

APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER



[Learn More](#)

Public Health Partnership Conference

The Public Health Partnership Conference will be held in-person in 2025. The event will be held in Ithaca, NY April 30 – May 2, 2025. NYSARH and our partners (New York State Association of County Health Officials and New York State Public Health Association) are diligently crafting an engaging agenda, featuring keynote speaker Abby Fifer Mandell from USC Marshall School of Business.

Attendee Registration Now Open!

Registration ends April 24, 2025

[Register Here!](#)

Agenda includes:

- Learning Institute
- Keynote: "State-Level Partnerships: Advancing Public Health, Substance Use Disorder, and Mental Health Policy"
- Plenary Session: "Bridging Public Health and Mental Health: Strengthening Local Partnerships for Community Well-Being"
- Climate Health is Public Health Dinner Event
- Exhibitors
- Student Posters
- Breakout Sessions

[Explore the full agenda here](#)

Obstetric Life Support: Preparing Healthcare Workers to Optimize Equitable Treatment of Maternal Medical Emergencies in Rural New England

CEU'S Offered

Speaker:

Dr. Andrea D. Shields, M.D., M.S.,



Associate Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology,
Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine at the
University of Connecticut School of Medicine

[Register Here](#)



Hosted By:



CHES Credits Offered By:



April 17, 2025, 1pm EST

Rural communities experience significant disparities in maternal mortality and morbidity due to limited access to specialized care. Training in Obstetric Life Support (OBS) equips healthcare providers with critical skills to improve maternal outcomes and reduce these inequities. Efforts to adapt OBS for rural settings focus on practical modifications that enhance accessibility and implementation in resource-limited areas.

2025

Let's Talk About Health

CARING FOR OLDER ADULTS IN RURAL NEW YORK

A VIRTUAL CONFERENCE FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AND CAREGIVERS



SAVE THE DATE!

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS & CAREGIVERS

Join us for this all-day event focused on caring
for older adults in rural areas of NY.

All are welcome!

FRIDAY, MAY 9

8:30 AM - 4 PM

For more information visit bit.ly/RuralHealth25
OR e-mail tsblasio@alz.org

The conference planning committee is committed to making this event accessible to all participants.
ASL services will be made available upon request. Email tsblasio@alz.org for more information.

Continuing education credits available.

Western New York Rural Area Health Education Center, Inc. (WNY R-AHEC) is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Boards for Social Work (#SW-0685), Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Language Pathology, and Mental Health Practitioners (#MHC-0268) as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers, physical therapists and assistants, occupational therapists, and assistants, speech language pathologists, and licensed mental health counselors.

This program is sponsored in part by grants from the NY State Department of Health

Co-sponsored by:



Join NYSARH

- **Job Postings:** Platform for rural health job listings and opportunities.
- **Diversity Data Dashboard:** Tools to analyze health trends by location.
- **Networking:** Connections with rural health professionals and organizations.
- **Updates:** Newsletters, grant alerts, and rural health updates.
- **Event Discounts:** Reduced fees for NYSARH and partner events.
- **Webinar Access:** Free or discounted rural health webinars.
- **Advocacy:** Representation on state and federal rural health policies.
- **Fellowships & Internships:** Opportunities for students and early professionals.
- **Resource Connections:** Access to rural health networks and tools.

NY Health Foundation Funding



NYHealth is committed to supporting a range of projects that improve health at a regional or statewide level, particularly for people of color and others who have been historically marginalized.

NYHealth concentrates most of our activities and grantmaking in a limited number of strategic priority areas. In each area, we have developed a set of specific goals and focused strategies to advance our efforts. To have an impact in these areas, we make grants, convene key stakeholders, and commission and disseminate policy analyses that inform health care policy and practice throughout New York State.

[Learn More](#)

Amanda Horner, MPH, CHES® joined NYSARH in March 2025 as the new Project Coordinator for rural health initiatives



Amanda earned her MPH in Public Health Practice from the University at Albany in 2023, and prior to that earned a BS in Community Health Education and Philosophy from the University of Scranton. Before joining NYSARH, she completed two consecutive terms of AmeriCorps service with a Buffalo-based nonprofit, where she leveraged her skills in program development and evaluation to support a digital skills training program for teens and adults. She brings to NYSARH a background in health education and promotion, plus experience in a range of nonprofit and community based organizations in the health and human services, technology, and library sectors. Outside of NYSARH, Amanda serves on the WNY Digital Equity Coalition and is an active member of the New York State Public Health Association. With a passion for improving community wellbeing, she looks forward to contributing her skills and experience towards NYSARH's rural health initiatives.

