



# CAPITAL REGION PUBLIC HEALTH NEWSLETTER

Issue #9

Hello,

Well, 2017 flew by and now we can see why. A lot of important work was happening! See the [success stories](#) of some of the great projects around the region, or learn about hot projects underway now highlighted in the PHIP section or find ongoing [coalition meetings](#) coming up. Don't forget to check out [professional development](#) opportunities coming up shortly.

See the [Cardiovascular Disparity Report](#) for the region enclosed where you get the big picture data trends, but also lots of county and sub-county tables, all summarized succinctly for your easy navigation.

If you missed our past PHIP Advisory Committee meeting on [Maternal and Child Health](#), check out the academic, medical, state policy, and program presentations. We look forward to seeing you at our next PHIPAC on Cardiovascular Health coming in March. Stay tuned for announcements and stay in touch about what you'd like to see in future newsletters.

Best Wishes,

Kevin Jobin-Davis  
Executive Director, HCDI

# THE LATEST IN NEW YORK STATE HEALTH INITIATIVES

## Population Health Improvement Program (PHIP)

### **2017 Public Health Prevention Successes**

We were delighted to be involved with so many great prevention initiatives in 2017.

[Click here](#) for program summaries of some of the most successful in the region.

Congratulations to all involved!

### **Regional Public Health Prevention News**

Below are some of the exciting prevention activities that counties are working on throughout the region. Please feel free to reach out to learn more or become involved.

See the [Upcoming Events & Resources](#) section for upcoming meetings and many more coalitions in the region.

The Greene County Public Health Department, the Greene County Rural Health Network, and the YMCA kicked off their 6th Annual Weight Loss & Maintenance Contest on Monday, February 5, 2018. Individuals are encouraged to join over this week (Feb. 12-16); the contest runs through Friday, May 25, 2018. A kickoff event will be held at the YMCA in Coxsackie on Tuesday, February 27, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. Hear from local fitness/nutrition experts and meet fellow participants.

The Greene County YMCA will hold FREE exercise classes for all Biggest Loser participants every Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. starting February 21, 2018. [Read more](#)

The Saratoga County Suicide Prevention Coalition has started a new workgroup for suicide prevention education for the school district. The focus of their current project is to create and distribute resources related to suicide prevention and postvention and to establish an outreach method for the school system. If you are interested in joining the workgroup, please reach out to Robin Fetterman, [rfetterman@saratogacountyny.gov](mailto:rfetterman@saratogacountyny.gov).

Schenectady Coalition for a Healthy Community has started two new workgroups around adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and being a trauma-informed community. The primary prevention workgroup aims to identify the most significant contributor to trauma. The secondary trauma prevention workgroup focusses on providing resources for creating trauma-informed systems, training, etc. If you are interested in joining either group, please contact Natalie Schubel, [natalie.schubel@schenectadycounty.com](mailto:natalie.schubel@schenectadycounty.com), and check the upcoming events section for meeting dates.

Columbia County submitted a plan to the New York State Department of Health to collaborate with Hannaford Supermarkets, several nursing homes and Columbia Memorial Hospital to increase the number of syringe kiosks in the county. The plan is approved, and two new kiosks will be installed at two Hannaford Supermarkets locations (Valatie and Kinderhook), please reach out to Victoria McGahan, [Victoria.mcgahan@columbiacountyny.com](mailto:Victoria.mcgahan@columbiacountyny.com).

On December 7, 2017, HCDI hosted the Population Health Improvement Program Advisory Committee (PHIPAC) meeting which focused on Maternal and Child Health. Our speakers included Anne Radigan from the New York State Department of Health who provided an overview on the New York State Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System ([PRAMS](#)) and Christine Bozlak, Ph.D., MPH from SUNY Albany School of Public Health who presented a public health academic perspective. Also, Jennifer Lefner, MD, from Saratoga Hospital explained the etiology, treatment, and management of neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) and Lara Madison from the Albany County Department of Health shared the strategies employed by Women and Infants Linking Lifetime Opportunities for Wellness (WILLOW) to address birth outcomes.

