

2007-2009 CHF HEALTH LEADERSHIP FELLOWS

Maritza Alvarado



Born in Brooklyn and raised in the Bronx, New York, Dr. Alvarado received her B.A. in Biology from Hunter College / City University of New York and her M.D. from the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Medicine. Dr. Alvarado is the CEO/President of MAK Consultants, specializing in health care consulting. Her area of expertise is cultural competency, especially in the area of language proficiency. She is also pursuing her Master of Arts in Public Administration at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. Dr. Alvarado is a member of the National Hispanic Medical Association and was a fellow in their Leadership Fellowship in 2003. In addition, she is a graduate of Leadership Greater Syracuse, class of 1998.

She serves on a number of boards, including Homes Aides of Central New York, Onondaga Pastoral Counseling Center and serves as a Commissioner of the Syracuse / Onondaga County Human Rights Commission.

Nancy Blaschak



Nancy has been employed by the American Red Cross, Greater Buffalo Chapter since 1979 in various management positions and has served as Executive Director for the past fifteen years. She earned a BS in Business Administration with honors from the University at Buffalo, a MBA from Canisius College and completed post graduate studies at the Hauser Center for Not for Profit Organizations at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Nancy is currently vice chair of the board of Gilda's Club, Western New York. Nancy has received the Leadership Buffalo Values Award; the Distinguished MBA Alumni award from Canisius College,

the Business First - 40 Under 40 Award and the D'Youville College - Center for Women in Management - Manager of the Year Award.

Nancy and her husband John live in Eden, N.Y. along with their two children, Stephen and Elizabeth.

Vito Borrello



Since October of 1995, Vito J. Borrello has served as President of EPIC – Every Person Influences Children. EPIC is a national prevention program that helps parents, teachers and community members raise children to become responsible adults. During Mr. Borrello's tenure, EPIC has experienced significant growth, particularly throughout New York State, where EPIC now has six regional offices and eight Parent Centers, including its recently-constructed state-of-the-art Wilson National Center for Parenting and Character Education in downtown Buffalo. Mr. Borrello's focus has been developing strong partnerships with the public and private sector in New York State and with the

Federal Government, in order to elevate the importance of parenting and character development through legislation and funding. Previous to Mr. Borrello's tenure at EPIC, he served as Executive Director for the 11th World Veterans Athletic Championships, the largest track and field competition internationally, and previous to that position he directed sports marketing efforts for the Greater Buffalo Convention and Visitors Bureau. Mr. Borrello currently serves on the local Boards for the Buffalo Alliance for Education as the Program Committee Chair, and Care Management Coalition. He also serves as a steering committee member of NY Child Action Network (NYCAN) and is a coalition member nationally for United Voices for Education (UVE). He is a 1998 graduate of Leadership Buffalo. Mr. Borrello has a Bachelors Degree in Music Education from Wittenberg University.

Gayle Brazeau



Dr. Brazeau is an Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice and Pharmaceutical Sciences and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University at Buffalo. She has been active on committees and in leadership roles in professional, educational and scientific organizations. Dr. Brazeau serves on several editorial advisory boards for scientific and educational journals. She has been the recipient of teaching and student awards at the University at Buffalo, University of Florida and the University of Houston She is the author or co-author on publications in the areas of drug- or disease-induced muscle damage and teaching and learning.

LuAnne Brown



LuAnne Brown graduated from Niagara University with a BSN in Nursing in 1981 and with an MSN from SUNY at Buffalo in 1988. Her entire work tenure has been at the Women and Children's Hospital of Buffalo. Beginning in 1981 as a staff nurse on the High Risk Maternity Unit, LuAnne became the manager of this unit in 1984. She then became Director of Women's Service in 1987 where she remained until 2000. LuAnne then assumed the position of Director of Surgical Services until 2002. She then became the Chief Nursing Officer at WCHOB in 2002. LuAnne has been involved in the Buffalo Prenatal-Perinatal Task Force, serving as President; St. Mary's High School Board of Trustees; WNY Healthcare Executive Forum - Treasurer; American Organization of Nurse Executives; New York State Organization of Nurse Executives; Leadership Buffalo Class of 2006; and Junior League.

