

Biographies of the 2010 - 2011 Leadership North Country Class



Sandy Alonzo - Sandy Alonzo currently manages the Child Care Resource, Referral, Recruitment, and Training (CCRRT) grant, serving Coös and northern Grafton counties; CCRRT is based out of White Mountains Community College. Sandy is a native of the North Country. She was born in Berlin and moved to Groveton just in time to begin attending elementary school. After graduating from Groveton High School, she continued her education at the local Technical College (White Mountains Community College). Sandy earned an Associate Degree in Management and decided to continue at the college to be one of the first students to receive a management degree with an “option in child care administration.” In 2004, Sandy was the proud recipient of Providian’s Child Care Excellence Award. She feels as though her childhood and upbringing prepared her for the career path she has chosen and truly enjoys.

When Sandy is not at work she is typically immersed in the beautiful mountains. She enjoys walking, hiking, and snow shoeing, most often with her husband. This year will mark her tenth wedding anniversary. She and her husband spend most summer weekends touring the roads of New Hampshire on their Harley Davidson Street Glide.

Leonard (Len) Bonosevich – Len moved to the North Country in 1995 and has simply refused to return to the New Jersey civilization he escaped. He worked as an electrician and field technician in various manufacturing industries for thirty years before several back injuries forced him to leave his vocation. Len returned to college in 2008, earning his associate degree in accounting from White Mountains Community College. Len plans to earn a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration. Len lives in Monroe, N.H., where he is active in local government serving as a trustee and as a member of the Budget Committee and Planning Board. Len has been married for twenty-seven years and has four children, all attending college. In his free time, Len enjoys golf, hiking, and skiing.

Jonathan Brown - Jonathan W. Brown was born and raised in Worcester, Massachusetts. He graduated from a high school that was one of the first to implement what was called the 'connect-design'. This type of educational curriculum focused on technology and the use of technology to discover and learn. After graduation, he moved to Presque Isle, Maine, and attended a federal

program called Job Corps, which is an educational and training program. Through the completion of the Computer Technician Certification program, he was awarded free tuition for one year to a local college and began college as a computer electronics major at Northern Maine Technical College. It was there he met his wife, who is from Colebrook, N.H. He and his wife relocated to Colebrook about six years ago to settle with their family. Currently, Jonathan is the Information Systems Department Manager at Indian Stream Health Center in Colebrook. He is finishing his studies toward a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology with a concentration in Business Systems Analysis. Upon completion of this degree, he plans to work toward a Master Degree in Business Administration. The last three years at Indian Stream Health Center has been both challenging and exciting for Jonathan. He remains very optimistic about continuing to grow his role as a leader for the organization. Jonathan has enjoyed his time thus far in northern New Hampshire, and plans to stay here for quite some time. He looks forward to the experience of raising his children and seeing them grow into independent people looking to make a difference.

Ann Marie Demers – Ann Marie Demers was born in Berlin and has lived most of her life in the Berlin/Gorham area. She graduated from Gorham High School and went on to pursue a career in the insurance industry. She worked over twenty years as a licensed property/casualty/health and life insurance agent/broker. Ann Marie served one year as an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer taking care of the computer lab at the Family Resource Center. This created an opportunity for her to accept the position as Office Manager at the Family Resource Center, where she has been employed for the past seven years. Ann Marie lives in Gorham with her husband and two children. She has two granddaughters, a grandson due in October, as well as a dog named Sam. She loves spending time with her family and enjoys biking, running, hiking, reading, and quilting.

Erik Eisele - has two passions: journalism and mountains; if he's not immersed in one he's probably waist-deep in the other. He reports for the Berlin Reporter and New Hampshire Public Radio, and he climbs the mountains, rock faces and ice cliffs of New Hampshire and ranges further afield as often as he can afford to. After a multiyear hiatus from "real life" to improve his skiing and climbing, Erik graduated summa cum laude from the University of Southern Maine in 2007 with degrees in Political Science and Media Studies. He has written for newspapers and websites, shot photos for magazines, recorded stories for radio and produced videos for non-profits. He also builds websites, blogs, and does graphic design. If it is media related and can tell a story, Erik loves it.

