

Jeff Cohen of Keene Elected President of MDS Board of Directors

January 2008 ... M. Jeffrey Cohen of Keene has been elected president of the Board of Directors for Monadnock Developmental Services. MDS is the area agency providing supports and services to people with developmental disabilities in the southwestern corner of New Hampshire.



Cohen is deeply committed to the work of Monadnock Developmental Services. He sees MDS programs like the LifeArt Community Center and First Course Culinary Training as having immeasurable impact on improving the lives of individuals with disabilities. Cohen believes adequate staffing by direct care professionals and providing them with living wages is one of the most challenging issues facing MDS and its communities both today and in the future.

Cohen succeeds Manfredo “Fred” Torelli of Marlborough, who has a long history of dedicated service to MDS, having served on the MDS Board for more than twenty years, with multiple turns as its president, most recently since 2002. Torelli will continue to serve on the Board’s Executive Committee as Immediate Past President.

Cohen, who joined the Board of MDS in 2006, is Franchise Development Director at Tire Warehouse in Keene, and brings broad financial and marketing experience to the Board. A graduate of the University of Denver, with an MBA from the University of Southern California, Jeff moved to the Monadnock region twenty years ago. An avid skier, Jeff lives in Keene with his wife, Jennifer, their one-year-old daughter, and two teen-aged sons.

Other MDS Board officers elected at the December meeting include James Craiglow as Vice President, Anne Young as Treasurer, and Sand Seligman as Secretary.

With offices in Keene and Peterborough, Monadnock Developmental Services (MDS) provides services to children and adults with developmental and other disabilities – 700 families, more than 1,000 individuals in the Monadnock region. MDS has as its mission to work toward inclusion, participation and mutual relationships for all people who are at risk of isolation from the community. For more information, please contact MDS at 603-352-1304 or visit their website at www.mds-nh.org.