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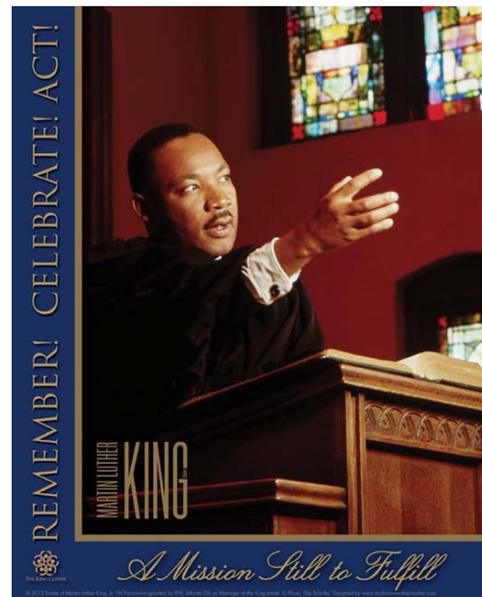
Dear Friends,

As we begin the New Year, I want to thank you all for your support of OASAS through the work that you do for those who depend on our services. I look forward to working with you this year as we continue to provide the very best comprehensive, integrated system of care for the individuals, families and communities we serve each day.

This month our State and Nation will [participate](#) in the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Observance on what would have been his 83rd birthday. In doing so, we not only honor a hero and pioneer, but a human rights icon whose legacy continues to inspire individuals as well as make a difference in the lives of people all over the world.

This year's theme, "Remember, Celebrate, Act" commemorates Dr. King's leadership of the modern American Civil Rights Movement of less than 13 years from December 1955 until April 4, 1968, which achieved more genuine progress toward racial equality than the previous 350 years.

As we move forward in support of Dr. King's legacy and beliefs, let us pledge to continue to work together to make a difference in the lives



NYS Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial
Observance
1/16/12
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Doors Open at 9:00 a.m.
Empire State Plaza Convention Center
Albany, NY

OASAS Mission:

To improve the lives of New Yorkers by leading a premier system of Prevention, Treatment, Recovery.

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Follow us on 

View our photos on 

View our videos on 



Governor
Andrew M. Cuomo



Commissioner Arlene
González-Sánchez

of others and to maintain our commitment to support the nearly 2.5 million New Yorkers who are dealing with a drug, alcohol or gambling addiction.

*Sincerely,
Arlene González-Sánchez
OASAS Commissioner*



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**Commissioner
Attends 2012 State
of the State
Address**

On Wednesday, January 4, 2012, Commissioner Arlene González-Sánchez attended Governor Andrew Cuomo's second *State of the State* Address in which he outlined a plan to continue to build on

the successes of last year in an effort to rebuild New York State and strengthen our State's legacy as the progressive capital of the nation. His optimistic speech delivered themes such as putting the people first, reinventing State Government, growing the economy and continuing to forge our State into the forefront as a leader.

The Governor also addressed specific ideas about his economic blueprint for New York entailing the blending of public and private partnerships designed to leverage state resources to generate billions of dollars in economic growth and create thousands of job. This included: building the largest Convention Center in the country at the Aqueduct Race Track venue in New York City; the development of a comprehensive approach to casino gaming, which would require a constitutional amendment, to potentially generate an estimated \$1 billion in economic activity; develop a masterplan for energy efficiency in State facilities; and more proposals. He also spoke of the need for government to perform better and cost less through long-term commitment to fiscal discipline, the transformation of public education and working to continue to create a more progressive future for the State. His speech covered many topics of concern to New Yorkers. To watch the State of the State address, visit the [Governor's website](#). The [press release](#), [transcript](#), photos and [presentation](#) files have also been posted for your convenience.

Hudson Mohawk Recovery Center (HMRC) Celebrates



1-877-8-HOPENY
Find Help for 1-877-846-7369
Alcoholism, Drug Abuse, Problem Gambling

Available
24 hours / 7 days
Toll-free, anonymous and
confidential

Visit the [OASAS Contact Us
Webpage:](#)
for links and phone
numbers to OASAS program
experts.

