



Cerebral Palsy Associations
of New York State
Real people. Realizing potential.

present the
**13th Annual Quality & Compliance Challenges
Conference for Providers Serving People with
Disabilities**

REGISTRATION BROCHURE

When:

January 12-14 & January 19-21

Cost:

\$150 = CP of NYS Affiliates/The Arc NY Members
\$200 = Non-Members

Register:

Registration deadline is January 4, 2021
Register Online Now [HERE!!](#)

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Executive Leadership



**13th Annual Quality & Compliance
Challenges Conference for Providers Serving
People with Disabilities**



SESSIONS – WEEK 2

**Tues.
Jan. 19** **10:30am
to
12:00pm**

Keynote: HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Scott Landes, PhD, Associate Professor of Sociology, Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs, Syracuse University
Ryan Cox, Vice President for Analytics & Financial Business Strategies, New York Alliance for Inclusion & Innovation
Joshua Christiana, Director for Quality, Compliance & Chapter Relations, Corporate Compliance and Privacy Officer, The Arc New York

Scott, Ryan, and Josh will discuss the COVID-19 data project which has been developed in conjunction with New York Disability Advocates (NYDA). The project, which has actively been collecting data from providers since April, has focused on the impact of COVID-19 on individuals served in certified residences in New York and the impacts of the virus on those individuals in comparison to the general population. The presenters will share the components and findings of their research along with the long-term impacts on people, the sector, and the supports and services provided during the pandemic. The findings of the project have been instrumental in ensuring that individuals with I/DD and the staff that support them be included in the initial phase of vaccine distribution.

**Wed.
Jan. 20** **10:30am
to
12:00pm**

CREATING A CULTURE OF QUALITY

Melissa Hall, BA, MBA, Chief Operations Officer/EVP-Behavioral Health, Monarch

Managed Care as part of health reform will be discussed along with information presented regarding the metrics that are relevant to a Managed Care model that would be applicable to tracking with individuals diagnosed with intellectual/developmental disabilities. Quality measures that can enhance service delivery will also be discussed.

**Thurs.
Jan. 21** **10:30am
to
12:00pm**

A COMPLIANCE LEGAL UPDATE: “COMPLIANCE – IT WAS ALREADY HARD WITHOUT COVID-19”

Melissa Zambri, Barclay Damon, LLP

This presentation will cover important compliance issues for providers as we head into 2021: mandatory changes to compliance plans, auditing the COVID period, privacy concerns heightened by COVID (including telehealth into the future, work from home issues, etc.) and other hot topics as we look forward to a time when we have “just the normal” compliance challenges.

Presentations/Handouts:

Presentations/handouts will be posted by close of business on January 25 on The Arc New York and CP of NYS websites (www.thearcny.org & www.cpstate.org).

Questions:

Registration questions may be directed to (518) 439-8311. General conference questions may be directed to either (518) 436-0178 or (518) 439-8311.

SPEAKERS



LISA LEE ANDERSON

Senior Investigator
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office for Civil Rights (HHS/OCR)
www.hhs.gov/ocr

Lisa Lee Anderson is a Senior Investigator for the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office for Civil Rights (OCR). OCR is HHS' civil rights and privacy enforcement agency. Ms. Anderson received her B.B.A. from Pace University and her law degree from Touro Law School. Ms. Anderson began her federal career as an Equal Opportunity Specialist in 2000 with HHS/OCR and became a Senior Investigator in 2016. In this capacity, she is responsible for investigating highly complex discrimination complaints in certain healthcare and social service programs because of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, religion, and the exercise of conscience. In addition, she is responsible for investigating Privacy and Security Rules complaints and breach reports based on the HIPAA Privacy and Security Rules and the HITECH Breach Notification Rule. She also conducts compliance reviews and special projects. For further information, please see www.hhs.gov/ocr or call (800) 368-1019.



