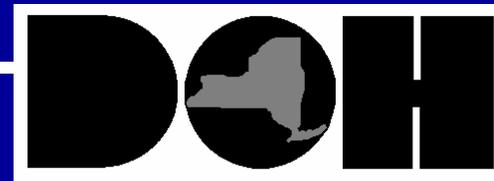


Addressing the Health Needs of Community Health Center Populations in New York State

2008 CHCANYS Statewide Annual
Conference - *Community Health: The
Foundation of Patient Centered Care*
October 28th, 2008



Main Topics

- Underserved Areas
- Current programs to address health needs in underserved areas

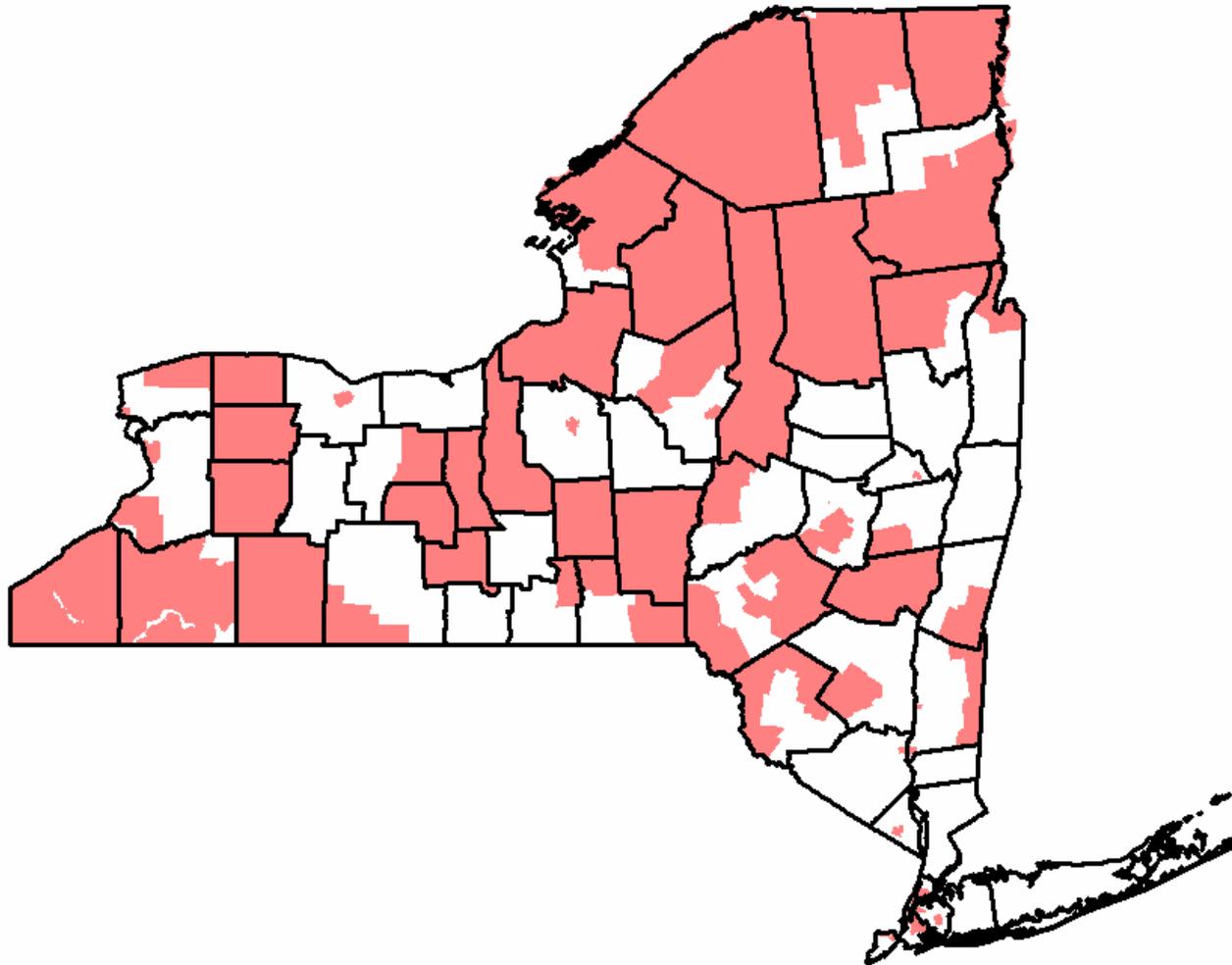
Types of Underserved Areas

- **Federal:**
 - Health professional shortage areas (HPSAs)
 - Medically underserved areas or populations (MUA/Ps)
- **State: Regents Shortage Areas**

