

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

Administration Building

North Haverhill, NH 03774

February 25, 2026

PRESENT: Commissioners McLeod, Piper, Hedberg, County Administrator Libby and Administrative Assistant Norcross

OTHERS: DoC Superintendent Lethbridge, Matt Plache & Erika Collins – White Horse Recovery, Register Monahan – via Teams, Nick De Mayo – via Teams, Emilie Smith – via Teams, Janice Ann Novak – via Teams

Commissioner McLeod called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Supt. Lethbridge arrived and gave the following report (* see attached)

1. Sullivan County Inmate Transfer - Supt. Lethbridge stated that Sullivan County requested assistance with holding a sentenced inmate who has a pending criminal charge involving the family of a staff member at Sullivan County, and it would not be possible segregate the inmate and staff member.

MOTION: Commissioner Hedberg moved to approve an inmate transfer from Sullivan County to Grafton County. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

2. Coos County Inmate Transfer – Supt. Lethbridge stated that Coos County requested assistance with holding a sentenced inmate who has a pending civil case with Coos County.

MOTION: Commissioner Hedberg moved to approve an inmate transfer from Coos County to Grafton County. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Agenda Items:

1. The Commissioners reviewed the letter drafted by HR Director Clough in response to the policy clarification requested by an employee.

2. Commissioner McLeod asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes from the February 17th meeting. Commissioner Hedberg had one grammatical edit.

MOTION: Commissioner Hedberg moved to approve the minutes from February 17th as amended. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

3. The Commissioners signed the check registers 1117-1122; 2026-02.13.2026

Matt Plache & Erika Collins from White Horse Recovery arrived to discuss an Opioid Abatement Request

E. Collins and M. Plache reviewed the attached letter outlining their request with the Commissioners and answered various questions.

The Commissioners asked CA Libby what the remaining balance is for the Opioid Abatement Funds. CA Libby stated that they have roughly \$300,000 remaining. Commissioner Hedberg expressed concerns about giving a third of what they have left available in these funds to one (1) organization, noting that White Horse Recovery's request is for \$100,000. She is not worried about the program and what they offer, but the Commissioners have requests for this funding coming in on a regular basis, and she does not feel comfortable with giving a third of their funds to one (1) organization. The Commissioners further discussed the request.

Commissioner McLeod stated that she is willing to talk with Atty. Boffetti about the Opioid Abatement Funds and what they could do to get more funding to Grafton County to address these needs. Commissioner McLeod suggested funding half of the request right now at \$50,000, and Commissioner Hedberg stated that she was still not comfortable with that amount, since they know they have a large request still coming in. She would be comfortable with \$30,000, and if the county were to receive more funding, they could revisit this. Commissioner Piper stated that the County is blessed to have several organizations come in requesting these funds, and the County is able to help. She stated that \$100,000 is a big ask. She would be comfortable with something lower and then do the research to see if the county can get more funding.

Commissioner Hedberg stated that she does not disagree with distributing the funds to these organizations. She would be comfortable offering more to this organization if the county were to receive more Opioid Abatement Funding. Commissioner McLeod stated that, in her opinion, these funds are meant for these requests and to help save lives. Commissioner Hedberg stated that she agrees and noted that these are valuable organizations; her concern is making sure that the County is able to fund other worthy organizations as well.

MOTION: Commissioner Hedberg moved to fund \$30,000 out of Opioid Abatement Funds to White Horse Recovery. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Commissioner Hedberg stated that she looks forward to hearing from Commissioner McLeod after she speaks with Atty. Boffetti, and if the county were to receive more funding, they would keep White Horse Recovery in mind.

Agenda Items:

1. Commissioner McLeod signed a Use and Occupancy Agreement for the Broadband Project to allow construction to continue along Interstate 93 in the Thornton area.
2. Commissioner McLeod signed CDBG drawdown requests from BEDC Micro for \$15,954.17 and WREN Micro for \$13,000.
3. Court System Lease Renewal – CA Libby stated that the State of New Hampshire agreed to the 3% increase for each year, and they are working on preparing the contract.

4. Updated Budget Schedule – CA Libby stated that there will be no budget meeting on March 19th, and those budgets will be presented during the Commissioners' regular meeting on March 17th. The Commissioners also agreed not to meet on March 31st, which is a 5th Tuesday of the month.

5. UNH CDS Application – CA Libby stated that she had forwarded information from Anton Bekkerman to the Commissioners, and they can let her know if they have any comments or questions. She noted that the applications are due next Friday. She reviewed the attached document with the Commissioners. Commissioner McLeod asked what additional resources UNH may be planning on, noting that this does not seem like enough funding for this project. Commissioner Hedberg stated that it seems that this grant is for infrastructure only and not continuing support for personnel and research.

6. Social Service Request – CA Libby stated that she received an email from Families Flourish Northeast, a residential recovery program for pregnant and parenting women in New Hampshire. She stated that this agency is located in Lebanon, NH, and their email states that with the closing of Headrest and decreased access to many services, they are working to ensure pregnant women and their children are supported into sobriety and beyond. CA Libby stated that this agency is looking to apply for social service funding. She noted that the application period for social funding has closed and asked the Commissioners if they would like her to forward an application to this agency. The Commissioners discussed the request and agreed to send Families Flourish Northeast, an application for funding, to be discussed during budget deliberations.

