



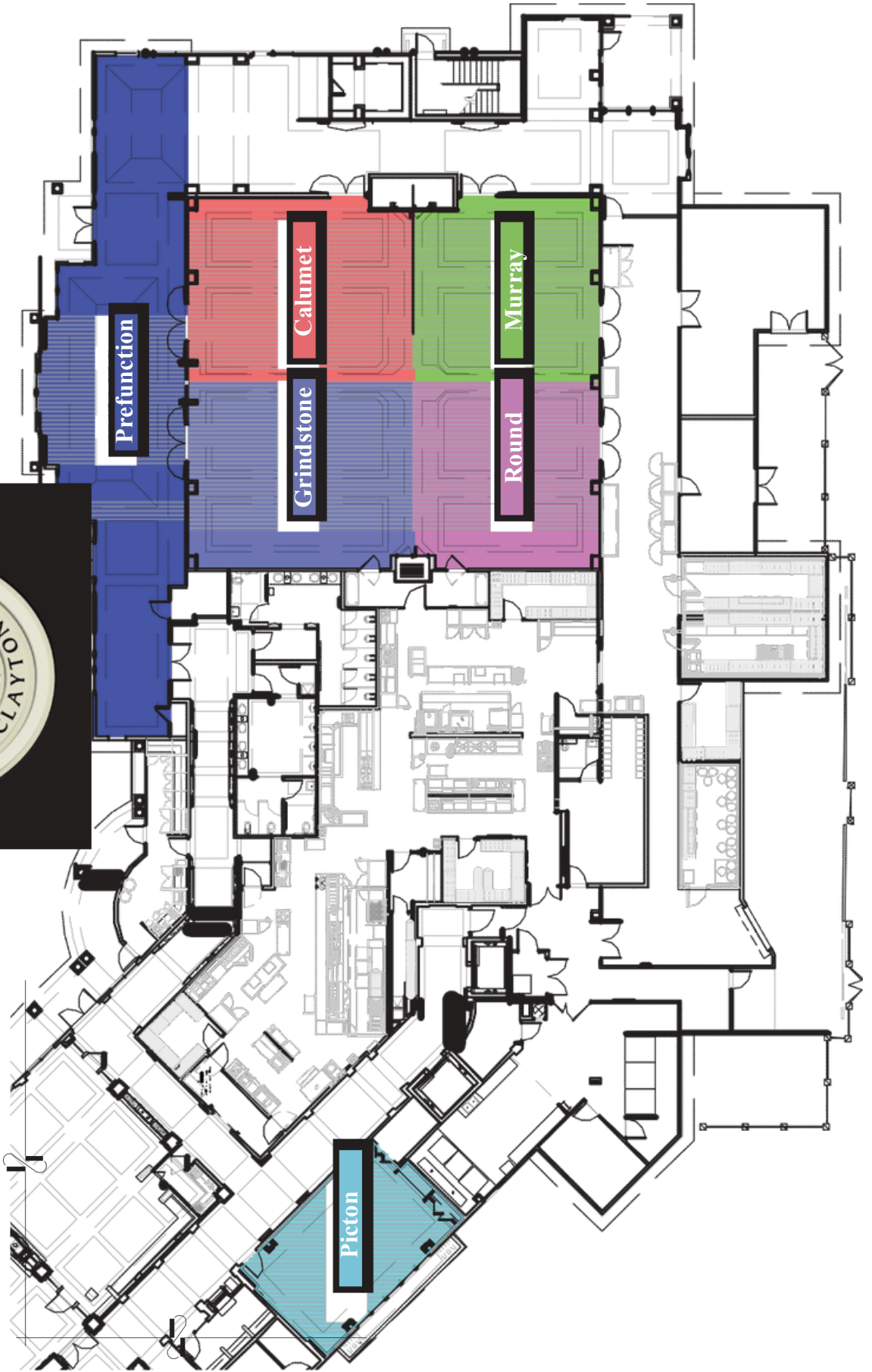
NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION FOR RURAL HEALTH



2026 Rural Health Symposium



PHOTO CONTEST WINNER BY: ALICE HYDE MEDICAL CENTER



WELCOME



Welcome to the 2026 NYSARH Rural Health Symposium

We are thrilled to gather with you at the Thousand Islands Harbor Hotel in Clayton for this year's NYSARH Rural Health Symposium. This annual event brings together leaders and professionals from healthcare, public health, human services, mental health, workforce development, community organizations, and rural health networks, all united in advancing rural health across New York State.

This year's program features insightful presentations, the NYSARH annual meeting, and valuable opportunities for networking and collaboration.

We are honored to welcome:

- **Diane M. Hall, PhD, MEd**, Director of the Office of Rural Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
- **Karen Madden**, Director of the Center for Health Care Policy and Resource Development at the New York State Department of Health, who will share insights on the first year of the Rural Health Transformation Program.

Thank you to our organizers, sponsors, and volunteers for making this gathering possible. We look forward to learning, connecting, and working together to strengthen the health and well-being of rural communities throughout New York.

Enjoy the symposium!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michele Foster".

Michele Foster,
Symposium Committee Co-Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Fontana".

Pat Fontana, Chair,
Symposium Committee Co-Chair



2026 Sponsors/Exhibitors



SPONSOR TYPE

ORGANIZATION

Opening Keynote

Networking

Closing Keynote

Poster Reception

Lunch

Exhibitor &

Coffee Break

Breakout Session

Breakout Session

Breakout Session

Breakout Session

Breakout Session

Kinney Drugs

Mother Cabrini Health Foundation

Community Bank

Grail

Real Interact

Public Heath Division at Decker

College, Binghamton University

Genentech

The Compliance Team

Spacelabs Healthcare

KPMG

Hixny

EXHIBITORS

Bowers Accountants & Advisors

Parkview Health Services

Delphi Healthcare

Alzheimer's Association

University of Rochester

Mental Health Association NYS

Binghamton University - Decker

TRX Development

Strategic Interests

Saved Energy

Upstate Poison Control

Northeast Telehealth Resource

Center/MCD Global Health

Caring Gene

True Plan Advisors

HRSA

Excellus

Sanofi

PharmAdva, LLC

Together, we're Community™

INVESTING IN WHAT MATTERS MOST

There's a reason "community" comes before "bank" in our name: Supporting our communities isn't an afterthought. It's our first thought. It's how we do business and what sets us apart.

Whether you're saving for something special, borrowing for what's next, or planning for the future, we're here to help.



Find your local branch or learn more
about our products & services:
cbna.com

 Community Bank

Member FDIC





EMPLOYEE-OWNED. LOCALLY COMMITTED. SINCE 1903.

KinneyDrugs®

KinneyDrugs.com



Where compassion meets action for New York's most vulnerable.

Inspired by Mother Cabrini's lifelong advocacy for immigrants, children, and the poor, the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation supports organizations improving health and wellbeing across New York State.

Our grants strengthen access to care, meet essential needs, build the healthcare workforce, and expand mental and behavioral health support to ensure New Yorkers receive care with dignity.

With over \$1.2 billion invested since 2019 we're committed to creating a healthier, more equitable future for all New Yorkers.

Learn more at cabrinihealth.org



**Mother
Cabrini**
HEALTH FOUNDATION

AGENDA

THURSDAY, SEPT 17, 2026



11:00AM – 1:00PM
Pre-Function Room

REGISTRATION

12:00-12:45PM
Ballroom

NETWORKING LUNCHEON

12:45PM – 1:00PM
Ballroom

WELCOME

- Jennifer Muthig, Executive Director, NYSARH
- John Marraffa, Kinney Drugs

1:00PM – 1:45PM
Ballroom

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

- Karen Madden, Director, Center for Health Care Policy and Resource Development

1:45PM-2:00PM

BREAK

2:00PM – 3:15PM
Ballroom

HEALTH WORKFORCE PANEL

Speakers

- Carrie Roseamelia, NYS Department of Health
- Tosha Grimmer, Caring Gene
- Richard Merchant, Area Health Education Centers
- April Miles, East Hill Medical Center
- Melissa Wendland, Moderator

3:15PM-3:45PM
Alcove

EXHIBITOR BREAK

- Photo Booth available for Headshots

3:45PM-5:00PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Round Room

From Senior Center to Rural Health Hub: Building Community Connection as a Rural Health Intervention

Speaker: Kimberly Witkowski, Executive Director, Schoharie County Council of Senior Citizens, Inc. and Founder, The Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Centers

Participants will learn practical strategies for transforming community centers into trusted rural health hubs that address social isolation, promote healthy aging, and improve well-being. The session will also explore partnerships and sustainable, community-based programs that strengthen engagement and rural health outcomes.

