

annual report | 2017



NY SARH
New York State Association for Rural Health

board of directors | 2017-2018

Ann Battaglia

Healthy Community Alliance

Sara Wall Bollinger* (Past President)

SWB Consulting Services

Barry Brogan**

North Country Behavioral Health Network

Dawn Bush*

Chemung County Health Department

Derrick Chrisler (Vice President)

S2AY Rural Health Network

Charlotte Crawford

Lake Plains Community Care Network

Helen Evans

Ardent Solutions

Sylvia Getman**

Adirondack Health

Ann Jasmin**

Oak Orchard Health

Richard Kazel

Syracuse VA Medical Center

Jackie Carlton Leaf*

Seven Valleys Health Coalition

Jennifer Leszyk**

Hudson Headwaters Health Network

Karen Madden

Charles D. Cook Office of Rural Health (ex officio)

Sharon Mathe*

Retired Healthy Community Alliance

Richard Merchant (President)

Northern Area Health Education Center

Gertrude O'Sullivan

Foundation for Community Health

Claire Parde

Columbia County Community Healthcare Consortium

Carrie Roseamelia

*Rural Medical Scholars Program,
Upstate Medical University*

Jack Salo (Secretary)

Rural Health Network of South Central New York

Robert Wingate

Catskill Hudson Area Health Education Center

Mary Zelazny

Finger Lakes Community Health

* Termed off in 2017

** Elected in September 2017

() Officers of the Board

policy and advocacy | NYSARH board members in action

NYSARH board members participated in National Rural Health Association events including the Rural Health Policy Institute in Washington, DC in February, the annual Rural Health Conference in May in San Diego, and the Rural Quality & Clinical Conference in July in Nashville.

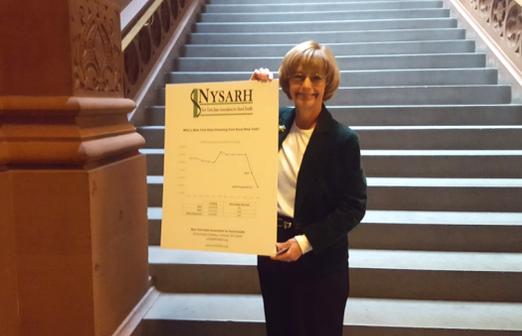
NYSARH members also gathered in Albany in March to advocate on behalf of rural health with members of the NYS Legislature. Unfortunately, the 2017-18 NYS Budget included a significant funding reduction for many of the programs operated by NYSARH member agencies. This mobilized our membership to redouble efforts to engage with NYS elected officials. We were able to prevent proposed cuts in the 2018-2019 NYS Budget.

All members of NYSARH are welcome to participate in advocacy activities. You do not need to be a Board member. Contact Sara@NYSARH.org for more information. You can also learn more about the National Rural Health Association at www.ruralhealthweb.org.

NYSARH advocates for policies that:

1. Enhance access to high-quality health care and related services in rural communities.
2. Provide universal access to broadband telecommunications. Access to high-speed internet provides for a variety of health and economic benefits.
3. Support NYS contracting and procurement practices that respect the unique needs of special populations and the providers that serve them.

NYSARH advocates worked with other health policy and prevention associations to successfully overturn proposed cuts in the 2018-19 NYS budget.



nysarh members | in action



andrea haradon | AS, BA, MPA

Andrea has dedicated the better part of her career to improving public health practices and population health outcomes in the Finger Lakes region. Andrea is a founder and first Executive Director of the S2AY Rural Health Network, as well as a founding Board Member of NYSARH and past President. Andrea is well-known and trusted across the State, having been a leader in rural health for almost 35 years. Her dedication to Public Health and improving the health of rural New York State was the rationale that led to her selection for the 2017 Senator Patricia M. McGee Rural Health Worker Award.



farm to food pantry collaborative

In collaboration with the Rondout Valley Growers Association, UlsterCorps, and the Buderhof Community; the Farm to Food Pantry Collaborative, led by Michael Berg, Executive Director, Family of Woodstock, Inc. addresses food insecurity by engaging farmers to donate locally grown produce and training volunteers to glean, process, and distribute nutritious food to the network food pantries. The collaborative has been working to reduce, and ultimately eliminate, food insecurity in Ulster County. Starting in 2009, the group has gleaned, collected, and distributed over 390,000 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables to soup kitchens and food pantries in the county. A central component of the program is the recruiting, training and coordinating of volunteers. NYSARH was proud to recognize this exceptional effort with the 2017 Outstanding Rural Health Program of the Year Award.



