



COUNTY OF ALBANY  
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  
ADMINISTRATION  
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*Daniel P. McCoy*  
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Director of Mental Health

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Deputy Director

April 4, 2024

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

Dear Chairwoman Cunningham,

The Department of Mental Health requests permission to award \$175,000 in Opioid Settlement Funding to Healthy Capital District for the purpose of providing scholarships for Certified Recovery Peer Advocate (CRPA) trainings and developing a virtual learning platform for continuing education credits. This project was selected for funding through a competitive grant application process and will be implemented over the next two years. While there is significant interest in becoming a CRPA, not all individuals in recovery have the means to access the required training. By providing these scholarships and supporting individuals as they proceed through the certification process, Healthy Capital District will expand Albany County's recovery workforce. The virtual, on-demand trainings will facilitate CRPAs in maintaining their credential by permitting them to access trainings on their own schedule, rather than missing work or school to participate.

Feel free to contact me or Adam Kirkman if you have any questions concerning this request.

Sincerely,

*Stephen Giordano*  
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