Farmers' Market Resiliency Grant Program

The Department invites eligible applicants to apply for funding through the the \$1,000,000 Farmers' Market Resiliency Grant Program.

The program aims to provide the opportunity to build long-term food system resiliency through New York State's Farmers' Markets.

Funding will be available for projects that will help enhance current food system resiliency through farmers' markets, including projects aimed at the development and enhancement of farmers' market infrastructure, online infrastructure, marketing and outreach efforts, and/or delivery capabilities across the state.

Department
of Agriculture
and Markets



[Learn More](#)

Interns

NYSARH is getting inquiries from various students and universities about placing summer interns. Do you have any research or other project that can be completed in 6-8 weeks? We have candidates from Albany and Ithaca already, and expect more to contact NYSARH over the next few weeks. Please let us know and we will help to make a connection.



NYHealth Foundation Grant

NYSARH thanks the NYHealth Foundation for selecting our organization as a 2024 Special Projects Fund grantee! This grant will help NYSARH assess the current landscape of rural mental health in New York State and build the infrastructure needed to coordinate statewide efforts towards addressing priority topics in this area. Our project, "[Building Resiliency Among New York's Rural Health Organizations](#)," will produce a rural mental health needs assessment of New York State's 44 rural counties; NYSARH will then form a [collective impact](#) network, convening rural health stakeholders to identify and collaborate on shared priorities as informed by this needs assessment. NYSARH is grateful for the NYHealth Foundation's support in these efforts to advance rural health equity in our state.

Mother Cabrini Health Foundation Grant

We're honored to announce that NYSARH has been selected as a 2024-2025 grantee of the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation! This grant will enable us to raise awareness of, combat stigma around, and promote careers related to mental and behavioral health among older adults in rural communities. Through the Older Adult Rural Mental and Behavioral Health Workforce Support Program (OARS), NYSARH and our grant partners will collaborate on efforts related to stigma reduction, training in mental and behavioral health topics, career exploration and clinical rotation programs, and community engagement activities. We thank the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation for supporting our efforts to improve the health and well-being of rural New Yorkers and their communities.



Request for Breakout Session Abstracts

The New York State Association for Rural Health is accepting proposals for presentations for the 2025 Rural Health Symposium, Wednesday and Thursday, September 17th and 18th at the Lakefront Hotel, Geneva.

2025 RURAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM

The NYSARH Annual Symposium is a premier gathering for healthcare, public health, and key stakeholders interested in rural health innovations, attracting attention from all sectors.

The Rural Health Symposium strives to provide practical and meaningful information on current trends that influence the ability of communities to provide and/or access quality and affordable health care for rural New Yorkers. Presentations by individuals or teams will be considered in each of the session tracts. Presentations should be engaging and provide for Q&A. Content should be innovative, informative and promote discussion and networking. Presentations should reflect the themes selected by the planning team and specifically address rural circumstances. Sessions will be about one hour and may include more than one submitted abstract if the planning team identifies proposals that may be combined. The submission deadline is **May 9, 2025**.

Please use this link to submit your abstract:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2025SymposiumAbstracts>

Please direct any questions to Sara Wall Bollinger at sara@nysarh.org.

All the Lonely People Movie Screening

A Film and Discussion with people developing resilience over loneliness and experts discovering solutions to isolation.

Join us for a screening of the film, All the Lonely People, followed by a panel discussion with the film producer, local community members and professionals on the impact of isolation related to mental health, aging and more.



[Register Here](#)

Reserve Your Spot

Select a location to register:

- May 7, 1-3pm @ Gloversville Public Library, Gloversville,
- May 8, 3-5pm @ Crossroads Conference Center, Belmont, NY
- May 8, 3-5pm @ Elting Library, New Paltz, NY
- May 9, 3-5pm @ Wead Library, Malone, NY
- May 12, 4-6pm @ Kallet Theater, Pulaski, NY
- May 13, 3-5pm @ Genesee County Building 2, Batavia, NY