



Behavioral Health Services Advisory Council

OMH Project Review Agenda

June 28, 2023

Applicant Name/Project # Project Type Program Type Project Manager Page #

Astor Services for Children & Families				
CPAR # 127	Program Closure – RTF	Inpatient	Rudy Arias	2

Harlem Family Services, Inc.				
MH-D-2887	Establish New – MHOTRS	Outpatient	Tiffany Mott	5

Community Medical and Dental Care, Inc.				
MH-C-2883	Establish New – MHOTRS	Outpatient	Tiffany Mott	9

Self Initiated Living Options, Inc.				
MH-E-2886	Establish New – MHOTRS	Outpatient	Amber Piejko	13

BHSAC – Project Summary Form			
Review Date:	6/28/2023	Agency:	Astor Services for Children & Families
Project #:	C PAR #: 127	Project Type:	Close a Residential Treatment Facility (RTF)
Project Description			
Provider:	Astor Services for Children & Families (Astor)		
Business Type:	Not-For-Profit Corporation		
Program Type:	Residential Treatment Facility - Children & Youth		
Address:	6339 Mill Street, Rhinebeck, NY 12572		
County	Dutchess		
Population to be served:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adolescents	<input type="checkbox"/> Adults
Proposed Effective Date:	6/30/2023		
Applicant's Request:	Astor is requesting approval to close the OMH certified 16-bed capacity RTF, currently serving the communities of Albany, Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Rensselaer, Rockland, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Sullivan, Ulster, Warren, Washington, Westchester Counties, and New York City.		
Background			
<p>Founded in 1953, Astor provides children's mental health, child welfare, and early childhood development services to the communities of Mid-Hudson Valley region and New York City. In addition to the RTF, which opened in 1983, Astor is currently certified by OMH to operate 3 Day Treatment, 2 Partial Hospitalization, 6 Mental Health Outpatient Treatment and Rehabilitative Services (MHOTRS), and 2 CFTSS: Children's Mental Health Rehabilitation programs. All programs were found to be in substantial compliance during the last recertification.</p>			
Need			
<p>Astor's decision to close the RTF comes after 2 years of challenges, beginning with staff resignations when required to work at the start of the COVID pandemic. The agency indicates that difficulties with staff-hiring and retention has made it very difficult to effectively fill the RTF beds to capacity, which has in turn impacted revenue and program viability. The staff vacancy rate increased from 19% in 2019 to 37% in 2020, and 75% in 2021 and 2022. The total required staffing level for 16 beds is 43.29 FTE. Current staffing level is only 28.18; a staffing deficit of 14.49 FTE.</p> <p>Astor also indicates that, in alignment with Federal and State initiatives that are focused on enhanced programming and initiatives to maintain children in their communities, they are enhancing their community-based programs and educational services to better meet the needs of the populations being served. In this regard, Astor is currently exploring the establishment of an additional Children and Family Treatment and Support Services (CFTSS) program as well as a Partial Hospital Program (PHP) and Youth Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) program.</p> <p>There are currently 6 children remaining and Astor is working with NYS Office of Mental Health Hudson River Field Office and the children's family division to find</p>			

appropriate placement for discharge. RTF services will continue until all remaining youth are discharged and connected with services.

Character and Competence

Applicant operates programs licensed by OMH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
The applicant is in substantial compliance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Capacity

Certified: 16	Current: 6
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Fiscal Information

2023 Year Projected Revenue		2023 Year Projected Expenses	
Per diem rate of \$1,075.36	2,186,944	Personnel Services	2,218,586
		Fringe Benefits:	586,804
		Rent/Mortgage:	361,669
		OTPS:	841,557
		Administrative Costs:	599,240
Total Revenue:	\$ 2,186,944	Total Expenses:	\$ 4,607,855
Deficit:			(2,420,911)

Reviewer Recommendations

Reviewer	Recommendation
County – Dutchess:	Approve
Office of Mental Health:	Approve with Conditions

Reviewer's Comments and Conditions:

1. Provide a final disposition list that indicates all youth have been discharged and connected with services.



BHSAC – Project Summary Form			
Review Date:	6/28/2023	Agency:	Harlem Family Services, Inc.
Project #:	MH-D-2887	Project Type:	Establish a new program
Project Description			
Provider:	Harlem Family Services, Inc.		
Business Type:	Not-For-Profit Corporation		
Program Type:	Mental Health Outpatient Treatment and Rehabilitative Services (MHOTRS)		
Address:	1330 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10026		
Counties to be served:	New York and Bronx		
Population to be served:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adolescents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adults
Proposed Effective Date:	10/1/2023		
Applicant's Request:	Establish a licensed Mental Health Outpatient Treatment and Rehabilitative Services (MHOTRS) program serving children, adolescents, and adults.		
Background			
<p>Harlem Family Services, which was originally The Harlem Family Institute, has been providing free or low-fee psychotherapeutic services in Harlem for more than 30 years as a training institute authorized by the New York State Education Department to educate aspiring psychoanalysts and provide clinical services to the public. It was established in 1991 at an independent Harlem elementary school to help children and families but has expanded its mission to work with all ages.</p> <p>Michael Gerard Connolly, MPA, LP, NCPsyA is the Executive Director and President of Harlem Family Services. Since 2010, he has led the redevelopment of this intercultural psychoanalytic training institute as it seeks to expand its work with underserved communities and deepen its services to children, parents and others in the community. The proposed program will provide mental-health services, crisis intervention, psychological-testing and evaluation services for schools, children, youth and adults. Workshops on domestic violence, anger management and parenting skills will also be provided along with support groups, trauma groups, and couples' therapy. All programming mentioned will address the cultural and linguistically diverse population and families in the targeted communities.</p>			
Need			
<p>The communities in Harlem, Northern Manhattan and the southwest Bronx are diverse in ethnicity, religion, and socioeconomic status. Many of the families served are immigrants, and their children, first-generation Americans. Harlem Family Service's faculty and candidates in training represent a diversity of cultural backgrounds and often come from the very neighborhoods in which they work, providing additional sensitivity to the specific needs of clients. Staff to be hired would likewise be diverse and would use several platforms to reach the families, learn about their culture and build bonds.</p> <p>The applicant reported that many of the other Article 31 MHOTRS in Manhattan have waitlists. The need for mental health services for children, youth, parents, and adults in the community is greater than ever. Within the Harlem community, many individuals</p>			

are experiencing a plethora of mental-health crises, psychological traumas and pandemic-induced stress, with many untreated citizens from preschool age on. Harlem Family Services has witnessed first-hand in their school settings both students and parents/caregivers are struggling with not only the isolation associated with the COVID -19 pandemic but also the increase in crime, lockdowns and overall violence in the NYC area.

There is a strong and significant unmet need to serve children ages 0-5. In addition, a new Centers for Disease Control study shows that teens have suffered from COVID-related experiences. The CDC found that more than a third of U.S. high-school students reported poor mental health during the pandemic. Nearly half, 44%, said they felt sad or hopeless. A very worrisome 20% said they had seriously considered suicide in the previous 12 months. The COVID-19 pandemic has created traumatic stressors that have eroded students' well-being and are causing child and parent burnout.

Harlem Family Services has not only witnessed mental health effects on students but also the families, schools, and overall communities. Unprecedented amounts of anxiety, depression and an increase in substance use have been noted by Harlem Family Services. Through the proposed program Harlem Family Services wants to help children, adolescents and adults with these mental health issues and rebuild the resilience, hope, and teach coping skills to all ages despite payment source.

Character and Competence

Applicant operates programs licensed by OMH	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
The applicant is in substantial compliance with other Government agencies (Department of Health)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Staffing

Clinical Staff Titles	Credentials	FTE
Clinic Director	LCSW	1.0
Administrative Assistant		1.0
Psychiatrist	MD	0.2
Psychiatrist Nurse Practitioner	NPP	0.2
Licensed Psychologist	MD	0.2
Therapists	LCSW/LMHC/LMSW/LMFT/LP/LCAT	5.0
Total FTEs:		7.4

Staffing Comments:

All therapists in the clinic will have one of the following credentials: Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT), Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC), Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW), Licensed Psychoanalyst (LP), Licensed Creative Arts Therapist (LCAT). Ideally, two of the five FTE Therapists will be CASAC. After the MHOTRS's first year of operation, Harlem Family Services also plans to have student interns provided they are participating in a program approved by the New York State Education Department that leads to a degree or license in one of the MHOTRS's professional

disciplines. All of these positions will have the capacity to treat co-occurring substance use disorders.

