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**New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports  
Bureau of Certification (OASAS)**

**M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO:** Dena Holmes  
**FROM:** Jennifer Berg  
**DATE:** September 12, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** Application Review  
Applicant: Release Recovery Centers, LLC  
Application #: 2023.014 / CON# 234019  
Purpose: New OASAS Provider  
County: Westchester

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**Project Summary:**

Release Recovery Centers, LLC submitted a Certification Application requesting New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports' (OASAS) approval to become a new OASAS Provider of Part 822 Outpatient Treatment Services and Outpatient Rehabilitation Services, to be located at 3020 Westchester Avenue, Purchase, New York.

This location is in Purchase Professional Park, a campus of four office buildings with medical and other professional offices. The Park is situated adjacent to I-267, within two miles of I-95, I-684 and the Hutchinson River Parkway. Release Recovery Centers will occupy half of the top (4th) floor of building 3020 on Westchester Avenue in Purchase NY.

Release Recovery Centers, LLC views substance use disorder as a complex condition which requires a comprehensive treatment approach. Their approach is to meet individuals where they are at and to identify the best combination of modalities and interventions to have the most meaningful, positive impact on self-awareness in order to result in the most effective outcomes.

Release Recovery indicates that their approach focuses on clinical and psycho-educational group therapies that foster a strong sense of connection and community while enhancing individuals' knowledge base and foundations for growth. The propose using evidence-based modalities such as motivational interviewing (MI), cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), dialectical behavioral therapy (DBT) and 12-Step facilitation, as well as other. These modalities will be augmented with individual therapy, psychopharmacology as needed, and the use of medication assisted treatment (MAT). Release also proposed to provide family/couples counseling, vocational/educational counseling, and spiritual counseling, as appropriate for individual benefit.

Initially, Release plans to serve adult clients who are either covered by commercial insurance or are self-paying for services and at the suggestion of County officials, they are considering the addition of services for adolescents in the future.

The initial proposed hours of operation are Monday through Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, with the intention of extending hours to 8pm Monday through Friday, at a later date.

**Need:**

The applicant references that the need for substance use disorder (SUD) services is well established at national and state levels and especially during the current, extended opioid epidemic and overdose crisis. At a local level, the applicant refers to The St. Joseph's Medical Center 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Report which references mental health disorders and substance use disorders as area priorities, and top needed services in Westchester County; and the Montefiore Medical Center's CHNA 2019-2022 report was nearly identical. The applicant indicates that the Westchester County Government's CHNA ranked the need for mental health services as #1 and drug and alcohol treatment services as #5 of priority needs in the county.

In an effort to notify the community of the intended services, Release Recovery met with representatives of the Department of Community Mental Health and Westchester County Local Governmental Unit (LGU) on June 14, 2022, at the proposed site, reportedly receiving an favorable feedback. They also met with Michael Orth, Department of Community Mental Health, Commissioner, on 10/18/22.

Release Recovery has indicated they have established network of collaborators in the community, along with key community groups which support their project. They received a letter from Stephanie Marquesano, founder and executive director of The Harris Project, Inc., a non-profit organization which provides community education to adolescents and young adult who are dealing with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. Stephanie identifies a collaborative relationship with Release and believe they will be a "valuable addition to the community."

Additional letters of support were received from Lower Hudson Valley EAP, which indicated the need for services is high and access to quality services in the areas is in adequate. Lower Hudson Valley EAP is looking forward to Release Recovery's presence in the area and plans to fully engage with the entity when established. Also, received was a letter from Sacred Heart and Our Lady of Pompeii Parish as well as local clinicians.

On 10/27/22 Release met with Harrison Mayor Richard Dionisio who reportedly gave full support for the project on behalf of the community.

They have submitted a community relations plan which outlines goals and strategies to continue to engage in the community which includes educational events and workshops, Narcan Trainings, and overall maintain a high level of visibility through participation of Business

Development Specialist in various professional and community activities.

According to the Westchester County Plan, comprehensive integrated care in all modalities is a goal of the county as well as a “no wrong door” approach. Access to inpatient, outpatient and residential treatment services for Adolescents and young adults has been a challenge for many years. Some modalities such as outpatient services has been difficult to find, and some modalities such as inpatient and residential has been nonexistent. Westchester County has been working with providers to expand outpatient services and providing the needed tools and supports.

On August 10, 2023, OASAS’ Bureau of Certification received a Local Governmental Unit Recommendation Report (PPD-6) from Westchester Department of Community Mental Health supporting a positive recommendation for this action noting that the community has been receptive to the Release Recovery Team and that “the proposed program is consistent with the county’s local plan.”

OASAS Bureau of Certification received and Regional Office Recommendation Report from Hudson Regional office on September 12, 2023 indicating a positive recommendation for this action.

**Character and Competence:**

Release Recovery Centers established as a Domestic Limited Liability Corporation in December of 2021. This entity consists of four owners (shares of stock and voting rights in parenthesis):

Matthew Rinklin (42.5%) – Matthew is a Managing Director of GCM Grosvenor, a global alternative asset management solutions provider and co-founder of Release Recovery Foundation.

Samuel Bierman (7.5%) – Executive Director and Co-Founder of Polaris Recovery Center LLC/Maryland Addiction Recovery Center (MARC) and of Innovo Detox in Pennsylvania. Both of which are in good standing with their respective oversight agencies. Sam is responsible for overseeing the entire clinical and administrative operations of the organization. Sam began in the substance use disorder field as Counselor Assistant at Caron Renaissance in Boca Raton, Florida. He worked his way up to Director of Operations for Caron Ocean Drive, their program focusing on executive clientele. Sam holds a valid Certified Additional Professional credential from the Florida Certification Board. He was previously credentialed as a Certified National Drug and Alcohol Interventionist and a Certified Addictions Counselor II in the State of Pennsylvania. OASAS has determined that he meets the required substance use disorder (SUD) experience.

Zachary (Zac) Clark (42.5%) – Zac has over a decade of experience in the Behavioral Health field. Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of Release Recovery since 2017. He started Release Recovery with one transitional living facility and expanded to three in the New York City area. Zac also is a founding board member for Release Recovery Foundation, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, established in 2020 that provides scholarships to those who cannot afford treatment.

Release Recovery Foundation has created scholarships specifically for the LGBTQ+ community, minorities, college students and women.

Zachary Snitzer (7.5%) - Zach Snitzer is the Co-Founder and Corporate Director of Marketing at Polaris Recovery Center LLC/Maryland Addiction Recovery Center. In his role, Zach is responsible for the marketing, business development, outreach, branding, public relations, communications, and social media strategies of the organization.

**Overall Financial Condition of the Provider:**

The proposed annual budget identifies revenues at \$2,477,131 and expenses at \$1,556,414 leaving a total of \$920,717 in profit.

The applicant has submitted documentation to support funding for at least 6-months while the program gets up and running. The entity has begun working with third-party reimbursement to get contracts set up. The applicant will be accepting private insurance and private pay.

**Adequacy:**

The Applicant has submitted a fully executed lease which contains the required OASAS right to reentry language.

A State Environmental and Quality Review and Floor Plan Review were completed by OASAS' Facilities Evaluation and Inspection Unit (FEIU) on July 5, 2023 and determined to meet Part 814 regulatory requirements or and determined to be adequate for the proposed services.

FEIU also completed a Physical Plant Inspection on July 24, 2023 and found the facility to be in compliance.

**Compliance:**

The applicant submitted a proposed staffing plan that meets the regulatory requirements and will include:

- 1 Full-time Clinical Director, Qualified Health Professional (QHP) with experience in Substance Use Disorders also designated as the LGBTQ liaison
- 1 Full-time Medical Director, Health Coordinator Designee
- 1 Full-time Nurse Practitioner
- 1 Full-time Credentialed Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselors (CASAC) – full-time
- 3 Full-time Primary Therapists
- .50 Vocational Therapist
- 1 Certified Recovery Peer Advocate (CRPA)
- 1 Full-time Office Manager.

Policies and procedures have been reviewed for regulatory compliance and are accepted by OASAS.

**Continuity of Care:**

Release Recovery has an established network of collaborators in the community expanded connections with key community groups in developing this substance abuse treatment service.

Release has engaged in discussions with St. Vincent's Hospital in Harrison to coordinate mutual referrals, participate in local planning, and to access their methadone program. They have agreements set forth in their emergency procedures with Mountainside Chappaqua as well.

Gwith Lillian Neumann, Director of Community Outreach and Frank Britain, Director of Outpatient Services and will contract for ancillary providers such as yoga instructors and art therapies.

**Recommendation:**

OASAS recommendation is to approve the request from Release Recovery Centers, LLC to become a New OASAS Provider of Part 822 Outpatient and Outpatient Rehabilitation services with the following contingencies:

- Verification of the hiring of sufficient staff to meet regulatory requirements
- Copy of filing receipt from the NYS Department of State indicating that the amended Certificate of Incorporation/Articles of Organization, including the OASAS required language, have been filed.