Round Room

Following the Yellow Brick Road: One Pathway to Reducing Loneliness and Isolation in Rural Communities

Speaker: Arriana Patraw, Director of Program Development, North Country Healthy Heart Network

Speaker: Laura Morris, Director of Data Analytics & IT, Adirondack Health Institute and Adirondacks ACO

Participants will examine the extent and impact of loneliness and isolation in the North Country region. The session will also explore the operational framework and impact of GHNC's CDSME programming on participants' social connectedness.

Grindstone Room

Mentoring as the Bridge to Leveraging Generations in the Workplace

Speaker: Renae Rokicki, M.Ed., Senior Leadership and Development Coordinator, Upstate Medical University

Speaker: Shari Weiss-Russell, PhD, MPA

Participants will explore the characteristics and strengths of different generations in the workplace and how mentorship can support meaningful connections. The session will provide practical, evidence-informed strategies for knowledge sharing, professional growth, and workforce sustainability.

Grindstone Room

Building Workforce Resilience in Rural Public Service Organizations

Speaker: Adam Howell, Founder, Principal Consultant, Appius Communications

Participants will examine the internal and external pressures contributing to burnout and turnover in rural public service organizations. The session will introduce evidence-based, low-cost training options and a scalable model for building workforce resilience in resource-limited settings.

Calumet Room

Bridging the Gaps in Rural Healthcare: EMS as a Catalyst for Collaboration

Speaker: Aidan S. O'Connor, Jr., NRP, FP-C Executive Director and Chief of Greenport Rescue Squad, Inc.

This session explores how EMS can help drive collaboration and healthcare transformation in rural communities through partnerships and targeted initiatives. Participants will learn practical lessons about identifying care gaps, building partnerships, securing funding, and implementing achievable solutions.

Calumet Room

Tackling Barriers Together: Reimagining Care Delivery to Fit the Needs of Rural Communities

Speaker: Scott Emery, Chief Strategy Officer, Healthy Alliance

Speaker: Brandon Barton, North Country Regional Director, Healthy Alliance

Participants will explore strategies for challenging traditional care delivery models by leveraging existing infrastructure, partnerships, and shared resources. The session will highlight the benefits of collaboration and lessons that can be applied to replicate and scale integrated care approaches.

Picton Room

Scaling Youth and Teen Mental Health First Aid in Rural Communities: Building Sustainable Mental Health Infrastructure Through Collaboration

Speaker: Savannah Bowie, Project Coordinator II, MHANYS

Speaker: Stephanie Sullivan, Director of Mental Health First Aid, MHANYS

Participants will learn how Youth and Teen Mental Health First Aid can strengthen mental health literacy and early support for young people in rural communities. The session will explore strategies for building sustainable local capacity through partnerships, instructor development, community engagement, and technical assistance.

Picton Room

Jefferson/Lewis Mobile Crisis

Speaker: Diane Zikowitz, Manager, Community Based Services SPOA, Crisis, CSLP, HBCI

Participants will learn about the core components of a coordinated behavioral health crisis response system, including crisis triage, mobile response, and follow-up services. The session will also explore collaboration among crisis services, law enforcement, peer services, and community partners to improve access and reduce unnecessary hospitalization.

5:00PM – 6:30PM
Pre-Funtion Room

EXHIBITORS

5:00PM – 6:30PM
Pre-Funtion Room

NETWORKING RECEPTION

5:00PM – 6:00PM
Murray Room

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

5:00PM – 6:30PM
Alcove

PHOTO BOOTH AVAILABLE FOR FUN PHOTOS

6:00PM – 6:30PM

RAFFLE PRIZES



Make the difference. It's what we do.

At KPMG, we combine the brightest minds with advanced technologies to reimagine your future. By developing brighter insights, bolder solutions, and better outcomes, we help you drive growth, create value, and achieve real results. Experience the difference we can make for you. Discover more at kpmg.com



© 2026 KPMG LLP, a Delaware limited liability partnership, and its subsidiaries are part of the KPMG global organization of independent member firms affiliated with KPMG International Limited, a private English company limited by guarantee. USCS0441101

You can't manage what you can't see.

Statewide data, right in your EHR.

Hixny's statewide alerts and community health record snapshot show you the whole picture—real-time, in your EHR workflow.



Hixny

AGENDA

FRIDAY, SEPT 18, 2026



7:00AM – 8:15AM
Pre-Function Room

REGISTRATION

7:00AM-8:00AM
Round/Grindstone

BREAKFAST

- Table Talks on selected topics

8:00AM – 8:15AM

BREAK

8:15AM-9:30AM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Murray Room

Tooth or Dare: Oral Health Facts You Can't Ignore in Rural New York State

Speaker: Allison Roselle, Deputy Public Health Director, Jefferson County Public Health Service

Participants will examine the relationship between oral health, cardiovascular disease, and socioeconomic factors using New York State surveillance data. The session will also explore oral health inequities and their long-term effects on chronic disease and public health in rural communities.

Murray Room

Urban-Rural Differences in Tooth Loss and Past-Year Preventive Medical and Dental Care Utilization among New York Adults, Overall and by Diabetes Status, 2024

Speaker: Douglas Done, PhD, MPH, Epidemiologist, New York State Department of Health's Center for Population Health Sciences

Participants will explore the connection between diabetes and oral health, including periodontitis and cavities. The session will also examine disparities in tooth loss and preventive medical and dental care utilization between rural and urban populations.

Calumet Room

Brain Health in Rural Communities: Leveraging Partnerships and Local Strategies to Mitigate Risk and Improve Care

Speaker: Jessica DesRosiers, Senior Director of Programs and Services, Alzheimer's Association®

Participants will identify disparities and risk factors contributing to higher rates of Alzheimer's disease and dementia in rural and underserved communities. The session will cover modifiable risk factors, strategies for promoting brain health, and available Alzheimer's Association programs and services.

Calumet Room

Advancing Mental Well-Being for Older Adults in Rural New York

Speaker: Heather Marriott, Senior Program Specialist, National Council on Aging's Center for Healthy Aging.

Participants will explore common mental health concerns affecting older adults and the role behavioral health programs play in supporting communities. The session will also provide practical strategies for promoting the mental well-being of organizational participants.

Round/Grindstone	From Data to Action: Building Smarter, More Connected Rural Health Systems Speaker: Steven J. Harvey, Ph.D., CEO, Integrity Partners for Behavioral Health Speaker: Ashley Lewis, MPH, Epidemiologist, Rural Health Institute of New York (RHI) <i>Participants will learn how shared data infrastructure, artificial intelligence, and predictive analytics can help identify risks, close care gaps, and strengthen service delivery. The session will also examine cross-sector collaboration and scalable, community-centered data strategies that improve coordination and outcomes.</i>
Picton Room	Improving Rural Health Outcomes Through Transitional and Chronic Care Management Speaker: Joanna Loomis, NCI Deputy Director, North Country Initiative and FDRHPO <i>Participants will learn about Transitional Care Management and Chronic Care Management and their benefits for patients, practices, and payors. The session will explore strategies for increasing participation, addressing health-related social needs, and sustaining these programs through reimbursement and value-based incentives.</i>
Picton Room	From Risk to Reward: Navigating the High-Risk Journey with Hixny Speaker: RuthAnn Craven, Business Development Manager, Hixny <i>Participants will explore how health information exchange tools can track high-risk patients and address data gaps across medical, behavioral health, and social service settings. The session will also cover practical workflows and automated enrollment strategies that improve efficiency and support faster, more actionable patient notifications.</i>
9:30AM – 10:00AM Patio	WELLNESS BREAK /EXHIBITOR BREAK • Tai Chi lesson by NYSARH Board member Nancy McGraw
10:00AM – 10:15AM Ballroom	ANNOUNCEMENTS • Ann Abdella, Board President • Johanna Kmetz, Community Financial System • Nicholas Polet, Mother Cabrini Health Foundation
10:15AM-11:00AM Ballroom	KEYNOTE ADDRESS • Dr. Diane M. Hall, PhD, MEd, Director, Office of Rural Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
11:00AM – 12:00PM Ballroom	NYSARH MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL MEETING
12:00PM – 12:10PM Ballroom	SYMPOSIUM WRAP UP
12:15PM – 12:20PM Patio	BOARD OF DIRECTORS GROUP PHOTO

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY
PUBLIC HEALTH

MASTER OF PUBLIC
HEALTH PROGRAM



4+1 HARPUR-MPH
PROGRAM



PUBLIC HEALTH
MINOR



LEARN ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS!

