

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

HIVE OF HOPE, INC.



RFP 2024-010

OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDED COMMUNITY GRANT

HIVE OF HOPE, INC.
161 CENTRAL AVE.
ALBANY, NY 12206

CONTACT PERSON:
CONTACT NUMBER:

NATHAN WRITER
518-573-0549

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PROPOSAL SECTION II:
Description of the Problem

2.1 - Describe the specific problem this project will be addressing and its impact on the community and individuals you serve.

The problem is the lack of recreational recovery space for Albany County residents.

The impact this is having on the community and individuals we serve is without a sober space people in recovery only have meetings or other limited venues to find sober supports.

2.2 – When applicable, include data/statistics that describe the target population and the effect of the opioid epidemic.

The target population is the nearly 1500 individuals in Albany County that are receiving treatment for an opioid use disorder, as well as those battling other addictions, that lack a safe place to build a support network. A study published by the National Institute of Health, “Alone on the Inside: The Impact of Social Isolation and Helping Others on AOD Use and Criminal Activity”, found increased risk of relapse, incarceration, and violent crime associated with social isolation whereas getting active in service during treatment decreased the likelihood of these outcomes in the year post-treatment.

2.3 – Describe any previous efforts to address this problem and the reasons they were or were not successful.

There have not been any previous efforts to address this problem in Albany County. However, the benefits of providing people in recovery with a place to call their own are being seen throughout the country, including other counties in upstate New York; Monroe County (ROCovery Fitness) and Livingston County (Adventures in Recovery). Pioneered by The Phoenix in 2006, the sober active community model works because it places the emphasis on connection and community.

PROPOSAL SECTION III:
Description of the Approach

3.1 – How do you propose to address this problem? Please describe in detail the initiative you will be implementing with this funding.

Hive of Hope proposes to provide a state-of-the-art recreational recovery space for those battling addiction in Albany County, known as The Hive. With this funding, Hive of Hope will staff and equip The Hive with the resources needed to implement and expand a vast array of healthy activities and opportunities for connection at The Hive.

In addition to being open to the public 5 days a week, including Saturdays, The Hive will offer service opportunities, exercise classes, music lessons, hikes, dances, holiday celebrations, movie nights, concerts, support groups, workshops for peers, barbecues, and so much more. Additionally, Hive of Hope will spread public awareness and safety through outreach initiatives and distribution of lifesaving naloxone and testing strips.

Hive of Hope’s motto “Sober Living Through Giving” is an expression of our belief that service is the key to sobriety as it builds self-esteem, reduces stigma, and eliminates the guilt and shame that often accompanies substance use. With this funding Hive of Hope will have the personnel to plan and implement opportunities for those in recovery to give back. Events will include connecting with United Way for their 518 Day of Service, preparing holiday meals at the local city missions, distributing naloxone and sandwiches to the community, leading programs and assisting with operations at the Hive, and much more.

3.2 – How does this initiative relate to the priorities established by the New York State Opioid Settlement Task Force and by Albany County?

Hive of Hope’s initiative focuses on recovery but reaches across the service continuum into prevention and treatment. Our location in the inner-city makes us easily accessible for an underserved priority population which addresses service disparity and transportation barriers. Our proximity to a methadone clinic makes us a convenient stop for those practicing harm reduction in Albany County, who may also benefit from our distribution of life saving naloxone and testing strips.

Hive of Hope's focus on service, exercise, recreation, and nutrition is an innovative approach that expands access to integrated behavioral health services and addresses challenges related to the social determinants of health.

Hive of Hope's attendance at community events, outreach and service initiatives, partnership with local organizations and drug treatment court, and presence on main street, increase prevention and community education efforts.

3.3 – Is there an evidence based or promising practice or service model that will be implemented? If so, please describe how staff will be trained, and how fidelity to the model will be monitored.

Hive of Hope will be implementing the sober active community model that is showing incredible promise and quickly spreading throughout the country. The model's focus on community is achieved through sober social networks, meaningful activities, and restorative culture. Staff will be trained to follow the guidance of Hive of Hope's "Community Standard", that promotes a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment. Fidelity to the model will be monitored by surveying our members and tracking event participation and impact.

3.4 – How will the project be staffed?

The project will be staffed by two full-time Certified Recovery Peer Advocates and several volunteers with lived experience battling addiction.

3.5 – What grant-funded and in-kind resources will be devoted to this project?

Hive of Hope will be devoting all the amenities within our recovery recreation space including game tables, exercise equipment, electronics, furniture, and more to ensuring the success of this project.

PROPOSAL SECTION IV:
Experience and Expertise

4.1 – Please describe the proposing agency/organization, including its location, years in business, philosophy and role in combating Albany County’s opioid epidemic.

Hive of Hope is a sober active community with a recovery recreation center in the City of Albany. Hive of Hope has been in business for two years and has been operating their recovery recreation center for one year. Our philosophy is that living with addiction is a lonely and isolating condition, and for people who are attempting the long and difficult journey of recovery, they need non-judgmental and unconditional love and support from a devoted community to stand a chance. Hive of Hope serves as the central headquarters for people in recovery to combat Albany County’s opioid epidemic.

4.2 – Discuss the proposing agency’s experience with the target population for this project.

Hive of Hope has been serving the target population for two years. During that time their recovery community has grown to over 450 members and they have hosted nearly 100 events and activities for the target population. The Hive recognizes that this type of recreational center is a new model in Albany County, but we believe that an unprecedented opioid epidemic requires innovative solutions and that the Hive is uniquely positioned to address issues related to stable recovery.

4.3 – Provide brief bios for the staff members who will be implementing this project or job descriptions if this will require new hires.

This project will be implemented by Hive of Hope’s Founder & Director, Nathan Writer with the assistance of the Hive’s Operations Manager, Shawn Sanders.

Nathan is a lifelong resident of Albany County and graduate of the University at Albany and Albany Law School. He has been in recovery for over three years and was inspired to create Hive of Hope when his battles in early recovery with boredom, isolation and depression, demonstrated a need for a recovery recreation space. He founded Hive of Hope in 2021 and shortly after became a Certified Recovery Peer Advocate and Certified Personal Trainer.

Shawn Sanders is the first-born son of a single mother. He was raised in poverty in Westchester County and began battling addiction in his teens. In 2016, Shawn began his recovery journey, which eventually led him to Hospitality House in 2022. His lived experience, coupled with his genuine desire to help people overcome the disease of addiction led him to a position with Hive of Hope in 2023 as their Operations Manager. Shortly thereafter, Shawn's pursuit of a career in addiction was furthered by his acceptance of a part-time position with Hospitality House. Certification as a CRPA is the next steppingstone in Shawn's journey and his ability to connect and adapt in any environment will make him the ideal candidate for outreach and prevention.

4.4 – Describe the community partnerships that will assist the proposing agency in implementing this project.

Hive of Hope's partnership with Hospitality House, Addiction Care Center of Albany, and Hope House has exposed hundreds of people to the benefits of the Hive's recovery recreation center and is proving to be an incredible tool for seamless reintegration and long-term recovery support.

Hive of Hope's connection with recovery organizations locally, such as Capital District Recovery Center and Healing Springs, as well as those statewide including ROCoverly Fitness, Adventures in Recovery, Sober Active Recovery Adirondacks, and Devin's Rec Room unites the recovery community.

Hive of Hope also serves as a resource hub for our members and others in our neighborhood thanks to our connections with local community and government organizations like Healthy Capital District, MVP, United Way, the SEAT Center, Connect Center, Trinity Alliance, Schenectady Mission, Capital District Latinos, and Albany County Drug Court

PROPOSAL SECTION V:

Budget

Albany County Opioid Settlement Funded Community Grants

Albany County Department of Mental Health

RFP #2024-010

Budget Form

Budget Category	Year 1	Year 2 (if applicable)	Year 3 (if applicable)
Personnel (identify all funded positions and the percentage supported by this funding)			
Director/CRPA/NASM CPT - Recovery & Recreation (60% at \$59,400/year)	\$35,640	\$35,640	
CRPA - Outreach & Prevention (100% at \$37,500/year)	\$37,500	\$37,500	
A) Personnel Subtotal	\$73,140	\$73,140	
Fringe Rate			
30%			
B) Personnel + Fringe Subtotal	\$95,082	\$95,082	
Supplies and Equipment (please list any equipment over \$1,000)			
Outreach Supplies (Naloxone, Testing Strips, Flyers, etc)	\$3878	\$3878	
C) Supplies Subtotal	\$3878	\$3878	
Other Expenses (please identify)			
Travel to in-community events (\$20/week)	\$1040	\$1040	
D) Other Expenses Subtotal			
Subtotal Lines B-D			
Admin (Admin is limited to no more than 5% of Lines B-D)			
Total by Year			
	\$100,000	\$100,000	
Total Funding Requested			\$200,000

Hive of Hope is seeking to expand their opioid use disorder outreach, prevention, treatment, and recovery by funding, at a rate of 60%, a Director/CRPA/NASM-CPT Recovery & Recreation Specialist position at \$59,400 and by funding, at a rate of 100%, an Operations Manager/CRPA Outreach & Prevention Specialist position at \$37,500/year. Grant funds will be used to staff the recovery recreation center, as well as provide them with outreach supplies and equipment, and support their travel to in-community events.

Hive of Hope will provide in-kind support in the form of recovery recreation space, exercise and recreation equipment, office equipment, vast referral network, and supervision.

PROPOSAL SECTION VI:
Reporting

6.1 – Please include a set of SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Timebound) objectives and measures that you believe will demonstrate your program’s successful implementation.

Our programs successful implementation will be evaluated by a systematic approach which analyzes both empirical and non-empirical data. We will utilize varying approaches including surveys and data collection tools to track specific short term, intermediate, and long-term outcomes which we believe will demonstrate our program’s successful implementation. Specific short-term goals include an enhanced sense of connection, hope, and belonging. Intermediate goals include maintained sobriety and improved mental and physical health. Long term outcomes are lives transformed and a culture changed.

PROPOSAL SECTION VII:
Mandatory Documentation

- Attachment “A” – Non-Collusive Bidding Certificate
- Attachment “B” – Acknowledgment by Proposer
- Attachment “C” – Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire
- Attachment “D” – Iranian Divestment Certification

ATTACHMENT "A"
NON-COLLUSIVE BIDDING CERTIFICATE PURSUANT TO
SECTION 103-D OF THE NEW YORK STATE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW

A. By submission of this bid, each bidder and each person signing on behalf of any bidder certifies, and in the case of a joint bid, each party thereto certifies as to its own organizations, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of knowledge and belief:

(1) The prices in this bid have been arrived at independently without collusion, consultation, communication, or agreement, for the purpose of restricting competition, as to any matter relating to such prices with any other bidder or with any competitor.

(2) Unless otherwise required by law, the prices which have been quoted in this bid have not knowingly been disclosed by the bidder and will not knowingly be disclosed by the bidder, directly or indirectly, prior to opening, to any bidder or to any competitor.

