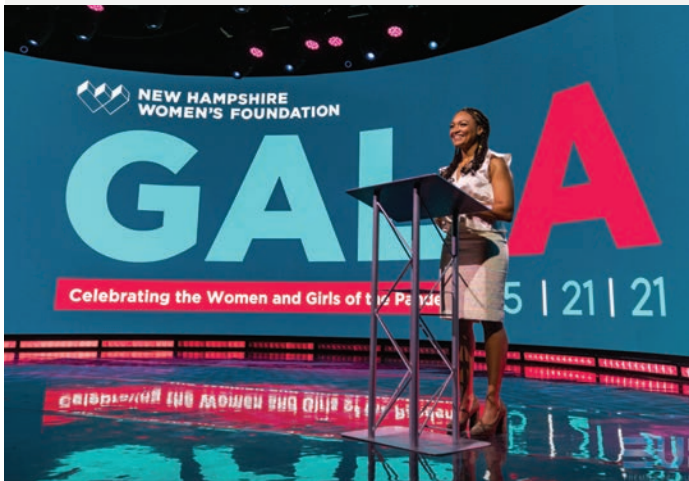


# FORWARD

News & Updates from the New Hampshire Women's Foundation



**On May 21st, our GALA celebrated the Women and Girls of the Pandemic with a tribute to over 100 AmplifiHER honorees!**



## New Board Members

The NHWF is excited to welcome six distinguished women to our board bringing experience in law, politics, communication and more.



## Legislative Update

It's been a year filled with attacks on reproductive rights in New Hampshire, as an abortion ban and mandatory ultrasounds were signed into law.



## Pathways to Prosperity

Our first-ever advocacy-focused grant was awarded to Early Learning New Hampshire for their advocacy in the child care sector!



## Love us? Then like us!

- 📍 NHWomensFoundation
- 📍 NHWomensFndn
- 📍 NHWomensFoundation

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Honorable Martha Fuller Clark,  
*Chair*

Linda S. Johnson,  
*Vice Chair*

Sheila McNeil,  
*Treasurer*

Mica Stark,  
*Secretary*

Palana Belken

Tara Chynoweth

Zib Corell

Hope Damon

Jeff Feingold

Maggie Goodlander

Melanie Levesque

Carmen Lorentz

Alida Millham

Rashida Eltag Mohamed

Allison Potter

Sue Ratnoff

Connie Roy-Czyzowski

Dan Weeks

Mary Jo Brown,  
*Founding Board  
Chair Emeritus*

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*CEO*

Samantha Granville,  
*Contributing Writer*

Allison Hawkins,  
*Administrative Director*

Ellen Koenig,  
*Director of Grantmaking*

Crystal Paradis,  
*Director of Strategic  
Communications  
& Community Engagement*

Karen Tebbenhoff,  
*Director of Operations &  
Events*

## CONTACT US

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Concord, NH 03301  
nhwomensfoundation.org  
603.226.3355



## Let's Build Back Differently

How we choose to rebuild from COVID-19 will tell us a lot about how women will fare in the coming years and decades. Our research has shown that New Hampshire was not immune to the national trends: women, especially women of color, were more vulnerable to COVID-19-related health and economic effects because of persistent gender and racial inequalities in our systems. During the pandemic, women left the workforce at astounding rates due to a lack of childcare or support systems. Returning to the pre-pandemic “normal” where women had to choose between their families and their work outside the house should not be an option. We must build back differently.

The needs of New Hampshire women, especially working mothers and women of color, demand greater attention and greater investment, and the Women's Foundation is committed to being part of this work. And after a devastating legislative session for reproductive rights in the Granite State, the Foundation is steadfast in our commitment to fight for full access to reproductive health care for all Granite Staters who need it.

We are looking forward to seeing you this fall. In addition to the return of our in-person Women Building Community Luncheon on October 21st, we'll be hitting the road and traveling to communities across the state to reconnect with friends and introduce our new Strategic Plan. Developed by our Board of Directors in the midst of COVID, this framework will guide us as we maximize the Foundation's investment and reach over the next ten years, shaping a more equitable future for New Hampshire women and girls.