Joseph Cozzo



Joe has been involved in working with child mental health and education issues for over 33 years. His interests have been in working with parents, and teachers to help them be more effective in dealing with angry and acting out children. He also has a long history in working with foreign adoptions and issues of reactive attachment disorder. Now, as a CEO at Buffalo Hearing & Speech Center working with clients

with communication needs (birth through the elder years), Joe sees himself as a servant leader, one that attempts to simultaneously enhance the personal growth of workers and improve the quality and caring through a combination of teamwork and community, personal involvement in decision making, and ethical and caring behavior.

Elnora DeGraffenried



Elnora DeGraffenried, RN, is Director of Nursing at Grace Manor Health Care Facility. She is a member of the WNYLTC Directors Group. She is the 2005 recipient of the Black Achievers Award for Humanitarian efforts in Hurricane Katrina. DeGraffenried is presently pursuing an Administrators licensure.

Al Dirschberger



Al Dirschberger is the Vice President of Residential Services at Gateway-Longview Inc. Gateway-Longview is a Child Welfare Agency where he has worked for the last 20 years. He earned his bachelor's degree at Medaille College, graduating cum laude and earned his master's degree in social work from the University at Buffalo. He is currently a candidate for a Ph.D. in social welfare at UB. He resides in Lancaster with his wife, Ann-Marie and their five children.

Randi Dressel



Randi Dressel earned her B.A. in Gerontology from the State University of New York at Buffalo; working in long-term healthcare her entire working career. Currently, Ms. Dressel is the Chief Operating Officer for Weinberg Campus, responsible for the daily operations of the 130 acre, 8 building campus. This includes direct oversight and management of each program and manager. She is an active member on the Board of Directors and Quality of Care Committee, and one of three Vice Presidents reporting directly to the CEO. Ms. Dressel is a board member of the New York Association of Homes and Service for the Aging; past president of the Lancaster–Depew Rotary Club and past president of the Western New York Association of Homes and Services for the Aging.

Mary Beth Farruggio



Mary Beth Farruggio is the Vice President of Patient Care Services for Mercy Hospital of Buffalo, part of the Catholic Health System. Mary Beth earned her Bachelor of Nursing degree from D'Youville College and her Master of Science degree from State University of New York at Buffalo. She served as a staff nurse, Director of Nursing, and Vice President of Our Lady of Victory Hospital (OLV). Mary Beth participated in the reconfiguration project of Mercy and OLV Hospitals and was appointed Vice President of Patient Care Services for Mercy and OLV Hospitals in 1999. She is Board Certified in Nursing Administration, Advanced. Her professional affiliations include the American Organization of Nurse Executives and she is an Associate of the American College of Healthcare Executives. She is also a Board Member of Upstate New York Transplant Services (UNYTS) and chairperson of UNYTS Quality Improvement Committee.

Mary Beth received the 1999 New York Organization of Executives Nurse Leadership Award in recognition of creative and contemporary leadership in nursing practice and is also a recipient of the 2003 Woman of Influence recognizing the outstanding achievements of Western New York's top women executives.

Mary Beth resides in Depew, New York with her husband, Patrick, and two daughters, Mary Margaret and Anne Marie.

Gina Fedele



As Director of New Business Development for Hospice Buffalo, my role is to focus on seeking and fostering new external partnerships to ensure timely access to hospice care. I have the privilege of educating others about the fine services delivered by our compassionate staff.

In addition, I am the co-founder of Upstate New York Professional Healthcare Information Education Demonstration (UNYPHIED), a forum dedicated to educating the healthcare community about electronic health

information issues. I have led the establishment of BioNetwork, a distinguished group of expatriates that have been successful in the life sciences, who have graciously shared their expertise and networks to help spur commercialization in the life sciences in Upstate New York.