Attachments: LGU recommendation, maps

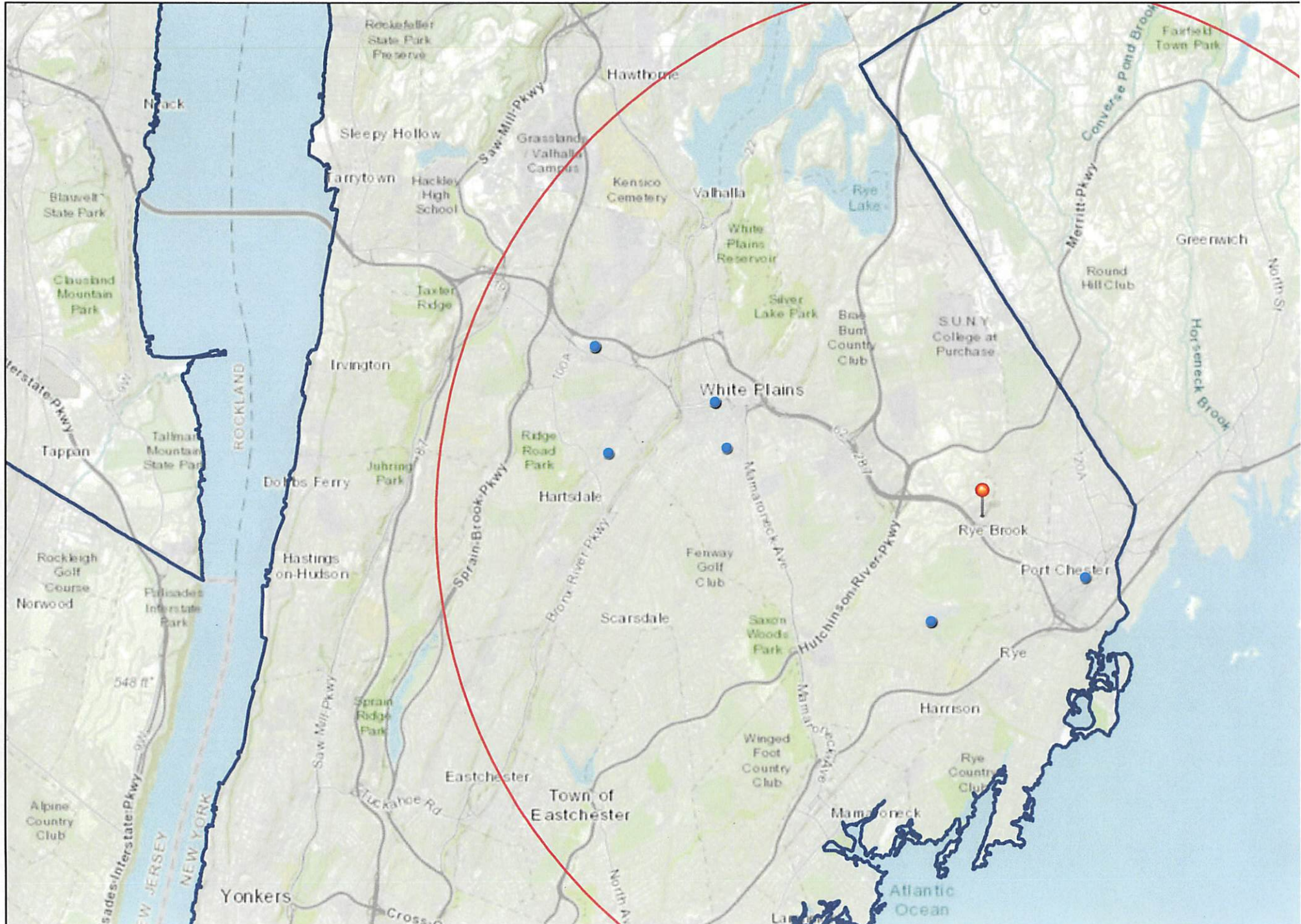
**NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF ADDICTION SERVICES AND SUPPORTS**  
**LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNIT REVIEW REPORT**  
**(Addiction Disorder Services Certification Actions)**

Applicant's Legal Name <b>Release Recovery</b>	Application No. <div style="font-size: 24px; text-align: center;">234019</div>
Local Governmental Unit <b>Westchester County</b>	
<p>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.</p>	
<b>1.</b> <b>Consistency of Program Description and Site Location with Local/OASAS Requirements</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>Program concept and location is good. The identified space is seemingly appropriate for the intended services.</p>
<b>2.</b> <b>Provider Operational Performance</b>	<p>Is the operational performance of this provider satisfactory? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable          Regardless of the answer, provide a description of the operational performance of the provider below.          This provider is new to Westchester County, but has presented well in the process. WC DCMH staff has had several conversations with Release Recovery representatives, some of whom has been involved with Sober House in the county.</p>
<b>3.</b> <b>Adequacy of Financial Plans</b>	<p>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.          Financial plan presented was acceptable. Release recovery indicated having a robust foundation that would be used to support clients without or with inadequate insurance coverage.</p> <p>Where applicable, please note any comments related to Medicaid policy and/or reimbursement practices below.          Release Recovery indicated that focus for financial reimbursement would be directed to clients with third party insurance and those with the ability to pay cash.</p>
<b>4.</b> <b>Consistency with Local Plans and Local/Community Needs</b>	<p>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.          The proposed program is consistent with the county's local plan. Westchester county is a very diverse county and the county wants to see the needs of all interested individuals met. Release recovery express interest in providing EBP and being innovative in their approach to treatment.</p>
<b>5.</b> <b>Provider Standing in the Community</b>	<p>Is there any known information regarding the provider's standing in the community? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable          Regardless of the answer, provide all known information below or on additional sheets attached to this report.          The program is just becoming known in the county and community. Feedback from individuals who have interacted with the Release Recovery team have been quite positive.</p>





# Outpatient Programs within 10 miles of 3020 Westche





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**New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports  
Bureau of Certification (OASAS)**

**M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO:** Dena Holmes  
**FROM:** Jennifer Berg  
**DATE:** September 11, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** Application Review  
Applicant: Bronx Counseling Center, LLC  
Application #: 2023.005 / 234007  
Purpose: New OASAS Provider  
County: Bronx

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**Project Summary:**

Bronx Counseling Center, LLC submitted a Certification Application requesting New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports' (OASAS) approval to become a New OASAS Provider of Part 822 Outpatient Treatment and Outpatient Rehabilitation Services to be located at 593 East Tremont Avenue, Bronx, NY 10457 co-located with Essen Healthcare medical clinic.

Bronx Counseling is proposing to offer outpatient services with comprehensive medical, mental health and support services to include psychiatric evaluations and personalized psychotherapy, trauma-informed individual and group counseling, family counseling (when appropriate), medication assisted treatment (MAT), Dialectical and Behavioral Therapy (DBT), Motivational Enhancement Therapy (MET), Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), and crisis counseling. All programming will be evidence-based, utilizing a person-centered approach.

The program proposes to provide services six (6) days per week to include weekend and evening hours. Proposed hours are:

**Outpatient**

Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday: 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday: 9am – 12pm

**Intensive Outpatient Hours**

Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday: 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday: 9am – 12pm

**Outpatient Rehabilitation Hours**

Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday: 3pm – 9pm

Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday: 9:00am -12:00pm

**Need:**

According to the applicant, primary health care physicians are seeing more and more patients presenting with co-morbid conditions and substance use disorder is one of those conditions.

The applicant referenced the following information in determining need for the proposed area: Bronx residents ages 35 to 54 had the largest number of overdose death and the number one drug of choice is fentanyl, followed by cocaine and then alcohol, according to the Department of Health. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention data reports a 36 percent surge of drug overdose deaths in 2021. According to the United States 2000 Census, the population in the Bronx consists of 63% of individuals of Hispanic origin, 26% Black, non-Hispanic individuals, 9.3% White, non-Hispanic, 1.2% Asian or Pacific Islander, less than 1% American Indian or Alaska Native, less than 1% are some other race (non-Hispanic), and 1.7% who are two or more races (non-Hispanic).

The OASAS provider dashboard identifies many certified outpatient substance use disorder programs within the area, however only one other in the Community Board 6 district.

While there are established substance use treatment providers in the community, Bronx Counseling Center proposes a direct avenue for these individuals to be seen and therefore potentially alleviating any overload of patients on other organizations.

The applicant provided meeting minutes from October 13, 2021 Bronx Community Board #6 meeting at which they presented their project. At this meeting, the Community Board did not vote in support of this project, with twelve oppositions and thirteen abstentions.

In a follow up letter dated August 17, 2022, the Community Board indicated that the primary concerns raised from the membership was the over-saturation of drug treatment facilities in the Community Board 6 and the locations where Bronx Counseling is possessing is already served by another certified provider. The letter also indicates that Bronx Counseling presented their plan to the Health and Human Services Committee on April 21, 2021, and the community voted against providing a letter of support.

The applicant sent a response letter to the Community Board on July 11, 2023. They indicated the intention is not to impact existing services or create an economic hardship in the neighborhood. Dr. Saghal indicates that in her experience of providing direct care in the neighborhood and the New York City Department of Health Epi Data Brief, that Bronx had the highest rate of unintentional overdose deaths, increasing from 2018 to 2021. The expressed desire to focus on the continuum of care and work together with the Community Board.

