



COUNTY OF ALBANY
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
ADMINISTRATION
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December 31, 2025

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 accept In-Community Clinic Services funding from the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) in the amount of \$574,996 and amend our 2026 budget. This funding will support the integration of Medication for Assisted Treatment (MAT) into ACDMH's existing Street Psychiatry pilot program. Street Psychiatry is an innovative and nationally recognized model for delivering community-based behavioral health services to vulnerable populations, many of whom are unhoused. This program engages individuals who have historically been unable or unwilling to participate in traditional, office-based services. This funding will also support the hiring of a Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC) to provide engagement and treatment support and a Certified Recovery Peer Advocate (CRPA) as part of the existing Street Psychiatry Team to promote harm reduction and connection to MAT in a supportive, nonjudgmental manner

Please feel free to contact Michael Fitzgerald or me if you have any questions concerning this request.

Sincerely,

Stephen Giordano, Ph.D.
Director of Mental Health

C.C. Hon. Dennis Feeney, Majority Leader
Hon. Frank Mauriello, Minority Leader
Rebekah Kennedy, Majority Counsel
James Curran, Minority Counsel