



## NEWS RELEASE

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**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Nursing Summit 2012 - ETHICS**

**Catskill Hudson Area Health Education Center (AHEC)** presented its 8<sup>th</sup> Nursing Summit on May 30, 2012, highlighting ethics and how it pertains to medical treatment and end of life decision-making. The 2012 Nursing Summit was held at Columbia-Greene Community College and sold out to full capacity with 110 nurses, healthcare professionals, health professions educators and health professions students in attendance. Attendees received a certificate of 5.75 contact hours at the completion of the program. “Ethics is such an important and dynamic topic and I thought the program was very well prepared and the presentations were excellent. They covered a wide variety of perspectives and were very informative.” stated one attendee. “Excellent – Jam-packed with interaction and good, thought-provoking information as well as excellent presentations.” added another.

The purpose of this year’s Nursing Summit was to provide an educational forum with an overview of ethics, as well as to provide insight of how differing perspectives on the part of the patient, their families and healthcare providers may impact the provision of care. Presentations included a review of ethical/legal framework for end of life, an overview of spiritual beliefs as it pertains to end of life decision-making, identifying signs of moral distress in various healthcare settings, a description of basic terms associated with medical ethics, and an open forum for participants to engage in the process of ethics committee deliberation.

“It is essential that all healthcare providers bring an understanding of ethical practice to their daily work. Nurses are the center of bedside care and have a unique voice in patient advocacy and healthcare administration. Training in ethics supports these functions while ensuring important rights and values are respected.” stated Jane Jankowski, LMSW, MSB, Clinical Ethics Fellow, Alden March Bioethics Institute at Albany Medical College. Ms. Jankowski’s interactive presentation at this year’s Summit was entitled, “Ethics Consultation Process”.

Catskill Hudson AHEC is a non-profit organization devoted to improving the quality, geographic distribution and retention of healthcare professionals and stimulating interest in health professions careers through education across its 11-county service area.

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