According to the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's 2023 Goals and Plans, they identify Reduction of substance use-related morbidity and mortality in NYC, with a focus on neighborhoods experiencing the highest burden of drug overdose death, which are primarily high poverty neighborhoods comprised of Black and Latinx communities as Goal #2.

On September 8, 2023, OASAS Bureau of Certification received a complete Local Government Review Recommendation from the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene with a positive recommendation for this action.

The OASAS Bureau of Certification received a completed Regional Office Review Recommendation from OASAS' New York City Regional Office on September 11, 2023 noting a positive recommendation for this application.

**Character and Competence:**

Bronx Counseling Centers, LLC established as a Domestic Limited Liability Corporation in April of 2021. This entity consists of three owners (shares of stock and voting rights in parenthesis):

**Dr. Nidhi Sahgal** (80%) is a licensed Medical Doctor currently working for Essen Health Care. Dr. Sahgal's approach is to treat the whole patient and fully understand the impact addiction has on the mental and physical well-being of those she serves. She supports "individualized" patient care and prides herself in her relationships with her patients. She has been working indirectly with chemical dependence services throughout her years of practice. She fully understands the benefits of incorporating SUD services into an existing primary care and behavioral health system as a comprehensive and holistic approach to patient care.

Dr. Sahgal also has an established Domestic Professional Service Limited Liability Company, Nidhi Sahgal, M.D. PLLC, which was established in December of 2007.

**Imelda Tavas, MD** (10%) is currently the Executive Director of NYREACH, a non-profit 501c3 organization that provides community health services and workforce development programs to underserved communities. She has 15 years of healthcare management experience and is also the Chief Administrative Officer at Essen Health Care, a multi-specialty private practice in the Bronx. She oversees a care management agency in NYS which provide care coordination services to high risk/high need patients in the underserved communities. She also manages the Academic and Training division providing unique workforce development programs to its employees and external partners. Imelda holds a Doctor of Medicine degree from the Philippines and has over 15 years of Healthcare Management Experience.

**Hans Desnoyers** (10%) holds a Master's degree in Social Work from Fordham University and currently practices in New York State as a Licensed Master's Social Worker. He demonstrates experience working in OASAS-certified programs for nearly 15 years and therefore the substance use disorder experience as required by OASAS.

**Overall Financial Condition of the Provider:**

The proposed annual budget identifies revenues at \$347,941 and expenses at \$436,051 leaving a deficit of \$88,110 for the first year. The applicant indicated that they believe this to be a reasonable projection for the first-year startup phase. They anticipate an unpredicted number of patients and an unpredictability of their participation in the program.

Bronx Counseling Center, LLC, has submitted documentation of sufficient funds to sustain the initial 6-months of startup.

OASAS' Regional Office indicated that the budget, while showing a shortfall, was projected only for the first year of operation and according to the applicant they anticipate growth in subsequent years that will yield higher revenues. The Regional Office stated that the applicant was willing to assume responsibility for any losses during the first year.

**Adequacy:**

The applicant has submitted a lease which includes the OASAS right to reentry language.

OASAS Facility Evaluation and Inspection Unit (FEIU) completed a State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) on July 5, 2023 indicating no further environmental review was needed.

OASAS FEIU completed a Physical Plant Inspection on July 12, 2023 and a Floor Plan Review on July 24, 2023. Findings from these reviews indicated the need for smoke detectors to be installed, which was completed on 7/30/23.

**Compliance:**

The applicant submitted a staffing plan which meets regulatory requirements and includes:

Director – 1 Full-time (CASAC, QHP other)  
Medical Director - .50FTE  
Executive Director – 1 Full-time  
Registered Nurse – 1 Full-time  
Licensed Practical Nurse – 1 Full-time  
CASAC – 1 Full-time  
Certified Peer Recovery Advocate – 1 Full-time

Policies and procedures have been reviewed for regulatory compliance and are accepted by OASAS.

**Continuity of Care:**

The applicant proposes to operate Part 822 Outpatient and Outpatient Rehabilitation services to be co-located with Essen Healthcare which offers a multitude of medical services.

The program will accommodate pregnant women with medical monitoring and/or referrals to pre-natal care. Those individuals who are found to be dually diagnosed will work with the psychiatrist and therapist for continued evaluation and medication management. Cooperative agreements will be placed with the criminal justice system to report on patient compliance and progress in the program. An LGBTQ liaison will be available to accommodate LGBTQ patients.

**Recommendation:**

OASAS recommendation is to approve the request from Bronx Counseling Center, LLC to become a New OASAS Provider of Part 822 Outpatient and Outpatient Rehabilitation services with the following contingencies:

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


Effective Date:

Attachments: LGU recommendation, map

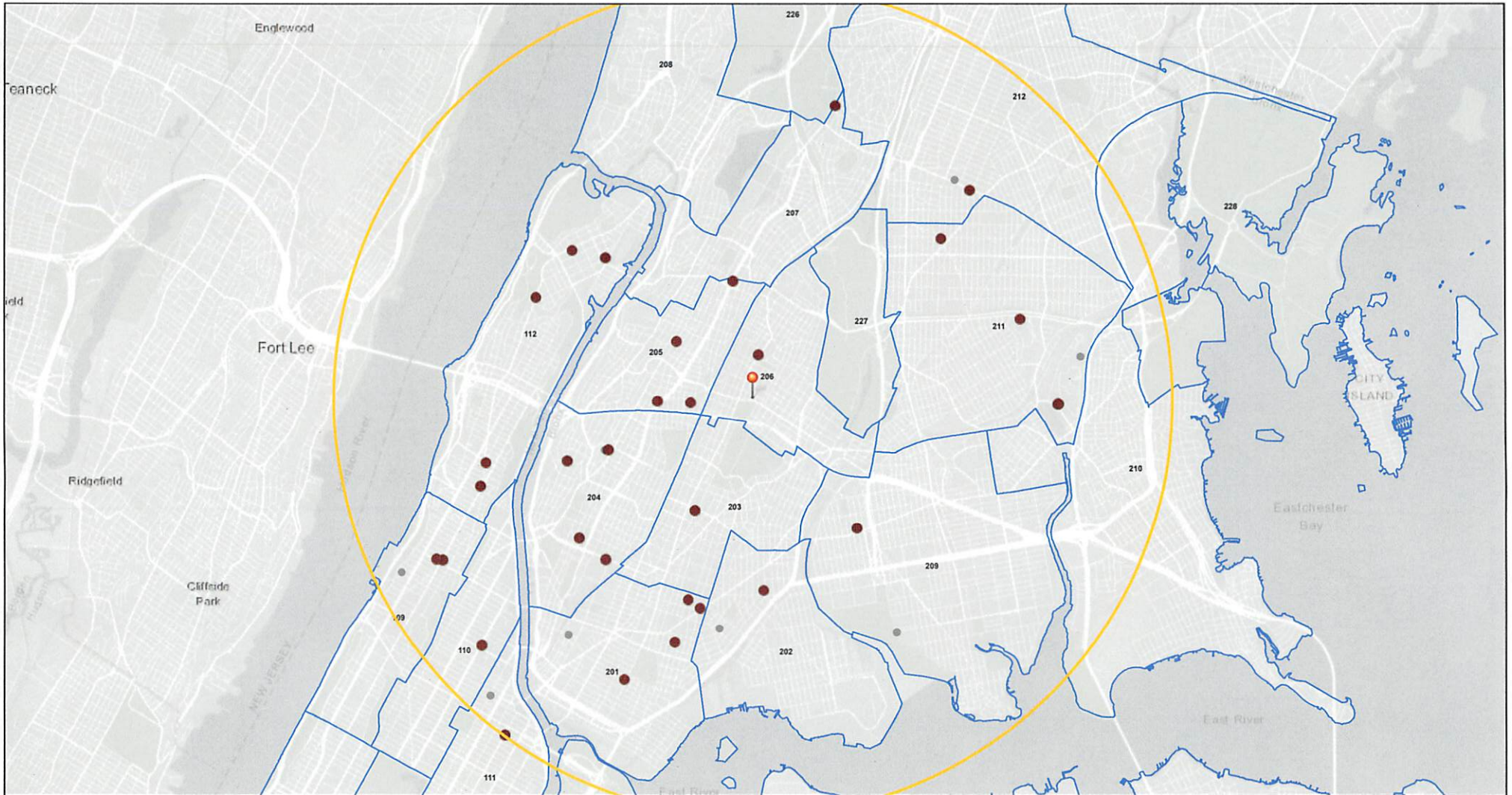
**NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF ADDICTION SERVICES AND SUPPORTS**  
**LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNIT REVIEW REPORT**  
**(Addiction Disorder Services Certification Actions)**

