



a·H·Informer

A news update from Adirondack Health Institute

June 13, 2019

Partner Success Stories

NYS Makes Investment to Increase Access to Home Services for Older Adults; Franklin County Seniors to Benefit



A historic \$15 million investment and groundbreaking changes to address unmet needs and expand access to services for older adults are included in New York State's fiscal year 2020 enacted budget. These investments will enable individuals who are eligible for services, but are unable to receive them due to funding limitations, access vital community-based services. Policy changes will enable the state to expand services to middle-income older adults through the development of a private pay model. Services include delivered meals, care management, housekeeping, personal care, respite, and other related services.

Franklin County stands to receive more than \$300,000 through the program to invest in community-based supports for its aging residents. According to Rebecca Preve, Director, [Franklin County Office for the Aging](#), the [New York State Office for the Aging](#) is required under law to fund community supports based on a statutory funding formula. "This funding is outside the formula and allows NYSOFA to directly fund counties based on their longstanding reporting of actual unmet needs," explained Preve. "Further, this funding provides maximum flexibility for counties like ours to meet unmet needs creatively, should traditional services not be available. For example, if we are unable to secure an aide for a customer, we can work to meet their needs in other ways."

Preve concluded, "We have been told these funds will remain in the state's financial plan, assuring we can continue to serve these individuals."

[Read the complete news release.](#)

GFH, Fort Hudson Align Services for Better Outcomes



Glens Falls Hospital

[Glens Falls Hospital](#) and [Fort Hudson Health System](#) have developed a new patient care model to more effectively integrate acute and post-acute services. The jointly-developed program, the *Partnership for Better Health*, targets hospital patients who require short-term

rehabilitation or home health care and have risk factors that increase their chance of future hospitalizations. The partnership is partially supported by DSRIP funding from the AHI Performing Provider System.

Hospitalized patients who have one or more risk factors, such as chronic respiratory or cardiac conditions, will be offered the option of participating in the program through a preferred provider relationship with Fort Hudson. As patients move from acute to post-acute to home, care managers will meet with them at multiple points to coordinate additional services or provide a transition to an existing care management program.



Other News

OMH Recognizes Essex County Mental Health's Doug Meyer



Kudos to Doug Meyer, Director of Services, [Mental Health Association in Essex County](#), recipient of the inaugural OMH Community Care Award presented by the [New York State Office of Mental Health](#).

The award, bestowed during Mental Health Awareness Month in May, recognizes the extraordinary achievements of individuals and organizations who have furthered the OMH mission and made a positive contribution to the mental health system in their communities. Meyer was nominated for his unwavering efforts to effectively and efficiently implement person-centered, recovery-oriented home and community-based services.

[Read the complete news release.](#)

AHI's EASE Program Donates Sling Bags to Queensbury School

AHI's [Enrollment Assistance Services and Education \(EASE\)](#) program recently donated more than 120 sling bags to [Queensbury Elementary School](#) in support of the school's "Snack Pack" program. The initiative, whose motto is "Fighting Hunger One Snack Pack a Time," sends students in need home on Fridays with enough food for four to six meals on long weekends, courtesy of the [Open Door Mission's](#) Food Bank. Breakfast and lunch items, healthy snacks, fruit, treats, juice, milk, and other essentials are provided to students. According to the school, the number of homeless students in the district has tripled over the past five years, and since 2007, the percentage of students receiving free or reduced-price meals has grown from 14 to 23 percent.



Aside from Queensbury Elementary, the Open Door supports eight other area school's backpack programs. In addition to the bags, the EASE team provided information on AHI's free health insurance enrollment assistance services for families who lack needed coverage.

Donations to the food bank can be delivered to the Open Door Mission at 47 Lawrence Street in Glens Falls. For more information, or to volunteer to help with the Queensbury program, contact Julie Maynard at juliemaynard@gmail.com.

WWAMH Honors Partners at Mental Health Month Celebration



The [Warren-Washington Association for Mental Health](#) honored partners for service excellence at their annual Mental Health Month Celebration on May 29.

The agency presented to the [Health Promotion Center of Glens Falls Hospital](#) the Dorothea Dix Community Service Award, an honor that recognizes an individual or organization outside the mental health system that has contributed to the betterment of community mental health.

[Adirondack Pediatrics](#) received the Walter P. Reichert Award, an achievement that recognizes an individual, group, or agency within the field that has significantly contributed to the promotion, development, and betterment of mental health.

Training Sessions, Meetings, and Events

Family Caregiver Support Meeting, July 9

The NYS Department of Health and Office for the Aging are holding the third meeting of the [Long-Term Care Planning Project \(LTCPP\)](#). *Family Caregiver Support* will be held 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 9, in Meeting Room 6 on the Concourse of Empire State Plaza in Albany. Meeting participants will hear from various speakers and then be assigned to groups to discuss how the state can further support family caregivers. The LTCPP is an initiative designed to understand the projected needs of older adults by examining New York State's aging and long-term care system. Please direct any questions to ALTCteam@health.ny.gov.

[Click here to register.](#)

North Country Population Health Improvement Program (NC PHIP) Virtual Stakeholder Meeting, July 17

Join the North Country Population Health Improvement Program (NC PHIP) for a virtual stakeholder meeting, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 17, as we share program updates and ask for input and recommendations for current work plan activities.

Webinar topics will include a review of recent projects and planned collaborations that seek to advance the health and well-being of North Country residents. An agenda will be distributed prior to the meeting.



[Click here to register.](#)



**Register Now for Breastfeeding Grand Rounds 2019
Breastfeeding Recommendations for Women
Impacted by Opioid Use Disorder and Infants
with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome**

Thursday, August 1, 2019, 8:30 - 10:30 am ET

Call us at 518.402.0330 or e-mail coned@albany.edu if you need assistance.

[Click here to register.](#)



2019

AHI Leadership Summit

*Advancing Whole-Person Care
Through a Collaborative System of Health*

SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

LAKE PLACID
CONFERENCE CENTER



Save the Date

Volume to Value: A Path Towards Data-Driven Health Outcomes

Thursday, September 26, 2019

The Queensbury Hotel, Glens Falls, NY

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



SAVE THE DATE

5th Annual North Country Telehealth Conference

The Value of Virtual Care

Perspectives from Policymakers, Providers, and Patients

Thursday, November 7, 2019

Fort William Henry, Lake George, New York

Pre-Conference Session: **Wednesday, November 6, 2019**



Share Your Updates

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

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