(3) No attempt has been made or will be made by the bidder to induce any other person, partnership or corporation to submit or not to submit a bid for the purpose of restricting competition.

A bid shall not be considered for award nor shall any award be made where (1), (2), and (3) above have not been complied with; provided, however, that in any case the bidder cannot make the foregoing certification, the bidder shall so state and shall furnish with the bid a signed statement which sets forth in detail the reasons thereof. Where (1), (2), and (3) above have not been complied with, the bid shall not be considered for any award nor shall any award be made unless the head of the Purchasing Unit to the political subdivision, public department, agency or official thereof to which the bid is made, or his designee, determines that such disclosure was not made for the purpose of restricting competition.

The fact that a bidder (a) has published price lists, rates, or tariffs covering items being procured, (b) has informed prospective customer of proposed or pending publication of new or revised price lists for such items, or (c) has sold the same items to other customers at the same prices being bid, does not constitute, without more, a disclosure within the meaning of paragraph "A" above.

B. Any bid hereafter made to any political subdivision of the state or any public department, agency or official thereof by a corporate bidder for work or services performed or to be performed or goods sold or to be sold, where competitive bidding is required by statute, rule, regulation, local law, and where such bid contains the certification referred to in paragraph "A" of this section, shall be deemed to have been authorized by the Board of Directors of the bidder, and such authorization shall be deemed to include the submission of the bid and the inclusion therein of the certificate as to non-collusion as the act and deed of the corporation



Signature

President & CEO

Title

Hive of Hope, Inc.

Company Name

March 1, 2024

Date

ATTACHMENT "B"
ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY PROPOSER

If Individual or Individuals:

STATE OF _____)
COUNTY OF _____) SS.:

On this _____ day of _____, 20____, before me personally appeared _____ to me known and known to me to be the same person(s) described in and who executed the within instrument, and he (or they severally) acknowledged to me that he (or they) executed the same.

Notary Public, State of _____
Qualified in _____
Commission Expires _____

If Corporation:

STATE OF New York)
COUNTY OF Albany) SS.:

On this 1st day of March, 2024, before me personally appeared Nathan Writer to me known, who, being by me sworn, did say that he resides at (give address) 22 Marinella Ter Albany NY 12209; that he is the (give title) President/CEO of the (name of corporation) Hive of Age, the corporation described in and which executed the above instrument; that he knows the seal of the corporation, and that the seal affixed to the instrument is such corporate seal; that it was so affixed by order of the board of directors of the corporation, and that he signed his name thereto by like order.

CHRISTINE M. HILLIER
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 01HI4993420
Qualified in Schenectady County
Commission Expires 03/16, 2026

Christine M Hillier
Notary Public, State of New York
Qualified in Schenectady
Commission Expires 03/16/2026

If Partnership:

STATE OF _____)
COUNTY OF _____) SS.:

On the _____ day of _____, 20____, before me personally came _____, to me known to be the individual who executed the foregoing, and who, being duly sworn, did depose and say that he / she is a partner of the firm of _____ and that he / she has the authority to sign the same, and acknowledged that he / she executed the same as the act and deed of said partnership.

Notary Public, State of _____
Qualified in _____
Commission Expires _____

ATTACHMENT "C"
ALBANY COUNTY
VENDOR RESPONSIBILITY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. VENDOR IS: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIME CONTRACTOR			
2. VENDOR'S LEGAL BUSINESS NAME Hive of Hope, Inc.		3. IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS a) FEIN # 87-2438182 b) DUNS #	
4. D/B/A – Doing Business As (if applicable) & COUNTY FIELD:		5. WEBSITE ADDRESS (if applicable) www.hivealbany.org	
6. ADDRESS OF PRIMARY PLACE OF BUSINESS/EXECUTIVE OFFICE 161 Central Avenue, Albany NY, 12206		7. TELEPHONE NUMBER 518-573-0549	8. FAX NUMBER
9. ADDRESS OF PRIMARY PLACE OF BUSINESS/EXECUTIVE OFFICE <i>IN NEW YORK STATE, if different from above</i>		10. TELEPHONE NUMBER 518-650-8951	11. FAX NUMBER
12. AUTHORIZED CONTACT FOR THE QUESTIONNAIRE Name Nathan Writer Title President & CEO Telephone Number 518-573-0549 Fax Number e-mail hiveofhope@gmail.com			
13. LIST ALL OF THE VENDOR'S PRINCIPAL OWNERS.			
a) NAME Nathan Writer	TITLE President & CEO	b) NAME	TITLE
c) NAME	TITLE	d) NAME	TITLE
A DETAILED EXPLANATION IS REQUIRED FOR EACH QUESTION ANSWERED WITH A "YES," AND MUST BE PROVIDED AS AN ATTACHMENT TO THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE. YOU MUST PROVIDE ADEQUATE DETAILS OR DOCUMENTS TO AID THE COUNTY IN MAKING A DETERMINATION OF VENDOR RESPONSIBILITY. PLEASE NUMBER EACH RESPONSE TO MATCH THE QUESTION NUMBER.			
14. DOES THE VENDOR USE, OR HAS IT USED IN THE PAST FIVE (5) YEARS, ANY OTHER BUSINESS NAME, FEIN, or D/B/A OTHER THAN THOSE LISTED IN ITEMS 2-4 ABOVE? List all other business name(s), Federal Employer Identification Number(s) or any D/B/A names and the dates that these names or numbers were/are in use. Explain the relationship to the vendor.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
15. ARE THERE ANY INDIVIDUALS NOW SERVING IN A MANAGERIAL OR CONSULTING CAPACITY TO THE VENDOR, INCLUDING PRICIPAL OWNERS AND OFFICERS, WHO NOW SERVE OR IN THE PAST ONE (1) YEARS HAVE SERVED AS:		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
a) An elected or appointed public official or officer? <i>List each individual's name, business title, the name of the organization and position elected or appointed to, and dates of service</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
b) An officer of any political party organization in Albany County, whether paid or unpaid? <i>List each individuals name, business title or consulting capacity and the official political position held with applicable service dates.</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

16.	<p>WITHIN THE PAST (5) YEARS, HAS THE VENDOR, ANY INDIVIDUALS SERVING IN MANAGERIAL OR CONSULTING CAPACITY, PRINCIPAL OWNERS, OFFICERS, MAJOR STOCKHOLDER(S) (10% OR MORE OF THE VOTING SHARES FOR PUBLICLY TRADED COMPANIES, 25% OR MORE OF THE SHARES FOR ALL OTHER COMPANIES), AFFILIATE OR ANY PERSON INVOLVED IN THE BIDDING OR CONTRACTING PROCESS:</p>	
a)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. been suspended, debarred or terminated by a local, state or federal authority in connection with a contract or contracting process; 2. been disqualified for cause as a bidder on any permit, license, concession franchise or lease; 3. entered into an agreement to a voluntary exclusion from bidding/contracting; 4. had a bid rejected on an Albany County contract for failure to comply with the MacBride Fair Employment Principles; 5. had a low bid rejected on a local, state or federal contract for failure to meet statutory affirmative action or M/WBE requirements on a previously held contract; 6. had status as a Women's Business Enterprise, Minority Business Enterprise or Disadvantaged Business Enterprise, de-certified, revoked or forfeited; 7. been subject to an administrative proceeding or civil action seeking specific performance or restitution in connection with any local, state or federal government contract; 8. been denied an award of a local, state or federal government contract, had a contract suspended or had a contract terminated for non-responsibility; or 9. had a local, state or federal government contract suspended or terminated for cause prior to the completion of the term of the contract. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
b)	<p>been indicted, convicted, received a judgment against them or a grant of immunity for any business-related conduct constituting a crime under local, state or federal law including but not limited to, fraud extortion, bribery, racketeering, price-fixing, bid collusion or any crime related to truthfulness and/or business conduct?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
c)	<p>been issued a citation, notice, violation order, or are pending an administrative hearing or proceeding or determination of violations of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. federal, state or local health laws, rules or regulations. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
17.	<p>IN THE PAST THREE (3) YEARS, HAS THE VENDOR OR ITS AFFILIATES 1 HAD ANY CLAIMS, JUDGMENTS, INJUNCTIONS, LIENS, FINES OR PENALTIES SECURED BY ANY GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY? Indicate if this is applicable to the submitting vendor or affiliate. State whether the situation(s) was a claim, judgment, injunction, lien or other with an explanation. Provide the name(s) and address(es) of the agency, the amount of the original obligation and outstanding balance. If any of these items are open, unsatisfied, indicate the status of each item as "open" or "unsatisfied."</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
18.	<p>DURING THE PAST THREE (3) YEARS, HAS THE VENDOR FAILED TO:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) file returns or pay any applicable federal, state or city taxes? <i>Identify the taxing jurisdiction, type of tax, liability year(s), and tax liability amount the vendor failed to file/pay and the current status of the liability.</i> b) file returns or pay New York State unemployment insurance? <i>Indicate the years the vendor failed to file/pay the insurance and the current status of the liability.</i> c) Property Tax <i>Indicate the years the vendor failed to file.</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
19.	<p>HAVE ANY BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS BEEN INITIATED BY OR AGAINST THE VENDOR OR ITS AFFILIATES 1 WITHIN THE PAST SEVEN (7) YEARS (WHETHER OR NOT CLOSED) OR IS ANY BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDING PENDING BY OR AGAINST THE VENDOR OR ITS AFFILIATES REGARDLESS OF THE DATE OF FILING? Indicate if this is applicable to the submitting vendor or affiliate. If it is an affiliate, include the affiliate's name and FEIN. Provide the court name, address and docket number. Indicate if the proceedings have been initiated, remain pending or have been closed. If closed, provide the date closed.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
20.	<p>IS THE VENDOR CURRENTLY INSOLVENT, OR DOES VENDOR CURRENTLY HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT AN INVOLUNTARY BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDING MAY BE BROUGHT AGAINST IT? Provide financial information to support the vendor's current position, for example, Current Ration, Debt Ration, Age of Accounts Payable, Cash Flow and any documents that will provide the agency with an understanding of the vendor's situation.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

21. IN THE PAST FIVE (5) YEARS, HAS THE VENDOR OR ANY AFFILIATES ¹ :	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
a) defaulted or been terminated on, or had its surety called upon to complete, any contract (public or private) awarded;		
Indicate if this is applicable to the submitting vendor or affiliate. Detail the situation(s) that gave rise to the negative action, any corrective action taken by the vendor and the name of the contracting agency.		

¹ “Affiliate” meaning: (a) any entity in which the vendor owns more than 50% of the voting stock; (b) any individual, entity or group of principal owners or officers who own more than 50% of the voting stock of the vendor; or (c) any entity whose voting stock is more than 50% owned by the same individual, entity or group described in clause (b). In addition, if a vendor owns less than 50% of the voting stock of another entity, but directs or has the right to direct such entity’s daily operations, that entity will be an “affiliate” for purposes of this questionnaire.