With you in action and in spirit,

  
Tanna

## Introducing Research Fellow Dow Drukker

We are pleased to welcome Dow Drukker to the NHWF team as our inaugural Research & Policy Fellow. Dow previously worked at the Foundation as a research intern, working extensively on our Gender Matters publications, and is currently focused on the upcoming release of our Status of Girls Report.

Dow is a graduate student at the University of New Hampshire, and in September, will complete his master's degree in Sociology and graduate certificate program in Women's and Gender Studies. In 2019, Dow received his BA in Sociology with a minor in Social Justice Leadership and Women's and Gender studies from the University of New Hampshire. During his two years as a graduate student, Dow has been a teaching assistant for a Sociology statistics course. He has also



been an intern for New Futures as a public health policy researcher and the Strafford County Public Health network as a community engagement intern. Besides professional and academic endeavors, he is passionate about social justice issues and is an active volunteer in local New Hampshire grassroots organizations working towards an equitable and sustainable future. Dow lives in Durham and in his free time, enjoys playing with his cats, working in the garden, exploring the outdoors, and seeing local live music.



# Introducing Six New Board Members!

Over the past few months, we were thrilled to welcome six distinguished women to our board: Palana Belken, Maggie Goodlander, Melanie Levesque, Carmen Lorentz, Sheila McNeil and Connie Roy-Czyzowski. These women bring experience and leadership skills from varying industries and will serve as assets to empower the women and girls of New Hampshire. We're honored to work alongside these women to continue our important mission.



**Palana Belken** is an activist, organizer, and a Rochester city counselor. She is the first openly transgender person to ever get elected to a city council in the state of New Hampshire, and has spent the past two years as the Trans Justice Organizer for the ACLU of New Hampshire, where she worked as a community organizer and advocate.



**Maggie Goodlander** is a lawyer and teaches constitutional law and administrative law at UNH School of Law. She has spent much of the past decade working in legal and policy positions in each branch of the United States government and in both houses of Congress. She is also a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Reserve and serves on the board of directors of New Hampshire Legal Assistance and the World Affairs Council of NH.



**Melanie Levesque** is president of communications and consulting company TCS of America Enterprises. Levesque served in the State Senate (2018-2020) and is a former New Hampshire representative for Hollis, Brookline and Mason. In her community she has served as a Trustee for the New Hampshire Community College System, and Advisory Committee Member for New Hampshire Endowment for Health, among others.



**Carmen Lorentz** currently serves as the Executive Director of Lakes Region Community Developers (LRCD), developing healthy homes, creating vibrant community assets and engaging residents. Prior to joining LRCD, Carmen was the Director of the Division of Economic Development at the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development.



**Sheila McNeil** is a manager in audit and accounting at Wipfli LLP. She is passionate about nonprofit work and focuses on not only her nonprofit clients, but also her ability to contribute to nonprofits in New Hampshire through her board involvement. McNeil is the former treasurer for the Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester and New Horizons of New Hampshire. Sheila joins us as Treasurer of the Board.



**Connie Roy-Czyzowski** is the Vice President of Human Resources at Northeast Delta Dental, and has over 30 years of experience in Human Resources. She serves as a Trustee of the Community College System of New Hampshire, a member of the HR Advisory Board for Moore Center Services, Inc., a member of the Advisory Council for the NH Department of Employment Security, Corporator for the Canterbury Shaker Village, and a member of the Board of Directors for the YWCA NH.

