



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

John W. Mannion

Senator Mannion and Sheriff Shelley Commit \$100,000 to Fund Onondaga County Sheriff's Office Mental Health and Wellness Program

SENATOR JOHN W. MANNION January 9, 2024

| ISSUE: **MENTAL HEALTH**

Senator John Mannion and Sheriff Toby Shelley commit \$100,000 to fund the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office wellness program for Deputies and the community. Credit: NYS Senate

Funding to support services for law enforcement officers and crime victims

Syracuse, NY – Senator John W. Mannion today announced \$100,000 to support the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office wellness program which provides comprehensive mental health services for crime victims, witnesses, and members of law enforcement.

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Senator John W. Mannion said, "No one is immune from the mental health crisis. From law enforcement officers to crime victims and witnesses – the Onondaga County Sheriff's wellness program is tailored to address these unique experiences, including PTSD support. This critical funding will have a positive impact by keeping our communities and law enforcement personnel safe and healthy."

Onondaga County Sheriff Tobias Shelley said, "I would like to thank Senator Mannion for recognizing the need for a comprehensive Wellness Program for our community and the Deputies that serve that community. Furthermore, I commend the Senator with ensuring the program's success with this much needed funding. Turning words into actions to better our community is what Senator Mannion does!"

Prior to the launch of the full-time program, the Sheriff's Office relied on a part-time chaplain for limited check-ins and counseling. The \$100,000 allows the chaplain to expand their role, providing comprehensive mental health and counseling services.

Modeled after the successful program at the Rochester Police Department, the Onondaga County Sheriff's initiative has already shown promising results. The program has benefited victims of crime by offering trauma-informed support and guidance.

The Onondaga County Sheriff's Office is committed to maintaining a high standard of service while prioritizing the mental health of its officers and the community. Senator Mannion's funding allows the Sheriff's Office to continue delivering on that commitment, ensuring a safer and healthier environment for all.

View the article [here](#).