

NYS Association for Rural Health

1 Main Street Suite 202

Canton, NY 13617

315-378-7701

info@NYSARH.org

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**2020 Rural Health Advocacy**

 **February 4, 2020**

 **Albany, NY**

2020 NYSARH Talking Points

Fully fund wellness promotion and disease & accident prevention programs

* Address the primary causes of mortality and morbidity in NY
* Support the Prevention Agenda
* Room for something else – Nutrition?

Rethink current approaches to non-emergency medical transportation

* Preserve public transportation
* Improve customer service
* Save money

Explore new paradigms for rural EMS

* Support volunteer engagement
* Increase training flexibility
* Approve Para-Medicine
* Increase Medicaid reimbursement

Additional Priorities

* Flavored Tobacco/Nicotine Products
* Legalization of Marijuana
* Rural Broadband
* Immunization
* Rear Seat Belts
* Health Insurance Coverage

Restore Full Funding for Area Health Education Centers

* Workforce development is a primary concern for all levels of rural health and wellness providers

Restore Full Funding for Rural Health programs: Rural Health Network & Rural Health Access Development

* The Executive Budget reduces funding 30% from 2019-20, on top of a previous 20% cut

Workforce Recruitment & Retention

* Doctors Across New York
* Diversity in Medicine
* Support Rural recruitment

Build capacity to provide more comprehensive, timely, affordable and effective behavioral health care.

* Standardize licensure/certification
* Provide fair payment to Peers
* Support 3 for 5 Initiative
* Provide SUD services in local jails
* Expand Supported Housing

**NYSARH Members are…**

Rural Health Networks

Area Health Education Centers

Medical Providers

Federally Qualified Health Centers

Behavioral Health Agencies

County Public Health Departments

Hospitals & Urgent Care Centers

Schools of Higher Education

Health Foundations

Long Term Care Providers

Disease Prevention Organizations

Veteran Organizations

Community Action Agencies

Emergency Services

**NYSARH Members …**

Administer unique programs, tailored to rural communities

Deliver prevention and education services

Develop the health professionals of the future

Engage with DSRIP Performing Provider Systems

Implement the Population Health Improvement Program

Navigate healthcare and health insurance

Offer continuing education and internships

Partner with other organizations to leverage resources and maximize impact

Prepare for value-based payment

Provide or coordinate transportation

Reduce unnecessary hospital and emergency department visits

Solve community challenges at the community level

**NYSARH …**

Advocates for the health and well-being of Rural New Yorkers

Facilitates networking and collaboration across Upstate New York

Participates in the Rural Health Policy Institute in Washington, DC

Produces the premier Rural Health Conference in New York State

Publishes a Quarterly Newsletter

Represents New York with the National Rural Health Association