7. AHEAD – Pathways to Homeownership Update – CA Libby reviewed the attached document with the Commissioners. She stated that AHEAD is on target to spend all of the funding they received from the County by the end of 2026. They are currently working with the New Hampshire Charitable Fund to fund additional dollars to put towards this program in hopes of extending it past 2026.

8. WMUR – FCC Market Modification Update – CA Libby stated that WMUR is available on Direct TV throughout Grafton County, but it is not available on DISH Network. There will likely not need to be an FCC market modification because New Hampshire has a specific exemption that allows WMUR to be broadcast outside of its designated market, since WMUR is the only statewide news outlet. CA Libby stated that they still have to have a retransmission agreement with the satellite company, which they have with Direct TV. She explained that this was the catalyst and the reason they do not carry WMUR on DISH Network is that they were not able to come to an agreement on the retransmission agreement. CA Libby stated that this may be at the end of the road with what the county can do, but she will update the Commissioners when she hears back from their attorney.

9. Director Mitchell's LATCF Request – CA Libby stated that the Commissioners received a request for LATCF funds from AS Director Mitchell to finish out this season of transitional housing because ARPA funding is no longer available. The request is for \$32,000 to provide housing through April 2026, so no one will be homeless through the rest of winter. CA Libby stated that there have been eighteen (18) referrals for this program, and they have provided temporary housing for thirteen (13), and eight (8) have transitioned into permanent housing. AS

Director Mitchell had stated, they anticipate that three (3) of the four (4) individuals left in the program will be permanently housed by the end of April, and one (1) may transition to a campsite due to their criminal record.

MOTION: Commissioner Hedberg moved to provide \$32,000 from LATCF funds to the Grafton County Sequential Intercept Model Transitional Housing Program.
Commissioner Piper seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

10. CA Libby stated that the March 10th meeting will start at 2:00 pm because they need to hold three (3) CDBG public hearings that afternoon.

11. Next Steps – EMS Study – Commissioner McLeod added the following comments and questions from N. De Mayo that she said she would pass along, as she had to leave last week's meeting early. She stated that N. De Mayo had asked if the cost of equipment would go down if they regionalized all of Grafton County EMS services into 1 unified body. Commissioner Hedberg stated that this question was not addressed in the EMS report; it was stated that regionalizing the whole county would not be viable. Commissioner McLeod stated that N. De Mayo asked if casino profits can be used to subsidize EMS regionalization costs. She stated that she does not believe Don Bliss looked at that in the study. Commissioner Hedberg added that she does not know any laws on casinos and whether that would go through local property taxes or business taxes. She does not think the county has a way to directly get any of those funds with the way the county government is set up. Commissioner McLeod stated that if it is a not-for-profit EMS that is being operated, they can apply to receive funds through the casinos that are operating in the state. She stated that she is not sure if towns and cities are able to access those funds. Commissioner Hedberg noted that this was not discussed as part of the EMS study.

Commissioner Hedberg stated that, in terms of next steps, at Town Meeting for the five (5) towns looking to set up a village district, this is on the warrant articles. She explained that they are non-binding warrant articles to give the selectboard the ability to move forward with this project and it would be voted on next year to set it up. In her mind, the avenues of what they will do are dependent on two (2) things. If that goes through, this would be a pilot project for the village district. In the next couple of weeks, they will know about the rural health care transformation program and how they can request those funds. Commissioner Hedberg explained that they learned that the grant the county applied for was to get information on ideas for projects, and a new grant submission would need to be done to get any funding. She noted that this was also discussed at yesterday's legislative conference. She added that they received a brief description of different pots of money that are run by different organizations. This will be going to the Executive Council next week. There will be monies for the workforce, renovations, healthcare, and behavioral health. Commissioner Hedberg stated that a discussion was had about setting up a steering committee for this as well.

Commissioner McLeod stated that Executive Councilor Hill is setting the county up to receive emails notifying it of what GO-NORTH is doing. She explained that GO-NORTH is the name of the group that is being used for the rural health care transformation program, and it is similar to what GOFERR was for ARPA funds. Commissioner McLeod suggested inviting someone from GO-NORTH as well as these four (4) organizations to speak at the NHAC Conference and let

counties know what they need to do. She thinks the counties will be able to access these funds and that EMS services fall under access to care. The Commissioners further discussed the funding opportunities and will wait to hear more information after the Executive Council meeting next week.