YOUR DEDICATED OFF-SITE PATIENT SUPPORT TEAM

Streamline intake, scheduling
and billing for just **\$15.99/Hr**

JUST
\$15.99
/HOUR

📞 **678 882 5737**

✉ **chats@realinteract.com**

🌐 **www.realinteract.com**



GRAIL



50

years of fighting disease.
And the status quo.

Genentech
A Member of the Roche Group



The Compliance Team. A proud supporter of NYSARH and the leader in CMS approved RHC accreditation.

- Rural Health Clinic Accreditation
- Swing Bed Certification
- Chronic Care Management Certification

The Compliance Team
Accreditation Organization

TheComplianceTeam.org
team@TheComplianceTeam.org
215.654.9110

SPACELABS
HEALTHCARE



SPHEREIQ
MONITORING SUITE

One Patient Monitoring Solution

ZERO CAPITAL REQUIRED



Continuous Bedside & Telemetry Monitoring

Continuous patient monitors, with one clinical workflow. Scalable to any level of acuity.



Central Surveillance

Supports a customizable, central view for strengthened surveillance and care team optimization.



Early Warning Deterioration Detection

Help reduce avoidable crisis with evidence-based predictive analytics that flag at-risk patients across all care settings.



Clinical Workflow Optimization

Help optimize stretched resources and environmental noise with integrated care management.



Diagnostic Cardiology

Holter monitoring, resting ECG, and data management across care settings.



Excellus  

Thank You To Our FQHC Sponsors



Speaker Biographies



Keynote Speaker

Diane M. Hall, PhD, MEd, Director, Office of Rural Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Prior to becoming the Director of the CDC Office of Rural Health, Dr. Hall was a senior health scientist in CDC's Policy and Strategy office, where she led the office's Strategic Engagement and Capacity Building work. She served as CDC's rural health lead and oversaw training activities focused on using policy to improve the population's health. As a recognized expert in knowledge synthesis and translation, Dr. Hall led the development of the office's policy portal, POLARIS (Policy Analysis and Research Information System). Prior to coming to CDC, Diane held an academic appointment at the University of Pennsylvania, serving as the lead coordinator for a master's program in psychology. Diane earned her B.A. in Psychology from Hollins College (now Hollins University) and earned her MEd in psychological services and her PhD in school, community, and child clinical psychology from the University of Pennsylvania.

Keynote Speaker

Karen Madden, Director, Center for Health Care Policy and Resource Development

Karen Madden is an experienced healthcare leader specializing in rural health and policy development and implementation. She is currently the Director of the Center for Health Care Policy and Resource Development in the New York State Department of Health. In this role, she works to improve access to quality healthcare services for rural populations, supports healthcare providers in rural areas, and promotes the development of innovative healthcare delivery models. She has been recognized for her contributions to rural health at both the state and national levels. Ms. Madden is a native upstate New Yorker and proud alumnus of the State University of New York, earning a BA in Political Science from SUNY Oswego and an MA in Public Affairs and Policy from the University at Albany.



Workforce Panel Speaker

Tosha Grimmer, Executive Director of Caring Gene® Healthcare Career Pathways, Inc.

Tosha Grimmer serves as Executive Director of Caring Gene® Healthcare Career Pathways, Inc. which is the Region 2 Workforce Investment Organization for the NYS Health Equity Reform 1115 waiver. Prior to Caring Gene® Healthcare Career Pathways, Inc., Tosha served as a school principal, an elementary school teacher, and an assistant professor in teacher education. In addition, she has experience with educational non-profits serving low-income families.

Workforce Panel Speaker

Richard Merchant, CEO, CNYAHEC

Richard Merchant has over 25 years teaching in graduate medical education and possesses expertise in curriculum development and applied medical anthropology. He drives research and analysis, and consults for organizations to assess culture, determine needs, develop and deliver solutions, and evaluate performance outcomes in leadership, management, and strategic business development.





Workforce Panel Speaker

Carrie Roseamelia, PhD, Director of the Office of Healthcare Workforce Innovation, New York State Department of Health

Dr. Carrie Roseamelia is Director of the Office of Healthcare Workforce Innovation at the New York State Department of Health, where she oversees \$100M+ in grant opportunities and develops policies to expand the state's healthcare workforce. She brings extensive expertise in workforce development and research from her previous role as Assistant Dean for Rural Medicine and Associate Professor of Family Medicine at SUNY Upstate Medical University, where she founded the Rural Medical Scholars Program and directed the Central New York Area Health Education Center Regional Office. With a Ph.D. in Sociology from Syracuse University, Dr. Roseamelia has published widely on medical education and rural healthcare access. Her work addresses critical healthcare workforce shortages and improves access to care in underserved New York communities.

Workforce Panel Speaker

April Miles, RN, CEO, East Hill Family Medical Center

April Miles, RN is CEO of East Hill Family Medical Center, an FQHC in Auburn. A lifelong resident of rural New York, and a member of the NYSARH Board of Directors, April has dedicated her career to advancing high-quality, patient-centered care and strengthening access to services in rural communities. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Health Administration with a minor in Gerontology from Ithaca College and a Master of Health Administration from Cornell University.



Breakout Session Speaker

Brandon Barton, North Country Regional Director, Healthy Alliance

Brandon Barton is the North Country Regional Director at Healthy Alliance, overseeing development, planning, and performance for the NY 1115 Waiver Amendments Social Care Network and Health-Related Social Needs Program. He ensures a diverse partner network for HRSN screenings, care coordination, and social care services, and leads North Country Regional Workgroups. With a background in mental health counseling and psychology, Brandon also contributed to developing and managing Health and Recovery Plans (HARPs) in the region.



Breakout Session Speaker

Savannah Bowie, Project Coordinator II, MHANYS

Savannah supports the statewide implementation of Mental Health First Aid at MHANYS, focusing on training operations, planning, and coordination. She also contribute to developing and improving operational systems and processes that strengthen MHFA delivery and expand training capacity across New York State. She is a certified Youth and Teen Mental Health First Aid instructor.





Breakout Session Speaker

RuthAnn Craven, Business Development Manager, Hixny

RuthAnn Craven is the business development manager at Hixny, where she identifies and secures new business opportunities to expand adoption of Hixny's health information services across health plans, provider groups, hospitals, and more. With expertise in health information, value-based care models, healthcare contracting, and physician practice transformation, RuthAnn is passionate about helping organizations leverage health information to improve care coordination, quality, and operational efficiency throughout the healthcare ecosystem.

Breakout Session Speaker

Jessica DesRosiers, Senior Director of Programs and Services, Alzheimer's Association®

Jessica DesRosiers, based in East Syracuse, NY, is Senior Director of Programs and Services at the Alzheimer's Association®. She previously held roles at Keuka College and the YMCA of Central New York. Jessica earned her MS in Exercise Physiology from Syracuse University. Her expertise includes community outreach, fundraising, nutrition, teaching, and exercise prescription. Jessica is dedicated to supporting individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's through innovative programs and compassionate leadership.



Breakout Session Speaker

Douglas Done, PhD, MPH, Epidemiologist, New York State Department of Health's Center for Population Health Sciences

Douglas Done, PhD, MPH, is an epidemiologist with the New York State Department of Health's Center for Population Health Science. Since 2015, he has supported public health surveillance, focusing on maternal and child health. Dr. Done develops web pages and dashboards to provide data for health assessments, identify disparities, and monitor progress. He has published on air pollution, life expectancy, and e-cigarettes. Douglas holds an MPH from the University of Rochester and a PhD from the University at Albany.

Breakout Session Speaker

Scott Emery, Chief Strategy Officer, Healthy Alliance

Scott Emery is Chief Strategy Officer at Healthy Alliance, leading capacity building across 24 upstate New York counties, 21 of them rural, under the State's 1115 Waiver. Previously, he spent a decade as a consulting partner, designing sustainable solutions for government, healthcare, education, philanthropy, and community organizations. As a former board member of the New York State Association for Rural Health, Scott brings deep insight into rural health needs and the social determinants impacting these communities.



Breakout Session Speaker

Steven J. Harvey, Ph.D., CEO, Integrity Partners for Behavioral Health

Steven J. Harvey, Ph.D., is the founding CEO of Integrity Partners for Behavioral Health, leading one of New York's largest rural behavioral health networks. He has expanded Integrity's reach, secured major funding, and advanced behavioral health integration and value-based care. Dr. Harvey co-developed the Behavioral Health Data Analytics Collaborative, improving quality and outcomes statewide. His career focuses on building sustainable systems, leveraging data, and fostering collaborations to enhance behavioral health services across New York State.



