NH Department of Health and Human Services 129 Pleasant Street – Hugh Gallen State Office Park Concord, NH 03301 **PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 28, 2018**

FOR MORE INFORMATION Public Information Office (603) 271-9389

Public Forums Announced to Introduce the Doorway-NH *Where help for Substance Use Disorder will be less than an hour away*

Concord, NH – Today, Governor Chris Sununu and the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) released the dates and locations for a series of public forums to introduce "The Doorway-NH," the hub and spoke model that will transform the system serving individuals with a substance use disorder (SUD). Each public forum will be hosted by the Doorway in each of nine regions across the State.

"The Doorway-NH represents a new, comprehensive and local response to the opioid epidemic in New Hampshire," said Governor Chris Sununu. "It will provide a single point of entry for residents seeking treatment for SUD. The location of each of the nine Doorways will ensure that help for substance use disorder will be less than an hour away. This new approach will provide an integrated, one-stop-shop model offering the full array of treatment, recovery and selfsufficiency services."

The Doorway-NH is being funded through a federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) State Opioid Response grant and will ensure that services for clinical screening and evaluation services and care coordination are no more than an hour away for any individual struggling with substance misuse or substance use disorders. During the public forums, DHHS and representatives from the Doorways will introduce each region's model to deliver services through a single point of entry for residents seeking treatment for OUD, and 24/7 access to services after normal business hours, weekends and holidays.

"The Doorway-NH creates regional solutions that provide communities the tools and resources they need to best address the opioid crisis in their regions," said DHHS Commissioner Jeffrey A. Meyers. "The organizations serving as Doorways share the State's commitment to delivering to residents the services they need, where they live, as soon as they need them. The Department looks forward to the Doorways introducing themselves to our residents and stakeholders in the nine regions throughout the State."

The Doorways will serve as the "hub" in the "hub and spoke" model, working with local providers ("spokes") to implement regional approaches to the opioid crisis. The federal funding is being used to establish the Doorways, and will expand medication-assisted treatment services, peer recovery supports services, access to recovery housing, evidence-based prevention programs, workforce opportunities, and training and education for providers and people in recovery. Existing SUD supports and services will also be expanded to increase access for pregnant women and new parents with an opioid use disorder, children and families involved

with child welfare and individuals in correctional institutions.

The regional public forums will be held in each Hub region throughout the State so that individuals and their families, policymakers, advocates and other stakeholders can learn more about the Doorway-NH model. Dates for the public forums are as follows:

Monday, January 7, 2019, 1:00-2:30 pm

Concord Hospital Boucher Conference Room 250 Pleasant Street Concord, NH

Tuesday, January 8, 2019, 9:00-10:30 am

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center Auditorium G One Medical Center Drive Lebanon, NH

Wednesday, January 9, 2019, 10:00-11:30 am

Androscoggin Valley Hospital Mt. Success Conference Room 59 Page Hill Road Berlin, NH

Wednesday, January 9, 2019, 1:30-3:00 pm

Littleton Regional Healthcare Conference Rooms 1, 2, and 3 600 St. Johnsbury Road Littleton, NH

Monday, January 14, 2019, 9:30-11:00 am

Cheshire Medical Center Auditorium A and B 580 Court Street Keene, NH

Monday, January 14, 2019, 1:00-2:30 pm

Nashua City Hall Auditorium 229 Main Street Nashua, NH 03060

Monday, January 14, 2019, 3:30-5:00 pm

Manchester Health Department 1528 Elm Street Manchester, NH 03101

Tuesday, January 15, 2019, 9:30-11:00 am

Wentworth-Douglass Hospital Eastwood Auditorium Garrison Wing, 1st Floor 789 Central Avenue Dover, NH

Tuesday, January 15, 2019, 3:00-4:30 pm

Lakes Region General Hospital LRGH Cafeteria 80 Highland Street (Park in LRGH Employee Lot at the top of High Street) Laconia, NH

A Doorway-NH website is currently under development. For more information about the State Opioid Response Grant and the Doorway-NH, please visit <u>www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/bdas/sor.htm</u>.

###