

2025 NYSUT HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS CONFERENCE

April 5, 2025

Crotonville Conference Center, Ossining, NY

Navigating Success: Collaborative Strategies for Healthcare and Education

PROGRAM

Saturday, April 5, 2025

7:30 am – 8:30 am REGISTRATION

7:30 am – 8:30 am BREAKFAST BUFFET

7:30 am – 1:30 pm EXHIBITS

8:30 am – 9:00 am INTRODUCTIONS

Greetings and Remarks from Ron Gross, *NYSUT Second Vice President*; Anne Goldman, *Vice President for the Private Sector and Non-DOE members of the United Federation of Teachers*; Belinda Heckler, *NYSUT Legislative Representative*

9:00 am – 10:30 am

Plenary Session – The Whole Team, The Whole Child: Transforming Student Support Through Collaboration

This opening plenary session kicks off the healthcare conference by highlighting the transformative power of interdisciplinary collaboration. Through compelling case presentations, participants will discover how professionals from diverse fields can join forces to meet the multifaceted needs of students. The session underscores the critical role each discipline plays in providing comprehensive support, emphasizing the significance and challenges of teamwork and the "whole team for the whole child" approach in driving optimal outcomes for students.

Learning outcomes: 85 % of participants will be able to articulate the role of nurses within an interdisciplinary team to support the whole child, identify strategies for effective collaboration with educators and other healthcare professionals, and apply principles of team-based care to enhance student health and well-being. (1.5 nursing contact hours)

Learning objectives: understand different clinical roles and expertise; develop strategies to prioritize patient- and student-centered care; recognize the importance of team cohesion and shared accountability for outcomes. (1.5 CEUs for Social Workers)

Panelists: Susannah Blum, MEd, MS, CCC-SLP, TSSLD, *United Federation of Teachers*; Caroline Murphy, MS, CCC-SLP, TSSLD, *United Federation of Teachers*

10:30 am – 10:45 am

BREAK



1. Ethics – Establishing and Maintaining Appropriate Professional Boundaries Part 1

Mental health professionals are charged with the legal and ethical responsibility to maintain professional boundaries, but the duty isn't always so easy to discern. This course brings context to ethical concerns often experienced by professionals in practice in maintaining appropriate professional boundaries. Presenters will review common ethical dilemmas and discuss a process to make informed decisions that insulate professionals from legal liability while also protecting clients/students/patients from harm. Overview and discussion of concerns related to HIPAA/FERPA will also be provided.

Note: This workshop continues in workshop 4. Participants must attend the entire two-part workshop.

New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers #SW-0775.

Three (3) CEUs are available upon completion of this two-part training.

No nursing contact hours for this workshop

Presenter: Courtney Hill, LCSW, *NYSUT Social Services Specialist*

2. High Stakes: The Impact of Gambling on our Youth's Mental Health and Well-Being, An Emerging Issue

Our students are facing many challenges that can have a significant impact on their mental health and overall well-being. With the increase in accessibility and availability of gambling activities, it is imperative that healthcare professionals and schools have the education and tools to reach students who may be at risk of developing a gambling problem. In this session, participants will learn about the current landscape of gambling opportunities in New York State, identify why young people are at higher risk for developing a gambling problem including the co-morbidities with other mental health and substance use issues, discuss screening resources for identifying those at risk and referral information for treatment, and ways to implement prevention strategies within their current setting.

Learning outcome: 85% of participants will be able to describe the impact of gambling on youth mental health, identify risk factors and co-occurring conditions associated with problem gambling, and apply screening and referral strategies to support at-risk students within their school setting (1.5 nursing contact hours)

Learning objectives: understand factors that can increase a young person's vulnerability to problem gambling; explore how gambling can negatively impact school performance; learn ways to implement prevention strategies (1.5 CEUs for Social Workers).

Presenter: Brandy Richards, *Bureau Director of Prevention and Special Programs, New York Council on Problem Gambling*

3. Empowering Student Success: Understanding the Intersection of IDEA, OHI, IHCP, and 504 Plans

In this workshop, educators and healthcare professionals will come together to explore the critical juncture between special education services and healthcare provisions for students. By working in tandem, we can ensure the holistic well-being and academic success of all students. Join us as we delve into the nuances of Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), Other Health Impairment (OHI) designations, Individualized Health Care Plans (IHCPs), and 504 Plans, understanding how each plays a vital role in supporting students with diverse needs.

