



For Immediate Release

September 18, 2017

Contact

Kate Graetzer

(518) 434-1115

kgraetzer@chcanys.org

**Amy Nickson Joins CHCANYS as Vice President of Policy
and External Affairs**

Rose Duhan, President & CEO of the Community Health Care Association of New York State (CHCANYS) proudly announced today that Amy Nickson has joined CHCANYS as Vice President of Policy and External Affairs. Amy comes to CHCANYS with a depth of understanding of New York State health policy, having worked at the New York State Department of Health (DOH) and the New York State Assembly for nearly two decades.

Ms. Nickson spent ten years working for DOH, most recently as Assistant Commissioner of the Office of Governmental and External Affairs. As Assistant Commissioner she was responsible for advising the Health Commissioner and senior officials in the Governor's Office and the Division of the Budget on policy matters of interest to DOH, and served as a key representative in Executive Budget development and annual negotiations with the Legislature. Prior to this, she served as Deputy Director of the Department's Office of Governmental Affairs.

"We are very happy to have a true professional with Amy's experience and expertise joining CHCANYS to help us serve our members – the Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) that serve 2.2 million New Yorkers – and work to improve access to quality health care for all New Yorkers," Duhan said.

"Ensuring access to quality primary care is the best way to keep New Yorkers healthy and reduce health care costs. That's exactly what CHCANYS advocates for on behalf of its members and what community health centers help bring to communities across the state," Nickson said. "Joining the dedicated professionals at CHCANYS and advocating at the federal and state levels improve community health care is the perfect opportunity to continue serving the public."

Ms. Nickson holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Richmond.

###

About the Community Health Care Association of New York State (CHCANYS):

Our members are federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) located in medically underserved communities. We provide comprehensive, high-quality and cost-effective health care to anyone who

walks in the door, regardless of their insurance status or ability to pay. CHCANYS' members serve 2.2 million patients a year (at 700 sites statewide) with primary and preventive care – the very kind of services all agree are needed to prevent overutilization of hospital emergency rooms. As part of the health care “safety net,” CHCANYS members are governed by boards whose voting majority consists of patients and other community residents.