

Keene Housing



COLLABORATIVE

BUILDING THE FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESSFUL ADULTHOOD



A Summer of Belonging, Adventure, and Opportunity

“At the time, I thought (the Kids Collaborative) helped children access activities. Now I realize they were doing something much bigger. They were quietly breaking the isolation our family had been living in.” — Kids Collaborative Parent

There's something powerful about watching a child walk into summer camp. Maybe they're carrying a backpack or a duffle bag. Maybe they're excited. Maybe they're nervous. Maybe it's the first time they've ever spent a night away from home.

What looks like a child simply heading off to camp can actually be the beginning of something much bigger.

This summer, **189 kids** participated in **nearly 700 weeks of summer camp** through Keene Housing Kids Collaborative. They tried new things, spent time outdoors, made friends, discovered new interests, built confidence, and—perhaps most importantly—experienced what it feels like to belong.

Making those opportunities possible represents a significant community investment. The Kids Collaborative provided \$123,000 in summer programming for kids, while our extraordinary camp and activity partners contributed an additional \$129,000 in reduced fees, scholarships, and other support. Together, that represents more than **\$250,000 invested in experiences and opportunities for local kids this summer.**

And getting a child registered is only part of what it takes to make camp truly accessible. For kids heading to overnight camp, our **Fill the Duffle** effort helped provide gear for 45 kids—from sleeping bags and towels to flashlights, toiletries, and other camp essentials. Because no child should have to feel different, unprepared, or unable to participate simply because their family can't afford the long packing list that comes with camp.

None of this happens without an incredible network of community partners. This summer, our kids participated in programs offered by **Adapt Inc., American School of Gymnastics, Beyond**

the Bell, Camp Brantwood, Camp Spofford, Camp Squanto, Camp Starfish, Camp Takodah, Cooper Canon, Elements MMA, Fleur de Lis Camp, Jaffrey Parks & Recreation, Keene Family YMCA, Keene Parks & Recreation, KSC Owls Basketball Camp, KSC Owls Soccer Camp, Mayhew Program, MoCo Arts, NH Teen Institute, NHDI, Northern Lights Athletics, Stonewall Farm, Swamp Bats, Swanzey Rec Center, The Barton Center for Diabetes, and WAKADOODLES.

We are deeply grateful to these partners—and to every donor and supporter who makes this work possible. Your generosity does more than pay a registration fee. It removes barriers that can separate kids from the experiences many of their peers take for granted.

And as one parent helped us understand so beautifully, sometimes what begins as access to an activity becomes something far more meaningful. A week of camp can mean a new friend. A new sense of confidence. A first experience away from home. A place where a child feels included. A family that feels a little less isolated.

That's what you made possible this summer.

189 kids. Nearly 700 weeks of experiences. More than \$250,000 invested. And countless moments of connection, confidence, joy, and belonging.

Thank you for helping our kids have a summer—and a future—filled with possibility.

Join Us For Our 2026 Impact Breakfast: Mission In Motion

Thanks to our co-presenting sponsors [Fenton Family Dealerships](#) and [Savings Bank of Walpole](#) we invite you to start your morning at our signature fundraising event with inspiration, connection, and a powerful reminder of what's possible when a community comes together for kids.

The Keene Housing Kids Collaborative 2026 Impact Breakfast: Mission in Motion will take place **Friday, October 16, from 7:00–8:30 a.m.** at Keene State College's Mabel Brown Room. This complimentary breakfast brings together community members, partners, and supporters who believe every child deserves the opportunity to thrive.

This year's keynote speaker is [Jeanine Fitzgerald](#), nationally recognized for her expertise in education, disabilities, and mental health. Jeanine will offer an engaging and thought-provoking perspective on helping children reach their potential and the important role caring adults and strong communities play along the way.

Come be inspired, learn more about the impact of the Kids Collaborative, and see our mission in motion.

Breakfast is complimentary, but registration is required. You can sign up [here](#).

