



## **Development Committee Board Report – September 2023**

The Development Committee remains an active committee, which meets every other month in addition to Dana Solomon, Committee Chair, and Kate meeting in the intervening month. We recently added a new member to the committee, Lisa Burzdak, who came to RNE proactively hoping to get involved in our work.

Since the June update, the committee has remained largely focused on grants work due to the continued efforts of Tracey and Kate. These have included applying to ASRM and the NH Women's Foundation (have not heard yet). In addition to submitting grants, Tracey has continued to help RNE build up a repository of grant materials and case statements that will help RNE be better prepared for grant opportunities in the future. Recently, Kate and Emily also hosted representatives from the Cummings Foundation for a site visit (and Dr. Styer joined by Zoom). It was a successful meeting discussing our work and impact, which will hopefully position RNE well for the letter of inquiry that we are submitting this month for a new Cummings Foundation option that is specifically tailored to smaller nonprofits (\$25K for three years).

The committee has also been discussing the Walk and how to best support the staff and walk committee in this. As the largest fundraising event of our year, the committee would like to play a larger role in the planning and fundraising for this event moving forward. Most importantly is to first grow the participation of each of our board members in the walk. This includes registering for the walk at a minimum, participating in-person when possible, and fundraising through email, social network sites, and personal asks. The walk is a key opportunity for all board members to make meaningful contributions and fulfill the give/get commitment.

Lastly, Kate and Dana continue to evaluate a strategic approach to cultivating and stewarding major donors and the role of the board in fundraising. This will be an important focus during the second half of the year to ensure Kate and the board are carving out enough time and strategic thinking to individual fundraising.