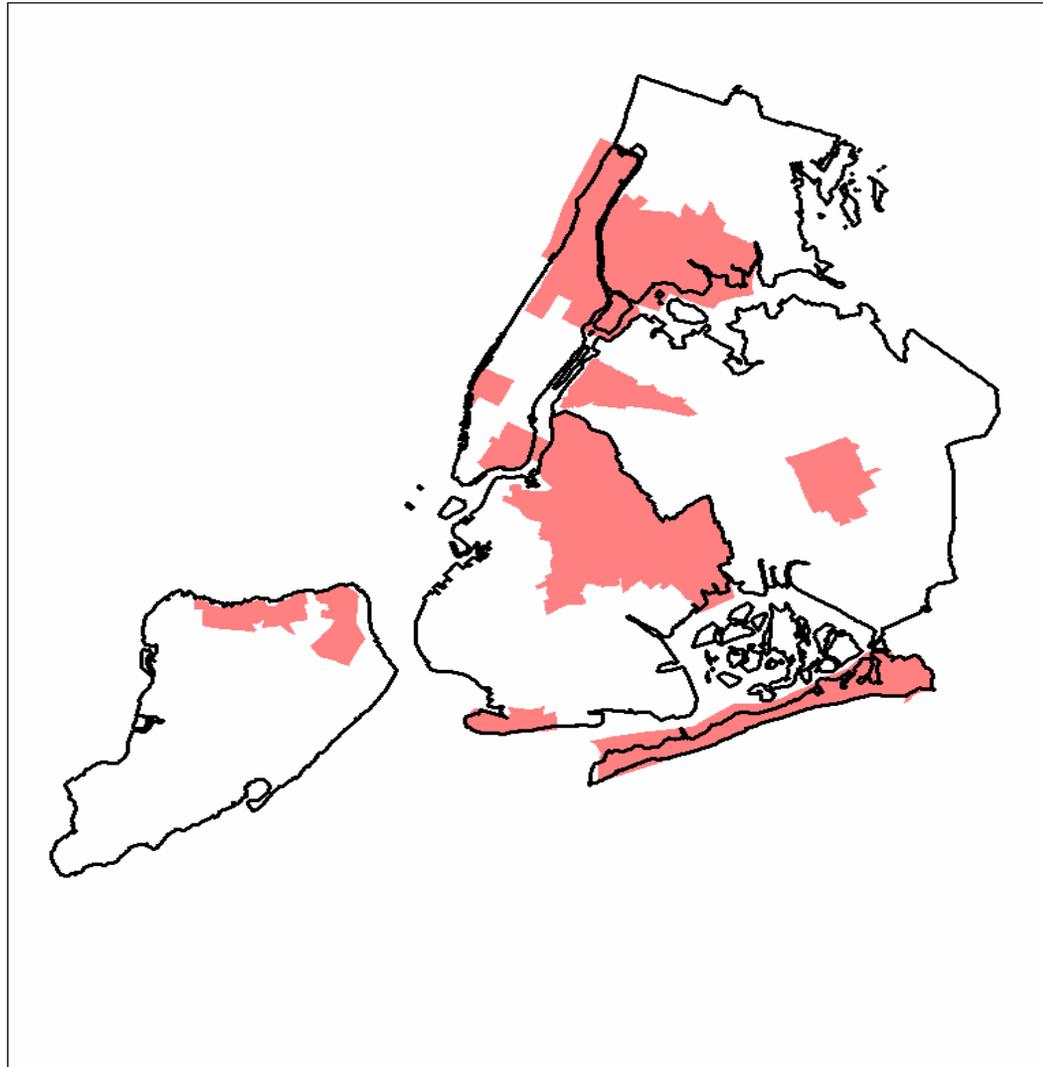
HPSAs - Three Configurations, Types

- **Configurations:**
 - **Geographic** - entire area designated
 - **Population** - only selected populations within area designated
 - **Facility** - facility only designated
- **Types:**
 - **Primary Care**
 - **Dental**
 - **Mental Health**
- Used to determine eligibility for loan repayment and J-1 waiver programs.

**25% of New Yorkers live in Primary Care
Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs)**



Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas in New York City



HPSA/Underserved Facts

- 174 in NYS (excluding facility HPSAs), of which:
 - 95 are **primary care**; 3-4 million people residing in these HPSAs;
 - 43 are dental; and
 - 36 are mental health.
- About 37% of non-facility HPSAs located in **urban** areas; 63% in **rural or mostly rural** areas;
- 13.2% of NYS' 19 million residents (about 2.5 million) had no health insurance in 2007.
- 58 FQHC/LAL HPSAs (Primary care)

Regents Shortage Areas

- Include all current HPSAs (not dental)
- Also include:
 - OMH, OMRDD, Corrections
 - Counties determined as shortages for selected medical specialties;
 - Hospitals and other facilities.
- Approved annually by NYS Regents
- Used for limited MD license and NYS loan repayment/scholarship program eligibility

Addressing Practitioner Shortages

- **National Health Service Corps** scholarship and loan repayment (HPSAs only) – about \$95.2 million requested for FFY 2009 (U.S.)
- **New York State Regents Loan Forgiveness** (Regents shortage areas) - \$800,000 annually
- **“Doctors Across NYS”** - \$6.9 million in SFY 08-09
- **J-1 visa waivers** (HPSA/MUA/Ps only)
- **Limited medical licenses** (Regents shortage areas)
- **Limited dental licenses** (Dental HPSAs)
- **Medicare/Medicaid incentives** (HPSAs)

National Health Service Corps

- **Scholarship program**
