



# **The NYSPHC** **Mentor** **Directory**

## The Mentor Directory

The NYSPHC Mentor Directory is an index of NYSPHC Fellowship Program Mentors listed by both region and name. The directory is updated on an as-needed basis when Mentors submit their profiles to the program.

The New York State Public Health Corps (NYSPHC) Mentor Directory is a networking tool for NYSPHC Fellows and program participants. Fellows are encouraged connect with past and present Mentors throughout NYS found in the directory to build a robust public health network throughout the duration of their Fellowship.



## Active NYSPHC Mentors

Meaghan Abrego

*Expert in: Communicable Disease Health Informatics/IT, Epidemiology and Data, Sexual Health, Harm Reduction and Substance Use, and Surveys and Interviewing*

Maryline Alexis-Philippe

*Expert in: Community Health, Health Education and HIV/AIDS*

Cayla Anderson

*Expert in: Chronic Disease Health Equity, Epidemiology and Data, Outreach and Partnership Development, and Health Education*

Ray Babowicz

*Expert in: Outreach and Partnership Development, Public Policy and Government Relations, Community Health, and more*

David E. Bell

*Expert in: Chronic Disease Health Equity, Community Health, LGBTQ Health Emergency Preparedness, Mental Health, Epidemiology and Data, and more*

Kelly Bonnar

*Expert in: Chronic Disease Health Equity, Violence Prevention, Community Health, and more*

Michelle A. Budwitz

*Expert in: Global Health, and Epidemiology and Data*

Rachel Cicigline

*Expert in: Environmental Health*

Karen Lynn Craik

*Expert in: Community Health, Chronic Disease Health Equity, and Public Health Policy*

Chris Crawford

*Expert in: Communicable Disease Health Informatics/IT, Environmental Health, and Epidemiology and Data*

Susan M. Franko

*Expert in: Community Health and Health Education*

Luke Grandis

*Expert in: Drug User Health and Hepatitis-C Healthcare, Harm Reduction and Substance Use*

Kacey Griffin

*Expert in: Community Health, Maternal and Child Health, Outreach and Partnership Development, Sexual Health, Harm Reduction and Substance Use, and Health Equity*

Abigail Guisbond

*Expert in: Outreach and Partnership Development, Aging and Long-Term Care, Housing, Transportation, and Caregivers*

Pauline W. Hoffmann

*Expert in: Communications Laboratory Science, Community Health, Outreach and Partnership Development, Communication, Strategic Planning, and Disinformation*

Megan C. Johnson

*Expert in: Community Health, Sexual Health, and Vaccination and Testing*

Spencer Keable

*Expert in: Chronic Disease Health Equity, Environmental Health, Epidemiology and Data, Harm Reduction and Substance Use*

LaShawnda McClarin

*Expert in: Community Health, Epidemiology and Data, Sexual Health, and Health Education*

Heather McGrane Minton

*Expert in: Community Health, Maternal and Child Health, Mental Health, Epidemiology and Data, Health Education, Social Determinants of Health, and Eating disordered behaviors in college students*

Matthew Morse

*Expert in: Environmental Health and Epidemiology and Data*

Abigail Mosenthin

*Expert in: Health Education, Environmental Health, Epidemiology and Data, Harm Reduction and Substance Use*

Kayla Nikc

*Expert in: Chronic Disease Health Equity, Epidemiology and Data, Harm Reduction and Substance Use, and Global Health*

Sarah Ravenhall

*Expert in: Community Health, Outreach and Partnership Development, Health Education, Policy, Leadership, Grants Management, and Nonprofit Administration*

Patricia Riley

*Expert in: Community Health, Maternal and Child Health, Vaccination and Testing, and Health Education*

Chris Seplaki

*Expert in: Epidemiology and Data, Gerontology and Epidemiology of Aging*

Suzanne Swan

*Expert in: Maternal/Child Health, Community Health, Family Health, and more*

Missi Wooldridge

*Expert in: Community Health, Outreach and Partnership Development, and Harm Reduction and Substance Abuse*

## **Previous NYSPHC Mentors**

Jessica Darney Buehler

*Expert in: Health Literacy, Wellness Coaching, Community Health, and more*

Joe Fantigrossi

*Expert in: Outreach and Partnership Development, and Pre-K-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Education*

Jessica Kulak

*Expert in: Community Health, and Harm Reduction and Substance Abuse*

Michelle Larimore

*Expert in: Community Health, Outreach and Partnership Development, and Health Education*

Kelly McDermott

*Expert in: Outreach and Partnership Development and Community Health*

Bertha Nichols

*Expert in: Communicable Disease Health Informatics/IT, Community Health, and Health Education*

Christy Richards

*Expert in: Chronic Disease Health Equity, Health Education, Maternal/Child Health, and more*

Steven Sawicki

*Expert in: Community Health and Quality Improvement*

Christine Schuyler

*Expert in: Maternal/Child Health, Community Health, Outreach and Partnership Development, and more*

Mickey Sperlich

*Expert in: Maternal/Child Health, Mental Health, Health Education, and more*

Michael Tritto

*Expert in: Outreach and Partnership Development, and Vaccination and Testing*

# Active NYSPHC Mentors



# MEAGHAN ABREGO

**MPH**  
She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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Health Research Inc. / State  
Health Department

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

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Dutchess, Nassau, Orange,  
Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk,  
Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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- ❖ Communicable Disease  
Health Informatics/IT
- ❖ Epidemiology and Data
- ❖ Sexual Health
- ❖ Harm Reduction and  
Substance Use
- ❖ Surveys and Interviewing

## CONTACT

**EMAIL:**  
meaghan.abrego@health.ny.gov

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I decided to make connections, share experiences, and learn about public health activities currently being implemented.

