

CARSEY
INSTITUTE
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Annual Report FY2007
Year Three



UNIVERSITY *of* NEW HAMPSHIRE

2007 Annual Report

Contents

About Carsey

Policy Research Programs

Resources for New England's Leaders

Research Support for UNH Faculty and Students

Teaching and Engaging UNH Students

Institutional Growth

Communications

Funding

About Carsey

The Carsey Institute for Families and Communities was established in May 2002 with a gift from University of New Hampshire alumna and television producer Marcy Carsey '66. In May 2004, founding director Mil Duncan and a small staff began moving the Institute forward, guided by its mission to support interdisciplinary policy research in the social and health fields. During that first year faculty and staff affiliated with the Institute developed a strategic plan and began programmatic initiatives.

The Carsey Institute seeks to establish the University of New Hampshire as a leader in policy relevant research on families and communities, building on the university's strengths, and attracting new talent in the social and health sciences to forge interdisciplinary research partnerships. The institute will encourage these collaborations by fostering areas of research excellence that inform policy for the citizens of New Hampshire, the northern New England region, and the nation. The Institute will partner with a range of other institutions to enhance the development of innovative interdisciplinary undergraduate, graduate and public education. Through this work, the Institute will contribute to public dialogue on policies that encourage social mobility and sustain healthy, equitable communities, especially in small cities and rural areas, and work to strengthen nonprofits working to improve family and community well-being.

~ Carsey Institute Strategic Plan 2005-2010

In June 2005, the Institute published its first annual report, reporting on our early work with four staff members, a number of faculty affiliates, and early grant support. The Carsey Institute supports research on families and communities and also provides resources to University faculty and students interested in interdisciplinary research. Carsey faculty, staff and affiliated centers conduct research in three program areas – poverty, community and the environment; women and work; and children and youth. The Institute offers decision makers in northern New England data analysis and reports on trends affecting families and communities in the region, as well as research tools and policy seminars. At UNH, Carsey provides resources to support faculty development for research in the social sciences and health fields, and also provides opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to participate in interdisciplinary policy research on families and communities and to engage directly in programs working with families and communities.

The Institute provides research to facilitate the efforts of practitioners who are working directly with families and communities. In our first year, we worked with the Northern Forest Center, Coastal Enterprises, Inc., the New Hampshire Community Loan Fund, the Androscoggin Valley Economic Recovery Program and others.

During our second year, Carsey became a respected source of policy-relevant analysis on rural families and communities in America. With core support from the Annie E. Casey and later the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Institute produced research reports on food

stamp use, displaced workers, demographic changes, substance abuse, and child care. Carsey staff participated, often as keynote speakers, in numerous national rural conferences and workshops. In the region, Carsey, with support from Jane's Trust, developed a tri-state policy leadership program, with the first seminar for northern New England nonprofits in November 2006. We also conducted research for several nonprofits in the region, partnered with local funders and nonprofits on research and program strategy, and sponsored a seminar series.

On campus, Carsey supported several working groups exploring interdisciplinary research, sponsored a new mentoring program and seminar series for early career faculty, and developed proposals for new graduate study and interdisciplinary research. The groundwork was laid for graduate students to play an integral role in the Institute's research programs, and we began a new program for undergraduate research experiences that builds on our ongoing fellowship program.

In our third year, we continued our aggressive work on issues of poverty, community, and the environment with support from the Ford, Kellogg and Annie Casey Foundations. Our publication efforts moved into high speed, with more than a dozen new reports and briefs in our series on rural America. These strong, topical reports and briefs bring complex data analysis on pressing issues in a form that is grounded in real-world conditions and tied to current policy debates or practical solutions. The Institute is helping to build the knowledge that will help rural America confront the complex challenges of the 21st century. Our reports on rural America included research on child poverty, voting trends, U.S. casualties in Iraq and Afghanistan, minimum wage, food stamp use, values, child care, predatory lending, biofuels, child health insurance, and direct and child caregivers.

The Institute also played a key role in the first National Rural Assembly convened in June 2007 by the Kellogg and Ford Foundations. The Institute provided background research, interviewing rural practitioners and advocates, and held regional roundtables to gather on the ground perspective on the changes in rural America. We interviewed 6,500 rural residents in six regions across the country to learn more about migration, adaptation to economic changes, and perspectives on the environment, and presented our findings in our Report to the Rural Assembly, *Rural America in the 21st Century: Perspectives from the Field*.