We hope to see you there!

2026 IMPACT BREAKFAST

MISSION IN MOTION

Join us for a powerful morning of inspiration, community, and impact. Featuring keynote speaker **Jeanine Fitzgerald**, nationally recognized for her expertise in education, disabilities, and mental health.

KEENE STATE COLLEGE
Mabel Brown Room
Complimentary breakfast included

REGISTER NOW!



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VISIT [KHKC.ORG](https://www.khkc.org)



Welcome Amanda Chisolm to the Kids Collaborative Team



Keene Housing Kids Collaborative is excited to welcome Amanda Chisolm as our new Development & Outreach Coordinator. In this newly created role, Amanda will lead fundraising and donor engagement efforts while supporting communications, marketing, events, and community outreach.

"Amanda brings a strong background in relationship building, communications, organization, and community engagement—and, most importantly, a passion for helping children thrive." Amanda brings warmth, creativity, professionalism, and an authentic passion for connecting people to purpose," said Executive Director Sally Malay. "As demand for our programs continues to grow, we're excited to have her help us tell our story, engage our community, and inspire more people to invest in the futures of local children."

Amanda joins KHKC at an exciting time. Since 2015, the Kids Collaborative has connected more than 1,500 children with summer camps, sports, arts, music, tutoring, and other enriching experiences. Last year alone, children accessed more than 60,000 hours of enrichment opportunities through our community partnerships.

"I'm honored to join an organization that is making such a meaningful impact in our community," Amanda said. "I'm excited to help expand the support that makes these opportunities possible and to connect more people with the incredible work the Kids Collaborative is doing."

🎸 Rock Out. Give Back. Support the Kids Collaborative!

Sunday, September 6
Tempesta's Restaurant, Keene

What if spending a Sunday listening to great live music could also help create more opportunities for kids and families in our community?

On Sunday, September 6, the Growth by Giving Music Fest returns to Tempesta's in Keene for a full day of live music, food, fun, and community — and we are excited to share that Keene Housing Kids Collaborative is one of four nonprofit organizations benefiting from this year's festival!



And we know this event can make a real difference. Last year's inaugural Growth by Giving Music Fest brought together **more than 500 people** and raised **more than \$10,000 for local nonprofits**. This year, the festival is building on that incredible community support — and we hope our Kids Collaborative community will be a big part of it.

There are two great ways to help: buy a ticket and join us at the festival, or volunteer to help make the event happen!

📺 Come for the Music. Make an Impact.

This year's Growth by Giving Music Fest features an incredible lineup across two stages, including Afterthought, The Equalites, Waking Finnegan, Superunknown — a tribute to the music of Chris Cornell — and headliner Draw the Line, the nationally acclaimed Aerosmith tribute band. Add in food and drinks from Tempesta's, raffles, vendors, and hundreds of community members coming together for a good cause, and it promises to be one of the most exciting community events of the year.

Tickets are \$40, and proceeds from the festival support four local nonprofit partners:

- **Keene Housing Kids Collaborative**
- **Monadnock Habitat for Humanity**
- **Linda's Closet**
- **Honeybee Hollow Children's Center**

By purchasing a ticket, you aren't just getting a great day of live music. You're helping local organizations do more for the people who call the Monadnock Region home.

📺 [CLICK TO BUY YOUR TICKETS HERE](#)

🙌 Can You Give Us a Few Hours? Volunteers Needed!

Not only do we want to see our supporters in the crowd — we'd love to have you on the volunteer team!

An event like Growth by Giving takes a lot of people working behind the scenes, and volunteers are an important part of making the festival successful.

If you can give a few hours of your time on September 6, please consider signing up for a volunteer shift. Volunteering is another terrific way to support the Kids Collaborative while being part of a fun community event.

Bring a friend, grab a shift together, and then stick around to enjoy the music!

❤️ [CLICK TO SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER WITH US HERE](#)



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