

Petition to Help Preserve Access to Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Care

<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Lauri	Albany	
Cynthia	Corning	As a Licensed Mental Health Counselor since 2008, it is beyond time that licensed mental health practitioners are supported in their work, especially in rural areas with limited behavioral health services and due to increasing MH issues stemming
Dina	Albany	
Marleen	New York	
Adam	New York	
Ellen	Brooklyn	this is essential for safety net providers to remain available to the most vulnerable among us.
Julie	Seaford	
Angie	Bath	My colleagues include those who are LMFTs and LMHCs, and have as much insight to address individuals' mental health as others through the course of their education and training. With the strain on mental health due to the pandemic, as well as the ongoing shortage of providers of mental health counseling in the area, this population of Licensed Practitioners of the Healing Arts must be treated equally to Licensed Social Workers. New Yorkers need the support, accessibility, and breadth of knowledge inherent in having a variety of professional licensing.
Kathy	Mamaroneck	
Laura	Niagara Falls NY	It is imperative that the people we support in our services as a provider of OCFS and OMH approved provider of services, have the ability and access to appropriate services they need and can get them from LMHC and LMFTs in our community.
Scott	Cheektowaga	
Paige	Stillwater	I am an LMHC that supports this petition
Ariel	Westbury	
Dustin	Schuylerville	
Diane	Tarrytown	
Charlotte	Cornwall	
Adam	Goldens Bridge	LMHCs and LMFTs are integral to our operations in our community based behavioral health clinics. Limiting their scope would not meaningfully help patient care, but would add obstacles to getting patients in for care.
Christine	Syracuse	
Cindy	Buffalo	
Kristen	Syracuse	I am signing this petition because LMHCs, LMFTs, and Psychoanalysts play a vital role in serving the community's mental health needs. They have also completed academic and clinical internships that prepare them for the clinical work.
Sheila	Syracuse	This is an extremely important function of practice and care that needs to be continued
Andrew	Jackson Heights	
Ismayra	Jackson Heights	
Ginger	White Plains, NY	There is an ever increasing need for mental health services due to COVID-19 and the uptick in relapse, overdoses, suicides and depression that are developing. Added to the opioid epidemic, we need more behavioral health providers and need to be able to provide greater services, not fewer. Removing these services means as a group our response is heading in the wrong direction. We need to move forward, not backward.
Teresa	Corning	
Diane	New York	
Michelle	Clay	
Gerianne	Rochester	
Arlene	New City	
Liane	Hartsdale	I'm signing because we need to allow our LMHCs to continue to diagnose patients, especially as we are encountering shortages of licensed mental health professionals. Thank you!
Rosemari	Amawalk	
Wendi	West Seneca	I work at an RRSY.
Anne	crompond	
Ashley	Queens	
Benita	Tarrytown	
Gary	Brooklyn	

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Jodie	West Seneca	
Maureen	Lockport	I'm signing because it is imperative that LMHCs continue to be able to diagnose. Due to the workforce shortage of licensed social workers to provide mental health counseling in article 31 clinics, LMHCs have filled a critical need in meeting the demand for services. Clients will go underserved or be denied services if this provision is not renewed or better yet made permanent. There are not enough providers in the market otherwise.
Marc	Yonkers	I support this cause!
Samuel	Brooklyn	
Clyde	New York	
Aimee	New York City	
Joseph	Victor	To continue to afford LMHC and LMFT the ability to provide necessary services
Rebekka	Schenectady	community.
Ebony	Westchester	
Daryl	Cheektowaga	
Aaron	Hamburg	
Sasha	Brooklyn	
Liz	Cheektowaga	
Laura	Mahopac	
Andrew	Long Beach	This is a travesty, another ivory tower demand by individuals who are far removed from the trenches. The need is great and the demand growing. These are professionals who are qualified to diagnose. To remove them from this responsibility will only complicate the work that needs to be done and create more bureaucratic obstacles to quality and timely service delivery, especially for community-based organizations that provide quality supervision for all of its mental health
Nicole	Westbury	
Patrick	Hicksville	Mental Health is important.
Katri	Delmar	
Shannon	North Tonawanda	Clinic Director of Outpatient Mental Health Facility
Emily	Grand Island	
Paul	Rockville Centre	I'm a mental health counselor and this change is bullshit. There is no logical reason for this change other than to limit our ability to do our work.
Kiera	Queens	
Yvonne	Albany	
Elissa	Roslyn Heights	I am signing because this is not the time to make these changes since we are seeing an increase in anxiety and depression due to the ongoing pandemic. We need to continue to diagnose in order for insurance companies pay so as a non profit we can continue to provide immediate care for families that cannot afford the mental health services that are desperately
Monique	NY	
Chuck	Croton on Hudson	I believe strongly that LMHCs, LMFTs, and Psychoanalysts should have the authority to provide diagnoses for their clients.
Suzanne	Ronkonkoma	
Sarah	Buffalo	
Lisa	White Plains	
Angelica	Brooklyn	
Vicki	North Tonawanda	
Deirdre	Whitestone	
Keng	New York	
Cerissa	Queens	I have been a Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) for 15 yrs...this is being based on semantics?...we are trained clinically trained to assess our clients therefore we can diagnose
Kristen	Bellmore	
Nicole	Monroe	
Todd	New Rochelle	It seems like billing issues get in the way of helping participants in an optimal manner.

