



# a·H·Informer

A news update from Adirondack Health Institute

December 26, 2019

## *News Headlines*

### **AHI PPS Workforce Funding Supports Simulation Labs for Washington County EMS Personnel**

With [AHI PPS Workforce](#) funding support, [Washington County Public Health](#) hosted the first of four simulation labs for Washington County emergency medical services personnel on Saturday at SUNY Adirondack.

Identifying a need for continuing education for EMS workers, Kathy Jo McIntyre, Assistant Director, Washington County Public Health, reached out to staff from AHI PPS Workforce and the [Adirondack Rural Health Network \(ARHN\)](#), a program of AHI, who helped her with an application to secure funding for the initiative.



Students from five rescue squads - Granville, Skenesborough, Salem, Cambridge, and Fort Ann - participated in the first session. Others were invited and will be participating in future labs.

McIntyre, and Paul Zinn, EMS Coordinator II, Washington County, worked with Jennifer Jenkins, SUNY Adirondack Nursing Department, and Caelynn Prylo, SUNY Adirondack Continuing Education, to set up the sessions. "For the first session, Paul selected two scenarios - one involving a child falling out of a tree and suffering a seizure and the other involving child birth," explained McIntyre. "Participants were given minimal information ahead of the simulations and had to conduct assessments to determine what was going on. For instance, they were told the child fell out of the tree and had been feeling okay, but then started to feel worse, but nothing else."

Lifelike mannequins were used for the simulations. "The labs were highly realistic," said McIntyre. "For instance, the mannequin of the child exhibited signs of seizure activity." For the maternity exercise, two scenarios were presented to students - one a normal delivery and the other involving a child with an umbilical cord around his neck. "The mannequin of the mother was making high-pitched wails indicating her pain," stated McIntyre. "The students expressed how helpful it was to participate in

exercises that seemed so real."



According to McIntyre, the sessions are being conducted by instructor Frank Shoemaker, a firefighter and paramedic from Troy, who's also on the faculty at Hudson Valley Community College.

"In addition to helpful training, this series is providing a great opportunity for all the EMS programs to work together," said McIntyre. "Initially, only

EMS partners in Washington County were invited to participate, but working with the [Mountain Lakes Regional EMS Council](#), we've been able to open participation to EMS squads in neighboring counties. Again, this is another example of a great chance for squads that don't normally work together to collaborate on a project."

McIntyre shared that remaining labs will be held January 2, 6, and 16. "When we have a need such as this, we always turn to AHI for support and they came through for us once again," said McIntyre. "We're grateful we can offer this important learning opportunity to our EMS partners."

## Area Schools Participate in Great American Smokeout® with Assistance from AHI's ATFC/Reality Check Program



Many local school districts participated last month in the [Great American Smokeout®](#) with the assistance of Adirondack Health Institute's Advancing Tobacco-Free Communities/Reality Check program. Participating schools included [South Glens Falls High School](#), [Oliver W. Winch Middle School](#), [Schuylerville High School](#), [Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School](#), and [Waterford-Halfmoon Union Free School District](#).

[Read the full article.](#)

## Other News

### Brandis Awarded Physician of the Year

For the second straight year, Robert Brandis, MD, FACP, Medical Director of [Mountain Valley Hospice](#) in Gloversville, has been named Physician of the Year by the [Leader-Herald](#). Accredited in hospice and palliative care medicine, Brandis has served as the organization's sole physician since 2003. Brandis also practices full time as an Internal Medicine Primary Care Physician for the [Nathan Littauer Mayfield Primary Care Center](#) where he has been a provider for 22



## Training Sessions, Meetings, and Events

### **LGBTQ+ Training Series**

## **Navigating LGBTQ+ Health for the Health Care Provider**

Provided By:



### ***LGBTQ+ Dinner and Learn Provider Training***

**Tuesday, Jan. 14, 5–8 p.m., Queensbury Hotel, Glens Falls**

*or*

**Monday, Feb. 3, 5–8 p.m., Hotel Saranac, Saranac Lake**

***Target audience: Clinicians, All-level Providers and Practice Managers, PCMH Certified Content Experts***

Join trainers Erica Bostick, MD, University of Rochester Medical Center, and Casey Belrose, Planned Parenthood of the North Country NY, Inc., as they teach participants how to navigate health care challenges the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and plus communities encounter on a regular basis in a clinical setting. This event will spotlight social stigmas, health and development challenges of LGBTQ+ youth, gender identity, and medical treatment options for transgender youth and adults.

#### ***Training objectives:***

- Recognize the value of collecting SOGI (sexual orientation and gender identity) data in the medical office setting.
- Describe affirming practices in the sexual and medical health history assessment for LGBTQ+ youth/adults.
- Discuss gender-affirming medical treatment options for transgender youth/adults.
- Gain increased knowledge about the term LGBTQIA+, and its component parts.
- Gain increased knowledge around the concept of sexual identity, and its various facets, including sexual orientation, gender identity, and sex assigned at birth.
- Discuss various ways to implement this increased knowledge and understanding in your practice, both in relationship to patients and clients, but also coworkers and staff.