### Fun fact:

I studied/worked abroad in Jamaica, Japan, Nicaragua and Bangladesh.

### Hobbies:

Gardening, camping, and road trips!



## WORK EXPERIENCE

### **CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION**

State Health Department AIDS  
Institute

### **COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH**

New York State, Kings, Queens,  
Bronx and Manhattan.

### **AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Health Education
- ❖ HIV/AIDS

## CONTACT

### **EMAIL:**

maryline.alexis-  
philippe@health.ny.gov

### **PHONE:**

212-417-4471  
212-814-8648

# MARYLINE ALEXIS-PHILIPPE

### **MPH**

She/her

## ABOUT

### **Why did you decide to become a Mentor?**

Mentoring can help to gain new perspectives, appreciate diversity, and build connections.

### **What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?**

This is my first time being a mentor for NYSPHC. I have served as a mentor before, and it was great seeing the mentee transformation.

### **Fun fact:**

I learned to ride a bike at forty years of age.

### **Hobbies:**

I enjoy walking, seeing movies on the big screen, cooking and seeing Broadway shows.

### **How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?**

It will aid an individual reach their career goals and improve my leadership skills.



# CAYLA ANDERSON

**MPH**

She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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State Health Department

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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- ❖ Chronic Disease Health Equity
- ❖ Epidemiology and Data
- ❖ Outreach and Partnership Development
- ❖ Health Education

## CONTACT

**EMAIL:**

cayla.anderson@health.ny.gov

## ABOUT

**Why did you decide to become a Mentor?**

To be able to offer support and answer questions the new generation of public health professionals may have a need for, that may not have been readily available when I first started out in my career journey.

**How does NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?**

Helping the next generation of public health leaders to essentially grow our workforce is one of the most important aspects of being a public health professional.

**Hobbies:**

I enjoy hiking, traveling, and running with my dog.



# RAY BABOWICZ

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### EMPLOYER/PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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Community Health Center of  
the North County

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PH

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Franklin, Jefferson, and St.  
Lawrence County

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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- ❖ Outreach/Partnership  
Development
- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Public Policy/Government  
Relations

## CONTACT

### EMAIL:

[rbabowicz@chcnorthcounty.org](mailto:rbabowicz@chcnorthcounty.org)

### PHONE:

315-713-9369

### LINKEDIN:

[https://www.linkedin.com/in/  
raybabowicz/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/raybabowicz/)

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I decided to become a Mentor to help usher in the next generation of healthcare workers who are in it for the mission.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

The most valuable thing about being a Mentor is learning.

### How does NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

I feel one of the most important things we can do is help those coming into the field understand the critical role they are about to take on and the legacy level impact they can leave on the communities they serve. I'm honored to have that part of my career.

### Fun fact:

I am a pilot.

### Hobbies:

I enjoy cooking, fishing, golf, and the outdoors.



# DAVID E. BELL

**PhD, MPH**  
He/him

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

Genesee and Orleans County  
Health Departments (GO  
Health)

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Genesee and Orleans

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ LGBTQ Health
- ❖ Mental Health
- ❖ Epidemiology and Data
- ❖ Outreach and Partnership  
Development
- ❖ Vaccination and Testing
- ❖ Health Education

## CONTACT

**EMAIL:**  
david.bell@geneseeny.gov

**PHONE:**  
585-589-3251

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I hope to better contribute to an upcoming public health workforce, helping Fellows and the Fellowship program overall be more impactful in the communities they serve. I find mentoring to be way to share and build professional enthusiasm.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

Perspective. It is easy to lose sight of what it feels like to be new in the public health workforce. This is a valuable perspective to have, to share, and for others to learn from.

### Fun fact:

I own and manage 8 sheep right now. And I have learned that huskies are horrible sheep guard dogs (I own one Siberian husky).

### Hobbies:

Spend time outside, preferably in the woods, a park, in a kayak, or some type of landscaping or recreational farm property management.

### How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

My career goal is to create stronger and more equitable public health services that are better informed by social and behavioral science, particularly associated with public health emergency preparedness and response.



# KELLY BONNAR

**PhD, CHES**  
She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### EMPLOYER/PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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SUNY Potsdam, Department  
of Public Health & Human  
Performance

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

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St. Lawrence County

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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- ❖ Chronic Disease Health  
Equity
- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Sexual Health
- ❖ Health Education
- ❖ Violence Prevention

## CONTACT

**EMAIL:**  
bonnarkk@potsdam.edu

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I decided to become a Mentor because it is a great way to connect with our local departments of public health and in general to support our field.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

The most valuable thing about being a Mentor is that I made a great professional connection!

