



## ***New York State Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare***

### ***SFY 2023 Legislative Agenda - DRAFT***

*NYS Council **vigorously supports** the following SFY 2022-23 Executive Budget proposals:*

#### **MH Workforce/Capital Support**

- *Proposed 5.4% COLA for Human Services including (but not limited to) OASAS, OMH, OCFS and certain DOH Programs (HMH, Article VII, Part DD)*
- *Proposal to provide Healthcare Workforce bonuses to Health and Mental Hygiene employees (HMH Article VII, Executive, Part D)*
- *Extends the ability of DoH, OMH, OASAS and OPWDD to waive regulatory requirements under DSRIP through 4/1/25 (HMH, Article VII, Part GG)*
- *Support appropriation of \$1.5 M to OASAS from Behavioral Health Parity Compliance Enforcement Fund (Aid to Localities OASAS SFY 2022-23 Executive budget bill)*
- *Expedites development of OASAS Capital Projects (HMH, Article VII, KK)*

#### **Medicaid/ Medicaid Managed Care**

- *Proposal to extend APG Government Rates through 2027 (HMH, Article VII, Part LL)*
- *Requirement to reinvest \$111 million (state share) in savings from BH carve-in to Medicaid managed care with OASAS and OMH (HMH Article VII, Part FF)*
- *Require use of a competitive bid process for the identification of Managed Care entities to participate in Medicaid Managed Care for Behavioral Health (HMH Executive, Part P)*

#### **Expanded Insurance Coverage**

- *Establish Telehealth Payment Parity for Medicaid and commercial insurance (HMH, Article VII, Part V)*
- *Improve access to children's mental & behavioral health services by aligning Child Health Plus benefits with other Medicaid benefits (HMH, Article VII, Part U)*

## **Opioid Crisis/ Behavioral Health Crisis Prevention**

- *Expand Access to Naloxone and Buprenorphine in Pharmacies (HMH, Article VI, Part EE)*
- *Allocates \$265.9M from Opioid Settlement in OASAS budget and includes \$200M for services & expenses for public health mitigation strategy for opioid addictions*
- *Creates the 988 Crisis Prevention and Behavioral Health Crisis Act (HMH, Article VII, Part EE)*
- *Requires pharmacies to carry a 30-day supply of Naloxone and Buprenorphine, within DEA requirements (HMH, Article VII, Part HH)*
- *Cerates new certification process for Recovery Residences (HMH, Article VII, Part ii)*
- *Extends existing Alcohol Awareness Programs to include other forms of addiction and recreational cannabis (HMH, Article VII, Part JJ)*

### **NYS Council supports with concerns/questions the following Executive proposals:**

- *Establishes that New York State will join the interstate medical licensure compact and interstate nursing licensure compact with other states in the compact for a streamlined licensure process with one application. (HMH, Article VII, Part B)*

**Concern:** *Does not go far enough to ensure this change will impact behavioral health workforce shortages.*

- *Removes requirement for NP in **primary care** with over 3600 hours experience to maintain a collaborative relationship with physicians (HMH, Article VII, Part C)*

**Concern:** *Does not appear to include NPs practicing behavioral health. Massive workforce shortages across the BH system demand flexibility for PNPs as well as NPs. Must include Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners.*

- *Creates new \$1.6B Statewide Health Transformation Grant Program IV (HMH, Article VII, Part K)*

**Concern:** *Vast majority of funds in this proposal would be appropriated to institutional and other settings. CBOs receive a tiny fraction of total funds available. Formula should be adjusted to be more balanced between institutional and CBO awards.*

### **We Oppose the following Executive Budget proposal:**

- *To eliminate Prescriber Prevails option in Medicaid Managed Care and Medicaid FFS programs (HMH, Article VII, Part BB)*