

# STRATEGIC LEARNING

Be Prepared for  
YOUR Next Move



**NYSAC 2024 Fall Seminar**  
**September 9-11, 2024**

Resorts World Catskills  
Monticello, NY Sullivan County



# Agenda

## Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>

7:30am-5:30pm	Registration
9:30am-11:00am	<b>NYSAC Standing Cmt. Mtgs. (Track I)</b>  Children with Special Needs Medicaid & Human Services Transportation & Public Works Climate Action, Environment & Energy Native American Affairs
11:30am-1:00pm	<b>NYSAC Standing Cmt. Mtgs. (Track II)</b>  Agriculture, Economic Development & Rural Affairs Taxation & Finance Public Health/Mental Health Public Safety Intergovernmental Relations, Personnel & General Government
11:30am-1:00pm	NYSAC IT Task Force Meeting
1:00pm-2:00pm	NYSAC Luncheon
1:00pm-5:00pm	Exhibits Open
2:00pm-3:15pm	<b>Workshop Session I</b>
3:15pm-5:00pm	Resolutions Committee Meeting
3:15pm-3:45 pm	Break in Exhibit Hall
3:45pm-5:00pm	<b>Workshop Session II</b>
6:00pm-8:30pm	NYSAC Dinner Event

## Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>

7:30am-5:00pm	Registration
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## Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> *(continued)*

7:30am-5:00pm	Exhibits Open
7:30am-8:45am	General Breakfast
7:30am-8:45am	NYS Association of Chairs of County Legislative Boards Breakfast Meeting
9:00am-10:15am	<b>AM Plenary Session</b>
10:15am-10:45am	Break in Exhibit Hall
10:45am-Noon	<b>Workshop Session III</b>
Noon-1:30pm	NYSAC Business Meeting Part I: Inaugural Luncheon
1:30pm-2:00pm	Time to Visit Exhibit Hall
2:00pm-3:15pm	<b>Workshop Session IV</b>
3:15pm-3:45pm	Break in Exhibit Hall
3:45pm-5:00pm	<b>PM Plenary Session</b>
6:00pm - 8:30pm	<b>Sullivan County Special Evening Event</b>

## Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>

8:00am-9:00am	General Breakfast
8:00am-9:00am	Joint Intercounty Breakfast
9:00am-9:30am	NYSAC Business Meeting: Part II Resolutions

*\*Agenda Subject to Change*

# Agenda



# INFORMATION

NYSAC 2024 Fall Seminar

September 9-11, 2024

Resorts World Catskills, Monticello

Sullivan County

## REGISTER ONLINE

Please visit the NYSAC website at [www.nysac.org/fallseminar](http://www.nysac.org/fallseminar) to utilize our link to online registration. The registration deadline is August 30th. You may also go directly to the online portal by using the following link (**for county officials only**):

**<https://1.cventevents.com/NYSACFS24>**

**Option A - Reg and all meals \$472**

**Option B - Reg and Monday meals \$356**

**Option C - Reg and Tuesday meals \$325**

**Option D - Reg without meals \$250**

**Cancellation Policy:** All cancellations must be made via email to [jmunguia@nysac.org](mailto:jmunguia@nysac.org). Cancellations before 8/30 may be partially refunded. Cancellations after 8/30 cannot be refunded and are due.

## BOOK HOTEL NEEDS

**PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR ROOM BLOCK AT RESORTS WORLD CATSKILLS IS CURRENTLY SOLD OUT. PLEASE REFER TO OUR WEBSITE FALL SEMINAR PAGE UNDER "HOTEL" FOR COMPLETE DETAILS ON HOW TO BOOK A ROOM AT OUR OVERFLOW HOTEL, THE HAMPTON INN MONTICELLO, WHICH IS JUST 1 MILE FROM RESORTS WORLD. PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU CAN PARK FOR FREE AT BOTH RESORTS WORLD AND THE HAMPTON INN.**

**Room cut off for the Hampton Inn is Aug 8 or until sell out.**

## PURCHASE MEALS

Please note the meal tickets are not included in the price of registration for the Fall Seminar. If you would like meals, please remember to purchase needed tickets during your online registration process by choosing the option that represents your meal needs. You must purchase meals in advance of the Seminar to obtain tickets for your desired meals. More detailed information can be found during your online registration process.