Laurie Turner

RDH Registered Hygienist
Finger Lakes Community Health, Geneva, NY

Laurie has provided dental education to over 30,000 children in her career and has given comprehensive dental care to thousands of patients. She is very well-known across NYS and has been impactful in working to convince the NYS Department of Health of the importance of promoting and funding school-based dental programs. Laurie has been a positive mentor to new dental hygiene students and practitioners, helping them to develop their own messaging for patients in a proactive manner. She continually looks for new opportunities to partner with other organizations and providers to build more capacity for education and treatment in our rural communities and underserved populations. She received the 2017 Dr. Gary Ogden Rural Health Practitioner of the Year Award.

a year in review

strategic planning

In the spring of 2017, the Executive Committee reviewed NYSARH's 2013 Strategic Plan and implemented a process to update that plan. A Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) survey was distributed to all board members. The SWOT analysis identified that Board Members feel most strongly about: a) continuing the annual conference, b) sharing best practices, c) expanding membership, and d) increasing State-level advocacy. A different survey was emailed to the full membership, who were asked to share it with colleagues, so we could obtain input from non-members as well. Survey respondents noted that the NYSARH advocacy strategy could be improved, and that the annual conference is well-regarded.

Topics for the Board to consider include: a) NYSARH's role relative to other associations, b) regional/geographic meetings, and c) utilization of webinars and video conferencing throughout the year. On June 29th a Strategic Planning 'Retreat' was held in Rochester, facilitated by Broch Slabach from the NRHA. The full strategic plan was approved in December 2017 and a New Administrative Leadership structure was ready to launch in January 2018.

rural health conference 2017



One of the primary activities of NYSARH is to plan, implement, and evaluate an annual conference for our members and others who are interested in rural health. The 2017 conference, "Viewing the Future of Rural Health", was held in New Paltz at the historic Mohonk Mountain Resort. It featured keynote presentations by Alan Morgan, CEO of the National Rural Health Association, Thomas Bane, from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid, Region 2, and Megan Meacham, Senior Advisor, HRSA, Federal Office of Rural Health Policy.

Also featured were several presentations featuring real-life examples of programs enhancing health equity, supporting population health, addressing the social determinants of health, and achieving the Triple Aim. Panel presentations addressed Tobacco-21 and Telehealth.



announcements

The NYSARH Board of Directors was pleased to announce that Seven Valleys Health Coalition (SVHC) based in Cortland, NY, was been selected to provide executive and administrative services as of January 1, 2018. The new leadership team will engage with NYSARH members to achieve the goals identified in the Strategic Plan that was approved by the Board of Directors in December 2017.



Jackie Leaf is the new Executive Director of NYSARH. She will oversee all agency operations and focus on providing the premier rural health conference in New York State each September. Staff members of Seven Valleys Health Coalition will provide additional assistance, creating a depth of support for NYSARH needs.



Sara Wall Bollinger joined the SVHC team as NYSARH Director for Strategic Development with a focus on policy, membership, and capacity building initiatives.

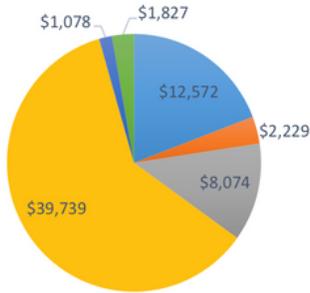
membership engagement

During the past year, the NYSARH Board of Directors has stepped up efforts to communicate with members. In Spring 2017, we launched a quarterly e-newsletter that contains member updates, as well as relevant news from across the country. We have also sent out surveys so that we may better understand the needs of our members and what they envision NYSARH to be. We hope to increase these initiatives in the months ahead.



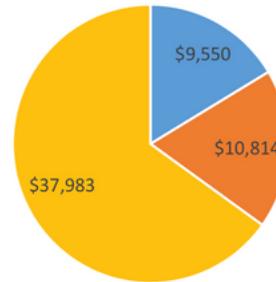
financials

2017 EXPENSES



- Conference
- Office Expenses
- Travel
- Staff Services
- Professional Fees
- Training/Workshops

2017 REVENUE



- Membership
- NHRA
- Conference



NYSARH

New York State Association for Rural Health

The Mission of NYSRH is to improve the health and well-being of rural New Yorkers and their communities.



New York State Association for Rural Health

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