

Annual Report

2018



NYSARH
New York State Association for Rural Health



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Theresa (Tess) Barker**

Planned Parenthood of the North Country

Barry Brogan

North Country Behavioral Health Network

Derrik Chrisler

Human Service Development

Charlotte Crawford

Lake Plains Community Care Network

Helen Evans

Ardent Solutions

Sylvia Getman

Adirondack Health

Richard Kazel (Treasurer)

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Hudson Headwaters Health Network

Nancy McGraw **

Sullivan County Public Health Services

Karen Madden (ex officio)

Charles D. Cook Office of Rural Health

Richard Merchant (President)

Northern Area Health Education Center

Gertrude O'Sullivan

Foundation for Community Health

Claire Parde

Columbia County Community Healthcare Consortium

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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

Executive Leadership:

Jackie Leaf

Executive Director

Sara Wall Bollinger

Director for Strategic Development

** Elected in September 2018
() Officers of the Board

Our Mission



Back Row, L to R: Jennifer Leszyk, Jack Salo, Derrik Chrisler, Helen Evans, Michael Pease, Carrie Roseamelia, Barry Brogan, Richard Merchant, Richard Kazel, and Robert Wingate. Front Row, L to R: Jackie Leaf, Nancy McGraw, Mary Zelazny, Ann Battaglia, David Riddell, Gertrude O'Sullivan, Tess Barker, Claire Parde, and Sara Wall-Bollinger. Not Pictured: Sylvia Getman, Charlotte Crawford and Karen Madden

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

Rural Health is Economic Development

Funding obtained through a Rural Prep Micro-research grant afforded a NYSARH workgroup the opportunity to evaluate the economic impact of the 2017-18 NYS funding cuts of 20%-22% experienced by many rural health workforce, promotion, and access programs. Dr. Casey Harrison presented the results at the 2018 Rural Health Conference. An economic multiplier is the total of the lost funding itself plus the indirect and induced impact of jobs lost, fewer goods purchased, less business activity and fewer health-related services as a result of the funding cuts. The research demonstrated an economic multiplier effect of cuts to rural health workforce, promotion and access programs of +/- 1.5%. This calculation did not include the loss of medical providers, who have a much higher multiplier effect.

“Detrimental impact on rural communities from funding loss is just a piece of the healthcare sector as a whole.”

“When we lose funding, everyone is impacted in the community.”

Member Engagement

Over the summer the Membership Committee convened an Ad Hoc Work Group to guide NYSARH membership communication strategy. This group reviewed current NYSARH communication materials including the website, brochure, annual report and e-newsletter. They also made recommendations regarding social media and outreach to mainstream media. Many thanks to the members of the Work Group that included Kristy Aton, Ashima Butler, Beverly Chin, Patrick Fontana, Kara Kane and Matthew Scollin.

New this year are the NYSARH Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/NYSARH/>

and a Member Portal on the website:
<https://nysarh.org/members/dashboard/>

Please follow and share the NYSARH Facebook page and enter your contact information into the Member Portal. Members are encouraged to enhance their experience by joining the Membership, Conference and/or Policy Committees which are open to all NYSARH members.



thank you

Thanks to the following NYSARH members who volunteered on Board Committees, participated in Albany Advocacy Day and/or the National Policy Institute during 2018-19.

Ann Abdella
Karin Blackburn
Robin Calkins
Katy Cook
Elizabeth Urbanski Farrell
Mary Maruscak

Rachel Priest
Kristin Pullyblank
Mandy Qualls
Anne Marie Snell
Jessica Soule
Susan Williams



Member Impact

Income level, educational attainment, ethnicity and health literacy all impact the ability of people to access health services and to meet their basic needs which are necessary to stay healthy. Rural residents are more likely to experience some of the contributing social factors that negatively impact health. NYSARH members are actively supporting initiatives to improve healthcare access and improve the social determinants of health such as access to healthy foods, transportation and exercise as well as programs for chronic disease prevention and management.



ADVOCATING FOR

Members of the NYSARH Policy Committee work with colleagues to communicate the needs of rural communities to leaders at both the State and Federal levels.

Working in collaboration with other public health organizations, NYSARH and other advocates successfully convinced NYS legislators not to accept consolidation and another 20% funding cut to thirty health promotion programs that had been proposed in the 2018-19 Executive Budget. Funding was maintained at the 2017-18 level.

Building on the strong engagement of NYSARH members in February and March, the Policy Committee surveyed members over the summer and wrote a letter to Governor Cuomo that was shared by NYSARH President Richard Merchant at a meeting with Megan Baldwin, NYS Assistant Secretary for Health.

NYSARH members joined hundreds of other rural health advocates for the National Rural Health Association Policy Forum in Washington, DC. NYSARH met with staff of both Senators and fourteen House Representatives covering all Upstate NY Districts.