Applicant's Legal Name Bronx Counseling Center	Application No. CON# 234007
Local Governmental Unit New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene	
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. <b>Your cooperation in providing complete and thorough responses is appreciated as incomplete replies will delay the processing of this application.</b>	
<b>1.</b> <b>Consistency of Program Description and Site Location with Local/OASAS Requirements</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>This application is for a new OASAS provider of Part 822 outpatient treatment. The applicant, Bronx Counseling Center plans to co-locate this new program with their existing Article 28 Essen Health-care, operating at 593 E. Tremont Ave, Bronx, NY, 10457. The applicant plans to provide substance use care to individuals 18+ and to their significant others. Participants will have access to medical and mental health care including MAT (Buprenorphine) and overdose (NARCAN) services in 1-stop model.</p>
<b>2.</b> <b>Provider Operational Performance</b>	<p>Is the operational performance of this provider satisfactory? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable Regardless of the answer, provide a description of the operational performance of the provider below.</p> <p>This is not an allocated provider and the Department can only go by the information provided on the application. The information appears to indicate that operational performance of this provider would be satisfactory.</p>
<b>3.</b> <b>Adequacy of Financial Plans</b>	<p>Is the financial plan in the proposal adequate and acceptable? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable Provide explanation below.</p> <p>This is not an allocated provider and the Department can only look at the information provided in the application. This information appears to be acceptable.</p> <p>Where applicable, please note any comments related to Medicaid policy and/or reimbursement practices below. The applicant will collect revenues from Medicaid (Managed Care), Medicaid (fee for service), Medicare, Private insurance (managed care), Private insurance (fee for service) and client/patient self-pay fees.</p>
<b>4.</b> <b>Consistency with Local Plans and Local/Community Needs</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>In New York City, rates of overdose death are the highest since reporting began in 2000. Residents of the Bronx had the highest rate of overdose death (70.6 per 100,000 per residents) according to the 2021 NYC Epi Data. The applicant is seeking to open a new substance use treatment program in the Crotona-Tremont area of the Bronx which has the second highest overdose death rates in NYC.</p>
<b>5.</b> <b>Provider Standing in the Community</b>	<p>Is there any known information regarding the provider's standing in the community? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable Regardless of the answer, provide all known information below or on additional sheets attached to this report.</p> <p>This will be a new OASAS provider with an existing article 28 program and offering participants the opportunity to receive medical, mental health and substance use care in the same facility. The applicant plans to offer psychiatric evaluations, trauma informed care, MAT and other forms of therapies that are evidenced based and utilizing a person centered approach.</p>



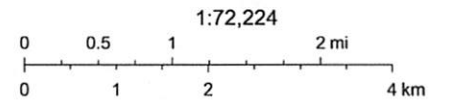
<p>6.</p> <p><b>Program Location</b></p>	<p>In answering this question, the following should be taken into consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the location is suitable for an Addiction Disorder Treatment Program;</li> <li>(b) the accessibility of public transportation and adequate parking; and</li> <li>(c) any other notable observations.</li> </ul> <p>Please describe your assessment of the circumstances noted.</p> <p>This site is in a mixed residential/commercial area. Street parking is available. In addition, the programs are accessible by public bus (BX36) and subway (#4).</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>N/A</p>		
<p>7.</p> <p><b>Current Status of Existing Programs</b></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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Please describe any issues.</p> <p>There are no known issues to the DOHMH</p>		
<p>8.</p> <p><b>Community Response</b></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 applicant presented their plan to Community Board 6 on October 31, 2021, with the hopes to securing their support. The board voted unanimously to not support this endeavor and, in a letter, dated August 17, 2022, addressed to the applicant they outlined their reasons citing over-saturation of substance use programs in community board 6. The applicant has received written endorsement from state elected officials citing the dire concerns of overdose deaths in the Bronx, the borough with the highest rate in NYC.</p>		
<p>9.</p> <p><b>Other Comments</b></p>	<p>Provide additional comments.</p> <p>N/A</p>		
<p>10.</p> <p><b>LGU Recommendation</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Disapprove</p>	<p>Signature of Authorized LGU Official</p> 	<p>Date</p> <p>9/8/23</p>

# Outpatient Clinics in 5mi radius of 593 East Tremont Ave



8/11/2023, 9:42:14 AM

- 5. Outpatient: Outpatient Clinic
- 5. Outpatient: Outpatient Clinic Additional Location
- NYC Community Districts



NYC OpenData, State of New Jersey, Esri, HERE, Garmin, GeoTechnologies, Inc., USGS, EPA, Esri, HERE



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**New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports  
Bureau of Certification (OASAS)**

**M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO:** Dena Holmes  
**FROM:** W. Braford Ellis  
**DATE:** 9/11/23  
**SUBJECT:** Application Review  
Applicant: Professional Counseling Services, Inc.  
Application #: CA 2023.038, CON 230490  
Purpose: Change in Ownership  
County: Onondaga

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**Project Summary:**

Professional Counseling Services, Inc. submitted a Certification Application requesting New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports' (OASAS) approval for change in ownership. Operating certificate #12121 will be affected by this application.

The previous owner of Professional Counselling Services Inc., Darlene Angelicchio passed away unexpectedly on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022. She had retained 100% ownership and voting rights to Professional Counselling Services Inc. Three current employees Kristin Botwinick, Jefferey Mahar and Carolyn Morgan are proposing to purchase the business from her estate.

The plan, according to the applicant, is for the new owners to continue providing substance use disorder services with no changes to mission, services to patients, staffing or policy and procedures.

**Need:**

Professional Counseling Services, Inc. has been providing these services located at 5700 West Genesee Street, Camillus, New York in Onondaga County since their establishment on December 13, 2018. The applicant has stated that this Program has been of great service to the community and services should continue through the proposed change in ownership.

According to the OASAS Data Client System in 2022 the provider had a total of 200 admissions. The data also indicated that the current census as of June 2023 was approximately 96 clients.

The applicant met with the Town of Camillus Supervisor and provided information on the programs offered by the agency. The Town of Camillus Supervisor provided the agency a letter of support dated July 11, 2022, which was included in their application.

According to the Onondaga County Department of Health's 2023 Goals and Plans enhancing access to treatment and non-treatment services is one of the county goals. They also indicated goals to increase access to drug and alcohol "Harm reduction" supports and services in the community.

The Onondaga County Local Government Unit (LGU) recommendation in support of this application was received on August 31, 2023.

The Central Regional Office's recommendation in support of this application was received on September 9, 2023.

**Character and Competence:**

There will be no changes in the name, incorporation status, the location or services offered under the new ownership structure. A signed purchase agreement with the former owner's estate to purchase the 50 shares that comprise 100 percent ownership was completed on 7/26/23. The new ownership will consist of three owners, listed below is the breakdown of ownership, new roles within the company and experience for each individual. All three proposed owners meet the required experience within the substance use disorder treatment field.

- Kristin Botwinski will purchase 16.67 shares, which equates to 33.34 percent ownership and voting rights. Kristin Botwinski will become the new CEO. Kristin Botwinski has been with Professional Counseling Services for over 20 years and currently serves as the Clinical Director. Kristin Botwinck is a Licensed Clinical Social worker-R.
- Carolyn Morgan will purchase 16.67 shares, which equates to 33.34 percent ownership and voting rights. Carolyn Morgan will become the new CFO. Carolyn Morgan has been with Professional Counseling Services for 2 ½ years. Carolyn has three and half years working in the addictions field and holds a CASAC-Advanced credential.
- Jeff Mahar will purchase 16.66 shares, which equates to 33.32 percent in ownership and voting rights. Jeff Mahr will become the new COO. Jeff Mahr has been with Professional Counseling Services for 1 ½ years. Currently his role at the agency is that of Primary Counselor where he is conducting individual and group counseling. Prior to his employment at Professional Counseling Services, he had eight years working in the substance treatment field as a case manager and support staff. Jeffrey Mahar holds a Bachelor of Arts in Human Services and currently holds a CASAC-Trainee certification.

Over the past five years, Professional Counseling Services has received partial or substantial compliance at their recertification reviews. Their most recent review was in September of 2022 of which they received partial compliance and were issued a two-year operating certificate.

**Overall Financial Condition of the Provider:**

According to the most recent fiscal review completed by OASAS Fiscal Audit and Review Unit on March 29, 2023, Professional Counseling Services Inc. is considered fiscally viable. There will be no changes to the budget based on this action.

**Adequacy:**

The new owners are not changing the location, floorplan or how the space is currently being utilized for treatment services. The current site had been inspected by FEIU and is compliant with the regulations to operate Part 822 Outpatient services.

**Compliance:**

There will be no changes to the staffing pattern as a result of this change in ownership application. The staffing currently consists of a Medical Director, Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Director, Utilization Review and Quality Assurance Officer, 4 full time clinicians, 2 part time clinicians and three support staff. The current staffing pattern was examined during the providers last review on 9/20/22. The current staffing program meets the OASAS staffing requirements to operate Part 822 Outpatient Services.

The new owners will be utilizing existing Policies and Procedures, which were last reviewed on 9/20/22 during the programs scheduled recertification review.

**Recommendation:**

OASAS recommendation is to approve the request from Professional Counseling Services, Inc. for a change in ownership with the following contingencies:

- Receipt of a copy of the fully executed Purchase Agreement.


