



COUNTY OF ALBANY  
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  
ADMINISTRATION  
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April 29, 2026

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

Dear Chairwoman Cunningham,

The Department of Mental Health respectfully requests permission to extend Community Pharmacy Enhanced Service Network of NY's (CPESN NY) Opioid Settlement Funded Community Grant for an additional year. With the County's approval, CPESN's OSF Community Grant contract will be extended to June 30, 2027; no additional funding will be provided, but CPESN will retain access to the \$74,349 remaining in their award.


In 2024, CPESN NY received a two-year Albany County OSF Community Grant in the amount of \$174,891. Using these funds, CPESN NY has coordinated 5 independent local pharmacies to train their staff to conduct screening for opioid use disorder, provide naloxone kits and training, distribute testing strips for fentanyl and xylazine, enroll in NY MATTERS Network for OUD treatment referrals and participate in regular meetings with the other pharmacies regarding their opioid abatement work.

To date, CPESN NY has submitted claims for \$34,978 and \$65,564, leaving a balance of \$74,349. Out of the five initial pharmacies, four are committed to continuing their participation in this initiative if a no cost extension is approved (the fifth has since changed ownership and has left the project).

Over the past two years, the five pharmacies screened 884 individuals for opioid use disorders, and provided 518 naloxone kits, 1,927 fentanyl and 1,363 xylazine testing strips. CPESN NY submits quarterly financial and service data and attends meetings of the Albany County Opioid Task Force.

Feel free to contact me or Adam Kirkman 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  
James Curran, Minority Counsel