

# August 2025

Visit our website





## VOLUNTEERS Needed

BE A PART OF OUR TEAM





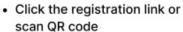


#### Your Support Makes All The Difference

AHEAD will be partnering with the Highland Games in Lincoln to provide volunteers to work the 3-day event. In exchange, the Highland Games will make a monetary donation to AHEAD.

#### **HOW TO JOIN US**







- Choose the day/times you want to volunteer
- Wait for specific volunteer details in the upcoming weeks

#### BENEFITS

- Help raise funds for AHEAD
- Free Highland Games T-shirt
- Free bagged lunch
- Free attendance for the day you volunteer

#### SAVE THE DATES

Friday, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> Saturday, Sept. 20th Sunday, Sept. 21st

Learn more about the Highland Games by visiting https://nhscot.org/

Want to volunteer at the 2025 Highland Games and help support AHEAD? Click here



### Click here to check out our new careers page

#### **Financial Tip of the Month**



Smart Ways to Save on Back-to-School Shopping - Back-to-school season is an exciting time, but it can also put a real dent in your budget. Between school supplies, new clothes, and tech gadgets, the costs

#### Home Maintenance Reminder



Save Money & Gain Confidence: Borrow Tools and Learn Home Maintenance with DIY Resources Owning a home is one of life's biggest achievements—but with it comes the responsibility of upkeep. add up quickly. The good news? A little planning and savvy shopping can go a long way. Here are some tried-and-true tips to help you save money this season:

1. Start with a List—and a Budget Before you buy anything, make a list of exactly what your child needs. Check closets, drawers, and backpacks to avoid buying duplicates. Once you have a list, set a realistic budget—and stick to it.

#### 2. Take Advantage of Sales and

#### **Tax-Free Holidays**

Many stores run back-to-school sales throughout July and August. Look for coupons, in-store deals, and online promo codes. Some states also offer tax-free weekends on school-related purchases—perfect for big-ticket items like laptops or shoes.

#### 3. Shop Secondhand First

Check out thrift stores, consignment shops, and online marketplaces like Facebook Marketplace or Poshmark for gently used clothing, backpacks, and even school supplies. You'd be surprised at the quality—and the savings.

#### 4. Buy in Bulk (and Split with

#### Friends)

Warehouse clubs and discount stores often sell school supplies in bulk. Team up with other parents to split the cost and the supplies—it's a win-win.

#### 5. Wait on the Extras

Kids often want themed notebooks, trendy gear, or extras that may not be necessary. Try waiting until after school starts to buy non-essentials, when prices tend to drop and needs become clearer.

#### 6. Reuse and Recycle

Last year's supplies may still have life left in them. Clean out old binders, sharpen pencils, and test markers before tossing them. Not everything has to be brand new to be useful.

Looking to restart your household budget? AHEAD's Free On-Demand Budgeting 101 workshop is a great place to start for budgeting information, motivation, and resources. Register and start today by clicking here.

From fixing leaky faucets to sealing windows for winter, regular maintenance helps protect your investment and keep your home safe and comfortable. The good news? You don't need a garage full of tools or years of experience to get started. With a little creativity—and the help of free community resources—you can tackle many tasks yourself.

#### **Borrow Before You Buy**

If you only need a tool occasionally, borrowing is a smart (and budget-friendly) alternative to buying. Many towns have tool libraries, and some hardware stores offer rental programs for everything from power tools to ladders. You might even find what you need by asking a neighbor or friend.

Borrowing tools can save hundreds of dollars, reduce storage clutter, and give you the chance to test equipment before investing in your own.

#### Learn by Watching

YouTube is a goldmine for homeowners learning to do repairs and maintenance on their own. From quick fixes to full-scale weekend projects, there's a tutorial for just about everything—complete with step-by-step instructions, supply lists, and expert tips.

Whether you're fixing a squeaky

Whether you're fixing a squeaky door, patching drywall, or learning how to winterize your home, watching a few videos can turn confusion into confidence. Look for creators who are licensed contractors or affiliated with trusted brands, and don't be afraid to pause and rewatch as needed.

#### Get Hands-On at DIY Workshops

Prefer to learn in person? Major home improvement stores like Home Depot and Lowe's offer free or low-cost DIY workshops for all skill levels. These classes often cover common home maintenance tasks like:

- Caulking and sealing windows and doors
- Basic plumbing fixes
- Tiling, painting, and drywall repair
- Tool safety and usage
   Workshops typically include live
   demonstrations, hands-on practice,
   and guidance from trained staff—all
   in a supportive, low-pressure
   environment. Check your local

store's website or event calendar to see upcoming sessions near you.

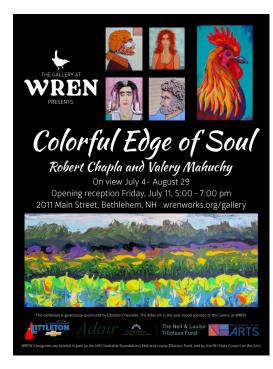
Build Your Skills & Confidence
When you borrow tools, watch
tutorials, and attend workshops,
you're not just saving money—
you're building valuable life skills.
Taking ownership of small home
projects can boost your confidence
and help you feel more empowered

as a homeowner.