 - Benefits for up to 4 years of education in allopathic or osteopathic medical school;
 - Payment of tuition and fees (tax-free);
 - Payment of other reasonable educational expenses (books, supplies, and equipment);
 - Must complete residency programs in family medicine, general pediatrics, general internal medicine, OB/GYN; Psychiatry.

National Health Service Corps (continued)

- **Scholarship program (cont'd)**
 - Must serve one year in a high-need HPSA for every year of scholarship assistance;
 - Must agree to serve all patients regardless of ability to pay;
 - Penalties for non-fulfillment of obligation;
 - Applications due end of March each year.

National Health Service Corps (continued)

- **Loan Repayment Program**
 - Must be allopathic or osteopathic physician in family medicine, general pediatrics, general internal medicine, general psychiatry, or OB/GYN;
 - No federal debt or existing service commitment;
 - Serve 40+ hours a week in clinical practice;
 - Provide primary care service in a HPSA for 2 years;
 - Be a U.S. citizen with a valid, unrestricted license and/or certificate;
 - Must agree to serve all patients regardless of ability to pay.

National Health Service Corps (continued)

- **Loan Repayment Program (continued)**
 - Maximum repayment during initial 2-year contract is \$25,000 each year.
 - Eligible to continue loan repayment beyond 2 years, 1 year at a time, based on qualifying educational loans;
 - One-year amendments awarded for a maximum of \$35,000 per year.
 - Applications generally due end of March

New York State Regents Loan Forgiveness

- United States citizen or permanent resident and live in New York State;
- New York State medical license;
- Residency program completed within five years preceding award (or plan to complete residency training prior to award) in family practice, pediatrics, internal medicine, OB/GYN, or psychiatry;
- Not a recipient of any other loan repayment programs.

