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## NYS Office of Mental Health

### Vital Access Provider (VAP) Program for Phase 2 Awards for Freestanding

#### Article 31 Clinics

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#### Phase 2

The Office of Mental Health (OMH) has completed its review of all Vital Access Provider applications for the Phase 2 section process. This review entailed an assessment of the community service need as well as the financial viability of the providers that had submitted such proposals. Based on the review of this information, OMH is designating the following as Vital Access Providers as part of the Phase 2 selection process:

Albany County Department of Mental Health

Allegany Rehabilitation Associates, Inc.

Angelo J. Melillo Center for Mental Health

Catholic Charities of Rockville Center

Catholic Family Center of the Diocese of Rochester

Cayuga County Community Mental Health Center

Central Nassau Guidance and Counseling Services, Inc.

Chenango County Community Service Board

Clinton County Community Service Board

Community Association Progressive Dominicans, Inc.

Essex County Mental Health Services

Family Services of Westchester, Inc.

Madison County Mental Health Clinic

North Shore Child & Family Guidance Association, Inc.

Northeast Parent & Child Society

Northside Center for Child Development, Inc.

Ontario County Department of Mental Health

Puerto Rican Family Institute, Inc.

Schuyler County Mental Health

Suffolk County Department of Health Services

Sullivan County Department of Community Services

The Guidance Center, Inc.

Tioga County Department of Mental Hygiene

Tompkins County Mental Health Services

Upstate Cerebral Palsy, Inc.

Wayne County Mental Health Department

OMH will be working with these providers to complete a full application package (program plan, detailed budget, timeline and metrics) and Medicaid (TMRAA) agreement, which will be developed with the assistance and guidance of Strategic Planners that will be assigned to these providers. The application development process may require changes in the proposed activities and/or funding amounts required to support the approved business strategies and program enhancements needed to preserve vital access to these clinic services. All final applications will require county input and are subject to final review and approval of OMH before submission to the Department of Health and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Selection criteria used to designate the Phase 2 Vital Access Providers were:

#### Community Need

1. Provider was identified as having a significant market share percentage for either the adult or child and adolescent population.

or

2. Provider was identified as serving a recognized community need and/or specialty population. This criterion was verified on the provider's operating certificates and Medicaid and patient characteristics survey data.

#### Fiscal Viability

3. Provider financial reports demonstrated fiscal challenges in the operation of the mental health clinic with program loss at more than 5% per the Consolidated Fiscal Report (CFR) and fiscal challenges in the operation of their agency with profit of no more than 5%.

or

4. It is projected that the provider's financial condition will not and cannot, without assistance, improve sufficiently to support the ongoing operation of the provider's clinic(s).

and

5. Providers that recently opened new clinics with licensing applications that demonstrated fiscal viability or providers significantly benefiting from the transition to the new reimbursement methodology were not considered for Phase 2 selection.

Additional criteria, only applicable to Voluntary operated programs:

6. Providers identified with strong fiscal health in the agency operations as identified from the most recently submitted Audited Financial Statements, were not considered for Phase 2 selection.

and

7. Providers with dramatic fiscal challenges in the agency operation such as reporting a negative net worth in the most recently submitted Audited Financial Statements, were not selected for Phase 2 VAP designation unless they are planning to merge or undergo a significant organizational restructuring to address the underlying fiscal insolvency issues.

Additional criteria, only applicable to County operated programs:

8. County operated applicants satisfying all applicable community need and fiscal viability criteria demonstrated a significant County tax levy contribution to the cost of the operating deficit of the clinic program.

### **Phase 3**

OMH anticipates that there may be further opportunities for Vital Access Provider selection should it be determined there is available funding. It is possible several Phase 1 and 2 proposals may be implemented in less than three (3) years and some proposals applications may not be completed or projects may be discontinued because the program criteria and performance objectives are not fully satisfied, which in either case, will make funds available for OMH to consider selection of additional providers to participate in the VAP program. OMH will continue to evaluate the status of all VAP projects underway and the availability of resources for a Phase 3 selection process in 2015-16. It is expected that any Phase 3 selection process would be considered on or around January 1, 2016.