

Community Engagement Academy Staff

Eleanor Abrams

Eleanor Abrams is a professor in the Department of Education and executive director in the Office of the Senior Vice Provost for Engagement and Academic Outreach at the University of New Hampshire. She has extensive expertise in creating professional development opportunities and developing learning communities for adults designed to support professional growth and success.

Sue Cagle

Sue Cagle is a Community and Economic Development Field Specialist at the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension. Sue has worked for the past decade in communities throughout New Hampshire that are working to plan for the future and address complex community needs. Sue's areas of focus include building effective cross-sector community collaboration and engaging community members for local decision-making and sustained action.

Sharon Cowen

Sharon Cowen is a Community and Economic Development Field Specialist at the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension. Sharon's projects focus on promoting civic engagement and increasing local capacity to address a variety of community challenges and issues. With a career spanning over 25 years, Sharon has extensive experience in working with communities, developing adult training and education programs, human services, and quantitative and qualitative research techniques.

Molly Donovan

Molly Donovan is a Community and Economic Development specialist at the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension. Molly has worked in communities addressing neighborhood revitalization, land conservation, economic development and a range of housing issues with a focus on engaging community members for local decision-making and leadership development. Her primary responsibility for UNH Cooperative Extension is to provide communities with the tools for broad engagement, decision-making, and local leadership development.

Charlie French

Charlie French is Program Team Leader for the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension's Community and Economic Development Program. For the past two decades, Charlie has lead community engagement processes focused on economic development, downtown revitalization, food systems, and community vitality. Charlie also published numerous peer review journal articles and book chapters focused on community visioning, facilitative program evaluation approaches, and community engagement.

Kristen Grant

Kristen Grant is a Marine Extension Associate at University of Maine Sea Grant and Cooperative Extension. Kristen has worked for over 17 years focusing on Sustainable Coastal Community Development. Her work involves engagement activities such as community planning design workshops; recent research in stakeholder engagement in community planning for flood defense; and education in facilitation and communication skills.

Casey Hancock

Casey Hancock is the Community and Economic Development program coordinator at the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension. Casey coordinates and implements community and economic development programs; provides information and assistance to communities, partners, and groups; and evaluates the impacts of community and economic development programs. Casey's interest in community engagement stems from a passion for community food systems.