With support from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation and the New Hampshire Endowment for Health, and Jane's Trust, we began a new policy research publication series on Northern New England. Our research examined workforce and wage trends in New Hampshire and Vermont, low-income families in New Hampshire, regional income disparity, declines in the region's population of young adults, and New Hampshire Healthy Kids. The Policy Leadership Initiative offered support to leaders of the region's nonprofits work on better policies and practices for disadvantaged families and communities, and prepared for its second cohort of leaders, who will focus on sustainability and environmental issues.

Our third year also brought much-increased attention from the national media. The Institute's research was discussed on the pages of hundreds of newspapers and over the television and radio air waves. News about Carsey research reached those reading the *New York Times*, *Washington Post* and *USA Today*, and those watching CNN, ABC News and CBS News. Many more people across the nation and New England read and heard about the Institute's research from their hometown and regional media.

Our third year also brought a new physical home for the Institute in the renovated basement area of Huddleston Hall. Centrally located on Main Street, our new space allowed us to formalize our relationship with the UNH Survey Center, which now is co-located with us in our new space. Our move could not have come sooner, as our staff has been rapidly expanding. Our staff of 17 now includes Mil Duncan, Founding Director; Curt Grimm, Deputy Director; Amy Sterndale, Communications Director; Andrea Colnes, Policy Leadership Director and Resource Policy expert; Ken Johnson, Senior Demographer; Kristin Smith, Family Demographer; Andrew Smith, Survey Center Director; Nena Stracuzzi, Research Fellow; and several UNH graduate student research assistants.

Seven Rural Fellows were selected to advise Carsey on policy research on rural children, youth and families and author publications within their longstanding areas of expertise. Our Rural Fellows include William O'Hare, a senior fellow with KIDS COUNT at the Annie E. Casey Foundation; Anita Brown-Graham, director of the Institute for Emerging Issues; Leif Jensen, professor of Rural Sociology and Demography at Penn State University and author of the Carsey immigration report; Kenneth Johnson, professor of Sociology at Loyola University-Chicago and author of the Carsey rural demographics report (and Visiting Professor as of June 2007); Daniel Lichter, director of the Bronfenbrenner Life Course Center at Cornell University; Rogelio Saenz, professor of Sociology at Texas A&M University; and Ann Tickamyer, professor of Sociology at Ohio University.

Several UNH professors and researchers work with Carsey, including: Ross Gittell, an expert on regional economic issues who informs our work about income disparities and work force trends; Lawrence Hamilton, a nationally recognized statistics and indicators expert and a leading environmental sociologist interested in social change in resource dependent communities; Michele Dillon, one of the foremost specialists on religion and values in the nation who has conducted analyses of change and stability in values among rural residents region by region; Sally Ward, who investigates the causes and consequences of poverty and inequality, and the role of social policy in affecting social change; Karen Van Gundy, whose expertise is in youth, mental health and substance abuse; Corinna Tucker and Cesar Rebellon, who study youth and are working with Carsey Institute staff to develop the first northern New Hampshire phase of a large, multi-year panel study of youth transitions in rural America; Cliff Brown, a sociologist interested in the impacts of large scale environmental change on families and communities; and Tom Safford, a UNH sociologist who studies the social aspects of environmental regulation and management in several different rural regions of the United States.

Centers affiliated with the Institute now include the UNH Survey Center, Center on Adolescence, Child Study and Development Center, Crimes against Children Research Center, Institute on Disability, and the New Hampshire Institute for Health Policy and Practice.

The Carsey Institute was established with a generous endowment of \$7.5 million over several years. In its first year, the Institute raised nearly \$1.6 million in private foundation funding. In its second year, the Institute raised an additional \$1.5 million in private funding. In its third year, the Institute raised more than \$1 million in private funding.

As we enter our fourth year, the Carsey Institute's steady production of policy-oriented reports, briefs and fact sheets will continue. New research reports in the works include reports on Women and Work in Rural Areas by Kristin Smith, Migration to Amenity Rich Communities by Ken Johnson, and Rural Youth: Education, Work and Family Trends by Tasha Snyder and Diane McLaughlin. We also will be releasing policy briefs on Low Income Rural Families and Children Living in Co-Habiting Families in Rural America, among others. An updated rural child poverty fact sheet will be among several new publications using the new August U.S. Census release on income and other indicators. We have developed a combined book plan and series of briefs on how economic restructuring is impacting rural families and children, and some of these will be published in the fall.