It's never too late to join the PHIPAC. We are a broad-based forum where stakeholders can keep engaged and up to date on initiatives which impact population health. Currently, we are planning our next PHIPAC meeting which focuses on heart disease and stroke. Look for the invitation to a March meeting coming soon in your inbox!

Our Consumer Specialist conducted a survey on diabetes to complement our equity report published in 2016. A total of 47 individuals completed the survey on type 1, type 2, and prediabetes. Please visit our [Consumer Corner](#) web page to access the infographic.

## Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Program



The First 1000 Days on Medicaid work group held its 4th meeting on December 1, 2017 and shared the ten-point plan to focus on enhancing access to services and improving outcomes for children on Medicaid. [Read more](#)

### Value Based Payments

Did you miss VBP Bootcamp? All materials for VBP University and VBP Bootcamp are available [here](#)

Save the Date: Alliance for Better Health, Adirondack Health Institute and Better Health for Northeast New York PPSs will collaborate for another Value-Based Payment training event. The second session, "Volume to Value: Keys to Success in VBP Contracting," will take place on March 21, 2018 at Fort William Henry Hotel and Conference Center in Lake George, NY. (Snow date: March 27, 2018). The focus of this session will be working with MCOs, and successful implementation from the payer/provider perspective. An invitation will be sent in the coming weeks.

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced \$60 million in awards to mental health and addiction services providers to lower cost and improve outcomes as part of the transformation of the State's Medicaid system. The awards will aid behavioral health providers transform to a business model of Value-Based Payment, which rewards quality of care and better health outcomes, rather than the volume of services they provide. [Read more.](#)

## Community of Practice (CoP)

Focused on Value-Based Payment transition, the community is a group of individuals, sharing passion and commitment to this work, coming together to collectively learn, exchange knowledge, and share resources. The NYSDOH sponsored, DSRIP Community of Practice on Value Based Payment is a new way of working together; voluntary, with varying levels of engagement, and actively managed and facilitated for the membership. Members set their own agendas, dig into pressing problems, explore and learn together, and shorten the learning curve for everyone. It is in addition to, and not in place of, the many resources and structures in place to inform the transition to Value Based Payment. [Read more](#)

## Alliance for Better Health

Alliance for Better Health partners with Unite Us to improve health outcomes in Upstate New York. Unite Us is a Veteran-owned technology company that has partnered with Alliance for Better Health (Alliance) as the software provider that will power Alliance's coordinated community-wide care network. The Unite Us platform will allow Alliance's clinical partners throughout Albany, Fulton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady counties to connect in real time with social service providers such as housing and workforce development agencies, behavioral health providers, and food pantries.

[Read More](#)



Health literacy is the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process, and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions. Read more about Health Literacy and its impact [here](#).

[Register](#) now for the 2018 Capital Region Health Literacy Symposium presented by Better Health for Northeast NY and Alliance for Better Health.

## State Health Innovation Plan (SHIP) and State Innovation Model (SIM)

### Care Coordination Scope of Practice

Non-clinical care management staff are an integral partner to the new models of care. Scope of practice, duties, and core competency as well as best practice information can be found on the [HCDI website](#).

### SHIP/DSRIP Workforce Workgroup Meeting 12/20/17

The charge of the Workforce Workgroup is to promote a health workforce that supports comprehensive, coordinated and timely access to care that will improve the health and well-being of New Yorkers, consistent with these transformational initiatives which serve the goals of both SHIP and DSRIP. The focus areas of this meeting include Medicaid Billable Peer Support Services; Barriers to Effective Care Coordination; Care Coordination Curriculum; Care Coordination Guidelines; Health Care Data; and Behavioral Health and Primary Care Integration. [Read more](#)

# HEALTH DISPARITIES REPORT

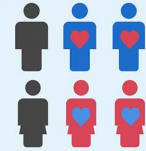
## Cardiovascular Health



Heart disease was the **leading cause** of death in NY in 2014...



with heart disease and stroke accounting for **one third** of all deaths in NYS



Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) claimed



In the last decade, CHD mortality rates in the Capital Region have **decreased 30%**