RSVP required. Contact Melissa Davey at [mdavey@ahihealth.org](mailto:mdavey@ahihealth.org) with any questions.

**Register for January's session.**

**Register for February's  
session.**

## LGBTQ+ Training Series

Provided By:



## Partner Forum: A Workshop in Advancing LGBTQ+ Health and Wellness

### *LGBTQ+ Partner Forum*

Wednesday, January 15, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Northwest Conference Center, SUNY Adirondack,  
Queensbury

Join presenters Erica Bostick, MD, Casey Belrose, and Bryan Flowers as they teach participants how to support population health in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and plus communities. This event will spotlight social stigmas, health and development challenges, and gender identity. The day will conclude with a panel of regional experts taking questions and sharing their successes and challenges.

***Presenters and panelists include:***

- Casey Belrose, Planned Parenthood of the North Country NY, Inc.
- Erica Bostick, MD, University of Rochester Medical Center
- Bryan Flowers, Oakwise Counseling
- Rachel Marcey, Planned Parenthood Mohawk Hudson, Inc.
- Celeste Steele, Glens Falls Hospital

RSVP required. Contact Melissa Davey at [mdavey@ahihealth.org](mailto:mdavey@ahihealth.org) with any questions.

**Register for the session.**

# TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE AND THE TREATMENT OF CRIMINAL THINKING

## WHEN

**January 17, 2020**

**9:00 am - 4:00 pm**

## WHERE

**Paul Smith's College**

**7777 NYS Route 30**

**Paul Smiths, New York 12970**



## Dr. Frances Patterson, Ph.D.

Recognized statewide and nationally as an expert in the fields of substance abuse and mental health, Dr. Patterson received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Virginia Commonwealth University in the Alcohol and Drug Education Rehabilitation Program and Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from California Southern University. In addition to being a licensed alcohol and drug counselor in Tennessee, she is a National Association of Addictions Professionals (NAADAC) Certified Masters Addictions Counselor and Qualified Substance Abuse Professional. She also holds a certification as a Doctoral Addictions Counselor and Criminal Justice Addictions Specialist through the National Association of Forensic Counselors.

Dr. Patterson is qualified by the State of Tennessee as a Clinical Supervisor for A&D licensure. She has worked as a counselor and program administrator in treatment programs in Virginia and Tennessee over the past 30 years. She provides program consultation, professional training, clinical supervision and client education and counseling. She has conducted professional training locally, statewide and nationally for more than 25 years on addictions, mental health, professional counseling issues, ethics, cultural proficiency and professional development. She is a Mental Health First Aid Trainer. She is also a federal grant reviewer for SAMHSA.

She is a past member of NAADAC's Ethics Committee, is a member of the NAADAC Trainers Academy and a NAADAC-approved trainer. She is also past NAADAC SE Regional Vice President. Additionally, she is a past president of TAADAC and MTAADAC in TN. She is owner of Footprints Consulting Services, LLC, and works part-time as a clinical supervisor at Davidson County Sheriff's Office A&D treatment program.

**To register, email: Thomas J. Higman**  
**St. Joseph's Addiction Treatment & Recovery Centers**  
**thigman@stjoestreatment.org**



## Rebecca Evansky

Project Manager,  
Adirondack Health Institute

In her current role, Evansky develops plans and timelines and manages work for a variety of AHI projects, including prevention awareness and education. She assists with writing grants and reports, creating and delivering presentations, researching evidence-based best practices, and reviewing data and needs assessments.

Evansky previously served as program director, legal advocate, prevention educator, and program assistant for AHI's Sexual Trauma and Recovery Services (STARS) program (2003-2014). She returned to AHI from the Washington County District Attorney's Office where she was a senior crime victim specialist.

Evansky earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of South Florida and an Associate of Arts degree in Psychology and Nursing from St. Petersburg College. She is a long-time volunteer with the Washington County Domestic Violence Project, and a board member of the New York Crime Victims' Assistance Task Force.

*This training is made possible by a grant through the NYS Health Foundation: A Regional approach to Scaling a Multi-Pronged Approach to Opioids in the North Country.*



# Save the Date

## Volume to Value: 20/20 Vision Towards Population Health

Thursday, March 26, 2020

The Queensbury Hotel, Glens Falls, NY

Featuring Keynote Speaker:

Dorcey L. Applrys, DrPH, MPH, Vice President, Community Health Initiatives,  
The Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region



### Share Your Updates

AHI partners in Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Saratoga, St. Lawrence, Warren, and Washington counties are encouraged to send news items to Phil Kahn at [communications@ahihealth.org](mailto:communications@ahihealth.org) to be considered for inclusion in *AHI Informer*.

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