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**Contact: Judy Proctor**  
**603-415-4276**  
**[jproctor@healthynh.com](mailto:jproctor@healthynh.com)**

## **New Hampshire Cancer Collaboration Awards Funds to Prevent Cancer and Improve Care**

*Awards support NH organizations' work*

**CONCORD, N.H.** - The New Hampshire Comprehensive Cancer Collaboration (NHCCC) has awarded funds to three partner organizations to support initiatives that advance key priorities of the Collaboration.

Cancer is the leading cause of death in New Hampshire, with approximately 8,500 new cases and 2,700 deaths each year.

The NHCCC – a statewide partnership of individuals and organizations committed to eliminating cancer – coordinates efforts to improve prevention, early detection, treatment and survivorship services and quality of life for those diagnosed with cancer.

“We are pleased to support three innovative projects that will make a difference by promoting the latest scientific screening practices to reduce lung cancer deaths, improving the utilization of palliative care and mobilizing high school youth toward healthier communities,” said NHCCC Board Chair Barbara Kimball.

“We believe that by coming together to coordinate our efforts, we can better reach our goal of reducing the incidence of and suffering due to cancer in our state,” she added.

“Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in the nation, killing more than 150,000 people each year including over 750 in New Hampshire,” stated Jeff Seyler, President and CEO of the American Lung Association of the Northeast. “This is an exciting opportunity to bring together key partners for a ‘best practices summit’ in New Hampshire to develop a comprehensive plan to provide targeted lung cancer screening that will result in earlier detection of the disease and fewer deaths.”

The NHCCC provided funds to support the following organizations and projects:

**American Lung Association of the Northeast: ‘Promoting and Coordinating Best Practice Lung Cancer Screening in NH’**

The American Lung Association of the Northeast will convene a summit of key stakeholders to define lung cancer screening in the state and take practical steps toward implementing a comprehensive screening system for NH that follows current evidence-based guidelines.

**New Hampshire Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHHPCO): ‘Improving Utilization of Palliative Care’**

The New Hampshire Hospice and Palliative Care Organization will seek to improve health care systems by targeting educational opportunities and other resources to providers who diagnose and treat people with cancer in NH. Clinicians will learn about best practices, existing tool kits and palliative care service reimbursement that will allow time for them to have conversations with patients and families about goals for their care and quality of life while living with a serious illness.

**Trustees of Dartmouth College: ‘Mobilizing Youth for Healthier Communities’**

The trustees of Dartmouth College initiative will educate high school students about the harmful effects of tobacco use and exposure, promote healthy choices among the students, and provide them with research, and advocacy and public policy skills to use as they develop into engaged community members.

*The New Hampshire Comprehensive Cancer Collaboration (NHCCC, an initiative of the Foundation for Healthy Communities, was established in 2004 to address the leading cause of death in New Hampshire (NH). The NHCCC is a dedicated partnership of individuals and organizations committed to eliminating cancer in the state. The NHCCC developed the New Hampshire Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan to foster communities and systems that support and reinforce healthy lifestyles, prevent and detect cancer at its earliest stage, and optimize quality of life for those affected by cancer. For more information about the NHCCC and the NH Cancer Plan, visit [www.NHCancerPlan.org](http://www.NHCancerPlan.org).*

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