Caseload Capacity			
Clinic			
Units of Service: 6,000		Annual Caseload: 125	
Clinical Staff/Caseload Ratio: 1:25			
Fiscal Information			
First Full Year of Anticipated Program Revenue		First Full Year of Anticipated Program Expenses	
Medicaid:	1,159,200	Staff Salaries:	550,000.00
Medicare:	0	Fringe Benefits:	31,200.00
Commercial Insurance:	0	Administrative Costs:	5,000.00
Grants:	0	Rent/Mortgage:	175,000.00
Other: Specify:	0	OTPS:	82,800.00
Total Revenue:	\$ 1,159,200.00	Total Expenses:	\$ 844,000.00
Surplus:		315,200.00	
Reviewer Recommendations			
Reviewer		Recommendation	
County – DOHMH :		Approve with Conditions	
Office of Mental Health:		Approve with Conditions	

Reviewer's Comments and Conditions:

1. Successfully complete site visit with the New York City Field Office.
2. Confirm ability to complete required pre-employment clearances for staff.
3. Provide a revised Telehealth and Crisis policies and procedures.



BHSAC – Project Summary Form

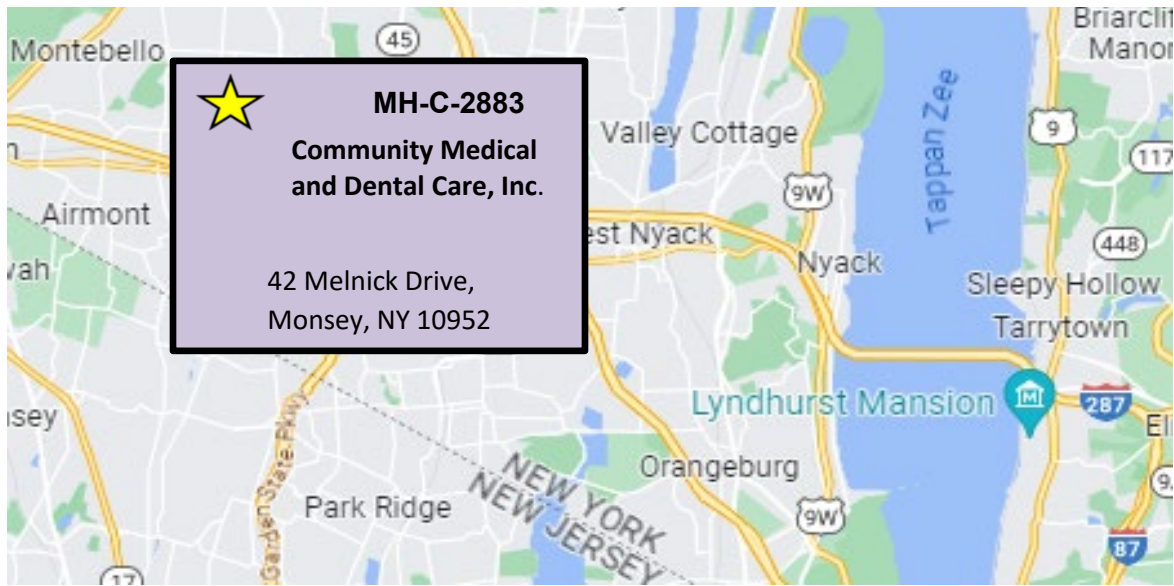
Review Date:	6/28/2023	Agency:	Community Medical and Dental Care, Inc.
Project #:	MH-C-2883	Project Type:	Establish a new program
Project Description			
Provider:	Community Medical and Dental Care		
Business Type:	Not-For-Profit Corporation		
Program Type:	Mental Health Outpatient Treatment and Rehabilitative Services (MHOTRS) program		
Address:	42 Melnick Drive Monsey, NY 10952		
Counties to be served:	Rockland		
Population to be served:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adolescents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adults
Proposed Effective Date:	9/1/2023		
Applicant's Request:	Establish a Mental Health Outpatient Treatment and Rehabilitative Services (MHOTRS) program serving children, adolescents, and adults.		
Background			
<p>Community Medical and Dental Care, Inc. (CMD C) is a recognized Federally Qualified Health Center Look Alike that operates an Article 28 Diagnostic and Treatment Center, and Project OHR, a behavioral health program. The organization currently serves patients from Monsey and surrounding areas of Spring Valley, Suffern, and Haverstraw. Community Medical and Dental Care, Inc. facilities provide primary care, dental, behavioral health, and specialty services (obstetrics, gynecology, dermatology, optometry, cardiology, etc.) to patients of all ages regardless of their ability to pay. The program will be open from 9 am to 9 pm Sundays through Thursdays.</p> <p>CMD C behavioral health services, under the name of Project OHR, offers individual, adolescent, family, and couples counseling. It has a multicultural staff that speak the primary language of the patients (Yiddish, Creole, Spanish, Hebrew, and English). Community Medical and Dental Care is proposing to serve 750 patients in their first year of operation once approved as a Mental Health Outpatient Treatment and Rehabilitative Services (MHOTRS) program.</p>			
Need			
<p>Monsey and Kaser have a population of approximately 41,619, of which 97% are white Yiddish speaking individuals. Spring Valley has approximately 60,650 residents of which 75% are ethnic minorities which are predominately Spanish or Creole speaking. Community Medical and Dental Care prides itself on hiring ethnically diverse staff equipped to meet the cultural and linguistic needs of the community to be served. In addition, the primary zip codes to be served have been designated as Medically Underserved Areas. CMD C does not turn away any patient for an inability to pay. The mission of the organization is to narrow the continuing health disparity gap among minority populations, the uninsured and those with limited English proficiency or a preference for services in their primary language.</p> <p>In 2020, the Uniform Data System noted 2,017 unduplicated users in Project OHR while in 2021 there was a 12% increase in users to 2,267. In 2021, Community</p>			

