



New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation (NHHEAF)
New Hampshire Higher Education Loan Corporation (NHHELCO)
Granite State Management & Resources (GSM&R)
NHHEAF Network Educational Foundation (NNEF)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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North Country Students to Benefit from \$35,000 Grant Awarded to Local Nonprofit

Concord, NH- The NHHEAF Network Organizations' Center for College Planning (CCP) has received a \$35,000 grant from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund.

The grant will support the newest CCP initiative, the North Country Youth-2-Youth (NCY2Y) program. As part of this program, thirty North Country high school students will have the opportunity to be selected to serve as ambassadors within their communities to encourage fellow students to pursue higher education. The students will engage classmates and promote college planning workshops offered at their schools, encourage participation in regional college fairs, serve on panels and provide feedback on projects related to middle and elementary school students. Eligible schools include Berlin Senior High School, Colebrook Academy, Gorham High School, Groveton High School, Pittsburg School, Stratford Public School and White Mountains Regional High School.

The program, coordinated by Brian Walker, the CCP's dedicated North Country Outreach Specialist, aims to promote the long-term benefits of higher education to North Country students. According to Walker, "We feel there is no better way to promote the importance and value of higher education than to ask the college-bound students to relay the message."

The CCP is grateful to the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund for seeing the connection between the NCY2Y program and the Fund's desire to contribute to initiatives that support smaller school communities and learning environments, emphasize the development of strong social networks within schools and between schools and community and encourage North Country youth and young adults. "Receiving this grant is affirmation that strong programs and a continuum of services can make a real difference for students. NCY2Y is a clear example of The Center for College Planning's creative approach to supporting students' postsecondary aspirations," stated the NHHEAF Network Organizations' President & CEO, René A. Drouin.

For more information about the NCY2Y program, contact Brian Walker at 603.724.8576 or bwalker@gsmr.org. For information about New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund, visit <http://www.nhcf.org/page.aspx?pid=667>.

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The NHHEAF Network Organizations are comprised of three active 501(c) (3) nonprofit organizations that provide students and families with the resources and funding to pursue higher education aspirations. Funds generated by the Organizations make their charitable mission possible as student loan earnings are reinvested in programs and services that benefit citizens of New Hampshire. For more information, visit www.nhheaf.org.