**76**

deaths from CHD per 100,000 for Hispanic residents\*

\*Age-adjusted rates for 2013-2015



**111**

deaths from CHD per 100,000 for non-Hispanic white residents\*



**119**

deaths from CHD per 100,000 for non-Hispanic black residents\*

**142** deaths per 100,000

CHD mortality rate for males was **65% higher** than that of females in the Capital Region\*

**86** deaths per 100,000

The lowest socioeconomic status group had a CHD mortality rate that was **75% greater** than the mortality rate of the highest socioeconomic status group\*

Sources: [https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/leadingcauses\\_death/](https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/leadingcauses_death/)  
NYS Vital Statistics  
State Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS)

# CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE



Heart disease, stroke and other cardiovascular diseases are the nation's number one killer among both men and women and the leading cause of health disparities across the population. The Million Hearts® Action Guide series provides clinicians, employers, and public health practitioners with evidence-based strategies for improving cardiovascular health. Each guide offers action steps and features proven tactics to help more Americans live heart-healthy, stroke-free lives. [Read more](#)



The Best Practices Guide for CVD Prevention describes and summarizes scientific evidence behind eight effective strategies for lowering high blood pressure and cholesterol levels that can be implemented in health care systems and that involve community-clinical links. The guide is a resource for state and local health departments, decision makers, public health professionals, and other stakeholders interested in using proven strategies to improve cardiovascular health. [Download here](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND RESOURCES

Thursday, February 15, 2018

Albany Strategic Alliance Meeting

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. \*please note new time\*

Albany County Department of Health, Basement Auditorium

175 Green Street, Albany NY 12206

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

Schenectady Coalition for a Healthy Community Secondary Trauma Prevention Work Group

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Ellis McClellan Street Health Center Chapel

600 McClellan Street, Schenectady, NY 12304

Friday, February 23, 2018

HCDI Care Coordination Task Force

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Healthy Capital District Initiative, 3rd Floor Conference Room

175 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206



Tuesday, February 27, 2018  
Saratoga County Prediabetes Coalition Meeting  
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Saratoga Hospital  
59D Myrtle Avenue, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Tuesday, February 27, 2018  
Schenectady Coalition for a Healthy Community Primary Trauma  
Prevention Work Group  
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Ellis McClellan Street Health Center Chapel  
600 McClellan Street, Schenectady, NY 12304

Wednesday, February 28, 2018  
Rensselaer County Heroin Coalition  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Rensselaer County Department of Social Services, Administration Building 2nd floor  
127 Bloomingrove Drive, Troy, NY 12180

Wednesday, February 28, 2018  
Public Meeting by the NYS Senate Heroin Task Force  
5:30 p.m.  
Columbia-Greene Community College Arts Center Theater  
4400 NY-23, Hudson, NY 12534

Thursday, March 1, 2018  
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Coalition Meeting  
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
Saratoga Hospital  
59D Myrtle Avenue, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Thursday, March 1, 2018  
Columbia-Greene Suicide Prevention Coalition  
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Greene County Mental Health Center  
325 Columbia Street, 2nd Floor, Hudson, NY 12534

Wednesday, March 7, 2018  
Columbia-Greene Controlled Substance Awareness Prevention Workgroup  
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
Twin Counties Recovery Services  
350 Power Avenue, Hudson, NY 12534

Wednesday, March 14, 2018  
HCDI Behavioral Health Task Force  
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
Healthy Capital District Initiative  
175 Central Avenue, 5th Floor Conference Room, Albany, NY 12206

Thursday, March 15, 2018  
Albany Strategic Alliance Meeting  
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. \*please note new time\*  
Albany County Department of Health, Basement Auditorium  
175 Green Street, Albany NY 12206

Tuesday, March 20, 2018  
Columbia-Greene County Controlled Substance Awareness Task Force  
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
Greene Medical Arts, Basement Conference Room  
159 Jefferson Heights, Catskill, NY 12414

Friday, March 23, 2018  
HCDI Care Coordination Task Force  
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
Healthy Capital District Initiative, 3rd Floor Conference Room  
175 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Friday, March 23, 2018  
Greene County MAPP Committee  
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Greene County Office Building  
411 Main Street, Catskill, NY 12414

Wednesday, April 4, 2018  
Rensselaer Wellness Committee Meeting  
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
Rensselaer County Department of Health  
1600 7th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Troy, NY 12180

