



NEWS RELEASE

March 14, 2013
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Katherine Doyle
Catskill Hudson AHEC
kdoyle@chahec.org
(845) 883-7260

Health Professions Summit

For the past 8 years, **Catskill Hudson Area Health Education Center (AHEC)** of Highland, New York, has developed and presented two annual flagship programs: the *Nursing Summit* and the *Emergency Responder Leadership Academy*. Both programs have grown considerably over the past several years and have developed a strong following of healthcare professionals, in part, due to the timeliness of relevant topics and the quality of the presentations.

In a new initiative to increase our program audience, Catskill Hudson AHEC announces the **Health Professions Summit**. The purpose of the Health Professions Summit is to provide an educational forum encompassing topics of relevance for *all* health professionals and support staff who work together toward providing exceptional health care by incorporating best practices in the care of their patients and families.

The topic for this year's Health Professions Summit is *Improving Healthcare to LGBT Individuals and Families: Awareness to Action*. Many lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) individuals are at an increased risk for health related threats and face treatment barriers when seeking healthcare as opposed to their heterosexual peers. Since LGBT people are members of every community and socioeconomic group. Consideration of their healthcare needs in public health efforts should be addressed to eliminate healthcare disparities and improve health related outcomes among this patient population.

The Health Professions Summit 2013 will not preclude future Nursing Summits or Emergency Responder Leadership Academies. Rather, it will be in addition to these two programs.

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 innovative programs across its 11-county service area.

For additional information on current and future programs, please visit www.CHAHEC.org/programs or call (845) 883-7260.

—###—