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Samantha	Glen Cove	I'm signing because as a nurse in the community for this field, the system is already extremely strained and this furthers services not being able to get into my clients' hands. They already wait for months to receive services and I don't want them
Elizabeth	Locust Valley	
Hillary	Roslyn Heights	
Marshall	Jamaica, NY	I'm signing because as a Certified Peer Advocate and Benefits Coordinator, urgent care intake workflow will be severely adversely affected, negatively impacting care that mental health clinics provide.
Audrey	Albany	Our ability provide help to people when and where they need it will be compromised if essential practitioners do not retain their full scope of practice in our organizations. The more we recognize and validate that the simple act of asking for help saves lives, the more we need to grow our capacity to do just that .. so that when people reach out, there is a capable hand
Constanti	North Bellmore	
Lisa	Merrick	
Cassandr	Brooklyn	
Nancy	Sands Point	
Jenna	Tarrytown	
Nellie	Hempstead	
Ann	Ronkonkoma	
Evan	New York	
Karin	Far Rockaway	I'd like to retain my full scope of practice in community-based agencies after June 2021
Vanessa	Brooklyn, NY	
Lawrence	Valley Stream	
Joyce	NY	Now more than ever we need to meet the demand of all who are struggling, dont cripple the system
Carine	Hempstead	
Brenda	Lancaster	There is a dire need for more substance abuse and mental health programs. As someone who has suffered with both I can't imagine losing more resources
Laura	Brooklyn	
Shari	Massapequa	
Alison	Schenectady	I am an LMHC
Kari	Addison	
Kristin	Manhasset	
Peggotty	Yonkers	
Ann	Cortland	
Intisar	Brooklyn	
Victoria	Huntington	LMHCs are highly trained clinical professionals and diagnosis is part of the field and the misleading prior language needs to be changed from "identify and evaluate" to "diagnose". This is long overdue.
Ginnie	Bayside	
Terrance	Yonkers	
Samuel	New York City	
Taylor	New City	
Bruce	Huntington Station	
Ruthellen	Huntington	I am a PMHNP AND CS
Raina	Hicksville	I am a Mental Health Counselor
Julia	East Norwich	
Erika	Hauppauge	I am a Licensed Mental Health Counselor
Yvonne	Old Bethpage	
Jeanne	Levittown	
Courtney	Syracuse	
Barbara	Cortland	qualified, not less.

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Joanne	Baldwin	
Jessica	Avoca	
Robert	Syracuse	I'm signing it as an LCSW-R because it is important to have qualified professionals available to serve the public need. LMHC and LMFT are highly qualified professionals and fully capable of diagnosing clients.
Justine	Rochester	
Angela	New York	
Lisa	Cortland	We must add to our MH workforce!
Anne	Getzville	WE are experiencing a significant workforce shortage and cannot lost any front line therapists in community mental health
Emily	Spencer	
Kathy	Brooklyn	
Samantha	Glendale	I am a licensed mental health counselor, similarly licensed like a social worker, with VERY similar academic background and professional experience to have the ability to diagnose. I have sacrificed myself financially and emotionally to get to where I am in my professional career, and questioning an LMHC's ability to diagnose would undermine our professional capacity in this profession which involved extensive research, case, studies, internships/externships, etc.
David	Holbrook	
Alissa	Oceanside	
Pauline	Massapequa	
Aileen	Long Beach	
Maria	Rochester	There is an increased demand for behavioral health care services and we need our workforce to retain their full scope of practice to serve youth and families.
Kerry	East Meadow	
Claudia	Wilmington	
Ellen	Manhasset	Mental health services provided by clinics are more important now than ever.
Brooke	Cincinnati	Removing the ability to diagnose only hinders people's ability to get help, more than. It already is. We need to be doing everything to remove barriers.
Marilyn	Albany	
Emily	Amsterdam	I am an LMHC and feel every bit as qualified as an LMSW to diagnose. This is a legitimate 60 credits masters degree that makes me every bit capable to do so! There should be equity across these degree's. There is such great need and limiting our ability to diagnose will limit the scope of our practice and greatly impact the community and individuals we serve. Please consider this when making this choice. There is nothing to lose and everything to gain.
Kathie	Truxton	
Margaret	East Meadow	
Angela	Ithaca	Our workforce is so strained and we need them to continue to have the ability to diagnose!
Jean	Marathon	
Vanessa	Levittown	
Samantha	Portland	I am a mental health professional and this is essential for individuals to access proper treatments.
Robert	New York	At a time of a substantial behavioral health workforce shortage, the sunset of Part Y Chapter 57 removes critical mental health practitioners from key elements of service delivery. The result punishes community mental health providers and cripples access to behavioral health care - all at a time when it is more necessary than ever (during this pandemic).
Amy	Little Neck	
Joan	Franklin Square	It's very important for people who need help
Anne	East Rockaway	
Larry	Hauppauge	
Amanda	Mineola	
Robert	Valley Stream	
M	Rosedale, NY	
Ashley	Merrick	
Griffith	Purling	