We also are in discussions with the Every Child Matters national office about co-sponsoring a series of forums with presidential candidates on children issues at the University this fall. We anticipate hosting eight to nine candidates from both parties, and producing several background papers for the events. Our research has been sought out by a number of legislators and presidential candidates, including Democrats Barack Obama and John Edwards.

Policy Research

The Carsey Institute studies trends affecting rural areas and small towns, as well as immigration in small cities. The Institute provides information and analysis on these issues in the United States, and also examines social and economic changes regionally in New England and New Hampshire.

Within these broad fields of interest, the Institute has on-going policy research programs in three general areas: Community and Environment; Rural Children, Youth and Families; and New England Families and Communities. Each program has several projects that have been supported by national and regional foundations and donors.

The Institute's independent, interdisciplinary research provides timely, in-depth information and analysis to policymakers, practitioners, the media and the general public. Through this work, the Carsey Institute contributes to public dialogue on policies and programs that encourage social mobility, strengthen the middle class, and sustain healthy, equitable communities

Research on Community and Environment

America's communities must cope with the impact of globalization, new land use patterns, changing demographics – including new patterns of in and out-migration – and challenging issues such as longstanding poverty. Although cyclical boom and bust economic fluctuations are not new to small communities that rely upon single resource industries such as farming, fishing, forestry or mining, the combined effects of globalization, migration patterns and environmental change have altered the old equations. In addition, rural communities must address the challenging issues of drug abuse, engaging young people, and limited access to good housing, health care, and other basic infrastructure.

Research conducted on community and environment between July 2006 and June 2007 includes:

Casualties of War

According to the Carsey Institute analysis of U.S. Department of Defense data, *U.S. Rural Soldiers Account for a Disproportionately High Share of Casualties in Iraq and Afghanistan*, a higher percentage of rural soldiers are dying in Iraq and Afghanistan than urban soldiers. This higher death rate makes sense considering that rural areas have higher rates of military recruitment, reflecting the lack of good rural employment and educational opportunities, according to Carsey Rural Fellow William O'Hare. Since 2001, 825 rural recruits have been a casualty of war, representing a death rate of 24 per million. Urban soldiers are dying at a rate of 15 per million.

Annual Rural Assembly

At the Ford and Kellogg Foundation's first National Rural Assembly in June 2007, Carsey researchers provided substantive input for this large, national

meeting. To support the development of the National Rural Assembly, Carsey researchers conducted a series of advance interviews and policy roundtables with more than 80 Ford Foundation rural program grantees and other stakeholders to solicit perspectives on critical rural issues and public policy solutions. By talking to rural practitioners and citizens across the country – people in amenity-rich areas attracting retirees, second home owners and footloose professionals; people in declining resource dependent areas where mining, agriculture, and other industries once supported a solid middle class; and people in chronically poor communities where decades of resource extraction and underinvestment have left a legacy of poverty – Carsey played a key role in informing the agenda for the National Rural Assembly. The research team’s roundtables in three regions and broad surveys of rural residents in five areas experiencing at least one of the three broad challenges discussed above will help to bring the grassroots concerns of those in rural places to the forefront of public policy decisions.

Biofueling Rural Development

Biofuels are being touted as a panacea for U.S. energy challenges, and they are expected to be discussed this year in Congress with the rewriting of the Farm Bill. The Carsey Institute, in partnership with the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, examined the burgeoning biofuels industry from the perspective of rural communities in the brief, *Biofueling Rural Development: Making the Case for Linking Biofuel Production to Rural Revitalization*. This primer by Jim Kleinschmit, director of the Rural Communities Program at the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, provides information on biofuels made from biomass and offers suggestions for biofuel policies that will emphasize and support rural development.

New Immigrants Settling in Rural America

The old picture of immigration – families arriving by boat to Ellis Island and settling in New York and other cities that promised employment and reconnection with others of similar ethnic origin – is changing to reflect a new reality in which immigrants are moving beyond traditional cities of destination. In the Carsey Institute’s most recent report in its series on rural America, *New Immigrant Settlements in Rural America: Problems, Prospects, and Policies*, author Leif Jensen, rural sociologist at Pennsylvania State University and Carsey Rural Fellow, examines where recent immigrants have chosen to live and looks at the demographics of those who have settled in rural America.