### How does NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

The NYSPHC provides an amazing professional connection, not just for myself, but my students who are seeking careers in the field.

### Fun fact:

I used to be a professional figure skater.

### Hobbies:

I am a mom and a figure skating coach.



# MICHELLE A. BUDWITZ

**PhD, MPH**  
She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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Hartwick College

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

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Ostego

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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- ❖ Global Health
- ❖ Epidemiology and Data

## CONTACT

### LINKEDIN:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/michelleabudwitz/>



# RACHEL CICIGLINE

She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### EMPLOYER/PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

State Health Department  
Albany, NY – Center for  
Environmental Health, Bureau  
of Water Supply Protection

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

All Counties

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

❖ Environmental Health

## CONTACT

### EMAIL:

rachel.cicigline@health.ny.gov

### PHONE:

518-402-8590

### LINKEDIN:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/rachelcicigline/>

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

My career path was a bit jagged. If I had a mentor when I was just starting out, it would have helped me gain clarity. I became a Mentor so I could help others like me find opportunities to network and grow in their career.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

The most valuable thing about being a Mentor is having a better understanding of the direction public health needs to go to continue to be of service to the public.

### How does NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

Even though I am a Mentor, I also feel like a mentee. There's so much I'm learning through the speakers that present for my cohort and the NYSPHC speakers that come from all backgrounds. It is also helping me network, and it's getting me out of my comfort zone!

### Fun fact:

I've been a NASM Certified Personal Trainer for ten years, specializing in corrective exercise and fitness for those with autoimmune diseases and arthritis.

### Hobbies:

I love to paint, make jewelry, and exercise often. I wouldn't be being honest if I didn't say I like to chill out with my two cats!



# KAREN LYNN CRAIK

**MHA, EdD**  
She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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HEALTHeLINK

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

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Western New York

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Chronic Disease Health Equity
- ❖ Public Health Policy

## CONTACT

### EMAIL:

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### LINKEDIN:

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# CHRIS CRAWFORD

**MUP, PhD**  
He/him

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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Cattaraugus County HD

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

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Cattaraugus

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

---

- ❖ Communicable Disease  
Health Informatics/IT
- ❖ Environmental Health
- ❖ Epidemiology and Data

## CONTACT

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thecrawdad87@gmail.com

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716-472-4636

**LINKEDIN:**

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/chris-crawford-environmental-scientist/>

## ABOUT

**Why did you decide to become a Mentor?**

I enjoy working with others and sharing my experience and knowledge.

**What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?**

A little bit of hope in the younger generation.

**Fun fact:**

I speak a little Tongan.

**Hobbies:**

Walk my dog and read.

**How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?**

I am thankful for passing on the little knowledge I have. At this point in my career, that is important.



# SUSAN M. FRANKO

**PhD, RRT, CPPS**  
She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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Bassett Healthcare Network-  
Cobleskill Regional Hospital

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

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Hamilton, Schoharie

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

---

- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Health Education

## CONTACT

**EMAIL:**  
susan.franko@bhsc.org

**PHONE:**  
518-332-5161

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I enjoy helping grow our future leaders in public health.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

Understanding of the multiple aspects of public health programs.

### Fun fact:

I never take myself too seriously.

### Hobbies:

Theater, concerts, entertaining, travel.

### How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

I'm nearing retirement but will continue to stay as active as possible in public health.



# LUKE GRANDIS

He/him

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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- ❖ State Health Department
- ❖ AIDS Institute
- ❖ Bureau of Hepatitis Health Care and Epidemiology

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

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Statewide

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

---

- ❖ Drug User Health and Hepatitis-C Healthcare
- ❖ Harm Reduction and Substance Use

## CONTACT

### EMAIL:

luke.grandis@health.ny.gov

### PHONE:

518-536-1558

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I really loved my experience as a NYSPHC Fellow (2023-2024) but felt that I could have gotten more out of my Mentorship experience in the program. I am excited to utilize my not-for-profit leadership skills and subject matter expertise to enhance the experiences of incoming Fellows.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

Networking, opportunities for leadership growth.

### Hobbies:

I enjoy outdoor adventures (going kayaking, paddle boarding, hiking, etc.), skateboarding, and spoiling my cat.

### How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

As a NYSPHC fellowship alumnus building his career in public health, NYSPHC allows me to network and build meaningful relationships with other public health professionals creating meaningful change throughout the state of New York.



# KACEY GRIFFIN

**MPH**

She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

State Health Department

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

All of New York State

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Maternal and Child Health
- ❖ Outreach and Partnership Development
- ❖ Sexual Health
- ❖ Harm Reduction and Substance Use
- ❖ Health Equity

## CONTACT

**EMAIL:**

kacey.griffin@health.ny.gov

**PHONE:**

518-948-1915

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I wanted to be a mentor to share my experiences with others involved in the Fellowship and as a means of giving back to the program that helped me to launch my career.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

Networking experience and ability to learn about projects throughout the state or region that Fellows are placed in.

### Fun fact:

I travelled to Europe in high school with a group of students from Rochester and New Jersey.

