STATE OF NEW YORK

5505

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 24, 2025

Introduced by Sens. SALAZAR, BRISPORT, GOUNARDES -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Social Services

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to mental illness training in temporary housing

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Article 2-A of the social services law is amended by adding a new title 3 to read as follows:

TITLE 3

MENTAL ILLNESS TRAINING IN TEMPORARY HOUSING

Section 47. Training to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental illness.

§ 47. Training to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental illness. 1. The office of temporary and disability assistance, in conjunction with the office of mental health and the office of children and family services, shall develop a training course to be utilized by providers of temporary housing assistance. Such training course shall focus on identifying best practices to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental illness and providing referrals, as appropriate, to individuals who may be suffering from a mental illness.

2. Providers of temporary housing assistance shall include, but are not limited to, a family shelter, a shelter for adults, a hotel, an emergency apartment, a domestic violence shelter, a runaway and homeless youth shelter, or a safe house for refugees operating in the state.

3. Such training shall be provided to all employees and volunteers working or volunteering at a provider of temporary housing assistance.

4. Providers of temporary housing assistance shall ensure at least one employee or volunteer who provides intake services and has received such training is at the facility at all times, when applicable law, regulation, code, or operating plan approved by a social services district or the commissioner otherwise requires employees or volunteers to be at the premises.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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