

IDEA MOVER... INNOVATOR... LISTENER... MEREDITH... NETWORKER... MATCHMAKER... NEW HAMPTON... MEDIATOR... ORGANIZER... SCANNER... SAMBORNTON... SOUNDING BOARD...

ALTON... ADMINISTRATOR... ADVOCATE... BARNSTEAD... AMBASSADOR... ANALYST... BELMONT... BRIDGE BUILDER... COLLABORATOR ...

COMMUNICATOR... CENTER HARBOR... CONCEPTUALIZER... CONNECTOR... GILFORD... CONSULTANT... CONVENOR... CREATOR... GILMANTON... FACILITATOR... GRANTWRITER... LACONIA...



IN SEVEN YEARS ...

THE BELKNAP COUNTY CITIZENS COUNCIL ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

1. Since its creation in January 2002, the Belknap County Citizens Council has cost the taxpayers \$690,070. In exchange for this taxpayer support, the Citizens Council has been directly or indirectly responsible for bringing over \$3.6 million for programs and services benefitting children and families in Belknap County. This is more than a 5:1 return on investment!
2. In addition to securing new revenue to support programs and services for families in Belknap County, the Citizens Council has developed numerous community, county, state, and national networks and contacts. Over this seven year period and in association with these new partnerships the Council has been the convener and catalyst for a wide variety of activity, including:

- 2002: Organized a Community Justice Institute at NH Community Technical College—
- 2002: Organized a network of juvenile justice professionals (Juvenile Justice Advisory Council) that has been meeting monthly since early 2002
- 2002: Assisted with organizing a Juvenile Offender Locator Team (JOLT) in Belknap County
- 2002: Paved the way for Belknap County to be a pilot site in one of ten national 5-year Reclaiming Futures grants from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- 2003: Assisted with developing a Community Youth Activity Team in Alton
- 2002-2003: Organized six forums on the status of children and families for 8 communities in Belknap County
- 2003: Assisted in developing the Youth Attendant Program at the Belknap County Sheriffs Office
- 2003-2005: Worked with the Youth Services Bureau to design, secure grant funding, and implement a Family Mediation Program for Belknap County
- 2003: Facilitated a community forum that launched the Sanborn Park Project in Lakeport
- 2003: Following through on outcomes from community forums, organized, and secured grant funds to support 2-day seminar on community center planning
- 2004: Organized the Belknap County Family Violence Prevention Council that now operates independently and meets monthly
- 2003-2005: Organized three annual countywide, month-long observances of National Recovery Month
- 2004-2008: Organized five annual countywide Convocations on Children and Families attracting more than several hundred people to each event.
- 2003: Assisted in organizing and securing federal grant funds of more than \$500,000. to expand CoRe into a countywide youth substance abuse prevention network
- 2004: Supported and participated in early efforts to develop a Child Advocacy Center in Belknap County
- 2004-2005: Secured funding from the NH Children's Trust Fund to start a "Parents As Leaders" course in Belknap County. Worked with LRUW UpStream to organize this class
- 2004: Assisted in developing the Community Resource Team in Barnstead
- 2005: Assisted in developing and securing funding so Belknap County could be a pilot site for the Adolescent Treatment Program
- 2005-2006: Co-sponsored six community forums throughout Belknap County on under-age drinking

"The Citizens Council has the ability to bring people together... to cement that coming together...More and more people are looking to the Citizens Council for solutions to issues."

**Kathy Keller, Executive Director
New Beginnings Women's Crisis Center
2006**

- 2005: Assisted with the Community Youth Mapping project where youth inventoried resources and opportunities for youth in Belknap County
- 2005: Facilitated sending five-member team to a national training in South Carolina on juvenile justice outcomes measurements
- 2005: Developed a uniform Case Closing form used by all juvenile justice providers in Belknap County, thus bringing a capacity to evaluate and monitor outcomes
- 2005: Facilitated developing a Restitution Fund for victims of juvenile crime
- 2005: Facilitated weekly Parent Support Groups at Interlakes High School
- 2005: Assisted in launching the Belknap County chapter of the NH Friends of Recovery
- 2005: Assisted in developing and distributing a Belknap County Directory of Juvenile Justice Resources
- 2006: Co-sponsored a Restorative Justice Training for 40 participants

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STRATEGIST... TILTON... TALENT SCOUT... TRANSLATOR... VALIDATOR... ALTON... ADMINISTRATOR... ADVOCATE... BARNSTEAD... AMBASSADOR...