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Tina	East Rockaway	
Lindsay	Rochester	Making this change will inevitably impact the services we provide and we do not have enough other licensed staff to manage to provide services..
Alba	New York	We need all behavioral health professionals to help us take care of our communities. They need the guidance and support to be able to cope with the current crisis in mental health
Colette	Howell	
Elizabeth	Syracuse, NY	
Angelique	New York	
Kimberly	East Rockaway	
Kristin	Lockport	
Larry	Hauppauge	
Royal	Albany	
Kimberly	Rochester	
Rebecca	New York	
Elissa	Franklin Square	
Susan	Scarsdale	
Brian	Rochester	
Kim	Rochester	these qualified practitioners are an essential part of our workforce
Emily	Oceanside	
Kristen	Ronkonkoma	
Alejandra	Yonkers	
Tiandra	Queens	
Maria	New York	
Melissa	Melville	
Nadine	Brooklyn	
Jasmine	Rochester	I will be licensed in the future and need to be able to do my job.
Christine	Astoria	
Ivanna	Brooklyn	
Lamar	Cheektowaga	
Angela	Richmond Hill	
Jackie	Hauppauge	
Kim	Bath	
Nicole	West Seneca	
Anthony	Cheektowaga	
Susan	Cortland	I'm signing because these services are critical. It is too hard to access services!
Tara	East Rockaway	
Danielle	East Rockaway	My friends matter.
Corryn	Cohoes	
Elaine	Baldwin	It's an important cause.
Jeanne	Huntington	I am a LMHC with more than 35 years experience. I think I am quite qualified to diagnose. Additionally, since a diagnosis is part of billing for insurance companies, this would prevent LMHC from reimbursement.
Sabrina	Massapequa	
Sara	Lancaster	The services these people provide are vital to the continued health of our community
Ruthanne	Tarrytown	
Kanza	Fairport	LMFT's.
Megan	Elmont, NY	

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Emily	Albany	
Bennett	Rochester	
Erin	Ballston Spa	I am a Licensed Mental Health Counselor
Kaylaliz	Bronx	LMHCs have an extensive clinical background and greatly serve the increasing amounts of individuals in NYC with mental health needs.
Tara	Franklin Square	
Maureen	Albany	
Joanne	Albany	
Rachel	Tarrytown	
Shawna	New Rochelle	It is increasingly difficult to staff community based programs to meet the full needs of individuals seeking behavioral health services. Due to licensing limitations for the full range of potential mental health and addiction treatment providers (LMHC, LMFT, LCAT etc.) primarily LCSWs, Psychiatrist and Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners are required for these organizations to run smoothly and meet the diagnostic and supervisory needs. It is increasingly difficult to find and keep these individuals in community practices and the demand for them is steadily increasing. Opening up the field to include these additional provider license types will fill a critical need in behavioral health services.
Jessica	Rochester	
Terrica	Brooklyn	
Jenna	East Northport	
Mary	Albany	
Chrispin	Brooklyn	
Katie	Rochester	
Prudencia	New York	
Catie	Rochester	
Colleen	Queens	
Linda	Selden	
Michael	Oceanside	
Jonathan	Cos Cob	processes.
Jennifer	Freeport	I'm signing because I am a mental health professional and the need for services is extremely important.
Julia	Rochester	
Barbara	Schenectady	These practitioners have completed all necessary requirements and have demonstrated necessary competencies to become licensed. They also are currently and will continue to provide invaluable services. To limit the scope of their service provision will significantly reduce job opportunities and will have a negative impact on service provision providing a large backlog for those receiving and needing services.
Rochelle	Queensbury	I am an LMHC- the 60 credit Masters program I obtained as well as the clinical experience exceeds that of a social worker's clinical training and yet lobbying groups prevent us from the full scope of practice in NY .
Erin	Castleton	
Jennifer	Elmira	
Elina	Brooklyn	
Lauren	Far Rockaway	
Alisha	Corning	To ensure Article 163 practitioners can continue to practice at the top of their scope in community based agencies and continue being able to 'diagnose' care recipients seeking assistance from community-based mental health and substance
Wendy	New York	
Joann	New York	
Kathleen	Amsterdam	
Nia	Queens	
Jacquelin	Jamaica	We need this law changed to clearly provide these practitioners authority to give diagnosis. Cannot discriminate amongst credential, this is required in our field we do this every single day to keep NYC stable!
Amy	Latham	

