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STATEMENT ABOUT THE 2021-2022 ENACTED STATE *BUDGET*

Wendy Darwell, President/CEO of the Suburban Hospital Alliance of New York State (SHANYS)

Hauppauge, NY (April 7, 2021) The hospital industry is grateful to the legislature and the governor for restoring most of the Medicaid cuts that were originally proposed in January. The staff, supply, and equipment costs all hospitals in the Long Island and Hudson Valley regions incurred during the pandemic were extraordinary. But our institutions did what they had to do and they continue to do so now, including playing a major role in the vaccination effort. Their finances and staff are stretched to the max. Any further Medicaid cuts and healthcare-related reductions would impede our hospitals' ability to rebound as they work to make their institutions and their communities healthy once again. We are also thankful that this budget includes some forward movement in the area of telehealth. Use of telehealth services exploded during the pandemic and allowed so many of our community members to safely access quality care. We hope telehealth payment parity becomes a reality soon and issues surrounding managed care payment delays and denials are solved soon, as well.

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About the Suburban Hospital Alliance of New York State

The Suburban Hospital Alliance of New York State advocates on behalf of hospitals in the Hudson Valley and Long Island regions. It engages key lawmakers and regulatory decision-makers in Albany and Washington to ensure reasonable and rational health care policy prevails.

About the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council (NSHC)

The [Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council](#) represents the not-for-profit and public hospitals on Long Island. It works in conjunction with the [Suburban Hospital Alliance of New York State](#) to advance legislative and regulatory priorities. NSHC serves as the local and collective voice of hospitals on Long Island.

About the Northern Metropolitan Hospital Association (NorMet)

The [Northern Metropolitan Hospital Association](#) represents the not-for-profit and public hospitals in the Hudson Valley region. It works in conjunction with the [Suburban Hospital Alliance of New York State](#) to advance legislative and regulatory priorities. NorMet serves as the local and collective voice of hospitals in the Hudson Valley.