



**COUNTY OF ALBANY  
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  
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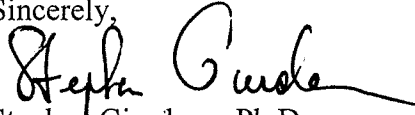
Hon. Andrew Joyce, Chairman  
Albany County Legislature  
112 State St., Rm. 710  
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Chairman Joyce,

The Mental Health Department requests permission to accept OMH (Office of Mental Health) ACCORD (Albany County Crisis Official Responding and Diverting) program funding and amend our 2022 budget in order to allocate said funds. The funding (\$350,000) will allow for an expansion of alternative crisis response services to residents of Albany County experiencing behavioral health crises without the presence of law enforcement whenever possible. The funding will supplement the salaries of two ACDMH Staff Social Workers, one Supervising Social Worker and supporting office expenses for a six month period.

Feel free to contact Michael Fitzgerald or me 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