



MARGARET CAUDILL-SLOSBERG

IN THE LYME LIGHT JUNE, 2021



Lyme's coordinated response to the COVID-19 pandemic was a truly remarkable coming together of individuals and organizations across the community, each contributing what they could and what mattered most as the situation unfolded. Many people shared expertise, resources, time, love, and – importantly – trust, to ensure that every person was reached with evolving information and needed support, beginning in March of 2020 and continuing through 2021. One person was at the heart of the effort, providing generous and patient leadership, energy, wisdom, and informed guidance to other community leaders and all who sought it, in Lyme and beyond. **Margaret Caudill-Slosberg is in the Lyme Light.**

Margaret, Lyme's Emergency Management Director, is a physician with interest in infectious diseases, a natural collaborator who, at the beginning of the pandemic, found herself with time to make a real difference. That put her in a unique position among the region's small-town EMDs, and it meant that her impact was broad. She helped launch the Lyme COVID Response Team (LCRT) just days after the first case was identified in Hanover, NH. Margaret involved a team of Lyme leaders who together could connect with everyone in town. Margaret reflects, "The most important thing for me was to be a conduit ... to get the most accurate information available and feed it out as broadly as was possible." To shepherd the community with the best possible information and guidance, Margaret was and is involved at all levels: she participates in regional health system and governmental COVID teams, follows the data and emerging research about the spread and mitigation of the virus, volunteers at vaccination clinics, and she listens and responds to questions, concerns, and ideas from all sides.

In partnership with Bill Waste, who spearheaded LCRT communications, she led weekly Zoom team meetings for more than a year, providing written updates, responding to questions, and facilitating the exchange of information. This teamwork not only ensured that Lyme neighbors were kept informed, safe, involved, and supported, but also created new bonds among the LCRT members. It built trust and respect; and it helped us all in our responses to the pandemic, as well as in the development of programs and resources that will serve the community well into the future.

Margaret's encouragement and guidance led CCL to expand the Help Line (603-795-0603 – available every day), build the Neighbors Network, launch the Lyme Food Pantry, and provide vaccination scheduling support in Lyme and Orford. With the support of Margaret and the LCRT, CCL planned safe, outdoor community gatherings, beginning with May's Day of Service and throughout 2021. Margaret, on behalf of the entire community: for your humble, critical service, sharing unique gifts and encouraging others to do the same, we offer our deepest gratitude. Thank you!

Our Mission To build on Lyme's heritage as a warm, welcoming and service-oriented community, by building partnerships, embracing new ideas, and designing systems that improve our individual and collective sense of well-being, as we help transform health and healthcare in our town and beyond.

