



New York State ID/DD Nurses Association

NYSIDDDNA 2024 Annual Conference

Turning the Page: Honoring Our Successes
and Looking to the Future of ID/DD Nursing

September 9-11, 2024

The NYS ID/DD Nurses Association is hosting the NYSIDDDNA 2024 Annual Conference which will be held at The Queensbury Hotel in Glens Falls, New York.

The purpose of the 2024 Annual Conference is to provide nurses and other interested health care professionals working in the ID/DD field with educational programs addressing a variety of contemporary issues for ID/DD supports. The Annual Conference provides nurses an opportunity to enhance and reflect on their own practice and to network with colleagues throughout the state.

Within this brochure, you will find information about:

Registration: Member rates are available for everyone who is a NYSIDDDNA member by July 31, 2024. To become a member, click on the *Join NYSIDDDNA* tab on the Association website (www.nysidddna.org). Early bird rates are available through July 31 for members and non-members. Use the QR code to go to the Annual Conference page on the NYSIDDDNA website (www.nysidddna.org).

Sessions & Speakers: For the complete schedule with the programs and abstracts, check pages 4-7.

Hotel Accommodations: Book your hotel room at The Queensbury Hotel. For information, check page 10.

**REGISTER
TODAY**



FOR INFORMATION: www.nysidddna.org | information@nysidddna.org

Use QR Code to go to the Annual Conference page on www.nysidddna.org. Click on the link to the online registration site.

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Officers

President
Linda Cultrara

President-Elect
Cindy Pross

Corresponding Secretary
Meghan Miskinis

Recording Secretary
Pat Ruckel

Treasurer
Karen Jarvis

Conference Planning Committee

Cindy Pross, Chairperson

Courtney Bacon

Anne Campbell

Linda Cultrara

Cathy Engel

Karen Jarvis

Mary Jean Keegan

Laurie McGrath

Meghan Miskinis

Robert Peters

Jacinta Ramczyk

Pat Ruckel

Tara Sandford-Briggs

Edie Smith

Fred Wetzel

Linda Dudman, Planning
Manager



Hello, Nurses!

We are thrilled to be hosting our conference at a new location, the historic Queensbury Hotel in Glens Falls, New York!

Please join us for an educational program with something for nurses of all experience levels. As you view the brochure, you will see clinical topics, guidance on regulatory and oversight standards, and sessions to increase your skills as an IDD nurse within the interdisciplinary team. The Planning Committee made deliberate choices to bring keynote and capstone presentations that provide motivation and positive energy. You will love these sessions!

We hope also that you connect with vendors and colleagues for networking. Join this professional organization to ensure our nursing specialty grows in visibility and proficiency of practice. I urge you to get to know the NYS ID/DD Nurses Association members in your area and statewide – we would love to meet you and talk with you!

Cindy Pross, MS, RN, CDDN
Educational Program Development Committee Chairperson
NYSIDDDNA President-Elect

CONTINUING NURSING EDUCATION CONTACT HOURS

This activity has been submitted to Montana Nurses Association for approval to award contact hours. Montana Nurses Association is accredited with distinction as an approver of nursing continued professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

For more information regarding contact hours, please email information@nysidddna.org.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Nurses practicing in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities. The educational sessions may also be of benefit to other licensed health care professionals employed in the same field.

CONFERENCE PURPOSE:

The Annual Conference provides the Association with the opportunity to meet its primary purpose, which is to promote the professional development of nurses who support people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities.

The purpose of the Annual Conference is to provide nurses and other interested health care professionals working in the ID/DD field with educational programs addressing a variety of contemporary issues for ID/DD supports offered by a host of esteemed presenters. Nurses are provided an opportunity to enhance and reflect on their own practice and to network with colleagues throughout the state.

