



NEW HAMPSHIRE
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Field Building Approach to Advocacy on Behalf of Low Income Groups

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New Hampshire Advocacy Context

- Longstanding CF commitment to advocacy grantmaking
- Scan of field: one on one advocate interviews, capacity mapping, group discussion of field strengths and gaps
- Unique 424 member “citizen” legislature
- Many small issue-specific organizations
- Predominant reliance on direct legislative work
- Less bench strength in communications, grassroots, other advocacy tools



Implementation Questions

- Invest in existing org, or create new entity?
- Best approach to engage local advocacy leaders (and which ones?) in advisory role?
- How to prioritize new personnel and resources in a capacity-scarce context?
- Role of Foundation staff?
- Implications for traditional responsive grantmaking?



Other Considerations

- Definition of “the field” given foundation’s broad community well-being goals
- Building funder partnerships, pooled funding
- Potential to utilize shared evaluation tools
- Near term value-add to foster buy-in?
- Issue priorities – implications of early choices
- Staff/consultant skill sets – capacity building vs. “doing” (direct advocacy, media relations, etc.)