



## Mission

*"North Country Health Consortium leads innovative collaboration to improve the health status of the region."*

## Member Organizations

Ammonoosuc Community Health Services  
Androscoggin Valley Home Care  
Androscoggin Valley Hospital  
Coos County Family Health Services  
Cottage Hospital  
Dartmouth Medical School  
Family Resource Center at Gorham  
Franklin Pierce Physician Asst. Program  
Grafton County Nursing Home  
Indian Stream Health Center  
Littleton Regional Hospital  
Mid-State Health Center  
Morrison Nursing Home  
NH Catholic Charities  
NH DHHS, Rural Health & Primary Care  
Northern Human Services  
North Country Home Health & Hospice  
Grafton County ServiceLink  
Tri-County Community Action Program  
Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital  
Weeks Medical Center  
White Mountain Community College  
45<sup>th</sup> Parallel EMS

## History and Purpose

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The North Country Health Consortium (NCHC) is a rural health network, created in 1997, as a vehicle for addressing common issues through collaboration among health and human service providers serving Northern New Hampshire. NCHC is engaged in activities for:

- solving common problems and facilitating regional solutions
- creating and facilitating services and programs to improve population health status
- health professional training, continuing education and management services to encourage sustainability of the health care infrastructure
- increasing capacity for local public health essential services
- increasing access to health care for underserved and uninsured residents of Northern New Hampshire

## Programs and Services

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### Workforce Development, Education and Training

The Northern New Hampshire Area Health Education (AHEC) is one of two federally designated AHECs in New Hampshire. Northern NH AHEC serves health and social service organizations and educational institutions in Coos, Grafton, Carroll and Belknap counties with the following programs and services. See [www.nnhahec.org](http://www.nnhahec.org).

- Medical database for members
- Conference coordination and continuing education for health professionals and facilities
- Support for health profession students in community-based sites and community-based preceptors
- Health careers pipeline activities
- Rural focus to statewide health professions workforce development

### Community Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP)

CSAP staff provides leadership, facilitation and coordination for individuals, agencies, and community coalitions to work together in the North Country to develop and implement substance abuse prevention activities. Assessment, training, evaluation, and communication strategies are used to strengthen substance abuse prevention initiatives in the North Country.

Coalition and youth-facilitated community-based activities are focused throughout Northern Grafton and Coos County. Activities are designed to reduce access to alcohol by youth and reduce abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and prescription drugs by youth.

Activities include:

- Parent and Professional education
- Substance Abuse Prevention projects
- Substance abuse prevention website [www.nchc-csap.org](http://www.nchc-csap.org)
- Substance abuse and tobacco clearinghouse
- A regional substance abuse prevention coalition

## North Country Health Consortium Staff

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*Dental Assistant*

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**Debra Simmons, B.Sc.**  
*Finance Director*

**Bob Thompson, B.Sc., CPS**  
*CSAP Program Manager*

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## Programs and Services Continued

### Molar Express

A mobile public health dental clinic designed to provide dental services to North Country residents who experience barriers to accessing dental care in traditional dental practices. A particular emphasis is placed on providing services to Medicaid eligible children. Molar Express services are delivered in schools, nursing homes and community sites and include:

- Diagnostic and preventive care
- Restorative care
- Dental health education
- Dental Health Careers Exploration Program
- Call 603-837-2643 ext.604 or 603-986-5485 (cell)

### Community and Public Health

North Country Health Consortium fosters a regional public health system to ensure the capacity for providing essential public health functions to the region. NCHC, with its North Country partners, provides the following:

- Conducts community assessment and planning
- Partners with community-based health providers, area municipal governments and other community representatives to improve the public health infrastructure through local public health networks
- Prepares for Public Health emergencies
- Recruits and manages Public Health volunteers
- Promotes healthy behaviors and workplace wellness
- Provides education and training to public health and public safety professionals in the North Country

### Capacity Building Services

- Community health status and needs assessment
- Convening and facilitating of health providers to develop collaborative solutions
- Forums on health issues
- Strategic planning
- Program development, project management and grant writing
- Technical assistance
- Advocating for rural health

### Major Funders of North Country Health Consortium Programs:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)  
Consortium Members  
Delta Dental Foundation  
Endowment for Health  
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)  
Merck Family Fund  
State of New Hampshire  
Tillotson Fund  
Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine  
NH Charitable Foundation

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