### Hobbies:

I love music and podcasts, so you will usually find me doing something with headphones on. I also have started learning piano.

### How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

I am currently building my experiences as a supervisor and mentoring is a huge part of leading a team. I am excited to see how this mentoring experience will inform my continued growth into a managerial position.



# ABIGAIL GUISBOND

**MPH**

She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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State Health Department

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

---

Albany

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

---

- ❖ Outreach and Partnership Development
- ❖ Aging and Long-Term Care
- ❖ Housing, Transportation, and Caregivers

## CONTACT

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**LINKEDIN:**

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/abigail-guisbond-mph-625501122/>

## ABOUT

**Why did you decide to become a Mentor?**

So, I could help Fellows navigate the program, network, and learn from them.

**What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?**

Meeting Fellows from all parts of the state and hearing about their unique experiences.

**Fun fact:**

I have a fraternal twin!

**Hobbies:**

Dance/Teach Ballet

**How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?**

My career goal is to become a leader in aging and long-term care policy. This program will allow me to develop my leadership and networking skills.



# PAULINE W. HOFFMANN

**Ph.D.**  
She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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Cattaraugus County Health  
Department

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

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Cattaraugus County

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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- ❖ Communications Laboratory  
Science
- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Strategic Planning
- ❖ Disinformation

## CONTACT

**EMAIL:**  
pwhoffmann@cattco.org

**PHONE:**  
716-864-9768

**LINKEDIN:**  
[https://www.linkedin.com/in/  
pwhoffmann/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/pwhoffmann/)

## ABOUT

**Why did you decide to become a Mentor?**  
To share knowledge and to network.

**What is the most valuable thing you have gained as  
being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?**  
Contacts and feedback from mentees in different  
counties.

**Fun fact:**  
I read Tarot cards.

**Hobbies:**  
Read, exercise, cook, puzzle.

**How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career  
goals?**  
I can make connections statewide that will help me to  
better serve our local community.



# MEGAN C. JOHNSON

**MPH**

She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

State Health Department

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Statewide

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Sexual Health
- ❖ Vaccination and Testing

## CONTACT

**EMAIL:**

megan.johnson@health.ny.gov

**PHONE:**

914.500.3537

**LINKEDIN:**

[www.linkedin.com/in/megan-cwjohnson](http://www.linkedin.com/in/megan-cwjohnson)

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I want to give back to the public health community and (hopefully!) make a positive impact on someone else's professional career by sharing my knowledge and experiences to help them achieve their goals.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

So far, my co-mentor! Their journey in public is different than mine, making us a great team. I look forward to our collaboration and working with the Fellows in our cohort.

**Fun fact:**

I'm teaching myself the art of hand embroidery.

**Hobbies:**

I am a proud mother of two children. My daughter is a budding fashionista, who brings creativity and style into the family, while my son, is an avid Star Wars enthusiast, who fills the home with adventure and imagination. As a family we enjoy volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House in Albany and playing with our ever so naughty family dog, who loves to counter surf and steal our shoes resulting in an epic family 'game' of keep away.

### How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

Early in my career, I thoroughly enjoyed working with students pursuing their degrees in public health. I've missed that experience, and now, serving as a mentor allows me to give back and help shape the future public health workforce.



# SPENCER KEABLE

**MPH**

He/him

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

CDC Foundation, assigned to  
the State Health Department

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

State Health Department

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- ❖ Chronic Disease Health Equity
- ❖ Environmental Health
- ❖ Epidemiology and Data
- ❖ Harm Reduction and Substance Use

## CONTACT

**EMAIL:**

spencer.keable@health.ny.gov

**LINKEDIN:**

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/spencer-keable>

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I chose to be a Mentor because I was a NYSPHC Fellow myself. I had a great experience, and I want to be a resource for current Fellows.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

I am just starting out as a Mentor, but as a Fellow, I had the opportunity to make invaluable connections with other Fellows and public health professionals.

### Fun fact:

I make delicious lattes. I have an espresso machine at home, and I enjoy using it because it feels like a sort of lab experiment.

### Hobbies:

I like to play video games and garden. I also like to play soccer, although I do it infrequently nowadays.

### How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

Mentoring is a top priority for me as I progress in my career. NYSPHC is a great chance for me to build on my leadership and interpersonal skills.



# LASHAWNDA MCCLARIN

**MPH**

She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

AIDS Institute

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Involved in all counties  
excluding the five boroughs.

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Epidemiology and Data
- ❖ Sexual Health
- ❖ Health Education

## CONTACT

**EMAIL:**

lashawnda.mcclarin@health.ny.gov

**PHONE:**

518-473-6649

**LINKEDIN:**

[https://www.linkedin.com/in/  
lashawnda-mcclarin-489a8960/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/lashawnda-mcclarin-489a8960/)

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I became a mentor because, when I entered the public health workforce, I didn't have a mentor and really wished I had one. Navigating the field without guidance was incredibly challenging. I want to ensure that others don't have to go through that same struggle.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

I enjoy hearing about new experiences and watching people grow over time. It's fulfilling to assist others in building a strong foundation for their success.

