



**BIA**

# **110<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner and Awards Celebration**

presented by

**EVERSOURCE**

**Wednesday, October 25, 2023**

DoubleTree by Hilton Manchester



**Our heartfelt thanks to the BIA; we are honored to be recognized as this year's NH Advantage Award recipient.**

**Congratulations to the Lifetime Achievement Award honorees.**



Our Center in Manchester

**Kindness  
Compassion  
Connections  
Courage**



"Stay Connected"  
Grieving Teen's Artwork



Program Series  
Celebration

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# Evening Program

## 6:30 PM Program Begins

- Opening Remarks
- Sponsor Recognition
- New Hampshire Advantage Award sponsored by Bank of America
  - Friends of Aine Center for Grieving Children and Families

## 7:00 PM Dinner Served

## 7:45 PM Program Resumes

- Lifetime Achievement Awards sponsored by Whelen Engineering
  - Dean Christon
  - Senator Lou D’Allesandro
  - Sherilyn Burnett Young

## 8:30 PM Evening Concludes



BIA wishes to thank members of our Annual Dinner Committee for their commitment to make tonight’s celebration a success.

**Brien Murphy**, *Committee Chair*  
Boyce Highlands

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**BIA's 110th Annual Dinner and Awards Celebration is generously supported by these leading New Hampshire employers:**

Lifetime Achievement Award Sponsor:



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# New Hampshire Advantage Award

presented by Bank of America



**BANK OF AMERICA**

## **FRIENDS OF AINE CENTER FOR GRIEVING CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

Christine Phillips and David Phillips founded Friends of Aine in 2013. The nonprofit agency provides bereavement support services and resources to children and families who have suffered the death of a loved one. The couple was compelled to act following the sudden and unexpected death of their daughter Aine (pronounced Ahn-ya) at age 8 in 2010. Aine's younger sister, Bella, who was 6 at the time, inspired a journey that has helped hundreds of children in New Hampshire. David and Christine found a small and limited 8-week program with Home Health & Hospice Care in Merrimack. When finished, Bella told her parents she wanted to do more, which led to creating Friends of Aine as a fundraising organization to support the Merrimack program. The Manchester-based Friends of Aine has since grown to provide support services through three 8-week sessions, using a peer-to-peer model and small groups for children and adults.



# Lifetime Achievement Awards

presented by Whelen Engineering



## DEAN CHRISTON

Dean Christon served as executive director and CEO of New Hampshire Housing from 2007 through 2021 and previously was assistant executive director, deputy director of administration and chief operating officer. His tenure at New Hampshire Housing covered 34 of the self-supporting public corporation's first 40 years. New Hampshire Housing's mission is to promote, finance and support housing solutions for the people of New Hampshire. Since it was founded in 1981, New Hampshire Housing has helped more than 55,000 families purchase their own homes and has been instrumental in financing the creation of more than 16,000 multifamily housing units. Christon continues his advocacy and community support through his service as chair of the Advisory Board of the Saint Anselm College Center for Ethics in Society, and as a trustee for both NeighborWorks Southern New Hampshire and Catholic Charities New Hampshire.





WE ARE PROUD OF YOU,  
YOUR LEADERSHIP, AND YOUR  
DEDICATION TO SEEKING  
HOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR THE  
PEOPLE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

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CONGRATULATIONS  
**DEAN CHRISTON**

ON BEING HONORED WITH THE  
BIA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



NEW HAMPSHIRE  
HOUSING



## Lifetime Achievement Awards

presented by Whelen Engineering



### SENATOR LOU D'ALLESANDRO

Sen. Lou D'Allesandro of Manchester has served in elected office in New Hampshire for over 45 years including his current run of 13 consecutive terms in the state Senate. The "Dean of the Senate" is known for his passion for education and helping others. Sen. D'Allesandro's political resume includes serving in the House from 1973-1974 and 1997-1999, the Executive Council from 1974-1980 and ten years on his local school board. He also twice ran for governor. Sen. D'Allesandro began his professional career as a high school civics teacher in New Hampshire and went on to serve as president of Daniel Webster College and Nasson College, and vice president of Franklin Pierce University. He is an alumnus of the University of New Hampshire, earning a bachelor's degree in history in 1961 and later a master's degree from Rivier University in 1971. The senator serves on the Board of Directors of Southern New Hampshire Services, a community action program.



# Thank you

Congratulations to Senator D'Allesandro. Always so proud of our Board Chairman!

For over 45 years, you have served the Granite State in the Senate, House, Executive Council and your local school board. Few in New Hampshire can equal your tenure at the State House and even fewer can match your passion for helping Granite Staters.



Photo credit: University of New Hampshire

Thank you for your 20 years of service on the board of SNHS.

From the Board and Staff of  
Southern New Hampshire Services, Inc.



## Lifetime Achievement Awards

presented by Whelen Engineering



### SHERILYN "SHERRY" BURNETT YOUNG

Sherry Young, founder, shareholder and past president of Rath, Young and Pignatelli, has stood out for decades as one of New Hampshire's best lawyers. Focusing on environmental law and litigation, she is annually featured among "The Best Lawyers in America" and Thomson Reuters' *Super Lawyers*. She received *NH Business Review's* "Outstanding Women in Business Award" in 2019 and was named one of the Granite State's 200 Most Influential Leaders by *NHBR* in 2020. In 2000, she was the first woman elected to chair the State Capital Group, an international association of independent law firms, and received the 2007 Marilla M. Ricker Achievement Award for women lawyers who achieved professional excellence or paved the way for other women lawyers. Young serves on the board of directors of Walden Mutual Bank and the University of New Hampshire Foundation, the Dean's Advisory Board of the UNH Franklin Pierce School of Law, and as chair of New Hampshire Public Radio's Board of Trustees.





## **We congratulate Sherilyn Burnett Young, recipient of the Business & Industry Association's Lifetime Achievement Award**

Sherry is an exceptional lawyer, a committed community leader and a gifted and generous colleague who we are proud to call our friend.

What the award language cannot capture is the genuineness of her commitment, her decency, her dedication to her work, her community, and to all of us who are fortunate to enjoy her leadership and friendship.

Sherry's commitment to her family, the community, the Bar, this firm, and each of us is complete, uncompromising and heartfelt.

While Sherry's impacts across the community, the Bar, and the State have been beyond worthy of this recognition, we here are especially blessed to have her care about all of us so deeply. She is our friend, and we are all better for it.



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**Exhibitors: Apprenticeship USA-NH, Littleton Coin Company,  
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# BIA Board of Directors

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# BIA Strategic Plan

## 2024-2027

On behalf of the BIA Board of Directors, we are excited tonight to unveil a new strategic plan for the BIA. This plan is the product of a year-long process that engaged members, key stakeholders, utilized member focus groups and surveys, and identified best practices and opportunities from peer organizations around the country. Those efforts have paid off with an exciting new long-range vision for the organization, and proactive strategic goals that advance our mission.



We look forward to sharing more regarding this new chapter for the BIA in the months ahead. Please use the QR code above to review the new strategic plan in greater detail. Thank you for your continued support and investment in the BIA!

### **BIA Mission**

The BIA is the unifying voice of business, championing a competitive business climate and prosperous economic future for New Hampshire.

### **BIA Vision**

New Hampshire is the leading state for business, creating economic opportunities and prosperity for all Granite Staters.

**WIFI password: VERIZON**

