



**NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION
OF COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS**

Leading the Way to Healthier Communities

NYSACHO, in partnership with the New York State Department of Health's Bureau of Early Intervention and Bureau of Child Health, is proud to present the:

Early Intervention & Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Summit: 2024 New York Statewide Meeting

May 21st - 22nd, 2024

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Latham, NY

MEETING PROGRAM



Welcome!

Hotel Information

Check In: 3:00 pm

Check Out: 11:00 am

Continental breakfast available for overnight guests, pool, smoke-free facility, fitness center, on-site restaurant, wifi, on-site parking

Restaurants Nearby

(See 'Where To Eat' handout for more information)

Karavalli

Chipotle

New York Style Pizza

Zaitoon Kitchen

Subway

Market Bistro

Golden Wok

Mr. Subb

Red Robin

Panera Bread

BurgerFi

Applebee's Grill + Bar

Celadon Thai

SNOWFOX Sushi

Restaurant

Circle Diner

CoreLife Eatery

NYSACHO's attendees are our highest priority at all of our events. If you are ever in a situation where you feel uncomfortable, unsafe, or less than well-treated by facility staff or anyone else involved in the event, we ask that you bring it to a NYSACHO staff member's attention so we can address it immediately.

Agenda

Tuesday, May 21st, 2024

Early Intervention Focused Sessions

11:45 am – 12:30 pm: Registration Open

Opportunity to visit Exhibitor Booths (See Exhibitor Directory for more information)

12:30 pm – 12:45 pm: Early Intervention Sessions Opening Remarks

Molly Fleming MPH Senior Program Manager, New York State Association of County Health Officials

Raymond Pierce Director, Bureau of Early Intervention, New York State Department of Health

12:45 pm – 1:45 pm: Bureau of Early Intervention Updates

Bureau of Early Intervention Managers

1:45 pm – 2:45 pm: EI Hub Solution Highlights

Matthew O'Brien (Main Presenter) Training and Curriculum Specialist, Public Consulting Group

Rene Bard Training and Curriculum Specialist, Public Consulting Group

Rob Lillpopp Project Manager, Public Consulting Group

Paul Ross Training and Curriculum Manager, Public Consulting Group

Paula Van Meter Deputy Project Manager, Public Consulting Group

Lauren Zelinsky OCM and Communications Manager, Public Consulting Group

Learning objectives:

After participating in this session, attendees should be able to

- 1. Understand the benefits of the EI-Hub for counties;*
- 2. Differentiate between and utilize the dashboards and reports available in the EI-Hub;*
- 3. Find resources on the Learning Management System.*

2:45 pm - 3:00 pm: Break

Opportunity to visit Exhibitor Booths (See Exhibitor Program for more information)

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm: Panel | Local Solutions to Provider Capacity Challenges

Attaining Legislative Approval to Hire County Providers

Sherry Crisafulli MS, Ed, Director of Special Children Services, Oswego County Health Department

Learning objective:

Attendees will learn the steps taken at the local health department level to successfully gain legislative approval to hire their own providers.

Cortland County Employee Provider Team

Ianthe I. Warner MS, CCC-SLP, Supervisor of Children with Special Needs, Cortland County Health Department

Learning objective:

Attendees will learn about Cortland County's 25-year experience employing their own provider team.

Rockland County Department of Health Digital Welcome Packet

Donna Bogin MS, EIM, EIO Child Program Coordinator, Rockland County Department of Health

Learning objectives:

After participating in this session, attendees should be able to

- 1. Create a workable Welcome Packet that meets regulatory requirements & avoids a service delays;*
- 2. Ensure that transition paperwork for children two years and older is provided to families in a timely manner and can be discussed with the IFSP Team;*
- 3. Meet the needs of culturally diverse families as well as those with limited access to technology.*

Niagara County Collaborations and Ideas to Address Provider Capacity

Janice Jenosheck Director of Children with Special Needs/Early Intervention Official, Niagara County Department of Health

Learning objective:

Attendees will be able to discuss different collaborations and ideas to increase service opportunities.

