

## E-Newsletter Feb/March 2018



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*Above: Advocates pictured with Assemblyman Kevin Byrne, Ranking Member, Assembly Aging Committee*



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### In this Issue:

- Advocacy Day 2018:

## Advocacy Day in Albany

February 6, 2018

This year's Advocacy Day truly began before February 6<sup>th</sup> with older New Yorkers from around the state lending their voice through hundreds of letters they wrote and sent to their legislators. As a newcomer to the Association, I was impressed with the strong advocacy efforts of our AAAs. It was nice to see (and meet) so many Directors who traveled to Albany to collectively advocate for key changes to the Governor's proposed budget, and hear of so many others who made appointments in their local districts. Legislators were welcoming and informed (or wanted to be informed) on the proposed NYSOFA budget, and what the proposed cuts would mean to older New Yorkers and the NY Connects program. One of the important things that came out of Advocacy day is that the Association needs to work with the AAAs

## Looking Forward

- Save the Date for ACUU 2018
- Meet Michele: Aging NY's new Interim Executive Director
- Coming Soon
- Now Available Online: Jan. '18 NYSAC presentation

to update our statistics on waiting list numbers. Many of our legislative advocates asked about waiting lists and support needs that are unserved and/or underserved. This information helps our Legislators understand the needs of our network and why continued and increased funding is needed. As a result of these discussions, the Association will be reaching out to AAA Directors with a waiting list survey and ask for ideas on how we can better understand each our counties needs for the future.



*Above: Advocates pictured with Senator Serino and Assemblywoman Lupardo*

**There is still time NOW** to reach out to your local legislators (and/or follow-up with them again) to ask them to fully restore New York Connects to the \$33 million (OFA) and \$8 million (ILCs) per year for a total of \$41 Million. The current amount proposed in the Governor's budget is only \$44.5 million over two years. This is not adequate to meet the demands of a now ramped-up system. The adage "If we build it they will come" – has proven true and our older New Yorkers, persons with disabilities and informal family caregivers continue to come ... in leaps and bounds. More than 230,000 calls came in through NY Connects last year, and many directors report seeing a drastic increase since the launching of the statewide public awareness campaign.

If we provide a system for information, assistance and referral regarding long-term care services and supports, we also need services to support those needs. To meet this need, we will continue to inform our Legislators how \$24 million additional Community Services for Elderly (CSE) Program funds are needed to decrease waitlists and/or provide services our older New Yorkers and their caregivers in need.

Finally, we will continue to educate our Legislators about Elder Abuse and the financial and health impact Elder Abuse has on our older New Yorkers. To meet this need, we will continue to inform our Legislators on how an additional \$10 million dollars can further support prevention and intervention for Elder Abuse, a growing problem that is under recognized, under reported, and under prosecuted.

## We Have A Job Opening!

We currently have a job opening for an  
**Educational Program Coordinator.**

[Click here for more information!](#)

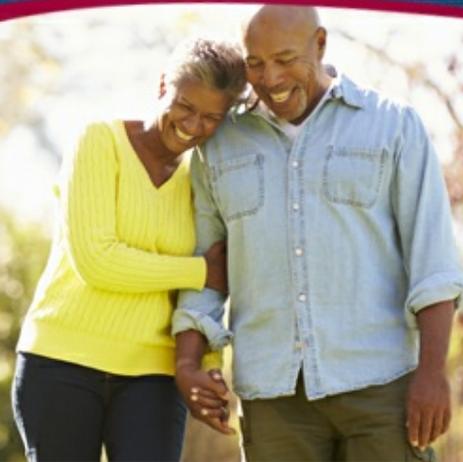
Please email your cover letter and resume  
to Michele Roberts at [michele@agingny.org](mailto:michele@agingny.org).

## Aging Concerns Unite Us Conference



**2018 Conference**  
**June 5 & 6**

Desmond Hotel - Albany, NY



**Save the Date: ACUU 2018 will be June 5-6**

### Registration information coming soon!

Registration for the 2018 Conference will be opening very soon. The Early Bird price is \$195 for the full conference and \$100 for a single day, if paid in full by May 21st. Pricing will increase after May 21st, so be sure to register now!

[Stay tuned to our website for the latest updates >](#)

### Interested in being a sponsor?

Registration for Sponsors and Exhibitors is now open! Some spots are limited availability, don't miss your opportunity to connect with our attendees!

[Download the Informational Brochure >](#)

[Visit the sponsorship page on our website for more information >](#)

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[Aging-NY  
Calendar of Events](#)

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## Field Resources

- [NY State Office for the Aging](#)
- [Administration for Community Living \(ACL\)](#)
- [National Association of](#)

If you have any questions, contact Courtney Turner, Administrative Assistant, by calling 518-449-7080 x11 or by email at [courtney@agingny.org](mailto:courtney@agingny.org).

[Area Agencies on Aging \(n4a\)](#)



## Meet Michele

Michele Roberts joins the Association on Aging as the Interim Executive Director.

I am grateful for the opportunity to join the Association on Aging in New York and help carry out the vital work that the aging network does on behalf of our older New Yorkers. I have long held the core belief that all people deserve the right to be as independent as possible as they live, work, and participate in society, and I have always encouraged and supported integration and independence.

I have spent the majority of my career in the business realm as the director of marketing and business development for a quality architectural and engineering firm (over 17 years). This work required outreach and collaboration with public and private entities, strategic planning, contract development, a keen focus on cash flow, business development, and marketing. Additionally, I have a good many years of experience in the social services field working with the aging population as the Executive Director of a Senior Center; and working in jobs that transitioned individuals with disabilities out of sheltered workshops into competitive, community employment.

I look forward to my interactions with you, and I plan to work hard to strengthen the Association, support the excellent work that you are doing within the aging network, and be a strong advocate for the folks we serve.

## Coming Soon in Spring 2018

- Look for the Waitlist Survey
- Business Acumen Trainings
- Caregiver Forums

## Now Available Online

NYSAC Presentation

Slides from the New York State Association of Counties presentation "The Future of Senior Services in New York State" are now available. This workshop was presented at the January 2018 NYSAC Legislative Conference.

[Download available on our website.](#)

## Upcoming Webinars

On our online calendar, Aging NY lists webinars and events that we hear about which are put on by a variety of our partnering agencies. Upcoming webinars include:

- March 7th, 1 pm - 2 pm: "Environmental Scanning for CBOs" - a webinar by n4a
- March 20th, 10 am - 11 am: "Preparing for and Recovering from Disasters: What Older Persons and Caregivers Need to Know" - a Telephone Teach-In by the New York StateWide Senior Action Council
- March 20th, 1 pm - 2 pm: "The Age Friendly Health Systems Initiative: Building Community-Clinical Collaboration to Improve Care and Outcomes for Older Adults and Their Families" - a webinar by n4a

[Click here to check out our calendar now!](#)

We also keep an archive of past webinars, some of which include handouts, slides, and/or a recording. More updated information is coming soon!

[Check out the archive here.](#)

## To AAA Directors: Members Only

[Log in on our website](#) to view exclusive members-only content! New topics available now include:

- 2017 Leadership Institute Presentation Slides
- 2018 Board of Directors Meeting Schedule (*Board Only*)
- 2018 AAA Directors Call Schedule

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*For assistance signing on to the Members Only page,  
contact [courtney@agingny.org](mailto:courtney@agingny.org) or give our office a call at 518-449-7080.*

## Do you have news?

Is there something exciting happening at your organization? Do you have interesting aging news you would like to share? Is there something important we didn't mention?

[Email Michele Roberts](#) for consideration in our next newsletter!

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