



MENTAL HYGIENE

State services

support more than

1 million individuals



more than

800,000

with mental illness

126,000

people with
developmental
disabilities



234,000

individuals with
substance use
disorders or
gambling
problems



The Budget continues the **\$20 million investment** from **FY 2021** to support existing residential programs, part of the cumulative increase of **\$70 million annually** since **FY 2015**.



OPWDD supports **36,000 individuals** in certified community-based residential programs and **more than 6,700 individuals** in living independently.

Community mental health crisis care services that help

100,000
people annually



will expand to include new **24/7/365 behavioral health crisis stabilization centers**

Nearly **90,000 previously unserved individuals** have received services **since FY 2015** thanks to an expansion of community-based services



Budget Highlights

Create the new Office of Addiction and Mental Health Services. In a continuation of previous efforts to coordinate and align services for individuals with addiction and mental illness, the FY 2022

Executive Budget integrates OASAS and OMH to create a new agency: the Office of Addiction and Mental Health Services (OAMHS).

Invest in Services for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities. The FY 2022 Budget continues support for respite services, employment and day program opportunities, and residential services.

Improve OMH Housing Services. The Budget continues the \$20 million investment from FY 2021 to support existing residential programs, a part of the cumulative increase of \$70 million annually since FY 2015. In addition, \$60 million in capital funding will preserve community-based housing that allows people to live in the most integrated setting possible.

Invest in Infrastructure. The Budget provides over \$600M in Capital funds for community-based and State-operated facilities for individuals served by the Mental Hygiene agencies.

The FY 2022 Executive Budget makes investments amid the global pandemic to help ensure that individuals are served safely in the most integrated and cost-effective setting possible, supports the expansion of community-based care and continues the oversight of services for vulnerable persons. The Budget also continues to combat the opioid epidemic through prevention, treatment, and recovery programs.

Overview

The Mental Hygiene agencies and associated community-based programs provide services to individuals with developmental disabilities, mental illness, and addictions. These agencies include the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), the Office of Mental Health (OMH), the Office of Addiction Services And Supports (OASAS), the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC), and the Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs (Justice Center). The Mental Hygiene agencies support services for more than 1 million individuals, including more than 800,000 people with mental illness, 234,000 individuals with substance use disorders or gambling problems, and 126,000 people with developmental disabilities.

Responding to the Pandemic

To meet the needs of people who routinely face significant challenges to obtain basic needs, the system addressed a myriad of challenges presented by the global pandemic to ensure vulnerable New Yorkers continued to receive services for their everyday needs.

Changes were implemented quickly to ensure services provided in congregate facilities in every setting were done so in accordance with necessary infection control standards and sufficient protective equipment.

Since the start of the pandemic crisis, OMH has taken every possible precaution to protect staff and patients while preserving essential behavioral health services. OMH incorporated new protocols at State hospitals and community facilities to minimize the risk of exposure and reduce the spread of infection by introducing regulatory flexibility, providing extensive guidance on best practices and infection control, and by advocating for cultural differences to be considered in both the delivery of services and in prioritizing vaccinations. Now that the COVID-19 vaccine is available, OMH is providing outreach to patients, staff and

community partners to promote the vaccine's safety and effectiveness and to encourage vaccination. OMH also introduced the Emotional Support Helpline and Coping Circles to address the increased anxiety experienced by the general public.

To meet the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, the OASAS system of care adopted new methods to ensure critical services remain available to New Yorkers struggling with addiction. Outpatient treatment providers rapidly shifted to delivering services via telehealth, and Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs) are increasing take-home dosing and delivering medication to patients who are homebound or under quarantine. Prevention and recovery service providers are also utilizing technology to reach vulnerable populations during the pandemic.

During the pandemic, OPWDD instituted flexible billing to maintain services for people with developmental disabilities and stable revenue streams for providers, expanded crisis respite services to help reduce pressures on public hospitals and deployed State staff and care managers to monitor discharge planning for people leaving hospital settings.

The Justice Center has supported the State's pandemic response by assisting with four call center activities, either directly within the Justice Center's own call center or by providing staff to assist other agencies' call centers, including: fielding questions related to sick and paid family leave for the NYS Workers' Compensation Board (WCB); helping the NYS Department of Health (DOH) and Department of Tax and Finance (DTF) set up COVID testing appointments and answer general COVID questions; triaging calls from OPWDD's COVID-specific hotline; and helping the Department of Labor (DOL) work through the backlog of unemployment-related calls. Through these efforts, the Justice Center has handled approximately 70,000 calls with New Yorkers regarding COVID-19.