**<https://1.cventevents.com/NYSACFS24>**

***\*\*Non-County Officials please contact [jmunguia@nysac.org](mailto:jmunguia@nysac.org)\*\****

# DISCOVER SULLIVAN COUNTY

*Gateway to the Catskill Mountains*



Special Host County Event  
Sponsored by

**Sullivan County**

September 10th 6:00pm-8:30pm  
The Museum at Bethel Woods  
Center for the Arts

# WORKSHOP TOPICS



## **HELP! Civil Service Changes and Hiring Practices**

Municipal government services and challenges keep expanding and our pool of potential public servants continues to shrink. Recently across New York our county governments are struggling to hire and retain quality employees to provide essential services. The good news is that the State has heard our call for needed changes in Civil Service practices that were slowing down or even blocking your ability to hire needed employees in a timely fashion. With the newly installed HELP program, your county can find and put to work employees faster to meet your service challenges. Join this workshop to learn more about the HELP program, how it works and what titles can become eligible for this expedited process. Additionally, this workshop will discuss the latest trends in collective bargaining that will help you better understand recent benefit structures. [\(Monday, September 9, 2024, 2:00pm-3:15pm\)](#)

## **Who Wins, Who Loses? Mental Health Competency Restoration v. Treatment**

The SFY 21 Enacted Budget included an assumption requiring the state to charge counties 100 percent of the costs of restoring mentally ill defendants to competency. This policy action resulted in tens of millions of dollars in new expenses for counties, without any changes to treatment plans or input from local county mental health experts. Join us for a discussion on mental health competency restoration, and how counties are advocating to improve this system. [\(Monday, September 9, 2024, 2:00pm-3:15pm\)](#)

## **Self-Auditing Your Cybersecurity Response Plan**

During a breach every minute counts, but what really counts is the time spent before the breach occurs. The accelerated pace of evolving cyber threats, including ransomware, supply chain attacks, and newly announced software vulnerabilities requires us to secure, operate, and defend infrastructure and data. This workshop will share best practices for ensuring your cybersecurity infrastructure and response plans are updated and understood by critical stakeholders. Join us to learn how counties are partnering with market leaders in cybersecurity to ensure up-to-date infrastructure and response plans needed to address the evolving cyberthreat landscape. [\(Monday, September 9, 2024, 2:00pm-3:15pm\)](#)

## **Rural Housing Development: Obstacles, Resources, and Solutions**

Much of New York State is comprised of sparsely populated rural areas with an aging housing stock. In fact, 28% of homes in rural portions of the state were built prior to 1940 and face an 18% vacancy rate compared to just 9% in more urban settings. Join us for a conversation to learn more about how your county may benefit from a housing needs assessment, what tools and resources are available to you, and most importantly, how local policy makers can improve their community's housing profile. [\(Monday, September 9, 2024, 2:00pm-3:15pm\)](#)



## WORKSHOP TOPICS

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### **Rising Together: WLC Mentorship Program Kick-Off**

Join us for the launch of the Women's Leadership Council (WLC)'s mentorship program, designed to foster connections between experienced and emerging county leaders. Share advice, ask questions, and learn what it takes to thrive as a woman in county government. [\*\(Monday, September 9, 2024, 2:00pm-3:15pm\)\*](#)

### **Tourism, IDAs, and the Local Economy: A Data Discussion**

Tourism done right drives sustainable, responsible economic growth through job creation, small business activity, revitalization, increased local and state tax revenues, and a better quality of life and pride of place for the community. A growth in tourism benefits the state, our local communities, businesses, and residents. Join us for a discussion to learn the facts on tourism, and how local IDA's are driving growth across the state. [\*\(Monday, September 9, 2024, 3:45pm-5:00pm\)\*](#)

### **Celebrating A Decade of County Climate Leadership**

Celebrate ten years of climate action through the Climate Smart Communities Certification program. This session will highlight standout projects, honor significant achievements, and discuss resources to continue driving progress in your county. [\*\(Monday, September 9, 2024, 3:45pm-5:00pm\)\*](#)

### **Bridging the Gap: The Culture of Poverty & Public Health**

Delve into the complex issues of poverty, race, and ethnicity in healthcare. Learn how counties can identify and address disparities to promote equity and improve health outcomes for all residents. [\*\(Monday, September 9, 2024, 3:45pm-5:00pm\)\*](#)

### **How to House the Hard to House**

Counties across the state are struggling with finding appropriate shelter for people with mental health, substance abuse, and other behavioral health issues. At the same time, the state is expanding mental health treatment capacity for inpatient psychiatric treatment beds and adding housing units serving individuals with mental illness. This session will highlight how counties are creatively approaching these challenges. [\*\(Monday, September 9, 2024, 3:45pm-5:00pm\)\*](#)