Wednesday, April 11, 2018  
Rensselaer County Heroin Coalition  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Rensselaer County Department of Social Services, Administration Building, 2nd Floor  
127 Bloomingrove Drive, Troy, NY 12180

Thursday, April 19, 2018  
Albany Strategic Alliance Meeting  
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. \*please note new time\*  
Albany County Department of Health, Basement Auditorium  
175 Green Street, Albany NY 12206

Friday, April 27, 2018  
HCDI Care Coordination Task Force  
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
Healthy Capital District Initiative, 3rd Floor Conference Room  
175 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206



# Professional Development Opportunities

## **Become An Addiction Recovery Coach**

Learn the basic knowledge and skills necessary to guide and mentor others seeking or already living in recovery from alcohol, or other drugs, codependency, or other addictive behavior. Recovery Coaching is non-clinical and is used in the community and at home to help others with their recovery. To receive more information and/or to register please contact Karen at (845) 522-8186 or email [kalmiero@hvrctc.com](mailto:kalmiero@hvrctc.com).

Tuesday, February 27, 2018 – 8 week, 30 hour training course  
5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

## **safeTALK: Suicide Alertness for Everyone**

safeTALK is a free 3 hour training that prepares anyone over the age of 15 to identify persons with thoughts of suicide and connect them to suicide first aid resources.

[Read more](#)

Monday, March 5th, 2018

9:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

325 Columbia St, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Hudson, NY 12534

**The Health Care Value Forum (HCVF) Steering Group** aims to foster robust conversation and learning on key issues which can improve health care outcomes and balance Quality and Cost in the care of patients. Winter/Spring Dates and Topics are as follows:

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Should I prescribe this? Part I: What are physicians' motivations and responsibilities?  
Foster Gesten, MD and others (to be determined)

5:30 p.m. - School of Public Health

1 University Place, Rensselaer, NY 12144

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

Why physicians (and others) might want single payer health care

Paul Sorum MD, John Bennett, & others

5:30 p.m. – Huyck Auditorium

Albany Medical Center, 43 New Scotland Road, Albany, NY 12208

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Should I prescribe this? Part II: Cost-effectiveness analysis: when and how should we apply it?

Patrick Meek

5:30 p.m. - School of Public Health

1 University Place, Rensselaer, NY 12144

Tuesday, May 1, 2018

Is DSRIP providing value? The chief medical officers of the two DSRIP ACO projects in the Capital District reflect on progress, opportunities and implementation.

Jacob Reider MD and Kallanna Mangunath MD

5:30 p.m. - Huyck Auditorium

Albany Medical Center, 43 New Scotland Road, Albany, NY 12208



### **New York Statewide Breastfeeding Coalition Conference**

The New York Statewide Breastfeeding Coalition is a not-for-profit organization focusing on issues that affect breastfeeding. NYSBC is excited to share with you the details of our 2018 Annual Conference. This year's keynote speaker is Liz Brooks, JD, IBCLC. [Read more](#)

Thursday, March 22, 2018

NYSBC Annual Conference

Hilton Garden Inn, 235 Hoosick St, Troy, NY 12180

### **The Rise of Chronic Disease: A Direct Threat to Patient Care and Cost Effectiveness**

Course Director: Loay Salman, MD, MBA

Course Co-Director: Arif Asif, MD, MCHM, FASN, FNKF

Program Committee: Swati Mehta, MD; Krishnakumar Hongalgi, MD;  
Rafia Chaudhry, MD; Mauricio Prado Monrroy, MD and Elvira Gosmanova, MD

Friday, March 23, 2018

7:30 a.m. - 4:50 p.m.