Commissioner McLeod stated that another topic at the legislative conference was Congressionally Directed Spending. She spoke with Chris Scott from Senator Shaheen's Office about these funds and whether Grafton County could apply for the courthouse project. She explained that there are roughly thirty (30) different funding sources that go into this. DOJ might be a source of funding if they were looking to apply for a portion of the Sheriff's Department or Dispatch. She added that UDSA funding for community facilities is an option as well if the county wanted to apply for the Registry of Deeds Office space in the courthouse, for example. They can look at other departments as well. This funding could not be used for the court system portion of the courthouse, but could be used for some of their county operations within the courthouse. Commissioner McLeod stated that the application is due next Friday, and C. Scott was very interested in the county pursuing that. CA Libby stated that she could reach out to C. Scott to get more information.

The Commissioners further discussed yesterday's legislative conference. Commissioner Piper stated that she thought the conference was very productive, and she appreciated the budget discussion. She noted that expanding county government was also discussed. Commissioner Piper stated that a point that was made, a bipartisan issue, was that constituents do not care where the funding is coming from as long as the services are provided. She felt that was something to think about, and members of the public need to think about that as well. The Commissioners further discussed details from the legislative conference.

Commissioner Hedberg stated that in regard to the next steps for the EMS Study. The conversation they had at yesterday's legislative conference fit well with that. She suggested putting the EMS study back on the agenda in a few weeks, once town meetings are done and they have more information. Commissioner Piper and Commissioner McLeod agreed.

Commissioner McLeod stated that she received an email from J. Bouffard regarding the Linwood Ambulance Service, and he feels that they do cover Livermore on the Kancamagus Highway. He learned from one of their Commissioner meetings that Linwood Ambulance Service is not getting reimbursed, but Conway is. CA Libby stated that Conway Fire is being reimbursed. They respond to the fire side because the Lincoln Fire Department will only respond to the Lincoln town line. Commissioner McLeod stated that this is something they should look into. CA Libby stated that she can look into it, but she believes it is only Conway Fire that is being reimbursed. When an accident occurs, fire and ambulance typically respond. In Livermore's case, Lincoln Fire won't respond to Livermore, so Conway Fire will go all the way to the Lincoln town line. She stated that she would look further into it.

Public Comment:

1. Nick De Mayo thanked Commissioner McLeod for asking his questions regarding the EMS study. He stated that the money for the village district for the five (5) towns should come from

those towns; they should not ask the rest of the county to subsidize that service. He stated that the Commissioners should ask the legislature for a Homesteading Act like that done in Florida. N. De Mayo added that the state should also charge user fees for those who come in to use their mountains, trails, and lakes. They should look at people who are vacationers in New Hampshire paying more for services. The middle-class people do not want their taxes to increase. N. De Mayo thanked Commissioner McLeod for looking into the USDA and DOJ for funds.

Agenda Items:

1. Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3, II (a)

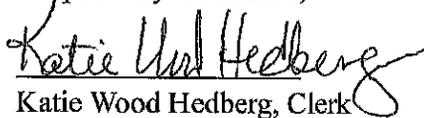
MOTION: * 11:33 AM Commissioner Hedberg moved to enter into a non-public session for the purpose of the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted according to RSA 91-A: 3, II (a).

Commissioner Piper seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote. Commissioner McLeod called the roll. Commissioner Piper said, "Yes", Commissioner Hedberg said, "Yes," and Commissioner McLeod said, "Yes." Commissioner McLeod stated that a majority of the board voted "yes" and would now go into non-public session.

* 12:30 PM Commissioner McLeod declared the meeting back in public session.

12:30 PM with no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,


Katie Wood Hedberg, Clerk

Monthly Department of Corrections Activity Report

January 2026



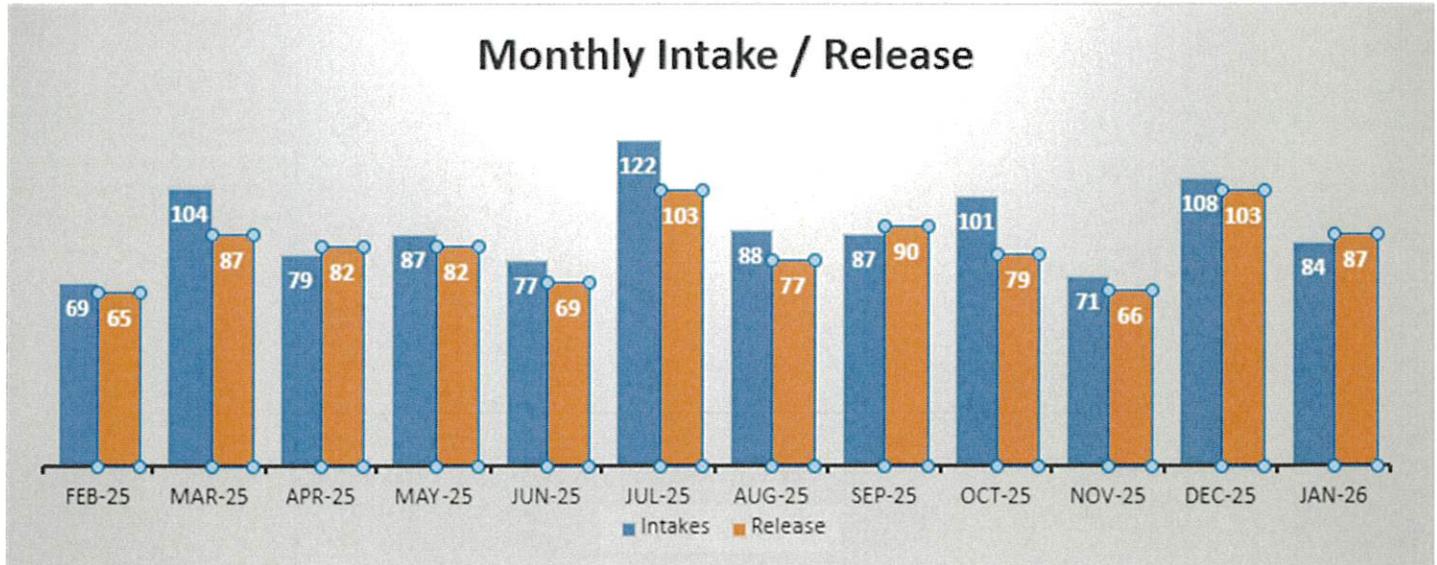
Major Incidents:

There were no major incidents in the Grafton County Dept of Corrections in January.

Population Data:

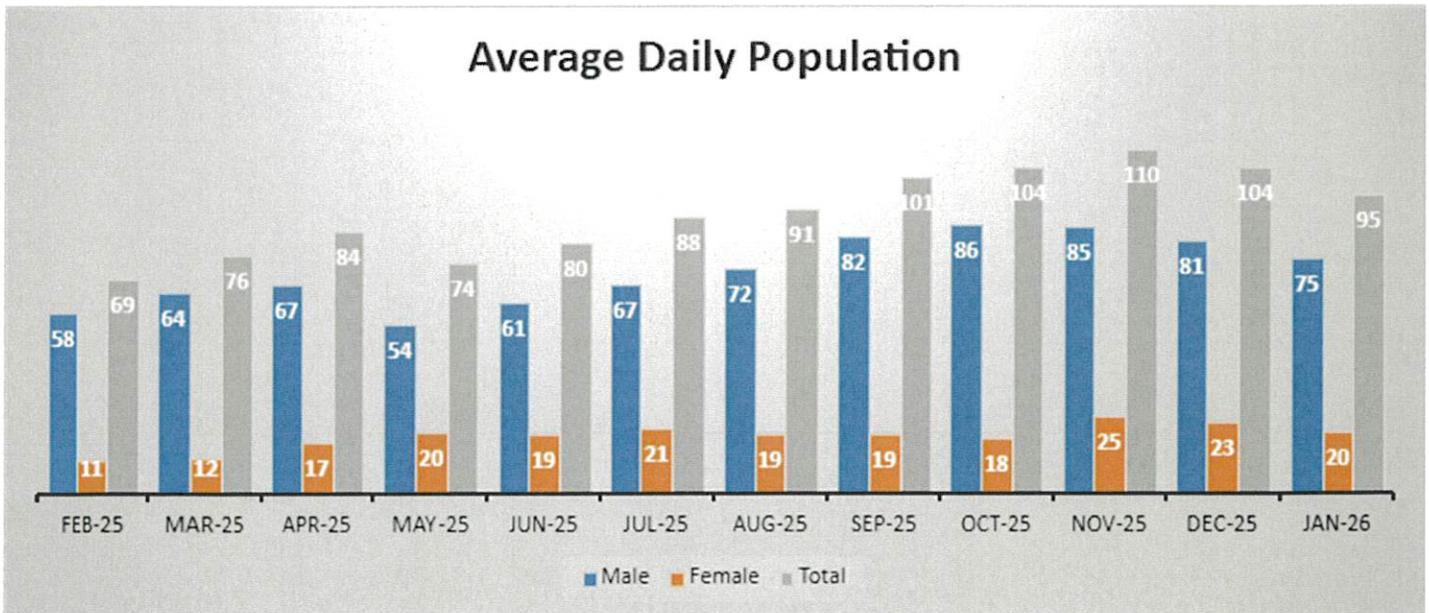
Total Intakes for the Month: **84** (Coos County Females: **8**)