ALBANY COUNTY
VENDOR RESPONSIBILITY QUESTIONNAIRE

FEIN # 97-2438182

State of: New York)
County of: Albany) ss:

CERTIFICATION:

The undersigned: recognizes that this questionnaire is submitted for the express purpose of assisting the County of Albany in making a determination regarding an award of contract or approval of a subcontract; acknowledges that the County may in its discretion, by means which it may choose, verify the truth and accuracy of all statements made herein; acknowledges that intentional submission of false or misleading information may constitute a felony under Penal Law Section 210.40 or a misdemeanor under Penal Law Section 210.35 or Section 210.45, and may also be punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment of up to five years under 18 USC Section 1001 and may result in contract termination; and states that the information submitted in this questionnaire and any attached pages is true, accurate and complete.

The undersigned certifies that he/she:

- Has not altered the content of the questions in the questionnaire in any manner;
- Has read and understands all of the items contained in the questionnaire and any pages attached by the submitting vendor;
- Has supplied full and complete responses to each item therein to the best of his/her knowledge, information ad belief;
- Is knowledgeable about the submitting vendor's business and operations;
- Understands that Albany County will rely on the information supplied in the questionnaire when entering into a contract with the vendor;
- Is under duty to notify the Albany County Purchasing Division of any material changes to the vendor's responses.

Name of Business HIVE OF HOPE Signature of Owner *Nathan Writer*
Address 161 CENTRAL AVE. Printed Name of Signatory NATHAN WRITER
City, State, Zip ALBANY, NY 12206 Title PRESIDENT & CEO

Sworn before me this 1st day of March, 2024
Notary Public *Christine M Hillier*

CHRISTINE M. HILLIER
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 01HI4893420
Qualified in Schenectady County
Commission Expires 03/16, 2026

Christine M Hillier
Printed Name
Christine M Hillier
Signature
3/1/24
Date

Attachment "D"
Certification Pursuant to Section 103-g
Of the New York State
General Municipal Law

- A. By submission of this bid/proposal, each bidder/proposer and each person signing on behalf of any bidder/proposer certifies, and in the case of a joint bid, each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief that each bidder is not on the list created pursuant to paragraph (b) of subdivision 3 of Section 165-a of the New York State Finance Law.
- B. A Bid/Proposal shall not be considered for award, nor shall any award be made where the condition set forth in Paragraph A above has not been complied with; provided, however, that in any case the bidder/proposer cannot make the foregoing certification set forth in Paragraph A above, the bidder/proposer shall so state and shall furnish with the bid a signed statement which sets forth in detail the reasons therefor. Where Paragraph A above cannot be complied with, the Purchasing Unit to the political subdivision, public department, agency or official thereof to which the bid/proposal is made, or his designee, may award a bid/proposal, on a case by case business under the following circumstances:
1. The investment activities in Iran were made before April 12, 2012, the investment activities in Iran have not been expanded or renewed after April 12, 2012, and the Bidder/Proposer has adopted, publicized and is implementing a formal plan to cease the investment activities in Iran and to refrain from engaging in any new investments in Iran; or
 2. The political subdivision makes a determination that the goods or services are necessary for the political subdivision to perform its functions and that, absent such an exemption, the political subdivision would be unable to obtain the goods or services for which the contract is offered. Such determination shall be made in writing and shall be a public document.



Signature

President & CEO

Title

Hive of Hope, Inc.

Company Name

March 1, 2024

Date



GOVERNMENT SUPPORT



JOHN T. McDONALD III
 Assemblymember 108th District

THE ASSEMBLY
 STATE OF NEW YORK
 ALBANY



PATRICIA FAHY
 Assemblymember 109th District

February 28, 2024

To: Albany County Department of Mental Health
 RE: Letter of Support for Hive of Hope’s Request for Opioid Settlement Funding

To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of the NYS State Assembly, we are writing in support of Hive of Hope’s request for Opioid Settlement Funding.

We were first introduced to Hive of Hope’s remarkable recovery community center in the inner-city of Albany when we came out in support of their grand opening. We were beyond impressed by the facility, the services offered, and the passion and dedication of the Hive’s leader Nathan.

Over the past year we have watched the growth of this organization and have witnessed the Hive of Hope team working enthusiastically at many civic events for the betterment of our community. It was our distinct pleasure to return to the Hive for their one-year anniversary to acknowledge the incredible impact they are having in a neighborhood greatly impacted by the opioid crisis.

It is imperative that we as leaders support innovative approaches to battle the opioid epidemic that continues to plague our State. It is organizations like Hive of Hope that bring a new perspective, dimension and diverse array of services to those in recovery that can assist us all in our mission for a healthier tomorrow.

Sincerely,

John T. McDonald III
 Member of Assembly

Patricia Fahy
 Member of Assembly



P. DAVID SOARES
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

COUNTY OF ALBANY
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
6 LODGE STREET
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207
(518) 487-5460
(518) 487-5093 - FAX

CHERYL K. FOWLER
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

CHRISTOPHER D. HORN
CHIEF ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

February 26, 2024

To Whom It May Concern

The District Attorney's Office of Albany County supports Hive of Hope's efforts to obtain Opioid Settlement funding from Albany County. Hive of Hope supports many of our treatment courts participants by giving them a place for fellowship, exercise, and peer support while making the change in the trajectory of their lives from substance abuse disorder and related disorders to freedom. Hive is like no other program in the area and without it, peer support for people battling this disease would be greatly lessened.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. David Soares", is written over a horizontal line.

P. David Soares
District Attorney

JUDGE STEPHEN W. HERRICK

104 BROOKLINE AVENUE
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12203

TELEPHONE: (518) 489-8246
MOBILE: (518) 281-4489

February 26, 2024

Dr. Stephen J. Giordano Ph.D.
Director, Albany County Mental Health
260 So. Pearl Street
Albany, NY 12202

RE: Opioid Settlement regional Abatement

Dear Dr. Giordano:

I am writing you in support of a request from Nathan Writer of Albany's "Hive of Hope" for funding for their excellent and growing substance abuse recovery program. Support from the first round of community grants provided by the Opioid Settlement Regional Abatement Funds could go a long way to maintain and help grow this program.

As a former treatment provider through the Albany County Drug Treatment Court programs which were opened by me 24 years ago and over which I presided for over sixteen years, I appreciate the value of a unique program such as "Hive of Hope." I wish such a "front line" approach had been available to me during my time as a treatment court judge.

I urge you and your committee to review Nathan's materials, visit the program at 161 Central Avenue in Albany, make inquiries of other treatment providers (including Judge Gerald Connolly, the current Albany County Treatment Court Judge), and reach the decision to strongly support the very unique Hive for Hope recovery program.

Respectfully Submitted,



Stephen W. Herrick



Albany County Drug Treatment Court

Albany County Judicial Center
6 Lodge Street
Albany, New York 12207
Fax 518/436

Jeanette Alvarez, MS., CASAC
Resource Coordinator
518/285-6138

Audrey Ashley
Case Manager
518/285-8733

February 23, 2024

Albany County Department of Mental Health
260 South Pearl Street
Albany, New York 12202

Dear Sir/Madam:

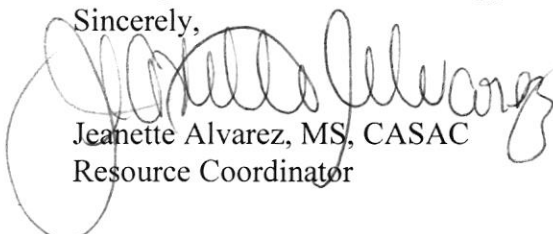
It is my pleasure to write a letter of support of Hive of Hope's application to the Albany County Department of Mental Health to augment its services in the Capital District. I have had the pleasure of working with Hive of Hope since its inception, and have no reservations with their expansion of much needed ability to grow and enhance the services they provide to the Capital Regions recovery community. This agency has shown incredible promise to those that are plagued in our under served neighborhoods that are impacted in Albany County.

In the 2 years, I have made numerous referrals to Hive of Hope. I know for a fact that their program works. In Albany County, we have very limited resources and space for individuals in need of a safe and sober environment to go to as well as connect with a community of like-minded individuals. I believe wholeheartedly that Hive of Hope has had a positive impact on our recovering community.

Hive of Hope helps Individuals in recovery seeking a safe place to socialize and utilize services that will help them maintain a lifestyle of recovery. Hive of Hope is a wonderful resource that they can utilize. It would also make it easier for agencies such as Drug Court to recommend and suggest getting connected with Hive of Hope for those interested in developing a sober support network.

In conclusion, I fully support the efforts of Hive of Hope's business plan of seeking approval for additional funds to help them continue to be an intricate part of our recovery community and resource for those looking to stay safe and sober. I believe that the Hive of Hope is the right organization to receive the funding needed to continue to approach and show incredible promise in Albany County.

Sincerely,


Jeanette Alvarez, MS, CASAC
Resource Coordinator

MS, CASAC - M



**CITY OF ALBANY
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**
24 EAGLE STREET
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207
WWW.ALBANYNY.GOV

KATHY SHEEHAN
MAYOR

September 28, 2024

Albany County Department of Mental Health
260 S. Pearl St.
Albany, NY 12202

Dear Department of Mental Health Officials:

I am writing today in strong support of Hive of Hope's application for funding through the Opioid Settlement Funded Community Grant.

The work done by Hive of Hope at their state-of-the-art recovery community center has already proven to be instrumental in Albany's fight against the opioid epidemic. By providing a safe space for sober recreational activities such as dances, hikes, and exercise programs, Hive of Hope invests in the long-term recovery needs of our community.

Hive of Hope is currently seeking grant funding to enhance the services currently offered to their clients; something desperately needed in our region as too many of our residents lose their lives to the ongoing effects of the opioid epidemic. Hive of Hope has already proven to be an effective leader in the fight against addiction, seeing 3,500 visits at their community center in just their first year of operation. With expanded services, their innovative approach to addiction recovery would be able to reach even more of the individuals who need it.

Thank you for considering Hive of Hope's application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kathy M. Sheehan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kathy M. Sheehan
Mayor, City of Albany

Ginnie Farrell

Albany Common Council Majority Leader
48 Manning Blvd • Albany, NY 12203
518-944-0313 • gfarrell@albanyny.gov

February 24, 2024

Stephen J. Giordano, Ph.D.
Albany County Department of Mental Health
260 South Pearl Street
Albany, NY 12202

Dear Commissioner Giordano,

I am writing in support of the Hive of Hope's application for your RFP to battle the Opioid epidemic. Hive of Hope created a much-needed space for those in the recovery community. The state-of-the-art community center located in Albany provides many supports, including a gym, café, computer access and support, and the opportunity to socialize in a sober setting, all completely free to anyone with 48 hours of continuous sobriety. In their first year the Hive of Hope saw over 3500 visits with over 400 members.