Supporting Families (And Each Other) Through Community Collaboration

Chasa Petroski MS, Director of Children with Special Needs Program/Early Intervention Official, Ontario County Public Health

Learning objective:

Attendees will acquire knowledge to create or connect with community supports to assist with EI capacity issues.

End Day 1

Morning of Wednesday, May 22nd, 2024

Joint Early Intervention & Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Sessions

7:30 am – 8:30 am: Registration Open

Opportunity to visit Exhibitor Booths (See Exhibitor Program for more information)

8:30 am – 8:45 am: Full Conference Opening Remarks

Sarah Ravenhall MHA, CHES, Executive Director, New York State Association of County Health Officials

Member Leadership New York State Association of County Health Officials

8:45 am – 9:45 am: Parent to Parent of NYS - Peer Directed Services and Supports

Michele Juda Executive Director, Parent to Parent of NYS

Amy Snyder Regional Coordinator, Parent to Parent of NYS, Upstate East Office

Learning objectives:

After participating in this session, attendees will

- 1. Be familiarized with the array of services and supports offered by Parent to Parent of NYS;*
- 2. Understand importance of peer support and know how to utilize and make referrals to Parent to Parent of NYS for services.*

9:45 am – 10:30 am: Overview of the Technology Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Program

Melinda Dolezal TRAI Director, Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs

Learning objectives:

After participating in this session, attendees should be able to (continued on next page)

1. Understand how assistive technology can help with early intervention goals;
2. Identify the types of services available at the 12 Regional TRAIID Centers.

10:30 am – 11:00 am: Break

Hotel check-out ends at 11:00 am

Opportunity to visit Exhibitor Booths (See Exhibitor Program for more information)

11:00 am – 12:00 pm: Panel | Utilizing Academic Partnerships to Strengthen the Early Intervention & Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Programs

RISE at Nazareth: A Collaborative Multi-Sector Approach to the Early Intervention Workforce

Kristin Davis Senior Assistant Health Services Coordinator, Monroe County Public Health

Amy Niederst IMH-E® Infant Family Specialist & Endorsed Reflective Supervisor, Senior Assistant Health Services Coordinator, Monroe County Public Health

Eileen Radigan PhD, Assistant Professor and Program Director, Undergraduate Inclusive Early Childhood/Childhood Education Program, Nazareth University

Susan Strum PhD, Director of the Center for Professional Learning, Innovation, & Creativity, Nazareth University

Learning objectives:

After participating in this session, attendees should be able to

1. Describe an advanced certificate program in early intervention offered at Nazareth University;
2. Understand how Monroe County and Nazareth University have partnered on early intervention focused initiatives.

Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs Parent Event with Alfred Child and Family Center

Penny Chudy Director of Children's Services, Allegany County Department of Health

Learning objectives:

After participating in this session, attendees should be able to

1. Describe how to utilize community partners to enhance CYSHCN programming;
2. Involve graduate and doctoral level students in the provision of services;
3. Encourage communication among parents involved in developmental groups.

End of Joint Early Intervention & Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Sessions

12:00 pm - 1:15 pm: Lunch on Attendee's Own

A list of nearby restaurants is available at registration.

Afternoon of Wednesday, May 22nd, 2024

Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Sessions

1:15 pm - 1:30 pm: Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Sessions Opening Remarks

Cristina Dyer-Drobnack Public Policy and Program Director, New York State Association of County Health Officials

Suzanne Swan MPH, Director, Bureau of Child Health; Director, Title V Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs, New York State Department of Health

1:30 pm – 1:45 pm: Bureau of Child Health Updates | Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program Data Overview

Carolyn Perry Unit Manager, Community Based Health Unit, Bureau of Child Health, Division of Family Health, New York State Department of Health

1:45 pm – 2:15 pm: The Benefits and Eligibility of the Health Home Serving Children and the Children's Waiver of Home and Community Based Services

