

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

ANN MARIE T. SULLIVAN, M.D.
Commissioner

MOIRA TASHJIAN, MPA
Executive Deputy Commissioner

April 26, 2023

Brian Reilly
Audit Director
Office of the State Comptroller
Division of State Government Accountability
110 State Street – 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12236-0001

Dear Mr. Reilly:

In accordance with Executive Law § 170, the following are the responses from the Office of Mental Health (OMH) to the Office of the State Comptroller's (OSC's) final audit report entitled, "*Reporting of Community-Based Services Under the Transformation Reinvestment Plan*" (2021-S-15).

OSC Recommendation 1: Issue updated guidance to providers and State facilities on how to identify and count a NIS.

OMH 180-Day Response: OMH provided clarity and guidance on reinvestment program reporting in a memorandum issued on April 14, 2023, which included instruction on how to count a new individual served. Additionally, OMH continues to explore the possibility of improved metrics for reinvestment service utilization.

OSC Recommendation 2: Provide guidance or notes on the monthly reports indicating which services and counties report quarterly vs. monthly and the associated impact to provide better context to readers of the reports.

OMH 180-Day Response: The April 14, 2023 memorandum referenced above also summarizes the reporting format, which now includes the reporting period (i.e., indicating monthly versus quarterly reporting). This new column will be included in the next report in order to provide better context for readers.

OSC Recommendation 3: Include information on the monthly reports to clearly show progress toward achieving targets in the 11 reinvestment areas for the Plan.

OMH 180-Day Response: As described in previous responses, the 11 reinvestment areas in the Plan are a summary of general programmatic areas of reinvestment, including established capacity at the time of the report (2017). They are not aspirational or target figures. OMH publishes detail on the programs within each of these larger areas in its monthly reports to demonstrate utilization and service development trends over time. With that said, OMH recognizes the value of connecting reinvestment services to larger outcome measures and plans

to explore opportunities to publish additional information or data in other reports/dashboards that speaks to the overall impact of reinvestment funding during the next fiscal year.

Please let us know if you have any questions or require additional information concerning the above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann Marie T. Sullivan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and "M".

Ann Marie T. Sullivan, M.D.
Commissioner

cc. Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York
Honorable Thomas P. DiNapoli, State Comptroller
Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Senate Majority Leader and President Pro Tempore
Honorable Robert G. Ort, Senate Minority Leader
Honorable Carl E. Heastie, Assembly Speaker
Honorable Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes, Assembly Majority Leader
Honorable William A. Barclay, Assembly Minority Leader
Honorable Liz Krueger, Chairperson, Senate Finance Committee
Honorable Thomas F. O'Mara, Ranking Minority Member, Senate Finance Committee
Honorable Helene E. Weinstein, Chairman, Assembly Ways and Means Committee
Honorable Edward P. Ra, Ranking Minority Member, Assembly Ways and Means Committee
Robert Megna, Division of the Budget