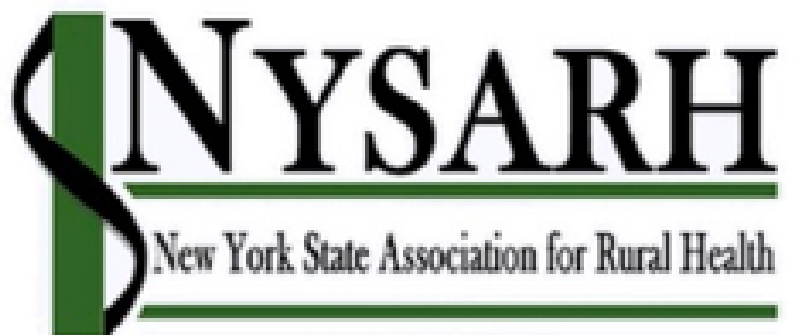


A scenic photograph of a rural landscape serves as the background. It features rolling green hills, a small cluster of houses with red roofs, and a large red barn in the foreground. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, and the overall atmosphere is peaceful and pastoral.

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



Presidents Message

Dear NYSARH Colleagues:

I am honored to be ending my fourth and final year as the NYSARH President. We are a strong and vital organization focused on being your go-to resource for rural advocacy, education, and networking.

Under the leadership of our incredible Committee Chairs and through the dedication of all committee members and NYSARH staff, this year we continued to:

- Bolster our voice at the state and federal level on key policy issues fighting for rural equity on behalf of the over 3.5 million rural New York residents.
- Develop our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion platform offering insight into the needs of rural communities and the agencies who serve them.
- Support Rural Health Networks and Rural Access Hospitals by administering NYSARH's NYS Legislative Appropriation providing relief funding to those facing financial shortfalls.
- Strategically plan for future capacity building and strengthen the association's infrastructure to better meet the needs of our members.
- Offer high-quality and diverse educational programming by joining fellow state associations to sponsor the NYS Public Health Partnership Conference, monthly workshops, the 2022 Rural Health Symposium, and instituting the NYSARH Rural Health Fellows Program.
- Host the NYS Rural Health Network Directors' monthly networking events.

In everything we do, we build fellowship amongst members – by providing opportunities to get to know colleagues from across NYS - whether during planned programs, sharing ideas in interactive workshops, connecting members to best practices, or providing updates on advocacy issues. Having a strong professional network that you can call on with a difficult question helps you do your job better and is very important in this ever-changing environment.

I am often asked what a member's return on investment is for joining NYSARH. As outlined above, a NYSARH membership is invaluable! Help us spread the word and join our efforts.

Best Regards,



Helen Evans, President



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*=elected September 2022

**=term ended during 2022

OFFICERS

Helen Evans

Jack Salo

Alison Coates

Ann Morse Abdella

Alison Coates

Melissa Wendland

President

Vice-President**

Vice-President*

Treasurer

Secretary**

Secretary*

MEMBERS

Tammy Austin-Ketch

Ann Battaglia**

Anthony D'Agostino

Scott Emery

Evelyn Garzetta

Lennart Johns*

Nancy McGraw

Gertrude O'Sullivan**

Karin Pantel

Claire Parde

Paul Pettit

Michael Pease

Mandy Qualls

Victoria Reid

Janice Shirley

Elizabeth Weir*

Douglas Wildermuth*

Shari Weiss

Mary Zelazny

Broadening Partnerships

The NYSARH Strategic Plan for 2021-2023 includes a goal to enhance collaboration and partnerships with other NYS associations and rural organizations.

NYSARH was excited to join an informal Rural Alliance composed of the Rural Housing Coalition, the Rural Schools Association, the Farm Bureau and the Economic Development Council. The Alliance hosted an Informational Briefing for the NYS Legislature in February. NYSARH attended the Rural Housing Conference in September.

During 2022 NYSARH also connected with the League of Women Voters Rural Caucus, the Rural Democratic Caucus, Farm Net, Statewide Senior Action Council, NYS Community Action Association and ... to expand the Association's impact on behalf of our members.

NYSARH's partnership with the NYS Public Health Association and the NYS Association of County Health Officials was solidified with work on the 2022 Public Health Partnership Conference held in Niagara Falls, and Virtually, in April 2022.

