

Family Service Society, Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

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Family Service Society, Inc. Receives Health Equity Innovation Award from Excellus BlueCross BlueShield

Corning, NY – Wednesday, March 26, 2025 – Family Service Society, Inc. is proud to announce that we have received a Health Equity Innovation Award and funding from Excellus BlueCross BlueShield to expand our Behavioral Health Screening and Treatment Program.

Excellus BlueCross BlueShield invited organizations to apply for awards dedicated to reducing health disparities and improving health equity among underserved populations affected by racial, ethnic, disability, gender, and rural disparities, including but not limited to mental health and maternal health. This includes efforts to improve physical and mental health, decrease social inequalities in healthcare, and guarantee access to healthcare.

Our Behavioral Health Screening and Treatment Program offers free screenings and up to five sessions to assess mental health concerns, provide education, and teach coping strategies using evidence-based therapies to children, teens, and perinatal women in Steuben and Chemung counties. Over the past 2 years, the program has improved mental and emotional health for 98% of its 173 participants. Expanding the Behavioral Health Screening and Treatment Program will provide critical mental health support to more children, teens, and adults, fostering healthier communities and improving access to essential services in underserved areas.

“This funding empowers us to address critical gaps in mental health care and reach underserved populations with much-needed support,” said Dr. Cynthia Gee, Executive Director of Family Service Society, Inc. “It’s an opportunity to ensure individuals and families feel seen, supported, and equipped to build resiliency for the future.”

We are grateful to receive this award and feel fortunate to partner with a local health insurance company like Excellus BlueCross BlueShield. Together, we will work to meet the health equity needs of our community.

If you or someone you know could benefit from a behavioral health screening, we invite you to reach out to Family Service Society, Inc. at 607-962-3148 to schedule an appointment.

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