Effective Date:

Attachments: PPD-6, Map

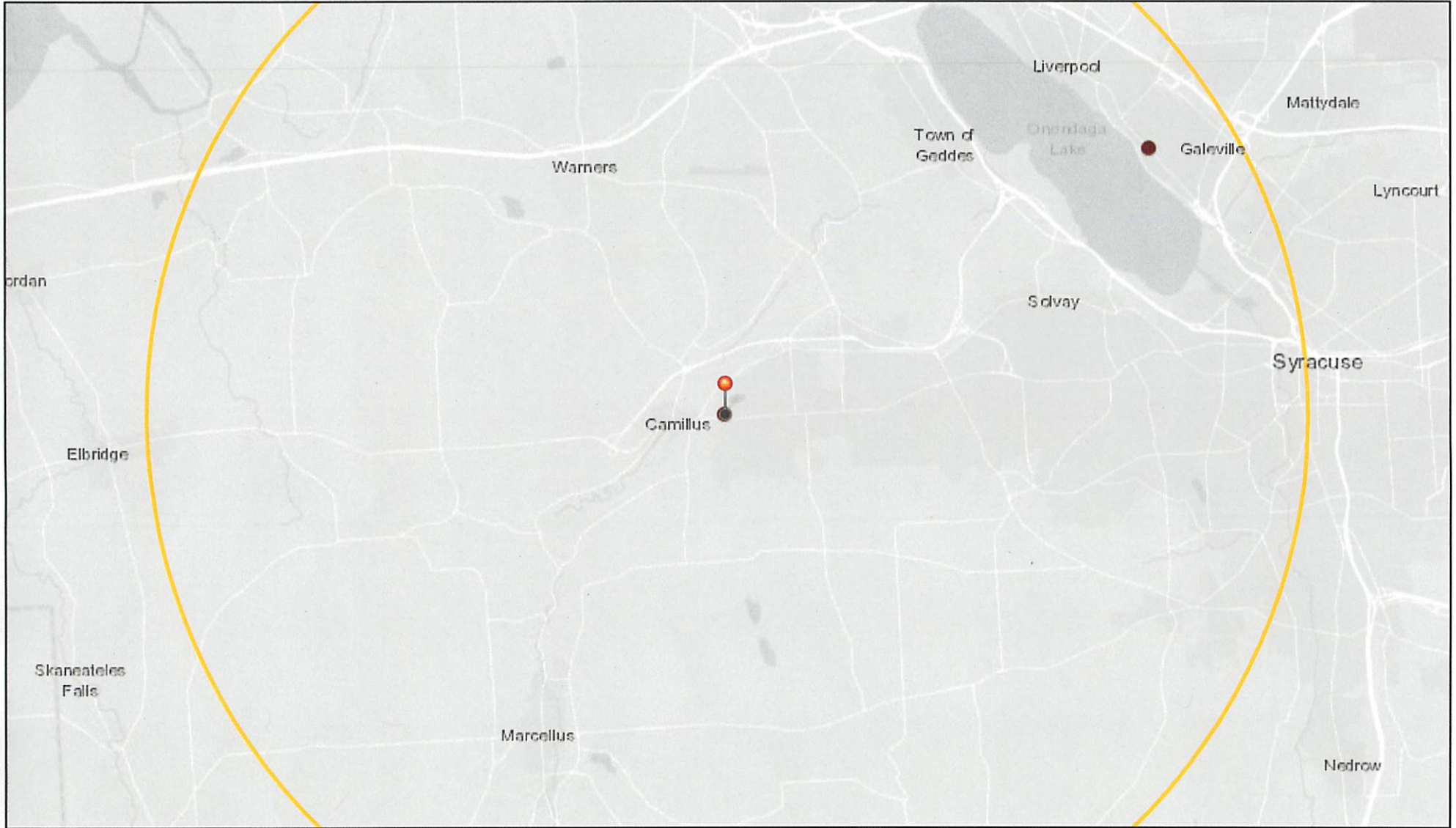
NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF ADDICTION SERVICES AND SUPPORTS  
**LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNIT REVIEW REPORT**  
 (Addiction Disorder Services Certification Actions)

Applicant's Legal Name Professional Services Counseling	Application No. 234049
Local Governmental Unit Onondaga County	
<p>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.</p>	
<b>1.</b> 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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable    Provide explanation below.
<b>2.</b> 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.
<b>3.</b> 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.  Where applicable, please note any comments related to Medicaid policy and/or reimbursement practices below.
<b>4.</b> 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.
<b>5.</b> 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. Existing provider to continue existing services.



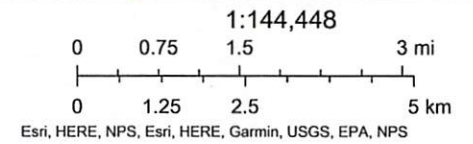
<p>6.</p> <p><b>Program Location</b></p>	<p>In answering this question, the following should be taken into consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the location is suitable for an Addiction Disorder Treatment Program;</li> <li>(b) the accessibility of public transportation and adequate parking; and</li> <li>(c) any other notable observations.</li> </ul> <p>Please describe your assessment of the circumstances noted. Existing provider continuing existing services in existing locations.</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>7.</p> <p><b>Current Status of Existing Programs</b></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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Please describe any issues.</p>		
<p>8.</p> <p><b>Community Response</b></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>Outreach was made to the LGU</p>		
<p>9.</p> <p><b>Other Comments</b></p>	<p>Provide additional comments.</p>		
<p>10.</p> <p><b>LGU Recommendation</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Disapprove</p>	<p>Signature of Authorized LGU Official</p> 	<p>Date</p> <p>8/29/23</p>

# ArcGIS Web Map



8/29/2023, 2:23:32 PM

● 5. Outpatient: Outpatient Clinic



**New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports  
Bureau of Certification (OASAS)**

**M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO:** Dena Holmes  
**FROM:** Jeffrey Capitummino  
**DATE:** August 25, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** Application Review  
Applicant: Wellness In Inwood LLC  
Application# CON: 234006 / CA: 2023.004  
Purpose: New OASAS Provider / Part 822  
County: New York

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**Project Summary:**

Wellness In Inwood LLC submitted a Certification Application requesting New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports' (OASAS) approval to become a New Provider of Part 822 services to be located at 148 Post Avenue (1st floor) New York, NY 10034.

Wellness In Inwood LLC, a Limited Liability Company established on September 21, 2022, is applying to provide Substance Use Disorder (SUD) services to adults within Manhattan's Inwood community, as well as the entire city of New York. They will especially focus on providing culturally sensitive programming for the Hispanic population. The majority of individuals specifically targeted by Wellness In Inwood's services will generally have the following characteristics: members of an insular community, distrust and unfamiliarity with people from outside their own community, deep concern with assimilation, and the challenge of transmission of values to a new generation of youth.

**Need:**

In their 2023 County Plan, the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene identified the goal of reducing substance use-related morbidity and mortality in NYC, focusing on neighborhoods experiencing the highest burden of drug overdose death, primarily high-poverty localities comprised of Black and Latinx communities.

According to the most recent available demographic figures from CoreData NYC, New York City's housing and neighborhoods data hub, in 2019, there were an estimated 204,096 people in Washington Heights/Inwood, of which 67.9% identified as Hispanic, 19.2% identified as White, 7.9% identified as Black, and 2.5% of the population identified as Asian.

On February 28, 2022, Eleazar Bueno, the Chairperson of Community Board #12 representing Washington Heights & Inwood in Manhattan, wrote a letter of complete support for Wellness In Inwoods' application. The Community Board Chairperson identified this proposed area as "the most prominent Dominican community in the United States" and opined that due to their "insular nature and social mores", they suffer because of "unique challenges regarding knowledge of addiction and the courage to seek treatment for the same."

On October 15, 2021, a letter of support was written on behalf of the applicant's OASAS proposal by Terrence Stevens, founder and Chief Executive Officer of "In Arms Reach, INC" located in the Inwood section of Manhattan. The supporters organization provides youth (ages 7-18) whose parents are, or were formerly, offenders of the criminal justice system with arts, counseling, educational mentoring, college prep, and free prison visitations. In his letter, CEO Stevens extended complete support for "a new treatment center that would be culturally sensitive to the Hispanic and overall minority community within the area."

The New York City Local Government Unit's recommendation in support of this application was received by the Bureau of Certification on July 13, 2023.

The OASAS New York City Regional Office recommendation in support this application was received by the Bureau of Certification on August 8, 2023.

**Character and Competence:**

Elizabeth Urena, the owner and Executive Director of Wellness In Inwood LLC, previously worked in the substance abuse treatment field for twelve years. Elizabeth started work as a case manager/substance use disorder counselor in 2003 for the Harlem East Life Plan in New York City, an OASAS-licensed Part 822 outpatient treatment program. Elizabeth remained in this role through 2010, providing comprehensive case management services with a caseload of 35 patients. Some of her duties in this role included conducting psychosocial assessments for newly admitted patients, determining specific treatment needs, and developing appropriate individualized treatment plans.

In 2010, Elizabeth was promoted to Assistant Administrator at Harlem East Life. In her new role, Elizabeth supervised up to 13 Case Managers in the programs substance use disorder Part 822; other duties included coordinating the orientation and training of staff, ensuring clients received appropriate services by conducting case conferences with the program's multi-disciplinary team, attendance at weekly meetings with administration/department supervisors to assure that coordination of services complied with regulations, and assisted administration by providing oversight to program staff. Elizabeth has demonstrated the substance use disorder experience as required by OASAS.