Colette V. Poulin Health Program Director, Children's Health Homes, Division of Program Development and Management, Office of Health Insurance Programs, New York State Department of Health

Hillel Hirshbein LCSW, MPH, Director, Health Home Program, Division of Program Development and Management, Office of Health Insurance Programs, New York State Department of Health

Learning objectives:

After participating in this session, attendees should be able to

- 1. Understand the Health Home program and eligibility criteria;*
- 2. Describe the Children's Waiver program, eligibility criteria, and connection to the Health Home program.*

2:15 pm – 2:45 pm: Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) – Enhancing Newborn Screening in NYS

Elizabeth Rialdi MPH, Program Coordinator, New York State Department of Health

Learning objectives:

After participating in this session, attendees should be able to

- 1. Discuss the goal and purpose of the NY EHDI Program;*
- 2. Demonstrate the importance of newborn hearing screening and the crucial role providers play.*

2:45 pm – 3:00 pm: Break

Opportunity to visit Exhibitor Booths (See Exhibitor Program for more information)

3:00 pm – 4:15 pm: Panel | Local Strategies to Promote the Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program

Building New Partner Collaborations to Support Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

Jena Sloan Public Health Specialist, St. Lawrence County Public Health Department

Learning objective:

Attendees will learn how to form outside partnerships and create learning opportunities for members of their community.

Developing the Erie County Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program

Evanna Ramos MPH, BSW, Project Coordinator, Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program, Erie County Office of Health Equity

Learning objective:

Attendees will learn about the redevelopment of Erie County's CYSHCN Program.

Orange County Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Community Outreach and Initiatives

Sandra Brownsey MS, CAS, Director of Intervention Services, Orange County Department of Health

Paula Hayes-Hayden MHA, CYSHCN Coordinator, Orange County Department of Health

Learning objectives:

After participating in this session, attendees should be able to

- 1. Name three initiatives that they can apply to their local community;*
- 2. Identify 1-2 community partners for their local CYSHCN program.*

End Day 2

Speaker Information

(listed alphabetically by last name)

Donna Bogin, MS, EIM, EIO (She/Her)

Child Program Coordinator, Rockland County Department of Health

Donna is currently the Child Program Coordinator for the Rockland County Department of Health. In this position she is the EIO and EIM, as well as overseeing preschool services and transportation. Donna has been involved with Early Intervention since services were approved by Family Court. In conjunction with the Rockland County Department of Social Services, prior to the implementation of home services, Donna provided after hours home services to children who were too medically compromised to attend a program. Since Early Intervention services have come under the direction of the NYSDOH, Donna has been a GDM teacher, ongoing service coordinator, evaluator, and independent provider. When Donna worked for Prime Time for Kids, the children's program for the ARC of Rockland, she was an Early Intervention Coordinator, overseeing the program. During that time, Donna's team created a full day of services for children diagnosed with autism that included home based services in the morning and attendance in a 6: 1 :2 GDM with related services in afternoon. Donna was selected as a panel member for the NYSDOH Guidelines for Down Syndrome and a peer reviewer for the Guidelines for Motor Disorders. For the past 25 years, Donna has been an adjunct lecturer in the Master's Program for Special Education at Dominican University.

Sandra Brownsey, MS, CAS (She/Her)

Director of Intervention Services, Orange County Department of Health

Sandra started her career in Early Intervention as a Special Educator and evaluator. After 15 years, she transitioned to the role of administrator in a school for children with autism. In that position, Sandra worked closely with families to connect them to community resources and develop advocacy skills. She was also the staff trainer for teachers, therapists and aides. Now, as the Director of Early Intervention, Preschool Services, Child Find and CYSHCN Sandra strives to coordinate networks of stakeholders for collaboration and information sharing using a multi-pronged approach.

Sherry Crisafulli, MD, Ed (She/Her)

Director of Special Children Services, Oswego County Health Department

Sherry began her role as Director of Special Children Services for the Oswego County Health Department on March 4, 2024. Prior to this, she served as the Preschool Special Education Program Coordinator for eight years. Sherry's previous career experience also includes being an Early Head Start Home-Based Visitor, Head Start classroom teacher, and Head Start Center Director. Sherry has a BS in Childhood Education and a MS in Literacy Education.

