



nh healthy families™

2 Executive Park Drive  
Bedford, NH 03110

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 18, 2021**

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**JAFFREY-RINDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL AND NH HEALTHY FAMILIES PARTICIPATES IN  
NATIONAL *NO ONE EATS ALONE DAY***

**Bedford, NH – (June 18, 2021)** – A positive prevention initiative designed to promote inclusion among students was celebrated in New Hampshire this year on June 17, 2021. Jaffrey-Rindge Middle School students participated in the outdoor event sponsored by NH Healthy Families.

Representatives from NH Healthy Families hosted the outdoor event in honor of *No One Eats Alone® Day*, created by the nonprofit [Beyond Differences™](#). More than 300 students participated in activities designed to teach them about social isolation and the negative impact it can have on health and academic performance. Students were able to participate in fun and engaging activities, paired with demonstrations and promotional items for school staff to use with them.

Social isolation affects millions of students and has been identified as a precursor to bullying, self-harm, and community violence. Amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, promoting mental health has gained increased importance, as students deal with the additional stressors from the pandemic and quarantining. Through *No One Eats Alone*, students have shown that if they are given the tools, they will stand up for others as empathetic and caring activists, not passive bystanders.

“At NH Healthy Families, we’re committed to helping children lead healthier lives, and that includes providing them with safe environments to discuss challenges, especially over the past 18 months amidst the COVID pandemic,” said Clyde White, NH Healthy Families Plan President and CEO. “We are proud to partner with Beyond Differences to virtually celebrate No One Eats Alone Day and give students in New Hampshire the tools they need to remain focused on their health and social lives.”

“The pandemic has given us all a taste of social isolation and the desire to feel connected,” said Laura Talmus, the co-founder and executive director of Beyond Differences. “Students and teachers need No One Eats Alone -- now more than ever -- to continue changing the culture in middle schools to be a more welcoming place for everyone regardless of their differences.”

Jaffrey-Rindge Middle School joined more than 2,500 schools across the country that celebrated *No One Eats Alone*. The initiative reached more than 1 million students in all 50 states.

National *No One Eats Alone Day* is sponsored by the [Centene Charitable Foundation](#).

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**About NH Healthy Families**

NH Healthy Families™ is a health plan serving the needs of New Hampshire residents through the state Medicaid

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program, Ambetter™ marketplace exchange product, and Wellcare, our Medicare Advantage product. Our locally based employees and fully integrated Medical, Behavioral and Wellness programs provide innovative health solutions to every region of the state with the express purpose of transforming the health of the community, one person at a time. NH Healthy Families is a wholly owned subsidiary of Centene Corporation, a diversified, multi-national healthcare enterprise. Information is available at [NHhealthyfamilies.com](http://NHhealthyfamilies.com).

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