Values and the Rural Vote

The last Presidential elections stirred up a number of questions regarding voting for family values and the rural vote, as the nation watched the red states claim victory by a narrow margin. The tide may be turning, but also on closer examination the nation isn’t red or blue, but more purple, according to Carsey Institute researchers studying values, religion and voting in rural America. Michelle Dillon, UNH sociologist, and Sarah Savage, Ph.D. candidate in

sociology, presented the results of their analysis of attitudes towards the hot-button issues of abortion and homosexuality in a Carsey issue brief, *Values and Religion in Rural America: Attitudes Toward Abortion and Same-Sex Relations*. An accompanying essay by sociologist Julie Ardery on changing church in the South takes a specific look at religious attitudes in one of the most conservative areas of the South and finds that even here, a variation exists. Focusing on a related subject, Larry Hamilton, UNH sociologist and Carsey senior fellow, published the results of his analysis of rural voting in the 2004 election in *Rural Voting in the 2004 Election*.

Research on Rural Children, Youth and Families

Rural communities throughout America are undergoing changes that profoundly impact families and children. From economic restructuring to new demographics and social pressures, families face challenges every day in supporting their children and building opportunity for good education, jobs and stable families. Carsey provides analysis that deepens understanding of the forces shaping rural America and their implications.

Research conducted on rural children, youth and families between July 2006 and June 2007 includes:

Direct Care and Child Care Workers

The large-scale movement of women into the paid labor market has brought sweeping change into family life, and also in who cares for the elderly and children. Today, our society depends, in part, on the caring work of many paid professionals. The Carsey Institute studied workers in two low-wage, predominantly female care-giving occupations plagued with high turnover--direct care workers and child care workers. The policy brief *Low Wages In Direct Care and Child Care Workforce* by Carsey Family Demographer Kristin Smith and Faculty Fellow Reagan Baughman summarizes the research provides a better understanding of how women in these care-giving occupations fare when compared to other female workers and discusses factors that contribute to their continued employment.

Rural Children's Reliance on Public Health Insurance

A policy brief on rural children's health insurance, *Rural Children Increasingly Rely on Medicaid and State Child Health Insurance Programs for Medical Care*, was released by the Institute in May 2007 to illuminate an important aspect of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) debate not yet in the public discourse. Despite a flurry of reports on health insurance coverage for children, virtually none of them have examined the unique situation of rural families where one-fifth of all the nation's poor children live. The author, Rural Fellow William O'Hare, looks in-depth at the health insurance programs, such as SCHIP and Medicaid, that rural children rely on for medical care. This brief came on the wings of debates about SCHIP reauthorization at both the federal and state levels. A teleconference with Annie E. Casey KIDS COUNT grantees informed more than 30 children's advocates of the results of this research.

Substance Abuse in Rural America

Alcohol abuse exceeds illicit drug abuse in rural America and is a serious problem among rural youth, as highlighted in this important Carsey report, *Substance Abuse in Rural and Small Town America*. The report by Faculty Fellow Karen Van Gundy also confirms that the abuse of stimulants, including methamphetamine, is high among certain rural populations, particularly among the rural unemployed.

Minimum Wage and Rural Workers

In the heat of the debate in the U.S. Senate about increasing the minimum wage from \$5.15 an hour to \$7.25, the Carsey Institute released *Rural Workers Would Benefit More Than Urban Workers from an Increase in the Federal Minimum Wage*. Authored by Rural Fellow William O'Hare, the research showed that a raise would benefit rural, low-wage workers every bit as much, if not more, than workers in big cities. More than half of the nearly two million low-wage workers in rural America who would benefit from this increase in the minimum wage have children under age 18 in the household. A public teleconference on this study prompted more than 40 nonprofit leaders from around the country to call in.

Predatory Lending in Rural America

Predatory mortgage lending is prevalent in rural communities, with rural minorities most likely to take out high-cost loans, finds a policy brief published by the Institute. Predatory mortgage lending can trap borrowers in a cycle of high interest payments and abusive fees and can ultimately devastate their financial futures. *Subprime and Predatory Lending in Rural America: Mortgage lending practices that can trap low-income rural people* benefits from the expertise of authors Theresa Singleton and Carla Dickstein and their colleagues at the Housing Assistance Council and Coastal Enterprises, Inc.

Rural Child Poverty

When the most recent poverty numbers were released from the Census Bureau, the good news heralded by the press was that the nationwide poverty rate had remained the same over the last five years. However, the Carsey Institute found the bad news: In 41 states, a higher percentage of rural children live in poverty today than they did five years ago. Maine had the highest percentage point increase in child poverty between 2000 and 2005, and five states in the South and Southwest had rural child poverty rates above 30 percent in 2005. The research was presented in *Child Poverty in Rural America: New Data Shows Increases in 41 States* by Rural Fellow William O'Hare and Carsey Evaluation Fellow Sarah Savage.

