



# a·H·Informer

A news update from Adirondack Health Institute

December 24, 2020

## News Headlines

### A Special Thank You to Direct Care Workers



saving lives.

As our region continues to confront the coronavirus, we'd like to extend a special heartfelt thank you to direct care workers for the sacrifices they've made every day during the pandemic. Their unwavering dedication, commitment, and courage during these past several months deserve our deepest gratitude and admiration. Their service is truly making a difference and

"Our health care provider partners, including those working on the front lines, have faced unprecedented challenges in 2020. The pandemic has taken a toll on these brave and tireless professionals," said Eric Burton, CEO, Adirondack Health Institute. "As COVID-19 hits a second surge, it's easy to begin to take their efforts for granted, but now, more than ever, they need our continued show of support."

## Other News

### Health Insurance Open Enrollment Period Extended to December 31 for Coverage Beginning January 1

There is still time for consumers to enroll in health insurance coverage through the [NY State of Health Marketplace](#). The open enrollment period for coverage beginning January 1 has been extended to December 31 for those who qualify. Those who enroll before the end of the year will not see a break in coverage. AHI continues to offer free telephone enrollment assistance. Call 1.866.872.3740 to schedule an appointment.

### Housing Visions Receives Funding for Affordable Housing Project in Plattsburgh

The [New York State Office of Homes and](#)

Community Renewal has awarded \$10.7 million to Housing Visions Consultants, a nonprofit affordable housing developer, to fund a new 80-unit affordable housing project in the Town of Plattsburgh. “There’s a tremendous need for high-quality affordable housing in this community,” said Ben Lockwood, President and CEO of Housing Visions. “We are very proud of the proposed development and the impact it will make on the families and individuals it will serve.” The new Northwoods housing development will be constructed on a 12.98-acre vacant parcel off Tom Miller Road near the Adirondack Northway.



[Click here to learn more.](#)

## *Important Information*



Telehealth has created new opportunities for patients and clients to connect with providers in a way they prefer, enabling access to care when and where it is needed most. The platform has been particularly helpful during the COVID-19 pandemic. This brief video, produced by the Northeast Telehealth Resource Center, shows a variety of ways telehealth can continue to be a vital part of our health care system.

# FREE TAX RETURN ASSISTANCE

Available for families and individuals whose household income is **\$57,000** or less per year in Warren, Washington and Northern Saratoga counties



VOLUNTEER  
INCOME TAX  
ASSISTANCE

A Tri-County United Way Collaborative



To schedule an appointment\*, please call:

 **1-800-211-5128**

\*SERVICE AVAILABLE FROM JANUARY–APRIL

## *Training Sessions, Meetings, and Events*

### **Annual North Country *Feed Back* Summit Being Held Virtually February 24–25**

Craigardan, a non-profit arts organization located in the heart of the Adirondacks, in collaboration with the NYS Health Foundation, will be hosting its annual *Feed Back* Summit virtually, Wednesday, February 24 - Thursday, February 25, 2021. The event, *Feed Back, Move Forward: Responding to 2020*, will explore creating a fair food system in the North Country that is stronger, more accessible, just,



inclusive, and nutritious for everyone.

The summit, supported by [ADK Action](#) and the [Adirondack Council](#), will feature presentations addressing the intersections of food justice, racial equity, health care, and education in our rural region. The goal of the event is to engage active dialogue between presenters and a diverse group of participants to identify obstacles, recognize successful initiatives, and engender collaborative networks.

The call for presenter submission deadline for the event has been extended through Monday, January 4. [Click here](#) for more information and to submit a proposal.

If you have any questions, contact Michele Drozd at [michele@craigarden.org](mailto:michele@craigarden.org).

[Click here to register.](#)

## 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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