

ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Adirondack Bank Building, 5th Floor, 185 Genesee St., Utica, NY 13501

ANTHONY J. PICENTE, JR.
ONEIDA COUNTY EXECUTIVE



PHYLLIS D. ELLIS, BSN, MS, F.A.C.H.E.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

ADMINISTRATION

Phone: (315) 798-6400 ☎ Fax: (315) 266-6138 ☎ Email: publichealth@ocgov.net



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Contact: Rachel Evans 315-798-5486

Oneida County Health Department Honored by New York State *Environmental Services Division Selected as NYS Public Health Works! Honoree*

The Oneida County Health Department Environmental Services Division has been selected as a 2018 New York State Public Health Works! Honor Roll awardee.

Staff were selected for the award because of the dedication to the field of public health and for overcoming a variety of challenges this past year including a municipal water system emergency, and multiple outbreak investigations requiring extended hours for clinical and environmental staff.

The joint investigation of a legionella outbreak helped to reduce health disparities and support health equity through uninterrupted protection of water, food supply and environment in the county. The division's Lead Poisoning Prevention program and Healthy Neighborhoods program further served to assess health disparities and support health equity for impoverished portions of the County.

Throughout 2017 the Environmental Services Division team provided support and coverage for each other to maintain high quality service assuring that all program requirements were achieved, demonstrating a dedication and commitment to keeping Oneida County residents safe and healthy.

The Honor Roll was established to highlight the key role public health workers play in protecting and promoting the health of all New Yorkers. New York State Department of Health realizes that at the heart of all successful public health initiatives are outstanding people who promote and protect the public's health and safety.

The Honor Roll hopes that in honoring people that they will then encourage other public health workers to aspire to a high level of skill and dedication. The Public Health Works! Honor Roll recognizes the local public health workforce as an essential component of the public health agenda to make New York one of the healthiest states in the nation.

“I would like to congratulate the Environmental Services Division on its recent accomplishment and thank the entire unit for the high level of commitment they display and for all they do for their community,” said Phyllis D. Ellis, Oneida County Director of Health. “At the heart of all successful public health initiatives are the workers who promote and protect the public's health and safety.”

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