Hilton Garden Inn

253 Hoosick Street

Troy, NY 12180

[Read More](#)



## Health as Social Justice: A Photo Voice Project

Wednesday, April 4, 2018  
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

School of Public Health  
Room 110A. For important information on how to submit a photo entry: <https://crphotovoice.wordpress.com>

## 2018 Esri Federal GIS Conference

Join more than 4,000 federal professionals to learn how all levels of government use the Science of Where to solve the world's greatest challenges. GIS is advancing rapidly- See the latest innovations and find new solutions. Participate in workshops, sessions, and a Hands-On Learning Lab to get training in just 2 days. Return to your office with actionable information you can use to meet ambitious goals. [Read more](#)

March 20-21, 2018

Walter E. Washington Convention Center  
801 Mt. Vernon Place NW, Washington, DC 20001

## 2018 Health Datapalooza

Health Datapalooza sits at the nexus of ideas, evidence, and execution, where Federal policymakers and regulatory leads take their seats beside Silicon Valley startups and the health system's chief information officers. More than a meeting, Health Datapalooza is a diverse community of big thinkers and roll-up-our-sleeves-and-get-it-done problem solvers who share a mission to liberate and use data to improve health and health care. [Read more](#)

April 26 - 27, 2018

Washington Hilton  
1919 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20009

# GRANTS

## **Request for Applications: Medicaid Redesign Team Health Home Supportive Housing Program**

The New York State Department of Health (DOH) is excited to announce the release of the Health Home Supportive Housing Program (HHSHP) Request for Applications (RFA). DOH is seeking applications from community based organizations to provide rental subsidies and non-medical services to homeless Medicaid members who are enrolled or enrolling in New York State's Health Home Program. HHSHP is a prior funded program that is in effect from 10/1/2014-9/30/2018. This program will serve participants that are currently enrolled in the program and single individuals who are enrolled/enrolling in a Health Home and may include a certain number of families with minors under the age of 18 years old. The total anticipated amount available for this procurement is up to \$500,000 annually, for up to approximately 16 awards. The contracts will run from 10/1/2018-9/30/2023. [Read more](#)

## **2018 Evidence-Based Falls Prevention Program Financed by Prevention and Public Health Fund**

The Administration on Aging (AoA) within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) forecasts the possible availability of Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 funds to make three-year grants to approximately 10 entities to develop capacity, bring to scale, and sustain evidence-based falls prevention programs that will help to reduce the number of falls, fear of falling, and/or fall-related injuries in older adults. [Read more](#)

## **Strengthening Public Health Systems and Services Through National Partnerships to Improve and Protect the Nation's Health**

The purpose of this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) is to announce a program to strengthen the nation's public health infrastructure, ensure a competent, current, and connected public health system, and improve delivery of essential services through capacity building assistance (CBA). The program strategies include strengthening the capacities of health systems infrastructure; leadership and workforce; data and information systems; communication and information technology; partnerships; laws and policies; and programs and services. [Read more](#)

## **Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program**

The New York State Department of Health (DOH) and the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) announce the availability of funds under the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program II (SHCFTP II), to provide grants in support of capital projects, debt retirement, working capital or other non-capital projects directly related to a capital project that facilitate health care transformation activities. [Read more](#)

# MEET OUR NEW TEAM MEMBERS

**Meredith Downen**



Meredith Downen is a Public Health Planner serving Albany and Rensselaer Counties. Meredith holds an Associate of Arts degree in Humanities and Social Sciences from Schenectady County Community College, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology with a Minor in English from the University at Albany, and is currently working toward her Master of Public Health through the University at Albany School of Public Health. Meredith has extensive experience in case management and care coordination throughout the Capital District. Before joining HCDI Meredith was involved with the development and implementation of the Emergency Department Patient

Navigation Program for St. Peter's Health Partners as a part of the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) projects with the goal of reducing non-acute visits to local Emergency Departments. A Schenectady County native who now resides in Saratoga County, Meredith enjoys spending time with her family and friends, relaxing on Sacandaga Lake, and working to increase awareness and advocacy for families battling childhood cancers.

**John Lake**



John Lake is the new Public Health Data Analyst. John holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Education and Interpretation from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Currently, he is completing a Master of Science in Biostatistics from University at Albany School of Public Health. Before coming to HCDI, John was a student research scientist at the New York State Department of Health working on the Biomonitoring of Great Lakes Populations Program. John was born in Buffalo, NY, and has lived in various places throughout New York as well as Alaska, Florida, and Connecticut before moving to Albany three years ago. In his spare time, John enjoys drawing, painting, and spending time outdoors with his girlfriend and their two dogs.