Research for New England Families and Communities

The Carsey Institute's research on families and communities is grounded through examining social and economic changes in our home region of Northern New England.

Carsey researchers analyze the extent to which disparity has grown in New England counties and study patterns of income distribution in New Hampshire's communities, assessing the impact of the trends and then facilitating public discussion through reports and public meetings on the findings. The Institute also studies low-income families in New Hampshire and workers in the state, and publishes reports and briefs on trends and conditions affecting families and communities.

Over the past academic year, the Institute has studied the following trends facing Northern New England's families and communities:

Assessing NH Healthy Kids Programs

It's no secret that New Hampshire boasts the nation's third-highest health insurance rate for children, but how the state manages this high ranking has been a bit of a mystery. The word on the street has been that the success is due to New Hampshire Healthy Kids (NHHK), the nonprofit corporation that administers SCHIP and Medicaid programs for children. A team of Carsey researchers conducted an assessment of this organization, finding that NHHK is one of three factors responsible for achieving and maintaining the state's high insurance rate. Other factors discussed in *Children's Health Insurance in New Hampshire: An Analysis of New Hampshire Healthy Kids* include the high rate of employer-sponsored insurance in the state and consensus among Granite Staters that children should be insured. The research was conducted by Senior Fellow Sally Ward, Evaluation Fellow Sarah Savage and Post-Doctoral Research Fellow Nena Stracuzzi.

Growing Income Disparity

Relative income equality has long distinguished New England, but a study by Senior Fellow Ross Gittell highlights a disturbing trend of growing income inequality in the region. In fact, the gap between the highest and lowest wage earners in New England is widening at the highest rate in the nation, according to *New England Has the Highest Increase in Income Disparity in the Nation*. This divide is due to the loss of manufacturing employment for low-skilled workers coupled with increased demand, and rewards, for high-skilled and high-tech employment. New Hampshire ranks among the top five nationally in the increase in income disparity.

Demographic Trends in New England

In the Carsey fact sheet *The Declining Youth Adult Population in New England*, Senior Fellow Ross Gittell discusses a troubling decline in the young adult population (ages 25-34 years), which lags the national average by 18 percent and contrasts sharply with the double digit growth of this age group in some of the Western Mountain, Northwest, and Southeast states.

Employment in Vermont and New Hampshire

New Hampshire and Vermont have a lot to be proud about in regards to participation in the labor force and unemployment rates, but recent trends point to

growing disparities in New Hampshire and wages levels below regional standards in Vermont, as well as an aging workforce. Two Carsey issue briefs on the state of working New Hampshire and working Vermont (the latter published in collaboration with the Public Assets Institute) outline the challenges ahead for workers in the two sister states, as they cope with the loss of manufacturing and information jobs. Carsey Policy Fellow Allison Churilla, a UNH doctoral candidate in sociology, conducted the research.

New Hampshire's Low-Income Families

While New Hampshire has one of the lowest poverty rates in the nation, 14 percent of families in the state are surviving on low-income earnings. An issue brief by Carsey Policy Fellow Allison Churilla examines the family structure of these 48,279 families and looks at how they are impacted by trends in housing and utilities costs, employment, and public assistance. Despite strong economic growth in the state, low income families have increased 30 percent between 1999 and 2004. The news is especially troubling for children: 62,000 children are living in low-income families.

Research to Inform Economic Development in the North Country

Carsey partnered with geographical information systems (GIS) experts to present the results of our socioeconomic research on the Northern Forest through easy to understand maps and images. As a component of the Northern Forest Sustainable Economy Initiative implemented by the North Country Council and the Northern Forest Center, the Carsey work will inform the development of new, innovative, and sustainable economic development strategies in the traditionally natural resource-dependent region that stretches from New York to Maine. In addition to GIS planning products prepared by NH GRANIT, this project offers a report on issues and forces affecting community and family life in the Northern Forest.

Research on the North Country

With the establishment of the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund at the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, the Institute has begun to conduct long-term research to help the foundation to best serve the people in the North Country who are most in need. Carsey Director Mil Duncan serves as an advisor to the Tillotson Fund, and in this advisory capacity the Institute is conducting a longitudinal study of North Country youth, a panel study of the migration patterns of the region's residents, and continuing to analyze socioeconomic indicators of change in the region, establishing benchmarks against which progress can be measured.