Patricia Ferrito



Patricia, "TC," is Director of Aging with Honor at the United Way of Buffalo & Erie County. This work enables her to use her facilitation skills to bring agencies and communities together to affect change for seniors. TC has worked for the Erie County Legislature, Mercy Hospital Foundation, Hopevale and EPIC. She has a Masters in Public Administration from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University and a BA in Political Science from William Smith College. She lives on the lake in Angola with her husband and 2 very active and sports-crazed teenage sons.

Rhonda Frederick



Rhonda is the Chief Operating Officer of People Inc. In that capacity, she is responsible for oversight of the agency's Service Coordination, Behavioral Health services, Day Services, Quality Assurance, Public Affairs, Foundation, Legal Services and all agency Development, including Senior Housing. Ms. Frederick has worked for People Inc. for twenty seven (27) years, starting out as a direct care worker at a group home. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Social Work from the Rochester Institute of Technology and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Canisius College.

Bonnie Glazer



With over 30 years experience in children's mental health, Bonnie has spent the last 14 years as executive director of Child and Adolescent Treatment Services (CATS). In her position, Bonnie oversees the development and implementation of all programs and services offered. In addition, she serves as a community advocate for the needs of adolescents and children throughout Western New York. She also served as a member of the faculty of the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo School of Social Work. Prior to joining CATS Bonnie spent ten years at the Erie County Medical Center in the Department of Psychiatry as a program manager in the Adult, Child and Family Clinic. Bonnie served as Chair of the Child and Mental Health Consortium of Erie County for 10 years and serves on the Erie County Coordinated Council on

Children & Families.

Kathleen Glow-Morgan



Kathleen Glow-Morgan, LCSWR is currently the clinical director at Onondaga Pastoral Counseling Center (OPCC) in Syracuse, NY. OPCC is the second largest provider of outpatient mental health services in Onondaga County. Kathleen was hired at OPCC to assist the Executive Director and management team in restructuring and reorganizing the agency. Although new at OPCC, Kathleen has 10 years experience in outpatient mental health service delivery, 6 years of supervisory experience in the field of mental health and 3 years experience in mental health administration.

At OPCC, Kathleen supervises the clinical staff of approximately 35 professionals as well as the intake department that fields all requests for services in the agency. In addition, Kathleen is involved in collaboration at a community level of mental health provision, particularly in areas of crisis coverage for adults and children.

Kathleen received both her Master's and Bachelor's Degrees from Syracuse University. She has been married to her husband Charles for 17 years and has two children, Nathan (7 years) and Samantha (5 years).

Joanne Haefner



Joanne Haefner, FNP, is the Clinical Director and a Family Nurse Practitioner at Northwest Buffalo Community Health Care Center. This year the Health Center is celebrating 20 years of providing community-oriented pediatric, internal medicine and OBGYN services to uninsured, under-insured and insured patients in Western NY at 2 locations. Her dual administrative and clinical responsibilities allow a broad depth perspective of the needs of the health center, patients, and the community. She came to the Health Center at a time of crisis and has succeeded in identifying deficiencies, motivating staff and improving clinical outcomes. A life-long Buffalo area resident, Joanne is married with three wonderful children, and has a BSN, MS and Family Nurse Practitioner degree from D'Youville College as well as over 20 years experience in healthcare.

Sherry Hillebrandt



Currently, Sherry is Vice President of Patient Services at East Hill Family Medical, Inc., one of the largest health care providers in Auburn. East Hill's focus is to provide ambulatory services to the Medicaid population: including family planning, primary care, pediatrics, out-patient surgery and dental services. She is responsible for day-to-day administration of patient care, quality assurance and community education. Over the last twenty years, her role has been to oversee workers within the homecare sector.

