



City of Concord, New Hampshire

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Byron O. Champlin

TO: Members of City Council

FROM: Mayor Champlin

DATE: June 26, 2025

RE: Steering Committee for Concord's Plan to End Homelessness

I propose the appointment of the following individual to the Steering Committee for Concord's Plan to End Homelessness.

- Molly Lunn Owen, 64 Franklin Street, Concord. Molly Lunn Owen's letter of interest and resume are attached.

In accordance with Section 18 of the City Council Rules, this proposed appointment is being distributed to City Council as information in advance of formal action at the August 11, 2025 City Council meeting.

Molly Lunn Owen
64 Franklin Street
Concord, NH 03301
Molly.lunn.owen@gmail.com
(781) 789-1168

June 24, 2025

Janice Bonenfant
Office of the Concord City Clerk
41 Green Street
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Ms. Bonenfant,

I am writing to express my interest in serving on the Committee for Concord's Plan to End Homelessness. I have discussed the goals and vision of this committee in conversation with committee members and Mayor Champlin, and I wish to submit this letter and resume so that my candidacy may be formally considered.

I moved to Concord after being priced out of my former community, and while I am here due to the housing shortage in our state, I am fortunate to have a home. I cannot say the same of my neighbors whose tents populate the trails where my partner and I jog before work. I believe that my professional background in housing policy, community organizing, and public service can help this population and the first responders and residents challenged by the needs of those experiencing homelessness, and that my service can contribute to the important mission of this committee: to develop a plan to eliminate homelessness in Concord.

My skills and experience, in summary, include formative years spent at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, where I learned the project management and system-level improvement lens with which I have addressed my subsequent career in the nonprofit sector. I currently work for the University of New Hampshire Foundation as a fundraising professional, and I previously served for five years as founding executive director of a nonprofit focused, in part, on state-level housing policy, where my colleagues and I built programs that empowered residents to share their stories and influence meaningful change.

I also served for three years on the planning board in Manchester NH, my former community, where I was appointed by the mayor to help guide the city's development and ensure adequate infrastructure for residents. I have had meaningful conversations and learned hard lessons while volunteering at homeless shelters through my church, cooking at the Friendly Kitchen, and working the overnight shift at a youth shelter in Harvard Square. These experiences have shaped my understanding that people experiencing homelessness deserve dignity, not averted eyes, and that shelters—loud, sterile, caustic, despite the best care from frontline service providers—are no substitute for the range of housing options to which people with greater resources have access.

I would be honored to contribute to this committee's work in developing a thoughtful, community-guided plan to solve homelessness in Concord for submission to the City Council. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Molly Lunn Owen', with a stylized, flowing script.

Molly Lunn Owen

Molly Lunn Owen

64 Franklin St. | Concord, NH 03301
(781) 789-1168 | molly.lunn.owen@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of New Hampshire

Durham, NH

Associate Director of Development

2024 -present

- Major gift officer at Peter T. Paul College of Business and Economics. Create and advise on philanthropic investment opportunities aimed at achieving a transformational education for the next generation of leaders in close collaboration with Business School dean, university stakeholders, and visionary donors

603 Forward and The Forward Foundation

Manchester, NH

Executive Director

2019 – 2024

- Founding executive director of aligned 501(c)(4) and 501(c)(3) civic education organizations focused on next-generation candidate recruitment, issue advocacy & voter education and turnout. Grew to \$1.25M revenue, from 1 to 9 diverse staff, national recognition. Led fundraising, strategic planning, partnerships, team growth & culture. Results include over 250 people under 50 elected to nonpartisan office across New Hampshire

Granite United Way

Laconia & Concord, NH

Director of Resource Development

2018 – 2019

- Managed relationships for 50+ corporate accounts generating \$1.2 million in FY18. Facilitated relations between agency leaders and donors to increase strategic impact of annual giving campaign. Frequent public speaking

Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI)

Cambridge, MA

Project Coordinator; Liaison to the Board; Executive Assistant to the Pres. Emeritus

2014 – 2017

- Coordinated communications and events for IHI Leadership Alliance, a \$1.1 million coalition of 40+ health care delivery system leadership teams committed to system redesign for quality, safety and population health improvement
- Planned and ran Board of Directors meetings in US and abroad for 15 C-suite Board members, reporting to CEO
- Managed relationships, business opportunities, calendar for global thought leader and former CEO, Dr. Don Berwick

Political Organizing

2013 – 2014

Deputy State Director, Forward NC; Field Organizer, Don Berwick for MA Governor

- Forward North Carolina: Supervised 12 staff in four offices to hire, train 500+ paid canvassers to execute field strategy supporting US Senate candidate. Advised State Director on strategy and resource allocation in 11 offices
- Don Berwick for Governor: Recruited, trained, and supported 150+ adult volunteers in eight regional teams. Ran 230+ community events over 38 towns with 450+ unique attendees. Spoke publicly as ambassador for candidate

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP & CONTINUING LEARNING

- Lean Six Sigma Green Belt 2024; NH Union Leader 40 Under 40 2023; Harvard Kennedy School “Nonprofit Management and Leadership” program 2023; Leadership Greater Manchester 2021; Emerge MA 2017
- New Hampshire Humanities board member and Woodside School volunteer fundraiser, 2024 - present; Manchester NH planning board member 2020-2023; Manchester Young Professionals steering committee member 2019-2024; Stay Work Play advocacy committee co-founder; Appalachian Mountain Club volunteer trip leader

EDUCATION

St. Lawrence University

Canton, NY

Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Government. Minors in English, Spanish

2012

- Admissions ambassador; Academic Honor Council justice; 4-year Varsity swim team member; University Communications intern; teaching assistant of government & Spanish; peer writing tutor; Spanish immersion semester