Resources for New England's Leaders

New Indicators Site for U.S. Regions

Comparisons of one region to the other, such as average wages in New England versus in the Midwest, are useful for policymakers, community development practitioners, researchers and others. The Carsey Institute's new Regional Indicators Site allows for quick access to socio-economic data related to population, income and poverty, employment, family and kids, and education across nine geographic regions of the nation. An important innovation on the site at <http://regionalindicators.unh.edu> is the ability to make easy comparisons between cities, suburban, and rural areas. The data accessible via the site is useful to both New England's leaders and practitioners and policymakers across the country.

Policy Leadership Fellowships for Nonprofit Leaders

The Carsey Institute selected 24 nonprofit leaders from Northern New England to participate in the first ever Carsey Institute Policy Leadership Institute in November 2006. The Policy Leadership Initiative strengthens the capacity of the region to advance policies for families and communities through greater in-state and cross-state collaboration. The fellows participate in strategic workshops and receive awards of \$1000 that will support the continuation of the work of these leaders in their home states. The November Institute featured a keynote presentation by Robert Greenstein from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. The 24 fellows joined by funders and friends discussed the states' economic and fiscal policy environments, and met in working sessions with their state teams to develop collaborative ideas for new and proactive approaches to reframing public investment in programs for families and communities. The group discovered strong common ground and began to establish a foundation for new collaborative approaches to improving situations for families and communities across northern New England. These leadership fellows will be meeting again this summer after individual consultations with the highly regarded FrameWorks Institute to develop their skills at communicating issues impacting families in a way that elicits the responses these advocates seek from policymakers and the public. Meanwhile, the Institute is developing an electronic community space where policy leaders can share documents and news.

Evaluating Nonprofit Programs

The Carsey Institute is helping Coastal Enterprises, Inc. to learn from their experiences assisting new citizens to become Maine farmers by conducting an evaluation of CEI's New American Sustainable Agriculture Project. Recently settled African refugee farmers, Latino farm workers, and other immigrants living in the Portland, ME area will benefit from this research. As the Carsey assessment of the New Hampshire Healthy Kids corporation comes to a close, Carsey's evaluation team turns their attention to new studies of nonprofit programs. The Community Campus in Portsmouth, NH, a unique grouping of nonprofits assisting children and families at one location, will be the site of a Carsey evaluation. Research examining the groups' processes for working together will help the Community Campus define its co-located interagency model. Bonnie CLAC, a nonprofit that happens to sit within the Community Campus, will receive an evaluation of their program to help mostly credit poor individuals to own new cars.

Research Support for UNH Faculty and Students

Research Development Working Group
Children and Youth Working Group
Community and Environment Working Group

Carsey Institute Seminar Series

The Carsey Institute Seminar Series continued this year with three or four lunchtime brown bag presentations each semester. The fall seminars focused on the topic of Northern New England, with speakers including Professor Ross Gittell on income inequality and Stephen Cole from Coastal Enterprises Inc. on achieving equitable, economic, and environmental outcomes through community development. Graduate students also offered perspectives on their research. The spring seminars focused more generally on policies for families and children and included Rural Fellow Kenneth Johnson speaking on demographic trends in rural America; Lew Feldstein from New Hampshire Charitable Foundation speaking with Senior Fellow Ross Gittell on social capital; and Dean James McCarthy and Ned Helms from the Institute on Health Policy and Practice speaking on health care reform in New Hampshire.

Women and Work Colloquium Series

A one-time Women & Work Colloquium in Fall 2006 featured presentations on the economic status of working women and survival strategies of single mothers. Speakers included Carsey family demographer Kristin Smith, sociologist Margaret Nelson from Middlebury College, and a team of researchers from UNH and from CUNY Graduate Center speaking about the gender earnings gap for women in New Hampshire and New York.

Snapshots of Social Change

Carsey's Snapshots on Social Change presents quick figures and accompanying narrative from Senior Fellow and Sociology Professor Larry Hamilton. This online resource educates about trends impacting families and communities, such as the growing Hispanic population in the rural South and out-migration by African Americans, in a few colorful and easy-to-understand graphs. Carsey's new Perspectives web page offers links to the monthly Snapshots on Social Change and to rotating interviews with practitioners and researchers who study families and communities.