The Hive of Hope has a focus on service and members have done over 1000 hours of volunteer work in our community. They have done everything from preparing meals at the City Mission, to distributing medals at the Freihofer's Run for Women, to beautifying the grounds at the Boys & Girls Club, to so much more.

The Hive of Hope has done so much in such a short period of time not only for those in the recovery community, but also for our broader community. There is no better organization to chose for this funding, receiving it would allow the Hive of Hope to be able to continue their growth and offer even more opportunities to those on their recovery journey.

Your support on this important topic is so appreciated. Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can be at all helpful.

Sincerely,



Ginnie Farrell
Majority Leader and 13th Ward Member
Albany Common Council



TREATMENT & RECOVERY SUPPORT



Hospitality House, Inc.
271 Central Avenue
Albany, New York 12206

Phone: 518 434-6468 | Fax: 518 434-6302 | Bus. Office Fax: 518 434-1566
hospitalityhousetc.org

February 22, 2024

Re: Hive of Hope Opioid Settlement Funds Community Grant Application

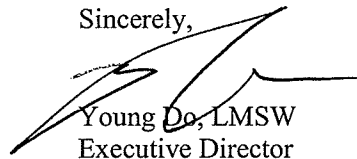
Dear Colleague,

I am writing in support of the Hive of Hope's application for the Albany County Opioid Settlement Funds Community Grant. The Hive is a unique place in Albany County. While there are other recovery community centers in the area, walking into the Hive, it just feels different. This is what I hear consistently from Hospitality House's clients who go to the Hive nearly every day as part of their treatment goals to engage in meaningful recovery-oriented activities.

To the casual onlooker, the Hive just looks like a recreational hangout. But according to our clients, it's more than that. It's a safe place where the stigma of the outside world ends at the front door and inclusive, unconditional support begins. For some clients, it's a place where they can slowly re-acclimate to engaging in sober recreational activities as their brains begin to associate recovery with positive feelings. For others, it's about working through their social anxieties in an accepting environment that can be overwhelming in early recovery. And still many more will use the Hive community as part of their support network as they make the transition from treatment back into society. Every time I go to the Hive I am amazed at how many of my former clients living in Albany County and no longer in the treatment system, are still utilizing the Hive as their "home base" for recovery activities.

The Hive of Hope is in its infancy and in order for this model to work, it needs help in funding its operations and other services, as the Hive benefits everyone in the recovery community. If the Settlement Funds Grants were intended to indeed be an *investment* into reducing overdoses and creating a continuum of care for Albany County, then the Hive fits that expectation. I sincerely hope you see, as I do, the long-term benefits that a place like the Hive has for the safety and well-being of all Albany County residents, whether directly or indirectly affected by the addiction crisis. I thank you for your consideration of the Hive of Hope's grant application.

Sincerely,



Young Do, LMSW
Executive Director



HOPE HOUSE, INC.
HH FUNDING CORP.

Dear Colleagues:

As the Executive Director at Hope House, Inc., I am writing in support of funding for HIVE Of HOPE.

Our clients have benefited greatly from the services offered by this neighboring organization. To have a facility in walking distance that offers a gym, a recreation center, healthy nutrition, fitness classes, diverse and which promotes volunteering in our community, is a resource unlike any other for our organization.

For our members to be able to not only utilize this space but to also network and enjoy commadore with others in the recovery community in a safe place outside of our walls has greatly benefited many.

At Hope House, we strive to pave a path of continued and sustained recovery during admission to our program. However, it is imperative for our members to have access to services outside of our agency where they build connections and have sustained support throughout their recovery journeys. I am greatly in support of HIVE Of HOPE's mission to provide such integral services and look forward to continuing to collaborate with this agency in battling our community's substance use epidemic.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Connally,
Executive Director



February 21, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of the Hive of Hope. As a recovery center dedicated to and run by community members in recovery this program is unique in several ways. The strength and dedication of its developer Nathan Writer and the collaborative way he went about developing and implementing his vision sets HOH apart. In addition, the recognition that recovery is not just about not using substances but also about developing healthy habits and new positive outlets including giving back to the community.

This resource in the heart of Albany is one of the key's to building a safer more collaborative community. I fully support their efforts to achieve funding to assist them in their efforts to become a sustained community resource.

Sincerely,

Laura

Laura Combs, LCSW-R, CASAC, CPP

Executive Director

lcombs@newchoicesrecovery.org

518-348-7968

728 State Street

Schenectady, NY 12307

www.newchoicesrecovery.org

"New Choices Recovery Center through their caring, responsive staff, provide innovative and comprehensive addiction treatment services that enhance the quality of life for individuals and the community we serve."



45 Colvin Ave 2nd fl.
Albany, New York 12206
WHERE RECOVERY HAPPENS!

Albany County Department of Mental Health
175 Green St, Albany, NY 12202

RE: Letter of Support for the Hive of Hope Request for Opioid Settlement Funding.

To whom it may concern,

The Capital District Recovery Center board and myself, Jihad El-Amin, Exec. Dir. wholeheartedly expresses our support for the Hive of Hope application for funding through the Albany County Opioid Settlement Funds Community Grant Program. The Hive of Hope with Nate's dedication provides an oasis to a community that has been plagued by substance abuse disorders, violence, and poverty. This commitment has earned the respect from our board, volunteers, and members.

The Hive of Hope was proven that through members engaging in fellowshiping, recreation, exercise, nutrition, and services recovery is not only possible but a true reality. People in recovery live more fulfilled lives and help one another to overcome addiction. The Hive of Hope volunteers have shown through community service and their "Giving Back" program that there are awesome people in recovery that need to show the world; "We Do Recover!"

I ask the Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Board members to continue to recognize the importance of sustained recovery efforts and not underscore the need for continued investment in organizations like the Hive of Hope. Their commitment to the recovery community led by Nate having an experience board, advisors, professionals and most importantly the Albany County community many of them having personal experience in recovery, this is a testament to their effectiveness and dedication the Hive of Hope.

I happily endorse the Hive of Hope application for the NYS Opioid Settlement Fund and urge you to consider the profound impact your support could have on our community.

Sincerely yours,

Jihad El-Amin
Executive Director



I am writing to express my strong support for Hive of Hope, which has demonstrated exceptional commitment and dedication to the recovery community. As the Director of Recovery Services at CASA-Trinity/Adventures in Recovery, I have had the privilege of witnessing firsthand the outstanding work, and positive impact brought about by the team at Hive of Hope.

Hive of Hope has been instrumental in providing recovery services to the underserved and often marginalized members of our community. Through their innovative approach to addressing the addiction crisis, they have improved the lives of some of the most vulnerable members of our community. They continually show the community that recovery is possible and that there is real hope in recovery. Their approach to addiction recovery has invigorated the recovery community to rally behind their mission and has saved many lives in the process.

In my professional capacity, I have seen the Hive of Hope positively impact the recovery community in new and exciting ways. In 2023 Hive of Hope was integral in creating and co-hosting SOBERFEST, New York State's first ever sober active recovery festival. I am confident that Hive of Hope will continue to make significant contributions in battling the addiction crisis, and positively influence the lives of those they serve. Their dedication, passion, and expertise make them invaluable to the greater Albany area and beyond. Please feel free to contact me at ssmith@casa-trinity.org or (585)485-3348 if you require any additional information or if I can provide further support for Hive of Hope. I am more than happy to assist in any way I can.

Thank You for considering my support of Hive of Hope. I am confident that their ongoing efforts will yield remarkable results and create lasting change for the better.

Sincerely,

Sean Smith

Director of Recovery Services

AIR Adventures in Recovery/CASA-Trinity



February 29, 2024

To whom it may concern,

I have known Nathan Writer in a professional setting for approximately three years. I first met Nate through mutual acquaintances. At the time we were both creating grass-roots sober active recovery organizations - Nate's being Hive of Hope.

Nathan has been very helpful in sharing his lessons learned of building Hive of Hope so I could apply them toward building Devin's Rec Room in Syracuse. He is very collaborative and professional in our interactions. He practices a servant leadership style of leading and it shows in the success Hive of Hope has achieved in its short time of operation. He exudes the positive values he holds dear in his mission of helping people with substance use disorder.

Last year, as part of a coalition of five Upstate New York sober active organizations, Hive of Hope was one of the lead organizer-sponsors of the first UNY SoberFest held in Rochester New York. By taking this leadership role, Nate and Hive of Hope helped bring more than 200 people in recovery together for a weekend of sober recreation and celebration.

Through our professional interactions, I now consider Nate a valued business associate, resource and friend.

Sincerely yours,

Henry M. Brigham

Henry Brigham
Founder/CEO
Devin's Rec Room
315-468-3700
Henry@DevinsRecRoom.org



1529 Western Avenue
Albany, New York 12203
518-487-4395
www.for-ny.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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*Youth/Young Adult Recovery
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Coordinator*
Chelsea Kehrli
*Youth/Young Adult Recovery
Education & Training
Coordinator*

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Juliana Gordon
*Alumni Association of New York
State Coordinator*

Friends of Recovery-New York (FOR-NY) represents the voice of individuals and families living in recovery from addiction, families who have lost a family member or people who have been otherwise impacted by addiction. FOR-NY is dedicated to breaking down the barriers created by negative public perception that result in discrimination and policies that block or interfere with accessing recovery support services: access to addiction treatment, healthcare, housing, education and employment.

FOR-NY is working to build infrastructure around the state through local Recovery Community Organizations (RCOs) and Recovery Community Outreach Centers (RCOCs) that build support for people living in recovery and others in need.

Hive of Hope is an exemplary recovery community outreach center. Only open a year, and without permanent and sustainable funding-they have built a state-of-the-art community center serving over 400 individuals, with an additional 3,500 visits. It is a safe haven for those in recovery to meet like-minded individuals while building connections, providing employment, and providing volunteer opportunities. Last year members at Hive of Hope completed 1000 hours of community service preparing holiday meals for the Capital City Rescue Mission alone.

Nathan Writer, the founder of the Hive of Hope is a leader in his community and a role model for the individuals he serves. Nate has consistently shown himself to be a dependable ally for not just FOR-NY, but for the recovery community as a whole. He exudes professionalism, and has partnered with FOR-NY to:

- Lead a spring clean-up at the Boys and Girls Club of Albany
- Facilitate our *Reimagining Recovery Series* engaging the community about substance use and recovery.
- Assist with organizing and volunteering for FOR-NY events (Annual Recovery Conference and Stand Up For Recovery Day, our annual day of advocacy).
- Despite only being open a year, planned and partnered with Recovery Fitness and other recovery organizations to organize Sober Fest 2023, a three-day event bringing recovery advocates together throughout the state, a major undertaking for any organization.
- Organized monthly hikes throughout the state with other recovery advocates.

