

Daniel P. McCoy County Executive

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Stephen J. Giordano, Ph.D. Director of Mental Health

Cindy G. Hoffman, LCSW-R Deputy Director

October 2, 2024

Honorable Joanne Cunningham, Chairwoman Albany County Legislature 112 State St., Rm. 710 Albany, NY 12207

Dear Chairwoman Cunningham,

The Department of Mental Health requests permission to enter into a contract in 2025 with Equinox for the provision of supported housing and advocacy to Albany County citizens suffering from mental illness. NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH) will provide pass through funding to Equinox through Albany County Department of Mental Health for \$586,886. This appropriation is anticipated in the 2025 budget. There is no County share associated with this contract.

Feel free to contact Michael Fitzgerald or me if you have any questions concerning this request.

Sincerely,

Stephen Giordano, Ph.D. Director

C.C. Hon. Dennis Feeney, Majority Leader Hon. Frank Mauriello, Minority Leader Rebekah Kennedy, Majority Counsel Arnis Zilgme, Minority Counsel