,100 acres of a protected conservation easement.

After a particularly heavy-duty winter, the trails have since been reopened following mud season. Over the past several seasons, our dedicated crew of trail volunteers has made a significant impact, helping divert heavy rains and runoff off the trails and preserving the valuable surface. Thanks to their work, the trails had less water damage than in any of the past several winters.

Coming this summer, Master Trailbuilder Lew Shelley of Snowhawk LLC will make major upgrades to the trails. Remember to always check the trails webpage at [www.cmf.org/trails](http://www.cmf.org/trails) for the latest news on closures and improvement updates.

Meanwhile, at the Memorial Garden, volunteers have been busy cleaning up after winter and installing new plants. Alumni of the University of New Hampshire Master Gardener Program have dedicated many years to stewarding the native and pollinator plant populations of this beautiful garden.

If you would like to volunteer at the trails or garden, visit [cmf.org/memorial-garden](http://cmf.org/memorial-garden) or [cmf.org/trails](http://cmf.org/trails) for more information. No prior experience necessary!