This newsletter is produced
by the NYS OASAS
Communications Bureau:

Jannette Rondó
Dora Ricci
Laura Perry
Diane Moxham
Elizabeth Dunn

Relocation of Treatment Center

On January 5, 2012,
OASAS Executive
Deputy Commissioner
Kathleen Caggiano-Siino
spoke at HMRC's ribbon
cutting event in
celebration of their new
location on Fifth Avenue



in Troy. She congratulated the program for their milestone
achievement and also presented Executive Director James Cowie
with a Distinguished Service Award for his upcoming retirement.
The newly expanded facility is the result of an OASAS Capital project
in the amount of more than \$4.7 million. It is home for HMRC's
outpatient clinic and rehabilitation programs and contains 11,000
square feet of space with offices for 15 counselors, multiple therapy
rooms, lunch rooms, and a waiting area.

"This event was unique in that county legislators, current and past
mayors, local government officials, agency board members and staff,
along with the New York State agency partners convened to
commemorate the opening of this new, modern facility," OASAS
Executive Deputy Commissioner Kathleen Caggiano-Siino said.

HMRC operates five treatment facilities in Albany and Rensselaer
counties including residential services for men and women.
Additionally, they offer educational programs including a Drinking
Driver program, a Batterers' Intervention Program and a special
program for youth. The Ribbon Cutting event was covered by [The
Record](#).

Strategic Partnership Formed Between Queens-based Agencies

By Lisa Fraser, Staff Writer, Queens Examiner.com, 12/28/11

Two Queens businesses focused on helping alcohol and substance-
abuse addicts have formed a strategic partnership, they announced
last week.

Outreach, based in Richmond Hill and Samaritan Village, which has
10 locations throughout New York City, have formed what they call
a "unique collaboration."

The centers, both not-for-profits, will "refer prospective clients to
each other and undertake unique collaborations that capitalize on
the strengths of each organization," stated both agencies.

Outreach focuses on treating teens and adolescents, and women
with children, while offering training programs for behavioral
health professionals. Samaritan Village provides adult residential
substance abuse treatment, specialized services for veterans and

medically assisted care.

Samaritan Village has been helping New Yorkers for approximately 50 years; Outreach was established in 1980 and treats over 3,000 individuals and families annually.

To read the full article, please visit the Queens Examiner [website](#).

O-STARS



Mr. James Cowie is retiring on January 13, 2012 as Executive Director of the Hudson Mohawk Recovery Center, Inc. Mr. Cowie has a Master's degree from Sage in healthcare administration. He worked as an administrator at St.

Mary's Hospital for 22 years and then served as Executive Director of the Hudson Mohawk Recovery Center (HMRC) for 18 years.

Mr. Cowie has been highly dedicated to the individuals he serves as well as the HMRC staff. He is greatly recognized by his colleagues as a kind, calm and fiscally prudent Executive Director. He has been responsible for the expansion of Hudson Mohawk Recovery Services in Rensselaer County. Throughout his tenure he oversaw two important capital projects, including the opening of a community residential program for women and the development of a new outpatient clinic in Troy. Mr. Cowie is a respected leader and advocate for the addictions field and we would like to congratulate him on his retirement!

SAMHSA Announces a Working Definition of "Recovery"

A new working definition of recovery from mental disorders and substance use disorders was recently [announced](#) by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The definition is a product of a year-long effort by SAMHSA and a wide range of partners in the behavioral health care community and other fields to develop a working definition of recovery that captures the essential, common experiences of those recovering from mental disorders and substance use disorders, along with major guiding principles that support the recovery definition. SAMHSA led this effort as part of its [Recovery Support Strategic Initiative](#). The new working definition of Recovery from Mental Disorders and Substance Use Disorders is as follows:

"A process of change through which individuals improve their

health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and strive to reach their full potential."

SAMHSA's Road to Recovery Update

Have you posted your 2011 event on SAMHSA's National Recovery Month website yet? Doing so makes your organization eligible for the *Community Event Award Program*. Your application must be submitted by January 31, 2012. Through SAMHSA's Recovery Month Annual Event Award Program in 2012, SAMHSA will acknowledge the efforts of those who planned and organized events for the 2011 Recovery Month.

