



COUNTY OF ALBANY
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
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May 5, 2021


Honorable Andrew Joyce, Chairman
Albany County Legislature
112 State St., Rm. 710
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Chairman Joyce,

The Albany County Department of Mental Health (ACDMH) seeks to enter into agreement with the University at Albany (UA) School of Social Welfare and the University at Albany (UA) School of Public Health in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the Albany County Crisis Officials Responding and Diverting (ACCORD) program at a cost of \$28,000. ACCORD is a pilot collaboration between ACDMH, the Albany County Legislature and the Albany County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) designed to provide alternative crisis response services to residents of the Hilltowns in Albany County experiencing behavioral health crises without the presence of law enforcement whenever possible. This agreement between ACDMH and UA will result in a data-based program evaluation of ACCORD during its pilot-phase to assist future program improvement and expansion planning.

Feel free to contact me or Mark Gleason 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