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NYSACHO MEMBERS ELECT 2020-2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND INCOMING PRESIDENT

**Kevin D. Watkins, MD, MPH, Public Health Director of Cattaraugus
County Health Department, Elected Incoming President**

(Albany, New York, June 1, 2020) The New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO) today announced the results of its 2020 election for Board of Directors. NYSACHO represents all 58 local health commissioners and public health directors, serving as the voice for all of New York State's local health departments.

New members elected to the board include Michael D. Mendoza, MD, MPH, MS, FAAFP, Commissioner, Monroe County; and Amy E. Gildemeister, PhD, Public Health Director, Schoharie County. Mendoza and Gildemeister will join an esteemed panel of existing NYSACHO board members including:

- Indu Gupta, MD, MPH, MA, FACP, Vice President, Commissioner, Onondaga County
- Linda Beers, MPH, Public Health Director, Essex County
- Nancy McGraw, LCSW, MBA, MPH, Public Health Director, Sullivan County
- Paul A. Pettit, MSL, CPH, Public Health Director, Genesee and Orleans Counties
- Daniel J. Stapleton, MBA, Immediate Past President, Public Health Director, Niagara County
- Heidi Bond, BSN, CPH, Public Health Director, Otsego County
- Lawrence E. Eisenstein, MD, MPH, FACP, Commissioner, Nassau County
- Irina Gelman, DPM, MPH, Commissioner, Orange County
- Emiko Otsubo, Chief Operating Officer/Executive Deputy Commissioner, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- Assunta S. Rozza, Deputy Commissioner, Finance, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- Carol M. Smith, MD, MPH, Commissioner, Ulster County

DR. KEVIN D. WATKINS ELECTED PRESIDENT

Dr. Kevin D. Watkins will serve as the 2020-21 NYSACHO board president. First elected as NYSACHO Vice-President in 2019, Dr. Watkins has been the Public Health Director for the Cattaraugus County since November of 2009. Dr. Watkins brings a wealth of experience, having previously served as a primary care physician, research scientist, public health physician, and director of a faith and health outreach association. He serves as a local health department representative on the New York State Public Health and Health Planning Council. Dr. Watkins is also a board member for several organizations including the Western New York Public Health Alliance, the Southern Tier Health Care System Inc., Universal Primary Care (Federally Qualified Health Center), Cattaraugus Community Action, Healthy Community Alliance, and the Western New York Physicians Leadership Team. Dr. Watkins received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from The University of Illinois and received his Doctor of Medicine degree from Chicago Medical School.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS SELECTED

Also elected were members of the Board of Directors Executive Committee. Joining Dr. Watkins on the committee will be Dr. Indu Gupta, who will serve as vice president, and Daniel Stapleton, immediate past president.

Sarah Ravenhall, Executive Director, said: "We are pleased to announce the newly elected and re-elected directors to NYSACHO's Board, particularly during a time when the value of public health is center-field and in the spotlight. These leaders are uniquely qualified to lead NYSACHO into the future as we continue to build momentum around why public health matters and the need for flexible funding for local health infrastructure and the public health workforce."

Dr. Watkins said: "It is an honor to lead our 2020-21 board during these challenging times for public health. I am pleased to welcome newly elected members Dr. Michael Mendoza and Dr. Amy Gildemeister. Both bring great experience and new perspectives to our team. We also look forward to the continued leadership from all of our board members who volunteer their service to NYSACHO, serving as champions on behalf of our members and our citizens to protect and promote public health."

The new board of directors and executive committee will begin their one-year term effective June 1, 2020. To view a listing of NYSACHO Directors and for more information, please visit: <https://www.nysacho.org/about-us/board-of-directors/>.

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