Teaching and Engaging UNH Students

The Governor John G. Winant Fellowships

Each spring University of New Hampshire students are invited to apply for Winant fellowships, competitive awards that pay \$3000 stipends for summer internships with New Hampshire nonprofits. Many Winant fellows, like Joseph McGuiness'07, get more than a summer internship out of their fellowships; fellows often are offered continuing employment with their internship host. Juniors and seniors from New Hampshire with an interest in public service are invited to apply. This year, five undergraduates received fellowships for work with Somersworth Youth Safe Haven, AIDS Response Seacoast, the Newmarket Recreation Department, Keene Public Library, and the NH Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.

The Partnership for Effective Nonprofits Fellowship

Maureen Reilly, UNH senior and this year's PEN fellow, interned with *The Wire*, a free arts and entertainment paper for the seacoast region. *The Wire* has the widest circulation of all seacoast papers – from up to Ogunquit, ME, down to Newburyport, MA. PEN fellows were required to write newspaper articles that focused on the work of nonprofits in the seacoast region; former fellows have worked with the Portsmouth Herald. The fellowship award provided a \$1400 stipend. After three years of offering the PEN fellowship, the Carsey Institute and the PEN funders – the United Way, the NH Charitable Foundation, the Foundation for Seacoast Health, and the Fuller Foundation – have decided to end the program.

Institutional Growth

The Institute's Physical Space is Increased

After a few months of construction, the Carsey Institute now occupies 4,000 feet – three times our original size - of newly renovated space on the ground floor of Huddleston Hall. The new space features a large survey facility for the Survey Center, two meeting rooms, an entry area for waiting visitors, a fully operational kitchen, and enough rooms and cubicles to house 22 staff. This May we welcome the Carsey Institute Survey Center staff, who are finally joining the rest of the group in Huddleston Hall after three years of being housed apart from the Institute in Thompson Hall.

Seven Rural Fellows Join Carsey

The Carsey Institute has a new outstanding group of Rural Fellows, who have come aboard to advise the burgeoning programs of the Center for Rural Families and Communities and to author publications within their longstanding areas of expertise. William O'Hare, a senior fellow with KIDS COUNT at the Annie E. Casey Foundation, has laid the groundwork for all to come by authoring several leading Carsey publications. He is now joined by Anita Brown-Graham, director of the Institute for Emerging Issues; Leif Jensen, professor of Rural Sociology and Demography at Penn State University and author of the Carsey immigration report; Kenneth Johnson, professor of Sociology at Loyola University-Chicago and author of the Carsey rural demographics report; Daniel Lichter, director of the Bronfenbrenner Life Course Center at Cornell University; Rogelio Saenz, professor of Sociology at Texas A&M University; and Ann Tickamyer, professor of Sociology at Ohio University.

New Faculty Fellows Program Supports Junior Faculty

The Carsey Institute has Senior Fellows, Rural Fellows, Graduate Fellows, Winant Fellows, and now we've got our new Faculty Fellows. Our faculty fellows collaborate with Carsey researchers in working groups to build new research programs. The four early career faculty who've recently joined the "Carsey family" include Thomas Safford, Assistant Professor of Sociology, who is working with us on community and environment research and Corinna Jenkins Tucker, Associate Professor of Family Studies; Cesar Rebellon, Assistant Professor of Sociology; and Karen VanGundy, Assistant Professor of Sociology, who are developing our youth research program in the northern forest.

Carsey Welcomes Kenneth Johnson as Senior Demographer

Demographer Kenneth Johnson studies why people move and where they move to, and soon he will become another data point in these statistics when he joins the Carsey Institute as our Senior Demographer. Hailing from Chicago where he teaches at Loyola University, Professor Johnson will be sharing his rich, deep demographic experience – with a focus in changes in amenity areas and forest dependent regions – with the Carsey Institute. At Carsey, Professor Johnson will conduct research on demographic shifts in the New England region and in rural America adding to his growing impact on the way policymakers and practitioners understand challenges facing rural people. He is the

author of the popular Carsey report, *Demographic Trends in Rural and Small Town America*, and a Carsey Rural Fellow.

New Staff: Amy Sterndale Joins Carsey as Communications Director

Amy Sterndale found her niche in communications when she started a bookstore newsletter before e-mail or websites were around. She worked in book publishing in New York and New England for a dozen years before branching out to non-profit and magazine work. With a Sociology major from UNH in her back pocket, she feels she may have found her dream job at Carsey.

New Staff: Nena Stracuzzi Joins Carsey as Post-Doctoral Researcher

Nena Stracuzzi began her career at the University of New Hampshire in September 1996 to attend the graduate program in Sociology, where she studied family and parenting issues and issues of women and work. Immediately following her graduation from the Ph.D. program in sociology she joined the staff at the Carsey Institute where she is now working as a post-doc research fellow. At the Carsey Institute, Nena is working on key Carsey family policy publications and developing the Institute's GIS capacity.

