Meet Schenectady County's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Staff

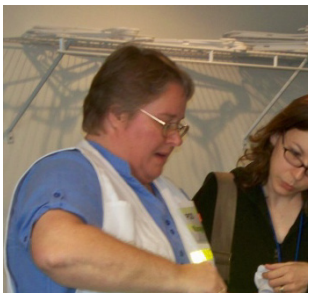
Joanne R. Cocozzoli is the Assistant Director of Prevention and Patient Services/ Bioterrorism Preparedness Coordinator at Schenectady County Public Health Services (SCPHS), where she is responsible for planning, coordinating and implementing the department's bioterrorism and emergency response activities. She is also responsible for preparedness drills, community education and outreach as they pertain to bioterrorism and preparedness topics.

Joanne received her M.S. in Community Health Nursing from Russell Sage College and her B.S. in Nursing from SUNY Albany. Joanne has been working in Public Health for 27 years. In her most recent assignment, Joanne received the Nurse of the Year Award for 2005 by the Schenectady County Emergency Medical Services Council and the Registered Professional Nurse of Excellence Award for 2005 presented by Regional EMS Council of the Hudson Mohawk Valley REMO.

Kathy Sen is the Nursing Supervisor of the Clinic and Communicable Disease Control Program at Schenectady County Public Health Services. Kathy and her team are responsible for infectious disease surveillance and management. Kathy also works in emergency preparedness. During her years at SCPHS Kathy has had a variety of roles including Home Care Nursing, STD/HIV Counselor, Lead Poisoning Prevention Coordinator, Child Health Promotion Specialist and Maternal Child Health Nursing Supervisor. Kathy has a B.S. in Nursing from Russell Sage College. Prior to joining the Health Department in 1988, Kathy worked in the Gynecology-Oncology department at Albany Medical Center. Kathy's immense knowledge of infectious diseases is vital to our emergency preparedness efforts.

Glynnis Hunt is the Health Education Coordinator at Schenectady County Public Health Services. Glynnis has been with the Health Department in this position for the past 10 years. Glynnis has worked on a variety of public health issues including teen pregnancy prevention, injury prevention, smoking cessation, HIV Partner Notification and many others. Glynnis has coordinated the Medical Reserve Corps for several years and has recently left that assignment to work on a variety of other public health initiatives. Glynnis continues to be our Public Information Officer liaison as part of our Incident Command Structure. Glynnis has a B.S. in Psychology from the University at Albany and an M.S. in Health Education from Sage Graduate School. Prior to joining the health department Glynnis worked at 2 area hospitals in staff and patient education.

June Schuldt is a Public Health Nurse at Schenectady County Public Health Services. She has been with SCPHS for 19 years and has worked on a variety of assignments including the Maternal Child Health Team, Children with Special Needs, Senior Health Education Program, Healthy Schenectady Families and as an H1N1 POD Coordinator. Her current assignments include the Senior Health Education Program, Early Intervention Service Coordination and Coordinating the Medical Reserve Corps. June has her BSN in nursing from Wagner College, Staten Island, NY. She came to SCPHS with 10 years of experience with the Visiting Nurses of Albany, 2 years with the Schenectady WIC program and 2 years as a nurse consultant for a local law practice.



Elisabeth M. Whitman or "Lisa" is a Public Health Nurse for Schenectady County Public Health Services (SCPHS). She has been with Schenectady County since August 2006, but has been involved in Public Health in both Schenectady and Schoharie Counties since 1986. She has been both a Public Health Nurse as well as a Supervisor for all of the various public health programs such as disease control, tuberculosis, maternal child health, immunizations, grants management and home care. She also was with the New York State Department of Health Dental Bureau as a Public Health Nurse where she managed the statewide dental fluoride program and was involved in the implementation of the new Practice Guidelines on "Oral Health Care during Pregnancy and Early Childhood." Lisa is currently part of the Communicable Disease Team at SCPHS where she is involved in disease control activities, HIV/PNAP (PartNer Assistance Program), the Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention program, Daycare Consultant and Preparedness activities for Schenectady County.

Jennifer Kahn graduated from Alfred University in 2000 with a B.A. in Communication Studies and a minor in Psychology. After college she worked as an HIV Educator for AIDS Community Resources (ACR), in Watertown, New York for 5 ½ years. In 2008 Jen decided to return to graduate school for her Masters in Public Health at the UAlbany School of Public Health. During her program she interned at Schenectady County Public Health Services with the Strategic Alliance for Health in the spring of 2010. After graduating with her MPH in May 2010, she was selected for the Public Health Leaders of Tomorrow (PHLOT) Post-Graduate Fellowship at SCPHS. The fellowship is designed to address the emerging needs of local health departments across New York State and to support the development of high quality public health practitioners adept in the development, execution and assessment of various public health initiatives at the local level.

During the one year fellowship she will be working with several programs at SCPHS, including public health preparedness. Specifically, she will be assisting in preparing SCPHS for the CDC's Technical Assistance Review Survey (TARS) and helping to develop the Public Health Preparedness Exercise Plan for 2011.