To learn more about the *Community Event Award Program*, visit the National Recovery Month [website](#).

OASAS Receives Homeless Housing Renewal Grants from HUD for Homeless Housing Programs

On December 20, 2011, HUD announced renewal grants for Homeless Housing programs. OASAS had submitted 40 contracts on behalf of 26 voluntary agencies in 13 communities across New York State. OASAS was awarded all 40 renewal grants, which total \$11,254,068 annually and support over 900 apartments. Approximately one-third of these apartments are for homeless families in recovery, with the remaining two-thirds for individuals.

In New York City, 13 agencies have a total of 23 contracts, with an annual value of \$6,863,976. This represents 61 percent of the statewide HUD grant total for OASAS provider agencies.

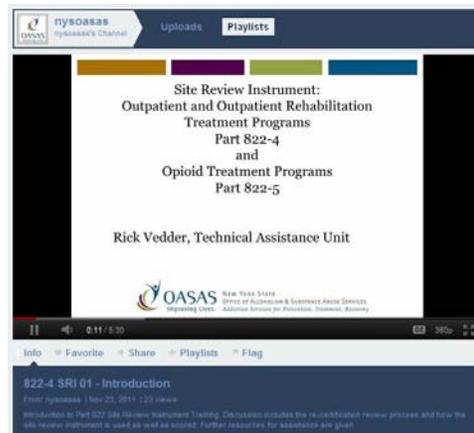
In Metro New York --- Suffolk, Orange, Ulster, and Sullivan counties -- four voluntary agencies, with a total of six renewal contracts, total \$1,385,412 annually, which is 12.3 percent of the statewide OASAS total.

In Upstate New York, nine agencies, with a total of 11 contracts, total \$3,004,680. These awards, support OASAS Permanent Housing programs in eight communities, and represent 26.7 percent of the OASAS statewide total grant awards.

For more information about [Permanent Supportive Housing \(PSH\) Programs](#) and [Shelter Plus Care \(S+C\) Initiative](#), visit the OASAS [Housing webpage](#).

Part 822 Outpatient and Opioid Treatment Program Resources Announcement

Effective July 1, 2011, the updated Part 822 General Service Standards for Chemical Dependence Outpatient (822-4) and Opioid Treatment Programs (822-5) went into effect. These regulations were developed in consultation with various provider groups, combine service standards of outpatient and opioid services and also implement the newly established Ambulatory Patient Group (APG) payment methodology.

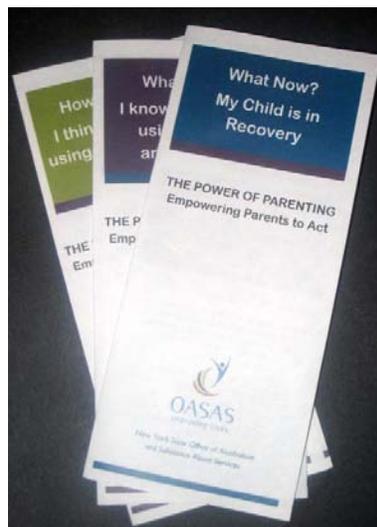


To support understanding and application of the new regulation, OASAS has developed several tools including: Part 822-4 Outpatient Model Case Record Forms; the Part 822 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Portal; the recertification Site Review Instruments (SRI) for both 822-4 and 822-5; and SRI Video Trainings for both Outpatient and Opioid Treatment Programs. The video training format allows provider staff to view and review the training at any time, and the trainings have been approved for credentialing hours (3.0 hrs. for each SRI training completed).

All of these new resources can be found via the OASAS Part 822 Forms and Resources webpage.

For additional information, please contact the Technical Assistance Mailbox at: technicalassist@oasas.ny.gov.

New OASAS Publications Aimed at Helping Parents



OASAS is pleased to announce the release of four new publications aimed at supporting parents, guardians and other mentors with adolescents.