Kristin Davis (She/Her)

Senior Assistant Health Services Coordinator, Monroe County Public Health

Kristin Davis is a Supervisor and EIOD for the Early Intervention Program with the Monroe County Department of Public Health. She holds an Associates in Applied Science and has recently completed a leadership development program in Equity, Inclusion and Diversity as well as Infant Mental Health training. Kristin has a passion for supporting families of young children to nurture and enhance their child's development.

Melinda Dolezal (*She/Her*)

TRAID Director, Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs

Melinda Dolezal has been the Director of TRAIID since 2018. She has presented at national and international conferences on a variety of topics such as assistive technology and accessibility, transition, and increasing independence. Prior to joining TRAIID she worked as a Medicaid Service Coordinator, Direct Support Professional, and Self-Directed Broker at agencies in Schenectady, Buffalo, and Oneonta.

Paula Hayes-Hayden, MHA (*She/Her*)

CYSHCN Coordinator, Orange County Department of Health

Paula is the Orange County CYSHCN Coordinator, bringing together experience in marketing, health research, and the insurance industry. With a Master's in Health Administration, she aims to advocate for the unique needs of CYSHCN populations. Drawing from her marketing background, Paula works on finding innovative solutions to improve access to care. Her experience in health research and insurance helps her navigate the complexities of healthcare systems. Paula is committed to making a meaningful impact on CYSHCN families through dedication and compassion.

Hillel Hirshbein, LCSW, MPH (*He/Him*)

Director, Health Home Program, Division of Program Development and Management, Office of Health Insurance Programs, New York State Department of Health

Hillel Hirshbein is the Health Home Director at the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), Office of Health Insurance Programs (OHIP). An LCSW/MPH with 20 years of leadership and management experience in progressively larger and more complex behavioral health and social service programs that straddle the intersection of individual and population health, Mr. Hirshbein is committed to recovery-oriented and equity-driven models of care grounded in the premise that each individual ought to have the opportunity to overcome the adverse social determinants of health to live lives of wellness, independence, and dignity. Prior to joining NYSDOH, Mr. Hirshbein led the CCMP Health Home for 5 years; for the previous 15 years he supported programs and executive leadership at The Jewish Board, a large multiservice agency in NYC. His direct practice experience ranges from short-term Detox counseling, to care and case-management in residential and non-residential settings, to trauma and bereavement work with children and their families. Mr. Hirshbein received his Bachelors Degree from the University of Pennsylvania and his graduate degrees from the University of Michigan.

Michele Juda (*She/Her*)

Executive Director, Parent to Parent of NYS

Michele has been with Parent to Parent of NYS since 2008, being named Executive Director in 2014. She completed the Maternal Child Health—Public Health Leadership Institute fellowship in May of 2014 and has received Governor appointments to serve on both the Title V MCH Block Grant and Developmental Disabilities Advisories Councils (DDAC). Recently Michele was appointed by the Board of Regents to serve on the NYS Independent Living Council. Michele has been a Title V Block Grant reviewer and presented nationally on care coordination for the Lucile Packard Foundation. She was a featured author in the AUCD's Research to Practice in Self-Determination Series.

Janice Jenosheck (She/Her)

Director of Children with Special Needs/Early Intervention Official, Niagara County Department of Health

Janice has been the Early Intervention Official (EIO) in Niagara County since January 2023, previously serving in various administrative capacities within the Niagara County Children with Special Needs Program, including Early Intervention Manager (EIM) since 2012. With an additional seven years of experience working with children and adults through the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), Janice has a lifelong commitment to supporting individuals with developmental delays and disabilities. Her dedication extends beyond her roles within the EIP to actively enhancing collaborations and opportunities for children and families in Niagara County. Janice brings a wealth of knowledge and passion to her work, advocating tirelessly for the needs of the community.