Since 2017, Elizabeth has been the Executive Director of both the Golden Era Social Adult Day Care and the Easy Choice Agency, a home health agency, both located in New York City.

Elizabeth Urena is the sole stockholder of Wellness In Inwood, with 100% of both the shares of stock and voting rights.

**Overall Financial Condition of the Provider:**

The proposed annual budget identifies revenues at \$765,440 and expenses at \$543,360, leaving a total of \$222,080 in profit. The New York City OASAS Regional Office notes that the "proposed budget revenue will cover expenses."

The applicant submitted the required documentation demonstrating available sufficient funding for the initial six months while the program gets underway.

**Adequacy:**

The lease for the proposed site has been reviewed by the Bureau of Certification and found to contain OASAS' required right to re-entry language.

On May 2, 2023, the OASAS Facilities Evaluation and Inspection Unit completed a State Environmental Quality Review, which determined that the proposed site, 148 Post Avenue, New York, NY 10034, did not require further environmental review.

On August 1, 2023, The OASAS FEIU completed a floor plan review of the proposed space, which appears to comply with regulations.

**Compliance:**

The applicant submitted a staffing plan for the proposed Part 822 outpatient location which meets regulatory requirements: one full-time Clinical Director, one full-time program director, one part-time Medical Director, one part-time nurse, one full-time Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC), one full-time Counselor (CASAC-Trainee), and one part-time Certified Recovery Peer Advocate (CRPA).

Policies and procedures have been reviewed for regulatory compliance and are accepted by OASAS.

**Continuity of Care:**

Wellness In Inwood plans to offer individualized and group counseling focused on reducing or stopping the addict's illicit drug use. Therapy is designed to address related areas of impaired functioning, such as employment status, illegal activity, family/social relations, as well as the content and structure of the client's recovery program. Counseling staff will encourage 12-step participation and make referrals for needed supplemental medical, psychiatric, employment, and other services. Also, designated counseling staff will work to engage clients in proactive, post-discharge continuing care planning that will incorporate medication management for those in need.

The applicant has initiated linkage arrangements with several localized medical care providers, including hospitals, mental health outpatient clinics, inpatient detoxification, crisis services, and emergency medical providers within the regional Manhattan area.

**Recommendation:**

OASAS recommendation is to approve the request from Wellness In Inwood LLC for a New OASAS Provider/ Part 822 with the following contingencies:


- Verification of the hiring of sufficient staff to meet regulatory requirements
- OASAS inspection and approval of the completed facility (Physical Plant Certification Inspection (APPCI) scheduled for Tuesday, 9/19/23 at 4:00 PM)
- Copy of filing receipt from the NYS Department of State indicating that the amended Certificate of Incorporation/Articles of Organization, including the OASAS required language, have been filed.

Attachments: LGU recommendation, maps



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

Applicant's Legal Name Wellness In Inwood	Application No. CA #2023.004 / NYSECON #234006
Local Governmental Unit New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene	
<p>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. <b>Your cooperation in providing complete and thorough responses is appreciated as incomplete replies will delay the processing of this application.</b></p>	
<b>1.</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>The Provider, Wellness in Inwood, proposes to establish at 3843 10th Avenue New York, NY 10034 a comprehensive outpatient program providing treatment for alcohol and other drugs (AOD) to the Hispanic Community. This will include individual counseling, groups, evidenced based practices, harm reduction education and naloxone, and medication for addiction treatment including on-site access to buprenorphine.</p>
<b>2.</b>	<p>Is the operational performance of this provider satisfactory? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable          Regardless of the answer, provide a description of the operational performance of the provider below.</p> <p>Wellness In Inwood is not an allocated provider. The Department can only look at information in this application which appears to be satisfactory.</p>
<b>3.</b>	<p>Is the financial plan in the proposal adequate and acceptable? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable          Provide explanation below.</p> <p>Wellness In Inwood is not an allocated provider. The Department can only look at information in this application which appears to be satisfactory.</p> <p>Where applicable, please note any comments related to Medicaid policy and/or reimbursement practices below.          Payer mix consists of private health insurance, self-pay fees, and Medicaid Managed Care.</p>
<b>4.</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>The proposed site is located at 3863 10th Avenue New York, NY 10034 in Upper Manhattan, which is in proximity to Central Harlem and East Harlem, as well as five neighborhoods in the Bronx with rates of overdose death exceeding the New York City average, 2021.</p>
<b>5.</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>In Arms Reach, a similar SUD program affiliated with City College of the City University of New York, offered endorsement and support of this new treatment center that would be culturally sensitive to the Hispanic and overall minority Community within the Upper Manhattan area.</p>

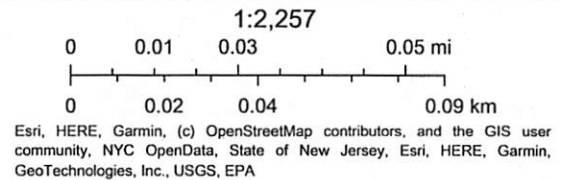
<p>6.</p> <p><b>Program Location</b></p>	<p>In answering this question, the following should be taken into consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the location is suitable for an Addiction Disorder Treatment Program;</li> <li>(b) the accessibility of public transportation and adequate parking; and</li> <li>(c) any other notable observations.</li> </ul> <p>Please describe your assessment of the circumstances noted.</p>		
	<p>Please check one box.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> LGU has visited the proposed location. <span style="float: right;">Date of Visit: _____</span></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 proposed location is accessible by public transportation (IRT #1 and IND A subway lines to 207th Street and several bus routes M4, M100, and M101).</p>		
<p>7.</p> <p><b>Current Status of Existing Programs</b></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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Please describe any issues.</p> <p>None at this time.</p>		
<p>8.</p> <p><b>Community Response</b></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>Manhattan Community Board #12 provided a letter on February 28, 2022 acknowledging the proposed plans of Wellness In Inwood to open new treatment services at 3863 10th Avenue New York, NY 10034.</p>		
<p>9.</p> <p><b>Other Comments</b></p>	<p>Provide additional comments.</p> <p>N/A.</p>		
<p>10.</p> <p><b>LGU Recommendation</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Disapprove</p>	<p>Signature of Authorized LGU Official</p> 	<p>Date</p> <p>7/13/23</p>

# ArcGIS Web Map



9/5/2023, 9:22:40 AM

- 5. Outpatient: Outpatient Clinic



**New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports  
Bureau of Certification (OASAS)**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Dena Holmes  
**FROM:** Jeffrey Capitemmino  
**DATE:** August 25, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** Application Review  
Applicant: LITC BH LLC  
Application #: CON: 234036 / CA: 2023.028  
Purpose: New OASAS Provider  
County: Nassau

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**Project Summary:**

LITC BH LLC submitted an application requesting the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports' (OASAS) approval to become a New OASAS Provider of Part 822 outpatient and outpatient rehabilitation services to be located at 100 West Nicholai Street, Hicksville, NY 11801. LITC would supplant the existing OASAS Certified Long Island Treatment Center, currently operating a Part 822 outpatient and outpatient rehabilitation services at the proposed Hicksville, NY site.

Program hours will remain the same: Monday (1 pm-9 pm), Tuesday (8 am-9 pm), Wednesday (1 pm-9 pm), and Thursday – Sunday (8 am-4 pm).

**Need:**

According to the New York State Department of Health's Nassau County Opioid Quarterly Report, published in April of 2022: From January 2021 through December 2021 Nassau County tragically experienced 177 deaths related to opioid overdoses. In their Quarterly Report, Nassau County revealed 473 emergency room visits due to opioid overdoses. Also, the report discovered that the number of admissions to OASAS-certified chemical dependency treatment programs for any opioid was 2,766. According to the Department of Health Data Report from June 2020, there were 4,193 admissions to OASAS-certified substance use disorder treatment programs throughout 2019 in Nassau County for opioid use.

A report released by the Opioid Crisis Action Plan Task Force in October 2019 highlights \$8 billion a year in medical costs, lost worker productivity, and economic losses directly relating to the opioid crisis on Long Island.

LITC did a considerable amount of community outreach concerning this proposed New OASAS Provider application. In addition to the Nassau County Office of Mental Health, Chemical Dependency, and Developmental Disabilities, LITC reached out to over fifteen local treatment providers and received a great deal of support in addition to pledges of referrals and hopes of future collaboration.

The Nassau County Office of Mental Health, Chemical Dependency & Developmental Disabilities Services recommendation in support of this application was received on August 17, 2023.

The Long Island Regional Office's recommendation in support of this application was received on August 25, 2023.

