

# Pioneer Valley Healthcare Career Pathways Forum

**Holyoke Community College- Kittredge Center (People's Bank Room)**  
**303 Homestead Ave**  
**Holyoke, MA 01040**

Wednesday, October 1, 2025  
8:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Event Host: **Jessica Holden, DNP, RN, NPD-BC**, Associate Dean of Nursing, Associate Professor, WESTFIELD STATE UNIVERSITY and Co-chair, Western Massachusetts Nursing Collaborative

**7:30 – 8:00 AM                      Breakfast and Registration**

## **AGENDA**

**8:00 – 8:05 AM                      Welcome**  
Dr. George Timmons, President  
HOLYOKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**8:05 – 8:10 AM                      Purpose and Goals**  
Peter Farkas, President & CEO  
MASSHIRE HAMPDEN COUNTY WORKFORCE BOARD

**8:10 – 9:20 AM                      Presentations**

- **Justine Boulanger, BS, R.T. (R)**, Radiology Manager, BAYSTATE HEALTH
- **Christine G. Niedbala DMSc, MS PA-C**, Assistant Professor of Physician Assistant Studies, SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE
- **Yedalis Ruiz, PhD, M.Ed**, Chief Workforce Development Officer, Executive Director, Tania M. Barber Learning Institute, CARING HEALTH CENTER
- **Gwyneth C. Rost, Ph.D., CCC-SLP**, Interim Chair, Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, AMHERST
- **Rudy Korobkov, RRT**, Respiratory Care Department, BAYSTATE HEALTH
- **Lisa Fugiel MSN, RN-BC**, Assistant Dean of SHPS /Director of Nursing School of Health & Patient Simulation (SHPS), SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- **Nicole Turner CST/CSFA (She/Her)**, Surgical Technology Program Coordinator/Assistant Professor, GREENFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**9:20 – 10:15 AM                      Table Discussions: Pathways to Success - Fostering Healthcare Partnerships for Student Career Growth**

**10:15 – 10:30 AM                      Large Group Report Out & Wrap Up**