Justice Center investigators have assisted in the observation of over 16,000 establishments to help enforce State Liquor Authority (SLA) COVID-19 requirements and have been actively serving on community outreach details since the launch of the DOH Community Outreach Campaign, established to promote practices that help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The lessons learned from the initial months of the pandemic, which will be used to continually improve the effectiveness of treatment and delivery of services for vulnerable populations throughout New York, are supported by the Executive Budget.

Caring for New York's Vulnerable Citizens

The State's Mental Hygiene system provides or oversees care and services for individuals in State-operated and voluntary-operated programs that help individuals live in the most integrated setting possible and lead full and productive lives. These programs and services include residential, outpatient, clinic, habilitative, and treatment programs; and institutional and research facilities.

The Budget reflects the Governor's ongoing efforts to fundamentally improve the protection and care of vulnerable individuals. Strategic investments are funded through programmatic efficiencies and system-wide solutions to reduce State operations costs in service delivery, purchasing, business services, information technology, and other areas.

Proposed actions for the Mental Hygiene agencies include enhanced efforts to combat the opioid crisis, and continued support for community-based services, including residential programs. Other proposals reflect ongoing efforts by these agencies to safely respond to the needs of vulnerable populations during the pandemic.

The Executive Budget proposals result in Mental Hygiene system spending of \$7.9 billion in FY 2022, reflecting annual spending growth of \$101 million (1.3 percent).

Table 14: Mental Hygiene All Funds Spending

Category	FY 2021 (millions)	FY 2022 (millions)	Change	
			Dollar (millions)	Percent
OPWDD	3,877.0	3,984.6	107.6	2.8
OMH	3,257.5	3,227.2	-30.3	-0.9
OASAS	619.4	644.8	25.3	4.1
JUSTICE CENTER	46.1	44.7	-1.4	-3.0
DDPC	4.2	4.2	0.0	0.0
Subtotal	7,804.2	7,905.5	101.3	1.3
Adjustments - OPWDD ¹	-1,957.3	-972.3	985.0	N/A
Adjustments - OMH ¹	-200.0	0.0	200.0	N/A
Total	-2,157.3	-972.3	1,185.0	-18.7

¹Adjustments reflect OPWDD and OMH programmatic spending that is paid for with available resources under the Medicaid Global Cap. There are no budgetary reductions or impacts to mental hygiene program spending as a result of these interactions. In addition to these amounts, Federal Medicaid spending for these agencies is reflected in the DOH budget.

Proposed FY 2022 Budget Actions

The Executive Budget continues to support agencies' responses to the pandemic, combat the opioid epidemic through innovations in treatment and recovery programs, and fund telehealth and other initiatives to ensure access to care during the pandemic. The Budget expands community-based care and strengthens the oversight of services for vulnerable people with investments to ensure that individuals receiving mental hygiene services are in the most integrated, appropriate and cost-effective setting possible.

Performance Profile

Ensuring Addiction Treatment during COVID Pandemic. OASAS worked to ensure 431 treatment programs (84%) were authorized to provide telehealth service, enabling the continuation of addiction treatment despite the pandemic.

OMH Expanding Community-Based Services. Since FY 2015, nearly 90,000 previously unserved individuals are receiving services, including 1,985 in newly developed supported housing beds. These investments have resulted in the reduction of nearly 750 unnecessary and expensive inpatient beds.

Growing Respite Services Help More People with Developmental Disabilities Live at Home. Over the past five years, the number of individuals receiving respite services has increased by 4,000, an increase of 22 percent.

OPWDD Building Support for More Independent Living. OPWDD has authorized 6,700 individuals with developmental disabilities to live independently since 2013, an increase of over 170 percent.

Supporting People with Developmental Disabilities and their Families

Governor Cuomo's continued commitment to improving the overall quality, availability and cost-effectiveness of community-based, person-centered services for individuals with developmental disabilities is demonstrated by OPWDD budget investments and important policy reforms.

The Budget supports the State's pledge to support individuals with developmental disabilities in the most appropriate community-based settings and reflects a 2.8 percent increase in annual spending. Specifically, the Executive Budget will:

- **Continue Investments for Program Priorities, Including New Service Opportunities.** The Executive Budget continues to invest State resources that this administration has increased by 16% over five years to support OPWDD priority program reforms that ensure individuals receive the support services they need. This includes individuals who are entering the system for the first time and seeking access to services, and individuals already receiving services, but whose needs have changed over time. OPWDD has leveraged new funding and other resources to:
 - **Offer Certified Housing Supports in the Community.** OPWDD operates a robust community-based residential program, offering residential services and supports based on an individual's needs, goals and preferences. OPWDD works to support each person in the most integrated community setting possible. The State and its network of not-for-profit provider agencies offer residential opportunities that provide 24/7 supervision and homes that offer less intensive staffing supports in one of the largest community-based residential programs in the country. In total, OPWDD currently supports 36,000 individuals in certified community-based residential programs funded with \$5.2 billion in public resources annually.
 - **Expand Independent Living.** OPWDD also enables people with developmental disabilities to live as independently as possible by providing rental subsidies to individuals who wish to live in an apartment in their community. Since FY 2013, OPWDD has more than doubled the number of people who are authorized to receive rental subsidies, bringing the total to more than 6,700 individuals.
 - **Provide More Day Program and Employment Options.** Day and employment services are crucial for offering participants the personal, social, and vocational supports needed to live in their community. Day and employment services vary depending on the needs and interests of the individual and are provided to enable individuals to fully participate in their communities. OPWDD has invested significantly in these services and enhanced the array of available employment readiness programs over the past five years. During that time, the number of individuals receiving day and employment services has increased by roughly 6,200, an increase of 11 percent.
 - **Increase Respite Availability.** Respite services provide temporary relief to family caregivers, helping people with developmental disabilities live at home with their families for longer periods. Respite can be provided in the home or out of the home,

during the day, evenings, or overnight, and often helps families better meet the needs of their loved one with a developmental disability. Over the past five years, the number of individuals receiving respite services has increased by approximately 4,000, an increase of 22 percent.

- **Promote Choice in Service Options.** Self-Direction provides the opportunity for individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities to select a combination of OPWDD-authorized services and supports based on their strengths and needs. This is accomplished by providing enrollees with individualized budgets that are used to purchase the services they choose, the staff and/or organizations that provide them, and a schedule that works for them. Under the leadership of Governor Cuomo, OPWDD has prioritized investments in Self-Direction and increased the number of individuals self-directing to 20,100, an increase of 159 percent over the past four years.
- **Commit an Additional \$15 Million to Develop Housing.** The FY 2022 Executive Budget continues to support the expansion of independent living opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Since FY 2016, the State has invested \$80 million in OPWDD's effort to develop safe and accessible residential opportunities, and the Executive Budget will raise this to a total of \$95 million. These funds are distinct from, and in addition to, resources that are available from the five-year, \$20 billion affordable and supportive housing plan, which is also helping support the development of residential opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- **OPWDD Transition to Managed Care.** The State continues to assess the potential effectiveness and sustainability of the proposed delivery system to ensure individuals continue receiving appropriate services in the most cost-effective manner.
- **Manage Access to Residential Programs Based on Need.** In FY 2022, OPWDD will actively manage residential programs to ensure that individuals live in settings that most appropriately align with their needs. This will involve offering individuals who are new to OPWDD residential services the most integrated setting possible that can best meet their needs, including Supportive IRAs, Family Care, and rent-subsidized apartments with wrap-around Community Habilitation supports. Additionally, OPWDD will use State-operated residential capacity to support those who are currently living in inappropriate settings and have the most intensive needs. Specifically, the Budget proposes to help individuals living in State-operated residences to transition, where appropriate, to voluntary-operated programs to accommodate young adults with more intensive needs that have aged out of residential schools.
- **Reduce Local Assistance Payments to Reflect the Fiscal Crisis.** As a result of the fiscal crisis caused entirely by the pandemic, OPWDD non-Medicaid local assistance payments will be reduced by 5 percent. These spending reductions may be restored if the State receives requested Federal COVID relief funds.

Promoting Mental Health

The Executive Budget builds on Governor Cuomo's efforts to expand OMH community services and transition individuals to more appropriate and cost-effective community settings. OMH has continued to enhance its service offerings in recent years by expanding supported housing units throughout the State, providing additional peer support services, and developing new services such as mobile crisis teams. Since FY 2015, the expansion in community-based services has resulted in nearly 90,000 previously unserved individuals receiving services and funded over 1,985 additional supported housing beds. The success of these community investments has resulted in the reduction of nearly 750 unnecessary, vacant inpatient beds over the same period.

The Budget continues efforts that improve quality and expand capacity of services in the community. Specifically, the Budget will:

- **Establish Crisis Stabilization Centers.** The Budget authorizes the launch of Behavioral Health Crisis Stabilization centers. On average, more than 100,000 individuals per year benefit from crisis intervention services. These centers will be open 24/7/365 and accept all admissions without referral, including direct drop-offs by law enforcement and other first responders. This effort will streamline stabilization and reintegration for individuals in crisis.
- **Continue Support for Existing Residential Programs.** The Budget continues the \$20 million investment from FY 2021 for existing community-based residential programs. This investment helps preserve access to housing, a critical component of recovery. Since FY 2015, annual funding to enhance support for these existing housing programs has increased by \$70 million.
- **Convert Rockland Children's Psychiatric Center (PC) to a Comprehensive Children's Center.** The FY 2022 Executive Budget includes a plan to develop an innovative, voluntary-operated center for children and youth in need of brief, intensive community-based care, including residential treatment. This will provide much-needed community-based and home-based care for youth in this region.
- **Support High-Need Individuals.** The Budget provides an additional \$9.7 million annually for individuals living in transitional adult homes in New York City who wish to transition to more integrated settings in the community.
- **Invest in Infrastructure.** The Budget also includes \$60 million to maintain and preserve community-based residential facilities that allow people with mental illness to live in the most integrated setting possible. More than 47,000 individuals with serious mental illness live in a residential setting overseen by OMH.
- **Reduce Local Assistance Payments to Reflect the Fiscal Crisis.** As a result of the fiscal crisis caused entirely by the pandemic OMH non-residential local assistance payments will be reduced by 5 percent. These spending reductions may be restored if the State receives requested Federal COVID relief funds.

