



**Office of
Mental Health**

Round 4 Grants 2017 - 2021

For the fourth round of service demonstration program grants, the Office of Mental Health (OMH) solicited proposals in April 2016 to create local “triple partnerships” of mental health, substance use disorder, and aging services providers to innovatively address the unmet needs of older adults for these services.

Local triple partnerships are to: (1) access behavioral health services for those in aging services programs who need them; (2) access aging services for those in behavioral health services programs who need them; (3) develop and utilize substantial mobile outreach and off-site services capacity to identify at-risk older adults in the community who are not connected to the service delivery system or who encounter difficulties accessing needed services, assess their needs for services, and provide and/or access services to address unmet needs; and (4) utilize technological innovations such as telecare, telemedicine, telepsychiatry, and mobile technologies.

A total of eight awards were made for these five-year service demonstration projects, all of which will receive operational support from OMH staff and programmatic and fiscal technical assistance from a Geriatric Technical Assistance Center established by OMH in 2012.

- 1. Central Nassau Guidance & Counseling Services** – Award over 5 years: \$1,000,000
Central Nassau’s triple partnership includes the Family & Children’s Association and the Nassau County Office for the Aging, with each of the three agencies responsible for delivering a specific set of services county-wide. Their program, called the Link-Age Project, will utilize care co-ordination to assure the integration of needed services for an older adult population to be served that is expected to be 40 percent black and Hispanic. In addition to partnership provided services, the program will also connect older adults to a range of services delivered by more than 75 collaborative agencies.
- 2. Family Services of Westchester** – Award over 5 years: \$1,000,000
Family Services of Westchester’s triple partnership intends to bring mobile outreach and off-site services, behavioral health services, and aging services – including telehealth interventions – to older adults in Westchester County with the goal of reducing the isolation and decline that can accompany untreated behavioral health and unaddressed aging issues. The partnership, which includes the Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services and the Lexington Center for Recovery, plans to operate their program as one unified program with a core implementation team comprised of members of each partner agency.

3. **Flushing Hospital Medical Center** – Award over 5 years: \$1,000,000
For a population of older adults in the racially/ethnically diverse neighborhood of Flushing, New York, Flushing Hospital's triple partnership plans to increase access to behavioral health and aging services by employing collaborative strategies that utilize outreach and telemedicine technology to identify and engage at-risk individuals; one such strategy is a Mobile Health van staffed by a master's prepared clinician to provide mobile outreach and off-site services. Members of the partnership, which include Arms Acres and the New York City Department for the Aging, will directly provide or connect older adults with the services they need.
4. **Institute for Family Health** – Award over 5 years: \$1,000,000
The Institute for Family Health's triple partnership includes the Ulster County Office for the Aging and Step One Child & Family Guidance Center Addiction Services. The partnership's goal is to launch and sustain a mobile outreach, care navigation, and telehealth program that increases access for older adults who are not connected to the county's traditional behavioral health and aging services. Made more severe by widespread unemployment and limited public transportation, the population to be served has difficulty accessing critical medical care and social services in locales that are largely mountainous, primarily rural, and characterized by several small towns and villages.
5. **Niagara County Department of Mental Health** – Award over 5 years: \$968,489
With the Niagara County Office for the Aging and Northpointe Council as partners, the Niagara County Department of Mental Health's triple partnership intends to create a strong, connected network of behavioral health and aging services providers and leverage other existing supports to meet the needs of at-risk older adults in Niagara County, helping them not only remain safe in the community but also flourish. The program will utilize community-based case management staff and a mobile Older Adult Clinical Specialist to ensure the ability to reach isolated individuals and those who are reluctant to reach out because of cultural beliefs or stigma.
6. **Onondaga County Department of Adult & Long Term Care Services** – Award over 5 years: \$1,000,000
The Onondaga County Department of Adult & Long Term Care Services (which includes the county's Department for the Aging) and its partners, Liberty Resources and Syracuse Behavioral Health, formed a triple partnership to expand services for a diverse population of older adults. Their program, called the Senior Health and Resource Partnership Project, seeks to increase the integration of aging and behavioral health services while addressing natural and manufactured barriers to service accessibility such as limited English language proficiency, cultural mores, cognitive and physical impairments, poverty, perceived shame, and isolation.
7. **Orange County Department of Mental Health** – Award over 5 years: \$1,000,000
The Orange County Department of Mental Health's triple partnership plans to create a service delivery infrastructure that will maximize linkages to existing community-based assessment, treatment, and supportive services by creating a geriatric team to educate providers on specialized engagement strategies and offer immediate treatment and

linkages to care. The partnership, which includes Catholic Charities of Orange County and the Orange County Office for the Aging, will also help develop a telepsychiatry network in the county and plans to replicate the Gatekeeper model to train the outreach team on cultural competence, suicide prevention, and screening for behavioral and primary care health needs.

8. **Putnam Family & Community Services** – Award over 5 years: \$999,998
Putnam Family & Community Services' triple partnership includes the Putnam County Office for Senior Resources and the National Council on Alcoholism & Other Drug Dependencies/Putnam. The partnership intends to employ a licensed clinical social worker to assess, diagnose, and treat older adults; a care manager to identify and provide concrete services and address the social determinants of health; a recovery coach to identify and address substance use issues; and nursing and psychiatric time. The majority of the work will be done on site in the homes of the seniors or elsewhere in the community to support living in place.