

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Nursing Summit 2014 – Transformational Leadership in a New Healthcare Environment**

On May 28, 2014, eighty nursing professionals were in attendance at the picturesque Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Library in Hyde Park, NY for Catskill Hudson Area Health Education Center's (AHEC) 9<sup>th</sup> Nursing Summit entitled, "Transformational Leadership in a New Healthcare Environment."

The subject matter was selected for this year's Summit because of the changes in healthcare due to healthcare reform, increased demand for nursing services, and impending workforce shortages. "Nurses will play a pivotal role in the re-design and provision of patient care" stated Kathryn Reed, Executive Director of Catskill Hudson AHEC. "It was important to provide an educational forum for those within the nursing profession to discuss the significance of their role in this rapidly changing healthcare environment."

Presenters included Diana Mason, Rudin Professor of Nursing and Co-Founder & Co-Director of the Center for Health Media and Policy at Hunter College; Joanne Ritter-Teitel, Vice President & CNO of Greater Hudson Valley Health System, Orange Regional Medical Center; and Connie Jastremski, Network CNO, Bassett Healthcare Network.

"All presenters were articulate and engaging. All topics were relevant and timely. I was thankful to have attended. The information will enhance my practice as well as advocating for elevation of the nursing profession" stated one attendee. "This program was diverse and very informative. Programs similar to this, especially during these changes, are very helpful" stated another.

The Nursing Summit is one of two Flagship Programs developed and presented by Catskill Hudson AHEC, a partner in the New York State AHEC System. This non-profit 501(c)3 helps provide health career exploration and continuing education opportunities for a diverse, motivated workforce that meets the needs of health providers and underserved communities and represents an 11-county region, including Otsego, Schoharie, Delaware, Greene, Columbia, Sullivan, Ulster, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, and Rockland Counties.

For information on this and other healthcare programs, please contact Catskill Hudson AHEC at (845) 883-7260 or visit their website at [www.chahec.org](http://www.chahec.org).



*From left to right: Joanne Ritter-Teitel,  
Connie Jastremski, and Diana Mason*

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