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Margret	Chatham	service
Pachuska	Cambria Heights	
Nicole	Delmar	
Kim	Rochester	I'm signing because as a behavioral health CEO, we continue to see the need for mental health and SUD services grow and become more complex. This support is critical to the lives of those living with these illnesses.
Erica	Syracuse	I am an LMHC in a very large non profit agency that employs several LMHC and LMFT, not being able to diagnose would effect several hundreds of clients in obtaining services.
Heather	Hornell	
Maricarme	Jackson Heights	
Barbara	Jamaica	
Alexis	Guilderland	As an LMHC I am competent and understand the DSM fully. Therefore, we should be given the authority to provide diagnoses as I am more than qualified to do so.
Nancy	East Rockaway	
Nicole	Mechanicville	providers.
Shannon	Manlius	I will be obtaining my license as an LMHC in 2022.
Luke	Staten Island, NY	
Valerie	West Seneca	
Michelle	Averill Park	I am a LMHC who has served clients of the capital region since 2012. I feel strongly that especially during these challenging times, mental health professionals need to be supported, provided training, and given appropriate recognition to treat
Dineen	East Rockaway	
Elizabeth	Hamburg	
Debra	Albany	I am signing this because I am a LMHC with decades of experience working with children and their families and I have a clear grasp of diagnosing. I feel as a LPHA my understanding of diagnosing a behavioral health condition is sound. I also feel that there has been lobbying, driven by the LMSW organization, to stop other LPHA from diagnosing, creating a monopoly for them. This action will only lessen services for our clients with very skilled providers. Our county already has a shortage of all licensed professionals (in all fields) so why are we thinking of shorting the list of LPHAs and over taxing the very short list of those who will be allow to diagnosis? With our increase for the need of mental health professionals, not only due to COVID, but also due to the social unrest in our county (which is not going to go away anytime soon), this move just does not make sense. Our communities will suffer and we will lose licensed professionals. Please do not cut us off at the
Sunita	Jamaica	
Kharyn	Syracuse	I'm signing because as a LMSW, I know how important the work my LMHC co-workers do and how our work as a whole impacts so many lives. We needs their expertise, the people need their expertise.
Ruby	New York	
Jordan	Tonawanda	
Barbara	Massapequa Park	As a special education teacher, I understand how valuable the services of a LMHC are to our students and their families.
Jessica	Islip	
Stephanie	Buffalo	I know how important LMHC's are to mental health care!
Mary	Huntington	These are essential workers with great expertise and during a pandemic with no end in sight is NOT the time to put them into question. WAKE UP!!
Victor	Ronkonkoma	
Songe	Brooklyn	
Jamie	Geneva	
Hurguens	Far Rockaway, Queens	
Melissa	Massapequa	
Matthew	Hilton	
Norma	Staten island	This issue is essential and the need is critical.
Carmen	Brooklyn	
Michael	East Meadow	

