

## COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE

### Inter-Office Communication

Date: June 18, 2025

To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

From: Joe Lamers, Director, Office of Strategy, Budget and Performance  
Heather Wolfgram, Strategy and Performance Project Manager, Office of Strategy, Budget and Performance

Subject: Report from the Director, Office of Strategy, Budget and Performance, Providing an Informational Report on Opioid Projects funded in Cohort One (FY23-25) and Cohort Two (FY24-26)

File Type: Informational Report

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#### **REQUEST**

This report is intended to provide an update on the Milwaukee County Opioid Settlement Fund projects funded in Cohort One (FY23-25) and Cohort Two (FY24-26).

#### **POLICY**

The Milwaukee County Board authorized the Office of Corporation Counsel (OCC) to retain outside counsel under a contingency fee arrangement and to file suit against opioid manufacturers and distributors as the OCC deemed appropriate in [File 17-722](#).

2021 State Act 57 created Section 165.12, Wisconsin State Statutes (State Statutes), relating to the settlement of all or part of the Litigation. Section 165.12(4)(b)2, State Statutes, provides the proceeds from the Settlement Agreement must be deposited in a segregated account (the Opioid Abatement Account), and may be expended only for approved uses for opioid abatement, as provided in the Settlement Agreements.

#### **BACKGROUND**

In response to the devastating impact of the opioid epidemic, Milwaukee County will receive over \$111 million over 18 years which is the largest national opioid settlement provided to a local government recovery in Wisconsin's history. The Milwaukee County Board approved Resolutions [21-1127](#) and [23-490](#), which authorized Milwaukee County OCC to enter into Settlement Agreements to receive funds from three Opioid Settlement distributors and five pharmacies. Additional settlements continue to work through the system. Currently, settlements have resulted in a net of \$111 million paid to Milwaukee County over the next 18 years (Table A).

**Table A: Summary of Opioid Settlement Awards**

Settlement	Wisconsin Total	Milwaukee County Total	Milwaukee County Net (after attorney fees)
First Settlement (Distributors and Manufacturers)	\$420 million	\$71 million	\$57.3 million
Second Settlement (Pharmacies)	\$321 million	\$56.7 million	\$50 million
Third Settlement (Kroger)	\$21.7 million	\$3 million	\$2.4 million
Additional Settlements	N/A	N/A	\$1.8 million
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$111.5 million</b>

Milwaukee County gathered input from County stakeholders and facilitated a process to make allocation recommendations for the Opioid Settlement Funds. This process was presented to the Supervisors during the December 2022 board cycle in [File 22-1135](#).

**Opioid Settlement Funded Projects - Cohort 1** (Projects funded for FY23-25)

Fifteen projects totaling \$16,548,068 received fund authorization from the Milwaukee County Board through [Files 23-114 and 23-799](#).

**Opioid Settlement Funded Projects – Cohort 2** (Projects funded for FY24-26)

In July 2024, the Milwaukee County Board adopted [File 24-865](#), granting fund authorization for \$8,512,627 for seven projects from three County departments. The Allocation Process approved in [File 22-1135](#) will be repeated annually.

Table B provides an overview of the projects funded in Cohort One) and Two.

**Table B: Opioid Projects Funding in Cohort One and Cohort Two**

Cohort One (Projects Funded FY23-25)			
Project Title	Remediation Category	Lead Department	Total Project Amount
Coordination of Prevention Services	Prevention	Health and Human Services	\$4,845,607
Medication Assisted Treatment – Behind the Walls	Treatment	Health and Human Services	\$2,514,909
ME Staffing Needs	Other Strategies	Medical Examiner	\$2,290,541
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Capacity	Treatment	Health and Human Services	\$1,821,140
Harm Reduction Supplies	Harm Reduction	Health and Human Services	\$910,889
Aging and Disabilities Services Opioid Prevention Project	Prevention	Health and Human Services	\$843,661

Project Title	Remediation Category	Lead Department	Total Project Amount
Strengthening Opioid and Substance Use Education and Treatment for Justice-Involved Youth	Treatment	Health and Human Services	\$799,191
Harm Reduction Data Analytics	Other Strategies	Emergency Management	\$719,909
Opioid Treatment in the Prehospital Environment (Buprenorphine)	Treatment	Emergency Management	\$536,550
Homeless Outreach Project	Treatment	Health and Human Services	\$481,570
Opioid Educator – EMS	Harm Reduction	Emergency Management	\$407,798
Portable Body Cooler	Other Strategies	Medical Examiner	\$192,448
Harm Reduction Outreach CORE Team	Harm Reduction	Emergency Management	\$97,906
Narcan Deployment and Education	Harm Reduction	Sheriff's Office	\$66,500
Autopsy Carts	Other Strategies	Medical Examiner	\$19,450
<b>Total Allocation for FY23-25</b>			<b>\$16,548,068</b>

Cohort Two (Projects Funded FY24- 26)			
Project Title	Remediation Category	Lead Department	Total Project Amount
Substance Use Disorder System Enhancement	Treatment	Health and Human Services	\$2,565,352
Filling In Gaps in Community Paramedic Coverage	Treatment	Emergency Management	\$2,373,988
Prevalence of Adulterants and Opioid Overdoses in Black and Brown Communities in Milwaukee County	Harm Reduction	Health and Human Services	\$1,421,026
PATH: Pre/Post Incarceration Access to Treatment and Healing	Treatment	Emergency Management	\$1,066,966
Grief Outreach and Grief-Informed Care	Other Strategies	Health and Human Services	\$630,295
Aging and Disabilities Services Opioid Prevention	Prevention	Health and Human Services	\$843,661
Respite Build-Out – Dedicated Harm Reduction Beds	Harm Reduction	Health and Human Services	\$426,000
Harm Reduction Data Analytics	Other Strategies	Emergency Management	\$719,909
Overdose Prediction Model	Other Strategies	Administration	\$29,000
<b>Total Allocation for FY24-26</b>			<b>\$8,512,627</b>

### 2024 Annual Report

The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors requested that the Office of Strategy, Budget and Performance provide an annual report detailing how the funds were invested through a strategic, community-driven approach to reduce opioid overdose deaths and improve systems for Milwaukee County communities and individuals. The 2024 Annual Report provides an analysis of Milwaukee County's planning process and implementation of allocated Opioid Settlement Funds (Attachment A).

### **ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

This item is directly related to the County's strategic goals *2A: Determine what, where, and how we deliver services to advance health equity* and *3A: Invest "upstream" to address root causes of health disparities*.

### **VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES**

Joe Lamers, [joseph.lamers@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:joseph.lamers@milwaukeecountywi.gov);  
Ashley Adsit, [ashley.adsit@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:ashley.adsit@milwaukeecountywi.gov);  
Claire Miller, [claire.miller@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:claire.miller@milwaukeecountywi.gov); and  
Heather Wolfram, [heather.wolfram@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:heather.wolfram@milwaukeecountywi.gov)

### **PREPARED BY:**

Heather Wolfram, Strategy and Performance Project Manager

### **APPROVED BY:**

Joseph Lamers, Strategy, Budget & Performance Office Director

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A: Opioid Settlement Funds A Year in Review: 2024 Annual Report  
Attachment B: PowerPoint

cc: Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County Clerk