RURAL HEALTH

In January 2019, NYSARH gathered in Albany. Members met with a total of ten Senate and nine Assembly Committee Chairs or their staff members including Speaker Heastie, Minority Leader Kolb, Senate Health Chair Rivera and Assembly Health Chair Gottfried. NYSARH appreciates the support we received from the Joint Commission for Rural Resources and our guest presenters:

- Karen Roach & Jim Clancy, HANYS
- Lacey Clarke, CHCANYS
- Harvey Rosenthal, NYARPS
- Glenn Liebman, MHANYS
- Steve Kroll, EMS expert

Several advocates, including NYSARH, successfully convinced the NYS legislature to continue the Population Health Improvement Program for the rest of 2019. This funding had been eliminated in the Executive Budget.



Rural Health Conference

The 2018 conference was held September 26-28 at Greek Peak Mountain Resort with the theme "Together We Can Move Mountains." Keynote speaker and walking enthusiast Mark Fenton of Tufts University kicked off a program full of informative and inspirational sessions. Panel presentations focused on the rural opioid epidemic and value-based payment in behavioral health.



2018 NYSARH
CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 26TH-28TH
GREEK PEAK MOUNTAIN RESORT
CORTLAND, NEW YORK





Outstanding Rural Health Program of the Year Award

The Rural Academic Partnership under the leadership of Dr. Zsuzsa Meszaros, Director of the Residency Training Program of the Department of Psychiatry, SUNY Upstate Medical University received the 2018 Outstanding Rural Health Program of the Year Award.

There is a severe shortage of psychiatrists serving rural communities. This can result in the erosion of quality and availability of mental health care, leading to poor clinical outcomes, patient dissatisfaction and negative media attention.

The shortage of qualified providers in rural areas has been stubbornly persistent despite many creative attempts to improve recruitment. To remedy this, the Department of Psychiatry at SUNY Upstate Medical University developed a novel rural academic partnership that is built on the following agreements:

- Partnership with an existing rural mental health program
- The partners jointly recruit a Psychiatry Resident who spends at least two months per year in the first two years and one day a week in the last two years of residency at the rural site
- The rural Partner pays the salary of the assigned Resident
- The Resident, once he or she completes the four-year training program, is obligated to work for the rural Partner for five years

Partner organizations participating currently include Samaritan Medical Center, United Health Services, Binghamton General Hospital, Oswego Health and Mohawk Valley Health System.



Senator McGee Rural Health Award

Karen Madden has been Director of the NYS Charles D. Cook Office of Rural Health since 2000. She was a member of the National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services from 2012 to 2015 and a member of the Policy Board of the National Rural Health Association.

In addition to the many accomplishments of her career, Ms. Madden is recognized for her critical role in the development of National Rural Health Day with the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health. She received the 2018 Senator Patricia McKee Rural Health Worker of the Year Award.



Dr. Gary Ogden Rural Health Practitioner of the Year Award

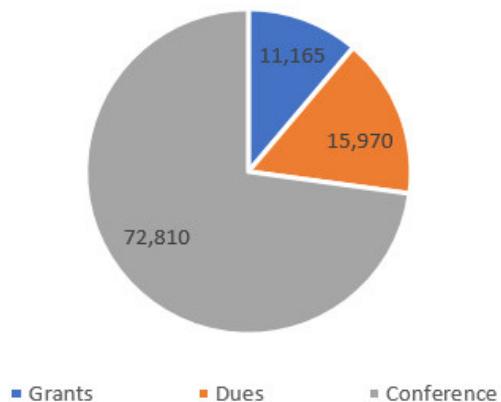
NYSARH recognized Robert Delorme M.D. for his health leadership in Southern Madison and Northern Chenango Counties. Dr. Delorme exemplifies the rural family physician in that he understands the multiple cascading challenges patients and providers face in receiving and delivering rural primary care. Whether it be medical or social issues, Dr. Delorme has taken a personal approach to medicine – being available at all times of the day or night to meet the needs of his patients and patients at Community Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Delorme believes that organizations should continuously improve and evaluate. Thanks to his philosophy and hard work, Community Memorial Hospital has been able to open five Family Health Centers in rural communities and achieve PCMH NCQA Level 3 designation for all of them.

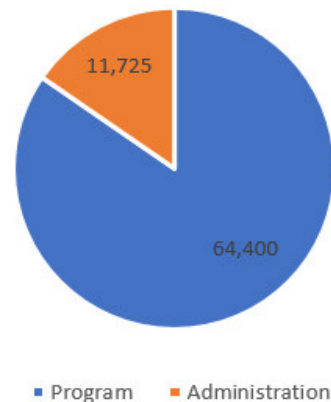


Financials

Revenue



Expenses



The 2018 financial statements have been reviewed by Freed Maxick CPAs.

The Finance Committee oversees NYSARH finances.

The Governance Committee oversees corporate compliance, board relations and annual elections for board members and officers.



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