

Families Flourish Northeast

Supporter Update | September 2026



Care starts before the building does

It's been a busy summer: new leadership on our board, real progress on the building, and a much clearer picture of what opening day looks like. Here's where things stand as we move toward serving our first families in 2027.

THE BUILDING

Walking the site

This summer, board members, staff, and Upper Valley partners met in Lebanon to tour the property. It rained the entire time, yet no one left early. For many beneath those umbrellas, it was their first time seeing the ground they've spent years planning for in person. Construction is taking longer than expected, but the site is real, the plans are in motion, and the work continues.



FFNE board members, staff, and partners visiting the Lebanon site in July.

UPDATE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"Families Flourish Northeast is entering an exciting and important stage of growth. While we continue moving the residential treatment facility toward construction, we are also building the partnerships and referral pathways that will help pregnant and parenting women access care before, during, and after residential treatment. Families need support now, and our goal is to create a coordinated continuum of care that helps mothers and children remain connected throughout recovery."

Bethany Cottrell
Executive Director

IN THE NEWS

Nonprofit to start providing care despite construction delays at Lebanon residential treatment facility

Clare Shanahan of the Valley News spent time with Bethany discussing the next phase for FFNE.

[Read the article](#)

OUR BOARD

Thank you, Lynn and Gene

Lynn Guillette and Gene Calvano have stepped down after six years on our board. Both were founding board members. Lynn served as Treasurer, and Gene's involvement reaches back to 2018, when he helped develop the feasibility study and business plan that became this organization.

So much of what we do today stands on the unglamorous early work they did to prove it was possible. We will miss them, and we remain grateful for what they built.



Five new board members

This summer we elected five new board members. Together they bring clinical expertise in maternal health and addiction medicine, deep experience in public funding and finance, and strong roots in the Upper Valley. It's the mix we need as we move from planning into construction and operations.



Emily Baker, MD

Enfield, NH

A maternal fetal medicine physician and professor emerita at Geisel, formerly in leadership at Dartmouth Health.



Taylor Caswell

Littleton, NH

New Hampshire's first Commissioner of Business and Economic Affairs, now advising nonprofits on funding and policy strategy at Bernstein Shur.



Joe Kenney

Concord, NH

Chief Lending Officer at Claremont Savings Bank, with 25 years in commercial banking. Joe was also elected Treasurer of the FFNE board.



Ian Kipperman

Lebanon, NH

An accounting and auditing manager at Gallagher, Flynn & Company who also serves on the boards of Alice Peck Day and Advance Transit.



Peter Mason, MD

Lebanon, NH

A family physician who has cared for Upper Valley families for more than 40 years, and a co-founder of the Good Neighbor Health Clinic.

A PHYSICIAN'S PERSPECTIVE

"Decades of work with people suffering from substance use disorder have clearly shown me that providing stable housing, with ready access to supportive resources, and keeping family units intact, are the keys to successful recovery and ending generational transmission of this destructive disease."

Peter Mason, MD
Board Member

Thank you for staying with us

None of this is happening quickly, but it is only happening because people like you are supporting our vision.

As we get closer to opening, we'll be posting more often, including site progress, staffing news, and the small milestones that don't warrant a full email.

Follow along, and pass this to someone who should know FFNE exists.

With gratitude,



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