Throughout his nine years on the New Hampshire Community Loan Fund’s board of directors, three as chair, Ed skillfully guided our discussion and decisions. His expertise in organizational development and as a trainer meant that, no matter how difficult or contentious the topic, the process was deliberate and transparent, all voices felt heard and respected, and the decision was the best one.

Ed Tomey was the right leader at the right time for the Community Loan Fund. His influence is evident in our success, our capacity and our resilience.

Our third decade was one of great challenges and awesome opportunities. We grew in response to the economic needs of New Hampshire’s disadvantaged people and communities, and our internal processes grew to support that mission.

We created a unified voice, messages and ways of presenting ourselves across all of our programs and our fundraising. We raised $2.2 million with our biggest-ever capital campaign to insure we could lend repeatedly into all NH communities. We expanded our business lending and our national-award-winning mortgage program for manufactured homes.

In the middle of that positive momentum came the largest and deepest recession in world history, during which the Community Loan Fund reevaluated and adjusted to stay resilient and rebound, while helping those we serve do the same.

Ed came to us an acknowledged national expert, a professor at Harvard University and chair of Antioch New England Graduate School’s Dept. of Organization and Management before joining our board. We were so eager for his knowledge that we nearly overwhelmed him during his first weeks with us. Ed’s response was gracious. He learned the organization’s priorities so he could devote his time where most needed. In all he did, he was incredibly generous, thoughtful and strategic.

Ed mentored his fellow board members, Community Loan Fund management, and the staff who worked with him. His expertise and his approach, his ability to set very high standards without judgment, his empathy and balance are gifts he leaves us.

We invite you to honor Ed’s spirit and leadership accomplishments by donating to The Ed Tomey Fund to support the people that he and the Community Loan Fund are devoted to. These funds will be used over and over again for our core mission of opportunity for all—and the impact of Ed’s legacy will continue to grow.