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<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Maribel	Washingtonville	
Maria	Brooklyn	It is imperative that LMHCs and LMFTs continue to be allowed to provide diagnoses. These clinicians are trained, supervised, and tested on such materials before licensure. Without these highly capable clinicians, clinics will not have enough staff to properly meet the mental health needs of the community. As it is, already, it is quite difficult to serve all those who wish to obtain psychotherapy. Losing two critical groups of clinicians would be a dramatic blow to mental health service provision. I urge you to keep LMHCs and LMFTs within the regulations for providing diagnoses.
Laura	Massapequa	As mental health care needs are growing, the availability of mental health care should be as well. It should not be cutting off those who people trust with their lives. This is a travesty.
Megan	Levittown	
Steven	New Hyde Park	
Barbara	Greenfield Center	
Christine	Brooklyn	I am signing because community mental health care is more important than ever. LMHC's, LMFT's, LCAT's and other helping professions provide critical assessment, treatment planning and care to the most vulnerable patients and communities in our community agencies and if this change goes into effect in June 2021, this will result in delayed and denied care to those most in need. There is no clinical or ethical benefit to this scope of practice distinction in community agencies, as all clinical staff are supervised and overseen by LCSW and PhD level supervisors.
Rachel	Brooklyn	Rachel Noisette
Linda	West Sayville	I'm signing because I am an LMHC with my own private practice.
Jennifer	Far Rockaway	I'm a LMHC and feel that our clients shouldn't be punished for a technicality in the language. We receive extensive training and are amply qualified to diagnose our patients
Rachel	Water	
Jude	Albany	
Rosa	NY	health clinic
Madeline	Buffalo	I am a Mental Health Counselor and it is a crucial part of our job to diagnose clients, we were taught diagnostics in our Master's programs and therefore need to be allowed to do our jobs. Diagnosing is absolutely within our scope of practice and must not be taken away by those who do not understand our jobs and their demands.
Sasha	Woodside, Queer	It is extremely important that psychoanalysts, LMFT and LMHC practitioners be permitted to continue to diagnose in OMH, OASAS, OCFS, and OPWDD licensed agencies. It would be detrimental to communities if these professionals are not able to continue providing the very important work they've been doing, especially during this pandemic.
Samantha	Malta	I am an MHC with full capabilities of diagnosing patients.
Julia	Troy	
Charis	Schenectady	We need more mental health care not less!!!
Autumn	Waterford	
Jane	Erie	
Rebecca	Saratoga Springs	
Carly	Glens Falls	I'm a LMHC working in a psychiatric hospital and I spend my days assessing, educating and using my clinical knowledge bank to adequately care for my patients.
Cassandra	Gaithersburg	
Valerie	Albany	I am signing because I am a mental health counselor and I am able to understand and diagnose disorders just as well as any other social worker or licensed psychologist. My clients need me and I do not want my job in jeopardy because NYS thinks that I shouldn't be allowed to do part of my job based on no evidence to suggest mental health counselors aren't trained fully, if not even more so, than others in the field who are also qualified to diagnose.
Hannah	Brooklyn	
Stephanie	Syracuse	I'm signing because the ability for licensed professionals to provide mental health diagnoses is crucial to the therapeutic process in effectively treating individuals. In addition, these licensed individuals have had specialized training and education with the DSM and have ample capabilities to provide an accurate and updated mental health diagnosis.
Amy	Vermontville	I am an LMHC.
Kelly	Fort Ann	
Tasheema	Bronx	

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John	Sunnyside	I care about our consumers
Christina	Albany, NY	
Jocelyn	New York	
Mariah	Sunnyside	
Carey	New York City	
Erika	New York City	I am a LMHC and I believe that all newly licensed Article 163 practitioners should be permitted to diagnosis. We are and they will be invaluable members of this community.
Caitlin	Ridgewood	
Michael	Brooklyn	
Tammy	East Aurora	
Susan	Oceanside	
Virginia	East Concord	I am a LMHC
Eunice	Brooklyn	
Richard	Derby	
Judy	Fishkill	It's needed
Lisa	Clifton Park	I am a licensed mental health counselor and the scope of my work involves diagnosis of clients
Annemari	Clifton Park	These are critical services for people in need, and if it goes through it will greatly reduce access to care.
Kristen	Huntington	I am a LMHC
James	Woodside	Passage of the proposed regulations in their present form will be devastating for community mental health providers, especially agencies that have a high concentration of multilingual recipients.
Lissa	Ronkonkoma	
Ariana	Clifton Park	Mental health is more port at than ever and these clinicians have the education to help in the right ways.
Heloise	Brentwood	Mental health is notoriously under treated and under exposed in the United States. Clinicians in this field are up against many barriers in regard to obtaining licensing and the ability to diagnose. We, clinicians and law makers should be working together and not at opposing sides in regard to this significant, yet underserved area of wellness.
Joan	Long Island City	
Miranda	Clifton Park	
Priscilla	Stony Point	I'm signing because I am in pursuit of obtaining my LMHC license.
Joan	Seaford	I believe mental health clinicians should be able to diagnosis
David	Queens	
Elba	Brooklyn	
Ana	Brooklyn	
Tiffany	Brooklyn	
Shahed	Brooklyn	
Andrew	Oceanside	Medicaid access is important
Dustin	Jamaica	
Carol	Cortland	I'm signing because these highly trained professionals are vital to the provision of behavioral health services. We already lack enough clinicians, why would we limit it further?
Joseph	Long Beach	
Eulalia	Forest Hills	
Liliana	New York	
Jennifer	Cranford	
David	New York	
Tracey	Owego	
Jessica	Sunnyside	
Latisha	Brooklyn	
Vic	Brooklyn	

