



Possible uses for the Carroll County Annex

The former Carroll County nursing home, “The Annex,” could have many possible uses for residents of Carroll County and has the potential to be a significant asset for the county and its residents. There are a number of needs facing individuals, families and communities that could be supported if based out of the Annex. The demands for a skilled workforce, particularly of STEM-based skills, general support for local businesses and economies, and families in need of food security are among the needs that could be filled by that space.

Satellite Learning Space

The Annex could provide classroom/learning space that could be used by several organizations to support STEM workforce skills. Uses could include:

(1) Classroom space used by organizations such as:

- Carroll County Adult Education
- UNH Extension:
 - Extension-based workshops (Ag/Forestry/CED/Food Safety, etc.)
 - 4-H Youth Development
 - Professional Development & Training
- Local organizations

(2) STEM Learning Lab/Makerspace: Workforce Development and training

- STEM certification & credentialing
- Housing equipment for training
 - Drones
 - 3-D Printing/laser cutting
 - Computer design classes (CAD, Fusion, 360, Solidworks, etc.)



by: Tony Fallon Architecture

Carroll County Annex

Satellite Learning Space continued

- (3) Participating institutions could provide learning support and counseling
- (4) Access to County Complex outdoor resources
 - Trails
 - High tunnels

Other Community Assets

- (5) Office co-working space
 - Access to office space & equipment
 - UNH Extension work & meeting space in southern Carroll County
 - Local small businesses
 - Community organizations
 - Community meeting space/conference room with table, seating, video conference equipment, etc.
- (6) Privacy Pods - Private meeting rooms for individuals to have confidential video conferencing access
- (7) Makerspace - creative space for
 - Workforce development (see above)
 - Satellite location for Makers Mill Makerspace in Wolfeboro
- (8) Certified commercial kitchen access for
 - Food pantries
 - Carroll co Food Access Network
 - Food storage
 - Food prep
 - Entrepreneurship, a food lab for small businesses to develop product
 - Food safety education (Extension)

Design Ideas



All images designed by Siemens

UNH Professional Development & Training Opportunities

There is currently a strong demand for professional development and resources for K-12 educators in Carroll County. Teachers up north who are required to get CEUs for their licensure were very excited to see programs closer to them when UNH Professional Development and Training most recently brought several programs to a satellite office in North Conway, NH prior to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many teachers said having access to programs closer to their homes saved them on fuel, time and energy.

UNH Professional Development and Training provides a host of K-12 Education and Counseling workshops online and through the Portsmouth and Manchester campuses, all of which are designed to increase the skill-level of educators, several popular workshops are listed below of which could be offered and available to teachers in Carroll County, should a space be available for use.

- Teacher Development and Adult Learning
- Building Resiliency Skills in the Classroom (Gr. 1-12)
- Reaching and Teaching the Student with Attention Deficit Disorder: Learn to Manage
- Executive Dysfunction in the Classroom
- The Science of Reading: Questions that Enhance Students' Reading Comprehension
- Teaching and Reaching the Teenage Brain

Beyond K-12 educator resources, a space in the county could provide programming and resources specific to workforce groups of need such as schools or small businesses.

Economic Sector Data (from Carroll County) to Inform Potential Opportunities

Though industries such as manufacturing, technology and healthcare are relatively small in numbers of workers in Carroll County, the location quotient data suggests that there should essentially be more activity in these three sectors than what is currently present.

The county would need to support specific changes in infrastructure such as broadband as well as invest in programs like career technical education or vocational technical training and good mentoring or shadowing opportunities for students in order to be able to provide opportunities for residents interested in manufacturing, technology, and healthcare. The Carroll County Annex space, as a hub for building workforce skills and life skills of people in the region, has the potential to grow the economy through a weaving of resources and fostering a network of supporting organizations and institutions that contribute to that goal. Sector reports on each county in the state are available at <https://www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi/products/documents/manufacturing-sector.pdf>

However, there is a strong opportunity in the outdoor recreation and tourism sector. Contrary to popular belief, this sector doesn't have to mean low-wage service jobs. In fact, there are high-paying opportunities in lodging and retail, but there is both a worker shortage and skill gap in the region. UNH Extension's Community and Economic Development team has staff embarking on projects specifically related to outdoor economy workforce development opportunities. More specifically, several reports indicated that tourism accounts for over one third of Carroll County's workforce. Farm jobs only account for 1.1% of the total workforce, which is more than the state.

Lastly, employment in the services sector, which includes tourism, along with other retail and food activities, accounts for nearly 90% of the jobs in the county. Extension's Community and Economic Development team sees opportunities in the outdoor economy sector, as that is a huge component of the region's economy, and it currently has workforce shortages. We feel that there are opportunities to give people skills that will better enable them to attain high-paying jobs in that sector and have spoken to the Mount Washington Valley Chamber on this topic.