

# Leadership Development Through the New Hampshire Family Support Conference

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## Background

Community Crossroads is one of ten designated New Hampshire area agencies supporting individuals with developmental & acquired disabilities. Established in 1979, the organization serves 1,600+ individuals and families across eleven towns in southern New Hampshire.

The annual Family Support Conference brings together individuals, families, providers, and community partners to learn about current issues and resources.

## Project Activities

Coordinated planning for the 37th Family Support Conference

Participated in advisory committee and stakeholder meetings

Collaborated with interdisciplinary partners on planning and logistics

Submitted and presented a 45-minute workshop



**NHFSC**  
New Hampshire Family Support Conference

## Conference Outcome

- Hands-on experience in community collaboration, leadership, and event coordination within disability services.
- Strengthened the development of key MCH leadership competencies.
- **Professional Growth:** Refined leadership, communication, and facilitation skills
- **Community Perspectives:** Incorporated lived experiences into planning and content
- **Interdisciplinary Collaboration:** Worked across providers, families, and agencies
- **Leadership & Communication:** Delivered professional training to diverse audiences
- **Community Impact:** Supported conference implementation and increased engagement efforts

## Conclusion & Next Steps

- Community-based conferences are essential for connection, education, and resource sharing
- Importance of family voice, cultural responsiveness, and interdisciplinary collaboration in strengthening systems of care
- Reflect on leadership experiences to strengthen communication and advocacy
- Continue developing leadership skills in program development, training, and community initiatives
- Promote accessibility, inclusion, and family voice in clinical and community settings

