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January 9, 2024

Honorable Joanne Cunningham
Chairwoman Albany County Legislature
112 State Street, Room 710
Albany, New York 12207

Dear Chairwoman Cunningham:

Local Social Service Districts are required to provide emergency/transitional shelter to homeless individuals and families during Code Blue. Therefore, permission is requested to contract with the Altamont Program to operate a low barrier warming station located at 45 South Ferry Street in Albany. The facility will serve up to 25 individuals.

This request is to provide the ongoing costs to operate a Warming Center for homeless individuals during Code Blue. 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. 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.

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