The Power of Parenting publication series includes three brochures that are geared to help parents. First in the series, "How to Know? I think my child is using alcohol and/or drugs" helps parents recognize signs and symptoms. "What to Do? I know my child is using alcohol and/or drugs" outlines steps

parents can take, and "What Now? My child is in Recovery" offers guidance on supporting an adolescent throughout the recovery journey.

This series is a result of information gathered during the Adolescent Cafes held statewide with adolescents in recovery, their family members, treatment providers and other stakeholders. In these forums, parents acknowledged that when their child used alcohol and other substances, they were not aware or prepared to support their child. Written by a team of providers and OASAS staff, this series responds to the key issues raised at the forums.

The series is easy to read; contains practical information and a list of helpful resources; and is extremely versatile for use in a variety of settings by all those who work with families. You can download this series from the [OASAS website](#) and each brochure has space available on the front panel to affix a label with the name of your organization should you choose to do so.

OASAS would like to thank the following individuals for their contribution: Laura Combs, Capital Region BOCES; Andrea Wanat, Erie County Council for Prevention of Alcohol and Substance Abuse; Danette Turner, Every Person Influences Children (EPIC); Ellie Martinez, Alcohol and Drug Dependency Services; Linda Flowers, Western New York United Against Drugs and Alcohol; Ciany Nunez, OASAS Intern; Peggy Bonneau, OASAS; Mary Collier, OASAS; Brenda Bannon, OASAS; Dianne Toop, OASAS; and Laura Perry, OASAS. Also, we would like to acknowledge the New York State Parenting Education Partnership Steering Committee members who served as reviewers.

Also new to the OASAS inventory of publications, is our Prescription Safety brochure that contains an important message for parents as well as the public about safeguarding their prescription medications against potential abuse or non-medical use. This brochure is one of the recommendations put forth by the New York State Interagency Workgroup on Preventing Prescription Medication Misuse, Diversion and Overdose. It works in tandem with the OASAS Medicine Cabinet Inventory tool; both can be downloaded from the [OASAS website](#).

PRESCRIPTION SAFETY



**What you need to
know when you take a
prescription home.**

New Program Announcement! NIATx to Partner with New Payers

NIATx announces new program: *NIATx Partnering with New Payers* is designed to teach Substance Abuse Treatment Organizations the ABCs of partnering with private sector payers, including self insurers, employee assistance programs, managed care companies, and insurance companies.

This initiative will focus on the ABCs of partnering with new payers: attracting new payers using sales and marketing strategies; and becoming a provider that payers want to work with Cash flow and compliance.

Through monthly webinars, participants will learn how to understand the payer's perspective; demonstrate value; execute a successful sales cycle; and create an action plan for partnering with new payers and increasing revenue.

Up to 25 organizations will be selected to participate through an application process. The selected organizations will join monthly technical assistance webinars (February through October 2012) led by expert faculty: Patrick Gauthier, Director, Advocates for Human Potential (AHP) and Chuck West, Program Director, Sales, Sales Management, and Advanced Management programs for Wisconsin School of Business Executive Education.

In the third month of the initiative, all participants will be invited to submit an action plan for identifying value, selecting targets and making effective sales calls. Based on a review of the submitted plans, up to ten organizations will receive additional technical assistance to achieve their action plan goals.

Who should apply? NIATx Partnering with New Payers is specifically for Substance Abuse Organizations that: already bill third-party payers; want to diversify their payer mix and develop stronger marketing skills; have a documented billing process; and providers that have a collection denial rate of less than 20 percent. Providers participating in the NIATx Fee-for-Service Project Cohort II are not eligible to apply.

To learn about the [program](#) and how to [apply](#), please visit the NIATx [website](#). Your completed application should also be submitted to jeanne.pulvermacher@chess.wisc.edu by **January 30, 2012**.

For information on **grant and funding opportunities**, visit the OASAS [website](#) (www.oasas.ny.gov/hps/grants/index.cfm).

For questions and/or comments about this newsletter, please contact: Jannette Rondó, OASAS

Communications Director at communicator@oasas.ny.gov