

# NY STATEWIDE SENIOR ACTION COUNCIL'S 2020 VIRTUAL CONVENTION

Turning Lemons Into Lemonade



**TUESDAY, SEPT 29**

**10 AM - Noon**

**PUBLIC POLICY SPEAK OUT** *(Members Only)*

Share your concerns. Speak Up about the issues that are important to you. This event replaces our annual Convention Town Hall meeting.

**Gail Myers**, StateWide Deputy Director

**Barb McBurnie**, StateWide's Public Policy Committee

**Documents:** [State](#) & [Federal](#) DRAFT 2021 Priorities, [Bill Tracker](#), [Federal Bill Tracker](#)

**FRIDAY, OCT 9**

**Noon – 2 PM**

**LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES** *(Members Only)*

**María Alvarez**, Executive Director, NY StateWide Senior Action Council

**Barb McBurnie**, StateWide's Public Policy Committee

Each Chapter will have an appointed delegate to review, respond and vote on the draft 2021 State & Federal Legislative Priorities.

Delegates will debate and vote on behalf of the membership. Members can observe proceedings if registered for this event.

**TUESDAY, OCT 13**

**9 AM -10 AM**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS** *(Members Only)*

**María Alvarez**, StateWide Executive Director

Each Chapter will have a delegate to vote on behalf of the membership. Members can observe proceedings if registered for this event.

**Documents:** [Slate of Nominations](#)

**TUESDAY, OCT 13**

**2020 CONVENTION**

**10 AM - Noon**

**WELCOME REMARKS**

**Mario C. Henry**, Board President,  
[NY StateWide Senior Action Council](#)

**Kathleen Otte**, Regional Administrator,  
[Administration for Community Living \(ACL\)](#)

**WELCOME MESSAGES**

**Hon. Charles Schumer**, U.S. Senator *(invited)*

**Hon. Kirsten Gillibrand**, U.S. Senator *(invited)*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**María Alvarez**, NY StateWide Senior Action Council

**WHAT IT MEANS TO BE NEWS-LITERATE**

**John Silva**, Senior Director of Education,  
[The News Literacy Project](#)

**BREAK (1 HOUR)**

Medicare, Medicare Fraud, and Patients Rights Helpline 800-333-4374

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**TUESDAY, OCT 13**

**2020 CONVENTION**

**1:00 PM—2:15 PM**

## **BENEFITS PANEL**

Hear the latest updates on Medicare, EPIC, and your rights to appeal.

### **MEDICARE & EPIC BENEFITS UPDATE**

**Eric Hausman**, Medicare Expert, Consultant  
NY StateWide Senior Action Council

### **MEDICARE APPEAL RIGHTS**

**Bryan Fischer**, Communications Lead,  
[LIVANTA LLC](#)

**BREAK (15 MINUTES)**

**2:30 PM – 4:00 PM**

## **PROTECTING YOURSELF AND OTHERS FROM SCAMS**

**Gary Brown**, Assistant Attorney General,  
[Office of the NYS Attorney General](#)

## **FIGHTING FRAUD: SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL (SMP)**

**Jean Stone**, SMP Volunteer

## **SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL VIDEO**

**Beth Nelson**, [SMP](#) Director  
**Leslie Sierra**, StateWide Outreach Counselor

**WEDNESDAY, OCT 14**

**2020 CONVENTION**

**12:30 PM – 2:30 PM**

## **REIMAGINING OUR HEALTH SYSTEMS**

Learn how the health care system works now and vision how it can meet our future needs. Will there be enough hospital & long term care beds and health and home care work-ers? How will services be accessed in the community, what is telemedicine's future?