JOSHUA CHRISTIANA

Director for Quality, Compliance & Chapter Relations, Corporate Compliance
and Privacy Officer
The Arc New York
www.TheArcNY.org

Joshua M. Christiana, M.A.Ed., CHC, CHSP, Director for Quality, Compliance & Chapter Relations, Corporate Compliance and Privacy Officer, has been supporting people with disabilities through various roles over the past 16 years. Christiana joined The Arc New York's Quality Improvement and Compliance Department in 2015. The Arc New York is the country's largest not-for-profit organization for people with developmental disabilities, serving approximately 60,000 individuals and 30,000 employees across New York State. Since joining The Arc New York, he has supported statewide advocacy efforts on regulation and policy changes involving the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), the New York State Justice Center and the Office of Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG). Additionally, he provides guidance and support on corporate compliance and quality improvement matters to The Arc New York's 39 operational Chapters. He has developed several resource materials on emergency preparedness and directs The Arc New York's COVID-19 data collection and analysis program.

Christiana graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from SUNY Albany and earned a Masters in Education Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Phoenix. He is certified in Healthcare Compliance (CHC) and a Certified HIPAA Security Professional (CHSP). He and his wife reside in Rensselaer County.

SPEAKERS



RYAN COX

Vice President of Analytics
New York Alliance for Inclusion & Innovation
www.nyalliance.org

Ryan Cox is the Vice President of Analytics and Financial Business Strategies for the New York Alliance where he provides financial insight to the organization and its membership and leads the effort to provide data integration for providers of I/DD services. Ryan has nearly a decade of experience in financial and policy oversight of the State's Medicaid program. Prior to joining the New York Alliance, Ryan worked at the Division of the Budget (DOB) where he advanced from analyst to a management position with responsibility for overseeing the Medicaid component of the Department of Health's budget. During his time at DOB Ryan contributed to many impactful pieces of legislation/policy including: creation of the Medicaid Global Cap; legislation phasing-down the growth in local contributions to Medicaid; fiscal and policy analysis of the potential impact to New York State of the various efforts to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act; and establishing the Health Care Transformation Fund following the sale of Fidelis Care to Centene. Ryan holds a Bachelor's degree from the University at Albany School of Business with a concentration in Finance. Ryan currently lives in Niskayuna with his wife Meghan and their dog Molly.



DOUGLAS DIGESARE

Chief Executive Officer
The Arc Erie County
www.arceriecounty.org

Douglas DiGesare currently serves as the Chief Executive Officer of *The Arc Erie County New York*. With more than 1,000 employees and \$47 million annual operating budget, *The Arc Erie County* is one New York State's largest and longest tenured providers of supports for individuals with Developmental Disabilities in Western New York. The Arc Erie County provides a wide range of services including Preschool and School-Age Education, Day Services, Employment Programs, Case Management, Respite, Clinical Services, Community-Based Supports, and operates 25 residential sites across Erie County. The agency also manages more than \$2.3 million in NYSID contracts serving the Buffalo City Court System, University at Buffalo, Erie County Water Authority, and Buffalo Sewer Authority.

Mr. DiGesare has more than 30 years of experience in the Human Services field beginning as an entry level Direct Support Professional before coming to The Arc Erie County as a Residential Manager in 1987. During his time with the organization, Mr. DiGesare has served in a variety of leadership roles including Manager of the Furniture Refinishing Division, Director of Residential Services and Director of Quality Improvement and Training. Mr. DiGesare was appointed to the position of Chief Operating Officer in 2015. Through this experience, Mr. DiGesare has garnered an in-depth understanding of all aspects of agency operations, and state and federal agency policies while maintaining a strong working relationship with the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Department of Health (DOH), The Arc New York, and other regulatory agencies, which directly impacts the quality, quantity, and continuity of services for individuals and their families. Mr. DiGesare enthusiastically organizes, manages, and participates in the development, integration, interpretation, implementation, and monitoring of all activities related to the agencies' conformance with government regulations and policies. He provides personal oversight of agency undertakings regarding various aspects of operations serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

SPEAKERS



RACHEL DUNN

Special Prosecutor/Inspector General
The New York State Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special
Needs Office of the Special Prosecutor/Inspector General
www.justicecenter.ny.gov

Rachel joined the Justice Center in 2014 and became the agency's Special Prosecutor/Inspector General in 2017. She manages a team of attorneys who oversee investigations and litigation pertaining to allegations of abuse and neglect committed by caregivers against vulnerable persons throughout New York State. She and members of her team prosecute cases statewide that rise to the level of criminal conduct and defend the agency's civil adjudications under the Social Services law.