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CONTINUED: IN SEVEN YEARS...

- 2006-2008: Produced and distributed throughout Belknap County Annual Report Cards on county juvenile justice programs
- 2006: Secured federal grant funding and organized a countywide observance of National Crime Victim Rights Awareness Week (April 2006)
- 2006: Facilitated developing an information brochure for Victims of Juvenile Crime
- 2006: Participated in a statewide initiative to organize an advocacy group of youth and families impacted by substance abuse, called F.A.S.T.-E.R. (Families Advocating for Substance abuse Treatment, Education, and Recovery)
- 2006: Facilitated the development of a "Parenting From the Inside Out" program where incarcerated fathers meet with at-risk youth and their parents
- 2006: Secured grant funding to develop, the capacity in Belknap County to collect, evaluate, analyze, and share data outcomes of the four juvenile justice programs in Belknap County
- 2006: Co-sponsored with New Futures and Belknap County CoRe Coalition, a Community Leadership Initiative around under-age drinking (Nov 9th)
- 2007: Co-sponsored with the NH Teen Institute an Open Space Forum on January 27th for youth and families at the NH Community Technical College in Laconia
- 2007: Co-sponsored with the Laconia School District, and Lakes Region United Way UpStream a countywide Education Forum on Student Aspirations
- 2007: Facilitated the publication and distribution of a Victim Satisfaction Survey
- 2007: Organized a Parent to Parent Support Network called "Turbulent Teens"

"The Belknap County Citizens Council has been an invaluable partner in the development and support of multidisciplinary initiatives that benefit at-risk youth. The Council's promotion of the philosophy of restorative/community justice has brought healing to the victims of crime as well as strong, positive effect for juvenile offenders."

**Tom Oetinger, Chief
Laconia Police Department
2007**

- 2007: Organized through grant funds a training for juvenile justice providers on the use of the new automated Belknap County Case Closing Form and database
- 2007: The Council was the recipient of the Community Partner Award from the Campus Compact for NH for "exemplary leadership that has translated into a lasting impact on the community"
- 2007: Facilitated the organizing of an Incentives Bank of rewards and incentives for youth who complete their restorative contracts
- 2007-2008: Organized and facilitated Focus Group discussions on promoting youth aspirations with representatives from four different community sectors
- 2007: Introduced state legislation that designates Belknap County as a pilot demonstration site for limited information sharing among designated providers of juvenile justice services, thus facilitating program evaluation and monitoring of recidivism
- 2007: Collaborated with the NH Children's Trust Fund to distribute Strengthening Families Tool Kits to libraries in Belknap County
- 2007: Introduced the "Citizens Council" concept to Carroll and Coos Counties
- 2007: Co-sponsored with LRUW UpStream a staff development seminar on juvenile justice for a variety of education and other professionals in Belknap County
- 2002-2007: Numerous presentations on the Citizens Council, Community Justices, and juvenile justice to numerous audiences in Belknap County and New Hampshire
- 2008: Convened and facilitated conversations with county juvenile justice providers to identify innovative strategies to manage reduced municipal contributions

- 2008: Co-sponsored a luncheon for local business and economic leaders to discuss developing On The Job Training opportunities for TANF recipients
- 2008: Produced the first Issue Brief titled "Perspectives on Child Maltreatment, CHINS, and Juvenile Delinquency in Belknap County introducing an initiative to coordinate juvenile justice and child protection services
- 2008: Convened a Systems Integration Symposium for 50 professionals in Belknap County and NH to discuss a systems coordination effort—John Tuell, from the Child Welfare League of America who leads similar systems integration efforts around the country, was the guest presenter
- 2008: Participated in National Night Out event organized by the Laconia Police Department
- 2008: Surveyed 226 residents of Belknap County about their preferences for the juvenile justice system in Belknap County
- 2008: Facilitating an on-going Systems Integration Initiative with state and local agencies and organizations and John Tuell, from CWLA, as the consultant
- 2008: Released second Issue Brief: "Belknap County Juvenile Justice at a Crossroads", a status report on the juvenile justice system in Belknap County

"Exceptional leadership in strengthening the fabric of this community thereby enhancing the economic well-being of Belknap County and the Lakes Region."

**Belknap County
Economic Development Council
2008**

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