Located in Arbor Hill, this center offers a critical refuge in an area of Albany that is currently underserved. The inventory of abandoned buildings, and issues with the community feeling unsafe continue to receive regular media coverage. Hive of Hope counters that narrative and offers prosocial activities to keep our community's youth engaged, and working toward a positive future.

With additional funding Hive of Hope will be able to continue as a constitutive resource of the Recovery Community. FOR-NY would be grateful for any assistance you could offer them.

Sincerely,

Dr. Angelia Smith-Wilson
Executive Director



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

February 23, 2024

County Executive Daniel McCoy
County of Albany
112 State Street
Albany NY 12207

Dear County Executive McCoy:

This letter is in support of Hive of Hope in securing funds through the Albany County Opioid Settlement Funded Community Grants funds.

In a short period of time, Hive of Hope has proven itself to be an invaluable resource in supporting those in recovery. In the first year, this welcoming state-of-the-art community center located in the inner-city of Albany saw more than 3500 visits and quickly grew to more than 400 members. Through innovative practices that support physical and mental wellbeing, a community service focus and multiple opportunities to build new positive relationships, Hive of Hope has provided a nurturing and supportive environment that has proven to be effective in supporting those in recovery.

Hive of Hope more than meets the priorities within the County's RFP including:

- Recovery
- Priority populations
- Addressing geographic service deserts
- Implementing innovative practices and services
- Addressing challenges to overcome social determinants of health and
- Increasing prevention and community education.

MVP Health Care has been a proud supporter of Hive of Hope and its innovative programming since its inception and we intend to continue our partnership.

We encourage the County to consider funding Hive of Hope through the Opioid Settlement Funds.

Sincerely,

Ellen Sax

Vice President
Community Engagement



February 26, 2024

To Whom it May Concern,

Over the past two years, I have had the pleasure of watching Nathan's vision, to create a community center for those in recovery, grow from an idea into a state-of-the-art safe haven helping hundreds of individuals adapt to living a life without substances. Hive of Hope's success has been truly inspirational, and I strongly support their proposal for the Opioid Settlement Funded Community Grant.

Hive of Hope demonstrated their commitment to giving back to the community when they joined us for United Way's 518 Day of Service for the past two years. In 2022, our teams worked alongside each other to make the grounds of the Homer Perkins Center viable for its members to utilize for outside recreation and for use of a garden. In 2023, we joined together at the Albany Boys & Girls club painting the facility to make it a more visibly appealing atmosphere. My staff members and I regularly network with Nathan to continue to serve our community. His passion to help those battling addiction is unwavering.

Nathan and his mission at Hive of Hope left such a noteworthy impression on United Way that he was a Finalist for our 2023 Philanthropist of the Year Award. In addition, United Way recently recognized Nathan as a Community Champion. The vision and dedication that he has shown to accomplish his goal has greatly influenced not only the recovery community, but countless others as well.

Nathan's vision at Hive of Hope provides a service that is integral to overcoming the opioid epidemic. There is not another facility like Hive of Hope in the Capital Region and their location is ideal to have a profound impact where it is needed most. I highly recommend this organization for any support that allows them to continue this astounding mission.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Gannon".

PETER GANNON
United Way of the Greater Capital Region, President and CEO



February 28, 2024

Member Organizations

• • •

- Albany County
Department of Health
- Albany Medical Center
- BlueShield of Northeastern
New York
- Burdett Care Center
- Catholic Charities of the
Roman Catholic Diocese
- Capital District Physicians'
Health Plan
- Columbia County
Department of Health
- Ellis Medicine
- Hometown Health Centers
- MVP Health Care
- Rensselaer County
Department of Health
- Schenectady County
Public Health Services
- St. Peter's Health Partners
Albany Memorial Hospital
Samaritan Hospital
St. Peter's Hospital
- Seton Health/St. Mary's Hospital
Sunnyview Rehabilitation Hospital
- Whitney Young Health

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the Hive of Hope's application for funding through the Albany County Opioid Settlement Funds Community Grant to support their work in addressing the substance abuse and fentanyl epidemic in the capital region. The Hive of Hope is located on Central Avenue easily accessible to residents of a neighborhood at the epicenter of the opioid epidemic. Their strategy to combine food and activities to the general public and people struggling with addiction provides a valuable point of entry for individuals struggling with addiction to engage with a supportive community that can help them on the path to recovery.

This is an important step in the process for a person prior to committing to and receiving treatment. A location without stigma in the addict's community, which has peers that can be trusted and activities of interest, offers an important island away from the people and places where misuse occurs without physically moving one's residence.

Building this facility with a community of other peers in recovery, physical and education activities, creates a stimulating environment for individuals struggling with addiction to experiment with engaging with a community that supports a lifestyle without drug abuse.

This is an important healthy asset in a neighborhood that has been devastated by the opioid epidemic. It is not only an important resource to start on the journey of recovery but also to stay on that journey after treatment.

Sincerely,

Kevin Jobin-Davis, PhD
Executive Director

To whom it may concern ,

This letter is to say that the Hive of hope is a place that is very vital to the community. They provide a place for people who are in recovery to go and have sober fun without any possibility of encountering illegal substances. I have the privilege of bringing a group of men to the Hive of hope on a bi-weekly basis and we are very fortunate to have such a nice place to go and have a time of recreation and fun. The owners are very kind people , they provide support and encouragement to the people that come to the hive of Hope.

Thank you,
Chaplain Tyrone Lynch

THE TROY SAVINGS BANK

CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

LESLIE CHEU

Executive Director

February 28, 2024

Ms. Pamela O'Neill
Purchasing Agent
Albany County Department of Mental Health
112 State Street, Room 1000
Albany, NY 12207

Re: Letter of Support for Hive of Hope, Albany

Dear Ms. O'Neill:

I write in support of the proposal submitted by the Hive of Hope community center, a unique organization that supports individuals in recovery by offering recreational and health-focused activities and services. The Hive is a haven for individuals who are battling addiction. It is a place where anyone who has achieved 48 hours of continuous sobriety can enjoy fellowship with others, exercise, and participate in recovery group meetings free of charge.

In alignment with the priorities identified by the New York State Opioid Settlement Board, Hive of Hope responds to the need for innovative recovery programs that serve priority populations. It is located in one of the most underserved and drug-plagued neighborhoods in Albany County, a site chosen because of the limited availability of community resources and the demographic composition of the surrounding neighborhoods.

Hive of Hope's motto is "Sober Living Through Giving," a testament to the organization's commitment to offering volunteer opportunities for individuals in recovery. This approach is in alignment with Albany County's priority of implementing and expanding innovative practices and services. The Hive's focus on volunteerism helps fight the perceived stigma associated with being in recovery. Hive of Hope members work alongside other community members to make meals at the City Mission, beautify the grounds of local nonprofit organizations, and hand out medals at the Freihofer's Run for Women. By participating in these volunteer opportunities, they reconnect with their community and build positive relationships with other community members.



20 Corporate Woods Boulevard
Albany New York 12211

February 25, 2024

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in support of the Hive of Hope's pursuit of receiving grant funding through your resources. I have been directly engaged in the Hive of Hope from the beginning of the journey to open this great community service for people in recovery in the Capital Region.

My relationship with the founder and director of HOH, Nathan Writer, has been long term. Mr. Writer came to me with his idea a few years ago and his desire to help others through their recovery journey. His mission inspired me to help with the initial fund raising to get his community center built and opened.

The Hive of Hope recently celebrated its one-year anniversary. In the first year they have welcomed over 400 members who use the facility on a regular basis. Many have given testimony on the importance that the Hive has provided in keeping them from relapsing. Along with individual members, the Hive is the selected community facility utilized by several recovery organizations, including the Hospitality House, The Hope House, The Addictions Care Center of Albany, and others.

The Hive of Hope is a unique organization and unlike any other in our community. It is a place where people can go to be with others and support each other. It offers not only supportive meetings, but also a place of recreation, exercise, nutrition, and the promotion of healthy lifestyles. Members are encouraged to participate in community outreach activities. The Hive of Hope and its members regularly volunteer in the community. It is through these volunteer activities that members feel a sense of worth and appreciation.

Without grant funding this special gem in the heart of our city will not be able to continue its mission that is so greatly needed in Albany. Keeping the doors open at the Hive of Hope is in the best interest of all residents of the Capital Region.

Sincerely,

John J. Nigro

President, Nigro Retail Properties



49 Johnston Ave, Cohoes NY
ConnectCenterforYouth.org

February 28, 2024

Albany County Opioid Task Force
% Daniel P. McCoy
Harold L. Joyce Albany County Office Building
112 State Street Albany, NY 12207

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for the Hive of Hope for Opioid Settlement Funds

Dear Dan,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write this letter of recommendation for the Hive of Hope, a commendable non-profit organization located in the heart of Albany, New York. As the Executive Director of the Connect Center and the 2022 Capital Region Philanthropist of the Year, I have had the privilege of witnessing the impactful work being done by the Hive of Hope under the visionary leadership of Nathan Writer.

Nathan's dedication and passion for building the Hive of Hope from the ground up have been truly inspiring. The immediate impact that this organization is having in the heart of Albany is undeniable. Through a holistic approach encompassing fellowship, recreation, exercise, nutrition, and service, the Hive of Hope provides a safe haven for individuals committed to living their best life in sobriety. This approach not only supports those in recovery but also fosters a sense of community and mutual assistance that is instrumental in overcoming addiction.

The recent surge in abuse, addiction, and overdose rates, exacerbated by the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, underscores the crucial need for organizations like the Hive of Hope. The Hive stands as a beacon of hope in picking up the pieces of this complex problem, providing essential resources, support, and guidance to those in need. The sober entertainment and comprehensive wellness programs offered by the Hive are vital in addressing the multifaceted issues arising from substance abuse.

As we navigate through these challenging times, it is evident that a long-term investment in the Hive of Hope is not only an investment in the immediate well-being of the individuals it serves but also a strategic investment in the future health, wellness, and prosperity of the city of Albany, Albany County, and the greater Capital Region. By supporting the Hive, we contribute to the

development of a stronger, more resilient county that can overcome the adverse effects of addiction.

I ask you to consider the urgency and the importance of providing these funds as well as long-term funding for the Hive of Hope. This organization has proven its ability to make a tangible difference in the lives of those struggling with addiction, and sustained support is essential for its continued success. Together, we can contribute to a healthier and more prosperous future for our community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ben Williams

Ben Williams
Executive Director
Connect Center
2022 Capital Region Philanthropist of the Year
director@connectcenterforyouth.org
518-687-1999



HIVE OF HOPE SUPPORT

John Cavalari



209 Second Ave, Troy, NY 12180
(845) 779-2183
Johncavalari@gmail.com

02/25/24

Dear Donors,

I have been sober for 3 years and 7 months. In this time, I have started and completed my Master of Psychology and begun working on my Master of Clinical Social Work. I have become a certified peer advocate, a fully credentialed substance abuse counselor, have worked in the substance abuse field for two-and-one-half years and carry a full case load in my position at Hospitality House. I have married and gained a level of personal stability that was previously unthinkable. Before this change in my life, I served time in prison, was unable to hold a full-time job for longer than a month or two, and was largely homeless.