New York State Regents Loan Forgiveness (continued)

- Up to \$10,000 annually for up to two years with maximum of \$40,000 (may be taxable);
- Must agree to practice medicine in Regents shortage area 35+ hours per week;
- Must agree to serve all patients regardless of ability to pay.

“Doctors Across NY”

- 6 initiatives to improve access to quality health care and address health disparities in New York State:
 - Physician Loan Repayment Program
 - Physician Practice Support Program
 - Ambulatory Training – RFA to be released later this year
 - Physician Studies – RFA to be released later this year
 - Diversity in Medicine/Post-Baccalaureate Program
 - GME Innovations Pool – RFA to be released in 2009

“Doctors Across NY” Loan Repayment and Practice Support

- \$6.9 million total in 08-09 Budget:
 - \$1.96 million requested for loan repayment;
 - \$4.9 million requested for practice support;
- Applications available on <http://www.nyhealth.gov/funding/>
- Questions due 10/30/08
- Due date: 12/2/08.

J-1 waivers (federal program)

- Non-U.S. medical graduates from non-U.S. medical schools given “J-1” visas to complete residencies in U.S.;
- Must return home for 2 years before “green card” issued or get waiver.
- “Interested Gov’t Agencies” can recommend waivers of J-1 home residency requirement – NYSDOH, ARC are among agencies operating in NYS;
- MD agrees to practice medicine full time, or serve populations residing, in HPSAs/MUAs/MUPs for 3 years;
- Competitive “State 30” application due end of November;
- 30 “State 30” waivers recommended annually in March - 40+ applications received annually;
- Primary care and specialist MDs eligible for “State 30”.

Limited medical licenses

- Under NYS law, non-U.S. citizens who have successfully met all requirements can apply for “limited” medical licenses;
- These licenses allow physicians to practice medicine only in Regents-designated shortage areas or facilities;
- Can serve on limited license for up to 9 years, provided the licensee is “actively” seeking a green card.

Who's serving in underserved areas?

- **National Health Service Corps** – 181, of whom 82 are primary care MDs or DOs;
- **Regents Loan Forgiveness** – about 78 primary care MDs and DOs;
- **Limited Medical License/Visa waiver** - 841; 123 have J-1 visa waivers;
- **Limited Dental License** – 58 dentists; 2 dental hygienists.

Who's serving in CHCs/LALs?

- **National Health Service Corps** – about 61, as of June 2007
- **Regents Loan Forgiveness** – about 7 primary care MDs and DOs;
- **Limited Medical License/Visa waiver** - 22
- **Limited Dental/Dental Hygienist License** – 20

Useful Websites

- <http://hpsafind.hrsa.gov/HPSASearch.aspx> for HPSA designations and scores;
- <http://muafind.hrsa.gov/index.aspx> for MUA/Ps designations;
- <http://www.ffiec.gov/Geocode/default.aspx> To determine the census tract of a facility for use in HPSA determination (urban areas only);
- <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/kiap/scholarships/rplfap.htm> for Regents Shortage areas and loan repayment opportunities;
- <http://nhsc.bhpr.hrsa.gov/index.asp> NHSC Opportunity info.
- http://www.nyhealth.gov/professionals/j-1_visa_waivers/ J-1 visa waiver information
- Doctors Across NY applications: Available on <http://www.nyhealth.gov/funding/>

Contact:

- **NHSC** – (800) 221-9393; nhsc@hrsa.gov
- **DOH:**
 - **Primary Care/Dental/Mental Health**
HPSAs/MUAs/MUPs - Caleb Wistar (518) 473-7019;
ccw01@health.state.ny.us
 - **Limited Licenses/J-1 visa waivers** – Steven Swanson
(518) 473-7019; sas03@health.state.ny.us
 - **All Other questions** - Caleb Wistar
- **SED:**
 - **Regents Programs** - (518) 486-1319 general number.