Prior to joining the Justice Center's Office of the Special Prosecutor/Inspector General, Rachel worked as an agency attorney for the New York City Department of Education handling special education administrative cases. In that role she litigated due process claims pertaining to special educational planning processes, procedural violations, and legality of corresponding school placements and therapeutic services.

Before her move to New York City, Rachel served as an Assistant District Attorney in Erie County, where she practiced in the office's general felonies bureau. She is a graduate of Southern Methodist University's Dedman School of Law, and the Georgia Institute of Technology. She is an Air Force brat, who enjoys spending as much time as possible outdoors.



MELISSA HALL

Chief Operating Officer
Monarch
www.monarchnc.org

Melissa oversees Monarch's behavioral health operations statewide, provides clinical and administrative oversight and helps to direct the company's service expansion strategies. Melissa has 30 years of experience in the health and human services field. A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, she holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology. She completed her Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree at Pfeiffer University. Melissa is currently working on her Doctorate in Business Administration at the University of North Carolina in Charlotte. She also completed Leadership Richmond through the Richmond County Chamber of Commerce and the N.C. Advancing Strong Leadership Initiative through the North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities and the University of Delaware.

Originally from Pittsburgh, Melissa moved to North Carolina in 1994. She and her husband, Robby, have two children.

SPEAKERS



SCOTT LANDES, PH.D.

Associate Professor of Sociology and Faculty Associate, Aging Studies Institute
Syracuse University
www.maxwell.syr.edu

Scott Landes is an Associate Professor of Sociology and Faculty Associate at the Aging Studies Institute. He received his PhD in Sociology from the University of Florida in 2014. He spent three years as an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of North Florida. Informed by his interest in medical sociology, aging and the life course, and disability theory, the majority of his research focuses on health and mortality trends across the life course for those with developmental disability, and for veterans. His other primary research focus addresses the intersections of intellectual disability and social theory.



CARMINE G. MARCHIONDA

Chief Executive Officer
The Arc Rockland
www.arcofrockland.org

Carmine G. Marchionda was named Chief Executive Officer of The Arc Rockland in June, 2013. He stands at the helm of the not-for-profit agency with a staff of 750, supporting 1,200 people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities and their families. He currently serves as a volunteer member of the Board of Directors of the Interagency Council of Developmental Disability Providers (IAC), Management Committee Member and Secretary of Care Design New York (CDNY) and is an Honorary Board Member of the New Jersey Society of Licensed Nursing Home Administrators (SLNHA). For ten years prior to joining Arc, he was President and Chief Executive Officer of Spectrum for Living, a New Jersey-based human service organization supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. He served as the Vice President of the Alliance for the Betterment of Citizens with Disabilities (ABCD), a New Jersey nonprofit advocacy organization.

Mr. Marchionda's interest in the field of healthcare was sparked when, at the age of 15, he volunteered at a community hospital in Wayne, New Jersey. A year later, while still in high school, he joined the hospital staff as a Certified Nursing Assistant where he remained for nearly 10 years as he pursued his college educational studies. Prior to his position with Spectrum for Living, Mr. Marchionda was a Public Management and Health Care Specialist for the Goldstein Partnership Architects. Before that, he was employed by the County of Sussex, New Jersey, where he filled a variety of executive roles including: Nursing Home Administrator, Long-Term Care Consultant, Deputy County Administrator and ultimately, County Administrator overseeing 40 departments serving some 150,000 residents.

