Tobacco Cessation Coverage Assessments
The New Hampshire Tobacco Prevention and Control Program contracted with the Community Health Institute (CHI)/JSI Research and Training Institute, Inc. and the Institute for Health Policy and Practice through the University of New Hampshire to conduct an environmental scan of NH health plans and large employers to assess potential opportunities to assure financial sustainability of the NH Tobacco Helpline. The report is available upon request.

State as an Employer
State government is the largest NH employer. The state is self-insured and contracts with Anthem, a for-profit health insurance company, for plan administration. Employee cessation benefits include all seven FDA-approved NRTs without co-pay, if prescribed by a primary care provider. The State Employee Wellness Website promotes the NH Tobacco Helpline, while the State Employee Assistance Program promotes the Freedom from Smoking Program from the American Lung Association.

Employers and Health Plans
Currently, the NH Tobacco Prevention and Control Program (TPCP) does not have any cost-sharing partnerships with employers (purchasers) or health plans to provide tobacco treatment services. However, the TPCP through the above CHI/JSI contract is implementing a three-phase approach to developing service agreements between the NH Helpline and large employers and health plans. Phase 1 assessed the burden of tobacco use in NH including adult and youth smoking prevalence, utilization of tobacco treatment services, and benefits coverage. During Phase 2, key informant interviews with commercial health plans and purchasers were conducted to assess their knowledge, attitudes and beliefs on tobacco treatment services for their members. Internal progress report for each phase has been completed. During Phase 3, information gathered during the assessment and key informant interview will be utilized to develop the strategic direction of the project. A final report with be forthcoming in 2015.

Resource Development
None.

Medicaid Match
NH does not currently have a working relationship with the Medicaid Managed Care Organizations covering the state’s Medicaid population. TPCP is requesting that DHHS Commissioner reach out to the Medicaid Medical Director to commence discussions relative to coming to the table as a key stakeholder. Over 50% of the NH Helpline’s service utilization is by Medicaid or uninsured populations.

Staff Training
The Helpline contract with JSI/CHI includes language relative to pursuing sustainability, as there is expertise between the Boston and NH offices that lend to this project. JSI has had many successes in Massachusetts with sustainability partnerships and continues to work towards success in NH.

Coalitions/Summits
None.

Broker Engagement
None.