### **Building Consensus in a Political Environment**

(County Government Institute Core Session) County leaders are often confronted with the need to settle political differences so that the greater interests of the public can be served. During this session, county leaders will learn skills and techniques to help manage and resolve political conflicts. This is an interactive session, where participants will be grouped with other county officials to



## WORKSHOP TOPICS



jointly work on significant issues facing your county so that practical application of the techniques can be demonstrated. This session will be led by representatives from the NYS Dispute Resolution Association. (County Government Institute Core Requirement –4 credits [\(Tuesday, September 10, 2024, 10:45am-12:00pm\)](#))

### **Artificial Intelligence and Government: Exploring the NACo AI Toolbox**

The advent and growth of generative artificial intelligence (AI) presents unique opportunities and challenges for county governments. The National Association of Counties (NACo) established an AI Exploratory Committee, published a primer for county leaders, and this summer unveiled a toolbox designed to help county officials use AI to improve services and programs. This workshop is designed to unpack NACo's new toolbox to help your county with the practical and governance challenges and opportunities associated with AI. [\(Tuesday, September 10, 2024, 10:45am-12:00pm\)](#)

### **Providing More for Less: Increasing Services to Children at a Lower Cost**

Hear from county officials on their plans to address a variety of children services capacity shortfalls in their county and surrounding area. A lack of day care providers and facilities, along with a decrease in Early Intervention and special education pre-k capacity, mental health, child nutrition and other services are making it harder for counties to help children and their families. This workshop will discuss creative solutions for addressing these service shortfalls while also improving service delivery and providing county savings. [\(Tuesday, September 10, 2024, 10:45am-12:00pm\)](#)

### **An Overview of the NYS Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team**

The workshop will provide an overview of the NYS Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team and what the team has learned through its review of deaths and near-deaths related to domestic violence in New York State since 2013. The presenters will share the findings of the team, including lethality indicators, systems accessed by individuals prior to the death, strengths and challenges identified by the team, and implications of the team's findings for municipalities. County leaders will learn about best practices and recommendations for responding to domestic violence with the goals of preventing fatalities and empowering survivors. [\(Tuesday, September 10, 2024, 10:45am-12:00pm\)](#)

### **Cannabis Crackdown: Combating Unlicensed Businesses**

This year's state budget granted counties and cities the authority to shut down unlicensed cannabis operations. This workshop will explore how localities are using their enforcement powers to crack down on the illegal market





## WORKSHOP TOPICS

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and protect public health and safety. *(Tuesday, September 10, 2024, 10:45am-12:00pm)*

### **Risk Management, Reducing Accidents and Costly Claims Against Your County**

Accidents happen but they are also avoidable. Your county's exposure to costly damages can happen everywhere—garage fires, car accidents, cyber-attacks, personnel issues—they all can and will happen to your county resulting in thousands if not millions in unexpected costs. Join us for this workshop that will go over the most common areas where a county is exposed to this risk and, more importantly, what proactive steps can be taken by county officials to avoid these from happening. *(Tuesday, September 10, 2024, 2:00pm-3:15pm)*

### **Opioid Epidemic to a Fentanyl Epidemic, New Public Health and Safety Challenges**

New York's local governments have been on the frontlines battling the opioid epidemic for decades, and now fentanyl posing new challenges. While many think of fentanyl as synonymous with opioids or morphine, it is not. It is a synthetic that is 50 to 100 times more potent. Illegally made fentanyl is being put in street sold drugs to hook the end user. Drugs such as heroin, cocaine, and even marijuana are all being laced with fentanyl and because of its potency. This is causing increased dependence and a spike in overdose deaths. This workshop is designed to provide the latest on how counties are fighting back against this scourge in our communities. *(Tuesday, September 10, 2024, 2:00pm-3:15pm)*

### **Plugged In: Developments in Energy Siting and Transmission**

Explore the recent changes to state laws and regulations governing the siting of renewable energy projects and transmission facilities. Learn about the state-level developments, the critical role local governments play, and strategies to address key issues like farmland protection. *(Tuesday, September 10, 2024, 2:00pm-3:15pm)*

### **Ethics for County Officials**

Local officials are held to a high standard of ethical conduct and need to avoid even appearances of impropriety. It is important that officials understand the laws governing this area. This session will provide an overview of Article 18 of the General Municipal Law and the requirement for local codes of ethics. *(Tuesday, September 10, 2024, 2:00pm-3:15pm)*

### **Sustainable Solutions: Tackling Food Waste in NYS (Inter-County)**

Uncover practical solutions for reducing food waste in your county. This presentation will offer easy-to-implement strategies and resources for local governments and businesses to minimize waste and promote sustainability. *(Wednesday, September 11, 2024, 8:00am-9:00am)*