

Catskill Hudson Area Health Education Center hosted a highly successful Health Professions Seminar on Sunday, April 3, on the topic of improving healthcare for LGBT individuals and populations in New York's Hudson Valley.



It took place at the Middletown, N.Y., campus of the Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine, with 65 healthcare professionals and students taking part. They heard presentations from three outstanding experts on topics including:

- ❖ Understanding culturally-competent attitudes toward LGBT individuals
- ❖ Adapting healthcare systems and practices
- ❖ Recognizing needs of transgender individuals
- ❖ Learning about HIV/AIDS and sexually-transmitted disease prevention
- ❖ Reviewing history of healthcare practices, attitudes and trends



Attendees networked with their peers, found resources for assisting patients, learned about institutions with health programs for LGBT individuals, and discussed future training opportunities they might want to organize or participate in. Continuing education credits were offered to physicians, nurses and social workers.

Presenters were Howard Grossman, MD, President of AlphaBetterCare; Lori Ciafardoni, MSN/ED, RN, Assistant Professor of Nursing at SUNY Delhi; and Rob Conlon, MS, Co-Chair of the Board of Directors of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) of the Hudson Valley. In evaluations, 73 percent of attendees rated the overall program as “excellent” and 27 percent rated it as “good.”

Fifty-one of 53 attendees said they would plan to implement at least one change in their practice or at their institution as a result of having attended.

Thanks to our gracious sponsors Touro College, Adelphi University, Westchester Medical Center Health Network and Arms Acres.



Catskill Hudson Area Health Education Center thanks all those who made our April 3 Health Professions Seminar on LGBT Healthcare a huge success, and issues our appreciation to our friends and leaders who work to improve healthcare for LGBT individuals across the Catskills and Hudson Valley - and who attended to join and help lead such efforts.

Our thanks to our sponsors for their generous financial, marketing, and in-kind forms of support:



Thanks to our valued community partner whose hard work in the field inspired this effort:

The Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network of the Hudson Valley (GLSEN)

Thanks to our many “fellow traveler” organizations that have diligently spread the word about this program and that support health-related services and trainings that benefit LGBT individuals and populations, or lent programmatic insights for the seminar:

Empire State Pride Agenda	Hospice of Orange and Sullivan	Montefiore Hudson Valley Collaborative
Putnam County Department of Health	Haverford College	Bassett Healthcare Network
The Dyson Foundation	Hudson River Healthcare (HRHCare)	Ellenville Regional Hospital
United Way of Westchester and Putnam	SUNY Delhi	SUNY Sullivan
New York Pride Network	SEIU Local 1199	Volunteer New York!
	New York State Area Health Education Centers System	

Thanks to volunteers Kelly Morehead, Connor Henderson and students of Touro College. We offer much appreciation to the Hudson Valley LGBTQ Center in Kingston, for its vital community services and support; and to Kathy Reed, retired executive director of Catskill Hudson Area Health Education Center, whose leadership gave rise to this seminar. Thanks to our organization’s sturdy staff team of Roxanna Raffa, RN, Kathy Doyle, and Carolyn Steele for going above and beyond the call to make this event possible. Their efforts and commitment are untiring.