**Fun fact:**

I lived in Germany for seven years (military brat).

**Hobbies:**

In my free time, I enjoy watching football (Go Cowboys!), scrapbooking, trying new foods, and spending time with family and friends.

### How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

My Deputy Director (Deepa Rajulu) suggested that I become a mentor to develop working relationships beyond my current role. She believed it would be a valuable opportunity to learn about other programs and initiatives outside the HIV/STI field.



# HEATHER MCGRANE MINTON

PhD  
She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

St. John Fisher University,  
Wegmans School of Nursing

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Monroe, Wayne

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Maternal and Child Health
- ❖ Mental Health
- ❖ Epidemiology and Data
- ❖ Health Education
- ❖ Social Determinants of Health
- ❖ Eating disordered behaviors in college students

## CONTACT

**EMAIL:**  
hmcgrane@sjf.edu

**PHONE:**  
585-385-7359

**LINKEDIN:**  
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heather-mcgrane-minton-phd-  
78024967/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/heather-mcgrane-minton-phd-78024967/)

## ABOUT

### **Why did you decide to become a Mentor?**

Public health was my second career, and I wanted to help my mentees find their passion at whatever stage of their career they are in. Also, I teach primarily graduate nursing students and wanted to help shape future leaders in public health.

### **What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?**

I love connecting with people and so while I am early in my journey as a Mentor in the NYSPHC, I can see this experience resulting in new relationships and creating a network of public health advocates who continue to support each other.

### **Fun fact:**

I put myself through graduate school by bartending and only retired when the pandemic hit in 2020. From 2017 to 2020 I would allow my graduate students to come to the tavern for extra office hours. I would never serve them alcohol, but they loved that their professor was bartending and teaching statistics!

### **Hobbies:**

I love to pleasure read and no matter how busy life gets, I always ensure I have time to curl up with a good book daily. I also love hanging out with my Pitbull mix, Matilda and her triplet cat siblings: Sirius, Mad Eye, and Tonks. I also sneak in ballet classes and horseback riding!

### **How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?**

I see myself as a community health expert; however, most of my work is now done in the confines of the university. I am hoping to encourage collaboration between nursing and public health where we can work effectively with diverse teams and community stakeholders. With recently moving to Wayne County, I am excited to see how I may be able to provide support for improving community health outcomes in rural communities.



# MATTHEW MORSE

**MPH**

He/him

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

Bureau of Water Supply Protection, Water Systems Control and Analysis

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Located in Central Office (Albany), involved statewide

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- ❖ Environmental Health
- ❖ Epidemiology and Data

## CONTACT

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**PHONE:**

518-764-3645

**LINKEDIN:**

[www.linkedin.com/in/matthewjmorse12](http://www.linkedin.com/in/matthewjmorse12)

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I wanted to be able to be a resource and pass on the things I have learned in my 10 or so years working in environmental health and public health. Networking among colleagues working in different areas of public around the NYSDOH is always mutually beneficial and I wanted to be a part of the program.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

It is still early, but the networking has already been fantastic.

### Fun fact:

Not sure they are "fun" facts, but I am huge fan of the NY Yankees and NY Jets (this can be challenging). I have rewatched every Episode of "Dexter" at least 5-6 times and would eat pumpkin pie for breakfast every day if it was socially acceptable.

### Hobbies:

I play softball and disc golf, watch baseball and football, enjoy reading fiction and playing video games. I really enjoy spending time outdoors playing sports, hiking, walking my dog and spending time with my fiancé.

### How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

As my career progresses, I want to be a better leader, mentor, manager, and project developer. Being able to successful help staff and department reach lofty goals has always been a career goal of mine.



# ABIGAIL MOSENTHIN

**MPH, CIC**  
She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

Otsego County Department of  
Health

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Otsego County

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- ❖ Health Education
- ❖ Environmental Health
- ❖ Epidemiology and Data
- ❖ Harm Reduction and  
Substance Use

## CONTACT

### EMAIL:

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### LINKEDIN:

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abigail-mosenthin-mpH-cic-  
b9598619a/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/abigail-mosenthin-mpH-cic-b9598619a/)

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I ended up in my permanent role at the OCDOH because of my time as a NYSPHC Fellow!

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

Connecting with others doing similar work throughout the state.

### Fun fact:

I easily have over 100 pairs of shoes!

### Hobbies:

Golf!

### How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

In the field of public health, it's essential that we work together to create the changes we want to see. NYSPHC brings together both new and seasoned public health professionals, allowing us to unite and tackle these challenges as a cohesive force.



# KAYLA NIKC

## MSGH

She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

State Health Department

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Albany, Saratoga, Rensselaer, Schenectady, Schoharie

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- ❖ Chronic Disease Health Equity
- ❖ Epidemiology and Data
- ❖ Harm Reduction and Substance Use
- ❖ Global Health

## CONTACT

### EMAIL:

kayla.nikc2@health.ny.gov

### LINKEDIN:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kayla-nikc-66230b185>

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

To guide public health professionals looking for a career in public service. I look forward to our collaborative partnership in which we all can learn and improve our public health knowledge alongside one another.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

I am most grateful for the insights I have gained from my past mentees. Working with these colleagues helped me to become a better mentor and I have learned so much about topics outside my specialty which have made me a more educated public health professional. Though we may not have the same expertise or interest, there is always something we can learn from each other.