# (Zoom) Around the State

**NEW HAMPSHIRE WOMEN'S FOUNDATION**

## Women in the #603

The Impacts of COVID-19 on New Hampshire Women  
Monday, December 14, 2020 1:00 – 2:30 pm



**Ann Marie French**  
Executive Director,  
NH Fiscal Policy Institute



**Senator Sue Prentiss**  
State Senator, District 5  
City Councilor &  
former Mayor, Lebanon



**Pati Frew-Waters**  
Executive Director  
Seacoast Family Promise



**Dawn McKinney**  
Policy Director  
NH Legal Assistance

Data Presentation and Discussion led by:  
Jennifer Frizzell, Director of Policy, New Hampshire Women's Foundation and  
Kristin Smith, Visiting Research Associate Professor of Sociology, Dartmouth College

## Diving Deeper with Women in the #603

We focused our special Gender Matters report on the effects of COVID-19 on New Hampshire women with our December panel of experts, "Women in the #603."



**NEW HAMPSHIRE WOMEN'S FOUNDATION**

## WOMEN RUN!

### MUNICIPAL MIXER

Tuesday, February 16, 2021  
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

As Town Meeting Day approaches in a year of local elections, we're hosting this mixer to connect women running for local office, past and present local elected officials, and folks interested in electing more women at the local level!

RSVP: [NHWomensFoundation.com/WomenRun](https://NHWomensFoundation.com/WomenRun)

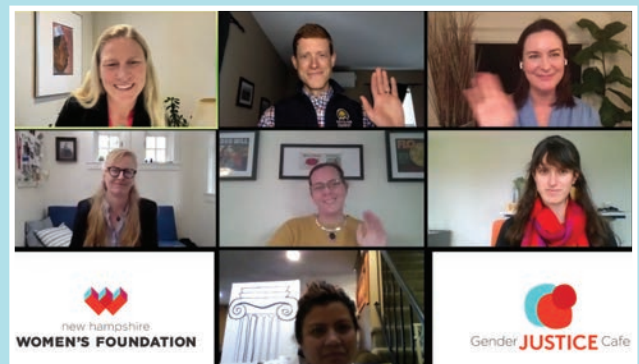
## Municipal Mixer

It's a municipal election year, and our *Women Run!* Program is hosting mixers to connect elected women with potential candidates!



## Gender Justice Cafe

Earlier this year, we launched the Gender Justice Cafe, a series of statewide conversations around important topics that impact equity for women and girls in New Hampshire and beyond. Our discussions started with the intersection of gender equity with global gender justice and climate feminism.



**NEW HAMPSHIRE WOMEN'S FOUNDATION**

## Gender JUSTICE Cafe



**Elly Cipriani**  
Executive Director, New Generation



**Blair Demers**  
Executive Director, EFAC



**Mary Kiguru**  
Kenya Country Director, EFAC



**Katherine Kolos**  
Executive Director, Rain for the Sahel and Sahara




**Carolyn Muyimi Kamau**  
Program Manager, New American Africans

### CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY: A GLOBAL LOOK AT GENDER JUSTICE


Monday, March 8, 2021 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM  
Online event, advance registration required. RSVP: [NHWomensFoundation.org/GJC](https://NHWomensFoundation.org/GJC)

Department of Women's and Gender Studies


## Feminism in Action: Rights Advocacy



**Asma Elhuni**  
RADNH



**Tanisha Johnson**  
BLM



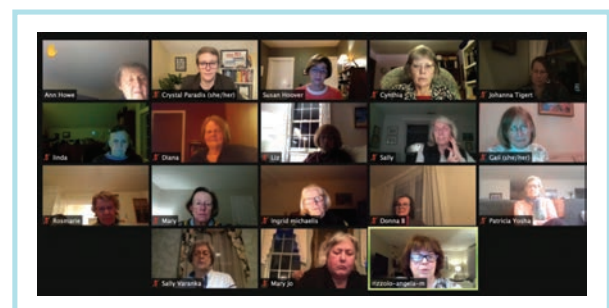
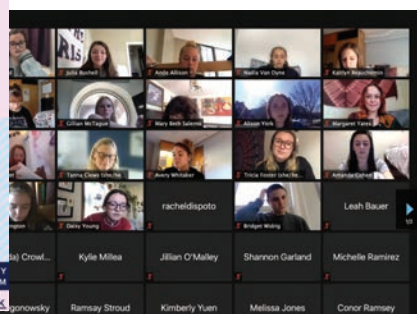
**Tanna Clews**  
NHWF