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SESSIONS & SPEAKERS

KEY NOTE: Monday, 12:45-2:00

The Secret Sauce...Thriving in Times of Change

This uplifting presentation will celebrate the accomplishments of the members of NYS ID/DD Nurses Association in rising to the challenges of the past few years. The presenter will also share strategies for bolstering our resilience, so we can continue to be at our best – personally and professionally. Using experiences from her career as an O.R. nurse, the presenter will share perspectives on how to find balance and maintain a positive mindset so that we can adapt and thrive no matter the challenges we face!



Meg Soper

Motivational Humorist | Co-Author of *From the Stage to the Page*

Meg Soper travels North America sharing powerful insights and strategies on how to be more effective in our personal and professional lives. Combining her experience as a registered nurse with her skill in stand-up comedy, she offers a unique blend of humour and inspirational ideas to connect with her audience, break barriers, and help people shift their perspective to better deal with day-to-day challenges.

A highly sought-after speaker and humourist, Soper has shared the stage with many celebrities, including Ray Romano and Ellen Degeneres. For each of her events, she invests the time to understand her audience and the challenges they face. She has touched the lives of thousands by combining her remarkable sense of humour with a curiosity about people.

Soper's diverse content has been shaped by her career as a staff nurse and as an operating room nurse in regional and major urban teaching hospitals. As a health care professional for 30 years, Soper recognizes the vital role that humour can play in creating a healthier workplace environment, in helping us deal better with stress, and in communicating more effectively.

Soper is the co-author of *From the Stage to the Page... Life Lessons from Four Funny Ladies*. She has appeared on the CBC, CTV, the Women's Television Network, and on Prime TV.

REGISTRATION

Our new online registration site is now open. Use the QR code to go to the registration site.

To register at the member rate, you must be a 2024 member by July 31. The Early Bird rate is available for members and non-members through July 31. The registration fee includes lunch on Monday; breakfast and lunch on Tuesday; and breakfast on Wednesday.

For information about reserving your hotel room, see page 10 or check the Annual Conference page on www.nysiddna.org.

Registration Fees

Member Rates

Early Bird: \$340

Regular: \$365

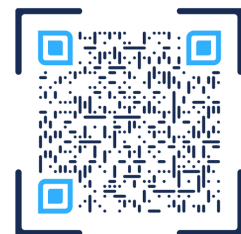
Non-Member Rates

Early Bird: \$405

Regular: \$430

One-day fees are posted on the NYSIDDDNA website at www.nysiddna.org.

REGISTER TODAY



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SESSIONS & SPEAKERS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

8:00—4:00 pm **Conference Registration Open**

9:00—10:30 am **Pre-Conference Sessions**

Dysphagia 201: Beyond the Basics

Steven Asofsky, MA, SLP-CCC/TSHH

The purpose of this presentation is to educate the participants on signs and symptoms of swallowing disorders concomitant to their diagnostics and treatments. The information provided will be inclusive of but not limited to the anatomy and physiology pertaining to the stages of the swallow, diagnostic procedures, and diet consistency variants to provide safe and efficient nutritional support.

Reducing Stigma to Reduce Harm

Heather Mattison

This presentation addresses the language and stigma associated with harm reduction as a pathway of recovery as well as enhancing relationships to create meaningful connections with people who use drugs. The presentation will include a training on how to recognize and respond to an opioid overdose along with providing a discussion around language and stigma associated with harm reduction to create meaningful connections with people who use drugs. This presentation allows for an opportunity for discussion.

10:30-11:15 am **Meet & Greet Welcome Reception**

Join us for this opportunity to meet Meg Soper, our keynote speaker, to meet and re-connect with colleagues, and to visit with the exhibitors.

11:30-12:45 pm **Opening Lunch and Welcome**

12:45-2:00 pm **Keynote Presentation**

The Secret Sauce...Thriving in Times of Change

Meg Soper, RN

This uplifting presentation will celebrate the accomplishments of the members of NYS ID/DD Nurses Association in rising to the challenges of the past few years. The presenter will also share strategies for bolstering our resilience, so we can be at our best – personally and professionally. Using experiences from her career as an O.R. nurse, the presenter will share perspectives on how to find balance and maintain a positive mindset so that we can adapt and thrive no matter the challenges we face!