Amy Niederst, IMH-E® Infant Family Specialist & Endorsed Reflective Supervisor (She/Her)

Senior Assistant Health Services Coordinator, Monroe County Public Health

Amy Niederst is an EIOD and Supervisor for the Early Intervention Program in Monroe County, NY. She holds a Bachelors in Child Development and Child Life from Bowling Green State University, and over the years has worked in many settings serving young children and their families, including schools and hospitals. Amy has worked in Early Intervention for over 11 years, and began as an Ongoing Service Coordinator. She recently became an Infant Family Specialist and Endorsed Reflective Supervisor through NYSAIMH, and has a passion for all things Infant Mental Health.

Chasa Petroski, MS (She/Her)

Director of Children with Special Needs Program/Early Intervention Official, Ontario County Public Health

Chasa Petroski received her bachelor's degree in education specializing in nursery through sixth grade. After realizing her passion was working with infants, she completed her master's in Early Intervention (EI). After briefly working as an EI Developmental Specialist in Massachusetts, she moved back to Rochester and began working as an EI Service Coordinator. She then began working as an Early Intervention Official Designee and supervisor. After almost 23 years with Monroe County, she accepted the position of Director of Children with Special Needs in Ontario County. Chasa has had the opportunity to train with spectacular teachers and mentors, the most notable being Dr. T. Berry Brazelton who is someone she holds in high regard. Chasa is passionate about EI and supporting children and families using a caregiver coaching model. Aside from work, Chasa and her partner, Paul, enjoy life on a farm, traveling and outdoor activities such as boating in the Finger Lakes and snowmobiling in the Adirondacks.

Colette V. Poulin (She/Her)

Health Program Director, Children's Health Homes, Division of Program Development and Management, Office of Health Insurance Programs, New York State Department of Health

Colette V. Poulin, MSSA Colette Poulin has over 29 years of diverse experience within the field of social services, working for community-based organizations, counties, and State government. Practicing within the child welfare, mental health, and health care services. Colette was the previous Albany County Commissioner (2008-2014) for the Department of Children, Youth, and Family overseeing the Early Intervention program and other programs for children/youth with special needs. She is currently working for New York State Department of Health, Health Insurance Programs for children and youth. Colette received a Master of Science in Social Administration from Case Western Reserve University of Ohio.

Public Consulting Group (PCG)

Rene Bard - Training and Curriculum Specialist; Rob Lillpopp - Project Manager; Matthew O'Brien - Training and Curriculum Specialist; Paul Ross - Training and Curriculum Manager; Paula Van Meter - Deputy Project Manager; Lauren Zelinsky - OCM and Communications Manager

Public Consulting Group (PCG) is a leading management consulting and operations improvement firm specializing in the public sector. PCG collaborates with health, education, and human services agencies to facilitate impactful improvements and help state and municipal human services keep their promises to the children and families they serve. Since 2013, PCG has served as New York State's Early Intervention Fiscal Agent, processing all provider and insurance claims for the state, known as EI Billing. In 2019, PCG again secured a contract with the state to implement an IT solution (EI-Hub) supporting the Early Intervention Program. EI-Hub takes a modular approach to the early intervention process, providing case management, service logging, billing and claiming, provider enrollment, and robust reporting—all in one user-friendly application.

Eileen Radigan, PhD (She/Her)

Assistant Professor and Program Director, Undergraduate Inclusive Early Childhood/Childhood Education Program, Nazareth University

Eileen Radigan is an assistant professor in the School of Education at Nazareth University and directs the Inclusive Early Childhood/Childhood Education Program. With over 20 years of teaching experience, Eileen specializes in preparing teacher candidates to effectively support children with disabilities in inclusive educational settings. In 2015, Eileen earned her Ph.D. in Teaching, Curriculum, and Change, with a focus on Disability Studies and inclusive education, from the Warner School of Education at the University of Rochester. She has also taught at Monroe Community College, the Warner School of Education, and in K-12 schools.

