



Northeast Passage To Host Shepherd Bridge Program Aug. 3-4

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DURHAM, N.H. -- Northeast Passage will host the Shepherd Center's Bridge Program for the New England region Aug. 3 and 4, 2006. The Atlanta-based Shepherd Center is one of the nation's leading hospitals specializing in the medical treatment and rehabilitation of people with spinal cord injury and disease, acquired brain injury and multiple sclerosis.

Northeast Passage is a self-funded program of the University of New Hampshire's School of Health and Human Services and an affiliate of Disabled Sports USA. Northeast Passage develops and delivers innovative, barrier-free recreation and health promotion programs.

Each year, the Shepherd Center partners with local organizations to build awareness of community based programs and resources for former patients. Northeast Passage has been collaborating with the Shepherd Center to offer two days of adaptive sports and socializing in New Hampshire.

About 15 former patients from across New England and their family and friends will gather at UNH to learning about Northeast Passage's equipment and expertise. Planned events include cycling (hand-cycling trials), adaptive golf, an introduction to the growing sport of quad Rugby, adaptive kayaking and waterskiing.

Participants have acquired spinal cord injuries, received care at Shepherd and have returned home to New England. Most are in their teens and 20s and have relatively new injuries.

Members of the Northeast Passage staff, Shepherd Center representatives and participants will be on hand for interviews throughout the two days. There will be plenty of photo opportunities. For a full schedule of events and times, please contact Northeast Passage at 603-862-0070 or <http://www.nepassage.org/>.