



COUNTY OF ALBANY
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
ADMINISTRATION
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January 29, 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) requests permission to amend our 2025 budget to due to an increase in State Aid from the New York State Office of Mental Health for Mental Health Court Navigation. These funds will allow for the expansion of Albany County's Mental Health Court, by adding two Case Managers who will assist with linking high need individuals struggling with Behavioral Health Challenges to needed resources, and divert them from the Criminal Justice System. Additionally, this will enhance Albany County Department of Mental Health's ability to address criminogenic needs through relationship building and improved connections to community services. It will also fund resources to address social determinants of health, allow for travel assistance/bus passes for clients, and client support materials tailored to individual needs.

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

Sincerely,

Stephen Giordano, Ph.D.
Director

C.C. Hon. Dennis Feeney, Majority Leader
Hon. Frank Mauriello, Minority Leader
Rebekah Kennedy, Majority Counsel
Arnis Zilgme, Minority Counsel