2:00-2:30 pm Break with Exhibitors

2:30-3:45 pm **Concurrent Sessions**

The Evolving Science of Food Allergy

S. Shahzad Mustafa, MD

Food allergy affects 3-6% of the US population, and management is quickly changing, with newly available tests to make an accurate diagnosis, and emerging therapies. This session will cover important highlights for all providers, including skin testing, specific IgE testing, component testing, and oral food challenges; oral immunotherapy and monoclonal antibodies; and management of anaphylaxis and optimal use of antihistamines.

Identifying, Treating, & Preventing UTI & Urosepsis in ID/DD

Anne Campbell, RN, BSN, MSN-Ed, FNP-BC

This presentation will provide in depth exploration of what common conditions in ID/DD can lead to the development of urinary tract infection in both male and female patients, including how to recognize common signs of emerging urinary tract infection as well as identifying what constitutes a simple or complicated UTI. We will discuss appropriate treatment measures, including what and when to treat, current practice guidelines, as well as when to screen and when not to screen. We will wrap up the presentation exploring measures that can be used to prevent recurrence, and finish with a case study designed to promote critical thinking and problem solving among ID/DD nurses and teams to promote better health outcomes for the people we support.

NYS Justice Center Mortality Reviews—The Anatomy of a Death Assessment

Tara Kenney, RN and Sara Del Marter, MS

This presentation will focus on the role of an OPWDD RN and what you should know. We will discuss natural deaths within a framework of expected/anticipated vs. sudden/unexpected, and we will break down the “symptom/response timeline” approach to conducting a mortality review, giving nurses methods to support their own agencies in identifying areas in need of improvement. Case examples will highlight provider and Justice Center collaboration to identify cases without concerns, cases with areas benefitting from improvement, and cases where reportable incidents were discovered. Trends of most frequently made recommendations and most frequently identified reportable incidents will also be discussed within the context of nursing practices.

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4:00-5:15 pm Concurrent Sessions

Environmental Allergies, Asthma, and Atopic Dermatitis: Relationships and Therapeutic Considerations

Allison Ramsey, MD

In this session, the relationship between environmental allergies, asthma, and eczema will be reviewed. Diagnostic approaches and considerations for individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities will be discussed. Therapeutic considerations in this population will also be reviewed.

Safe Practice in ID/DD Nursing: What a Prudent Nurse Would Do

Fred Wetzel, RN, PhD, LNC, NCC

This session will discuss professional practice and regulatory requirements of which nurses in the ID/DD field should be aware. Topics include: OPWDD requirements by type of facility, standards of nursing practice in ID/DD nursing, supervision of unlicensed staff, documentation (i.e., what are the expectations), and legal aspects of ID/DD nursing (practicing safely within boundaries, avoiding negligence/malpractice risks).

Utilizing Palliative & Hospice Supports for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in Agency Settings

Ashley Keagle, LMSW

As people continue to live longer, we are challenged with the adaptation of service delivery as it pertains to aging in place and supporting through to the end of life. Utilizing community supports to develop relationships on how best to serve within one's own expertise can drastically benefit outcome for the quality of life for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families and support circles. This program will explore how the connections create opportunity, growth, and understanding to enhance service delivery to its fullest potential.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

7:00-4:00 pm Registration

7:15-8:15 am Breakfast Buffet

8:30-9:45 am General Session

OPWDD Update

Susan Prendergast, RN, MS and George Shaw, BSN, RN

In this session, Susan Prendergast and George Shaw from the NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities will discuss current guidance documents that are essential for nurses working in the ID/DD field, provide updates on the work being done by OPWDD, and address hot topics. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions.