Medical and Dental Care also found that approximately 25% more patients were diagnosed with depression, anxiety, and other mental health disorders than in the previous year. Since many families and individuals in the service area are ineligible for insurance and fall below the federal poverty line, they are unable to pay out of pocket. Community Medical and Dental Care's overall mission is to serve individuals and families that fall below 100% of the federal poverty level, have limited English language proficiency and are uninsured. The proposed program has a sliding fee scale for patients based on their family size and income.

As population changes have been observed, the executive leadership has responded with initiatives to recruit staff that reflect the cultural and ethnic characteristics of the new residents in the community.

Character and Competence			
Applicant operates programs licensed by OMH	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
The applicant is in substantial compliance with other Government agencies (Department of Health)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Staffing			
Clinical Staff Titles	Credentials		FTE
Psychiatrist	MD		0.04
LCSW	LCSW		3.78
LMSW	LMSW		5.35
Nurse Practitioner	NPP		1.0
Support Staff			3.5
Department Manager	LCSW		1.0
Social Workers	LCSW, LMSW		0.65
Interns			1.5
Total FTEs:			16.82
Staffing Comments:			
The Social Workers will not be providing counseling but assisting clients with obtaining food stamps, WIC etc. Their duties are more associated with case management. The Department Manager works alongside the clinician and is in charge of the day to day operations. He or she will also be responsible for implementing the policy changes once approved to move forward with establishing the MHOTRS program.			
Caseload Capacity			
Mental Health Outpatient Treatment and Rehabilitative Services			
Clinical Staff/Caseload Ratio: 1:82		Annual Caseload: 750	
CMDC anticipates having 750 individuals on their caseload, however, frequency of service delivery will vary based on clients' needs (weekly, bi-weekly etc.).			
Fiscal Information			
First Full Year of Anticipated Program Revenue		First Full Year of Anticipated Program Expenses	
Medicaid:	2,394,649	Staff Salaries:	1,958,394.00
Medicare:	237,064	Fringe Benefits:	489,598.50
Commercial Insurance:	438,528.00	Administrative Costs:	281,011.91
Grants:	0	Rent/Mortgage:	125,000.00

Other: Specify: Patient Fees	13,626.00	OTPS:	236,279.00
Total Revenue:	\$ 3,083,847.00	Total Expenses:	\$ 3,090,283.41
Deficit:			\$(6,436.41)
Community Medical and Dental Care have enough financial resources including reserves in the bank to cover the projected deficit.			
Reviewer Recommendations			
Reviewer		Recommendation	
County - Rockland:		Approve with Conditions	
Office of Mental Health:		Approve with Conditions	
Reviewer's Comments and Conditions:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Successfully complete site visit with the Hudson River Field Office. 2. Confirm ability to complete required pre-employment checks for staff. 3. Provide admission, discharge and high priority referral policy and procedures and explain client involvement in treatment. 			



