



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:

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:

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