Sherry serves on several committees within the area, including the Family Ties Network, Inc., and is on the Advisory board for the Cayuga / Seneca Community Action Agency. Sherry has been a registered nurse for twenty six years, and resides in Auburn with her husband and daughter.

Sharon Jack-Williams



Ms. Jack-Williams is currently the Executive Director of the Dunbar Association, Inc.; an African American settlement house that provides comprehensive social services. She holds a BS degree in Political Science, is a certified mediator with nineteen years experience in various categories of mediation, and had a career in labor relations that spanned a period of sixteen-years.

Beth Jenkins

My name is Beth Jenkins. I am the Executive Director of The Mental Health Association in Tompkins County, Ithaca, NY. For over 30 years it has been my privilege to live and work in the Finger Lakes Region of Central New York.

Gavin Kasper



Gavin Kasper is a graduate from the University of Buffalo with a Masters in Social Science. Gavin has more than 15 years human services direct and administrative experience. Currently the Supervisor of Erie County Protective Services, Gavin chairs the Multidisciplinary Coordinating Council on Elder Abuse (MDCCEA) and is an active member of various regional, state, and national organizations addressing issues concerning the aged population.

James Kennedy



James X. Kennedy, MSW, MS, has been the Executive Director of the Cayuga Community Health Network, Inc. since 1999. From 2003 to 2004, Jim served as the President of the New York State Association for Rural Health and he has served in various committee roles for NYSARH as a founding member. He earned his BA in Communication Arts from Marist College and then received his first master's degree in social work administration from Rutgers University. He has worked in rural health care in upstate New York – although he is a native Long Islander - for most of his professional life first as a nursing home administrator and then as

director of an Area Agency on Aging. Prior to joining the Network as its first executive director, Jim received his second masters' degree in Organizational Communication, Learning and Design as a Park Foundation Fellow, which he earned at Ithaca College. Jim has taught Health Communications at Ithaca College as an adjunct instructor and has served on the State Hospital Review and Planning Council since

2002. His wife Peg is a licensed child psychologist in Geneva, NY and their two sons, Sam and Joe, are in graduate school and college, respectively.

Christine Kluckhohn



Chris is President & CEO of the Catholic Health System's Continuing Care division. She has served in the Catholic health care ministry since 1986, starting in supervisory roles in Rehabilitation Services with Mercy Hospital and CHS, becoming outpatient system director of CHS Rehabilitation in 1999 and Vice President for Rehabilitation Services, Partners In Rehab and AthletiCare in 2001. In 2005 Chris assumed the role of President & CEO of Continuing Care.

Chris holds a dual major in Physical Therapy and Biology, from Russell Sage-Albany Medical College. She completed her Doctorate in Physical Therapy at Daemen College in 2005 and is nearing completion of a Masters Degree in Health Services Administration. Chris is a Sports Certified Specialist by the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) and a Certified Athletic Trainer. She is on the Adjunct Clinical Faculty at Daemen College, D'Youville College and SUNY at UB. Chris is a member of Churches In Action (CIA), with its mission to bring spiritual growth and services to the community of Western New York. She and her husband Tom are co-directors of Hamburg's Crop Walk for hunger. She lives in Hamburg with her husband Tom and their two children Melissa and Kyle.

Carol Mahoney



Ms. Mahoney has served as the chief executive officer of HomeCare & Hospice, headquartered in Olean, since 1985. She is a SUNY Buffalo graduate, holds an M.S. Ed. Community Counseling from St. Bonaventure University, and has completed additional graduate studies at Montclair State College. Senator Patricia McGee selected Ms. Mahoney as a NYS Senate Woman of Distinction in 2002 because of her distinguished career and community service. Among her many present involvements, she serves as board chair for the Southern Tier Health Care System and as a director for the NYS Health Care Providers Association (HCP) Political Action Committee. In recent years, Ms. Mahoney led a three-way corporate merger, expanding the pivotal role of Home Care & Hospice in the delivery of non-profit hospice and licensed home

care services throughout Genesee, Wyoming, Allegany, and Cattaraugus Counties. Current work includes the establishment of rural PACE as one of fifteen national grantees under CMS and the development of rural hospice residences.