9:45-10:15 am Break with Exhibitors

10:15-11:30 am Concurrent Sessions

Wound Prevention, Assessment, and Care in the ID/DD Population

Karis Davis, MSN

This presentation discusses wound prevention and wound care in the DD population and the anatomy and structure of wound and wound healing. Various wounds and wound care products will also be presented.

Treating Common Mental Health Challenges in ID/DD in Primary Care

Anne Campbell, RN, BSN, MSN-Ed, FNP-BC

In the ever-changing field of ID/DD support, there is an ever increasing need to assist in managing common mental health conditions in combination with primary care, as there are very few mental health providers available to treat these conditions. Even if one can find a provider to take Medicare and/or Medicaid, the wait list is long and this translates into needless suffering, delay in care, and mental health compromise for the individuals we support. The focus of this presentation is to highlight common mental health conditions that the individuals we support are challenged with and how a targeted approach to holistic care can be applied to treat both common mental health conditions such as anxiety, depression, and bipolar disorder AND common comorbidities such as diabetic neuropathy, HTN, obesity, and many others. Case studies will be used to promote critical thinking and problem solving among teams to promote a consolidated approach to holistic care.

Advanced Care Directives with I/DD: NYS MOLST Process

Ashley Keagle, LMSW

One of the most challenging conversations we can be plagued with is the topic of advanced care directives, and how to do so successfully. In working with people with I/DD,

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there is an additional legal process in place that serves as a protective measure and requires considerable attention to the person's current medical condition that lends to instituting advanced care directives. Due to the complexity of the process, it is pertinent for those in support positions to understand the general process, and where to find important resources. This presentation will explore the intricate step-by-step process of how to initiate, request, and validate advanced care directives for people with I/DD, as well as how to explore and discuss with person served, families, and support circles.

11:45-12:45 pm Lunch

12:45-1:45 pm NYSIDDDNA Annual Meeting

1:45—2:15 pm Break with Exhibitors

2:15-3:30 pm Concurrent Sessions

Big Red Rash

Judith Mysliborski, MD

A generalized erythematous eruption (the 'Big Red Rash') is often due to drug reactions or a viral infection. Recognizing the cause and understanding its timeline of evolution and resolution is important to the management of the patient. More importantly, recognizing evolution into a "serious" illness is critical to minimizing morbidity and mortality.

IDD Tailored Health Care

Steven Merahn, MD

In 2023, the NIH designated people with disabilities as a "health disparities population," recognizing common patterns of risk and conditions that are not seen in the non-disabled population. People with IDD are at particular risk, and unfortunately the "standards of care" for the non-disabled population are one of the reasons for these disparities. This talk reviews evidence and best practices for the care of people with IDD and shares some clinical guidance to help improve their quality of health.

Prevention Toolkit: Responding to Medical Emergencies

Tracey Sosa, MA & Brandi Young, MA

This presentation will provide an overview of the Justice Center's Spotlight on Prevention toolkit, Responding to Medical Emergencies. This toolkit provides information about how to recognize medical emergencies and what to do about them. This toolkit was created to provide information and resources to support the safety of people who may

not be able to communicate about the signs of a medical emergency. This toolkit will include a discussion on recognizing medical emergencies, staff actions, and preparing for medical emergencies. We will discuss lessons learned from cases involving medical emergencies via case studies.

3:45-5:00 pm Concurrent Sessions

Review of GI Medications in Patients with IDD

Harsh Kothari, Pharm D

This presentation explores the management of gastrointestinal (GI) disorders in individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). It discusses common conditions like dysphagia and GERD, their treatments, and concerns related to long-term use of proton pump inhibitors (PPIs), such as increased risks of aspiration pneumonia and osteoporosis. The impact of these treatments on the gut microbiome and emerging concerns about medication safety and efficacy will also be addressed.

Behavioral vs. Medical: If we don't play together, patients lose!

Stacey Trapani-Barber, Psy.D., BCBA

This session will review the functions of "challenging" behavior, the importance of a comprehensive functional assessment, and the imperative need for behavior specialists and nurses to work collaboratively using a trauma sensitive lens.