The reason I am beginning this letter on the Hive of Hope's behalf with my own story is to highlight a critical piece of support I needed but did not have while I tried for fifteen years to pull my life together. This was a space to exist, process, and socialize in early recovery. The Hive of Hope provides this to people and had these services been available to me prior I believe I would have gained the traction I needed to achieve recovery years earlier than I did. Currently, for those in early recovery existence can often be wandering the city in search of a bathroom or needlessly loitering in the public library. Spaces for people in recovery to socialize, exercise, relax, and be wanted were sorely missing in Albany before the establishment of the Hive of Hope. It has benefited both the community and those in recovery by providing a destination for individuals trying to improve themselves.

The Hive of Hope continues to support me as I move into sustained recovery. I use the place as a spot to stop in and recommit to my program. I often use the safe, quiet place to write papers for school. When time permits, I wander into the gym to work out to maintain my health. I recharge spiritually at the Hive when I stop in for breakfast on Saturday or go on their organized hikes. I regularly attend meetings at the Hive or other evening events. Additionally, the Hive gives me a place to give back to and do service. The convenient location is in an area of Albany that remains underserved and sorely lacks venues for safe and sober recreation. I cannot credit the Hive enough for aiding my recovery and thank you for your continued support of its mission.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Cavalari".

To whom it may concern,

February 21, 2024

I am writing to express my strong support for the Hive of Hope and its application for funding through the Albany County Opioid Settlement Funds Community Grant. With the ongoing substance use and fentanyl epidemic plaguing our capital region, the work of Hive of Hope in providing recovery support programs is vital in bridging the gap for individuals and families seeking assistance beyond treatment.

As evidenced by the 2023 Annual Report from the Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Board, sustained recovery is a crucial aspect of the service delivery system, leading to improved health and wellness for individuals, families, and communities. Hive of Hope, led by individuals with long-term recovery experience and professionals in addiction, has demonstrated unwavering dedication, ensuring that no one succumbs to the horrors of addiction, offering a safe place for those in recovery to meet with others on their journey.

Hive of Hope's hopes to expand services, offering not only mutual aid support groups and health and wellness initiatives, but now offering a Peer Collaborative meeting monthly for CRPA's of all agencies across the addiction and mental health field, can meet to discuss resources and new offerings in the area. All of which are commendable. By providing support to newcomers in recovery, Hive of Hope addresses critical gaps in the recovery community. Furthermore, their focus on social determinants of health through wellness campaigns fills essential service gaps for those navigating recovery for the first time or striving for long-term recovery.

I firmly believe that Hive of Hope's commitment to programming not only strengthens the recovery community but also offers essential support to families affected by substance abuse disorders and the fentanyl crisis in Albany County. Investing in Hive of Hope will have a profound impact, not only on individuals seeking help but also on the broader community.

Thank you for considering Hive of Hope's application for funding. Your support will undoubtedly make a difference in the lives of countless individuals and families affected by addiction.

Sincerely,

Katrina Fox-Marshall

CRPA/CARC

NYCB trainer

February 27, 2024

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Fred-E Miller, and I am writing to express my experience with Hive of Hope. I recently moved to the Albany area, and being a person in recovery myself, the first thing I looked for was recovery supports in the area. Through networking with other recovering individuals, I was told about the Hive of Hope. While obtaining membership there, I spoke with the owner, Nate, and I informed him of a service I offer which is called Positive Punches. Positive Punches is a system where I help people address negative feelings and thoughts, encouraging them to release this negativity through boxing and kickboxing training. Those who attend my class feel the alleviation of stress and frustration and receive a more positive outlook about life on life's terms. I offer my services pro-bono to the Hive of Hope honoring their motto "sober living through giving."

I feel Hive of Hope is an essential part of the recovery community in Albany because it offers me a place free of charge where I can offer my services to the sober living community so that all benefit from Hive of Hope's purpose. Also, the Hive of Hope is a safe place and a great place for people on the recovery path to socialize.

Sincerely,

Fred-E Miller

Dana Gates

dana.gates@ymail.com

Sobriety Date: 03/02/2021

To whom it may concern,

To start, my name is Dana Gates, and I am an addict/alcoholic in recovery approaching 3 years. When I first came into the rooms, I was not only lost, I was broken. I moved here 03/01/2021 knowing one person, my business partner, down in the Capital District of NY. Within my first week of recovery, I severed ties with the only person I knew in this area. I had a choice...to either DIVE into the program of recovery, or fall to the disease of addiction. I decided to throw absolutely EVERYTHING I had into pursuing sobriety and a different way of life. Shortly after entering the rooms, I met Nate who spoke of this "Hive of Hope.". He was handing out flyers for "fellowshipping" activities and volunteering opportunities. I was hesitant, but I decided to check them out. By exploring those activities, put on by the Hive of Hope, it afforded me the BLESSING of meeting like minded people...all who understood the hopelessness that I had felt...but who were living HAPPY, JOYOUS and FREE! I had the opportunity to finally help those who were still sick and suffering as well. I had never helped anyone but MYSELF for my OWN selfish gain prior to this...I knew I had finally found MY PEOPLE and a PLACE in this world. I had decided to make this, not a hobby, but an entire LIFESTYLE CHANGE thanks to the efforts put forth by Nate and the Hive which was at that time just a CONCEPT. No wait...it was MORE than a concept... it was a dream that I believe was God Given to Nate. I started working/volunteering with those who were actively trying to live this new sober lifestyle and I couldn't get

enough. As I saw Nate's dreams come to fruition I saw LIVES being touched....Lives being CHANGED. Even before there was the gym, the yoga classes,...the amazing and extravagant dance parties...the physical "HIVE" that we all know and love today.... there were volunteering efforts and a safe place for me to start rebuilding from the inside out. As I watched the Hive of Hope become what it is today, I saw a place that judged not...that allowed others to be authentically THEM... and I saw a safe-haven from the life I once knew. Today I help spread the word about the Hive because it gave me far more than I could EVER repay. There are countless bars in the capital region, but there is ONLY ONE HIVE. Almost every human being on this planet has been touched by addiction either directly or indirectly...so why aren't there more safe spaces for those who suffer from the disease of addiction? This is why it is VITAL that the Hive exist. I am writing this letter today because I am BEGGING those in power to see what I see.....to COME DOWN and see the LIGHT come on in someone else's eyes... That's what the Hive of Hope gives us today. I am truly HONORED...I am truly BLESSED...to have been given a second chance at life. Thank you to Nate and all of the AMAZING human beings that give so freely what they've been given...which is SUPPORT...LOVE...And a chance to walk with their heads high in this thing we call life.

Sincerely Yours & Absolutely Blessed,

Dana Gates
518-321-8621

Sarah Mulhall, LCSW
16 Sheridan Avenue #517
Albany, NY 12210
518-369-3012

March 2, 2024

To whom it may concern:

My name is Sarah Mulhall and I am a licensed clinical social worker currently employed at the Department of Veterans Affairs. Due to the increase in stress levels during and post-COVID 19, I began utilizing alcohol as a coping mechanism in an unhealthy way. Due to these circumstances, I ended up with a multitude of issues forcing me to face the negative consequences of my increase in substance use issues.

After completing inpatient rehabilitation, I began searching for a sober support network. I attended many different AA meetings and Outpatient meetings. I found an AA meeting at the HIVE OF HOPE and instantly felt welcome and supported in a way that I had not been in the community after discharging from rehab.

I inquired about volunteering at the HIVE OF HOPE approximately one year ago (March 2023) and have felt incredibly blessed to have found this organization. The first time I volunteered, it was an event at the HIVE during the St. Patrick's Day Parade - which typically would have been a day that I spent using alcohol. It was that moment that I realized how important having an organization like this is for people struggling with substance use issues. Having a safe place to go that is free from substances or people using them.

At the HIVE OF HOPE, Nathan Writer has created a space in which people in recovery can begin to heal and become healthy. The HIVE offers various activities and events, which have motivated me to stay focused on my own personal recovery journey and I have witnessed this same impact for many others as well.

Thank you for your consideration to provide support to the HIVE OF HOPE and the sober community. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Best regards,

Sarah Mulhall, LCSW

02/26/24

573 Livingston Avenue
Albany, N.Y. 12206

Dear Albany County:

I am writing to you today to talk about Hive of Hope and how its been a great addition to the capital region, especially Albany. I am the Recreational Therapist at Hope House and I take many of our programs (men & women) to the Hive of Hope during our recreation time to participate in fitness, socialization, recreation, and meet people from the community. The clients look forward to the days they have recreation because they enjoy going to the Hive of Hope and they walk away increasing their self-esteem, being part of a team, and reducing the stigma. The Hive of Hope provides opportunities for people in recovery to help give back to the community by volunteering and they have a monthly schedule of events that include NA meetings, fitness classes and sober free holiday events for people to gather and socialize. I am truly grateful For Hive of Hope giving our Hope House programs a place to feel welcome and accepted.

Sincerely,

Matthew Fryer

Hope House

Recreational Therapist

I appreciate the healthy relationships I am building with the kind and loving employees and volunteers. There is no question or problem I can't discuss with someone there and not get help or answers. I look forward to the near future and getting involved in more activities the Hive of Hope has planned indoors and outdoors.

In closing I would like to extend my most humble appreciation to everyone who were involved in the development and planning, and to those who help provide funding for this beautiful recreation center. I believe and know that if this recreation center remains open to the recovering community it can and will help save lives. Thank you to everyone at O.A.S.I.S. for all you have done and continue to do for all the men, women, and children in the recovery community. Have a blessed day.

Thank you for your time

Respectfully,

Robert Blacka
Robert Blacka
'Bobby'

To whom it may concern,

We are writing this letter on behalf of the Hive of Hope in Albany. As women in recovery, we understand how critical it is to build a sober support system to sustain our recovery. It is challenging to find a safe, sober, child-friendly environment that is conducive to our new lifestyles. We have found comfort, support and safety in the Hive of Hope.

This establishment has become a pillar in all of our recoveries. We can personally attest to the need for the Hive to remain open. The Hive provides a safe, sober environment to come work out, foster new sober relationships, build resumes and fellowship through their sober events. It's not often we find places like the Hive. It's been beneficial to all of us and it is essential that the Hive remains a part of our community and it is very much needed. The Hive has made a significant impact on our lives and we are confident that if the Hive remains open, it will be beneficial staple in Albany's recovery community. Thank you for your consideration in supporting the Hive and it's ongoing efforts to help our community.