Jennifer May



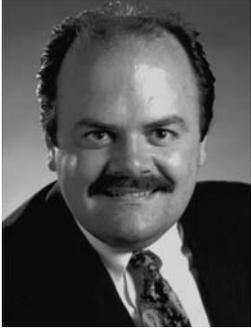
Jennifer May began her career as a Social Worker, with a Masters Degree in Social Work from the University at Buffalo. Early in her career she worked providing mental health services to children and adults. For the past 8 years Jennifer has worked in the long term care setting. She began as a Director of Social Services and is currently a licensed Nursing Home Administrator, working at Orchard Brooke Living Centre. Jennifer was selected as a Field Educator for the Hartford Foundation Internship Program and participates in a variety of committees working to improve care to the elderly.

Daniel McCormack



Daniel McCormack is the Executive Director of the Mercy Hospital Foundation in Buffalo, NY, one of four acute-care hospital foundations affiliated with the Catholic Health System. In Dan's four years at Mercy, he has directed the disbursement of more than \$2 million to advance and improve the care provided at Mercy, one of WNY's largest and busiest hospitals. Dan received his B.A. from Rice University and his J.D. from Tulane University, and was admitted to the bar in both Louisiana and Texas. Dan has held senior administrative positions with The Methodist Hospital System and the Texas Heart Institute in Houston, TX. In 1989, he was a legislative fellow in the office of U.S. Representative Pete Stark, chairman of the House of Representatives Ways and Means health subcommittee. Dan and his wife, Pam, have three children: Andrew, 17; Caroline, 13; and Patrick, 10. They live in Orchard Park.

Thomas McNulty



Thomas P. McNulty is founder and chair of Spotlight on Hope, Inc. - an organization dedicated to using all the creative arts to advance health, medical, behavioral health and social information. Tom hosts a weekly health talk radio program, Spotlight on Health on WECK-am 1230. He has more than 25 years in the healthcare field, is an avid photographer and is co-writing a screenplay. He is president of Success Stories, Inc. - a healthcare management and marketing consulting firm. He lives in Orchard Park with his wife Nancy and has three children, Ryan (21), Colin (18) and Bridget (17). Mr. McNulty has recently been made the President of the Erie County Mental Health Association.

Michael Melara



Mr. Melara is the Executive Director of Huntington Family Centers which provides comprehensive neighborhood based services to individuals, families and children who reside on the near Westside of the City of Syracuse. Mr. Melara has over 25 years of experience in social services and has worked in both not for profit and government systems. He received his undergraduate degree from LeMoyne College and his Masters Degree from Chapman University. Mr. Melara resides in Liverpool with his wife, Lisa and his two children, Juliana and Dominick.

Sylvia Nadler



Sylvia Nadler is the Executive Director of Compass House, a not-for-profit agency in Buffalo that serves runaway and homeless youth in Erie County. I have been a community advocate for youth and the homeless for more than thirty years. I was Past Chair of both The WNY Coalition for the Homeless and the Erie County Commission on Homelessness; now the Homeless Alliance of WNY. Of concern to me are the conditions and opportunities available for children and families of poverty in our community.

I am a member in the Erie County Coordinating Council of Children and Families, the Western New York Association of Youth Bureaus and Youth Boards; and a graduate of Leadership Buffalo, 2001.

A lifelong resident of the City of Buffalo, Ms. Nadler received a BA in Sociology and Education and a Masters in Education from the University at Buffalo. In 2007, I received recognition from Child and Family Services by receiving the William B. Hoyt Memorial Advocacy Award.

Jane Ogilvie



Jane Ogilvie is the Director of the Division for Community Youth Development and Student Support Services at Erie 1 BOCES. In this position she provides services and supports to 70 school districts and over 100 youth serving agencies in Western New York. Currently Jane is working in partnership with the Buffalo Public School District and the Community Health Foundation to implement the district's Three Year Student Support Plan to bring about systemic change to provide a safe, healthy, and supportive learning environment for all students.

Tanya Perrin-Johnson



Tanya Perrin-Johnson was appointed by Mayor Byron W. Brown to serve as the Commissioner of Community Services and Recreational Programming for the City of Buffalo. She is a graduate of Syracuse University (Bachelor of Science) and Master of Science (Education) degree holder from Canisius College.

Ms. Perrin-Johnson serves as a Vice Chair of the United Way 2007 Community Care Campaign, Roswell Park Advisory Committee: Cancer Health Disparities, Trustee of Friendship Baptist Church, and Treasurer, St. Joseph's Home School Association. She is a member of Leadership Buffalo, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Gamma Phi Omega Chapter, The Erie County Chapter of Links, Incorporated, and Jack and Jill of America, Inc. Buffalo Chapter.

Ms. Perrin-Johnson and her two daughters, Cydney and Taylor, reside in the city of Buffalo. Tanya's strength, perseverance, and passion are due to her strong spiritual foundation. Ms. Perrin-Johnson believes, *"Through Christ All Things Are Possible"*. She is a member of Friendship Baptist Church.

Sherry Pomeroy



Dr. Sherry Pomeroy is an Assistant Professor of Nursing at the University at Buffalo. She conducts research to motivate older adults to exercise and improve function, as well as restorative care intervention research with frail older adults in long term care settings. Sherry also teaches in the School of Nursing undergraduate, masters, and doctoral programs including health care delivery perspectives, health promotion, outcomes research, and health care of older adults. She has extensive background in geriatric and community health nursing.

Sherry has been recognized as a leader in geriatric nursing by the receipt of several research awards, including selection as a John A. Hartford Foundation Building Academic Geriatric Nursing Capacity Postdoctoral Fellow, a Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing Scholar, and a pre-doctoral Individual National Research Service Award from the National Institutes of Health. Sherry received her Ph.D. in Nursing from the University of Missouri-Columbia, M.S. from University of Rochester, and B.S. from Alfred University.

Roberta Rifkin



Roberta Rifkin is Director of Government Affairs at Independent Health, where she monitors, manages and keeps the company informed about legislative activity in Albany and Washington that could impact Independent Health's business. She also seeks opportunities to influence health care policy with the expertise and knowledge that Independent Health employees possess. Previously, Roberta worked in the Erie County Department of Social Services, as well as the Department of Environment and Planning. Roberta moved to Buffalo from Washington, D.C. where she worked for a number of federal agencies, including as a member of the US delegation to the Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces talks, held in Geneva from 1985-1987.

Amy Rockwood



Amy Rockwood is a member of the Erie County Department of Health administrative staff and is responsible for grant writing as well as coordination and preparation of all programmatic documents required for New York State Department of Health Article 6 reimbursement including the Community Health Assessment, the Municipal Public Health Services Plan, and the annual Performance Reports. She serves as a policy and program advisor to the Commissioner of Health and the Department's Division Heads and leads a number of special projects. Amy has also been an active contributor to the development of the Western New York Public Health Alliance, helping them to secure a number of grants and serving as an advisor as the organization has matured. She earned a Master's in Social Work from Adelphi University in 1995 and has held a number of positions of increasing responsibility in

the health and human service field working with juvenile offenders, substance abusers, homeless youth, and in a school-based health clinic.

Christina Sage



Christina Sage received her BS/MS degree in Occupational Therapy from D'Youville College in 1991 and has worked in a variety of healthcare service areas since then. She was recently appointed to Vice President of Partners in Rehabilitation and AthletiCare for the Catholic Health System. Christina is a member of the Near East and West Side Task Force and serves as the Health Committee Chairperson, working to improve the health of families living in under served areas of Buffalo. She is currently pursuing her Doctoral degree in Health Policy from D'Youville College.

