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February 2, 2024

Corinna McElwain  
Northeast Passage  
121 Technology Drive  
Durham, NH 03878

Kathleen Felch  
Kensington Town Hall  
95 Amesbury Road  
Kensington, NH 03833

Dear Ms. Kathleen Felch,

This letter is regarding the accessibility of your town library.

I am a Licensed Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist providing clinical recreational therapy with Northeast Passage, a non-profit organization serving members of our communities with disabilities. I provide care to students in and around the town of Kensington including students at Kensington Elementary School. Part of my role as a recreational therapist is to support students in accessing their local community recreational and leisure resources. Libraries are a valuable town resource for local information, social connections, and access to knowledge and adventure through written and digital formats.

The Kensington Library's current structural design makes it difficult for all people, including some of my students in wheelchairs to fully access the space. Currently, the only ways to enter to the children's section are the stairs or the slippery outdoor sloped path. These have become obstacles for not only young residents with disabilities but also caregivers with impairments interested in bringing their children to the children's section.

My hope is that the students who live and go to school in Kensington will feel welcomed and be able to use their own library instead of having to use one in a different town several miles away. I know that the physical changes to the building are only the start of the work and that with these changes there will also be opportunities for inclusive programming during the day and after school hours for the residents of the town.

Please consider providing accessible pathways to welcome people of all abilities to your library.

Sincerely,



Corinna McElwain, CTRS/L