# NH-ME LEND

## Expanding Access to Inclusive Higher Education in New Hampshire

Tamara Le, BS, MA (2020 Policy/Family Trainee)

"UNH-4U is an inclusive two-year Comprehensive Transition Program (CTP) planned for the University of New Hampshire/Durham. Approved for launch Fall of 2020, UNH-4U will empower young people with intellectual disabilities to achieve life goals through improving academic and competitive employment outcomes. Focusing on authentic campus life experiences, UNH-4U will foster opportunities for social development, independent living and recreational endeavors. Like all students attending college, UNH-4U will utilize person-centered planning as a pathway toward meaningful careers

and positive social endeavors for adulthood." ... Tobey Partch-Davies, Ph.D., Principal Investigator, Project Director on Poverty and Disability

### MAGNITUDE OF NEED: A MONUMENTAL CLIMB in THE GRANITE STATE

- √ 35,000 New Hampshire citizens have an intellectual disability (ID)
- ✓ 74% of youth/young adults (16-30 yrs) with ID are unemployed
- vs. 28% of their non-disabled peers
- ✓ 34% of youth/young adults (16-30 yrs) with ID live in poverty vs. 13.4% of their non-disabled peers (1)
- 2012 Only **Comprehensive Transition Programs (CTP)** programs in NH
  - Only in Post Secondary Education
    - approved for Federal \$\square\$tudent Aid

2013 CTPs students in regular post-secondary classes >40% of day(2)

**2014** NH 6th in U.S. for employment for developmentally disabled adults, but only 36.6%with ID were employed, averaging > 10 hrs/week(3)

**2015** NH STATE LEGISLATURE outlawed sheltered workshops & sub-minimum wage (4)

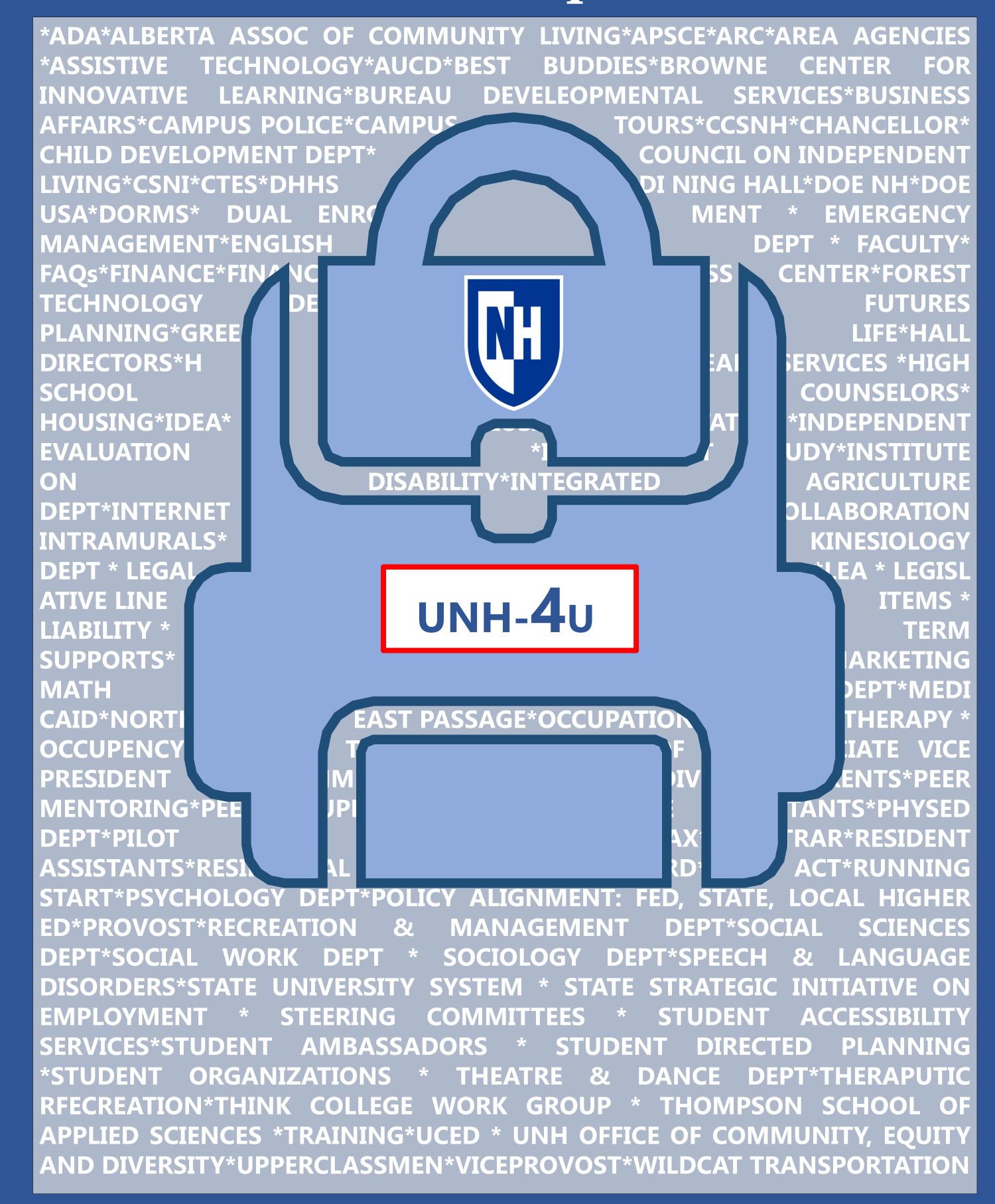
2019 \$150K Implementation Grant from the John Vance ACCESS Fund of the NH Charitable Foundation joined funders NH COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL **DISABILITIES & VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION** 

**2020 UNH-4U** Immersion visitation weekends/applications for Spring Term approved.

### GAPS IN LEARNING INFRASTRUCTURE TO BE ADDRESSED BY UNH-4U

- **GAP 1** Persons with ID are the lowest % of college enrollments of all disability categories GAP 2 Lack of concurrent enrollment and transition in INCLUSIVE environments in NH
- GAP 3 Audit opportunities @UNH currently only open after course credits maximized
- **GAP 4 Federal Student Aid currently unavailable to students with ID in NH**
- GAP 5 Campus housing is prioritized for matriculating students, not UNH-4U CTPs
- GAP 6 Recognizing faculty involvement is done in the spirit of formal service activity
- **GAP 7** Extremely limited public transportation in the state of NH
- **GAP 8** ADA does not cover what CTPs students may need -> but peer mentors can! (5)
  - ✓ Up to **40 UNH peer mentors & academic coaches** to
  - promote self-advocacy and efficacy with *UNH-4U* students. ✓ A model for collaborative partnerships with staff from a variety of disciplines will create natural opportunities to replicate the acquisition of credits across departments
  - UNH Career Development office and NH Vocational **Rehabilitation** will facilitate career aligned internships and naturally supported competitive employment

## Creating Opportunities One Partnership at a Time



#### **Sources:**

- (1) American Community Survey, 2014
- (2) NH Part B IDEA Child Count and Environmental Setting Table, FFY 2012-2013
- (3) National Report on Employment Outcomes, October 2014
- (5) UNH-4U TPSID Grant Application 2015 (Transition and Postsecondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities)

(6) Think College Standards, Quality Indicators, and Benchmarks

#### Design, Models, Evals & Reports

**UNH-40** will use scaffolded models of support, fidelity in reporting, student autonomy and development of independent living skills. Inclusive undergraduate courses, peer-supported services and a self-designed Certificate Program based on career goals via 24 credit hours will be offered.



#### MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

#### Intersection of Mission & Vision IOD\*UNH-4U\*LEND

#### STANDARD 5: Coordination & Collaboration

Expanding INCLUSIVITY (6)

**STANDARD 1: Academic Access** 

STANDARD 2: Career Development

**STANDARD 4: Self-Determination** 

**STANDARD 3: Campus Membership** 

IOD projects promote full access, equal opportunities & participation | What I hoped to do Act on efforts to communities, advancing policy and inclusive college opportunities for

Mission

people, including individuals living produced 1st drafts of UNH-4U available to individuals and families | Effective multi-disciplinary team

## Breaking News! UNH-4U Remote Learning!

Effective 4/20/20 UNH-4U moves forward with a temporary, "online" mode offering remote, free, noncredit accessible courses via the IOD.

in & out of class with expectations to promote social engagement. UNH faculty may provide brief, recorded or live lectures preparing all for campus opening.

#### As a LEND Trainee

for all persons by strengthening expand meaningful, credit-worthy systems change, promising students with neurodevelopmental practices, education, and research disabilities. What I did Under the **Vision** guidance of project principals, joined The IOD envisions a future where all in the CTP Steering Committee, with disabilities, are fully engaged Immersion weekend, peer mentor and members of communities where ambassador applications, FAQs course culturally appropriate supports that catalogue and engaged with project lead to independence, productivity, partners across academic, admin and and a satisfying quality of life are community platforms. What I learned across the life span. | leadership styles that work! Where to conduct project research on policy implementation, where systemschange challenges for IDEA and ADA remain

> and most importantly, the invaluable skill of ADAPTATION.

Peers/Faculty/Mentors will engage | course 1 | Person-entered-planning, assistive technology and other supports for learning COURSE 2 Online-learning platforms, communicating with classmates & professors **COURSE 3** Campus connections with peers, profs & guest lectures by faculty ambassadors

Institute on Disability/UCED







The NH-ME LEND Program is supported by a grant (#T73 MC00024) from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and administered by the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD).