**Character and Competence:**

LITC BH LLC was established as a Domestic Limited Liability Company on August 25, 2022, with a Governing Authority consisting of three members (shares of stock and voting rights in parenthesis): Vicki Drazin (50%) has a social work background, working as a crisis interventionist from 2012-2021 for Chai Lifeline, Inc., a not-for-profit support organization that provides support and services for children, families, and communities affected by trauma and medical calamity. Daniel Schaffer (40%), a Licensed Nursing Home Administrator (LNHA), is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Recreate Behavioral Health Network, LLC, located in the state of Florida, and the Executive Vice President of Ventura Services LLC, a financial services company based out of New Jersey. Esther Kahan (10%), a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) / Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC), is currently the Clinical Manager at the Derech Shalom Center, in Suffern, NY, which provides case management crisis services to individuals and families. Esther has demonstrated to have the substance use disorder experience as required by OASAS.

**Overall Financial Condition of the Provider:**

The proposed annual budget identifies revenues at \$1,342,100 and expenses at \$939,178.14 leaving a total of \$402,921.86 in profit.

The OASAS Long Island Regional Office did not report concerns after a review of the applicants budget.

The applicant submitted the required documentation demonstrating available sufficient funding for the initial six months, while the program gets underway.

**Adequacy:**

The lease provided by LITC BH LLC has been reviewed and found to contain the OASAS required right to re-entry language.

A State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) was completed by the OASAS Field Evaluation and Inspection Unit (FEIU) on June 26, 2023, and they determined the proposed program space will not require further environmental review.

FEIU completed a physical plant inspection on July 17, 2023, and found the facility to be in compliance with no known deficiencies.

**Compliance:**

LITC will retain the current regulatory compliant staffing at the Long Island Treatment Center for their Part 822 outpatient programs. They will also utilize the policies and procedures in use by the current operator which were initially reviewed in December 2021, during program recertification of the Long Island Treatment Center, and attested to by both the LITC CEO, Daniel Schaffer, and Medical Director, Dr. Tildabeth Doscher.

**Continuity of Care:**

All LITC clients will receive a comprehensive Substance Use Disorder assessment that is reviewed by a multi-disciplinary team, a nursing assessment, and medication-assisted treatment if indicated. The need for psychiatric and medical services is addressed through consultation with their medical team, and, if necessary, referral arrangements are made if services are determined to be outside the scope of LITC providers.

Program case managers assist with referrals to support services as they prepare clients for recovery-oriented, independent living. The LITC treatment team assists their clients with engaging in a healthy recovery lifestyle and developing strong sober support networks, including all self-help support programs. The treatment milieu includes trauma-informed individual and group counseling, family counseling, integrated treatment for dually diagnosed clients, psychiatric evaluations, Dialectical and Behavioral Therapy (DBT), Motivational Enhancement Therapy (MET), Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), and crisis counseling.

**Recommendation:**

OASAS recommendation is to Approve the request from LITC BH LLC to become a New OASAS provider of Part 822 Outpatient and Outpatient Rehabilitation Services with the following contingency:

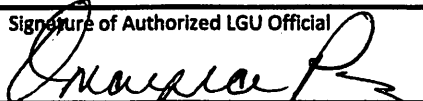
- Copy of filing receipt from the NYS Department of State indicating that the amended Certificate of Incorporation/Articles of Organization, including the OASAS required language, have been filed.

Attachments: LGU recommendation (PPD-6)

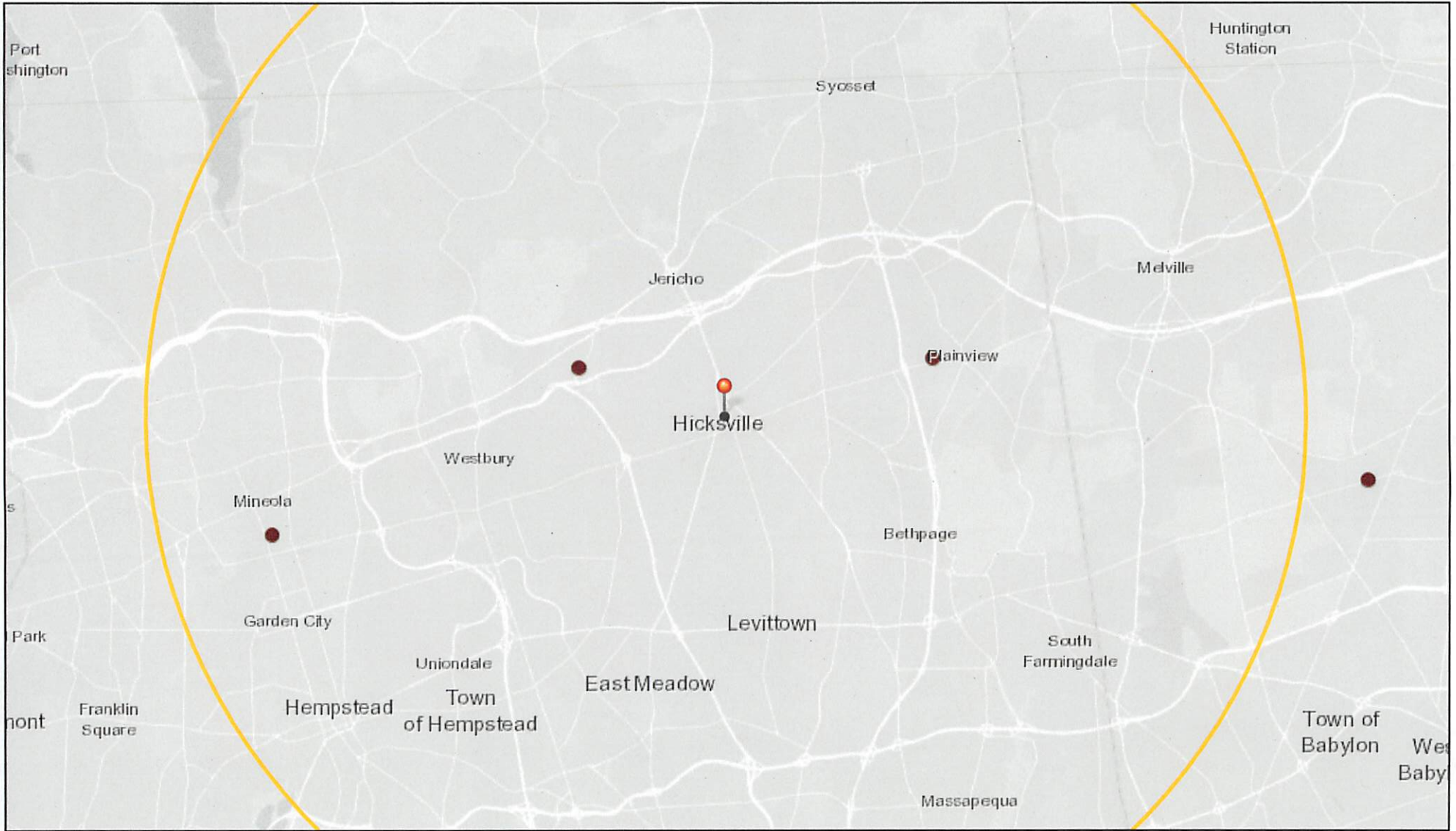


**NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF ADDICTION SERVICES AND SUPPORTS**  
**LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNIT REVIEW REPORT**  
**(Addiction Disorder Services Certification Actions)**

Applicant's Legal Name <b>LITC BH LLC</b>	Application No. <b>234036</b>
Local Governmental Unit <b>Nassau County Office of Mental Health, Chemical Dependency and Developmental Disabilities Services</b>	
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.	
<b>1.</b> <b>Consistency of Program Description and Site Location with Local/OASAS Requirements</b>	In the case of new providers and/or new services, is the program description and site location consistent with local/OASAS requirements: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable Provide explanation below.
<b>2.</b> <b>Provider Operational Performance</b>	Is the operational performance of this provider satisfactory? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable Regardless of the answer, provide a description of the operational performance of the provider below. <b>Unknown</b>
<b>3.</b> <b>Adequacy of Financial Plans</b>	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. <b>Based on the budget outlined in the Prior Consult form and discussed with the LI Regional Office and applicant, it appears the financial plan is adequate and acceptable.</b>  Where applicable, please note any comments related to Medicaid policy and/or reimbursement practices below.
<b>4.</b> <b>Consistency with Local Plans and Local/Community Needs</b>	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.
<b>5.</b> <b>Provider Standing in the Community</b>	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. <b>Provider is known to the community it serves.</b>

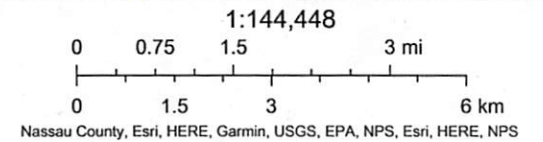
<p>6.</p> <p><b>Program Location</b></p>	<p>In answering this question, the following should be taken into consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the location is suitable for an Addiction Disorder Treatment Program;</li> <li>(b) the accessibility of public transportation and adequate parking; and</li> <li>(c) any other notable observations.</li> </ul> <p>Please describe your assessment of the circumstances noted. NA</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>7.</p> <p><b>Current Status of Existing Programs</b></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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Please describe any issues.</p>		
<p>8.</p> <p><b>Community Response</b></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. Applicant documented outreach efforts made to the community regarding the transfer of ownership.</p>		
<p>9.</p> <p><b>Other Comments</b></p>	<p>Provide additional comments. NA</p>		
<p>10.</p> <p><b>LGU Recommendation</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Disapprove</p>	<p>Signature of Authorized LGU Official</p> 	<p>Date</p> <p>8-17-23</p>

# ArcGIS Web Map



8/29/2023, 9:02:11 AM

● 5. Outpatient: Outpatient Clinic



**New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports  
Bureau of Certification (OASAS)**

**M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO:** Dena Holmes, Director  
Bureau of Certification

**FROM:** Jeffrey Capitulo

**DATE:** September 1, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Application Review  
Applicant: St. John's Community Services- New York  
Application # CA: 2023.015 / CON: 234020  
Purpose: New OASAS Provider of Part 820 Residential Services  
County: Tompkins

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**Project Summary:**

St. John's Community Services - New York (SJCS) submitted a Certification Application requesting New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) approval to become a New OASAS Provider of Part 820 Residential Services with the element of Reintegration only.