### Fun fact / Hobbies

In high school, I memorized and recited the first 1,001 digits of Pi for a "pi day" competition.

I like to explore the beautiful trails and hikes around the capital region, participate in group sports, and enjoy bar trivia or bingo with friends.

### How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

Being involved in NYSPHC allows me to stay connected with public service and New York's specific public health atmosphere. While I am still relatively early in my career, I look forward to learning more about NY's public health priorities and how my mentees and I can best serve those needs.



# SARAH RAVENHALL

**MHA**  
She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### **CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION**

The New York State Association  
of County Health Officials

### **COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH**

Local health departments  
statewide.

### **AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Outreach and Partnership  
Development
- ❖ Health Education
- ❖ Policy
- ❖ Leadership
- ❖ Grants Management
- ❖ Nonprofit Administration

## CONTACT

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518-475-8905

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[www.linkedin.com/in/sarah-ravenhallmha](http://www.linkedin.com/in/sarah-ravenhallmha)

## ABOUT

### **Why did you decide to become a Mentor?**

I think the NYS fellowship program is just spectacular- a model for other states in the nation and I want to be a part of it.

### **What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?**

I was a mentor during the last cohort of Fellows and found it to be a rewarding experience. I formed a great relationship with my mentee and learned a lot from her. Because I represent local health departments it was nice to form a relationship with an active fellow to learn more about her experience working within a local health department.

**Fun fact:**  
I can hula hoop fairly well.

**Hobbies:**  
I have a 3- and 7-year-old, so I spend a lot of time hanging out with them, exploring the capital region of New York and going to parks and playgrounds. We also have a corgi named Baxter. I like to go see live music. My husband is in a band, so we try to go see them play as often as possible. Friends, family and relaxing outside is what I enjoy!

### **How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?**

Our association is dedicated to supporting the public health workforce in NYS and NYSPHC does simply that. The fellows coming up through the program are going to make positive changes in the public health landscape, especially in the areas of health equity, reducing disparities and community engagement. It's exciting!



# PATRICIA RILEY

**MPH**

She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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Division Hospitals and  
Diagnostic & Treatment  
Centers

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

---

Albany

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

---

- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Maternal and Child Health
- ❖ Vaccination and Testing
- ❖ Health Education

## CONTACT

**EMAIL:**

patricia.riley@health.ny.gov

## ABOUT

**Why did you decide to become a Mentor?**

Great experience doing it last year

**What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?**

Knowledge of many different areas and relationships

**How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?**

I'm at the end of my career and would like to payback with my 40 plus years in healthcare for the up and coming.



# CHRIS SEPLAKI

**PhD**  
He/him

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

University of Rochester, School of Medicine and Dentistry

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Monroe

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- ❖ Epidemiology and Data
- ❖ Gerontology and Epidemiology of Aging

## CONTACT

**EMAIL:**  
christopher\_seplaki@urmc.rochester.edu

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I decided to become a NYSPHC mentor because I have personally experienced the benefits of strong mentorship in my own career. The guidance and support that I received played an essential role in my own professional development. I believe that mentorship is crucial for advancing the next generation of public health professionals, and that cultivating mentorship from a diversity of perspectives enriches the field with innovative ideas and approaches.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

This is my first year serving as a NYSPHC mentor.

### Hobbies:

I like to enjoy many outdoor activities with my wife and three teenagers, including alpine skiing, biking and hiking.

### How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

Helping to cultivate the next generation of public health professionals is an integral part of my role as Director of the University of Rochester MPH Programs



# SUZANNE SWAN

**MPH**  
She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### EMPLOYER/PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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State Health Department

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

---

Statewide

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

---

- ❖ Maternal/Child Health
- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Family Health

## CONTACT

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[suzanne.swan@health.ny.gov](mailto:suzanne.swan@health.ny.gov)



# MISSI WOOLDRIDGE

**MPH**  
She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### EMPLOYER/PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

SUNY Potsdam; Healthy  
Nightlife, LLC

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

St. Lawrence, Capital District

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Outreach and Partnership  
Development
- ❖ Harm Reduction and  
Substance Use
- ❖ Sexual Health
- ❖ Health Education

## CONTACT

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wooldrmm@potSDam.edu

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[https://www.linkedin.com/in/  
missi-wooldridge-mph-  
50732980/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/missi-wooldridge-mph-50732980/)

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I decided to become a Mentor because I've had strong female mentors and wanted to provide the same for others. I also have a unique background and skillset that would benefit many public health professionals entering the field of harm reduction of substance use.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

Knowledge exchange and expansion of professional network!

### Fun fact:

I was once on the Katie Couric Show!

### Hobbies:

I enjoy music and traveling!

### How does the NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

Participating in NYSPHC aligns seamlessly with my broader career goals by providing a platform to engage in applied learning and mentorship, two pillars of my public health philosophy. I believe in the power of applied learning to bridge the gap between research and practice, ensuring that evidence-based approaches directly inform public health initiatives. As a public health leader, I feel responsibility to not only support emerging public health practitioners but also to expand workforce capacity, strengthen health equity efforts, and contribute to impactful community-based public health.

