

December 19, 2007

Dear Health Care Professional/Leader:

The NYSUT Health Care Professionals Council invites you to attend the 2008 NYSUT Professional Issues Forum on Health Care at The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center, Albany, New York.

The NYSUT Health Care Professionals Council is an advocacy group for the more than 13,000 workers in the health field who are members of bargaining units throughout the state. The Professional Issues Forum on Health Care is a major event sponsored by the Council and we encourage local presidents to support local member participation in this important conference.

This conference is designed for nurses, psychologists, clinical instructors, pharmacists and therapists who work in public and private sector schools, hospitals, universities, visiting nurses associations and residential and day treatment facilities.

Register Online or by Mail:

Registrations are **due by February 8, 2008**. To register online and pay by credit card, please go to: <http://www.nysut.org/eReg/PIF08>. To mail your completed registration form and pay by check, please use the enclosed pre-paid return envelope. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis.

Registration Questions:

E-mail jferro@nysutmail.org or call 800-342-9810, extension 6699.

Continuing Education Units:

We have applied for CEU credit for the Plenary sessions and the workshops offered at this year's conference. CEU credit is provided by AFT Healthcare, an accredited approver of continuing education in nursing through the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

Confirmation Notice:

A confirmation notice will be sent by e-mail to those who provide us an e-mail address on the registration form. Otherwise, you will receive a paper confirmation to the mailing address that you supply.

Payment:

Payment must accompany the registration form. The cost is \$65.00 per person and covers the conference cost, materials, a continental breakfast and lunch. Pay online by credit card or submit a check by mail payable to NYSUT to be received no later than February 8, 2008.

Cancellations:

Substitutions and cancellations will be accepted until February 22, 2008, after which no refunds will be made.

Overnight Accommodations:

If you require overnight accommodations, NYSUT has reserved a block of rooms at The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center in Albany, New York at a discounted group rate. Please call the hotel directly at 518-869-8100 and reference NYSUT Professional Issues Forum on Health Care. Please note that the cut-off date for these rooms is February 22, 2008.

Transportation:

Participants/locals are responsible for transportation costs as well as miscellaneous expenses. The individual must pay for any personal charges on the hotel bill at checkout. Travel arrangements can be made directly with Amtrak and the airlines, or made by contacting Carlson Travel at 800-666-2929. Identify yourself as a NYSUT Professional Issues Forum attendee. Please note that ticketing fees will be applied.

Directions:

Directions to The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center are enclosed.

Don't miss an opportunity to attend workshops that are filled with practical, powerful tools, techniques and information.

In solidarity,

Anne Goldman, *Chair*
NYSUT Healthcare Professionals Council

Thomas A. Anapolis, *Director*
NYSUT Program Services

Enclosures
MR/jd:cwa1141
Doc. 7831

2008 NYSUT PROFESSIONAL ISSUES FORUM ON HEALTH CARE

Hosted by the NYSUT Health Care Professionals Council

MARCH 15, 2008

The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center ♦ Albany, New York

Tentative Program

Saturday, March 15, 2008

- 8:00 A.M. – 9:00 A.M. REGISTRATION
- 8:00 A.M. – 8:45 A.M. CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
- 8:00 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. EXHIBITS
- 9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. SESSION A – CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

**A1. HPV Vaccine/Adolescent Gynecology
CEU Credit Workshop**

Learn about the new Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine developed to offer protection against four HPV types, which together cause 70% of cervical cancers and 90% of genital warts. This vaccine provides immunity against most types of HPV and cervical cancer before youngsters become sexually active. In addition, there will be discussion on adolescent gynecology questions and concerns.

**A2. MRSA
CEU Credit Workshop**

Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), a strain of S. aureus resistant to methicillin, is causing grave concern among health care and school professionals. What is CA-MRSA? What does a CA-MRSA skin infection look like? How is CA-MRSA spread? How can CA-MRSA skin infections be prevented? This two-hour session provides an update on symptoms, transmission, treatment and prevention.

**A3. When Bad Things Happen: Responding to Crisis, Critical Incidents and Disasters
CEU Credit Workshop**

Traumatic events such as violent episodes, suicides, accidental deaths, disasters, terrorist attacks and trust-betrayal allegations, significantly impact our schools, students, and staff. This presentation will present a model for both preparation before and intervention in the aftermath of traumatic events. Participant roles and individual/group counseling strategies will be addressed. Participants will develop skills in both prevention and postvention. Principles for developing and engaging a school crisis response team will be discussed.

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Program continued ...

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A4. Challenges of Caregivers and Caregiver Rights
CEU Credit Workshop

All of us have heard of elder abuse, but seldom do we consider the abuse of caregivers. Yet, the abuse of caregivers by older adults is far more common than most would suspect - especially emotional abuse. Physical and financial abuses are somewhat less common. This workshop examines categories of abuse, and strategies on how to deal with these types of situations. Learning how to set limits and follow-up with professional assistance, support groups or other community services will be explored.