Total Releases for the Month: **87**

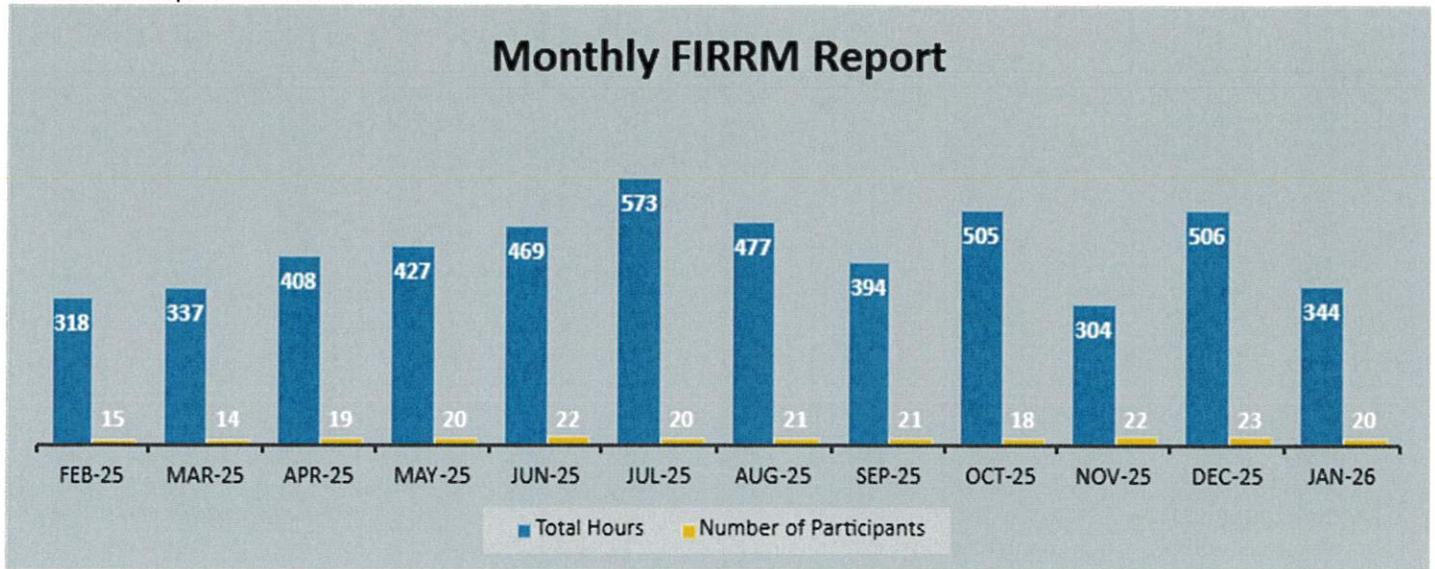


In House Average Daily Population for the Month: **95**

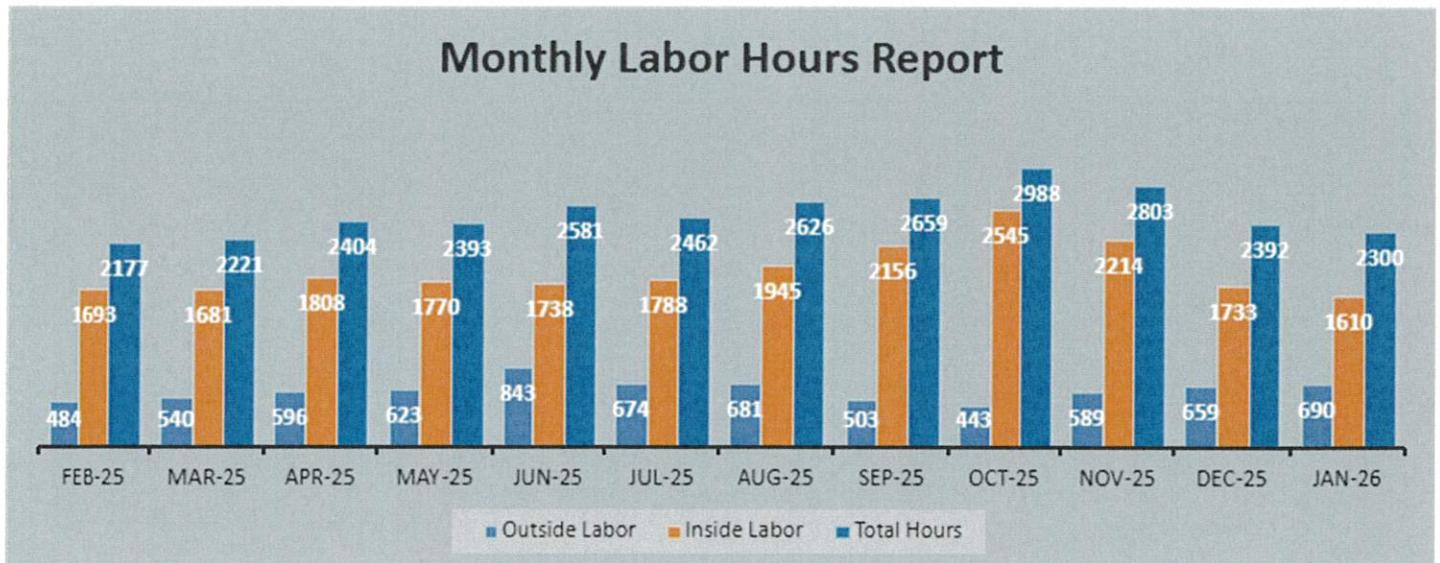
Male: **75** Female: **25**



Inmates participating in FIRRM program during the month: **20**
 Total Participation Hours: **344**



Hours of inmate labor outside the facility: **690**
 Hours of inmate labor inside the facility: **1610**



Food Service:

Average per meal cost to feed each inmate: \$1.88

The cost per meal was unchanged from December. 8385 inmate meals were served during the month of January, for a total food expenditure of \$8385. The DOC also received twelve 50 lb. bags of potatoes from the County Farm for use in inmate meals in January.