NYSARH appreciates our long-standing partnership with the Community Health Care Association of New York State. CHCANYS members participate in several NYSARH Committees and provided a significant sponsorship for the 2022 Rural Health Symposium.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alison Coates".

Alison Coates, Vice-President



Engaging the Next Generation

Upstate Institute

NYSARH was pleased to host Yinuo (Helen) Lin from the Colgate University Upstate Institute who conducted a survey of both members and non-members to better understand people's understanding of NYSARH services and resources. She concluded that the greatest benefits of NYSARH membership are efficiency, innovation and collaboration.

AmeriCorps VISTA

Janiya Donson joined NYSARH as the Communications and Development Specialist in November 2022 and will serve through the end of October 2023. She recently graduated in the Fall of 2021 with a B.S. in Public Health and a minor in Communications. Janiya primarily served on the Membership and Education Committees, creating the monthly membership reports, running the NYSARH/NERHA Rural Health Webinar Series, organizing the 2022 Rural Health Awards Ceremony, running NYSARH's social media accounts, and writing NYSARH's Quarterly Newsletter. She also conducted several membership outreach efforts and assisted in website updates along with serving on the 2023 Public Health Partnership Conference planning committee.



VISTA
Volunteers in Service to America

New York State Association for Rural Health

Current members of NYSARH include healthcare organizations, advocacy groups, medical schools, and individuals. The top three of their interests are: workforce, transportation, and regulatory limitations.

Members and their Interests

NYSARH's Services

- Advocacy - in front of the representatives.
- Networking - with healthcare organizations.
- Education - through webinars and newsletters.

Efficiency:

- A more effective voice to represent the rural issues as a whole.
- Support members with mentorship, such as grant writing and funding applications.

2022 Rural Health Awards

Outstanding Rural Health Program of the Year Award: Dr. Lennart Johns

Under the leadership of Dr. Lennart Johns, Dean of the Lewis School of Health Sciences, Clarkson University has become a NYS Course Sponsor for EMS Educational Programs, addressing the healthcare needs and challenges of rural settings. With a state-of-the-art simulation lab and practical skills rooms, students receive practical training experiences to prepare them for patient care. Dr. Johns' support has been crucial in launching and advancing the emergency medical program at Clarkson, and he will continue to collaborate with local hospitals and EMS agencies to strengthen the rural healthcare system and improve the quality of life for North Country residents.



Outstanding Rural Health Program of the Year Award: St. Lawrence Health Clinical and Rural Health Department

St. Lawrence Health (SLH) Clinical and Rural Health Research Department was founded in 2015 with the goal of providing access to state-of-the-art health care options to North Country residents. Clinical Research Director Carly Lovelett, SLH Clinical and Rural Health Research Department has been instrumental in bringing clinical studies and trials to St. Lawrence County's rural population. These studies and trials have facilitated innovative approaches to medical treatment options for the community.



Dr. Gary Ogden Rural Health Practitioner of the Year Award: Dr. Sahi Karras

Dr. Sahi Karras has been honored as the recipient of the prestigious 2022 Dr. Gary Ogden Rural Health Practitioner of the Year award by the New York State Association for Rural Health (NYSARH). With over 27 years of experience in pediatrics and internal medicine, Dr. Karras has been serving the community of Wellsville, NY since 1998. His practice, Karras Pediatrics, is committed to providing the highest quality of care to children in the community, offering round-the-clock availability and personal attention to each family. Dr. Karras's compassionate and dedicated approach truly embodies the qualities of an exceptional rural health practitioner.



Governance Committee

The Governance Committee has prioritized recruiting new board members who reflect the diversity of rural New York. During 2022, the Governance Committee managed a special election to elect two people to fill positions that became vacant early in the year. The Committee then accepted nominations for the regular cycle, held elections and facilitated the Annual Meeting in September. In the fall, the Committee collected and reviewed 100% of board members statements of interest to ensure compliance with NYS not-for-profit law.



Shari Weiss

Shari Weiss, Chair

Finance Committee

NYSARH 2022 financials were audited and NYSARH received a clean opinion. NYSARH is working diligently to identify new funding sources to support the expansion of services for our members.

