



Office of Addiction Services and Supports

New York State

Office of Addiction Services and Supports

1450 Western Avenue

Albany, NY 12203

AGENDA

April 7, 2022

The following Certification Applications will be presented to the Behavioral Health Services Advisory Council Project Review Committee.

Samadhi Center Inc.	2020.054 – New OASAS Provider	Michele Woods
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**NEW YORK STATE
OFFICE OF ADDICTION SERVICES AND SUPPORTS**

Bureau of Certification

MEMORANDUM

TO: Janet Paloski

FROM: Michele Woods

DATE: March 15, 2022

SUBJECT: *Application Review*

Applicant: Samadhi Center Inc.

Application #: 2020-054

Purpose: New Part 822 Outpatient Treatment Service Provider

County: Ulster

Project Summary: Samadhi Center Inc. (Samadhi) submitted a Certification Application requesting New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) approval to become a new provider of Part 822 outpatient treatment services at 368 Broadway, Suite 204, Kingston, NY.

Samadhi's mission is grounded in the belief that mindfulness based principles and evidence based practices create a strong foundation for a path to freedom from addiction and the suffering caused by addiction.

Hours of operation will be Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 8:00 pm and Saturdays 8:00 am to 11:00 am.

The applicant will utilize a person-centered recovery-oriented system of care by providing Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT); Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT); Motivational Interviewing; Trauma Informed Care and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT).

Need: Samadhi Center will meet unmet needs in Ulster County as identified in the 2021 County Plan. According to the Mental Hygiene Goals and Objectives, outpatient substance use disorder (SUD) providers in Ulster County continue to attempt to be accessible and flexible in their approach to serve county residents, however they are overwhelmed by referrals and at times have needed to maintain waitlists.

The applicant reports that the need for services in the county is widely known and acknowledged.

The Ulster County Department of Mental Health submitted a recommendation to support this application on February 11, 2022, signed by Interim Commissioner, Tara McDonald.

The OASAS Hudson Regional Office submitted a recommendation to support this application on February 17, 2022, stating "Multiple community stakeholders, including local government officials; members of legal community, local Ward Alderman and LGU have supported application, all citing need of services. Other OASAS SUD providers have not voiced any concerns to RO regarding Samadhi's opening an 822 clinic."

Character and Competence: Samadhi Center, Inc. became established as a not-for-profit organization in April 2019 to provide community outreach services in Kingston.

The Board of Directors consists of five members, one of which has extensive management/oversight of substance use disorder treatment services.

Samadhi by-laws and draft Certificate of Amendment of the Certificate of Incorporation documents were submitted with the application and reviewed and accepted by OASAS Counsel's Office.

Overall Financial Condition of the Provider: OASAS Fiscal Audit and Review Unity (FARU) reviewed Samadhi Center's fiscal status on March 31, 2021, and determined they are fiscally viable.

The proposed operating budget identifies \$531,980 in revenues and \$240,080 in expenses resulting in a surplus of \$291,900.

The applicant was awarded two grants to support the proposed treatment service: the National Association of County and City Health (NACCH) in the amount of \$30,000 and the NoVo Foundation grant for \$200,000.

The Clinical Director and Medical Director are waiving their salaries for first 6 months of operation to lessen the cost of staff expenses during the first year of operation.

Adequacy: The OASAS Facility Evaluation and Inspection Unit (FEIU) reviewed and approved the proposed floor plans as well as completed a State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR). Both were determined to meet FEIU requirements.

The applicant submitted a signed and dated lease for the 368 Broadway location with the required OASAS right to re-entry language.

Compliance: Staffing for the proposed Outpatient Treatment Service includes: a full-time Director of Services who is a LMHC and CASAC; part-time Medical Director; part-time Registered Nurse; full-time CASAC; part-time CASAC-T and a Certified Recovery Peer Advocate.

Policies and procedures were reviewed and accepted by OASAS.

Continuity of Care: Samadhi has fully executed Memorandum of Understanding agreements with Arms Acers, Samaritan Village and Resource Recovery Center of Orange County for patients who present with a need for a higher level of care than outpatient treatment.

Recommendation: The OASAS recommendation is to approve Samadhi Center, Inc. to become a new OASAS Part 822 Outpatient Treatment Service provider with three contingencies:

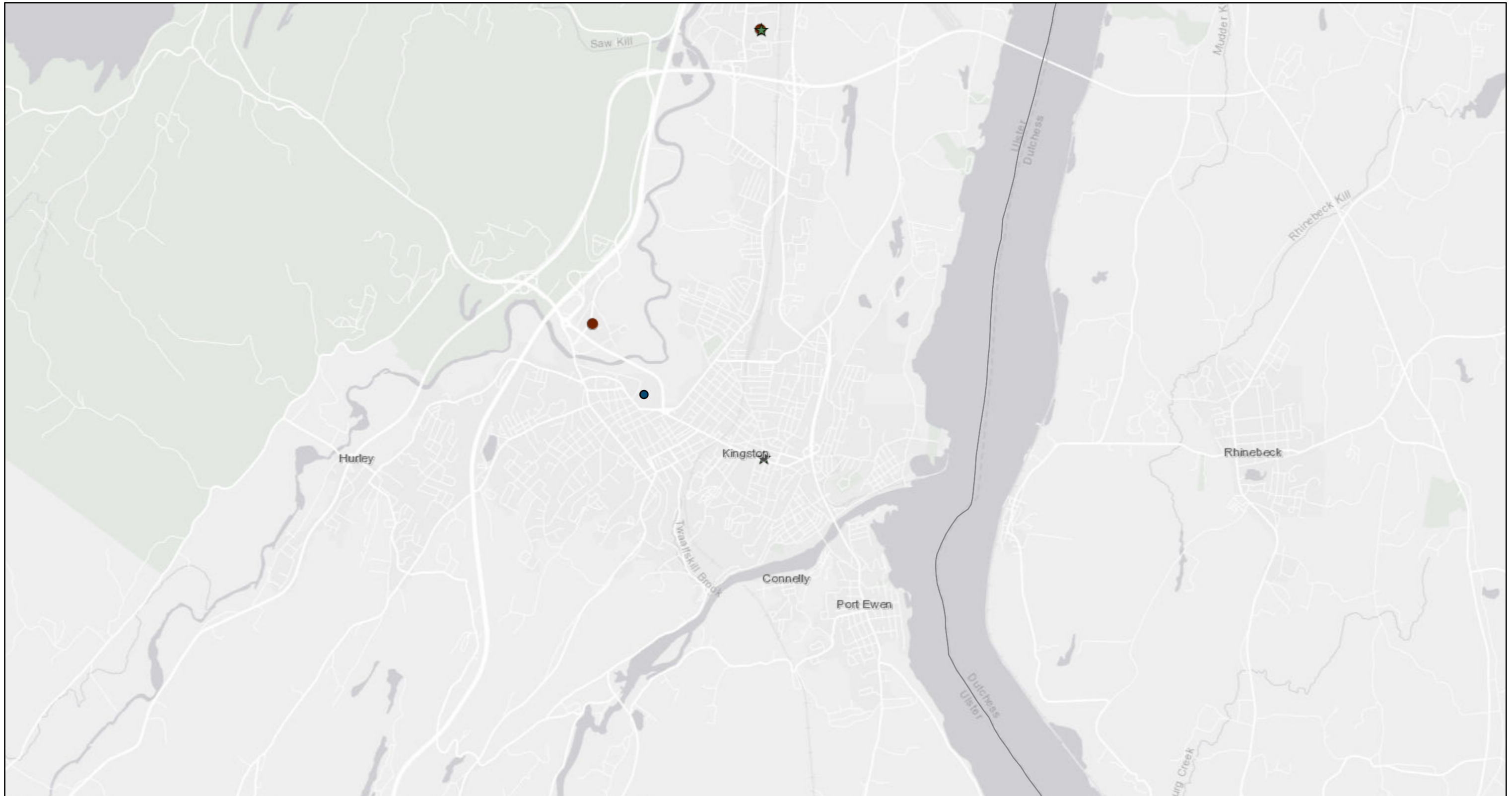
1. Copy of filing receipt from the NYS Department of State indicating that the amended Certificate of Incorporation, including the OASAS required language, have been filed
2. Verification of the hiring of sufficient staff to meet regulatory requirements
3. OASAS inspection and approval of the facility

NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF ADDICTION SERVICES AND SUPPORTS
LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNIT REVIEW REPORT
 (Addiction Disorder Services Certification Actions)