The DOC was able to fill two of the vacant chef positions in January, leaving just one part time vacancy. Corporal Karen Lombardo and Officer Ben Balch worked extra days and longer shifts for almost three months to cover the two vacancies in the jail kitchen. I am grateful for their commitment to providing our inmates with quality meals and dedication to the GCDOC team. Their extra effort made a big difference in the continued smooth operation of the jail while we were also dealing with high census and significant medical events.

Medical:

Medical expenses continue to run far above budget. At the end of January, the budget for outside medical expenses was 90% spent. Approximately \$15,000 remains and pharmacy expenses alone are running over \$7000 each month. Medical is diligent in trying to hold the line on costs. Recently the jail received an inmate with a picc line requiring multiple transports for IV therapy each week. Nursing staff was able to find an out of state compounding pharmacy to supply the IV therapy drugs so that this treatment could be done inside the facility, reducing the weekly cost from \$2000 to \$400.

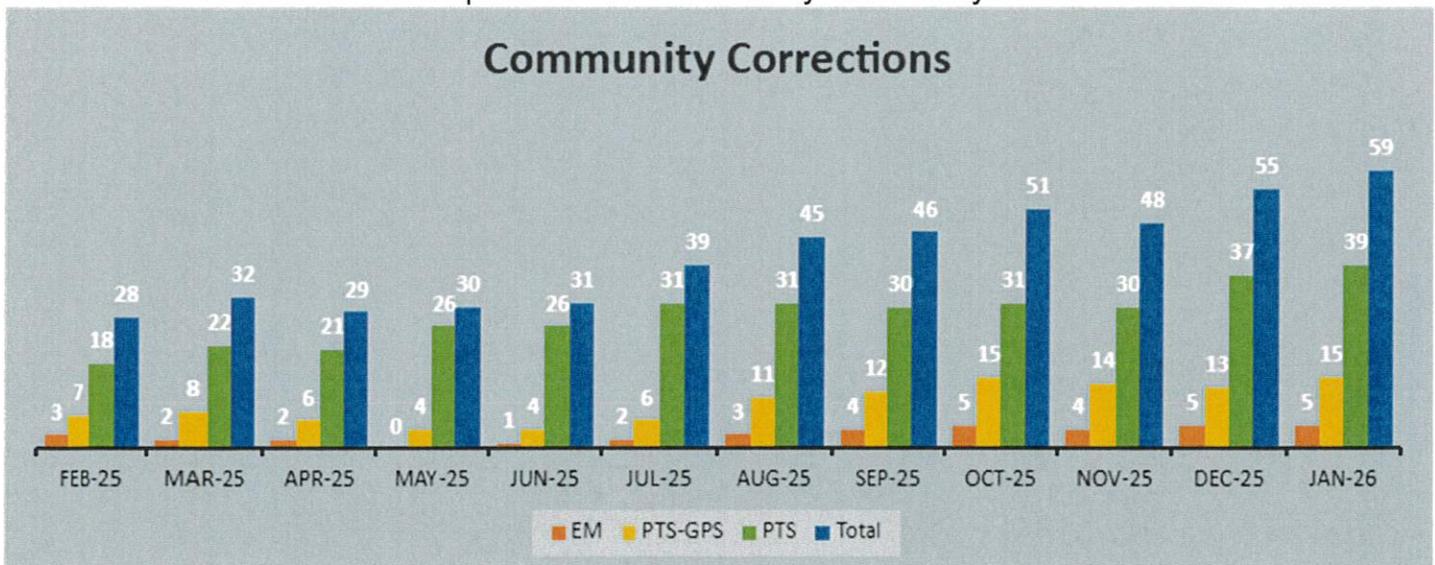
During January the DOC needed to borrow a hospital bed from the nursing home, as both jail hospital beds were already full and a third high medical acuity inmate arrived at the facility.

Community Corrections:

Inmates supervised on Electronic Monitoring: **5**

Inmates on Pre-Trial Services with GPS: **15**

Inmates on Pre-Trial Services supervised and checked by Community Corrections: **59**



The DOC has seen an increase of pre-trial inmates being released on personal recognizance with pre-trial services. This is one factor contributing to the decline in the in-house census. In addition, the DOC had five inmates completing their sentences in the community on electronic monitoring during January.

Staff:

New officer hires during the month: 2

New officer/supervisor vacancies during the month: 0

Total vacant officer positions at the end of the month (including supervisory rank): 0

Promotions during the month: Officer Scott Smith and Officer Timothy Lampman were promoted to the rank of Corporal in January. Officer Anthony Antone transferred from Security Squad to Community Corrections during the month as well. No officer vacancies remained at the end of January.

Significant Developments and Achievements:

The Alternative Sentencing part time Certified Recovery Support Workers funded through the Opioid Abatement funds completed their training at Alternative Sentencing and were trained and oriented to the jail in January. The CRSWs are now frequently in the jail meeting with inmates prior to release, assisting with getting insurance turned back on, assisting with other social services challenges, and connecting these soon to be released inmates up with recovery support meetings and groups in their area. Intake Sgt Derosia reports having dedicated positions working on these issues is providing better service to the inmates while relieving workload from the very busy intake positions.

