

The 2025 Leadership Summit



The 2025 Leadership Summit, **From Insight to Impact: Bridging People & Purpose**, is designed to connect change-makers, community leaders, and engaged citizens across the Seacoast region, offering an inspiring mix of conversations, networking, and collaboration with local nonprofits and mission-driven organizations. You will explore meaningful opportunities to get involved, strengthen community ties, and spark collective impact.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



S P E A K E R

DEAGLAN MCEACHERN

Deaglan McEachern was elected Mayor of Portsmouth, NH in 2021. First elected in 2019, he co-founded the Citizen Response Task Force to support local businesses during the pandemic. He and his wife Lori also started Seacoast Business Owners to help small businesses. Deaglan serves on the SOS Recovery Advisory Board. Raised in Portsmouth, he lives in Islington Creek with his family. He holds degrees from UC Berkeley and Cambridge, where he led the rowing team to victory in the 2010 Boat Race. He also spent a decade on the U.S. rowing team. He now works in tech at Smarsh.



“The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.”

Coretta Scott King

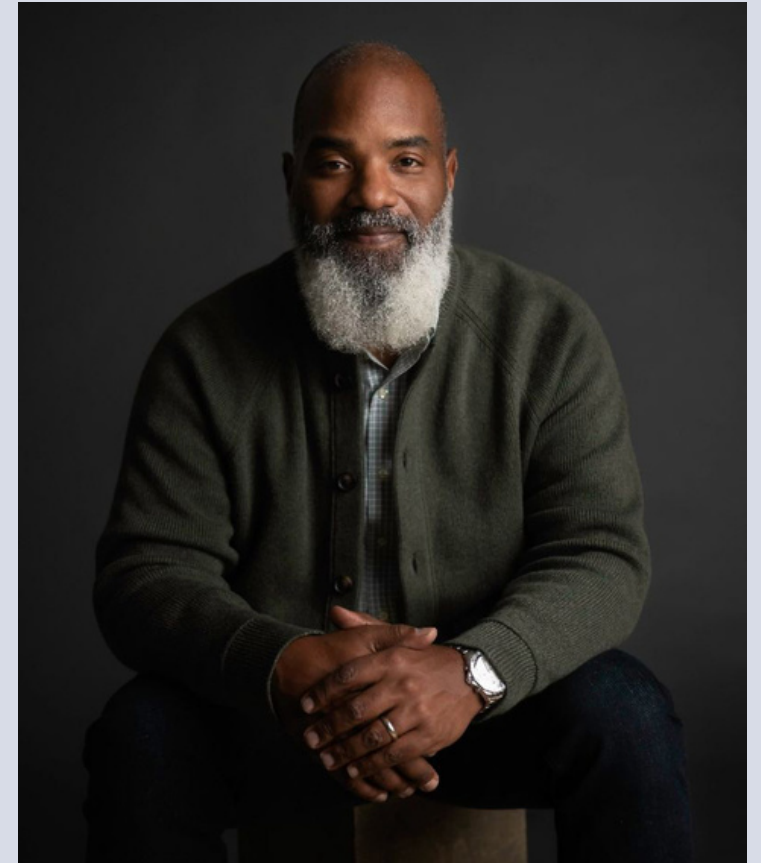
S P E A K E R

JERMAINE MOORE

Jermaine Moore is a trusted partner to organizations committed to developing courageous leaders, inclusive teams, and thriving workplace cultures. As the Founder and Principal of The Mars Hill Group, Jermaine brings over two decades of experience in leadership development, team performance, and I&B (Inclusion and Belonging) strategy. He works closely with executives, boards, and staff across industries, from finance and healthcare to education and tech, designing multi-layered programs that blend coaching, training, and organizational strategy.

Jermaine's signature approach integrates mindset work, inclusive leadership, team development, and practical

I&B frameworks that move organizations from awareness to action. He is especially known for guiding long-term culture transformations, designing experiential learning sessions, and equipping leaders to model authenticity, clarity, and care in their decision-making. Beyond his consulting work, Jermaine is a board member for the Diversity Workforce Coalition.



“Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much.”

Helen Keller

M O D E R A T O R

MOLLY HODGSON

Molly is a seasoned executive with an extensive track record of successful leadership in nonprofit business operations. She has an extraordinary depth of experience in organizational strategy, program design and development, event management and fund procurement. Molly is a results-oriented leader with the highest level of professionalism and integrity.

Molly served as the President of the Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce, Executive Director of New Hampshire Businesses for Social Responsibility, and was the first Executive Director of New Hampshire Made Inc.

Molly has served as a Hoffman Haas Fellowship Mentor, participated in the Institute for Advanced Nonprofit Leadership, served on the Advisory Board of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation Piscataqua Region and Chaired the Leadership Seacoast Board. She has served as

a Lead Judge for the New Hampshire Best Companies to Work for Competition, is an honorary inductee in the Golden Key International Honor Society and was selected to the inaugural 40 Under Forty Young Leaders Making New Hampshire Better.



“I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone
across the waters to create many ripples.”

Mother Theresa

S P E A K E R

KATHLEEN REARDON

Kathleen Reardon is Chief Executive Officer of the NH Center for Nonprofits. She leads the strategic direction and overall operations of the Center, a statewide nonprofit association dedicated to advancing the impact and visibility of the nonprofit sector in New Hampshire. Kathleen joined the Center in 2016, bringing experience in the for-profit and nonprofit sectors including public and media relations, foundation and corporate giving, community development, and volunteer and event management. She has served on numerous nonprofit boards and was recognized by NHBR as an Outstanding Woman in Business.