LEARN FROM LEADERS AT RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY NH  
BLACK LIVES MATTER NH  
NH WOMEN'S FOUNDATION

THURSDAY  
APRIL 8 4-5 PM  
ZOOM LINK: [9090909090](https://zoom.us/j/9090909090)

## On the Road

UNH event & AAUW: NHWF CEO Tanna Clews spoke to UNH feminists on a "Feminism in Action" panel hosted by the Department of Women's and Gender Studies, and Crystal Paradis spoke to the NH AAUW (American Association of University Women).



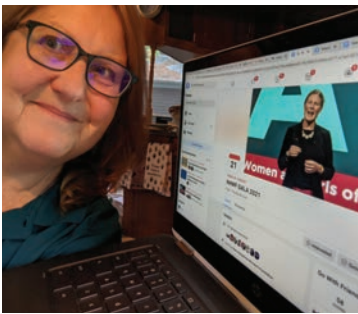


# GALA | A

Celebrating the Women and Girls of the Pandemic

## Watch or Re-watch the 2021 GALA:

[NHWomensFoundation.org/GALA](https://NHWomensFoundation.org/GALA)



## Honoring the past, while looking towards the future.

In early 2020, Bob Thoresen made a generous gift of \$75,000 (\$25,000 for three years) to the Women's Foundation in honor of his wife Sue's 75th birthday and her long-term commitment to the NH Women's Foundation. Sue was a Founder of the Women's Fund, a NHWF predecessor organization, and served as the organization's Treasurer for 7 years, as well as the Executive Committee, Finance Committee, Merger Task Force and Bylaws Committee.

She is the most nurturing and selfless person I have ever met," Bob noted. "Sue devotes herself to every task she agrees to take on with a low-key, forthright, and no-nonsense manner. She does her homework, is superbly prepared, and delivers—always with grace and humility. The Women's Fund—now the Women's Foundation—has been a beneficiary of Sue's time, treasure and talent for more than 20 years and I wanted to honor her commitment to the Foundation with this gift for her birthday.

While both Sue and Bob have been longtime donors to and champions for growing the Foundation's endowment to a minimum of \$4,000,000, Bob's 2020 gift had two different purposes: 1) to increase NHWF's "supplemental grantmaking" in recognition of the serious short term needs due to the COVID-19 pandemic and 2) to develop a ten-year financial stability and growth plan that would increase the Foundation's philanthropy to build the Endowment and sustainability of the Foundation in multiple ways. "We are so grateful for and inspired by Bob and Sue's commitment to the Foundation. Their investment in our grantmaking program came at a critical moment—just as the COVID-19 pandemic was exploding," said Tanna Clews, CEO. "Thanks to their gift we could increase our COVID-19 Rapid Response grantmaking and get more dollars to organizations who were facing the immediate prospect of layoffs and potential closure."

The Thoresen's meaningful impact on the Foundation continues as Sue helps the Foundation staff explore and expand its suite of philanthropic offerings such as donor advised, field of interest, and memorial funds. Sue and Bob's versatility as donors, their willingness to adapt, and to recognize the short and long-term needs of the Foundation is immeasurable. They continue to honor the past, but never take their eyes off the future.



## Reproductive Rights on the Chopping Block

This past year, in the midst of a public health crisis where women are bearing the overwhelming majority of negative health and economic impacts — while still shouldering most caregiving responsibilities for family members — some New Hampshire legislators chose to focus on attacking our reproductive health care and restricting access to abortion.

Six anti-choice bills were introduced this session that impose restrictions on abortion and/or cut family planning funding: HB 625, HB 622, HB 430, HB 434, HB 596 and HB 233. The Women’s Foundation joined reproductive justice allies in calling for these six bills to be defeated, stating: “Now is the time when we must call on our policymakers to reject these attacks on reproductive health care, and to provide critically-needed support for New Hampshire women and families.”

