



COUNTY OF ALBANY
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
ADMINISTRATION
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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 Albany Medical College / Albany Medical Center for the purpose of hiring a Care Coordinator to focus on retaining patients in opioid use disorder treatment for at least six months. This project was selected for funding through a competitive grant application process and will be implemented over the next two years. Research has shown that the longer an individual remains in treatment, the less likely they are to return to drug use. This position will also serve as a point of contact for community-based treatment providers, fostering increased collaboration between the hospital and behavioral health community.

Feel free to contact me or Adam Kirkman 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