Mr. Marchionda is a Certified Public Manager (CPM) from Fairleigh Dickinson and Rutgers Universities. He holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration and Healthcare Management, from Kean University; a Master's Degree in Business Administration and Finance from William Paterson University, and a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from William Paterson University. He is a Licensed Nursing Home Administrator in the states of New York and New Jersey. Mr. Marchionda and his wife Michelle live in Ogdensburg, New Jersey with their children: Carmine, Jr., Michael, Melissa and Nicolas.

SPEAKERS



SUSAN MENTECKI

Vice President of Residential Opportunities
Aspire of WNY
www.aspirewny.org

Susan is the Vice President of Residential Opportunities at Aspire of WNY. She has been in non-profit leadership roles for the past twenty years as a Vice President, Chief Operating Officer, and Corporate Compliance Officer. Susan recently returned to Aspire of WNY as that is the organization dearest to her heart. Susan has been a chair of several Developmental Disabilities Alliance of Western New York (DDAWNY) committees, and currently co-chairs the Residential Committee. Susan has been a long supporter of Boys and Girls Clubs and has served on the Board of the East Aurora Boys and Girls Club for 12 years, and on the Club's Emeritus Board for the past several years. Susan began her career as a Music Therapist, holds a Master of Public Administration, and is a Certified Lean Professional.



JOSE J. RIVERA, JR.

Director of Quality Assurance/Corporate Compliance Officer
Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc.
www.cpnassau.org

A graduate of City College of New York, Jose has over 40 years of experience working in the field of developmental disabilities. Jose, brother of an individual with developmental disabilities, is one of several families featured in the critically acclaimed documentary **Unforgotten Twenty-Five Years After Willowbrook**. A former auditor with the NYS Office for People With Developmental Disabilities, Jose currently serves as the Director of Quality Assurance/Corporate Compliance Officer for the Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, in Long Island New York. Jose also serves as a Co-Chair of the CP State affiliates QA/Corporate Compliance Committee and was recently asked to serve as the CP State affiliates representative on the OPWDD Regulatory Reform Committee.

SPEAKERS



MIKE SEMEL

CEO & Founder
Semel Consulting
www.semelconsulting.com

Mike Semel is a noted thought leader, speaker, blogger, and best-selling author. He is the President and Chief Security Officer of Semel Consulting, focused on HIPAA and other regulations; cyber security; and Business Continuity planning. Mike is a Certified Business Continuity Professional through the Disaster Recovery Institute, a Certified HIPAA Professional, Certified Security Compliance Specialist, and Certified Health IT Specialist. He has owned or managed technology companies for over 30 years; served as Chief Information Officer (CIO) for a hospital and a K-12 school district; and managed operations at an online backup company. Mike has spoken to many audiences including the medical team at the Kennedy Space Center and the New York State Cyber Security conference. He is the best-selling author of *How to Avoid HIPAA Headaches*.



MELISSA ZAMBRI, ESQ.

Partner
Barclay Damon LLP
www.barclaydamon.com

Melissa is a member of Barclay Damon's Management Committee and managing director of the Albany office. She is also the co-team leader of the health care and health and human services teams and is a former member of the Compensation Committee. In her practice, Melissa focuses on enterprise development and regulatory guidance for the health care industry. She provides counsel to individual practitioners, owners, administrators, executives, and employees of health care practices and health care-related facilities, including physicians, licensed medical personnel, providers of services to the developmentally disabled, hospitals, clinics, home-health agencies, senior residences and assisted-living facilities, laboratories, health care trade associations, durable-medical-equipment providers, alcohol- and substance-use-disorder treatment facilities, physician practice management companies, mental-health programs, and medical transportation companies. Melissa assists health care clients with certificate-of-need applications, compliance programs, audits, investigations and self-disclosures, HIPAA compliance, and licensure issues. She also helps clients obtain approvals to operate health care facilities and to complete significant transactions. She counsels providers on federal anti-kickback and self-referral requirements, regulations governing federal- and state-funded health care programs, including Medicare and Medicaid, and other regulatory requirements applicable to health care providers.