Breakout Session Speaker

Adam Howell, Founder, Principal Consultant, Appius Communications

Adam is a seasoned communications and public affairs professional with over 15 years of experience leading outreach initiatives and strategic campaigns in rural communities. He has developed award-winning programs and published articles on infrastructure, governance, social support, and agriculture. Adam excels in creating communication toolkits for public and nonprofit sectors, conducting data-driven research, and crafting compelling stories. A strong advocate for rural outreach and local government, Adam lives in Lansing, NY with his family and two dogs.



Breakout Session Speaker

Ashley Lewis, MPH, Epidemiologist, Rural Health Institute of New York (RHI)

Ashley Lewis, MPH, is an Epidemiologist at the Rural Health Institute of New York (RHI), where she advances data-driven public health and evaluates programs to strengthen rural health infrastructure. Her expertise includes public health assessment, health equity, and developing practical data systems. At RHI, Ashley supports initiatives like the Grace Space resource center in Cortland County, harm reduction, and community health. She holds an MPH in Infectious Disease Epidemiology from Cornell University and has experience in rural care settings.



Breakout Session Speaker

Joanna Loomis, NCI Deputy Director, North Country Initiative and FDRHPO

Joanna Loomis is the NCI Deputy Director at North Country Initiative and Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization in Watertown, NY. Since joining in 2018, she has implemented value-based contracts and supported regional initiatives to advance patient-centered, value-based care. Previously, Joanna was executive director of the Watertown Urban Mission. She holds an MA in social and public policy from SUNY Empire State College and a BA in philosophy from St. Lawrence University.



Breakout Session Speaker

Heather Marriott, Senior Program Specialist, National Council on Aging's Center for Healthy Aging

Heather Marriott is a Senior Program Specialist at the National Council on Aging's Center for Healthy Aging. Heather provides program management and technical assistance to community-based organizations implementing healthy aging programs, and works to expand and engage NCOA's National Institute of Senior Centers. Heather came to NCOA from a transportation advocacy organization where she served as the Community Engagement Director, leading their neighborhood outreach work.



Breakout Session Speaker

Laura Morris, Director of Data Analytics & IT, Adirondack Health Institute and Adirondacks ACO

Laura Morris is Director of Data Analytics & IT for Adirondack Health Institute and Adirondacks ACO, with 20+ years in quality and performance measurement. She holds an MS in Statistics, a Master of Health Leadership, and CPHQ certification. Laura supports program evaluations for health grants and produces quality, risk, and cost reports for ACO primary care providers, helping ensure patients in the region have access to high-quality healthcare and essential services.





Breakout Session Speaker

Aidan S. O'Connor, Jr., Executive Director and Chief, Greenport Rescue Squad, Inc.

Aidan S. O'Connor, Jr. serves as Executive Director and Chief of Greenport Rescue Squad, Inc. He is a longtime EMS clinician and leader with experience spanning rural EMS operations, air medical services, education, government, and healthcare policy. O'Connor serves on several state and regional EMS and rural health organizations, including the New York State Emergency Medical Advisory Committee and the NYS Association for Rural Health Board. His work focuses on strengthening rural EMS systems through collaboration, innovation, and sustainable partnerships.

Breakout Session Speaker

Arriana Patraw, Director of Program Development

Arriana was born and raised in Saranac Lake, where her passion for healthy living first blossomed. She earned her bachelor's degree in Fitness and Wellness Leadership and later completed her Master of Public Health at the University at Albany. Through her education and experiences, Arriana developed a strong commitment to improving community health and supporting initiatives that make healthy choices more accessible for everyone. She is passionate about building meaningful connections, promoting wellness, and helping create a healthier North Country. In her free time, Arriana enjoys making memories with her boyfriend, their two cats, and her large, close-knit family.



Breakout Session Speaker

Renae Rokicki, M.Ed., Senior Leadership and Development Coordinator, Upstate Medical University

Renae Rokicki, M.Ed., is the Senior Leadership and Development Coordinator at Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, NY, where she provides learning opportunities and coaching for workforce and leadership development, employee engagement, teambuilding, and organizational effectiveness. She also owns Learn and Lead Coaching and Consulting, LLC. With extensive experience in non-profit, health, and higher education, Renae is passionate about fostering positive organizational culture and engaging a multi-generational workforce.

Breakout Session Speaker

Allison Roselle, Deputy Public Health Director, Jefferson County Public Health Service

Allison is the Deputy Public Health Director for Jefferson County Public Health Service, leading strategic initiatives to strengthen community health systems. With expertise in population health, maternal and child health, and harm reduction, she has driven impactful programs across government, nonprofit, and technology sectors. Allison is passionate about building strong, equity-focused partnerships and translating community needs into sustainable public health initiatives, ensuring lasting improvements in the health and well-being of Jefferson County residents.



Breakout Session Speaker

Stephanie Sullivan, Director of Mental Health First Aid, MHANYS

Stephanie leads the statewide implementation of Mental Health First Aid at MHANYS, overseeing training delivery, instructor development, and program quality. She works across sectors to expand access, ensure fidelity, and build sustainable MHFA capacity across New York State. She is a certified Adult, Youth, and Teen Mental Health First Aid instructor.



Breakout Session Speaker

Shari Weiss-Russell, PhD, MPA

Dr. Shari Weiss-Russell has over 33 years of nonprofit experience, including 22 years in senior leadership and six as an executive director. She teaches in Le Moyne College's Executive Leadership Doctoral Program and SNHU's Human Services program. Through her consulting firm, she helps nonprofits strengthen culture, leadership, and mentoring, and manage change. Dr. Weiss-Russell holds a PhD in Public Health and an MPA, and chairs the Governance Committee for NYSARH.



Breakout Session Speaker

Kimberly Witkowski is Executive Director of the Schoharie County Council of Senior Citizens, Inc. and Founder of The Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Centers

Serving older adults across Central New York, with 22+ years of nonprofit leadership, Kimberly has transformed a traditional senior organization into a rural health and wellness network with over 2,600 members. Her innovative programs address social isolation, healthy aging, digital inclusion, nutrition, veterans' services, and lifelong learning. Kimberly partners with healthcare, education, and community organizations, and is recognized for her work with the National Council on Aging. She holds degrees in Leadership, Ministry, and Business.



Breakout Session Speaker

Diane Zikowitz, Manager, Community Based Services SPOA, Crisis, CSLP, HBCI

Diane Zikowitz, a Rivier University graduate in Human Development, began her career in early education and intervention while traveling the U.S. She later settled in New York's North Country, joining the Children's Home of Jefferson County. Over the past eight years, Diane has built expertise in behavioral health, community resources, and crisis systems. As Community Based Services Manager for five years, she supervises SPOA teams, school liaisons, crisis intervention, and the Jefferson/Lewis Mobile Crisis Program.



Poster Session Presenter

Mitchell Brooks, MPH, Field Placement Coordinator, Decker College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Binghamton University, Master of Public Health Program

Mitchell Brooks is a second-year DrPH student at SUNY Albany. His research examines how law and policy shape access to preventative services and healthcare for HIV and HCV. Additionally, his work explores healthcare delivery in rural communities, particularly for marginalized populations. Mitchell is also the Field Placement Coordinator for the Division of Public Health at Binghamton University, where he builds sustainable partnerships with community-based organizations.



Poster Session Presenter

Heather Chauncey, LCAT, NYCAMH Clinical Case Manager

The NYCAMH Farm Partners Program has offered free, confidential counseling and problem-solving to New York's farming families since 1988. Heather Chauncey, LCAT, serves as a Licensed Creative Arts Therapist and Clinical Case Manager, providing support statewide. Heather helped develop the Farmer Health and Wellness video series, focusing on injury prevention and pain reduction. This project, funded by a NEASHC mini-grant, was completed with the Cornell Small Farms Program, FarmOps Project, and Brian Westlake, DPT.





Poster Session Presenter

Michele Foster, Executive Director, Pivotal Public Health Partnership,

Michele Foster is Executive Director of Pivotal Public Health Partnership, a nonprofit supporting rural public health departments in the Finger Lakes Region. Dedicated to advancing public health, she fosters collaboration, community partnerships, and initiatives that improve health and well-being across the region. Michele serves on the boards of FLIPA and New Entity (Common Ground Health, FLPPS, Rochester RHIO) and is a steering committee member for Wilmot Cancer Institute's Community Cancer Action Council (CCAC).