OPWDD Division of Quality Improvement Findings, Regulatory Expectations, and Best Practices

Mary Jane Vogel, RN, and Brian O'Donnell, BS

This presentation will include where regulations and guidance can be found; the nurse's role in ensuring regulatory compliance in the ID/DD setting; discussion of the difference between best practices vs minimal standards; and a review of common deficiencies and associated regulatory expectations related to the health and safety of OPWDD individuals.

CONFERENCE EVALUATIONS

Your feedback is essential. To receive contact hours, you must complete the evaluation form for each presentation you attend. The evaluations will be completed online this year. You will be provided a link when you come to the Annual Conference.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

7:00-12:30 pm Registration

7:00-8:00 am Breakfast Buffet

8:00-9:15 am General Session

Why Nursing Education and Empowerment May Be the Solution to the Polypharmacy Crisis In People with Developmental Disabilities

Michael Cummings, MD

Individuals with developmental disabilities and behavioral health needs are at risk for inappropriate polypharmacy and its effects. This session will provide an overview of polypharmacy with emphasis on strategies to minimize inappropriate polypharmacy and discuss the pivotal role that nurses play in this process.

9:15-9:35 am Break

Successful Completion Of this Educational Activity

- Attendance at one or more sessions in its entirety.
- Completion and submission of an evaluation form for each session attended.

9:40-10:55 am General Session

Diabetes: What it is, Types, Causes, Symptoms & Treatments

Jennifer Grant, BSPHarm

This presentation will cover what the disease Diabetes is, the types of diabetes that there are, what things can lead to being a diabetic, symptoms of the disease, with a heavy emphasis on treatment options.

11:05-12:20 pm Capstone

Positive Exposure: Seeing Beyond Diagnosis

Rick Guidotti, MFA

This presentation will create opportunities to hear from and explore the experiences of people living with a variety of genetic, physical, behavioral, and intellectual differences. The presentation will provide a "lens" into various genetic disorders and give a "voice" to those featured in the photographs and their respective families. The audience will be able to hear from individuals and their families living with genetic disorders through innovative multimedia tools developed by Positive Exposure.

12:20-12:30 pm Closing with Raffle
(must be present to win)

About POSITIVE EXPOSURE — Our Capstone Presentation

POSITIVE EXPOSURE (PE) promotes a more inclusive world through photography, films, exhibitions, lectures, and educational programs. For over 25 years, PE has collaborated globally with nonprofit organizations, hospitals, medical schools, educational institutions, museums, galleries, and advocacy groups to promote a more equitable and compassionate world where individuals and communities at risk of stigma and exclusion are understood, embraced, and celebrated.

More specifically, PE creates humanity-centered medical education resources that have been utilized by tens of thousands of healthcare professionals-in-training, practitioners, clinicians, families, and communities. From the beginning, we have partnered with diverse communities to create multimedia exhibitions that have facilitated important conversations and needed change, impacting millions of people. Positive Exposure is the focus of the award-winning documentary, *On Beauty*, by Kartemquin Films.

In 2019, Positive Exposure opened their new Headquarters in East Harlem on New York City's Museum Mile that embraces individuals at risk of stigma and exclusion and serves as a central hub for showcasing the work of visual, performing, literary and multisensory artists, as well as providing educational, cultural, and artist-in-residency programming.



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CAPSTONE: Positive Exposure: Seeing Beyond Diagnosis

Rick Guidotti, BFA, Founder and Director, Positive Exposure

Rick Guidotti is an award-winning photographer, who has spent over twenty-five years collaborating internationally with nonprofit organizations, hospitals, medical schools, educational institutions, museums, galleries, advocacy groups and communities to effect a sea-change in societal attitudes towards individuals living with genetic, physical, behavioral, or intellectual difference. His work has been published in newspapers, magazines, and journals as diverse as Elle, GQ, People, the American Journal of Medical Genetics, The Lancet, Spirituality and Health, the Washington Post, Atlantic Monthly, and LIFE Magazine.



