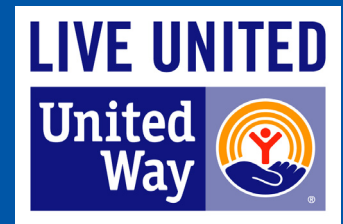


GRANITE UNITED WAY

Financial Stability Partnership

Creating pathways to community success



The **Financial Stability Partnership (FSP)** is a collaborative community-based initiative focused on bringing all sectors of the community together to address a common agenda: **Reducing poverty in Belknap County.**

The FSP will accomplish this through:

- Collecting and sharing data regularly
- Planning and implementing effective strategies together
- Continuously communicating our work and its results with our partners and the community

Current poverty rates in Belknap County

- 8.5% of households in Belknap County live below the Federal Poverty Level, including 1 in 10 of Belknap County's children.
- Over 32% of Belknap County children qualify for free or reduced lunch assistance, indicating that their households may be financially unstable.

Why poverty matters

- **Education:** Children living in low-income families tend to start school significantly less prepared. These struggling students are more likely to drop-out before high school graduation, less likely to attend college, and more likely to struggle to find employment.
- **Health:** Those living in poverty are less likely to have health insurance and receive preventative medical care and more likely to struggle with mental illness. Children living in poverty show higher rates of asthma and other chronic childhood health problems.
- **Safety:** Areas of higher concentrations of families living in poverty typically see higher crime rates. Crime in these geographic areas are more likely to be tied to property theft, drug-related offenses, or violence.

Collective impact is the most effective strategy to address poverty in Belknap County

Poverty is a complex problem with many interrelated causes and consequences. Successful efforts to reduce poverty must address a variety of barriers that challenge individuals and families as they seek financial stability.

The **Collective Impact Model** does just that, by bringing all community sectors to the table to address the root causes of poverty in our county, we will work together to create a better community for all.



Workgroups

The Financial Stability Partnership's efforts are led by workgroups. Each workgroup is made up of representatives from social service providers, the business and government sectors, and community members at large. Armed with specific goals and related indicators, the workgroups outline and implement effective strategies, all of which reinforce the initiative's goal of reducing the number of individuals and families experiencing poverty in Belknap County by 2020.

Current Workgroups

- Early Childhood
- Health Care
- Wealth Development and Management
- Workforce Development
- Transportation
- Housing and Advocacy workgroups will be emerging in coming months.

For more information on the **Financial Stability Partnership** please contact **Val Guy** at 603.224.2595 x226 or val.guy@graniteuw.org