S P E A K E R

SIMON DELEKTA

Simon Delekta is the vice president of community engagement and impact at the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation. He oversees the Foundation's work in grantmaking, community partnerships and strategic initiatives. Simon's experience in the nonprofit sector includes managing government and community affairs at the New York Public Library and serving as director of voter education and civic engagement for the New York League of Conservation Voters. Simon lives in the Seacoast, and since 2012 has been a proud "Big Brother" through Big Brothers Big Sisters.



MODERATOR

PATTE ARDIZZONI

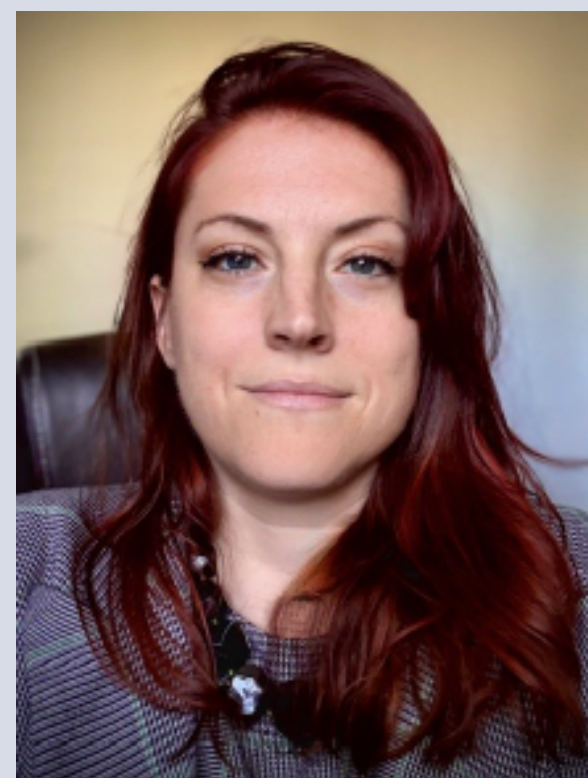
Patte Ardizzoni is the Development & Communications Director at Gather, where she leads fundraising, donor engagement, and communications strategies that raise over \$2 million annually and support the organization's mission to end hunger through food access and advocacy. She is currently co-leading Gather's \$7-10 million Capital Campaign. With more than 30 years of nonprofit leadership experience—including nearly two decades with Rockingham Community Action and Southern New Hampshire Services—Patte has advanced housing, healthcare, and financial stability initiatives for low-income communities across New Hampshire. She is also a longtime advocate, currently serving on the Governor's Council on Housing Stability and co-chairing the Balance of State Continuum of Care.



SPEAKER

WHITNEY BROWN

Whitney Brown is the Director of Safe Harbor Recovery Center, of Portsmouth, NH. She started volunteering there in 2017 before joining the staff in 2018 as a Parenting Educator. Whitney holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in international politics with a focus in Chinese language and cultural studies from Boston College. She is a NH LDAC Board-Certified CRSW Supervisor and auricular Acupuncture Detoxification Specialist licensed through the NH Acupuncture Board. Whitney draws her inspiration from her lived experience as a woman in long term recovery and from the partnerships she has developed within the greater Portsmouth recovery community.



S P E A K E R

ANNA KAY VORSTEG

Anna Kay Vorsteg serves as CEO of Cross Roads House, a transitional shelter that provides unhoused individuals and families of the Seacoast with a short-term sheltering home and the resources and care necessary to overcome barriers and achieve permanent housing solutions. She is a seasoned leader in the non-profit sector, or as she says the “for-human-profit” world. Before joining the Cross Roads team, Anna Kay served as president of the American Youth Foundation. She has also served the Seacoast community through her work on non-profit boards and action committees.

**S P E A K E R**

RAD NICHOLS

Mr. Nichols began his public transit career at COAST in 1993 as the Assistant Executive Director. He left the organization in 1996 but returned in 1999 as the Program Manager. In 2001, as COAST assumed day-to-day management and operation of its system, he was promoted to become the Manager of Operations & Planning. In 2007 Rad became the Executive Director of COAST.

Rad graduated from the University of New Hampshire, receiving a B.S. degree in Resource Economics in 1991. He currently resides in Durham with his wife Ann and has two adult children.



S P E A K E R

MARY JO BROWN

Mary Johanna Brown is Founder and President of Brown & Company Design, a strategic design firm established in 1992, and Big Brown Books, a publishing company established in 1997. Clients are varied in size and industry, including the Telluride Film Festival, the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, The U.S. Department of State, Planet Fitness, NHPR, NHPBS, Backyard Garlic, and more. As an active volunteer, Mary Jo has served on the board of several New Hampshire nonprofit boards and is the Founding Chair Emeritus of the New Hampshire Women's Foundation. Mary Jo was named to Business New Hampshire's Influence Index in 2014, New Hampshire Magazine's 2018 It List and as an Outstanding Woman in Business in 2018 by New Hampshire Business Review. In 2023 she was named the UNH Paul J. Holloway Entrepreneur of the Year, as well as being inducted into New Hampshire Business Review's Business Excellence Hall of Fame. She enjoys boating, photography, TikTok, and traveling with her daughter Haley who attends Emerson College.



“WHAT IS THE ESSENCE OF LIFE?
TO SERVE OTHERS AND TO DO
GOOD.” — ARISTOTLE