



## **MEDIA ALERT**

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### **Governor's Regional Economic Development Councils Must Ensure Health Care Sector Remains a Core Contributor to State and Local Economic Growth**

Hospitals are Economic Engines of the Finger Lakes Region  
3rd Largest Employer, \$4.9 Billion Impact

ALBANY, N.Y. — The [Healthcare Association of New York State](#) (HANYS) urges the members of Governor Cuomo's Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council to fully consider the vital role health care organizations play in the state and local economies, and implores leaders to protect and build upon health care as one of the few remaining job growth sectors.

In the Finger Lakes Region, hospitals alone maintain 41,810 jobs and generate \$4.9 billion in economic activity, and the health care sector is the region's third largest employer. Statewide, hospitals and health systems support 686,610 jobs and generate \$107.9 billion in economic activity each year, or 9.4% of the Gross State Product.



"As the economic engines of the Finger Lakes Region, the contributions of hospitals and other health care providers cannot be overstated," said HANYS' President Daniel Sisto. "In the Finger Lakes Region, and in virtually every region of the state, the health care sector represents the very foundation upon which a stronger economy can be built and sustained."

Not only are health care providers among the top employers in the region, these organizations and their employees generate tremendous direct and indirect economic activity by purchasing goods and services from other businesses, and by investing in capital improvements. Additionally, access to health care is a critical factor in statewide economic development and a prerequisite for attracting companies looking to expand or relocate.

In developing its strategic plan, the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council should build on the stabilizing effect health care has had in the region. In addition, as it shapes a regional vision for economic development, the Council can work with health care providers to identify high priority health

care projects that will create more jobs and help further bolster the community's economic potential.

The [Healthcare Association of New York State](#) (HANYs) is the only statewide hospital and continuing care association in New York State, representing more than 550 non-profit and public hospitals, nursing homes, home care agencies, and other health care organizations.

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