



a.H Informer

A news update from Adirondack Health Institute

November 15, 2018

National Rural Health Day ™
Celebrating the Power of Rural!

AHI Announces 2018 Rural Health Champions

In recognition of today's [National Rural Health Day](#), AHI is pleased to announce four individuals as 2018 Rural Health Champions. The annual recognition is a collaborative effort of four of the North Country's Rural Health Networks, including AHI's [Adirondack Rural Health Network \(ARHN\)](#). This year's champions (pictured and identified at right) earned recognition for exemplifying the selfless, community-minded, can-do spirit that prevails in rural American. "Each of our honorees share the common attribute of being recognized leaders in the facilitation of health care services in their respective rural communities. All four are highly-deserving of this accolade," said Eric Burton, Chief Executive Officer, AHI.



AHI's Nancy Gildersleeve (far left) and Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.'s Todd Edwards (far right) flank 2018 Rural Health Champions (l-r): Dr. Paul Bachman, HHHN, Kathy Jo McIntyre, Washington County Public Health, Tammy Merendo, Nathan Littauer Hospital & Nursing Home, and Chaplain R.W. Williams, Mountain Valley Hospice.

[Read the full story.](#)

Conference Attracts Nearly 200 North Country Telehealth Stakeholders



The 4th Annual North Country Telehealth Conference, hosted last week in Glens Falls by the [North Country Telehealth Partnership](#), attracted nearly 200 participants to discuss the present and prospective future states of telehealth and telemedicine in the region. The event, *Virtual Care in a Value-Based World*, featured 16 speakers and panel members, including keynote presenter



Corey Zeigler, Chief Information Officer, [Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization](#). Breakout sessions broached the topics of utilizing telehealth for critical care, fighting the opioid epidemic, and diagnosing retinal disease, while a panel of experts shared updates on New York State regulations and reimbursement.

[Click here for more details.](#)

Health Insurance Open Enrollment is Here

Help us spread the word that Health Insurance Open Enrollment has begun and Enrollment Specialists from AHI's [Enrollment Assistance Services and Education \(EASE\)](#) program are providing no-cost, in-person, unbiased enrollment assistance to help individuals get covered. Click the banner below to learn more about coverage options available via the [NY State of Health Marketplace](#), including the Essential Plan, which costs as little as \$20, and in some cases no cost at all, per month. Call us before January 31 at 1.866.872.3740 to set up a free appointment.

Partner Success Stories

Open Door Mission Develops Strong Relationship With Client, Offers Support During Drug Addiction Recovery

In the spring of 2015, Diljit Singh of Queensbury began showing up for meals at the [Open Door Mission](#) in Glens Falls. At the time, Singh was employed and had housing, but was actively using drugs. It wasn't long before he lost his job and home and ended up at the mission's Code Blue Shelter the following winter. Over the next few years, staff at the Open Door built a strong relationship with Singh, connecting him to various services in the community. The staff helped him through his ups and downs, but he was still homeless and returned to Code Blue in January of this year. Soon thereafter, Singh decided to accept help and receive treatment for his addiction.

The organization's Resource Director, Shelley Smith, a position funded by the AHI PPS (Performing Provider System), along with Program Director, Jamie Munyon, were able to connect Singh with appropriate needed resources and supported him throughout his recovery. According to Kim Cook, Director of the organization, Singh now has a stable residence and continues to diligently follow his treatment plan. "Open Door staff met Diljit at his point of need and have walked with him for many years," stated Cook. "We offered him relationship, support and services until he was ready to make positive changes needed to become a healthy member of our community."



Comfort Food Community Helps Keep Me Healthy



Being involved with the [Comfort Food Community](#) has enabled me to increase my health consciousness. I've gained an understanding of what to eat to support my body and bolstered my immune system. I get fewer colds and feel better as a whole. The amount of fresh fruits and vegetables that I get to eat has significantly increased. This service has also acted as a gateway as I have been able to meet neighbors and get involved in the community. There's an interesting set of people here who are kind and welcoming. I

have my own plot in the community garden. I raise my own vegetables now and get to be physically active. It's a healthy environment and I'm grateful for all the support I've received.

Healthy Community Alliance Awarded State Planning Grant



[Healthy Community Alliance, Inc.](#) has been awarded a \$2.5 million NYS DOH planning grant. The funding will be used to educate and assist community-based health and human service organizations with implementing results-focused business practices so they are better positioned to engage in new revenue models. Grant activities, which will begin in

December, will include building a consortium of community-based organizations across upstate New York that address social and economic factors affecting individuals' health, but do not yet have payment agreements with Medicaid for their services. For more information and to learn how your community-based organization can participate, call Healthy Community Alliance, Inc. at 716.532.1010, or email hawleya@hcanetwork.org.

Training Sessions, Conferences and Events

Telehealth Learning Collaborative, November 19

Join the [North Country Telehealth Partnership](#) for their next [Telehealth Learning Collaborative](#) video conference, being held 2:00 - 3:00 p.m., Monday, November 19. Stakeholders meet every other month to interface with state agencies that regulate telemedicine in NYS with the goal of better understanding issues pertaining to program implementation. The agenda typically consists of a subject matter expert speaker, or representatives from an organization that has implemented a telemedicine program, as well as updates from NYS DOH, NYS OMH, and NYS OASAS. For more information, contact Katy Cook at kcook@ahihealth.org.