AHEAD is Here to Support You Need help figuring out where to start? AHEAD's housing counselors are here for you. We can help you assess your home's needs and connect you with resources, programs, and workshops designed to help you succeed as a homeowner.

## Community Partner of the Month





## Community Partner of the Month- WREN

Founded as the Women's Rural Entrepreneurial Network over 30 years ago, WREN was powered by rural women committed to the mission of supporting better lives and livelihoods in New Hampshire's North Country. Today, WREN is a community organization open to all, providing educational and cultural opportunities in a supportive network. WREN is for everyone!

In collaboration with our community partners, we offer free and low-cost activities for people of all ages; from walking groups to creative workshops, movement classes to end-of-life discussions, WREN is here to support our community at every stage of the journey. See our full schedule of events online at <a href="wrenworks.org/events">wrenworks.org/events</a>. WREN knows the value of entrepreneurial support, and that better livelihoods are an integral part of better

lives. In addition to our store and gallery, we offer support, including grant funding, to help small businesses grow and thrive.

Visit WREN on Main Street in Bethlehem to shop the work of over 120 local and regional artists and makers, and visit our newly remodeled gallery to experience Colorful Edge of Soul, featuring the work of Robert Chapla and Valery Mahuchy. We hope to see you soon at WREN!

## Take a closer look at....

### **Town & Country Apartments**







Originally constructed in the early 20th century, the McKee Inn in Lancaster, New Hampshire has long stood as a cornerstone of the community—first serving as a hotel and later transitioning into affordable housing for seniors. Steeped in local history, the building's iconic architecture and central location have made it a familiar landmark for generations. Today, thanks to a recent comprehensive renovation led by AHEAD, McKee Inn is entering a new chapter—one that honors its rich past while ensuring it meets the needs of today's residents.

McKee Inn Senior Housing is now home to 35 units of affordable rental housing for older adults, along with vibrant shared spaces that support community connection. In 2012 AHEAD, in partnership with Black River Design and H.P. Cummings Construction Company, completed an ambitious renovation that not only modernized the facility but also preserved the building's character and charm.

Key improvements included upgrades to the building's thermal envelope to enhance energy efficiency and resident comfort, along with the installation of a new, reliable elevator system. Each apartment was carefully renovated to create safer, brighter, and more comfortable living spaces, while common areas were refreshed to foster social engagement and wellness. AHEAD also addressed environmental concerns by safely removing an aging underground storage tank.

Throughout the project, care was taken to preserve the unique architectural details that make McKee Inn special—celebrating the craftsmanship and design of the original structure. The result is a beautiful blend of history and modernity: a place where seniors can age with dignity in a setting that reflects the heritage of the community they helped build.

McKee Inn's transformation stands as a proud example of AHEAD's mission in action—preserving affordable housing, strengthening communities, and investing in the future while honoring the past. For more information about our McKee Apartments call our office at 603-444-1377 or email <a href="mailto:info@homesahead.org">info@homesahead.org</a>.

## We're building our waitlists





Click here to apply

## Commercial Space Available at Mt. Eustis Commons



Click here to view our available spaces

## **Available Workshops**

Secrets of Homebuying Virtual via Zoom Sat., Aug. 9th & Sun. Aug. 10th 8:00am- 11:30am \$49.00 per household.





#### Secrets of Homebuying On-Demand Work at your own pace, anytime, anywhere \$79.00 per household.

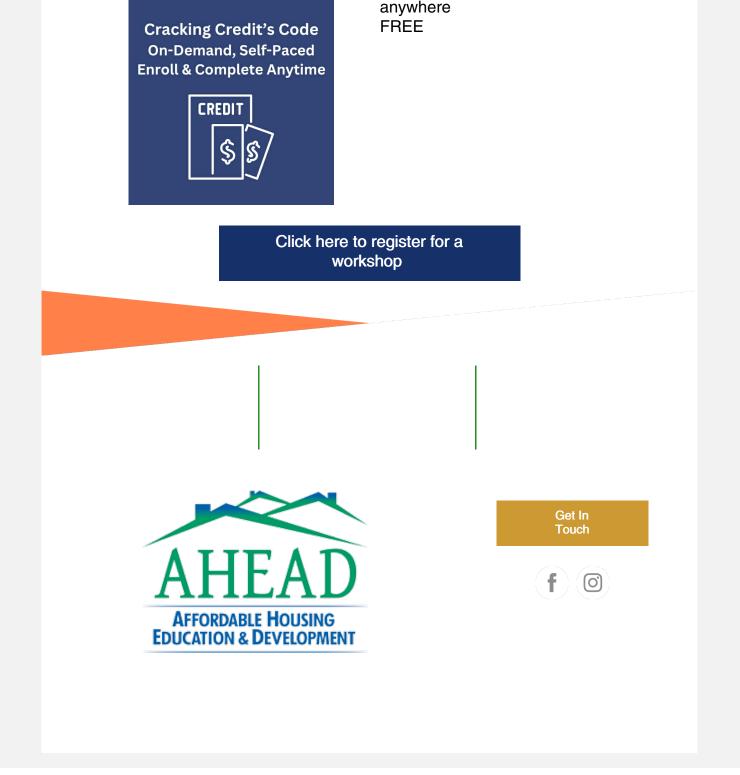


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