# Previous NYSPHC Mentors



# JESSICA DARNEY BUEHLER

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT EMPLOYER OR PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

Essex County Health Dept.

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PH

Essex County

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- ❖ Maternal/Child Health
- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Epidemiology and Data
- ❖ Communicable Disease
- ❖ Health Informatics/IT
- ❖ Outreach/Partnership Development
- ❖ Community Mobilization
- ❖ Wellness Coaching
- ❖ Health Literacy

## CONTACT

### EMAIL:

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EssexCountyNY.gov

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jessicadarneybuehler/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jessicadarneybuehler/)

### MPH

She/her

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I decided to become a Mentor to provide a smooth and consistent oversight practice in the Department.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

The most valuable thing about being a Mentor is how I've learned from our Fellow different ways to engage with communications & use different communications tools.

### How does NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

Engaging people with various backgrounds in a love for public health from their unique perspectives, education, training & skills has been a way to broaden public health advocates.

### Fun fact:

I was a horseback riding trail guide for 6 years and when one of my horses left me on the trail/field during a nightly gate check, I ran back to the barn through the trails & that sparked my love for trail running. He went right back to the barn and, luckily for me, didn't open other gates (which he was known to do if able). He was quite a character.

### Hobbies:

Cross-Train, Snowboard, Ski, Snowshoe, Trail Run, Mountain Bike, Garden, Read, Puzzles



# JOSEPH FANTIGROSSI

**EdD**  
He/him

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### EMPLOYER/PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

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Wayne, Seneca, and Monroe  
County

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

---

- ❖ Outreach and Partnership  
Development
- ❖ Pre-K-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Education

## CONTACT

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jfantigr@monroe2boces.org

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585-454-9377

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[www.linkedin.com/in/dr-joseph-fantigrossi-0b5449122](http://www.linkedin.com/in/dr-joseph-fantigrossi-0b5449122)

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I decided to become a Mentor to pay it forward to all who took time to mentor me.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

The most valuable thing about being a Mentor is building a relationship with a respected colleague.

### How does NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

Health is a key component to the community schools work I do.

### Fun fact:

I have run 2 marathons.

### Hobbies:

I am a father of two boys, I exercise, and I attend sporting events.



# JESSICA KULAK

**MPH, PhD**  
She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### EMPLOYER/PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

---

University at Buffalo

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

---

Erie County

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

---

- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Harm Reduction and Substance Abuse

## CONTACT

### EMAIL:

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### LINKEDIN:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jessica-k-3893849/>

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I decided to become a Mentor because I have benefitted from great mentorship throughout my career and enjoy being able to now be able to provide mentorship to upcoming public health professionals.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

Being a Mentor is a great way to ensure that I am continuing to learn and stay current in public health practice.

### How does NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

I am happy to support the mission of NYSPHC to support and advance our state's public health preparedness.

### Fun fact:

My dog competes in dock diving.

### Hobbies:

I spend time with my husband and dogs. I try to fit in gardening and reading when I can.



# MICHELLE LARIMORE

**MPH**

She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### EMPLOYER/PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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WNY Children's Environmental  
Health Center/UBMD Pediatrics

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

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Erie, Niagara, Allegany,  
Chautauqua, Cattaraugus,  
Genessee, Orleans, and  
Wyoming County

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

---

- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Outreach and Partnership  
Development
- ❖ Health Education

## CONTACT

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**LINKEDIN:**

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## ABOUT

**Why did you decide to become a Mentor?**

I decided to become a Mentor because throughout my career, I've had several incredible mentors who helped me navigate the broad scope of public health and my many passions. I know how impactful it is to have someone who provides continuous support and guidance.

**Fun fact:**

I recently took a pottery course. My daydream is to master the art and sell customized gifts someday!

**Hobbies:**

In my free time, you can find me spending time outdoors with my partner and our dog, checking out hidden gems in Buffalo, or picking up a new hobby like boxing or pickleball.



# KELLY MCDERMOTT

**MS**

She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### EMPLOYER/PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

---

University of Rochester

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

---

Monroe County

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

---

- ❖ Outreach and Partnership Development
- ❖ Community Health

## CONTACT

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**PHONE:**

716-645-9087

**LINKEDIN:**

[www.linkedin.com/in/kelly-mcdermott-b3417214b](http://www.linkedin.com/in/kelly-mcdermott-b3417214b)

## ABOUT

**Why did you decide to become a Mentor?**

I decided to become a Mentor because I am passionate about the health of our communities and feel strongly that we can do a lot when we connect with one another and use our relationships to move toward a common goal.

**What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?**

I am brand new so I am excited to work with the NYSPHC and to help in any way that I can.

**How does NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?**

I would love to create relationships across the state to spread information and close the gap between what we know in research and what we do in the real world.

**Fun fact:**

I have been a huge Swiftie since before it was cool to say so and I was able to score Eras Tour tickets in Canada!