Learning Outcome: 85% of participants will demonstrate increased knowledge of the special education qualification process and the development of Individualized Health Care Plans (IHCPs) to support student needs. (1.5 nursing contact hours)

Learning objectives: understand the process of qualifying for special education services; recognize the different role of each type of service/plan to support students (1.5 CEUs for Social Workers).

Presenters: Kelly Fahrenkopf, *NYSUT Assistant in Research and Educational Services*; Constance F. Griffin, BS, RN, AE-C, NCSN, *District School Nurse Coordinator, Valley Central High School*

4. A Day in the Life of a Visiting Nurse: Beyond the Front Door

Step into the ever-changing world of a visiting nurse, where no two days are ever the same! From navigating bustling city streets or winding roads, to finding creative solutions in home care, visiting nurses bring healthcare directly to those who need it most. This engaging session offers a firsthand look at the challenges, triumphs, and unexpected moments that define their day, from patient care and advocacy to coordinating with multidisciplinary teams. Whether its managing complex cases, building trust in diverse communities, or mastering the art of making house calls feel like home visits, this workshop sheds light on the invaluable role of visiting nurses and the impact they make “one doorstep” at a time.

Learning outcome: 85% of participants will report increased knowledge of how collaboration with other healthcare providers enhances patient outcomes. (1.5 nursing contact hours)

Presenter: Raquel Webb Geddes, RN, BSN, MS, ANCC-BC, *Holistic Nurse, DNP Student, United Federation of Teachers*

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm

LUNCH

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

WORKSHOP SESSION II

5. Ethics – Establishing and Maintaining Appropriate Professional Boundaries Part 2

Note: This workshop is a continuation of workshop 1. ***Participants must attend the entire two-part workshop.***

Presenters: Christopher Scoville, Esq. and Deena Mikhail, Esq., *NYSUT Office of General Counsel*

6. **Moral Injury is Not Burn-Out: Understanding a Silent Struggle**

Moral Injury (MI) occurs when our actions contradict our core moral beliefs, often leading to a deep emotional wound. For healthcare professionals and educators, this can arise from ethical dilemmas, witnessing harm, or facing situations that challenge personal values—often due to pressures like understaffing, limited resources, or systemic constraints. In this seminar, we'll explore how MI manifests in the workplace and its toll on mental and emotional well-being. From tough decision-making under pressure to witnessing ethical breaches, the psychological impact can be profound.

Learning outcome: 85% of learners will report an increased ability to recognize the signs and symptoms of Moral Injury and identify at least one strategy for advocating ethical safety in the workplace. (1.5 nursing contact hours)

Learning objectives: discuss how moral injury manifests in the workplace; learn strategies for identifying and addressing Moral Injury. (1.5 CEUs for Social Workers)

Presenter: Patricia Geisel, PsyD., LP, RN, *NYSUT Workplace Health & Safety Specialist*; Moriah Olsen, *NYSUT Labor Relations Specialist, Tarrytown Regional Office*

7. **Evolution or Revolution? AI in Healthcare & Education**

Evolution or Revolution? Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Healthcare: Artificial Intelligence has taken the world by storm. This transformative technology is changing lives in and out of the workplace. As AI becomes more prevalent, is it a revolutionary force to better experiences or is AI more of an evolution of best practices through technology? This presentation is a dive into the benefits and concerns surrounding service recipient care in the age of AI.

Learning outcome: 85% of learners will report an increase in knowledge about AI technologies relevant to healthcare practice and identify one benefit of integrating AI into healthcare delivery. (1.5 nursing contact hours)

Learning objectives: identify benefits of AI in healthcare/education; identify problems where AI techniques are applicable. (1.5 CEUs for Social Workers)

Presenter: Christina Patterson, *NYSUT Assistant in Research and Educational Services*

8. **911, What's Your Emergency? Navigating Medical Emergencies in Schools**

Medical emergencies in school settings demand swift action, quick thinking, and seamless coordination among staff, students, and healthcare professionals. In the absence of a full medical team, school nurses play a critical role in responding to urgent situations. This seminar will explore the unique challenges faced by school nurses during medical emergencies, from managing trauma and severe allergic reactions to responding to sudden illnesses. Attendees will gain insights into how to prepare in advance, develop comprehensive emergency response plans, and execute those plans effectively when the unexpected happens. Through real-life scenarios and practical advice, we will focus on building confidence in handling medical crises, ensuring school nurses are equipped to lead and guide staff in providing the best care for students in moments of need.

Learning outcome: 85% of participants will use the information to develop a comprehensive emergency plan in the school setting. (1.5 nursing contact hour)

Presenter: Constance F. Griffin, BS, RN, AE-C, NCSN, *District School Nurse Coordinator, Valley Central High School*