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Gretchen	Falls	
Danielle	Brooklyn	
Colleen	Franklin Lakes	
Katherine	Larchmont	I'm an LMHC!
Alison	Penfield	
Karen	Rouses point	
Chetna	Rochester	
Robbie	Raleigh	
Elizabeth	Bronx	I'm signing as a NY LMFT
Jeffrey	Smithtown	
Leah	Forest Hills	
Sarah	Hamburg	I'm signing because I've practiced as an LMFT for a few years, most recently earning full licensure in March 2020. Diagnosing is an integral part of our education and practice. We are also all more highly educated than generic social workers with no clinical experience coming out of school. This war waged on mental health practitioners hurts the people of
Sophie	Rochester	
Nicole	Troy	I'm signing because I am an LMFT and fully capable of diagnosing.
Alexandria	NYC	
Eric	Ossining	
Goddess	Queens	
Despina	Webster	I am an LMFT.
Julia	Brentwood	It is important to get care to those in need during this very difficult time and for years to come as this pandemic's fall out will be felt far into the future.
Michelle	Fayetteville	I am a graduate student in a mental health counseling program.
Michael	Maspeth	
Tiffany	Chittenango	I am a LMHC and I support this petition. LMHCs are actually far better qualified than LCSWs to perform psychotherapy due to our training in graduate school.
Alyssa	Ballston Lake	We can't afford to bottleneck services further with the mental health crises showing during a pandemic.
Steve	Broadalbin	I know that LMHC's are a very important part of the mental health system. Impeding their ability to treat patients fully will affect outcome negatively.
Phyllis	Broadalbin	I am signing because LMHC is an intricately important part of our mental health system.
Kimberly	Stanley	I am signing because in my rural area we have a serious need for more practitioners who can diagnose and treat a variety of mental health needs. As an LMHC I received extensive training in diagnostic criteria as well as psychotherapy.
Crystal	Syracuse	
Lisa	Rochester	
Caitlyn	Farmington	
Megan	Rochester	I am a recent Mental Health Counseling graduate who is dedicated to providing competent, compassionate, and effective care to those impacted by mental health issues and substance use disorders. My ability as a professional to offer the most effective care requires the assessment and treatment of individuals served using the DSM. Impending legislation will narrow my scope of practice and heavily limit the amount of clinicians available and create issues for this vulnerable population to receive the best and most efficient care. This law must be changed to give practitioners such as myself the authority to diagnose our clients and continue our efforts to support the thousands of New Yorkers impacted by substance/mental
Jamie	Amsterdam	
Jason	Canandaigua	I am a behavioral health administrator overseeing multiple OASAS, DOH, and OMH programs in 7 counties. Licensed clinicians are a very limited and much needed resource. Narrowing that field further will be extremely detrimental to the
Hudson	Rochester	I am a Mental Health Counselor.
Deborah	Geneva	I believe that people with addiction and mental health disorders should receive a full range of services to enable them to recover or control their disease and rejoin society to be productive, well and happy. Well people pay taxes.
Cynthia	Corning	I'm an LMHC in a rural area. There are not enough licensed mental health professionals in our area as it is. If the laws are not changed we will continue to see an increase in gaps of care, disproportionately in black and brown, urban and rural

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Jenelle	West Seneca	I am an LMHC
Chelsea	Branchport	
Colleen	Kings Park	
Stephanie	Astoria	
Zoie	Rochester	
Christina	Staten Island	I am a limited permit holder working towards licensure. During my internship, I worked in an OCFS agency. Due to funding, we only had 1 full time therapist (social worker) and then myself. We had quite a waitlist of clients that needed services but had to wait. Reducing our scope of practice will only cause harm to an every growing population, especially during this pandemic, that need our services in NY. MHC with a limited permit and LMHCs are clinically trained from the start of our Masters and are very well educated in psychopathology & diagnoses. There is no justification in changing our scope of practice with these agencies effectively reducing the amount of therapists available to help vulnerable populations.
Donna	Palmyra	I am signing because it is crucial that all LMHC's and LMFT retain their right to diagnose. With the effects of the COVID 19 pandemic on one's mental health, is critical that we not take away a source of help for those suffering. Please consider allowing standard practices to continue. Don't take away.
Maggie	Staten Island	I'm signing because I am a passionate LMHC that has worked hard and will continue to work hard!!
Joshua	Rochester	I'm an LMHC and believe in access to services for those who need them.
Jayme	Canandaigua	
Ann	Cicero	
Kaci	Port Jefferson	
Lynda	Eastchester	
Melody	Bloomfield	
Deirdre	Brooklyn	
Isabella	Brooklyn	
Lorilee	Brooklyn	
Iraj	Brooklyn	
Noemi	NY	
Linda	Glens Falls	
Vanessa	Freeport	
Andre	Buffalo	
Jessie	Brooklyn	
Dawn	East Rockaway	
Nancy	East Rockaway	
MaryBeth	Albany	
Susana	Jackson Heights	
Danielle	Brooklyn	
Beverly	Derby	I know this is important.
Grace	Avon	
Deborah	Tobyhanna, PA	I work at a Mental Health Agency and the need and staff turn around is distressing.
Stella	Farmingville	Mental health care is important.
Josefina	New York	
Jeanne	Bethpage	
Emma	Albany	
Jacquelin	Amherst	
Angela	Rye Brook	
Somer	Brooklyn	
Heather	Waterloo	
Judy	Fredonia	