HB 625 and HB 233 made their way out of committee and were passed by the House, but were narrowly defeated in the Senate as standalone bills. Most alarming and consequential, however,

was language from HB 625 added by Senate Republicans into HB2, one of two bills that made up the FY 2021–2022 New Hampshire state budget.

The provision added to the HB2, known as the “Fetal Life Protection Act” includes a ban on all abortions after 24 weeks, except in the narrowly defined single exception for “the physical health of the mother” — no exceptions for rape, incest or fatal fetal anomalies. In addition doctors and medical providers would face criminal penalties of up to seven years in prison and fines of up to \$100,000. Finally, the restrictions in HB2 also mandate a medically unnecessary ultrasound prior to abortion at ANY stage of pregnancy.

On the morning of the budget vote, CEO Tanna Clews issued a statement, including the following: “The New Hampshire Women’s Foundation supports full access to reproductive health care for all who need it, and we oppose HB2, the proposed New Hampshire budget for FY 21-22. We believe that women and people who can become pregnant should have freedom to make reproductive and sexual health choices AND have access to the necessary health care to fulfill those choices, including birth control, abortion, maternity care and gender-affirming health care. An attack on any woman’s health care is an attack on all of us.

HB2 passed the legislature on Thursday, June 24th and was signed into law the following day by Governor Sununu, making him the first governor in New Hampshire history to sign an abortion ban into law. Starting in January 2022, pregnant people will now be required to have an ultrasound before getting an abortion at any stage of gestation. And doctors providing care to families at their most difficult time will weigh felony charges against the best treatment for their patients.

The Women’s Foundation remains committed to the fight for reproductive health care, access and justice, and are hopeful that these harmful restrictions will be repealed.

## Pathways to Prosperity Awarded to Early Learning NH

The Pathways to Prosperity grant is given annually to an organization which works to boost the economic security of women in New Hampshire, and this year was the first time the \$10,000 award has gone to support advocacy efforts. Early Learning New Hampshire is a statewide nonprofit committed to ensuring all New Hampshire children have the opportunity to reach their full potential. The organization focuses its advocacy efforts on child care, including programs and centers, child care professionals who make up the workforce, and the families they serve. Since 2003, Early Learning NH has supported advocacy that champions effective early learning policy that expand or preserve over \$65 million dollars in state and federal funding for New Hampshire’s children and families.

“It is the commitment of advocates like Early Learning New Hampshire that have protected our child care infrastructure for years, but especially through the COVID-19 pandemic. We are honoring that vital commitment with this unprecedented

use of our Pathways to Prosperity award,” said New Hampshire Women’s Foundation CEO Tanna Clews. “Congratulations, Early Learning New Hampshire!”





# Gender Matters

## Women Elected in NH Towns and Cities

New Hampshire has historically done well when it comes to electing women to our highest offices. We were home to both the first and second women ever to be elected both Governor and Senator (Shaheen and Hassan), and have sent two back-to-back all-women federal delegations to Washington DC. However, on the municipal level, data has not been historically collected. So starting last year, we worked closely with town and city clerks across the state to pull what we believe is the first look at gender data for local elected officials. We saw a lack of parity on the municipal level, especially in executive positions. The numbers show much area for improvement — and we hope this snapshot will be helpful in informing voters and candidates of the opportunity for better gender representation in their towns.

## COVID-19 and Its Effect on NH Women

The COVID-19 pandemic hit New Hampshire women harder than men on a variety of fronts — and women of color were impacted at higher rates, too. Our special December issue of Gender Matters broke down the numbers. New Hampshire women were more likely to work in industries that were hit hardest, and were more likely to be on the front lines, exposed to the virus. New Hampshire unemployment data also showed that the vast majority of unemployment claims citing child care as a reason for unemployment were filed by women. Early on, women also had higher rates of COVID-19 positive cases and deaths, but those numbers did not persist long-term. As we look at re-opening and building back differently, we will continue to keep an eye on the gender disparities both exposed and exacerbated by COVID-19.

