



DANIEL P. McCOY
County Executive

ELIZABETH F. WHALEN, MD, MPH
Commissioner of Health

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
COUNTY OF ALBANY
175 GREEN STREET
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12202

The Dr. John J.A. Lyons
ALBANY COUNTY HEALTH FACILITY
(518) 447-4580 FAX (518) 447-4698
www.albanycounty.com

MARIBETH MILLER, BSN, MS
Assistant Commissioner for Public Health

SHANNA F. WITHERSPOON, MPA
Assistant Commissioner Finance and Administration

July 1, 2020

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

Dear Chairman Joyce:

Enclosed is a Request for Legislative Action (RLA) for the August meeting of the Legislature. The Department of Health is requesting permission to enter into a contract with NYSDOH/HRI for the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program in the amount of \$296,558 for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. The funds are being made available for the provision of enhanced services in the five focus areas of planning and assessment, surveillance, information & communication technology, risk communication and education and training of staff. ACDOH leverages this funding along with State Homeland Security funding to:

- Improve Albany County's capacity for public health emergency response
- Continue its robust training and exercise program to test our response capabilities
- Continue to work with access and functional needs populations to create and ensure appropriate messaging for emergencies
- Continue to recruit and train MRC volunteers. We currently coordinate over 500 volunteers.

All revenues and expenditures were anticipated and included in the Health Department budget. These grant funds are provided to the County on an annual basis and we are not required to apply for the funding.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth F. Whalen, MD, MPH
Commissioner of Health

cc: Hon. Dennis Feeney, Majority Leader
Hon. Frank A. Mauriello, Minority Leader
Kevin Cannizzaro, Majority Counsel
Minority Counsel

Enclosures



Albany County Department of Health is nationally accredited and meets rigorous public health standards set forth to best meet the needs of our community.