



COUNTY OF ALBANY
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
ADMINISTRATION
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May 2, 2024

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

Dear Chairwoman Cunningham,

The Albany County Department of Mental Health (ACDMH) seeks permission to apply for the BJA FY24 Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCP) Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) totaling \$550,000. This grant presents a pivotal opportunity for collaborative efforts with a criminal justice entity, such as Probation & Courts, aimed at enhancing the management of cases entering the jail system. Key objectives include organizing planning sessions to address case complexities and exploring avenues for reducing recidivism rates. The primary focus lies on facilitating post-release integration into the community, bolstering support services for recently discharged individuals, aiding probationers, and fostering seamless transitions for individuals navigating between jail and court systems. Additionally, resources will be allocated to hiring personnel dedicated to providing essential assistance to these populations.

Please feel free to contact Michael Fitzgerald or me 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