Poster Session Presenter

Mary Handley, PhD, LMHC, CRC, Clinical Director, Clinical Mental Health Counseling Graduate Program, Le Moyne College

Dr. Mary Handley is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) with over 20 years of experience as a mental health practitioner and educator. She currently serves as Clinical Director for the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program at Le Moyne College in Syracuse. Dr. Handley's interests include mental health issues affecting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, traumatic brain injury, and women's issues. She also explores the impact and effectiveness of technology and mental health apps in her work.



Poster Session Presenter

Cristina S. Hansen Ruiz, Research Coordinator New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health

A physicist, educator, and science communicator, Christina began working for the Northeast Center for Occupational Health and Safety in 2021 on the Surveillance project. Since then, she has designed and managed databases to track injuries reported in the news, supporting research methodologies involving hospitalization data and electronic pre-care records. Her work also includes data analysis, reporting, journal article writing, and conference planning, contributing to the advancement of occupational health and safety research and outreach in the region.



Poster Session Presenter

Jennifer Hatch, MPH, Program Director, Pivotal Public Health Partnership

Jennifer Hatch, MPH, is Program Director at Pivotal Public Health Partnership, leading regional public health initiatives across the Finger Lakes region. She fosters collaboration among health departments and community partners on maternal and child health, nutrition and food security, early childhood and early intervention, and unified messaging. Jennifer develops and implements initiatives aimed at improving health outcomes in rural communities, ensuring coordinated efforts to address key public health priorities throughout the region.



Poster Session Presenter

Sandra H. Jee, M.D., M.P.H.

Dr. Sandra Jee sees patients at the Strong Pediatric Practice and teaches and supervises medical students and residents in the outpatient setting. Her research centers on addressing the mental health needs of children and families, and training future providers in integrated, trauma-informed pediatric care for underserved populations. Dr. Jee's outreach and educational efforts focus on pediatric environmental health topics, including climate change and sustainability, aiming to improve health outcomes for children facing adverse experiences.



Poster Session Presenter

Darla J. Kent, OTD, MS, OTR/L, Program Director, Assistant Professor, Department of Occupational Therapy, St. Bonaventure University

Darla J. Kent, OTD, MS, OTR/L, is Assistant Professor and Program Director of the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy program at St. Bonaventure University. As an occupational therapist, educator, and academic leader, she focuses on interprofessional education, school-based practice, behavioral health, and innovative workforce development. Darla is principal investigator of the federally funded BRIGHT Project, which aims to strengthen the behavioral health workforce serving rural and underserved communities in Western New York and Northwestern Pennsylvania.



Poster Session Presenter

Raven Manchester, RaP Fellow, NYSARH

Raven Manchester is a public health professional whose work centers on rural health, substance use care, and perinatal equity. Grounded in harm reduction, trauma-informed practice, and health equity, her experience spans research, outreach, behavioral health care coordination, early childhood education, policy, and advocacy. Raven is pursuing a Master of Science in Public Health from SUNY Potsdam and holds a Bachelor's in Psychology from Utica University. She currently serves as a Regional Outreach Coordinator for the MATTERS Network.



Poster Session Presenter

Anna Mann, RaP Fellow, NYSARH

Anna is originally from Maryland, where she grew up in a culturally diverse home with parents from The Netherlands and Peru. She is currently pursuing a combined MD/MPH degree at SUNY Upstate Medical University. Alongside her studies, Anna holds a micro-credential from The Rural and Underserved Service Track (TRUST), completed the NYS AHEC Scholars Program, and has participated in global health experiences in Ecuador, Peru, Thailand, and Kenya. Her interests include public health, rural health, and reproductive health.



Poster Session Presenter

Suzanne L. Marasco, Ed.D., MS, OTR/L, Assistant Professor, Department Chairperson, and Academic Fieldwork Coordinator, Occupational Therapy program, St. Bonaventure University

Suzanne L. Marasco, Ed.D., MS, OTR/L, is Assistant Professor, Department Chairperson, and Academic Fieldwork Coordinator in the Occupational Therapy program at St. Bonaventure University. As an occupational therapist, educator, and academic leader, her work emphasizes experiential learning, fieldwork education, and student professional development.



Poster Session Presenter

Sarah Merritt, MS, Senior Regional Outreach Manager, Wilmot Cancer Institute's Office of Community Outreach, Engagement, University of Rochester Medical Center.

Sarah Merritt, MS, is the Senior Regional Outreach Manager for the Wilmot Cancer Institute's Office of Community Outreach and Engagement at the University of Rochester Medical Center. With a background in exercise physiology and nutrition, she is committed to disease prevention and health equity. Sarah leads a regional outreach team serving Wilmot's 27-county area, working to reduce barriers across the cancer continuum and strengthen connections between community needs, clinical care, and research.





Poster Session Presenter

Caitlyn Primiano, MSW, Program Manager, Family to Family Health Information Center, Parent to Parent of NYS

Caitlyn Primiano is the Program Manager of the Family to Family Health Information Center at Parent to Parent of NYS. She holds a MSW from the University at Buffalo, and comes from a background in Care Management and adult mental health. She is also the parent of four children with special healthcare needs.

Poster Session Presenter

Inijesu Taiwo, MD, MPH, RaP Fellow, NYSARH

Inijesu Taiwo, MD, MPH, is a trained physician and public health professional dedicated to advancing health equity for underserved and rural populations. Growing up in rural Nigeria and working in resource-limited healthcare settings inspired her commitment to improving access to preventive care and reducing health disparities. Her current research and policy work focuses on rural health, cancer prevention, healthcare navigation, and developing evidence-based solutions to improve health outcomes in underserved communities.



Poster Session Presenter

Ava Thur, NYSARH Intern, Upstate Institute Summer Field School, Colgate University

Ava Thur is a senior at Colgate University in Hamilton, NY, double majoring in Educational Studies and Peace and Conflict Studies. As NYSARH's intern this summer through the Upstate Institute Summer Field School, Ava has been researching rural maternal health care in New York State, with a particular focus on the barriers faced during the "fourth trimester," or postpartum period.

Poster Session Presenter

Emily Traw, Health Project Specialist, FLCEHC, WNY Lead Poisoning Resource Center

Emily Traw is the Health Project Specialist for the Finger Lakes Children's Environmental Health Center (FLCEHC) and the WNY Lead Poisoning Resource Center. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Environmental Studies from Mount Holyoke College. In her role, Emily enjoys working with youth to promote a deeper understanding of how their lived environment affects their health and the health of their community, fostering awareness and positive change among young people.



Poster Session Presenter

Brian Westlake, DPT, Cert. MDT, Founder, Virtual Mechanical Physical Therapy, PLLC

Brian Westlake is a physical therapist based in East Bloomfield, New York. He holds a Doctorate in Physical Therapy, a Master's in Professional Studies in Physical Therapy, and a Bachelor's in Health Sciences from SUNY Upstate Medical University, as well as a Bachelor's in Biology from SUNY Binghamton. After 25 years with the Veterans Health Administration, Brian now leads Virtual Mechanical Physical Therapy, PLLC, aiming to provide high-quality, low-cost musculoskeletal care to rural New York communities.



Poster Session Presenter

Lynae Wyckoff, Senior Project Coordinator, Bassett Medical Center Research Institute

Lynae Wyckoff is a Senior Project Coordinator at the Bassett Medical Center Research Institute, specializing in community-led, evidence-based interventions in rural areas. Her current work centers on improving public health literacy by developing social-norms-based messaging campaigns with high school students, utilizing local Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data. Lynae holds a Master of Science in Information Design and Technology from the State University of New York Polytechnic Institute, supporting her expertise in health communication and project coordination.



Email

info@nysarh.org for more information

The New York State Association for Rural Health will be welcoming applicants for its **Research and Policy (RaP) Fellowship program**. This program introduces graduate students and early professionals to rural health issues and engages them in advocacy activities.

Requirements:

- Be committed to improving the health of all people residing in rural New York State
- Have a bachelor's degree in a broadly health-related field
- Be willing and able to commit to weekly virtual check-in meetings with NYSARH advisors and mentors
- Have access to the computer equipment needed to participate in video conferences, online discussion fora, and to produce written work



Bridging the Gap: Using Hixny Data to Power 30-Day Transitional Care

Presenter:

RuthAnn Craven, MS, Business Development Manager, Hixny

When: Oct 15, 2026

Where: Zoom

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER



Effective care transitions are high-risk periods where poor communication can lead to negative outcomes. This presentation explores how real-time information sharing among care team members can transform fragmented, disease-focused discharges into unified, patient-centered care plans addressing clinical, behavioral, and social needs.