To view all Gender Matters reports, visit:  
[nhwomensfoundation.org/gm](http://nhwomensfoundation.org/gm)

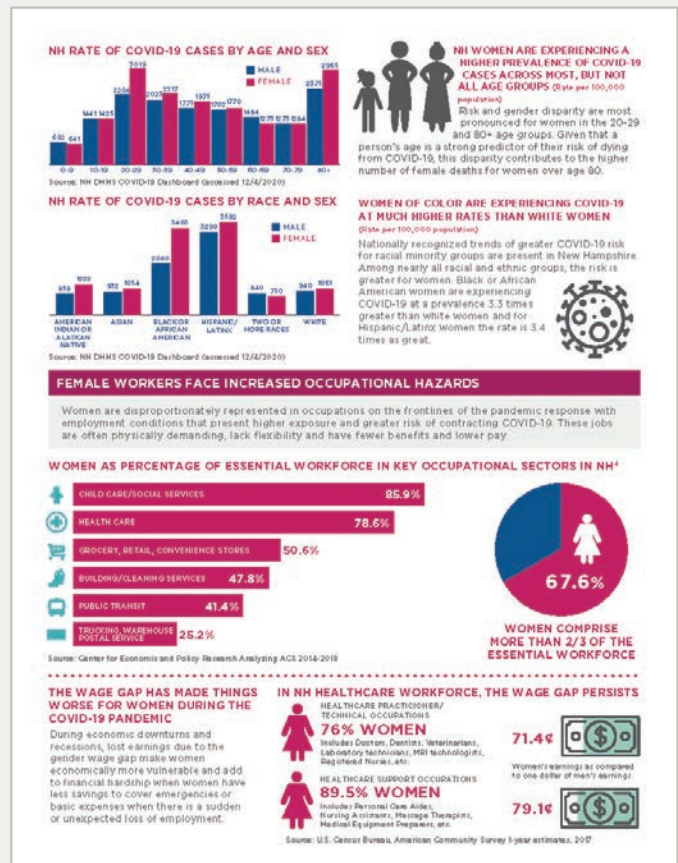
**NEW HAMPSHIRE WOMEN'S FOUNDATION**

**JUST PUBLISHED:**  
**GENDER MATTERS 2021: ISSUE 1**  
**NH WOMEN IN MUNICIPAL TOWN GOVERNMENT**

**41% OF NH TOWNS HAVE ZERO WOMEN ON THEIR SELECT BOARD**

It's town election season. How does your town measure up in gender representation on your select board and school board?

Look up your town:  
[nhwomensfoundation.org/GM2021TOWNS](http://nhwomensfoundation.org/GM2021TOWNS)



# WOMEN RUN!

## Women Run!: Municipal Elections

In our newest strategic plan, our board committed to increasing our efforts to recruit and train women to run for office at the local level — and our most recent Gender Matters data underscores the need for more women leading our municipalities. So we are building off of the success of our 2020 virtual trainings, which allowed more women than ever to participate in our workshops from home, and adding back in some much-needed face time, too. We started our Municipal Mixer events via Zoom in February and June, and will continue those as we add to our program some on-demand video workshops and in-person house parties! We are currently planning several fall house parties to engage with prospective candidates and the people who want to help elect more women in their town.

More information at: [nhwomensfoundation.org/womenrun](http://nhwomensfoundation.org/womenrun)



**NEW HAMPSHIRE  
WOMEN'S FOUNDATION**

18 Low Avenue, Suite 205, Concord, NH 03301

# SAVE THE DATE

17TH ANNUAL

WOMEN BUILDING  
COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

OCT|21|2021

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU (IN PERSON)!  
MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON AT  
**NHWOMENSFOUNDATION.ORG**

**WE'VE MISSED YOU!**