Revenue

Grants	2,311,948
Services	20,714
Membership	17,132
Other	1,468
	\$ 2,351,262

Expenses

Services	2,115,479
Administrative	91,517
	\$2,206,996

Net Change	\$144,266
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Ann Morse Abdella

Ann Morse Abdella , Treasurer



Education Committee

NERHA/NYSARH Webinar Series



NYSARH partnered with the New England Rural Health Association to offer monthly Webinars on the Third Thursdays. Many thanks to the Foundation for Community Health for their financial support. In 2022 the webinar series added CHES credits from the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing.

Rural Health Symposium – Virtual

Dr. Janice Probst, Director Emerita of the Rural and Minority Health Research Center at the Arnold School of Public Health gave a lively keynote at the 2022 Rural Health Symposium. NYS Commissioner of Health Dr. Mary Bassett and Lieutenant Governor Anthony Delgado addressed the participants. The Panel Session focused on the role of philanthropy to support rural health.

Thanks to these panelists:

Nancy Eaton, Foundation for Community Health

Dennis Johnson, Mother Cabrini Health Foundation

Diane Oyler, Health Foundation for Western & Central New York

Bronwyn Starr, New York Health Foundation



Public Health Partnership Conference – Niagara Falls



After a two year pause, the Public Health Partnership convened a hybrid conference featuring Dr. Carl Hill, Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion officer at the Alzheimer's Association and Dr. Georges Benjamin, Executive Director of the American Public Health Association, along with dozens of posters and break-out sessions.

Karin Pantel

Karin Pantel, Chair



Membership Committee

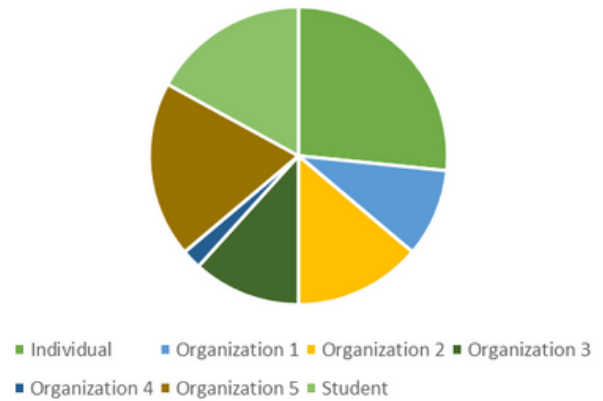
The Membership Committee developed some better tools to analyze membership recruitment and renewal patterns. In the fall, the Committee did an extensive analysis of membership dues and recommended a new dues structure for 2023.



Michael Pease

Michael Pease, Chair

2022 NYSARH Members



Policy Committee

The NYSARH Policy Forum featured Scott Janke, HANYS, Glenn Liebman, MHANYS, Marie Mongeon, CHCANYS and Steve Kroll on rural EMS. The National Rural Health Association Policy Institute was held in February. Members of the Policy Committee and other NYSARH members met with their New York and U.S. representatives virtually during the first quarter of the year. Committee members reached out to the Governor's Office, meeting with Deputy Secretary for Health Angela Profeta in September and Assistant Secretary for Health, Tina Kim, in December.

Mandy Qualls

Mandy Qualls, Chair



Legislative Appropriations

NYSARH was awarded two New York legislative appropriations to administer distribution for the Rural Health Network Development Program and the Rural Health Care Access Development Program. The contracts terms were for the periods April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2022 [\$2,200,000] and April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023 [\$1,100,000] and were distributed to recipients specifically identified in the grant contracts. In this capacity, NYSARH acts as an agent of the NYS Department of Health and does not have variance power over the funds received on behalf of the recipients. Funds not claimed are returned to the state.

Under the terms of these contracts, NYSARH is eligible for 10% of claimed funds for administrative services. Administrative services income recognized during 2022 totaled \$184,462. NYSARH expresses great appreciation to the Charles D. Cook Office for Rural Health and the Health Foundation for Western and Central New York for their assistance with managing these funds.



Melissa Wendland

Melissa Wendland, Secretary

Contact Us !

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Canastota, NY 13032

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