## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 22, 2018

Press Contact: Cheryl Avery

<u>cavery@spauldingyouthcenter.org</u> or 603.286.8901



## Spaulding Youth Center Honored with Grant from New Hampshire Electric Co-op Foundation

Northfield, NH – Spaulding Youth Center is thrilled to announce it has been honored with a grant of \$5,000.00 by the New Hampshire Electric Co-op (NHEC) Foundation in support of its Experiential Challenge Outdoors (EChO) program. EChO enables children to participate in outdoor adventures and education, regardless of their neurological, emotional, behavioral, learning or developmental challenges or family circumstances.

Through EChO, the Spaulding Youth Center classroom is New Hampshire's mountains, forests, lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, marshes and the organization's expansive nearly 500-acre campus. Annually, 150 Spaulding students participate in EChO for a full day every three weeks and have the opportunity to enjoy special events, including Adventure Days and Winter Carnival. One of the most significant challenges and opportunities of EChO is being able to adapt the curriculum, activities and equipment to meet each child's specific learning styles and physical, behavioral, and emotional needs. This generous support from the NHEC Foundation will allow Spaulding Youth Center to purchase and adapt equipment as required by the students in the EChO program.

"We are grateful to the NHEC Foundation for the opportunity to enhance our EChO program, which gives students the chance to experience learning by participating in outdoor adventures, such as kayaking, hiking and snow-shoeing," said Susan C. Ryan, CEO & President of Spaulding Youth Center. "Some of our children have never had an opportunity to participate in these types of activities, which are the epitome of quintessential New Hampshire childhood memories. We are honored to offer these types of adventure play and growth activities for every student, regardless of ability level, within our intensive therapeutic campus."

The mission of the New Hampshire Electric Co-op Foundation is to improve the quality of life for its members and the communities it serves. As a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3), the NHEC Foundation provides grants to charitable organizations throughout NHEC's service territory.

To learn more about the NHEC Foundation, visit <a href="https://www.nhec.com/nhec-foundation/">https://www.nhec.com/nhec-foundation/</a>.

## **ABOUT SPAULDING YOUTH CENTER**

Spaulding Youth Center is a leading provider of services for children and youth with neurological, emotional, behavioral, learning and/or developmental challenges, including Autism Spectrum Disorder. Services include academic, behavioral health, residential, foster care, health and wellness and family support. Spaulding Youth Center is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit. For information about Spaulding Youth Center, visit <a href="https://www.spauldingyouthcenter.org">www.spauldingyouthcenter.org</a>.

#######