Hixny's Snapshot provides:

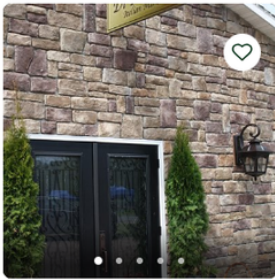
- Real-time alerts for patient discharges statewide
- Advance directives and eMOLST forms
- Up-to-date hospital stay details, including medications and test results
- Behavioral health data and PSYCKES information
- Social determinants of health, like housing and food insecurity

Leveraging these tools ensures safer, more efficient, and patient-centered transitions of care.

Thank You To Our RHN Sponsors



Restaurants in Clayton

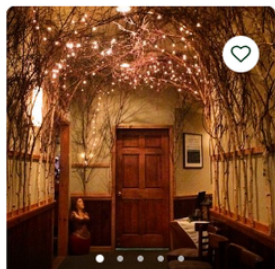


1. Di Prinzie's

4.0 ●●●●○ (57 reviews)

🍴 Italian, Pizza • \$\$ - \$\$\$ • ⓘ

"Beautiful, classy restaurant and bar right on the water. Huge windows with..."
"Great meal"

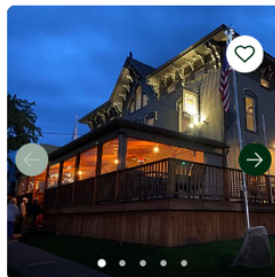


1. Clipper Inn Restaurant And Lounge

4.5 ●●●●● (421 reviews)

🍴 American, Seafood • \$\$ - \$\$\$ • ⓘ

"the clipper was recommended by our hotel and thankfully made us a..."
"Great food and service"



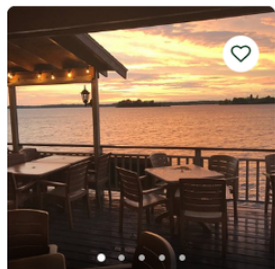
2. Wood Boat Brewery

4.3 ●●●●● (498 reviews)

🍴 American, Brew Pub • \$\$ - \$\$\$ • ⓘ

📄 Menu

"Stopped here for lunch after visiting the Antique Boat Museum ~ in mid-May. Ate..."
"Great pizza"

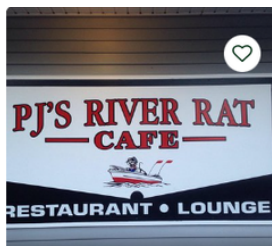


4. Channelside

4.1 ●●●●○ (337 reviews)

🍴 American, Bar • \$\$ - \$\$\$ • ⓘ

"We love the Channelside...food and drinks are always delicious and the view..."
"Waterfront Dining"

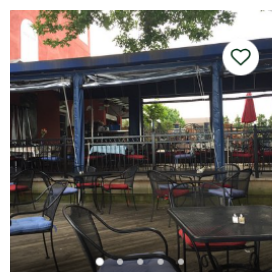


8. PJS Riverrat Cafe

4.0 ●●●●○ (22 reviews)

🍴 Bar, Seafood • \$\$ - \$\$\$ • ⓘ

"My son had spaghetti and meatballs - his go to meal - and said it was great. I..."
"Great selection"



1. Bella's

4.3 ●●●●● (895 reviews)

🍴 American • \$\$ - \$\$\$ • ⓘ

"Our friends had Lobster bisque and the fish sandwich."
"The beet salad was refreshing with waln..."



Build your workforce. Make an impact.

Become an Approved Employer with the
Caring Gene® Career Pathways Training (CPT) Program.
Connect with well-trained professionals ready to fill open
roles in healthcare, behavioral health, or social care
in Upstate New York.



Become an
Approved Employer



BOWERS

ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

**Supporting Healthcare Organizations
Across New York**

**Providing trusted accounting, audit,
tax, and advisory services to hospitals,
clinics, community health organizations,
not-for-profits and healthcare
providers.**

**Proud supporter of the 2026 Rural
Health Symposium**

www.bcpllc.com

How can rural health research improve rural health outcomes?



**UNYTE Scientific Session: Advancing Translational
Science in Rural Health Research**

Tuesday, October 6 from noon to 3:30 p.m.

- Connect with researchers, public health advocates, trainees, and clinicians
- Explore innovative methods for rural translational research
- Learn about strategies for overcoming barriers to rural health research

Register Now



Guest Speaker

Christi Patten, PhD, MA, LP
Director, Rural Health Research Core Mayo Clinic Center for
Clinical and Translational Science



**University
of Rochester
Medicine**

Clinical & Translational
Science Institute



NYS
Children's
Environmental
Health Centers

NYSCHECK.ORG

**Caring for someone with
Alzheimer's isn't easy.
Getting help is.**

Your local chapter of the Alzheimer's Association offers services such as:

- Caregiver support groups
- Education programs
- Care consultations
- Safety services
- Respite information
- And more

Call our 24/7 Helpline at 800.272.3900.

ALZHEIMER'S  ASSOCIATION®

BENEFITS YOUR TEAM UNDERSTANDS.
RESULTS YOUR BUSINESS FEELS.

TruePlan™
Benefit and Retirement Advisors

Clear, compliant and built to perform: That's what your retirement and benefits programs should be. We design tailored strategies around your business, with full transparency and zero cookie-cutter solutions.

RETIREMENT PLAN SERVICES

- Plan optimization and governance
- Investment selection and monitoring
- Vendor management and benchmarking
- Financial wellness and employee communication
- Merger and acquisition support

EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SERVICES

- Customized benefit solutions
- Value-added support
- Consulting and brokerage services

trueplanadvisors.com
518.431.7600 | 800.388.1963

**Stop by our booth
to learn more.**

TruePlan Benefit and Retirement Advisors® is a marketing name of Healthcare Community Securities Corp., member FINRA/SIPC, and an SEC Registered Investment Advisor.

sanofi

Through the HRSA ANEW grant,
the Decker School of Nursing is
improving New York state's rural
health one student at a time!

RuralHealthNursing@binghamton.edu

Together, We Can Improve Patient Outcomes

*Parkview Health Services is
Proud to Support NYSARH*

We celebrate your unwavering
dedication to improve the health
and well-being for communities
across rural New York.

For additional information, visit:
parkviewhs.com

strategic interests

strategic vision + thinking + relationships

From New York. For New York. **Focused on Impact.**

Stronger communities. Better health. Real impact.

We help rural health leaders plan, connect,
and deliver what matters most.



BUILD & ENABLE COLLABORATIVES

Align. Collaborate.
Achieve more.



EXPERIENCE THAT DELIVERS

Proven in RHTP,
value-based care,
primary care
transformation, and
population health.



INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

Screening. Early
detection. Chronic
disease management.
Better outcomes.



MEASURABLE IMPACT

Better care.
Lower costs.
Healthier
communities.



Learn more.
Let's create impact together.
strategicinterests.com



MHANYS
Mental Health Association
in New York State

Rural communities lead.

We listen, connect, and support.
Because sustainable change starts locally.

As a public health institute, MCD has been developing health solutions for rural realities since 1966. Let's partner together.



Telehealth

Behavioral Health

Workforce Development

CHWs

mcd.org



SAVED ENERGY



**Build lasting solutions
with strategic actions today**

- Program evaluation
- Impact studies
- Grants compliance and CQI
- Community needs assessment for grant programs or strategic development
- Curriculum development and training evaluation

www.trxdevelopment.com
trx@trxdevelopment.com

- New York State business since 2016
- Experience working throughout New York State, all regions and areas
- Clients include NYSDOH and OASAS Specialists in CCBHC evaluation
- Certified Small Business

TRX Development Solutions



DelphiHealthcare
Raising standards of care

**Your Trusted Partner for
Rural & Critical
Access Hospitals**

Delphi Healthcare partners with rural hospitals to improve quality, stabilize staffing, enhance patient satisfaction, and strengthen financial performance through customized physician management solutions.



**EMERGENCY
MEDICINE**



**HOSPITALIST
PROGRAMS**



**ANESTHESIA
SERVICES**

Customized physician management solutions that improve clinical quality, operational performance, and long-term sustainability.



