THE MISSION
The Carsey Institute conducts policy research on vulnerable children, youth, and families and on sustainable community development. The institute gives policy makers and practitioners the timely, independent resources they need to effect change in their communities. The institute was established by an endowed gift to the University of New Hampshire in 2002 by UNH alumna Marcy Carsey.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS
The Carsey Institute partners with dozens of faculty from across the university, as well as with numerous external organizations. The institute’s work is both rigorous and relevant. By working closely with foundations, nonprofits and community development organizations, the institute is better positioned to ask the right research questions and share our findings.

SELECTED PROJECTS

New Hampshire’s North Country
The Carsey Institute is undertaking an extensive three-pronged research project to understand the ongoing changes in New Hampshire’s North Country and bordering communities in the United States and Canada. The project includes an indicator website for socio-economic data, a bi-annual survey of adults in Coos and Oxford Counties, and a longitudinal panel study of Coos County youth that will provide data about the attitudes and experiences of the county’s youth as they approach young adulthood. This comprehensive research, supported by the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, helps regional policy makers, community development practitioners and other North Country leaders and stakeholders plan interventions and monitor the progress of ongoing activities.

National Congress of American Indians
With support from the Ford Foundation and in partnership with the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), the Carsey Institute has started a research program in several predominately Native American regions. The objectives of the research are to provide up-to-date community level analyses of how Indian workers and families are adapting to the economic, demographic and environmental changes and challenges confronting rural America. By working directly with Native leaders and researchers we will capture some of the more nuanced factors that are likely to differentiate the current challenges and opportunities in Indian Country from those in rural America more broadly.

Children’s Alliance of NH
The Carsey Institute is partnering with the Children’s Alliance of New Hampshire to conduct three research studies concerning youth in New Hampshire. One study will look at student suspensions and summarize the disciplinary actions for the state as a whole and for each county, identifying districts and schools with high or low rates of disciplinary actions and the reasons for them. A second study will examine juvenile justice in the Granite State. The study uses existing state and national data to explore the strengths and weaknesses of the current system and consider directions for policy. A third study will look at the issues and circumstances of the growing adolescent and young adult homeless population in the state. The Children’s Alliance maintains strong connections to the children and youth focused nonprofits in the state and is a strong policy advocate for the children in the state.