New Staff: Susan Colucci hired as Office Assistant

Susan Colucci was hired just as the preparation for Carsey's Policy Leadership Institute was reaching high gear. She assists the policy leadership program and conducts other office duties throughout the year. Susan has worked as a legal assistant at law firms in Maine and attended Husson College.

Communications

Carsey Homepage Re-designed

Reflecting the ever expanding programs and dynamic energy that now defines Carsey, our new homepage buzzes with the stories, faces, and projects that are Carsey in 2007. The site is now a portal into the core of the Institute's work. Traveling no further than the front page to our web site, visitors can now read from interviews with researchers, learn about social changes through colorful charts, meet our students, hear from the director, join our mailing list, find events happening this month, and link to the most frequently hit pages on the site, in addition to getting quick access to breaking news stories and to our projects and centers. <http://www.carseyinstitute.unh.edu>.

Carsey in the News

Working with the Hatcher Group and with colleagues at the Center for Rural Strategies, the Carsey Institute has repeatedly launched our research into the hands of journalists and policymakers. This year, more than 100 journalists have contacted the Institute directly and more than 500 news articles on our research have hit national and regional newsstands (as well as television and radio audiences). Articles citing the Carsey Institute have been printed in the most widely circulated papers and magazines including the New York Times, USA Today, Los Angeles Times, Washington Post, Newsweek and The Nation. Our research has been reported by ABC News, CBS News, Fox News and CNN. In addition, the Carsey Institute remains a constant presence in the New Hampshire and New England media such as the Boston Globe and the Manchester Union Leader.

Funding

Carsey Receives Support from Kellogg

A new award of \$1 million from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation supports our continuing efforts to help Americans better understand what is happening in rural America and to foster dialogue leading to improved policies to enable rural people to cope with the changes that come with globalization, migration, and other great forces shaping rural places. The award, distributed over four years, also provides funding for building knowledge of changing conditions in natural resource-dependent communities in the Northeast and Southeast.

New Grants from Endowment for Health

The Institute celebrates three new awards from the Endowment for Health to support advancing regional nonprofit leadership and to analyze health insurance programs for children. 1. The Endowment joins other funders from Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire along with Jane's Trust in supporting our Policy Leadership Initiative to strengthen the collective capacity of Northern New England to advance policies for social good. 2. In addition, the Endowment has awarded a planning grant for a new program, Emerging Leaders from the Edge, which will identify the capacity of leadership in rural, lower income communities and pilot test a capacity-building and support structure that meets the needs of a selected group of leaders from these communities. 3. Our evaluation program also benefits from the generosity of the Endowment: A new grant supports analysis of the NH Healthy Kids program.

Other Support

This year, the Carsey Institute received more than seven grants from private foundations totaling more than \$1 million. Other awards received this year include the second year's funding for research on rural families and communities from the Annie E. Casey Foundation; funding from the Ford Foundation for research to inform the National Rural Assembly; the second year of funding from Jane's Trust for the policy leadership initiative; and support from the Tillotson Trust for research in the Northern Forest.

Carsey by the Numbers

- ◆ Number of years since Marcy Carsey gave an endowment to establish the Carsey Institute at the University of New Hampshire: 5
- ◆ Number of full and part-time staff working for the Carsey Institute: 17
- ◆ Number of new staff joining the Carsey Institute in 2007:
- ◆ Number of senior fellows with the Carsey Institute: 5
- ◆ Number of graduate students in 2006 - 07 working with the Carsey Institute: 5
- ◆ Amount of project funding awarded to the Carsey Institute from private foundations in FY07: **more than \$1 million**
- ◆ Number of hits on the Carsey Institute website since January 2007: more than 400,000
- ◆ Number of research reports published by Carsey this year: 19
- ◆ Number of newspapers and media outlets highlighting Carsey's research: 500+
- ◆ Number of UNH research centers affiliated with Carsey: 7
- ◆ Number of faculty on Carsey Advisory Committee: 10
- ◆ Number of office spaces in the Carsey Institute's new home in G04 Huddleston Hall: 7 plus 26 workstations
- ◆ Number of students who received fellowships from the Carsey Institute in spring 2006: **5**
- ◆ Number of students who have received fellowships from the Carsey Institute since the programs began in 2004: **26**