Colleen Schiffhauer



Colleen M. Schiffhauer, MS, WHNP, received her Master's degree in nursing from the University at Buffalo in 2000. Schiffhauer's experience includes 7 years as a registered nurse at Sisters of Charity hospital and 2 years at Planned Parenthood's Buffalo and West Seneca medical centers as a nurse practitioner specializing in the delivery of primary gynecological services. In 2003, Schiffhauer was appointed the Director of Patient Services at Planned Parenthood of Buffalo & Erie County, and in late 2005, she was promoted to Senior Director of Patient Services of the newly created Planned Parenthood of Western New York, established after a regional merger of two Planned Parenthood agencies. She resides in Kenmore, NY with husband David Schiffhauer and 6 year-old son Mitchell.

Sara Wall-Bollinger



Sara Wall-Bollinger was appointed Executive Director/CEO of Enable in 1991. During her tenure Enable's annual budget has grown from \$3.3 million to over \$15 million.

Under her leadership several new programs and services have developed at Enable including: Project Adapt, Aquatic Therapy, services funded by the OMRDD Medicaid Waiver, and Sensory Integration. Of most significance, Self-Directed Personal Services, began in 1992 and now accounts for over 300 participants and \$5 million in revenue.

Recently, Sara oversaw the construction of a 30,000 square ft. "green" addition at our Court St. building. The past several years have also seen the renovation and rehabilitation of existing assets, strengthening the organization's position as a leader in providing opportunities for people with disabilities. Her vision and leadership have helped Enable become a strong presence in the Central New York community.

A Syracuse native, Sara was previously employed by Transitional Living Services and Catholic Charities. Community activities include associations with the Human Services Leadership Council, the Mental Health Association, Leadership Greater Syracuse and the CNY Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union. Sara has also been active at the state level, with the Cerebral Associations of New York State, and was previously Chair of the New York State Rehabilitation Council.

An alumna of Cazenovia College, Alfred University and Colgate University, Sara has a Master's Degree in Education and continues to learn through coursework, conferences and workshops. She was recently accepted by the Community Health Foundation of Western and Central New York to become a Health Leadership Fellow.

Sara lives in Manlius with her husband, Chris, two cats, and one dog.

Carrie Whitwood



Carrie is the Executive Director of the Allegany /Western Steuben Rural Health Network, one of 35 Rural Health Networks across New York State, whose mission is to improve the health and wellness of the community by collaboratively identifying unmet needs and gaps in services, and serving as a catalyst for program development and improvement. Ms. Whitwood is responsible for the overall operations and management of the Network; and has been actively involved on a local, regional, and state level to address rural health issues. Currently, she is a Board Member of the New York State Association for Rural Health, Wellsville Area Chamber of Commerce, Kinship Family & Youth Services, and the Business Education Community Coalition of Allegany County; Board President of Literacy

Volunteers of Allegany County; and a member of a multitude of networks and collaborations. Ms. Whitwood earned her degree from the State University of New York at Alfred, majoring in Business Administration. Ms. Whitwood has been a resident of Wellsville, New York in Allegany County for 36 years, and has two children.

Rachel Wozniak



Rachel Wozniak is currently the Assistant Director of Operations for Clinical Support Services where she works closely with her colleagues on the development of innovative, collaborative healthcare initiatives focused on improved patient care and health delivery through pharmacy point of service. She also played an integral role in the creation and implementation of operational and administrative policies for five affiliated independent pharmacies.

Rachel is a 10-year veteran of the pharmacy industry and has worked in long-term, community and consulting pharmacy areas. Rachel earned her Bachelor's in Business Administration and most recently completed the requirements for her MBA from Medaille College. She resides in Orchard Park, NY with her husband and five wonderful children.