SJCS Sober Living Services will be a 14-bed program in a congregate setting to be located at 402 South Albany Street in Ithaca, NY. Through linkage and case management services agreements, they will house individuals needing support to stay sober in Ithaca and Tompkins County. Located in downtown Ithaca, the proposed facility will serve clientele from Tompkins County; however, referrals will be accepted throughout New York State. The proposed location is within a residential neighborhood and is close to a bus stop and local treatment services.

SJCS Sober Living Services is designed as a reintegration service with residential counselors overseeing the milieu seven days a week/twenty-four hours a day; furthermore, a Credentialed Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC) will be on-site five days a week/ eight hours a day.

**Need:**

According to the 2023 Tompkins County Mental Health Services County Plan, an identified goal was to promote activities to increase the availability of supportive housing that best meets the needs of individuals who require intensive, specialized community-based interventions for stabilization and success across the mental hygiene system.

St. John's reported reaching out to "all of the Judges in Tompkins County," providing a letter in support and endorsement of their application, signed on February 14, 2022, by Tompkins County Judges: John Rowley, Joseph Cassidy, and Scott Miller. The endorsement letter states that housing issues in Tompkins County continue to be an issue for Family Treatment Court (FTC) participants, as well as those returning from substance use disorder (SUD) rehabilitation, routinely placed out of the county, creating "additional barriers" to recovery: specifically, "family reunification."

Additionally, the applicant reported support and endorsement of their application from Harmony Ayers-Friedlander, Tompkins County Deputy Commissioner of Mental Health Services; Kit Kephart, the Tompkins County Department of Social Services Commissioner; and the Tompkins County Department of Health (DOH) Commissioner.

Roy Murdough, the applicant contact and Business Development Associate, reported meeting with the Executive Directors of both Cayuga Addiction Recovery Services and the Alcohol and Drug Counsel in Ithaca, both local treatment providers in Tompkins County, and identified their support for this project.

Rich Bennett and Roy Murdough from St. John's Community Services reported the Tompkins County Health Department Substance Abuse Subcommittee gave "enthusiastic support" for this proposed Sober Living Home at their monthly meeting on March 9, 2022.

The Tompkins County Local Government Unit's recommendation in support of this application was received by the Bureau of Certification on August 31, 2023.

The Bureau of Certification received the OASAS Central Regional Office recommendation in support of this application on August 31, 2023.

#### **Character and Competence:**

St. John's Community Service's (New York) became established as a foreign not-for-profit corporation in 2019. They have been contracted to operate the homeless shelter in Tompkins County for the last 4 ½ years for the Tompkins County Department of Social Services. According to their website, they provide shelter services, a community pantry, day drop-in services, and low-barrier single residency housing for vulnerable community members in Tompkins County, N.Y.

The Board of Directors consists of nine members, with one, Steven Raetzman, having demonstrated the substance use disorder experience outlined in the OASAS' regulation.

#### **Overall Financial Condition of the Provider:**

The proposed annual budget identifies revenues at \$621,500.26 and expenses at \$621,500.26, resulting in a balanced budget.

The OASAS Central Regional Office did not report concerns after a review of St. John's budget.

On August 4, 2023, the OASAS Fiscal Audit and Review Unit, after reviewing St. John's financial statements, determined that they were fiscally viable to operate this proposed service.

**Adequacy:**

An approved lease for this location was also submitted and contains the required OASAS right-to-re-entry language.

On May 4, 2023, the OASAS Facility Evaluation and Inspection Unit (FEIU) reviewed and approved the proposed floor plan.

On May 9, 2023, the OASAS FEIU completed the Facilities Evaluation Report, which found the proposed facility space to be in compliance.

The FEIU completed a State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) on May 23, 2023, and it was determined that this site did not require further environmental review.

**Compliance:**

The applicant submitted a staffing plan for the proposed location that meets regulatory requirements and includes: one full-time Program Director (Qualified Health Professional), one full-time Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC), one part-time Registered Nurse (RN), and six full-time counselors (non-CASAC/QHP).

St. John's submitted policies and procedures were reviewed for regulatory compliance by the Certification Bureau and were determined to be acceptable.

**Continuity of Care:**

SJCS will provide a safe, sober environment with 24/7 staffing. The treatment milieu consists of research-based treatment practices, including person-centered care, cognitive-behavioral therapy, motivational interviewing, early recovery skill building, relapse prevention, and 12-step education and support. Also, SJCS offers family education and reunification support. They will work collaboratively with local drug courts and treatment providers to ensure those in need will overcome barriers in attaining needed resources, support, and services. Clients will be assisted in developing a plan that meets attainable goals with an individualized "vision" of personal recovery.

St. John's Community Services is within walking distance of the local Department of Social Services (DSS) office as well as two OASAS-certified Part 822 outpatient chemical dependency service providers: Cayuga Addiction Recovery Services (CARS) and Alcohol & Drug Council of Tompkins County. In addition to Outpatient Part 822 services, CARS has an office-certified opioid treatment program (OTP). St. John's has had an ongoing relationship with Cayuga Addiction Recovery Services to refer clients to the program for evaluation.

St. John's has a collaborative agreement with the Southern Tier Aids Program. STAP, according to its website, provides "comprehensive HIV/AIDS services in the Southern Tier of New York, serving people affected by chronic illness." Their stated mission is to "improve public health through disease prevention, care coordination, and advocacy."

**Recommendation:**

OASAS recommendation is to approve the request from St. John's Community Services- New York to become a New OASAS Provider of Part 820 Reintegration Services with the following contingencies:

- Verification of the hiring of sufficient staff to meet regulatory requirements
- Copy of filing receipt from the NYS Department of State indicating that the amended Certificate of Incorporation/Articles of Organization, including the OASAS required language, have been filed.

Attachments: LGU recommendation (PPD-6), Map



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

Applicant's Legal Name St. John's Community Services	Application No. #234020
Local Governmental Unit Tompkins County LGU	
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. <b>Your cooperation in providing complete and thorough responses is appreciated as incomplete replies will delay the processing of this application.</b>	
<b>1.</b> Consistency of Program Description and Site Location with Local/OASAS Requirements	<p>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.</p> <p>The program site is consistent with the needs of Tompkins County residents.</p>
<b>2.</b> Provider Operational Performance	<p>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.</p> <p>St. John's Community Services are well known to the community and a trusted partner in the delivery of services for the homeless population and those experiencing food insecurity.</p>
<b>3.</b> Adequacy of Financial Plans	<p>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.</p> <p>The financial plan in the proposal appears adequate and acceptable. I reviewed the plan after OASAS provided the agency with guidance on the budget.</p> <p>Where applicable, please note any comments related to Medicaid policy and/or reimbursement practices below.</p>
<b>4.</b> Consistency with Local Plans and Local/Community Needs	<p>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.</p> <p>Yes, this proposal will meet a significant gap in the continuum of care in Tompkins County.</p>
<b>5.</b> Provider Standing in the Community	<p>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.</p> <p>Saint John's Community Services is well known in the community for the provision of emergency housing and supporting individuals who are experiencing food insecurity.</p>

<p>6.</p> <p><b>Program Location</b></p>	<p>In answering this question, the following should be taken into consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the location is suitable for an Addiction Disorder Treatment Program;</li> <li>(b) the accessibility of public transportation and adequate parking; and</li> <li>(c) any other notable observations.</li> </ul> <p>Please describe your assessment of the circumstances noted.</p> <p>The program will be located in the City of Ithaca, the largest population center in Tompkins County. It is near public transportation and other community services, health care and a grocery store.</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>		
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<p>8.</p> <p><b>Community Response</b></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>Saint John's Community Services has provided outreach to the Community Services board and the substance use subcommittee.</p>		
<p>9.</p> <p><b>Other Comments</b></p>	<p>Provide additional comments.</p> <p>This service will fill a significant gap in care for individuals in Tompkins County. The agency staff have extensive experience and success in working with residents struggling with complex needs including substance use disorders. It will be a major asset to our community.</p>		
<p>10.</p> <p><b>LGU Recommendation</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Disapprove</p>	<p>Signature of Authorized LGU Official</p> <p><i>Harmony Ayers-Friedlander</i></p>	<p>Date</p>	

# ArcGIS Web Map



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▲ 3. Residential: 820 Residential Reintegration