Significant Problems:

Aside from the fiscal/medical challenges already mentioned, there were no significant problems at the DOC in January.



February 12, 2025

Grafton County Board of Commissioners
3855 Dartmouth College Hwy
N. Haverhill, NH 03774

Re: Request for Opioid Abatement Fund Grant

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of White Horse Addiction Center Inc. d/b/a White Horse Recovery to request a grant of opioid abatement fund money to support our recovery center operations in Littleton, NH and our related services to Grafton County residents. We are requesting a \$100,000 grant.

White Horse Recovery is a New Hampshire registered charity and a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation founded in 2014.¹ Our mission statement is: *Empowering individuals, families, and communities impacted by addiction and mental health challenges to thrive and find holistic wellness.*

In 2016, White Horse became New Hampshire's first state-recognized Recovery Community Organization (RCO). We now operate four of New Hampshire's twenty-one state-funded walk-in peer support recovery community centers, where we provide free evidence-based wrap-around recovery support and related services to anyone needing them.² .

Our Littleton peer support center is our busiest, providing thousands of recovery services to Grafton County residents annually. We currently have three full-time peer support workers in Littleton, all of whom have lived experience. We average about 500 sign-ins at our Littleton center each month, with multiple new intakes each week. In addition to providing one-on-one recovery coaching, our center hosts group recovery sessions (including AA, NA, Smart Recovery, Alanon, Parenting classes, etc.) and numerous other activities. We have showers and

¹ See attached IRS 501(c)(3) letter and NH Good Standing Certificate.

² In addition to our recovery center in Littleton, we run recovery centers in Berlin, N. Conway and Center Ossipee, covering Grafton, Coos and Carroll counties.

laundry for guests to use at no cost, a self-serve food pantry, a clothing closet, hygiene supplies, sheltering supplies (tents, sleeping bags, etc.), and supplies for overdose prevention.

We also have a recovery resource library for guests to use, including educational materials, free internet, and access to a computer and printer. Within the community we serve, many are challenged by a lack of transportation that can prevent them from accessing support. To address this problem, last year we entered a lease for a Nissan Rogue that serves as a dedicated transportation vehicle at the center. Our staff uses the vehicle to transport guests to and from the center for services, and to transport guests to off-site treatment including detox services.

We actively partner with community members and our building in Littleton is very much a community center. Other groups and community members often use our center, including in the evenings and on weekends, to run meetings and activities. We make regular referrals to over 25 local and regional community partners to help our participants make progress in their recovery journeys, find needed treatment and resources, and reduce barriers to recovery and overall wellness.

The requested grant money will be used to support our growing operations in Littleton. In particular, with the growing number of guests and activities at our Littleton center, we are in need of adding a fourth full time staff there. The grant money will be used in part to fund the additional staff.

This year, we plan to expand the services we provide in Littleton to include virtual clinical treatment sessions with licensed mental health and substance use therapists, in addition to the peer support services currently offered. Currently, we have licensed therapists on staff at our Ossipee and N. Conway locations, but none in Littleton. We are seeing a significant number of guests in Littleton who are in need of a level of treatment (both mental health and substance use therapy) beyond what certified peer support workers can provide. The unmet need for therapists in the Littleton area presents significant challenges to successful recovery. Accordingly, we plan to address this need by offering virtual sessions in our Littleton center with our therapists in Carroll County. We recently received a grant to fund purchase and installation of audio/video equipment in the Littleton center to facilitate virtual therapy sessions. As a non-profit, White Horse provides mental health and substance use therapy regardless of our clients' ability to pay. The majority of our clients have Medicaid, however Medicaid pays only about 75% of the cost of service. We make up the unreimbursed cost through grants and donations. The requested grant money will be used in part to fund this cost gap.

Additionally, we are seeing a large unmet need for expanded services to youth. As we work with adults in recovery, we are finding that a large segment began using substances around

age 12. By working with youth on prevention before their substance use becomes a full-blown addiction, we can divert many away from suffering addiction as adults. This is supported by the sequential intercept model (SIM). Currently, we are working with the Littleton school SAP coordinator to develop and implement a summer program for youth. The requested grant funds will help support that work as well.

As discussed above, the requested grant will be used to fund our growing and expanding operations in Littleton. We very much appreciate the opportunity to make this request. If additional information is needed, please let us know and we can provide it.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Matthew Plache

Matthew Plache, Executive Director
Erika Collins, Manager, Littleton Center

IT'S ALL ABOUT

PATHWAYS TO HOMEOWNERSHIP



Since the launch in December 2025, Pathways to Homeownership II has provided \$407,120 in assistance to 29 unique households.

OCCUPATIONS

Recipients of Pathways to Homeownership work in a variety of fields.