Sincerely,

Residents of Hope House Women & Children

2-28-24

To Whom it may Concern,

I am a client at Hope House here in Albany, I've been here since January 3rd and I have had the pleasure of being able to go to Hive of Hope Sober Living Rec Center every Monday with Hope House. We go for an hour each Monday morning.

It's a great place to go for Sober support and Sober activities.

The cafe, rec center and resources serve a variety of clientel.

The recreation center has pingpong foosball, billiards, puzzles, coloring computers, a tv corner, board games + arts + crafts.

The cafe serves protein bars + meal replacement shakes along with coffee + tea. The Acai bowls are delicious!

There's a full Gym in the back and it's a great place to go for sober support + fellowship.

Hive of Hope offers many activities like a St Patricks Day Party coming up, where you can watch the parade - Hive of Hope is located at 161 Central Ave, Albany also a Memorial Day BBQ with the Memorial Day Parade.

Shawn + Eddie work on Monday mornings and they couldn't be more welcoming.

I almost forgot something I've been trying to get permission to do here at Hope House - We'd like to go on a Winter Hike offered by Hive of Hope

Winter Hiking
every 2nd + 4th Saturday
of the month
2-4 pm
2-6 mile hike

They hike at the Albany Pine Bush Preserve
195 New Karner Road

Hive of Hope also offers Yoga at night

When we're there on Mondays I see others come in and hang out, it's a good place for people in recovery to find support + friends (sober friends) I don't want to see Hive of Hope shut down they truly are here to help they are a Godsend.

I'm hoping to be able to enjoy Hive of Hope's Rec Center even after I graduate from Hope House

Thank you for your time
Amanda Peli



Revival Road Ministries
51 Fleetwood Ave.
Albany, NY 12208
518-258-7439

In 2022, my affiliation with a local church led me to Hive of Hope. The saying being in the "right place at the right time" rang very true for me from the moment I entered the doors. I had landed in a place where my recovery, faith, and desire to contribute to society could exist as one to serve a higher purpose.

The day I walked into The HIVE, I was greeted by a nonjudgmental atmosphere where people were celebrating their recovery and sharing their stories. A place where people could speak their individual truths without fear of judgement. A place where you could go on both your best days and your worst days and speak what was on your mind to both give and gain support. It was unlike any other atmosphere I had yet to encounter in my journey.

Through service to others at community events, volunteering in the day-to-day operations, providing membership support and leading recovery meetings, I found a place where I belonged and had purpose. This growth ignited what ultimately became my mission to spread God's word by creating a mobile outreach organization which has impacted hundreds of people throughout the country.

The HIVE is the quintessential meaning of HOPE for so many volunteers and members. For many, it plays a key part in finding a purpose greater than themselves and serves as a guide to achieve greatness in their own personal mission. I would urge your organization to support the continued mission of The HIVE, as it is changing lives like mine on a continued basis.

Dominic Wierzbicki

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Dominic Wierzbicki'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'D' and 'W'.

Founder Revival Road Ministries

Ashley Carey

2,28,24

To whom it may concern I provide
proof of my divorce
I am writing this letter
concerning the University of Virginia
possibly getting shut down
up in Albany in this area. I am
currently in Recovery at Hope House
Womans program 517 Livingston
ave. I heard about this place
when I was in Sparc inpatient.
and then we started going.
We look forward to going
there every Monday. It's a
great place with great workers,
I love going and talking
to Shawn and Ed they really
listen and have great advice.
also it's a place where the
girls and I can come together
play some pool listen to music
watch TV and go on the
computer. It's also so great that
when we leave here we can
still return. They have a great
work out area and again they →

MS, 89, 5

ASHLEY CARLEY

provide a safe place for us to go. Please keep the Hive of Hope. It's a awesome place and I was really looking forward to going back to volunteer there.

Sincerely

Ashley Carley.

← next page and also two more

Sarah DiCola

To Whom it may Concern,

My name is Sarah DiCola, and I am a recovering addict. I am currently residing in Hope House's long-term residential inpatient program for women, The Next Step. During my time at The Next Step, I began going to The Hive every week. I really enjoy going there and utilizing the exercise equipment, the gym, the pool table, listening to music or watching a movie or TV show on one of the TV's, and socializing with peers, as well as meeting new, sober people from the community. The staff, including the volunteers at The Hive, are very friendly and supportive of my sobriety. By going to The Hive, I've gotten to re-integrate myself back into the community, and strengthen my support system by meeting sober friends. The Hive is a safe, fun, and free place to go locally, where I feel secure, and know I won't be triggered or offered drugs or alcohol. I feel comfortable opening up to the people there if I'm struggling. There are also many great volunteer opportunities at The Hive. Overall, I believe that The Hive is a huge asset to the community, not just for those in recovery.

Thank you for listening,

Sarah DiCola

TO: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN (OASIS)

THE HIVE IS A PRETTY LARGE BLOCK IN THE FOUNDATION IN A LOT OF PEOPLE'S RECOVERY. TO ME THE HIVE IS EVERYTHING AND IS MONUMENTAL TO MY RECOVERY PROCESS. ~~IT~~ NOT ONLY DOES IT KEEP ME PHYSICALLY HEALTHY, IT ALSO IS A POSITIVE, SOBER, HEALTHY, ATMOSPHERE. WHERE I FEEL SAFE, AND I AM ABLE TO EXPRESS MYSELF TO A LOT OF SIMILAR LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE. EVERY TIME I GO TO THE HIVE, I LEAVE - FEELING LIKE A WEIGHT HAS BEEN LIFTED OFF OF MY SHOULDERS. I BELIEVE THAT THE HIVE IS SO BENEFICIAL TO EVERYONE THAT IS A PART OF IT, THAT IF IT WERE TO BE SHUT DOWN, SO MANY WOULD SUFFER. SO MANY WOULD BE LEFT VULNERABLE, WITHOUT A SAFE, AND SOBER ATMOSPHERE WHERE THEY CAN RELAX AND FEEL COMFORTABLE. THE HIVE GIVES PEOPLE A SENSE OF BELONGING, AND ALSO HELPS KEEP PEOPLE PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY HEALTHY. I COULD NOT IMAGINE A WORLD WITHOUT THE HIVE IN IT.

SINKELBY,
Ryann Sullivan

To whom it may concern:

I am a resident of The Next Step of Hope House, Inc., in a Long term rehabilitation facility. As part of our treatment program we are able to utilize The Hive of Hope for sober socialization, wellness, and leisure activities. This has been beneficial to our recovery in many ways. The atmosphere at The Hive is relaxing, safe, and healthy for those recovering from addiction. Reintegrating into society can be stressful; and The Hive gives us a unique opportunity to help deal with that stress. We look forward to our time spent there, and ~~I~~ greatly appreciate all that it has to offer. I strongly recommend The Hive of Hope to anyone on their recovery journey.

Thank you for your time,

Summer Sage
The Next Step

To whom it may concern,

Hello, my name is Sherry Cady, I'm twenty eight years old, and mother of three little girls ages, 4, 3, and 1. I'm currently in recovery, and am currently residing at Hope Houses' The Next Step at 2 Holland Ave Albany NY 12209. The Next Steps' Residents / clients, myself included, come here to The Hive of Hope every Wednesday from 9AM - 11AM. Now we don't get out to often, but that fact aside, The Hive, is a Big Deal in our little world. Every Wednesday since, January 22nd, I've been coming here, I've sat, either drawing and writing watching so many different people coming and going through these doors. Some sitting alone in thought, some come to work out, others talking, while sipping coffee or shakes, others jamming to music, playing pool, or just relaxing watching TV. Most of us on our journey in Recovery. And though, there's still a stigma against our disease, HERE, at The Hive of Hope, there's Hope in the commonality of our Shared Struggles. Hope that we are and will continue to be more than our disease. The Hive is a place, no, a Safe Haven, where we can come, and be our selves and have fun, and network. A place to grow, and learn from each others. →

February 27, 2024

My name is Pedro Santana Im writing this on behalf of The Hive, I have accumulated a lot of clean time and learned a lot about my addiction because of the individuals that come here, they all are clean and sober. Everytime I come here I say "Hi" to everyone and they say "Hi" back, I grab a cup a coffee and there is always someone to talk to, whenever i have a problem, whenever I have something on my mind that bothers me, someone at The Hive is always there to talk to you to help youso that you feel better. if you come in upset, sad, or frusterated, you can discuss your issues in a safe, supportive atmosphere. This place is the best thing that ever happened for US! Its like going to a nice meeting when you come here.

The gentleman Sean that manages The Hive, welcomes everyone with open arms. He is a wonderful man and will help anyone trying to gain sobriety. I am so glad to have The Hive to go to everyday.

2/28/24

To whom it may concern;

The hive of hope is a great spot for me throughout my recovery. I am from Hope House, The Next Step - where I reside. We are privileged to come there and enjoy the activities the hive has to offer. It would be so sad to see the hive close due to lack of funding. It's a wonderful spot where I have made new friends and met up with old ones who are striving to maintain our sobriety in fun ways. The events they hold and the ones they represent are fullfilling and helpful to our sober community. I love the staff and the entertainment the hive provides.

Thank you!

Rena Drew

megan Secor 2-28-24 "The hope house"

To whom it may concern,

I Megan had started coming the March of 2023, it an absolute amazing place to hang out of and be around clean and sober; they do so much for the people that attend the "hive of hope". it would be amazing if they could get the help so they can continue to be able to help to have to stay open. we have the opportunity to work out, play pool and just to hang out with sober people. it would be ashamed to have to close the doors at the "hive of hope" we really need more sober places to hang out ~~at the~~ ^{at the} "hive of hope" we don't have sober places to hang out at we have fun at the "hive" they also hold dances and they attend conventions its really a amazing place, we would sadly miss the "hive of hope". I really hope and pray that they would get the funding to stay open. I can continue to say we need the "hive of hope" to gladly stay open. thank you for all the much needed funding.

Sincerely,

megan Secor

February 28, 2024

To whom it may concern;

The Hive of Hope is a great spot for me throughout my recovery. I am from The Hope House, (The Next Step), we are privileged to come there and enjoy the facility and all the activities that The Hive has to offer. It would be so sad to see the program close due to lack of funding. Its a wonderful spot where I have made new friends and met up with old ones who are striving to maintain their sobriety in fun ways. The events they hold and representare fulfilling and helpful to our sober community. I love the staff and volunteers, they are friendly and helpful.

Thank You,

Rena Drew

February 28, 2024

I, Megan, started coming to The Hive of Hope March 2023, it is an absolute amazing place to hang out and be around clean and sober. They do so much for the people that attend The Hive. It would be amazing if they could get the help so that they could continue to be able to help, so we will continue to have the opportunity to work out, play pool and just hang out with other sober people. It would be a shame if the doors of The Hive of Hope were to close. We really need more sober places to hang out. We have so much fun here, they also have dances, and attend conventions. It really is an amazing place, we would sadly miss The Hive of Hope. I really hope and pray that they would continue to receive funding.