BHSAC – Project Summary Form			
Review Date:	6/28/2023	Agency:	Self-Initiated Living Options (SILO)
Project #:	MH-E-2886	Project Type:	Establish a new program
Project Description			
Provider:	Self-Initiated Living Options (SILO)		
Business Type:	Not-For-Profit Corporation		
Program Type:	Mental Health Outpatient Treatment Rehabilitative Services (MHOTRS)		
Address:	3245 Route 112, Bldg. #2, Suite #1, Medford, NY 11763		
Counties to be served:	Suffolk		
Population to be served:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adolescents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adults
Proposed Effective Date:	10/1/2023		
Applicant's Request:	Establish MHOTRS program serving children, adolescents, and adults (ages 5 and older).		
Background			
<p>SILO is authorized by the NYS Department of Education as an Independent Living Center. They have mainly contracted and subcontracted to deliver transition or diversion services to assist people leaving Long Term Care Facilities. However, over the past decade their programming has grown exponentially, including but not limited to a food pantry, housing assistance, advocacy, counseling, peer services, support groups, and providing community-based resources to individuals with mental health needs.</p> <p>The agency also has experience coordinating with many Suffolk County community-based providers to assure people with disabilities are connected to the resources they need to maintain independence. Through the agency's ACCES-VR Peer Integration Program, peer specialists work to remove barriers hindering individuals' ability to reach employments goals, including Mental Health Services.</p> <p>SILO's proposed MHOTRS program will provide complex care management to those struggling with Mental Illness in Suffolk County. They also plan to utilize their NY Connects program to connect individuals served at the MHOTRS program with medical and other community-based services.</p>			
Need			
<p>Within the proposed service area of Suffolk County, the community is in great need of psychiatric availability. The average wait time for a psychiatric appointment is three months or more. Children in need of a psychiatric appointment can wait up to nine months for an appointment and private therapists are either completely booked or not accepting insurance. Many providers only accept top tier insurance plans or provide self-pay options, which is not sustainable for low- or middle-income families. The proposed program will accept all private insurance plans, Medicaid, Medicare, and provide appropriate sliding scale self-pay options to ensure accessibility.</p> <p>The county itself is diverse in both cultural and socioeconomic status. According to the 2020 census, the town of Medford where the proposed program will be located, there</p>			

is a condensed Spanish speaking population. The agency plans to have all staff complete cultural competency training and will do its due diligence in hiring bilingual staff. The agency will utilize professional interpreting services to ensure there are no language barriers when providing care as well.

By utilizing SILOs community relationships and programming as an Independent Living Center, the proposed program will be able to reach and engage with members of their community struggling with Mental Illness.

Character and Competence

Applicant operates programs licensed by OMH	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
The applicant is in substantial compliance with other Government agencies: NYSED, NYS Office of the Aging, Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Staffing

Clinical Staff Titles	Credentials	FTE
Director	LCSW	1.0
LMSW	LMSW	2.0
NPP		0.4
MSW Interns		3.0
Administrative Assistant		1.0
Biller		1.0
Total FTEs:		8.4

Staffing Comments:

The Consulting Psychiatrist will be per diem and working remotely unless needed for an emergency or for a scheduled staff meeting. The Psychiatrist will provide 1 to 2 hours of supervision to the NPP a week dependent upon the NPP's caseload. The Psychiatrist and NPP will have experience working with both Adult and Children populations. The agency plans to hire a third LMSW during the first few months of operation. They also plan to pursue hiring OMH Certified Peer Specialists positions after the first year of operations.

Caseload Capacity

Clinic

Units of Service: 7,642	Annual Caseload: 150
Clinical Staff/Caseload Ratio: 1:25	

Fiscal Information

First Full Year of Anticipated Program Revenue		First Full Year of Anticipated Program Expenses	
Medicaid:	\$630,360	Staff Salaries:	\$445,000
Medicare:	\$126,161	Fringe Benefits:	\$102,350
Commercial Insurance:	\$246,000	Administrative Costs:	\$4,000
Grants:		Rent/Mortgage:	\$27,012
Other: Specify:	Patient Fees: \$11,375	OTPS:	Equipment: \$4,380 Utilities: \$7,875

			Insurance: \$12,000
Total Revenue:	\$ 1,013,896	Total Expenses:	\$602,617
Surplus:			\$141,279
Fiscal Comments:			
SILO has a \$880,000 line of credit and a fund balance of \$383,000 to cover any potential deficit.			
Reviewer Recommendations			
Reviewer		Recommendation	
County – Suffolk:		Approve with Conditions	
Office of Mental Health:		Approve with Conditions	
Reviewer's Comments and Conditions:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide revised Policies and Procedures around the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Crisis Services b. Unaccompanied Minors c. Co-occurring substance use disorder d. Referral procedures for Personalized Recovery Oriented Services 2. Confirm that the agency has authorized someone to complete requirement pre-employment checks. 3. Complete a successful pre-occupancy site visit with the Long Island Field Office. 			

