

# CARS CAYUGA ADDICTION RECOVERY SERVICES NEWS

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## Director of Nursing Deb Dibartolo Earns CARN-AP Credential

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Lifelong learner Deb Dibartolo, DNS(c), MSN, FNP-C recently added the prestigious International Nurses Society on Addictions (IntNSA) Certified Addictions Registered Nurse – Advanced Practice (CARN-AP) credential to her lengthy list of academic accomplishments. Dibartolo’s most recent specialty certification, accredited by the Accreditation Board of Specialty Nursing

Certification (ABSNC), despite its importance to ensuring best current practices are observed in the field of addictions nursing, is unfortunately rare in the field of addiction treatment. As of 8/12/19, there were only seven currently active CARN-AP credentialed nurses in New York State listed on the ANCB’s website.

Dibartolo prepared for the rigorous CARN-AP exam, which she noted has a 66% pass rate, for about one year. The CARN-AP, according to Dibartolo, covers best practices for diagnosis, medication management, and care planning for a variety of diagnoses related to intoxication and withdrawal as well as to substance use, abuse, and dependence disorders.

When asked what inspired her to pursue this important, but rare, advanced nursing credential, Nurse Practitioner Dibartolo detailed the importance of attaining research-based specialty certifications in the increasingly complex, rapidly changing field of addiction healthcare in order to validate practitioner competence and to ensure that optimal, current treatment protocol is observed. She added,

“I believe that when a client comes into my office and trusts me with their life and well-being, I owe them 100% of the best evidence-based and current practices in addiction care, as well as 100% of my kindness, care, and knowledge. Learning not only helps to develop a sound practice of knowledge, it develops complex thinking that allows me to expand my universe of care and understanding. Certification demonstrates a level of competence that proves skill and knowledge; this assures our clients the best evidence-based practices to support them in their recovery and wellness.”