## **MEETING COMMUNITY NEED THROUGH OVERSIGHT OF MERGERS & CLOSURES**

**Lois Uttley**, Co-founder of [Raising Women's  
Voices for the Health Care We Need](#)

## **ENSURING SAFE STAFFING TO PATIENT RATIOS**

**Gail Myers**, StateWide Deputy Director

## **TRANSFORMING THE NURSING HOME CULTURE**

**Cathy Unsino**, LCSW, Advocate

## **FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS**

**Ray Babowicz**, [Community Health Center  
of the North Country](#)

## **TELEHEALTH**

**Andrew P. Solomon**, MPH, Senior Program  
Manager, Medical Care Development, Inc.  
Northeast Telehealth Resource Center

## **HOME HEALTH CARE CRISIS**

**María Alvarez**, StateWide Executive Director

**BREAK (15 MINUTES)**

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**WEDNESDAY, OCT 14** 2020 CONVENTION

**2:45 PM - 3:30 PM**

## **KEYNOTE**

### **HOW TO REDUCE THE IMPACT OF HEALTH, RACIAL AND ECONOMIC DISPARITIES**

**Mary Bassett**, MD, Harvard University  
Francois-Xavier Bagnoud Professor of the  
Practice of Health and Human Rights;  
Former Commissioner NYC Department of  
Health and Mental Hygiene

**3:30 PM - 4:45 PM**

## **IMPROVING CONSUMER PROTECTIONS**

What can be done to enhance nursing home resident rights, secure additional consumer rights, ensure access to broadband services and reduce personal medical debt?

### **COVID MEDICAL DEBT AND OTHER CONSUMER ISSUES**

**Chuck Bell**, Programs Director, Advocacy,  
[Consumer Reports](#)

### **MEDICAL DEBT**

**Judy Jones**, member of StateWide & Finger Lakes Chapter of the [Campaign for New York Health](#)

### **IMPROVING LONG TERM CARE QUALITY THROUGH ENHANCED SURVEILLANCE**

**Cynthia Rudder**, PhD, Co-founder, Long Term Care Community Coalition

**THURSDAY, OCT 15** 2020 CONVENTION

**1:00 PM - 2:45 PM**

## **PUBLIC POLICY SOLUTIONS**

Hear from advocates on state and federal issues, from protecting Social Security and Medicare to ensuring the state has sufficient resources to deliver needed services.

### **FISCAL SHORTFALLS**

**Ron Deutsch**, Executive Director  
[Fiscal Policy Institute](#)

### **MEDICAID MATTERS**

**Lara Kassel**, Coordinator,  
[Medicaid Matters NY](#)

### **IMPROVED MEDICARE FOR ALL**

**Katie Robbins**, Executive Director,  
[Campaign for New York Health](#)

### **FEDERAL COVID RELIEF ACTION**

**Mark Hannay**, Executive Director,  
[Metro NY Health Care for All](#)

### **PROTECTING AND IMPROVING SOCIAL SECURITY**

**Eric Kingson**, PhD, Co-founder,  
[Social Security Works](#)

**BREAK (15 MINUTES)**

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**THURSDAY, OCT 15** 2020 CONVENTION

**3:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

### LEGISLATOR'S PANEL

Legislators discuss their priorities on a panel featuring the state health and aging committees.

**Assembly Aging Committee Chair**  
**Harry B. Bronson**

**Assembly Health Committee Chair**  
**Richard Gottfried**

**Senate Health Committee Chair**  
**Gustavo Rivera**

**Senator Aging Committee Chair**  
**Rachel May**

**4:00 PM - 4:15 PM**

### TAKING IT HOME

**Gail Myers**, StateWide Deputy Director

**4:15 PM — 4:30 PM**

### CLOSING REMARKS

**María Alvarez**, StateWide Executive Director  
**Mario C. Henry**, StateWide Board President

### ADJOURNMENT

**CONTACT US/FOLLOW US**



**info@nysenior.org**



**800-333-4374**



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**Medicare**  
**2021 OPEN**  
**ENROLLMENT**  
**Oct. 15th – Dec. 7th**



### STATEWIDE'S CERTIFIED COUNSELORS

provide **FREE** personalized, confidential, unbiased information about Medicare options including prescription drug plans.

You can call us at **800-333-4374**  
or email us at [info@nysenior.org](mailto:info@nysenior.org).

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