Applicant's Legal Name Samadhi Center Inc.	Application No. 2020-054
Local Governmental Unit Tara McDonald, Acting Commissioner, Ulster County Department of Mental Health	
In conjunction with the certification action(s) submitted by the above applicant, you are requested to review and provide comments on the proposed actions relative to the provision of addiction disorder services in your jurisdiction. Your comments are important in evaluating the merits of the action(s). In completing the responses, use additional sheets as necessary. Your cooperation in providing complete and thorough responses is appreciated as incomplete replies will delay the processing of this application.	
1. Consistency of Program Description and Site Location with Local/OASAS Requirements	In the case of new providers and/or new services, is the program description and site location consistent with local/OASAS requirements: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable Provide explanation below. The County has concerns with regards to the fact that the current building is not handicap accessible for all to access programming on the second floor. In addition, at the time of the original application, there was only one OASAS licensed outpatient clinic in the area. However, since that time there has been the addition of a clinic that has opened within miles of Samadhi's proposed site. It maybe most beneficial for Ulster residents if Samadhi had an accessible site in another part of the City of Kingston.
2. Provider Operational Performance	Is the operational performance of this provider satisfactory? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable Regardless of the answer, provide a description of the operational performance of the provider below. Samadhi has positioned itself solidly within the continuum of care in the County, in that it is the largest producer of Certified Recovery Peer Advocates (CRPAs) locally. Samadhi's CRPAs are encouraged to be creative and unrelenting when molding the system to bend to the needs of a resident if it can connect them to treatment. Their methods can at times appear unorthodox but can be effective.
3. Adequacy of Financial Plans	Is the financial plan in the proposal adequate and acceptable? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable Provide explanation below. Initially, administrators will need to split their time between administration and service provision, it is uncertain if this split will allow for the clinic to adequately serve the projected amount of individuals as depicted in the budget. If they are able to make their operational budget, the proposal is acceptable. Where applicable, please note any comments related to Medicaid policy and/or reimbursement practices below.
4. Consistency with Local Plans and Local/Community Needs	Is the action consistent with local plans and/or does it meet community needs? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Provide explanation below. 2021 saw the highest number of fatal overdoses within the County for the past five years. We continue to be firmly within the grips of this terrible opioid epidemic. The addition of another licensed outpatient clinic will be critical if the County is to change the trajectory of this tragic circumstance.
5. Provider Standing in the Community	Is there any known information regarding the provider's standing in the community? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable Regardless of the answer, provide all known information below or on additional sheets attached to this report. The County would like to ensure that conversations with the community are ongoing, as there have been concerns voiced for Samadhi's Outreach Center, that was previously operating out of the same site. It is important that the community is aware of the differences in the services being provide by the treatment center.

<p>6.</p> <p>Program Location</p>	<p>In answering this question, the following should be taken into consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the location is suitable for an Addiction Disorder Treatment Program; (b) the accessibility of public transportation and adequate parking; and (c) any other notable observations. <p>Please describe your assessment of the circumstances noted.</p> <p>The location that has been identified is ideal for the provision of the licensed service. It is centrally located in the city of Kingston on a bus line. The building itself is accessible for anyone regardless of disability.</p> <p>Please check one box.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> LGU has visited the proposed location. Date of Visit: _____</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LGU has not visited, but has sufficient personal knowledge to attest to its suitability.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> N/A – Please explain, for example, N/A may be appropriate in applications that involve relocation within an existing building. However, factors such as capacity increase, even in an existing building, would not be appropriate for an "N/A" response.</p> <p>The location proposed currently houses the county's behavioral health urgent care in the same building. The LGU has made many visits to the building.</p>		
<p>7.</p> <p>Current Status of Existing Programs</p>	<p>Are you aware of any community issues with other programs operated by this provider, or in the case of relocation, this program's current location? (i.e., any issues around loitering, public safety, etc.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Please describe any issues.</p> <p>During a public forum hosted by the Ulster County Legislature in the Fall of 2021, there was much community concern voiced about the feeling that the Samadhi outreach center was creating an unsafe environment for community members. Due to the concerns, it was decided that the proposed resolution to extend funding to the center would be suspended while an alternative site was secured.</p>		
<p>8.</p> <p>Community Response</p>	<p>Please describe your knowledge of the applicant's outreach to the local community (e.g., Community Service Boards, Community Boards, Planning Boards, Neighborhood Coalitions, other local municipalities). Please summarize your knowledge of community input, including any existing or likely community concerns, as well as any recommendations.</p> <p>The LGU is aware that Samadhi has outreached to planning boards, neighborhood coalitions and elected officials representing the community. However, it is imperative that these invitations for open and transparent dialogue are frequent and ongoing. Samadhi will need to educate the community of the difference in the services that will be offered by a licensed clinic versus a drop in center.</p>		
<p>9.</p> <p>Other Comments</p>	<p>Provide additional comments.</p> <p>Due to the fact that services offered up until this point have been largely peer-based; the absence of the clinical and administrative oversight of a licensed program has made it challenging for Samadhi to consistently ensure their community is adequately safe for both those they serve and their neighbors. It is our hope that with OASAS direction they will be able to successfully execute their valuable and unique philosophical framework.</p>		
<p>10.</p> <p>LGU Recommendation</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Disapprove</p>	<p>Signature of Authorized LGU Official</p> <p>Tara McDonald</p>	<p>Date</p> <p>02/10/22</p>

Samadhi Center, Inc.



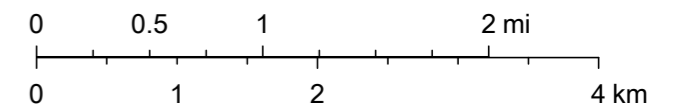
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County

AllCert - Cert Applications

- ★ Outpatient
- 5. Outpatient: Outpatient Clinic
- AllCert - Outpatient Additional Location

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