While living in Portland, Erik met his wife, Sasha, whom he convinced to leave the sushi restaurants and surfing behind for northern New Hampshire winters. They live in a ski chalet in Glen, New Hampshire, with their Boston terrier, Guinness. They have five ski mountains within a 20-minute drive. They try to balance their sense of adventure with their professional goals, but every once in a while they cancel work because of fair weather.

Sue Enman - Sue has lived most of her life in the Berlin-Gorham area. She graduated from Gorham High School with highest honors in 1977. After taking various business and medical related courses at the local Technical College and School for Lifelong Learning, she moved to Massachusetts for a few years working as a bookkeeper in a drug store and a real estate firm. In 1987, she returned to Gorham and worked in the business office at Gorham Medical Center. In 1990, Sue was promoted to supervisor of the business office and in 1992 promoted to Operations Manager. Her position was eliminated with the merger of the hospital and the medical center and she went to work part-time at Dr. Shaw's office. In August of 1993, Sue was hired full-time at School Administrative Unit #20 as the Business Assistant. Her responsibilities were payroll, human resources, and accounts receivable. In August of 2008, she accepted the position as the Deputy Clerk/Tax Collector for the Town of Gorham. Sue is very happy to say that she made the right choice, as she truly loves her job. She is also the "Wellness Coordinator" for the Town of Gorham employees.

One a personal note, Sue has a 29-year-old daughter who is a hairdresser in Concord and a beautiful six-year-old granddaughter whom she absolutely adores. In 1989, Sue was the first woman to be inducted into the Gorham Rotary Club. In 1990, she was nominated as the Secretary for the Club. In 1993, she received the "Outstanding Secretary" award for District 7850, which consisted of 39 Clubs from New Hampshire, parts of Vermont and parts of Canada. She resigned from Rotary for a bit, but was nominated to rejoin in 2007 and is again serving as the Secretary. Sue served on the Board of Directors for Northern N.H. United Way as the Treasurer and in 2006 received the "Volunteer of the Year" award. Sue's hobbies include skiing, hiking, snowshoeing, kayaking, and cooking.

Danielle M. Hibbard - Danielle is the Community Outreach Education and Engagement Coordinator for Indian Stream Health Center. She has her Bachelor of Science in Health Education and obtained her Certified Health Education Specialist certification in 2009. Her work in the community includes being a co-organizer of the Healthy Older Adult Program (HOAP), providing tobacco cessation classes for the community and working to enhance healthy behaviors and lifestyles with educational seminars and events. She is Chair of the North Country Community Recreation Center Board of Directors and is a member of the Kiwanis Club of Colebrook. She is passionate about improving the health and wellness of rural communities and enhancing the current assets and opportunities of the North Country.

John Holt - John Holt's last full-time position was as the General Manager of a multi-site manufacturing company based in Ireland. He returned to NH in 2008 to be closer to family and raise his son Harrison in the type of community that can only be found in the North Country. Currently, he is an adjunct faculty member of Business at the Community College of Vermont, on the board of the Littleton Co-op, does some consulting with small business on Leadership and Process Improvement (Lean & Six Sigma), and is hoping to start his own business in the near future. John has a BSME from U.N.H. and an MS in manufacturing from Boston University. John's professional experience includes work in human resources, quality, engineering, finance,

and operations management. He has 10 years of management experience in the U.S. and several European countries. He is happily married to Heather, and is enjoying the mix of work and his part-time duties taking care of a very energetic one-year-old.

Lori Langlois - Lori is the Associate Executive Director of North Country Education Services in Gorham, N.H. She has been with the agency fifteen years. Working primarily in the area of professional development for educators, she not only coordinates several conferences and workshops, but writes and manages several grants each year to support those programs. A new project that she coordinated last fall was a North Country Middle School Film Festival. Lori earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a minor in Economics from the University of N.H., and Master of Education in Professional Development from Plymouth State University.