Evanna Ramos, MPH, BSW (She/Her)

Project Coordinator, Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program, Erie County Office of Health Equity

Evanna Ramos MPH, BSW, is the project coordinator for the Erie County Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program in the Office of Health Equity. Evanna's mother passed away from AIDS in 2003 when she was just 17 years old. After this loss, Evanna was motivated to seek a career in social work and enrolled at Buffalo State College. Evanna worked for 7 years at Erie County Medical Center (ECMC), a Level 1 Trauma hospital in Buffalo New York. While at ECMC she advocated for patients to achieve their optimal health by addressing the social determinants of health and disparities that people encounter in the environments, where they were born, live, grow, work, and learn. These inequities include systemic racism, discrimination, poverty, homelessness, high healthcare costs, food insecurity, insufficient insurance coverage, mistrust of the medical system, a lack of cultural responsiveness, access to care, the opioid epidemic, a lack of transportation, chronic disease, mental health, gun violence, the effects of covid-19, social determinants of health barriers, and health care shortages. After an 8 year hiatus, Evanna enrolled in the Master of Public Health Program at Daemen College (now University) where she graduated in May 2022. When she isn't advocating for equity, Evanna can be found shopping, traveling, eating pizza, and chauffeuring her 16- year-old daughter Mia around all while wearing cheetah print.

Elizabeth Rialdi, MPH (She/Her)

Project Coordinator, New York State Department of Health

Elizabeth Rialdi, MPH is the Program Coordinator for the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program at the New York State Department of Health's Bureau of Perinatal, Reproductive, and Sexual Health. Through this role she oversees the state EHDI Program to ensure consistent and accurate newborn hearing screening, diagnostic testing, and referral, in addition to enhancing family engagement and support throughout the state. She has been with the Bureau for 6 years since the completion of her Masters in Public Health from the University at Albany School of Public Health in 2018.

Jena Sloan (She/Her)

Public Health Specialist, St. Lawrence County Public Health Department

Jena Sloan began working at the St. Lawrence County Public Health Department almost a year ago. Prior to this position, she worked for 7 years as a Physical Therapist Assistant before spending 2 years working in youth substance use prevention. The most important of Jena's jobs is being a mom to two beautiful young girls. She cherishes the fact that she can work in the CYSHCN program and make a difference to other families that may need that extra assistance.

Amy Snyder (She/Her)

Regional Coordinator, Parent to Parent of NYS, Upstate East Office

Amy is a mother of 4 boys, one has a rare genetic condition called DiGeorge Syndrome. As a Parent herself, Amy understands the challenges that come with raising a child with disabilities, and is passionate about supporting others and building a community so that parents do not feel alone on their journey.

Susan Sturm, PhD (She/Her)

Director of the Center for Professional Learning, Innovation, and Creativity, Nazareth University

Susan Sturm is the Director of the Center for Professional Learning, Innovation, & Creativity at Nazareth University. She has worked as faculty in the early childhood and childhood education field for ten years and has served as co-director for a grant-funded interprofessional program focused on preparing candidates from speech, occupational and physical therapy, social work, creative arts therapy, and early childhood education to become early intervention providers. Susan was the curriculum lead on this project and developed a range of courses focused on early intervention for students in the grant-funded program, now a recognized advanced certificate program in early intervention at Nazareth University.

Ianthe I. Warner, MS, CCC-SLP (She/Her)

Supervisor of Children with Special Needs, Cortland County Health Department

Ianthe received her B.S. in Human Development and Family Studies from Cornell University, and her M.S. in Speech Language Pathology from Hunter College. She has worked as an SLP since 1997, and has been with Cortland County Early Intervention since 1999. She stepped into Supervisor of Children with Special Needs role in Cortland County in 2023 and now oversees their Child Find, CYSHCN, and Early Intervention programs including their Service Coordinators and Provider Team.

New York State Department of Health Program Directors and Staff Contact Information

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Acronyms

BEI = Bureau of Early Intervention

BCH = Bureau of Child Health

CYSHCN = Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs