



Children's Alliance of  
New Hampshire

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Raising Our Voices for Children

## Children's Alliance of New Hampshire Accomplishments 2011

Launched **NH Hunger Solutions: *Ending Childhood Hunger***. The Children's Alliance convened New Hampshire's first Food Advisory Council in September which has some 50 active members working to develop goals and benchmarks for the NH Plan to End Childhood Hunger to be published in mid-2012.

Developed and held **NH Child Advocacy Network (NH CAN) Partner events** beginning in June with "The Home Stretch" updating participants on the status of children's issues in the budget process and advocacy opportunities with the Committee of Conference. In early fall, NH CAN conducted **work group meetings** to develop the 2012 Priorities utilizing remote video access for some sessions. The November **Children's Summit** attracted over 100 Partners who voted for six Priorities, learned about NH's transition to Medicaid Managed Care, and participated in two workshops.

Advised Partners on **2011 Legislative Priorities for NH's Children** successfully maintaining community shelter services for adjudicated/court involved children, retaining educational "adequacy" funding and categorical school aid, and *Handling Youth Misbehavior in Schools Not Courts* (retained and still being debated). In addition, NH CAN staff helped to shape conversations about evaluating the impact of cuts to children's services and the need for increased revenue.

Championed **children's access to oral health services**, participating in a NH stakeholders group and bringing recommendations, in the form of legislation to NH CAN. The Children's Alliance legislative initiative was selected as one of NH CAN's Health and Wellbeing Priorities for 2012.

Promoted **federal safety-net programs** with our congressional delegation in person, by phone and through emails. In partnership with the New England Consortium, provided NH Members of Congress with data and urged them to protect programs like Medicaid and SNAP as Congress worked to reduce the budget deficit (read a [recap of 2011 federal policy developments](#)) The Children's Alliance communicated the potential impact of cuts on Granite State citizens by contributing to articles in the *NH Union Leader*, *Fosters Daily Democrat* and the *Concord Monitor*.

Published the **2010/2011 New Hampshire Kids Count Data Book** with 33 indicators of child-well being. These indicators are reported in five issue areas: family and community, economic opportunity, education, health and wellness, and safety and wellbeing. Additional indicators of New Hampshire child wellbeing are accessible in an online database. The Children's Alliance promoted and distributed the 2011 national Kids Count report in partnership with the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

Engaged in **boards, coalitions and child-focused initiatives** including Children's Behavioral Health Collaborative, NH Children's Lobby, Family Assistance Advisory Council, Legislative Task Force on Work & Family, New England Consortium, NH Afterschool Network, NH CARES, NH Healthy Kids, NH Oral Health Workforce Access Strategy Work Group, and Spark NH (Early Childhood Council established by the Governor)