



**COUNTY OF ALBANY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**  
**175 GREEN STREET**  
**ALBANY, NEW YORK 12202**  
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*Director of Mental Health*

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January 3, 2022

Honorable Andrew Joyce, Chairman  
Albany County Legislature  
112 State St., Rm. 710  
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Chairman Joyce,

The Department of Mental Health is requesting to accept \$105,000 in OMH (Office of Mental Health) Veterans funding and amend the 2022 budget. The funds originate from the Joseph P. Dwyer Peer Support Project. The funding will be used for the Veteran Peer to Peer Support Pilot Program for veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress syndrome, other related combat stress disorders, or having counseling needs, using small group peer to peer counseling methods. The funds (once received) will be transferred from the Department of Mental Health to the Albany County Department of Veteran's Services Office. There is no County share associated with this budget amendment.

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

Sincerely,

Stephen Giordano, Ph.D.  
Director

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