Karen Brown
Business Development



585-683-2743



karen.brown@delphihealthcare.com



www.delphihealthcare.com

National Rural Health Day

NOVEMBER 19, 2026

RURAL HEALTH AWARDS

HONOR GOOD WORK IN RURAL
HEALTH: SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATIONS!

DEADLINE: Oct. 16, 2026



Every November, National Rural Health Day reminds us to celebrate the people doing the hard, often unglamorous work of keeping rural communities healthy. NYSARH wants to honor some of them this year, and we need your help finding them.

The **Senator Patricia McGee Rural Health Worker Award** recognizes an individual who has made an outstanding, lasting contribution to the health of rural New Yorkers. It's named for the late Senator, whose unwavering commitment to improving rural residents' quality of life and her genuine willingness to listen to constituents across her district and throughout New York State, including at NYSARH events, left a legacy that still shapes rural health policy today.

The **Practitioner of the Year Award** honors the memory of Dr. Gary Ogden, who passed away in January 2007. Those who knew Gary remember a passion for life, a selfless dedication to his community, his organization, and above all his patients, and the conviction to turn belief into action. Each year, we look for a direct service provider whose work in rural New York reflects that same spirit.

The **Outstanding Rural Health Program Award** recognizes a community-wide, regional, or statewide program, involving one or more health care professionals or entities, that promotes or facilitates the development of the rural health care delivery system. The Awards Committee gives consideration to programs that demonstrate broad benefit to health, innovative or collaborative approaches, and outstanding, long-lasting impact on the communities they serve. Nominated programs should reflect a meaningful and sustained contribution to rural health, consistent with the goals and objectives of the Association, and should exhibit a level of effort, innovation, and collaboration that goes beyond what is typically expected.

Do you know someone whose work has gone beyond what's expected? Maybe they built an innovative program from the ground up, championed a policy that will benefit rural communities for years to come, or simply never stopped showing up. Nominations are open across every area of health, what matters is a lasting, exemplary contribution to the public's health.

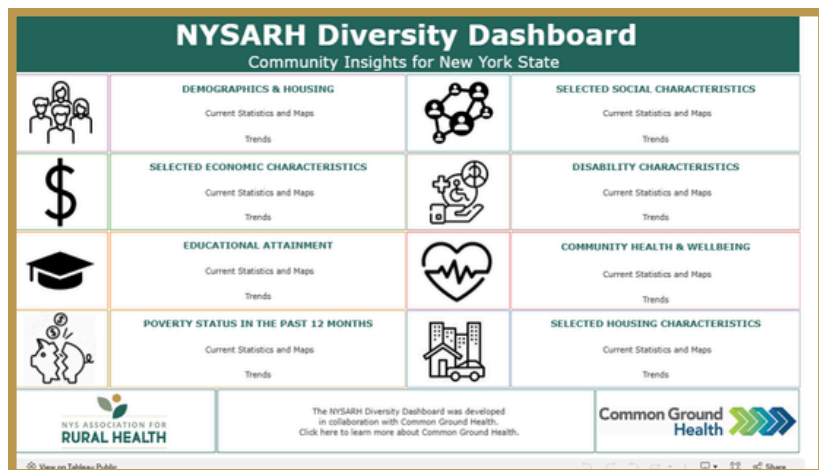
SCAN QR CODE TO
NOMINATE



In case you missed it...

UPCOMING EVENTS & UPDATES

New Updated Diversity Dashboard



NYSARH and the Combined Entity of Common Ground Health-FLPPS-RRHIO have launched an updated [NYSARH Diversity Dashboard](#), an interactive online resource that brings together demographic, social, economic, and health data to support community health planning across New York State.

Designed for researchers, health departments, community organizations, health care providers, educators, planners, and grant writers, the dashboard combines trusted public data sources into one easy-to-use platform. Recent enhancements include improved navigation, standardized filters, expanded community health and well-being data, and updated mapping and trend views. Users can explore information by county, ZIP code, census tract, and rural community classifications to better understand local needs, identify disparities, and support data-driven decision-making.

Scan QR Code for more information and to register



FREE
MENTAL HEALTH
FIRST AID TRAINING



Presented by NY FarmNet in partnership with the New York State Association for Rural Health

October 23, 2026, 8:30AM-5PM at Chemung Innovation Center

- 71 North St. Chemung, NY 14825
- **(Registration deadline: 10/09/2026)**

November 6, 2026, 8:30AM-5PM at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Clinton County

- 6064 State Route 22, Suite 5 Plattsburgh, NY 12901
- **(Registration deadline: 10/23/2026)**

November 13, 2026, 8:30-5PM at Hamilton Public Library

- 13 Broad St. Hamilton, NY 13346
- **(Registration deadline: 10/30/2026)**

November 18, 2026, 8:30AM-5PM at Hillview Free Library

- 3717 Lake Shore Dr. Diamond Point, NY 12824
- **(Registration deadline: 11/04/2026)**

Join NYSARH Today!

UNLOCK THE GREAT BENEFITS!



The New York State Association for Rural Health is a not-for-profit, non-partisan, grassroots membership organization working to preserve and improve health and human services in rural New York State. NYSARH is a member of the National Rural Health Association.



NYSARH BENEFITS

- Job postings: Post your available positions or look for a new job on NYSARH's website
- Rural Diversity Data Dashboard to assist with identifying social determinant of health challenges, successes and trends. Compare data between urban and rural areas, by ZIP Code, County, or Census Tract
- Networking opportunities
- NYSARH Rural News and Grant Opportunity Updates
- Discounts on NYSARH conference and partner events like the NYSARH Fall Rural Health Symposium and Public Health Partnership Conference
- Monthly rural health educational webinars are available free to members
- Monthly Newsletters
- State and federal legislative and regulatory policy updates and advocacy on issues affecting rural rural health and wellness
- Fellowships and internships for students interested in rural health and health policy in New York State
- Connections to rural health resources

WHAT WE DO

- Work to maintain a diverse membership that is representative of geographic locale, culture, gender, economic status and racial or ethnic background.
- Embrace a holistic or whole person approach to health, which recognizes the inter-relationship that exists among social, physical and emotional well-being.
- Recognize the benefit of partnering with other organizations and associations with similar interests in a collegial and collaborative manner.
- Respect the autonomy and supporting the self-determination of local communities in identifying and resolving their unique health care needs.
- Empower members to effect positive change in rural health through grassroots efforts.

Caring for Rural Communities Starts with Caring for Ourselves

Free wellness resources for rural professionals, frontline workers, and agricultural communities across New York State.

Breath-Body-Mind™

Evidence-informed classes that teach practical breathing, movement, and meditation techniques to reduce stress and build resilience.



- ✓ Online & interactive
- ✓ Free to attend
- ✓ Open to anyone in New York State

Frontline Workers Wellness Toolkit

Customized wellness resources for 16 workforce sectors, including agriculture.



go.traumainformedny.org/RHS

- ✓ Recognize signs of stress
- ✓ Build healthy coping skills
- ✓ Access practical tools anytime



Office of
Mental Health

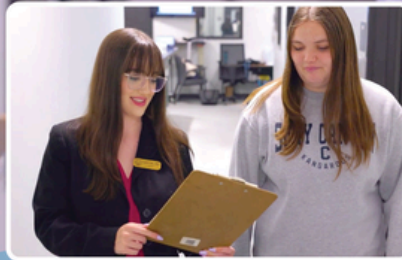


New York State
Trauma-Informed Network
& Resource Center

Use it yourself. Share it with colleagues. Refer workers & community members.

Bachelor of Science in HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT

SUNY CANTON'S BS in Health Care Management combines a strong foundation in business with specialized healthcare coursework, preparing students to lead in a rapidly evolving industry.



JOB OPPORTUNITIES:

- Healthcare Administrator
- Human Resources Manager
- Marketing Manager
- Long-term Care Administration
- Public and Community Health
- Health Practitioner's Offices
- General and Surgical Hospitals
- Home Health Care Services

Courses include:

- **PUBLIC HEALTH**
- **HEALTHCARE FINANCE**
- **HEALTHCARE ECONOMICS**
- **LEGAL and ETHICAL ISSUES IN HEALTHCARE**
- **PRINCIPLES of INSURANCE**
- **QUALITY and PATIENT SAFETY**
- **HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**
- **HEALTHCARE FACILITY ADMINISTRATION**

**Available 100% online,
flex, or in-person.**

**MBA pathways via Clarkson University &
SUNY Empire**

**1-800-388-7123
www.canton.edu**





Integrity Partners

FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IPA

Smarter Data. Stronger Network. Connected Care.

Powering Rural Behavioral Health with Smarter Data

Helping partners transform data into action across New York State.