Petition to Help Preserve Access to Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Care

<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Comment</u>
William	Brewerton NY	
Celia	New York	Every resident of our country deserves full mental health support in every way possible, from every professional trained to do so - especially during these times!
Jean	Staten Island	Practitioners are needed more than ever and must be permitted to fully serve mental health clients.
Gilbert	Brooklyn	
Nancy	Lancaster	
Brendan	Pearl River	I'm signing because I know how important mental health services can be.
Laura	Amsterdam	Diagnosing mental health issues early is important to our society and our local communities. We are in a mental health epidemic. Now is not the time to constrain the ability to diagnose.
Keigen	Lyons	
Evan	Medford	
Patricia	New York	I have both personal and professional experience in the field of psychiatry/mental health
Diana	Jordan	
Christine	Selkirk	The mental health system needs funding for clients to receive good health care.
CTolyn	Amherst	
Margaret	Queens	
Cherie	Clinton	
Michele	Haverstraw	
Diane	Rochester	
Abbie	Macedon	
Jayne	Rochester	This is important!
D	Canandaigua	I'm signing because this will help individuals get the proper care they need and deserve.
Christina	Forest Hills	
Rachel	Bloomfield	
Nicholas	Tonawanda	I'm signing this petition because I am the parent of two adult children with diagnosed mental illness and there remains inadequate numbers of mental health practitioners to fully service an ever growing community of patients.
Joellen	Collins	
Stephanie	Brooklyn	economic situation
Cristi	Belle Harbor	I'm signing because I'm an LMHC in NY and recognize the lack of available mental health support in our state and country. LMHC's & MFT's are highly trained clinicians with education, training, and background equal in every way to social workers and should be recognized as such with the ability to diagnose, and be eligible for any employment that allows fir Masters level licensed clinicians/social workers.
Evora	Rochester	diagnose not less.
Valerie	Baldwinsville	
KerriLynn	Seaford	
Maria	Greenvale	
Umema	Lynbrook	We study human behavior for this sole reason-to diagnose and help those in need.
Sandra	Sayville	Everyone deserves complete healthcare, including mental health care.
Gsyle	Walkill	
Donna	Lakehurst	
Monique	New York	I am signing this petition because i believe as a society we must support everyone with a mental illness.
Judy	Buffalo	
Erica	Shortsville	
Danielle	Fonda	impressions.
Elizabeth	Hoboken	
Linda	Staten Island	
Dominique	Flushing	My son has a mental illness and needs help.

Petition to Help Preserve Access to Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Care

<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Lucille	Somers	The mental health of our families are important and families and patients need help. There are not enough practitioners to serve those in need. We need to do all we can to provide services. Thank you!
Shynise	Queens	
Joseph	Jackson Heights, Queens	Severe shortage of workforce clinicians so unable to make budget at times or able to provide services to all those pts who apply, especially Spanish speaking.
Valerie	Beach	
Kay	New York	I am signing this petition, after fighting for it for several years. We have a small OMH and OASAS clinic, and some of our most well trained practitioners are LMHC clinicians. Limiting their scope of practice will create a huge workflow problem in our clinic, and is completely unnecessary.
Mary Lou	Syracuse NY	We have a family member who needs support in her daily activities
LaMont	White Plains	I am in support of the large segments of the general population that have been historically underserved, underrepresented and often regulated to exist on the periphery of our so-called civilized society.
Michael	Rochester	I stand with the current way we do things
D'Amber	Albany	deserve.
Cheryl	Rochester	Because providers are the key to providing best possible care to individuals n stripping providers of ability to diagnosis is a sham Disgraceful n the clients or patients will suffer more
Marta	Ronkonkoma	
Susan	Webster	
Cristina	Bellmore	
Jill	Lynbrook	
Rose	Pleasant valley	I want mental illness to revert back to treating it as a brain disorder
Lindy	Ontario	
Myrla	Lockport	I'm a licensed MFT and understand that our scope of practice should include the language to diagnose as we are trained to assess, diagnose and treat individuals.
Michelle	Ontario, NY	Mental health is extremely important especially in the current status of this country.
Arnette	New York	
Donna	Staten Island	
Kelly	Esperance	It is important all mental health providers be able to provide services needed
Nurys	Oceanside	
Elisa	Scarsdale	
Cheryl	Brooklyn	Protecting future generations of LMFT providers
Roua	Richmond Hill	
Nicole	New Rochelle	
Julie	New York City	
Bethany	Shortsville, NY	I am a Licensed Mental Health Counselor who has worked for 15 years in the field of Behavioral Health with a focus on emergency psychiatric services, acute psychiatric services in a hospital setting and within the co-occurring fields of mental health and substance use disorders. Mental Health Counselors are educated and trained in differential diagnose and are often more skilled than others when it comes to accruate diagnostics. This is vitally important in providing optimal and accessible care to a large population of individuals who are in greater need of services now than ever before.
Matthew	Albany	we need a fully utilized mental health workforce.
Michelle	Tyrone	
Bridget	Bronx	
Maria	New York	
Emily	Baldwin	
Taylor	Brooklyn	