A5. Anger Management: You Manage It or It Manages You
CEU Credit Workshop

In this workshop, participants will develop an understanding of the nature of anger, and strategies to keep anger at bay. Through practice in relaxation exercises, cognitive restructuring, problem solving, and humor, participants will take away practical tools they can use while at work and as they go about their personal lives.

A6. Identifying, Diagnosing and Treating Adolescent Eating Disorders
CEU Credit Workshop

Overeating related to tension, poor nutritional habits and food fads are relatively common eating problems for youngsters. In addition, two psychiatric eating disorders, anorexia nervosa and bulimia, are on the increase among teenage girls and young women and often run in families. In the United States, as many as 10 in 100 young women suffer from an eating disorder. These two eating disorders also occur in boys, but less often. This session focuses on the identification, diagnoses and treatment options.

11:00 A.M.- 11:15 A.M. **REFRESHMENT BREAK**

11:15 A.M.- 11:30 A.M. **WELCOME AND OPENING SESSION**

*Anne Goldman, R.N., Special Representative of the Federation of Nurses/UFT
and Chair, NYSUT Health Care Professionals Council*

GREETINGS

Kathleen M. Donahue, NYSUT Vice President

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Program continued ...

Saturday, March 15, 2008

11:30 A.M.– 12:30 P.M.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

“Protecting Your Profession - Rights and Responsibilities”

Karen Halpern, R.N. Esq.

Karen brings a unique perspective to this topic because of her background as a registered nurse and practicing attorney, presenting an overview of the NYS law that governs health care professionals on professional licenses and liability.

With the increasing complexities of patients’ medical needs and changes in the health, education and privacy laws that govern patient treatment, this workshop examines: malpractice, legal claims against health care providers, actions if served with legal papers, hiring an attorney, and possible court proceedings. Questions about licensure, practice and liability will be welcomed.

12:30 P.M.– 1:30 P.M.

LUNCHEON

PLENARY SESSION: 2008 Legislative and Political Landscape

Stephen K. Allinger, Director, NYSUT Legislation

1:45 P.M. – 3:15 P.M.

SESSION B – CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

B1. Using 24/7 Let’s Go! in the Classroom - A Model of Success CEU Credit Workshop

24/7 Let's Go! was developed by the NYSUT Health Care Professionals Council to help teachers, school nurses and health care professionals start to address childhood obesity, a national crisis, in a fun and exciting way. The goal is to get young students to take 7 positive steps a day. 24/7 Let's Go! is targeted for use in a school setting by classroom and physical education teachers, school nurses and other health care professionals who work with children. This workshop presents a model of one school's success.

B2. Trends in Health Care Benefits CEU Credit Workshop

The costs of health care benefits are a topic of national discussion and one of our most difficult bargaining issues. This workshop examines current trends and explores ways locals can compare and contrast their options.

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**B3. The Body-Mouth Connection: Periodontal Disease
CEU Credit Workshop**

Periodontal (gum) diseases, including gingivitis and periodontitis, are serious infections that, left untreated, can lead to tooth loss in children and adults. This workshop presents recent findings and research that suggests this may contribute to the development of heart disease, the nation's leading cause of death; increase the risk of stroke; increase a woman's risk of having a preterm, low birth weight baby; pose a serious threat to people whose health is compromised by diabetes, respiratory diseases, or osteoporosis.

**B4. Stress: Less is Better Than More
CEU Credit Workshop**

This presentation is intended to help individuals acquire more control over their reactions to stressful events and situations. Through a PowerPoint presentation, lecture and discussion, the workshop will emphasize exploring an expanded vocabulary of stress, differential coping strategies and self-appraisal of one's vulnerable spots in reference to stressful events. Ways of intervening at points along a continuum towards resolution will also be highlighted. A psychological-biological summary of the determinants of the stress response will normalize the experience of stress so that it is not seen as related to personal fault or inadequacy.

**B5. Solution-Focused Brief Therapy - A Strengths-Based Approach
CEU Credit Workshop**

Solution-Focused Brief Therapy is a counseling model centered on client strengths, collaborative goal-setting, and a present/future time perspective. This counseling approach has been effectively applied in such settings as individual, group and family practice, schools, and mental health agencies. The Solution-Focused counseling model has also demonstrated its efficacy with such diverse presenting issues as parenting, substance abuse, mood disorders, relationship conflicts, and school motivation, adjustment and achievement. In this workshop, participants will develop skills in such areas as motivational interviewing, developing solution-building questions, and collaborating with ancillary family, agency, and collegial support systems.

**B6. Ergonomics for Healthcare Professionals to Prevent Injuries
CEU Credit Workshop**

Do you lift, transfer or reposition students and patients as part of your job? Do you wonder why many of your co-workers get back, neck and shoulder injuries on the job? If you do not think this is just "part of the job" then this workshop is for you. This workshop will demonstrate the effective techniques of lifting, moving without injury and using a computer.

