



From the President's Desk

Dear New Hampshire School Nurses

We are into November and as we approach Thanksgiving, I would like to thank all of the School Nurses in New Hampshire for the dedication and care you provide to all of your students, every school day of year.

NHSNA is working hard to help you in your important role at school.

On November 9 and 10, we held our annual **School Nurse Essentials** program, at the Audubon Society in Concord. We had some excellent presentations on a variety of school health issues, including delegation, immunizations, hearing screening, Medicaid to schools, Anaphylaxis, School Nurse Scope and Practice, working with homeless families, DCYF, Asthma, Special Education overview, and Glucagon in schools. We were thrilled to have a turnout of many new and experienced NH school nurses.

NHSNA is seeking a liaison for our organization, and the position is still open. This is a part time job working with our Board to assist with communication and maintain critical connections between the NHSNA Board of Directors and their constituents, partners, and the public. This position is posted at NHschoolnurses.org.

Are you aware of the NH Children's Behavioral Health Collaborative? This organization represents a collaboration of NH child and family organizations and agencies that are focusing on mental health and substance use disorders for children, youth, and families. In 2017, the collaborative supported a bill that passed, requiring the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a 10 year plan for mental health services which will improve access to behavioral health services in New Hampshire.

Currently, the NH DHHS is seeking public input on its 10 year Mental Health Plan. "The plan will provide a framework to anticipate and address the mental health needs of New Hampshire residents, and feedback from stakeholders and the public will inform the development of the plan" (NH DHHS). The Department of Health and Human Services has hosted a number of public information sessions. The last one is scheduled for December 3, from 5-7:00 pm. Location TBD. Visit the NH Children's Behavioral Health Collaborative website for details on this event. NH4YOUTH.org, or

<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/bbh/10-year-mh-plan.htm>

Sincerely,

Kathy Barth BSN, RN, NCSN

President NHSNA