She has completed the core course requirements of the Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies and plans to fulfill the elective requirements in the coming years. She is currently enrolled in Introduction to Geographic Information Systems at White Mountains Community College as a result of a personal interest in GIS. Her favorite hobbies are geocaching, hiking, technology gadgets, and reading.

Kristy Letendre – Kristy has been living in Berlin, N.H. for the last eight years. Currently, she is the Associate Division Director for Tri-County CAP AOD and has been with the organization for most of those eight years. Kristy, her husband, and three children moved to this area to escape the hustle of city life and experience a slower, quieter pace. When not at work, she has a great love of music, enjoys a good fire on a cool night, and likes to exercise by walking her dogs, a Saint Bernard and Shepherd. Her favorite local summer place to be is South Pond and during the winter months, Kristy can be found anywhere that has a “Christmas” feel to it!

Naomi Levesque – Naomi is thirty – five years of age and has been married for fourteen years. She is currently working at the Gorham Family Resource Center as the Project Youth, Gorham Afterschool Program Site Coordinator for grades six through eight. She has been with Project Youth since 2005 and has tried to make a difference in children’s lives. Her love for children is only matched by her love of nature. She continues to bring her love of the outdoors to children and to ignite a spark in them as they will become its guardians one day.

Naomi’s goal is to be a wildlife biologist and is currently in a self-designed Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science & Wildlife Studies through Granite State College. Her self-designed curriculum has allowed her to continue to live in Berlin where she was born and raised. She enjoys being a part of the Leadership North Country class and meeting people with different backgrounds and expertise. She believes there is always more to learn and many connections to be made, and Leadership North Country will facilitate both.

Nicky Pizzo – Nicky is a Senior Naturalist for the Appalachian Mountain Club. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Interpretation and Outdoor Recreation from Penn

State University. Nicky oversees the programming and displays at the AMC Pinkham Notch Visitor Center, Joe Dodge Lodge and Cardigan Lodge. Nicky's teaching philosophy is born from the desire to teach meaningful connections between self and the natural world. She believes an appreciation and understanding of the natural world are the first steps toward its preservation. She is an active snowboarder and skier in the winter and mountain biker and gardener in the warmer months. Nicky lives in Gorham with her husband, three-year-old daughter, and very old dog.

Jason Ross – Jason was born in Keene, N.H. and moved to Randolph when he was less than one-year-old. He graduated from Gorham High School and then went on to get his Bachelor Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of New Hampshire. He has been working at H.E. Bergeron Engineers in North Conway for the last ten years, where he is now the Senior Project Engineer in the structural department. Jason loves the atmosphere and culture that is found North of the Notches and can't imagine living anywhere else. He currently lives in Gorham with his wife and two children.

In his spare time, Jason enjoys alpine skiing, hiking, mountain biking, home brewing, beekeeping, and watching Red Sox baseball.

Chad Stearns – Chad has lived in the North Country his entire life. Born and raised in Littleton, Chad graduated high school in 2002 and attended Northeastern University that fall. During the summer, Chad worked for the local highway department where he developed a passion for public service. While attending Northeastern, Chad chose to come back home for his mandatory internships, serving at the Town of Littleton municipal offices. After graduating college in 2007, Chad was hired on a part-time basis while the town of Littleton went through a leadership transition. Chad accepted a position at the Littleton Area Chamber of Commerce where he is currently employed as the Executive Director. Chad is an avid sportsman and outdoorsman and loves the peace and serenity of the North Country. In late 2009, Chad bought the house he was raised in, deciding to plant his roots in this beautiful area.

Susan Tremblay – Susan has lived in Berlin all of her life and has been married to her husband Marc for thirty-two years. She has two grown children and recently became a grandmother to a baby girl, Addyson. Susan works as an administrative assistant for the Berlin City Manager. She enjoys the outdoors with gardening, boating, and snowshoeing as her favorite activities.