Addressing Addiction and the Opioid Crisis

Under Governor Cuomo's leadership, OASAS has taken significant steps to address the opioid crisis by improving access to addiction treatment services, removing barriers to treatment, developing new and innovative treatment models, and expanding the number of treatment facilities in communities around New York State. The Executive Budget continues New York State's commitment to critical initiatives, including: Centers of Treatment Intervention, which deliver evidence-based services through mobile treatment vehicles; Recovery Centers, which help New Yorkers recovering from substance use disorder reintegrate into employment and their communities; expanding access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) in all treatment settings as well as in emergency departments and jail-based settings; and expanding the number of Certified Peer Recovery Advocates who work in OASAS settings to motivate individuals to seek treatment and help those individuals navigate the service delivery system.

The Executive Budget also provides an increase of \$25 million (4.1 percent) in operating and capital support for OASAS to continue to enhance prevention, treatment and recovery programs targeted toward addiction services, residential service opportunities, and primary prevention activities. The Budget supports the following:

- **Expand Telehealth Services.** The Budget provides a comprehensive strategy to expand access to care across all disciplines, including addiction services. These strategies include increasing the numbers of practitioners authorized to deliver telehealth services to add Peers and unlicensed practitioners that often offer critical, unique services to those suffering with addiction.
- **Continue Investment in Residential Treatment Beds.** The Budget continues Governor Cuomo's commitment to expanding access to residential addiction treatment services through a combination of capital investments and operating support to community organizations. These investments are critical to ensuring New Yorkers struggling with substance use disorder have residential treatment options available if they need it. Through this effort, more than 160 new residential treatment beds are expected to open by the end of FY 2022.
- **Restrict Predatory Practices.** To protect New Yorkers from predatory practices used by out-of-State addiction treatment programs, the Budget funds an authorization process for individuals and businesses that assist New Yorkers in finding addiction treatment. This new process is supported by a registration fee and will include public listing of authorized individuals and businesses.

Protecting Vulnerable People

To protect the health and safety of vulnerable people under the State's care or oversight, the Justice Center has primary responsibility for receiving, investigating and/or reviewing abuse and neglect allegations at certain facilities and programs that are operated, certified, or licensed by the following six agencies: OMH, OPWDD, OASAS, DOH, Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), and the State Education Department (SED). The Justice Center is responsible for ensuring the safety and well-being of the approximately one million adults and children who, due

to physical or intellectual disabilities, or the need for services or placement, are receiving care from one of the approximately 3,500 facilities or service providers overseen by the six State agencies. The Justice Center will leverage Federal Medicaid funding to cover Administrative costs and promote more efficient use of State resources in FY 2022.

Creation of the Office of Addiction and Mental Health Services

To better serve people with addiction and mental illness, the Executive Budget integrates the Office of Addiction Services and Supports and the Office of Mental Health into a new Office of Addiction and Mental Health Services. This continues the collaborative work OASAS and OMH have undertaken over the past eight years to better coordinate and ensure access to care for individuals served, including establishing integrated outpatient programs; establishing DSRIP projects focused on integrating care; and including screening requirements in all settings to ensure addiction and mental health needs are identified and treated or referred for treatment.

Multi-Agency Budget Actions

Minimum Wage: The Executive Budget leverages an additional \$38.5 million in State funds to support minimum wage increases for staff at not-for-profits licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized by OPWDD, OMH, and OASAS.

Integrated Licensing: Governor Cuomo has directed OMH, OASAS and DOH to establish a single, integrated license for outpatient mental health, addiction, and physical health services.

Strengthening Research Activities: In FY 2022, the Institute for Basic Research in Developmental Disabilities (IBR) will combine with the New York State Psychiatric Institute (NYSPI) as a new Division of Developmental Disabilities Research Program, to strengthen and enhance the State's research capabilities in brain development and disorders, furthering the work done by both institutions and establishing the State as a world leader in this important area. The research conducted by these institutions not only furthers society's understanding, but also advances therapies and treatments that improve the quality of life for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and mental illness.