Thank You for all of the much needed funding

Sincerely,

Megan Secor

Megan Secor

2/28/24

To whom it may concern;

I am writing this letter to support
Keeping Hive of Hope in Albany open.
I am currently in a long term rehab
program. We don't go to many places and
I look forward to going every Monday.
Please consider the hive for the
grant that they are requesting. I
would be ever so grateful!

Thank you
m. Wlosay
mathe. Wlosay.

JOSHUA ELZINGA

Im from WaterTOWN New York
I wish there was a HIV in WaterTOWN
We go there twice a week and it is
the highlit of my week every time I
go there I grow so much in WaterTOWN
we have nothing like this its such a
blessing every time I go there its so
important to my sobriety to have a
place like the HIV its such a blessing
to have a place were there are
sober ppl growing just like
me if you were to go there you would see
smiles and hear laughs -n- see ppl growing
P/LZ dont close this spot DOWN

Joshua Elzinga

Miguel Martinez

2/28/24.

Hi.. I think that the live is
VERY important, BECAUSE TO ME, IS A PLACE
TO BE RELATE WITH PEOPLE LIKE ME, TO INTERAC
WITH ANOTHER'S SUPPORTER. IN RECOVERY, DOING
THE RIGHT THINGS IN LIFE, EXERCISE, PLAY
SOME POOL TABLE, PINPONG, HAVE SOME SOBER
DANCE, CONECTION IN THE ROOMS, TO MAKE
PEOPLE'S WITH SIMILAR LIFE; PLEASE WITH
NEED THAT PLACES.

" SINCERATE WITH
ALL MY HEART I REALLY
APPRECIATE YOUR CONSIDERA
-TION IN THIS MATTER!

Miguel Martinez

To whom it may concern,

As a client at the Hope House I believe we should be allowed to continue to go to the Hive because of several reasons. It is a positive sober activity that we as a group can participate in weekly and in a positive atmosphere that we can work on healthy coping skills. We're allowed to work on building our relationships which can lead to support networks in our futures. A lot of us get to meet new people and they hold events for us as a community to participate in. They held an event where we marched in a parade and chanted words for sobriety, this was inspirational to me to continue my ~~sober~~ recovery. Please consider letting us continue to go to the Hive.

Thank you,
Dan Hovey

To Whom it may concern,

Adriana R 2.28.24

Hive of Hope has been a safe haven for me, being able to be around other addicts who don't judge you for who you are, in a safe, clean environment, has been a life saver. There's so much negativity in this world, it's really hard to find a place to go where the owners have so much respect for your Recovery journey and Hive of Hope has been that safe space for me. The workers, Sean & Ed, are so welcoming and warm that you instantly feel right at home. There's so much to do there, too; Pool, ping-pong, TV, computers, video games, a fully equipped gym, coffee, protein shakes, and a really comfortable lounge area. They also sell adorable T-shirts, beanies, and sweatshirts. They host amazing events like dances, barbecues, marathons, bake sales, gardening, and meetings. They also have foosball, corn hole, puzzles, arts & crafts, and board games. There's an endless amount of resources, a huge family feel, sober support connections, friendships and safety, not to mention so much fun. I've truly grown to love Hive of Hope and would be so heart broken if this place was to be taken away from us. Please don't take a home away from those defenseless bees and let Hive of Hope carry out its legacy by delivering hope to every suffering addict that they're not alone. Thank you very much.

To whom it may concern.
My Name is Shannon McGregor, and I'm
a recovering addict. I'm currently
residing at Hope House long-term
residential Inpatient program for
women. The next step. During my
time at the next step, I began
going to The Hive every week.

I really enjoyed being able to utilize
the equipment, drinking coffee and
being able to chill. The volunteers are
friendly and it's a great recovery
place to go. The Hive is a great
~~asset~~ asset to the community,
not just to those in recovery but ~~as~~
a to everyone as a whole.

Thank You,
Shannon McGregor

Hope House, Inc.

02/26/24

573 Livingston Avenue
Albany, N.Y. 12206

Dear Albany County:

I am writing to you today to talk about Hive of Hope and how its been a great addition to the capital region, especially Albany. I am the Recreational Therapist at Hope House and I take many of our programs (men & women) to the Hive of Hope during our recreation time to participate in fitness, socialization, recreation, and meet people from the community. The clients look forward to the days they have recreation because they enjoy going to the Hive of Hope and they walk away increasing their self-esteem, being part of a team, and reducing the stigma. The Hive of Hope provides opportunities for people in recovery to help give back to the community by volunteering and they have a monthly schedule of events that include NA meetings, fitness classes and sober free holiday events for people to gather and socialize. I am truly grateful For Hive of Hope giving our Hope House programs a place to feel welcome and accepted.

Sincerely,

Matthew Fryer

Hope House

Recreational Therapist

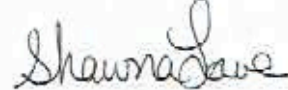
February 28, 2024

To whom it may concern,

My name is Shawna Lowe, The Hive of Hope is an asset in my recovery. I am currently a resident at The Hope House, the next step, I look forward to our once a week rec trips to The Hive for peace and serenity.

Thank you ,

Shawna Lowe

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shawna Lowe". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name.

My name is Carmen Sumano, I am residing at hope house in Albany NY for my recovery. We women at a house (The Next Step) come to Hive of Hope on Wednesdays for a couple hours and I find it to be very helpful to my recovery. It gives me a time to relax and be surrounded by sober peers that help me in my recovery. It gives me time to get out ~~out~~ of the house and have a nice time and enjoy myself. It has helped me in my recovery since I've been in the Albany area. I look forward to coming to the Hive of Hope every week.

Thank you
Carmen

Kenyatta Williams - THE NEXT STEP

The Hive has been a place for me to re-integrate socially back into the community. A place that's safe to meet others in addiction, work out, get connected with other occasions. A safe place is needed especially coming out of Rehab. ^{Drugs} and alcohol is ~~every~~ everywhere, but one place I don't have to worry about being triggered or my Recovery being in Jeopardy at the Hive

February 27, 2024

To whom it may concern,

My name is Shannon McGregor, and I am a recovering addict. I am currently residing at Hope House long-term residential inpatient program for women, (The Next Step). During my time at The Next Step, I began going to The Hive every week. I really enjoy being able to utilize the equipment, drinking coffee, and being able to relax in a safe, sober environment. The volunteers are friendly, and it is a great place to go. Not just for those in recovery but to everyone as a whole.

Thank You,

Shannon McGregor

My name is Pedro Santana
im speaking in the behalf of the hive had
put alot of learning and alot of clean
time and it helps alot because alot of
individuals that come here are all clean and
sober and every time I come in here I say
Hi to everybody and they say hi back i
grab a cup of coffee and there's
always someone there to talk
whenever there's a problem whenever
you have something on your mind that
bothers you someone in the hive is
always there to talk too you to help
you so that you feel good if you come
in sad you are walking out of here
heppy 😊 this place is the best thing
that ever heppened for us its like



going to a nice ~~meed~~ meeting
when you come here there's always
some one inside and I'll give you a
positive actice and Sean that runs it is
a very good gentlemen he welcomes people
open arms well about the hive - im
very good to have ~~to~~ ^{it} Open
for all clean and sober people
Sean has been a wonderful person
he will help anybody

COUNTY OF ALBANY

PROPOSAL FORM

PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION:

Title: Opioid Settlement Funded Community Grants

RFP Number: 2024-010

THIS PROPOSAL IS SUBMITTED TO:

Pamela O Neill, Purchasing Agent
Albany County Department of General Services
Purchasing Division
112 State Street, Room 1000
Albany, NY 12207

1. The undersigned Proposer proposes and agrees, if this Proposal is accepted, to enter into a Contract with the owner in the form included in the Contract Documents to complete all Work as specified or indicated in the Contract Documents for the Contract Price and within the Contract Time indicated in this Proposal and in accordance with the Contract Documents.
2. Proposer accepts all of the terms and conditions of the Instructions to Proposers, including without limitation those dealing with the Disposition of Proposal Security. This Proposal may remain open for ninety (90) days after the day of Proposal opening. Proposer will sign the Contract and submit the Contract Security and other documents required by the Contract Documents within fifteen days after the date of County's Notice of Award.
3. In submitting this Proposal, Proposer represents, as more fully set forth in this Contract, that:

- (a) Proposer has examined copies of all the Contract Documents and of the following addenda: (If none, so state)

Date	Number
2/2/24	Addendum 1
2/9/24	Addendum 2
2/13/24	Addendum 3
2/14/24	Addendum 4
2/16/24	Addendum 5
2/27/24	Addendum 6
2/29/24	Addendum 7

(receipt of all of which is hereby acknowledges) and also copies of the Notice to Proposers and the Instructions to Proposers;

- (b) Proposer has examined the site and locality where the Work is to be performed, the legal requirements (federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations) and the conditions affecting cost, progress or performance of the Work and has made such independent investigations as Proposer deems necessary;

(c) This Proposal is genuine and not made in the interest of or on behalf of any undisclosed person, firm or corporation and is not submitted in conformity with any agreement or rules of any group, association, organization or corporation; Proposer has not directly or indirectly induced or solicited any other Proposer to submit a false or sham Proposal; PROPOSER has not solicited or induced any person, firm or a corporation to refrain from Proposing; and Proposer has not sought by collusion to obtain for himself any advantage over any other Proposer or over the owner.

4. Proposer will complete the Work for the following prices(s): (Attach Proposal)
5. Proposer agrees to commence the Work within the number of calendar days or by the specific date indicated in the Contract. Proposer agrees that the Work will be completed within the number of Calendar days or by the specific date indicated in the contract.
6. The following documents are attached to and made a condition of this Proposal:
 - (a) Non-Collusive Bidding Certificate (Attachment "A")
 - (b) Acknowledgment by Bidder (Attachment "B")
 - (c) Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire (Attachment "C")
 - (d) Iranian Energy Divestment Certification (Attachment "D")
 - ~~(e) Proposer Qualification Questionnaire (Attachment "E")~~

7. Communication concerning this Proposal shall be addressed to:

Nathan Writer

161 Central Avenue
Albany, NY 12206

hiveofhope@gmail.com

Phone: **518-573-0549**

8. Terms used in this Proposal have the meanings assigned to them in the Contract and General Provisions.

COUNTY OF ALBANY

PROPOSAL FORM

PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION:

Title: **Opioid Settlement Funded Community Grants**
RFP Number: **2024-010**

COMPANY: Hive of Hope, Inc.

ADDRESS: 161 Central Avenue

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Albany, NY 12206


TEL. NO.: 518-650-8951

FAX NO.: _____

FEDERAL TAX ID NO.: 87-2438182

REPRESENTATIVE: Nathan Writer

E-MAIL: hiveofhope@gmail.com

SIGNATURE AND TITLE:  President & CEO

DATE: March 8, 2024