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1:45 P.M. – 5:15 P.M. **NYS MANDATED REPORTER CERTIFICATION WORKSHOP**

**B7. Identifying and Reporting Child Abuse and Maltreatment
CEU Credit Workshop**

During this workshop participants will learn common definitions and how to identify physical and behavioral indicators associated with abuse, and practice evaluating case scenarios to determine reasonable cause to suspect abuse or maltreatment. Participants will also learn how to complete reporting requirements to fulfill their professional legal mandate and learn about the legal framework of the New York State Child Protective System. At the completion of this course, professional school nurses will receive a certification of completion required by the NYS Education Department.

3:15 P.M.– 3:30 P.M. **REFRESHMENT BREAK**

3:30 P.M.– 4:45 P.M. **CLOSING SESSION**

Brain Gym

Join us for an interactive introduction to Brain Gym, a program of physical movements that enhance learning and performance in ALL areas. It includes 26 easy and enjoyable targeted activities that integrate body and mind to bring about rapid and often dramatic improvements in: concentration, memory, reading, writing, organizing, listening, physical coordination, and more. This session will review a few of those activities and invite you to consider bringing this program to your school or institution.

Brain Gym develops the brain's neural pathways the way nature does – through movement. Brain Gym began in the 1970's with the work of educators Dr. Paul Dennison and Gail E. Dennison.

Originally, the Dennisons were seeking more effective ways to help children and adults who had been identified as “learning disabled.” They drew from a large body of research by developmental specialists who had been experimenting with using physical movement to enhance learning ability. The Dennisons produced an innovative new approach to learning: the Brain Gym activities, and the field known as Educational Kinesiology (Edu-K), “learning through movement.”

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Today Brain Gym supports people of all abilities in making wide-ranging changes in their lives. Brain Gym is used in more than 80 countries and is taught in thousands of public and private schools worldwide and in corporate, performing arts, and athletic training programs.

Doc. 8283
MR/jd:cwa1141

**New York State United Teachers ♦ Professional Issues Forum on Health Care
March 15, 2008 ♦ The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center ♦ Albany, New York**

REGISTRATION FORM – Deadline: Must be postmarked by February 8, 2008

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY BELOW

Local President Name: _____ **Local Name (Do Not Abbreviate):** _____

Street Address: _____ **City:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Day phone #: _____ **Other contact #:** _____

NYSUT Local: K-12 _____ Visiting Nurse _____ NYSPA _____
 Community College campus _____ Professional Staff Congress _____
 Private healthcare institution: _____ United University Professions _____

***IMPORTANT -**
Online Registration available at <http://www.nysut.org/eReg/PIF08>

WORKSHOP SESSION CHOICES
 PLEASE IDENTIFY IN THE BOXES BELOW THE WORKSHOP THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND FOR EACH SESSION. SEE WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS IN THE PROGRAM TO HELP WITH YOUR CHOICE.


Participant's Full Name PLEASE PRINT	Nickname	Street Address (required)	City, State, Zip	Participant phone # (area code)	E-MAIL ADDRESS (print clearly – for registration confirmation notice)	SESSION A Select: A1, A2, A3, A4, A5, or A6	SESSION B Select: B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6, or B7	CLOSING SESSION “Brain Gym” (Yes or No)

Attending _____ **@ \$65.00 per person = TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$** _____
 (Pay by credit card using our online registration at <http://www.nysut.org/eReg/PIF08>)

Registration Questions? Call NYSUT Travel and Conference Services at 800-342-9810, extension 6699

**or make your check payable to NYSUT and mail to: NYSUT Travel and Conference Services
 800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, NY 12110-2455**

Other Questions? Call Jeannine Doggett at 800-342-9810, extension 6249

Please list any assistive device(s) or accommodation(s) required from NYSUT as provided for by the Americans with Disabilities Act: _____
 Please list any dietary restrictions: _____ 

The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center

660 Albany-Shaker Road, Albany, NY

518-869-8100



DRIVING DIRECTIONS

FROM THE NORTH:

Interstate Route I-87 South (Northway) to Exit 4. Bear right on ramp to the light. Turn left at the light. Proceed to the next light and make a right on Albany Shaker Road. The Desmond will be immediately on your left.

FROM THE SOUTH:

New York State Thruway (I-87 North) to Exit 24 (Northway). After the tollbooths take Exit 1N to I-87-North. Take Exit 4. Turn left at the light onto Wolf Road. At the next light, take a left onto Albany Shaker Road. The Desmond will be on the left approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile.

FROM THE EAST:

Interstate I-90 West to Exit 1N. Take Interstate I-87 (Northway) to Exit 4. Turn left at the light onto Wolf Road. At the next light, take a left onto Albany Shaker Road. The Desmond will be on the left approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile.

FROM THE WEST:

New York State Thruway (I-90 East) to Exit 24 (Northway). After the tollbooths, take Exit 1N to I-87 North to Exit 4. Turn left at the light on Wolf Road. At the next light, take a left onto Albany Shaker Road. The Desmond will be on the left approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile.