

Supporting the Pursuit of Higher Education in New Hampshire

Presentation to the Task Force Studying the Strategic Alignment of Public Higher Education in NH

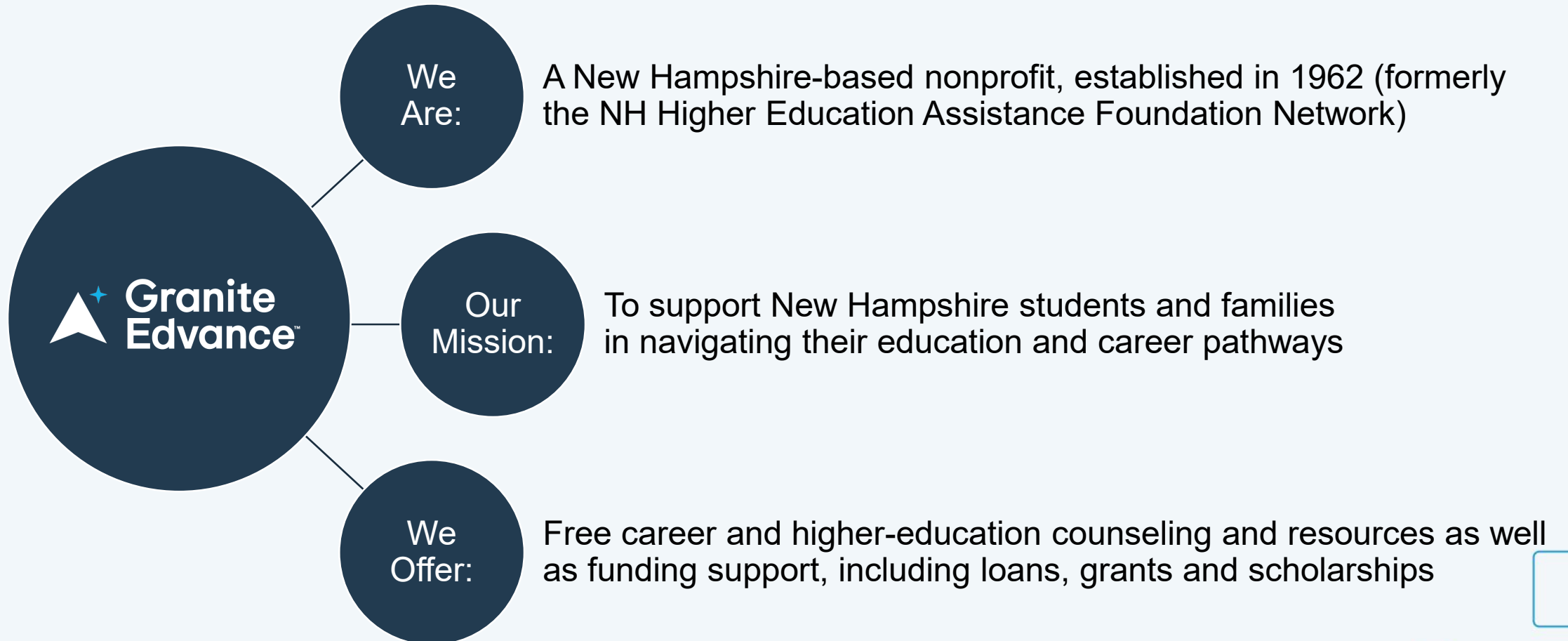
Christiana Thornton, President & CEO

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Introducing Granite Edvance



Helping Students Find Their Direction

Our Education & Career Counseling Team provides free services to schools in all regions of the state, including:

- Presentations
- Appointments
- ApplyNH
- Destination College
- FAFSA Support
- Publications
- Professional Development



Supporting Students in Pursuing Higher Education in NH

Understanding and Overcoming Barriers

Common Barriers for NH Students

Unaware
of Options
(Available
Programs,
etc.)

Perceived
Lack of
Affordability
and Financial
Aid

Range of
Comparable
Out-of-State
Cost Options

Lack of Public
/ Personal
Transportation

First-Gen & Economically Disadvantaged Students

May Lack Support / Resources:

- Confusion around search/application process, terminology, and differences between postsecondary options
- Parent/guardian knowledge and guidance
- Awareness of whom to ask for help; financial aid resources, options
- Role models: "students who look like me"
- Means to travel to different colleges/campuses
- May feel "If I don't know what I want to do, college isn't for me"

Often Shouldering Additional Burdens:

- Caring for younger siblings
- Working to contribute to family income

Students in Rural Communities

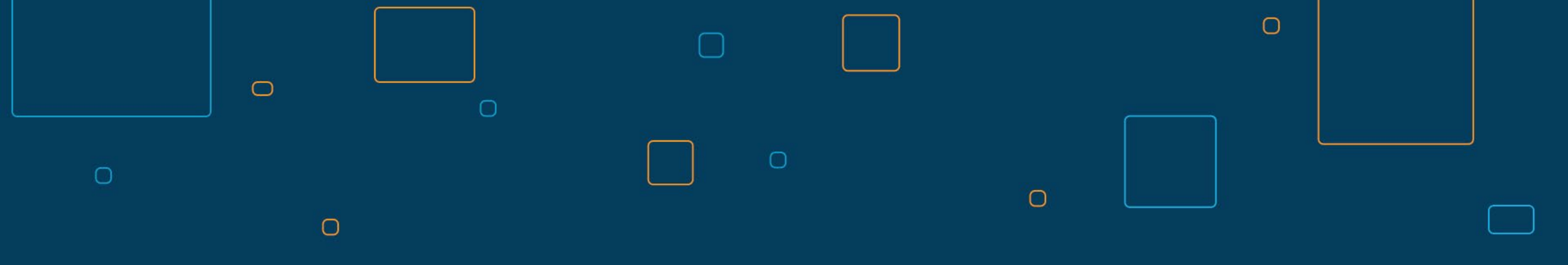
May Lack
Support /
Resources:

- Public transportation / personal vehicle
- Reliable internet access / technology
- Access to adequate nutrition
- Affordable housing and childcare
- Mental health supports

Challenges with the Application Process

Families May Face Uncertainty

- College savings
- Requirements and deadlines
- Uncertain of what FAFSA entails
- Hesitant to provide certain information
- Fearful of unexpected fees
- Confusion on Parent Plus Loan
- Parents/guardians unable to guide student to supports
- Family conflict, different goals

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Thank you.
Questions?

www.graniteadvance.org