41
Partners



43
Counties



77%
Rural
Footprint

What We Deliver



Data analytics that turn complex information into actionable insight



Predictive modeling to identify risk, no-shows, and treatment disengagement



Shared learning and benchmarking across partner organizations



Stronger care coordination, quality improvement, and population health strategy



Integrity helps behavioral health providers strengthen performance, improve outcomes, and make better decisions with **data-driven insight**.



Learn more at
integritypartnersbh.org



Connect with us at the
NYSARH Symposium.

PROUD EXHIBITOR

at the

NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF RURAL HEALTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE



**STOP BY
OUR TABLE!**

Let's build a stronger,
healthier rural
New York—
together.



BUILD & SUPPORT COLLABORATIVES

We help providers, hospitals, and communities create strong, effective collaboratives that drive value and improve care.



OBTAIN & DISTRIBUTE GRANT FUNDING

Proven success securing and managing grant funding—including RHTP—and ensuring resources reach the right partners for maximum impact.



EXPERIENCE. RESULTS.

Deep New York Experience with EMRs, HIE, population health, PCMH, innovation, and experience as Transformation Agent.

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE. NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE.
STRATEGIC PARTNERS. MEASURABLE IMPACT.



Upstate College of Nursing
prepares students for a
rewarding, fulfilling career in
practice, education and research
—improving the health of the
communities we serve.



RN - BS

- Fully online
- Flexible timelines
- Rolling admissions

Nursing Education

- Fully online
- Masters or Post-Graduate
- Prepare to educate and lead future nurses

Doctor of Nursing Practice

- Fully online
- Designed for Masters-prepared nurses
- Advance to the highest level of nursing practice



750 East Adams Street,
Syracuse, NY 13210

www.upstate.edu/con
(315)464-4570
admiss@upstate.edu



"The Heart of Home Health Care"

OUR SERVICES

- ♥ Home Health & Personal Care Aides
- ♥ Transfer & Ambulation Support
- ♥ Caregiver Training & Supervision
- ♥ Light Housekeeping
- ♥ Bathing, Dressing & Toileting Assistance
- ♥ Community Integration Support
- ♥ Meal Preparation
- ♥ Transportation & Errands

PROGRAMS SUPPORTED

- OFA
- TBI and NHTD Waiver
- County DSS
- Public Health
- MLTC
- MCO
- Private

Serving the North Country for over 40 years — Saranac Lake, Malone, Plattsburgh, Ticonderoga & surrounding regions.

CALL TODAY

TOLL-FREE

1-800-273-2641

Tri-Lakes Region	518-891-2641
Malone Region	518-483-4502
Plattsburgh Region	518-566-0183
Ticonderoga Region	518-585-9820

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

25 Church Street
Saranac Lake, NY 12983
Tel: 518-891-5611 | Fax: 518-891-2055

COUNTIES SERVED

St. Lawrence · Franklin · Essex · Clinton ·
Warren · Washington

Web: www.nchs.net

Email: info@nchs.net



You Are Not Alone.

NAMI New York State is here to support individuals and families across New York.

- ✓ Mental Health Support Groups
- ✓ Resources and Helplines
- ✓ Family Education Programs
- ✓ Advocacy & Awareness

Contact Information

- www.naminy.org
- (518) 462-2000
- info@naminy.org



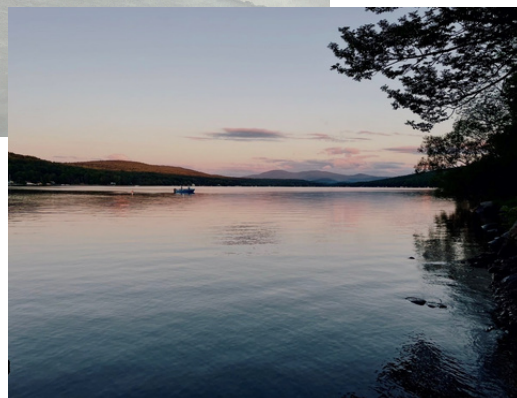
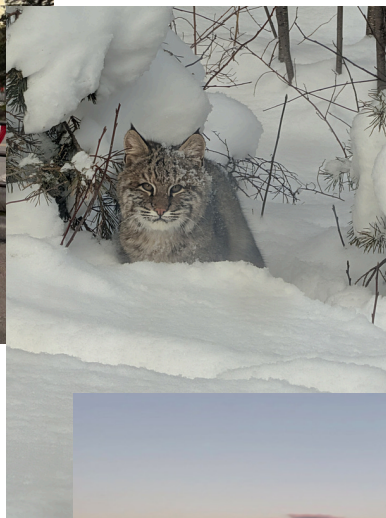
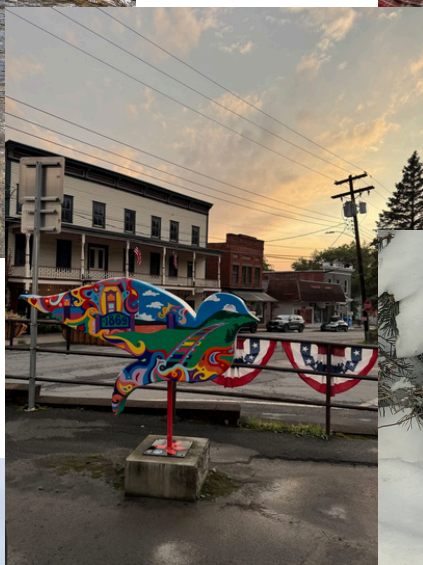
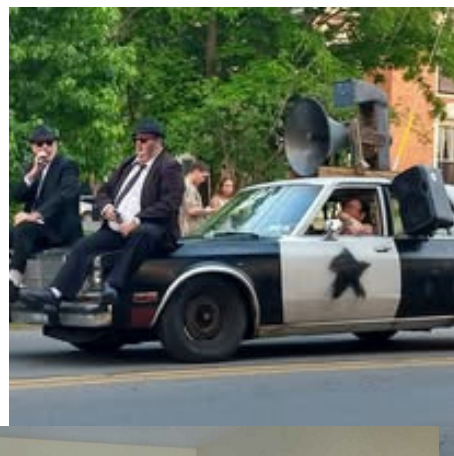
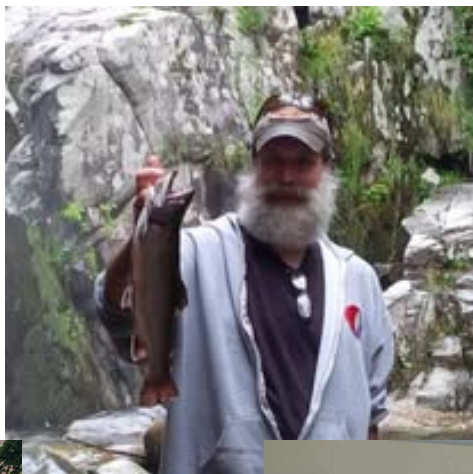
Strengthening rural health together

Accenture helps you modernize operations, improve experiences, and unlock the power of technology to better serve rural communities.

accenture

Visit.accenture.com

More Amazing Photos From Our Photo Contest!



Thank You to Our Symposium Committee



Michele Foster
Executive Director
Pivotal Public
Health Partnership

Pat Fontana
Deputy Director
Fort Drum Regional Health
Planning Organization

Tammy Austin-Ketch
Dean and Professor
SUNY Upstate College of Nursing

Karin Pantel
Retired Registered Nurse
Hudson Valley
Alzheimer's Educator

Ray Babowicz
Director of Communications
Marketing, Government Relations,
and Strategic Partnerships
Community Health Center of the
North Country

Christine Paul
Executive Director
Madison County Rural
Health Council

Kristin Pullyblank
Research Investigator
Center for Rural
Community Health

Lauren Meyer
Director
Rural Medical
Scholars Program

Kate Hill
VP Rural Health
The Compliance Team

Janiya Donson
Communication Specialist
NYSARH

Sara Wall Bollinger
Director for Strategic Development
NYSARH

Jennifer Muthig
Executive Director
NYSARH

Follow Us On Your Favorite Social Media Sites



NEW YORK STATE
ASSOCIATION FOR
RURAL HEALTH



NYSARHINFO



NEW YORK STATE
ASSOCIATION FOR
RURAL HEALTH



NYSASSOCIATIONFOR
RURALHEALTH

Please scan QR
code for the overall
symposium
evaluation form:



Please scan QR code
for the breakout
sessions evaluation
form for CHES credits:

