

tion offers flexible, evidence-informed training programs tailored for professionals in long-term care, assisted living, home care, hospice, and adult day settings:

- **essentiALZ® Training & Certification** – A self-paced, online program grounded in Dementia Care Practice Recommendations. Continuing education (CE) credits are available.
- **Dementia Care Navigation Training Series** – A pre-recorded, instructor-led program designed for care navigators. This training meets CMS GUIDE Model requirements and equips participants with essential navigation skills.
- **Curriculum Review** – Organizations can have their internal training programs reviewed and certified to ensure align-

ment with evidence-based dementia care practices.

Learning and Networking Opportunities

In addition to formal training, professionals can benefit from collaborative learning environments and peer engagement:

- **Alzheimer's and Dementia Care ECHO® Program (Free)** – This eight-week tele-mentoring program connects interdisciplinary care teams with dementia experts nationwide. Through case-based discussions, participants gain practical solutions to real-world challenges. NAB credits are available.
- **Dementia Care Provider Roundtable** – This noncompetitive consortium brings

together leaders from across long-term and community-based care settings to share insights, discuss emerging issues, and advance person-centered dementia care practices.

By leveraging these tools, trainings, and collaborative opportunities, care professionals can continue to elevate the standard of dementia care and create more supportive, individualized experiences for those they serve.

For additional information or questions, please visit [ALZPro](https://alzpro.alz.org) or contact education@alz.org. ■

Building Advocacy Through Mentorship: A New York State Nursing Story

Caroline Austin-Mattison, DNP, FNP-BC, Second Vice President, Greater New York City Black Nurses Association

Mentorship plays a vital role in how nurses grow into leaders and advocates. With the guidance of Dr. C. Alicia Georges, who established the National Black Nurses Association Day on Capitol Hill, Washington, DC, a vision that began at the national level was brought to life here in New York State.

In March 2025, Dr. Caroline Austin-Mattison founded and led the inaugural New York State Nurses Hill Day in Albany for two consecutive years. During that first year, Dr. Georges provided mentorship, insight, and strategic guidance that helped shape the planning and execution of this effort.

What began with engagement from two chapters quickly grew into a broader statewide movement and members from five local chapters joined advocacy day in 2026. Dr. Austin Mattison expanded the initiative, working alongside Tracey Ann White, MSN, AGPCNP, Bryanna Patterson, MS, FNP BC, and Carl Ankrah, PMHNP, to

mobilize nurses and leaders from chapters across New York State and made appointments and visited eight legislators as well as engaged others during the legislative briefing session.

The group met with leadership from the New York State Department of Health, including Commissioner James McDonald, M.D., MPH, along with several state legislators to address priorities affecting marginalized communities and the nursing workforce.

This work reflects how mentorship can inspire action and build leadership at every level. What started as guidance evolved into a statewide effort that continues to grow and strengthen the voice of nursing in policy and advocacy.

"Mentorship is how we move the work forward. When we invest in one another, we strengthen our voice, expand our reach, and create lasting change in our communities." ■

