



DANIEL P. MCCOY
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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DANIEL C. LYNCH, ESQ.
DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE

November 14, 2021

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

Dear Chairman Joyce:

The County Executive's Office is seeking approval from the Legislature to enter into a contract with the Housing Trust Fund Corporation (HTFC) to receive Community Development Block Grant Cares Act funding for two projects in Albany County.

The first project will be a partnership with the Albany County Land Bank to rehabilitate (3) two-unit residential buildings into affordable homeownership opportunities for members of underserved and vulnerable populations that have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. To comply with CDBG National Objectives, all three of these properties will be sold to low to moderate-income first-time homebuyers who are at or below 80% Area Median Income. **(\$1,000,000)**

The second project consists of a 4-pronged strategy to bolster mental health system supports in underserved communities within Albany County. The need for mental health supports has only been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, as we have seen ongoing and necessary public health measures expose many people to experiencing situations linked to poor mental health outcomes, such as isolation and job loss. The four project elements include:

1. Subcontracting with Catholic Charities Care Coordination Services, expand Albany Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion/Let Everyone Advance with Dignity (LEAD) Client Engagement Capacity through the addition of a new case manager **(\$97,050)**
2. Improve outcomes and cross-systems management of the Albany County Mental Health Patient Services Coordinating Committee (PSCC) (a multi-sector, cross-systems planning group that assists individuals who have high needs and/or are high utilizers of emergency medical services) by adding a dedicated social worker as well as a peer advocate to be better able to engage persons in intensive case management. **(\$147,840)**
3. Expand Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Provision in rural Hilltowns by partnering with Hilltown Healthcare to establish a behavioral health footprint. **(\$20,000)**
4. Expand an alternative mental health-related crisis response team (known as ACCORD). **(\$125,000).**

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel P. McCoy". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Daniel P. McCoy
Albany County Executive

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