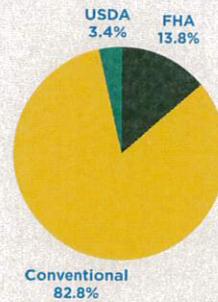
Bartender	Dental Assistant	Bank Teller	Tree Services
Manufacturing	Camp Director	Graphic Designer	Wait Staff
Landscaper	Barista	Mental Health Therapist	Paraeducator
Auto Sales	Mechanic	Ski Industry	Electrician
Teacher	Nurse	Painter	Police Officer

AVERAGE HOME PRICE



\$284,048

LOAN TYPES



AVERAGE GRANT AMOUNT



\$14,038

LENDING PARTNERS

To date, 7 unique lender partners have participated in the program.



TOTAL HOMES SALES

\$8,237,403



TOWNS PURCHASED IN

- ✓ Bath
- ✓ Bethlehem X3
- ✓ Campton
- ✓ Haverhill
- ✓ Lebanon X2
- ✓ Lisbon X3
- ✓ Littleton X6
- ✓ Lyman X2
- ✓ Monroe
- ✓ N. Haverhill
- ✓ N. Woodstock
- ✓ Orange
- ✓ Orford
- ✓ Piermont
- ✓ Plymouth X3
- ✓ Sugar Hill



*All data is as of 2/1/2026

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
PATHWAYS TO HOMEOWNERSHIP DOWN PAYMENT
ASSISTANCE CONTACT AHEAD TODAY



603-444-1377

hcc@homesahead.org



www.homesahead.org



University of
New Hampshire

ADVANCING LOCAL RESEARCH FOR NORTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE



OUR VISION

Establish a permanent UNH agricultural research station at the Grafton County Farm, revitalizing and growing community-driven science that directly serves those living in the heart of New Hampshire's agricultural industry.

WHO WE ARE

For more than 100 years, the UNH College of Life Sciences and Agriculture has served to deliver the teaching, research, and extension land-grant missions to serve the many agricultural and food communities across New Hampshire.

WHAT WE DO

Within the College, research from the NH Agricultural Experiment Station and community engagement from Cooperative Extension coordinate to discover and deliver impactful solutions to locally identified challenges faced by agricultural producers, businesses, and their communities.

OUR PARTNERSHIP GOAL

Leveraging a partnership between the Town of Haverhill, Grafton County, and the University of New Hampshire, secure a \$1.25 million infrastructure investment at the Grafton County Farm, significantly growing the long-term agricultural research capacity within northern New Hampshire.

The Town of Haverhill will lead submission of a Congressional Designated Spending request. The UNH College of Life Sciences and Agriculture will lead logistical, planning, and administrative support, with guidance from Grafton County. The partnership will lead to significant short- and long-run economic and innovation impacts.

A LONG-TERM INVESTMENT IN RESEARCH



We propose to build a small modern research facility that includes a scientific laboratory and work space. The facility will be the headquarters for a UNH researcher who will permanently live and work in the Haverhill community. The lab will be equipped with instrumentation to support state-of-the-art agricultural science and innovation, on par with instrumentation at the UNH–Durham campus.

The facility will also include 2–3 tiny homes. These will accommodate temporary undergraduate and graduate students, collaborators from UNH and other regional institutions, and industry partners when they work at the site. This will increase UNH’s consistent connection with the Grafton County Farm and enable scientists to conduct impactful local studies for many years to come.

A LONG-TERM INVESTMENT IN HAVERHILL

Short-term Development

A multi-million dollar infrastructure investment in the community, creating jobs, economic activity, and an economic multiplier effect.

Increasing jobs in the Haverhill community.

Revitalizing the mission of the Grafton County Farm.

Bringing positive state and regional recognition as a community that leads through long-term investment in local science and innovation.

Long-term Impact

A renewed recognition and pride in the Grafton County Farm’s mission and contribution to New Hampshire’s agricultural producers and sector.

Agricultural research that directly reflects and represents the needs of local communities.

Economic stability and growth for agriculture and food businesses that use local research.

Increased collaboration and growth in research grant and industry funding to both the UNH research station and Grafton County Farm.

Significantly stronger partnership between Haverhill communities, Grafton County, and UNH.

Initial 1-2 Year Outlays

UNH: assists Town of Haverhill in the CDS proposal submission process; leads the design and construction project management in partnership with Grafton County Farm; hires permanent research faculty.

Town of Haverhill: with UNH, leads the CDS proposal writing and submission process; assists in coordinating construction near roadway.

Grafton County: assists the CDS proposal process; partners with UNH to establish long-term land lease; collaboratively develops joint farm operations protocols; with UNH, forms a research advisory committee to steer farm use collaborations.

Long-term Commitments

UNH: supports research personnel, including permanent research faculty, graduate students, undergraduate summer fellows; acquires grant funding to conduct research and support operations; pays for utilities and maintenance of facility; regularly provides research results through demonstrations and education programming.

Town of Haverhill: provides public safety and welfare services (police, fire) to employees and facilities.

Grafton County: continues to collaborate and coordinate farm operations and research; provides some facility support such as plowing; in emergencies, provide some farm operations support.