



NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE

2026 JOINT BUDGET HEARING

February 4, 2026 – 9:30 AM

MENTAL HYGIENE

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|---|---|
| 1. New York State Office of Mental Health | Dr. Ann Marie T. Sullivan, M.D.
Commissioner |
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Panel A:

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| 2. New York State Office of Addiction Services and Support | Dr. Chinazo Cunningham
Commissioner |
| 3. New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities | Willow Baer
Commissioner |
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| 4. New York State Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs | Maria Lisi-Murray
Executive Director |
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Panel B:

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| 5. NYS Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors | Courtney David
Executive Director |
| 6. Mental Health Association in NYS (MHANYS) | Glenn Liebman
CEO |
| 7. National Alliance on Mental Illness | Nathan McLaughlin
Executive Director |

Panel C:

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| 8. Self-Advocacy Association of NYS | Shameka Andrews
Community Outreach Coordinator |
| 9. Fountain House | Ashley Miles
Member |
| 10. NYS Coalition for Children's Behavioral Health | Kayleigh Zaloga
President & CEO |

Panel D:

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| 11. Coalition for Self-Direction | Jim Karpe
Parent |
| 12. Advocate | Dr. Natalie Ferguson
Parent/ Assistant Director of Nursing |
| 13. New York Disability Advocates | Mike Alvaro
President |
| 14. Advocate | Christopher J. Palega
Parent |

Panel E:

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| 15. Drug Policy Alliance | Toni Smith
State Director |
| 16. Alliance for Rights and Recovery | Harvey Rosenthal
VP of Public Policy |
| 17. New York County Defender Services | Stephanie Bazell
Senior Policy Attorney |
| 18. Local 372 - NYC Board of Education Employees | Donald Nesbit
Executive VP |
| 19. New York State Harm Reduction Association | Emma Fabian
Executive Director |

Panel F:

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| 20. Association for Community Living | Emil Slane
Executive Director |
| 21. The Arc New York | Erik Geizer
CEO |
| 22. NYS Council for Community Behavioral
Healthcare | Lauri Cole
Executive Director |
| 23. Families Together in New York State | Khadijah Abdul Aziz
Youth Public Policy Coordinator |

Panel G:

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| 24. Dwyer Coalition for Military Veterans
& Families Inc. | Gavin T. Walters
Executive Director |
| 25. Friends of Recovery-New York | Dr. Angelia Smith-Wilson
Executive Director |
| 26. Truth Pharm, Inc. | Alexis Pleus
Founder & Executive Director |
| 27. InUnity Alliance | Jihoon Kim
President & CEO |
| 28. NYS Association of CASAC Professionals | A. Maria Mendez
Founder/CEO |