Petition to Help Preserve Access to Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Care

Name	City	Comment
Nadine	Flushing	I am signing because I am trying to acquire hours to obtain an LMHC. A job and responsibility that will be hindered if myself and others in this field are unable to diagnose and properly help our clients/patients. Not to mention it is unfair to change the rules of the game now that there are people who have already acquired a degree in MHC, and acquired one under the impression they would be able to diagnose and help others.
Samantha	Syosset	Lmhc !!!! Do not take part of our profession away.
Paul	Rockaway Park	
Sunita	Jamaica	
Brandon	Bronx	
Shauna	Rockville Center	I am signing because I am a Mental Health Counselor.
Anna	Bayville	
Anastasiya	Lindenhurst	
Toni Ann	West Babylon	I am a MHC who's worked long hard hours and dedicated endless time to my education and internships and did all my colleagues. We need more help in this field, how could this be taken away!
John	West Babylon	
Joanna	Syosset	
Tanairy	Levittown	This is important to the well being of community members. The need for Mental health is in high demand the last thing we need is to have something to limit providers in serving the community.
Alexandra	Bay Shore	
Jessica	Rochester	I'm signing because the rigorous training is more extensive than social work. We should be seen as the same despite differences in training. I had to have 500 face to face contact hours in order to graduate not an internship. I had to go through supervision before being able to sit for my exam. Please consider the extensive requirements for these professions needed to graduate and post graduate experience to become licensed.
Kevin	Queens	
Cindy	Baldwin	
Wendy	West Babylon	
Ashely	West Hempstead	
Megan	Stony Brook	
Wendy	East Meadow	
John	Syosset	
Vincent	NY	
Ann	NY	
Samantha	NY	
Darcy	West Babylon	
Edenny	Ozone Park	
Dacia	Troy	
Lisa	New York	
Timothy	Dix Hills	
Kelsie	West islip	
Jessica	Mineola	
Linda	Bay Shore	I'm signing because you are undermining people's experience and education, as well as limiting the resources for those seeking help. What a shame!
Tymarria	Astoria	
Christine	The Villages	
Brittany	Mount Vernon	
Matthew	Spring Hill	I've been through abuse myself and taking away a counselors ability to diagnose is a major step in the wrong direction to help those that are on the verge of a breakthrough or beginning to seek help.
Christiann	Heights	
Constanc	New York	

Petition to Help Preserve Access to Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Care

<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Kismyth	Mt. Vernon	
Kimberly	Lynbrook	
Sofia	Flushing	
Tatiana	New Rochelle	Most essential practitioners retain their full scope of practice in community.
Ann	Mount Vernon	
Catherine	Albany	
Tiffany	Cortlandt Manor	
Narda	Buffalo	
Erica	Brockport	I am a graduate student in a mental health counseling program who will graduate at the end of this year. This issue impacts me directly and my job prospects. Additionally, Covid-19 has demonstrated a critical need for and shortage of counselors, and therefore changing the language to "diagnose and treat" will help innumerable people.
Vinny	West Babylon	I believe they should be able to diagnose
Marisa	Centerport	
Dawn	Mount Vernon	
Nicole	Montvale	
Kay	Yonkers	I'm signing because as an LMHC, my ability to diagnose my patients is critical to providing them with the right care. If future practitioners are unable to this, their patients will suffer due to lack of access. Further, it will make it harder for those practitioners to get hired, decreasing mental health staff across the board. Everyone loses when this happens.
Linda	Mount Vernon	
Courtney	kings park	
Tirza	New Rochelle	
Iman	New Rochelle	
Claire	Ballston Lake	LMHC's are highly trained essential mental health providers
Allison	Yonkers	
Olivia	Rye Brook	
Luis	Yonkers	
Francis	Mount Vernon	As a psychiatrist working in the public sector I wish to have this law passed to allow a broadening of the provider types who can diagnosis mental illness, to increase access to care in our long running manpower shortage.
Gloria	Mount Vernon	
Andrea	Rochester	