

For more information, please contact:
Karrie Eaton, Director of Marketing & Communications
603.625.6939, ext. 119 or 603.560.5453 (c)
karrie.eaton@graniteuw.org

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Granite United Way Announce Community Investments ~ Delivers More than \$62,500 Support to the North Country

North Country volunteers announce funding decisions for 2016

(Littleton, New Hampshire) – Granite United Way’s annual campaign mobilizes more than 20,000 donors and corporate supporters to raise more than \$8.22 million across the state of New Hampshire. The campaign benefits more than 750 nonprofit agencies and programs providing services to more than 350,000 individuals. By mobilizing volunteers from each local region in its footprint to review and vet proposals and make funding decisions based upon strict criteria that ensures investments are held to the highest standards and are producing the greatest, most cost-efficient impact. In addition to the volunteer-led grant investment process and donor designation program, initiatives like Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA), the 2-1-1NH information & referral line and FamilyWize, a prescription drug discount program deliver a combined total of nearly \$14 million in support to residents across New Hampshire.

Local volunteers from the North Country on Granite United Way’s Community Impact Committee dedicated the last few months to evaluating program proposals and determining their funding decisions for the North Country. **Together, with the volunteer Board of Directors, they announced that more than \$62,500 in support will be delivered to this community during 2016.**

This year the volunteer teams focused their Request for Proposal in United Way’s three primary areas of impact: Education, Income and Health.

“Our volunteers are working alongside us to forging new partnerships and developing new solutions to old problems. We are mobilizing our agency partners and leveraging our donor dollars in ways that even five years ago may not have seemed possible,” said Patrick Tufts, President and CEO of Granite United Way. “We were extremely impressed with the quality of applicants this year and how organizations are embracing a collaborative approach to their work.”

This year marks the third year of implementing the Strategic Plan the Board of Directors adopted in 2013. Funding decisions in each of Granite United Way’s six regions and encourage collaborative efforts between agencies to create deeper, more lasting impact.

“We know that it is impossible for any one organization to address all of the issues in our community. It’s critical that we work together with local nonprofits, community leaders and corporate partners to address difficult problems in new, effective ways,” said Tufts.

Partners like Eric Frydman, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country and Roberta Berner, Executive Director, Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. couldn’t agree more with that statement. Their funded programs focus on quality afterschool programming and offering services for seniors, respectively.

"The Boys & Girls Club of the North Country is so thankful for the funding and support we receive from Granite United Way. Support like this allows us to continue to offer quality programming to the children of our community as well the ability to expand what we offer." Said Eric Frydman, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country. "This year we were able to offer additional financial assistance to many local families that may not otherwise be able to afford our programs."

"We cherish the communities of the North Country and appreciate the chance to work together with partners across the region to sustain and strengthen those communities. Working together, we multiply our impact to support those in need." said Roberta Berner, Executive Director, Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc "Because I see the direct impact of collective giving, I am pleased to be a United Way contributor personally."

Funded programs will receive notification this week.

For more information about Granite United Way, visit www.graniteuw.org.

Granite United Way

Granite United Way is an experienced and trusted organization dedicated to leveraging the resources of investors and volunteers to create lasting change by addressing the underlying causes of our community's most pressing needs.

United Way's purpose is to convene public, private, and governmental leaders and resources to tackle the largest, most pressing issues facing our community. These issues include, but are not limited to: Providing children with the tools they need to read at grade level, putting them on the path to becoming successful, contributing members of our community. Offering free assistance from trained tax professionals to ensure that low income individuals and families file their taxes properly and timely, and utilize qualified tax credits to begin to build their own capital, Administering a statewide, comprehensive 24 hour a day/ 365 days a year help hot-line called 2-1-1 that quickly delivers help to any resident in New Hampshire

Granite United Way works with over 1,000 companies, 25,000 investors and thousands of volunteers every year to make our communities a better place. Granite United Way is highly rated by both GuideStar and Charity Navigator, two of the nation's largest nonprofit rating sources.

Granite United Way serves the Central Region, Merrimack County, North Country, Northern Region, Southern Region (Manchester / Derry / Salem) and Upper Valley Regions of New Hampshire as well as Windsor County, Vermont. For more information, visit www.graniteuw.org.

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