

DANIEL P. MCCOY COUNTY EXECUTIVE

## COUNTY OF ALBANY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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ERIN M. STACHEWICZ
EXECUTIVE DEPUTY
COMMISSIONER

VALERIE SACKS
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

November 8, 2023

Honorable Andrew Joyce, Chairman Albany County Legislature 112 State Street, Room 710 Albany, New York 12207

## Dear Chairman Joyce:

Local Social Service Districts are required to provide emergency/transitional shelter to homeless individuals and families during Code Blue.

This request is to provide one-time start up and fit up costs such as the purchase of furniture, repairs, paint, cleaning and the retainer for Security to open a Warming Center during Code Blue. The funds will allow Altamont Program to open a new low barrier warming station located at 45 South Ferry Street in Albany. The facility will serve up to 25 individuals. The location available has been unused for a few years and needs some work to transition to use as a Warming Center.

The Warming Center will offer a low barrier option to keep homeless persons out of the cold for the winter, particularly for those who cannot follow rules set out in regular shelters or cannot function independently in a hotel/motel. The Altamont Program operates a family shelter and a single women's shelter for the county and works with our Department of Social Services on an ongoing basis.

The Social Services Department respectfully requests approval. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

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Sincerely

Michele G. McClave Commissioner

cc: Hon. Dennis A. Feeney, Majority Leader Hon. Frank A. Mauriello, Minority Leader Rebekah Kennedy, Majority Counsel Amis Zilgme, Minority Counsel