He is the founder and director of Positive Exposure, a non-profit organization that promotes a more inclusive world through award winning photography, film, and educational programs. Positive Exposure has significantly impacted the field of human rights, mental health, medicine, and education by providing new opportunities to see each individual as a human being and valued member of our society.

In June 1998, his work was featured in LIFE Magazine's cover story entitled, Redefining Beauty. He premiered a photographic exhibition for the People's Genome Celebration at the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History in 2001. Since then, he has developed exhibitions, lectures, workshops, educational programs, and initiatives around the globe. Positive Exposure is the focus of the award-winning documentary, On Beauty, by Kartemquin Films.

Through innovative multimedia tools developed by Positive Exposure, this presentation will create opportunities for the audience to hear from individuals and their families living with genetic disorders and explore the experiences of people living with a variety of genetic, physical, behavioral, and intellectual differences. The presentation will provide a "lens" into various genetic disorders and give a "voice" to those featured in the photographs and their respective families.

Special Features

Nightingale Tribute—The NYS Nurses Honor Guard will perform this tribute in memory and honor of nurses who have died in the past year. We are pleased to share this meaningful ceremony at the Annual Conference this year.

Remembrance Book—Last year a book was provided for attendees to share comments and memories about nurses they knew. The book will be placed on a table by the membership table to give everyone an opportunity to leave a message about a loved one who has passed.



In Memory of 9/11/01— This day will not be forgotten. Most people remember exactly where they were on this day. For some of our attendees, they have clear memories of this day when they were together at the 2001 Annual Conference. We will share some memories.



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EXHIBITORS

The NYSIDDDNA 2024 Annual Conference provides an opportunity for conference attendees to meet representatives from companies and organizations that specialize in providing products and/or services in the support of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about the products and services that will enhance the care and enable their safe and effective practice of this nursing specialty.

The Exhibit Hall will be open:

Monday, September 9 10:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 10 8:00 a.m. through 2:30 p.m.

Conference breaks are scheduled both days to provide time for attendees to spend time talking with the exhibitors. Attendees will be able to visit the exhibit hall whenever they would like during the hours the hall is open. The location of the exhibitors will provide attendees with easy access to the exhibit tables during the breaks and between sessions.

Exhibitors will include representatives from a variety of companies and non-profit organizations.



Disclosure Statement

None of the planners or presenters for this educational activity have relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies to disclose except for the following speakers:

- Allison Ramsey, MD who is on the speakers' bureau for Sanofi/Regeneron, AstraZeneca, and GSK.
- S. Shahzad Mustafa, MD, who is on the speakers' bureau for Genentech, Regeneron, GSK, AstraZeneca, & CSL Behring.
- Harsh Kothari, PharmD, who is the President of Capital Regional Pharmacy Services.
- Jennifer Grant, BPharm, who is a consultant pharmacist for Health Direct Pharmacy Services.

All relevant financial relationships have been mitigated before this activity.

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CONFERENCE HOTEL

The Queensbury Hotel

88 Ridge Street, Glens Falls, NY



Reserving Your Hotel Room

The NYSIDDDNA 2024 Annual Conference will be held at [The Queensbury Hotel](https://thequeensburyhotel.com) in Glens Falls, New York. We are excited to host our conference at this hotel that offers historic charm and modern amenities. We have reserved the entire hotel for our Annual Conference.

You can book your hotel room at any time by phone or online.

- **BY PHONE:** Call the hotel front desk at 518-792-1121 and press 1. Please mention the NYS ID/DD NA Conference.
- **ONLINE:** Go to the hotel website at thequeensburyhotel.com and click the "BOOK NOW" button on the top right of the screen. Select your check-in and check-out dates. Add the GROUP CODE: NYSIDDD2024

When you call to reserve your room, you will have a few price options to consider. We encourage booking early to receive the lowest rate, which is \$174 plus tax.