**Hobbies:**

My free time is spent with my family which includes my husband, 6-year-old daughter, a black lab, and an orange tabby cat. When I'm not running around with them, I love live music and a good book.



# BERTHA NICHOLS

**RN**

She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### EMPLOYER/PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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Safety and HIPPA Officer,  
Fellowship Coordinator at  
Franklin County Public Health  
Department

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

---

Franklin County

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

---

- ❖ Communicable Disease  
Health Informatics/IT
- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Health Education

## CONTACT

**EMAIL:**

[bertha.nichols@franklincountyny.gov](mailto:bertha.nichols@franklincountyny.gov)

## ABOUT

**Why did you decide to become a Mentor?**

I decided to become a Mentor to expand my experience as an RN to mentor others in the field of public health.

**What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?**

The most valuable thing about being a Mentor is the variety of applications and the multitude of their experiences.

**How does NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?**

I am 73 years old and work part time to keep my hand in the nursing field.

**Fun fact:**

I like computer games like Farmville 2.

**Hobbies:**

I enjoy going to my grandkids' events at school, doing sudoku puzzles, reading, and doing housework.



# CHRISTY RICHARDS

**MPH, MSN, RN**  
She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### EMPLOYER/PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

---

Ontario County Public Health

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

---

Ontario County

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

---

- ❖ Chronic Disease Health Equity
- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Maternal/Child Health
- ❖ Mental Health
- ❖ Epidemiology and Data
- ❖ Family Health
- ❖ Health Education

## CONTACT

### EMAIL:

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### LINKEDIN:

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# STEVEN SAWICKI

**MHSA**  
He/him

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### EMPLOYER/PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

- ❖ New York State
- ❖ Department of Health
- ❖ Health Equity and Human Rights
- ❖ AIDS Institute
- ❖ Center for Program Development, Implementation, Research and Evaluation
- ❖ Office of Quality Initiatives
- ❖ New York Links

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

All Counties

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Quality Improvement

## CONTACT

**EMAIL:**  
steven.sawicki@health.ny.gov

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I decided to become a Mentor because I think it is important that new staff have an opportunity to connect outside their standard chain of command.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

The most valuable thing about being a Mentor is the connection I've made with new staff entering the system.

### How does NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

Mentorship is an opportunity for me to pass along some of what I have learned over my career.

### Fun fact:

I have an extremely varied background.

### Hobbies:

I enjoy endurance sports car racing, consulting on grant writing and management issues, movies, books, and gardening.



# CHRISTINE SCHUYLER

**BSN, RN, MHA**  
She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### EMPLOYER/PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

Jamestown Community College

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Chautauqua and Cattaraugus County

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- ❖ Maternal/Child Health
- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Outreach and Partnership Development
- ❖ Family Health
- ❖ Health Education

## CONTACT

**EMAIL:**  
christineschuyler@mail.sunycc.edu

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

Although I no longer work for a local health department, I felt like my health & human services knowledge and years of experience would be helpful to others.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

The most valuable thing about being a Mentor is the gratification for helping to shape the future of public health.

### How does NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

I embrace the opportunity to continue to learn, network, and positively contribute to public health.

### Hobbies:

I enjoy my friends and family (especially my grandchildren!), traveling in our motorhome, bicycling, and reading.



# MICKEY SPERLICH

**PhD, MSW, MA, CPM**  
She/her

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### EMPLOYER/PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

University at Buffalo School of  
Social Work

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Erie County

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- ❖ Maternal/Child Health
- ❖ Mental Health
- ❖ Health Education
- ❖ Sexual Health

## CONTACT

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716-645-9087

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[https://www.linkedin.com/in/  
mickey-sperlich-a601511a/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/mickey-sperlich-a601511a/)

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I decided to become a Mentor to help build capacity for addressing health equity related to the provision of perinatal care.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

The most valuable thing about being a Mentor is being able to provide reflective space to support the work of my mentee.

### How does NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

Mentorship is a key way in which I can “pay it forward” and honor the mentorship that I have benefitted from in the past.

### Fun fact:

I had a long career as a midwife before becoming an academic.

### Hobbies:

I enjoy kayaking, swimming, and playing music.



# MICHAEL TRITTO JR.

He/him

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### EMPLOYER/PUBLIC HEALTH AFFILIATION

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Back to Basics Outreach Ministries

### COUNTY(IES) WHERE YOU ARE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

---

Erie County

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

---

- ❖ Outreach and Partnership Development
- ❖ Vaccination and Testing

## CONTACT

### EMAIL:

mtritto@backtobasicsministries.org

## ABOUT

### Why did you decide to become a Mentor?

I decided to become a Mentor because it is part of my job, and I have been a mentor on and off in my former teaching career and as a volunteer with Big Brothers Big Sister.

### What is the most valuable thing you have gained as being a Mentor in the NYSPHC?

The most valuable thing about being a Mentor is getting to know committed, young people who want to make a difference.

### How does NYSPHC fit in with your larger career goals?

The NYSPHC supports the Fellows, who support our agency's mission.

### Fun fact:

I am a former actor and theater director.

### Hobbies:

Alternatives to Violence Project workshops, Quaker Meeting, and bicycling.