July 29, 2021 | 12:45 pm

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AUGUST 21, 2020 | Albany, NY

Governor Cuomo Announces Investments to Expand Telepractice Addiction Services Across New York State

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ADDICTION)

Awards Made to 33 providers in All Regional Economic Development Zones

Telepractice Services Across Behavioral Health Programs Provide Safe Means of Care Delivery Amid The COVID-19 Pandemic

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced the award of funding for the purchase and installation of equipment to enhance telepractice addiction services statewide. Expanded telepractice capacity ensures access to critical addiction services for individuals and families who may not otherwise seek out treatment. Funding for this initiative was provided through the federal State Opioid Response Grant and administered by Office of Addiction Services and Supports via the Requests for Proposals process.

"As we continue the fight against COVID-19, we must also continue our focus tackling the ongoing opioid epidemic," **Governor Cuomo said**. "This investment in addiction treatment services will help ensure underserved communities have the necessary resources to expand New Yorkers' access to often life-saving services as we battle the deadly scourge of addiction."

"During this extremely challenging and unprecedented time with the COVID-19 pandemic, many individuals and families are experiencing increased stress and anxiety and some are struggling with addiction," **Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul, Co-Chair of the NYS Heroin and Opioid Task Force said**. "It's important now more than ever to make sure New Yorkers have the resources and services available that they need to help. This investment to expand telepractice services across the state will provide a safe way to deliver care to many New Yorkers. New York remains committed in our efforts providing the care, support and treatment people need to live healthy and safe lives."

New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports Commissioner Arlene González-Sánchez said, "With this funding, providers will be able to purchase equipment and deliver comprehensive behavioral health services immediately without compromising their health and the health of those in their care. Telepractice has never been more crucial to the addiction treatment landscape in New York State."

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, telepractice services are being utilized as a safe means of keeping individuals and families engaged in addiction services and supports. OASAS has temporarily waived certain regulatory requirements for providing telepractice during the pandemic. Over 600 program sites across the state are authorized to deliver telepractice services through the use of telephone and video technology. 500 of these programs were rapidly approved via the emergency telepractice waiver and attestation process.

Funding was awarded to 33 providers in all Regional Economic Development Zones across New York State. Funding can be used to purchase: PCs, software, monitors, speakers, laptops, keyboards, or webcams.

The awards are as follows:

County	Provider Name
Capital Region	
Albany	Promesa Camino Nuevo
Central New York	
Oswego	Farnham Family Services
Finger Lakes	
Ontario	FLACRA
Monroe	Strong Memorial Hospital
Monroe	Villa of Hope
Long Island	
Nassau	"Family and Children's Association"
Nassau	Charles Evans Center
Suffolk	Kenneth Peter's Center for Recovery/ From the Ashes
Suffolk	Long Island Community Hospital/ Brookhaven Memorial
Suffolk	Stony Brook Eastern Long Island Hospital
Nassau	Tempo Group
Mid-Hudson	
Ulster	Health Alliance of Hudson Valley Westchester County Hea
Westchester	Lexington Center for Recovery

Dutchess	Mid-Hudson Valley Division of Westchester Medical Cente
Mohawk Valley	
Herkimer	Beacon Center
Oneida	Rome Memorial Hospital
New York City	
Queens	Bleuler Psychotherapy Center
Richmond	Camelot of Staten Island
New York	Center for Comprehensive Health Practice
New York	MIH Experience/ My Hope 2020
Queens	New Horizon Counseling Center
New York	NY Therapeutic Communities
Queens	Outreach Development Corporation
Richmond	Project Hospitality
Kings	"Restorative Management Corp"
Kings	Housing Works Health Services
Queens	The Fortune Society
North Country	
Clinton	St Joseph's Rehabilitation Center
St. Lawrence	St. Lawrence County Community Services
Southern Tier	
Delaware	"Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services-ADAS Delaware County
Tompkins	Cayuga Addiction Recovery Services/Ithaca alpha House
Western New York	
Chautauqua	Brooks-TLC Hospital System
Erie	Evergreen Health

In 2016, Governor Cuomo's Heroin Task Force recommended new, non-traditional services, including recovery centers, youth clubhouses, expanded peer services, and open access centers, which provide immediate assessments and referrals to care. These services have since been established in numerous communities around the state, and have helped people in need access care closer to where they live.

Since taking office, Governor Cuomo has instituted an aggressive, multi-pronged approach to addressing the opioid epidemic, and created a nation-leading continuum of addiction care with full prevention, treatment, and recovery services. To combat this epidemic, the Governor has worked to expand access to traditional services, including crisis services, inpatient, outpatient, and residential treatment programs, as well as medication assisted treatment, and mobile treatment and transportation services.

The Governor has advanced legislative and regulatory reform to enable people to get treatment faster by eliminating many insurance restrictions, as well as legislation to reduce most opioid prescriptions from 30 days to seven days, and legislation to increase training and education for prescribers. Governor Cuomo has also taken action to combat patient brokering and fraudulent addiction treatment services.

The Governor has also worked to increase training and availability of naloxone, resulting in more than 420,000 individuals in New York State being trained and equipped with the opioid overdose reversal medication. Through Governor Cuomo's actions, pharmacies around New York State are now able to provide naloxone without a prescription.

New Yorkers struggling with an addiction, or whose loved ones are struggling, can find help and hope by calling the state's toll-free, 24-hour, 7-day-a-week HOPEline at 1-877-8-HOPENY (1-877-846-7369) or by texting HOPENY (Short Code 467369).

Available addiction treatment including crisis/detox, inpatient, community residence, or outpatient care can be found using the NYS OASAS Treatment Availability Dashboard at FindAddictionTreatment.ny.gov (https://findaddictiontreatment.ny.gov/) or through the NYS OASAS website (https://oasas.ny.gov/treatment).

Translations

Bengali Translation
বাংলা অনুবাদ
(https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/08.21.20.rel_.INVESTMENT

Chinese Translation
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Haitian-Creole Translation
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Russian Translation
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Spanish Translation
Traducción al español (https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/08.21.20.rel_.INVESTMENT

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