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## NYSARH Newsletter

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### Winter 2021

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Working to preserve and improve health and human services in rural New York State.

January 2021 - March 2021

### Strategic Plan 2021-23

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The NYSARH Board of Directors formed a Steering Committee to develop a Strategic Plan. A series of planning sessions were facilitated utilizing the Nonprofit Lifecycle™ Model developed by Susan Kenney Stevens, culminating in a virtual Board Retreat in August.

The final Strategic Plan was approved at the January 2021 Board meeting. The primary goals of the plan are: Membership, Collaboration, Advocacy, Education and Capacity Building.

[The full plan and companion History are available on the website here >](#)

### NYS Advocacy

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The NYSARH Policy Briefing was held January 26<sup>th</sup>.

Many thanks to our guest speakers:

- Angelo Santabarbara, Assembly Co-Chair and Hal McCabe on behalf of Senator Rachel May from the Commission on Rural Resources.
- Scott Janke, Director of State Government Affairs, Healthcare Association of NYS
- Jack Marzulli, Schmidt Futures regarding the Reimagine New York Commission
- Robert Martiniano, Center for Health Workforce Studies regarding Rural Workforce
- Sarah Ravenhall, Executive Director, NYSACHO Public Health Perspectives

More information on the Briefing, NYSARH's Policy Priorities and an Advocacy Toolkit may be found on the Policy page of the NYSARH website.



## **NRHA Policy Institute**

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“Now, more than ever before, is our time to convince Congress that rural health isn’t just a headline,” says NRHA government affairs and policy vice president Carrie Cochran-McClain. “Rural health is a movement. It’s time for Capitol Hill to hear our voice.”

The New York delegation to the National Rural Health Association Policy Institute in February included Ann Abdella, Alison Coates and Sara Wall Bollinger.

NYSARH is making appointments with the Upstate members of Congress the week of February 22 nd . We encourage all NYSARH members to join a meeting with your Congress member. No special skills or knowledge are required, and materials will be provided. Please contact Sara at [sara@nysarh.org](mailto:sara@nysarh.org) to be included on the zoom call.

More information on federal policy issues can be found on the Federal Policy page of the NYSARH website.

[www.nysarh.org/policy/federal](http://www.nysarh.org/policy/federal)

## **Meeting with CMS**

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The NYSARH Executive Committee met with the new Region 2 Director of CMS, Tony Jamrozy in January. We plan to meet again in August.

Anthony Jamrozy  
CMS, New York Regional Office  
26 Federal Plaza, Room 38-130  
New York, NY, 10278  
Phone: (212) 616-2439

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### Rural Healthcare Surge Readiness

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Dr. Rénee Joskow shared an important resource website with attendees of the January NYSARH/NERHA webinar. This interactive site provides ‘curated’ content specific to different types of providers.

<https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/healthcare-surge-readiness>

### COVID-19 Impacts Mental Health

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A strong majority of farmers/farmworkers say the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted their mental health, and more than half say they are personally experiencing more mental health challenges than they were a year ago, according to a new American Farm Bureau poll.

The survey of rural adults and farmers/ farmworkers explores how the pandemic has affected their mental health personally and in their communities, as well as how attitudes and experiences around mental health have changed in rural and farm communities since AFBF conducted its first rural mental health survey in 2019.

<https://www.fb.org/newsroom/national-poll-shows-covid-19-taking-heavy-toll-on-farmers-mental-health>

## **Nurse Practitioner Diversity in New York State**

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A recent study organized by NYSARH Member, Kris Stiegler, and her colleagues at the Center for Health Workforce Studies (CHWS) examines the racial and ethnic composition of New York's nurse practitioner (NP) workforce. Researchers examined key demographic, educational, and practice characteristics of the state's active NPs.

According to the study, Hispanic NPs are underrepresented in the state's NP workforce, while the percentage of Black NPs is close to the percentage of Blacks in the state's population. New York City saw the largest disparity between Hispanic NPs (8%) and the local Hispanic population (29%). However in the North Country region, Hispanic NPs nearly mirrored their presence in the regional population.

Other key findings from the study include:

- NPs younger than 50 tended to be more racially and ethnically diverse.
- Black and Hispanic NPs complete their NP training at older ages compared to all other NPs.
- Nearly half of Black NPs work in primary care health professional shortage areas (HPSAs).

[https://www.chwsny.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/NP-Diversity-Brief\\_2021.pdf](https://www.chwsny.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/NP-Diversity-Brief_2021.pdf)

## **Upcoming Webinars**

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Thursday, March 18, 2021

Trauma Informed Care

Thursday, April 15, 2020

Community Paramedicine Program and the Impact it Could Have on Rural Areas

Thursday, May 20, 2021

Community Health Worker – Navigator Program

Thursday, June 17, 2021

Domestic Violence & Sex Trafficking for Rural Providers

**Participation in the Rural Health Webinar Series is free.**

**CME and NYS Social Work CE credits are available for purchase after the event (\$10.00 fee).**

[www.nysarh.org/webinars/](http://www.nysarh.org/webinars/)

## Funding Opportunities

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### HRSA-21-088

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#### Rural Communities Opioid Response Program – Implementation

Due March 12, 2021

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=328967>

### Citizens' Institute on Rural Design

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The Citizens' Institute on Rural Design™ will offer four local Design Workshops that address specific community challenges, and an online Design Learning Cohort program that will allow up to 15 communities.

Due March 12, 2021

<https://www.rural-design.org/apply>

### Promote Nutrition for Low-Income Households

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The Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program seeks to increase the purchase of fruits and vegetables by low-income consumers participating in SNAP by providing incentives at the point of purchase.

**Due March 16, 2021**

<https://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/gus-schumacher-nutrition-incentive-grant-program>

### Nature's Path: Gardens for Good

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The Nature's Path Gardens for Good program supports nonprofit organizations with community garden projects in the U.S. and Canada. The focus is on community gardens that make fresh organic food more accessible in the local neighborhood.

Due March 24, 2021

<https://www.naturespath.com/en-us/applicant-terms/>

### HRSA-21-082

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#### Evidence Based Telehealth Network Program

Due April 2, 2021

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=329771>

## **Become a Member**

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We invite you to join us through advocacy and by advancing initiatives that support a commitment to improving healthcare quality and access.

[www.nysarh.org/membership/](http://www.nysarh.org/membership/)