[Click here to register.](#)



The St. Lawrence Patient Experience Providing Care From a New Lens

3-Part Training Series targeting staff involved with discharge planning and care management, particularly concerning the high-utilizer population.

Canton Best Western
90 E Main Street
Canton, NY 13617

Trauma Informed Care: November 28, 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m., or 12:30—4:00 p.m.
Motivational Interviewing: December 6 and January 17, 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m., or 12:30—4:00 p.m.

[Click here to register.](#)

Transportation Solutions Workshop, November 29

AHI is bringing together stakeholders for a solution-seeking workshop to develop strategies for overcoming transportation challenges proving to be barriers to good health in the region. The workshop is being held 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Thursday, November 29, at the Six Flags Great Escape Lodge in Queensbury. The event will feature presenter William Wagner, Director of Mobility Management for the [Rural Health Network of South Central New York \(RHNSCNY\)](#), sharing details about the successful implementation of the [GetThere](#) transportation program. Brainstorming discussions will include an exploration of how the program can be replicated locally. For more information, contact Jessica Chanese at jchanese@ahihealth.org.



[Click here to register.](#)

Treatment for Tobacco Dependence Webinar, December 4



The Glens Falls Hospital Health Promotion Center, St. Peter's Health Partners Community Health Programs, and the Medical Society of the State of New York, are hosting a webinar, *Evidence-Based Treatment for Tobacco Dependence*, 7:30 - 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, December 4. The webinar, presented by Michael B. Steinberg, MD, will offer in-depth, clinical training on the seven FDA-recommended cessation aids/medications and their proper dispensing to improve outcomes. Information on billing for such services and the benefits provided by public insurance plans will also be addressed. The target audience for the webinar is physicians, NPs, PAs, and pharmacists. Please note there are two ways below to register for the event - click the button on the left if you plan on attending the webinar in person at one of five locations; or the button on the right if you plan on watching the webinar remotely online. If you have any questions, please contact Shannon Morrison-Gaczol at smorrison-gaczol@glensfallshosp.org.

Click here to register for one of the in-person webinars.

Click here to register for the online webinar.

Health Care Leadership Seminar



Seminar Description

This foundational seminar will provide participants with an overview of the tools and techniques incorporated by EMS leadership and management. * *Though this training has an EMS focus, it will serve to benefit all health care organizations.*

- Focused discussions will aim to prepare participants to incorporate leadership in their organization to increase their effectiveness and positively affect their overall mission.
- This workshop is for established leaders, new leaders, and anyone with an interest in health care leadership.

Agenda

- 8:00am - Registration
- 8:15am - Welcome
- 8:30am - *Leadership Best Practices* Group Discussion with Mark Spiezio, Cambridge Valley Rescue Squad
- 9:00am - Break
- 9:10am - *Collaboration in the Health Care World* with Andrew Cruikshank, Fort Hudson Health System
- 10:00am - *Leadership: How to Lead to Better Outcomes* with Greg Owens, The Macedonia Institute

December 6, 2018

8:00am - 12:00pm

The Queensbury Hotel

Glens Falls, NY



To Register, please visit:

HCLeadership.eventbrite.com



**EMS Continuing Education credits are available, with participation in pre-requisite webinars. Please see the Eventbrite registration page for details.*

Click here to register.

Trainings Available for Viewing on HealthStream



All sessions of the *Volume to Value: The Power of Data in Value-Based Payment* training which took place September 20 are now available to view on HealthStream. The event featured an informative keynote address from Joseph Conte from the Staten Island PPS, a panel discussion with representatives from a managed care organization, primary care, behavioral health and community-based organizations and breakout sessions geared for community-based organizations and primary care/behavioral health providers. The first workshop of the Behavioral Health Workforce Webinar Series, *Service-Obligated Programs for Recruitment and Retention in Health Profession Shortage Areas*, which took place November 13, is also available on HealthStream. The training provided participants with a deeper understanding

of service-obligated programs available from federal and state governments. The presentation also included a first-hand account from a provider who has participated in a service-obligated loan repayment program. If you don't have access to HealthStream, please contact Chelsea Truehart at ctruehart@ahihealth.org.

Visit HealthStream.



**GREAT AMERICAN
SMOKEOUT**



Today is the American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout, an event that encourages Americans to quit smoking for at least 24 hours. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Save the Date

Volume to Value:

Creative Funding Opportunities in
Payment Arrangements

Wednesday, March 20, 2019
The Queensbury Hotel, Glens Falls, NY

*Please note that each organization may send a maximum of 3 attendees.



Submit Your Content for *AHI Informer*

AHI partners in Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Saratoga, St. Lawrence, Warren, and Washington counties are encouraged to submit content to Phil Kahn at communications@ahihealth.org to be considered for inclusion in *AHI Informer*.

Adirondack Health Institute | 101 Ridge Street, Glens Falls, NY 12801 | 518.480.0111
communications@ahihealth.org | www.ahihealth.org

STAY CONNECTED WITH US!

