

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE

Inter-Office Communication

Date: June 24, 2026

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

From: Nicholas Sinram, 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), Cohort Two (FY24-26), and Cohort Three (FY26-28)

File Type: Informational Report

REQUEST

This report is intended to provide an update on the Milwaukee County Opioid Settlement Fund projects funded in Cohort One (FY23-25), Cohort Two (FY24-26), and Cohort Three (FY26-28).

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 that 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 on behalf of Milwaukee County. As a result of these actions, Milwaukee County is expected to receive more than \$111 million over an 18-year period, after attorney fees. This represents the largest financial recovery in Wisconsin history by any local government and presents a significant opportunity to invest in long-term strategies to address the opioid crisis.

Table A summarizes opioid settlement funding allocated to Milwaukee County, including both finalized and anticipated agreements

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
Remnant Defendants Settlement	TBD	TBD	TBD
Secondary Manufacturers	TBD	TBD	TBD
Purdue/Sackler	\$80 million	TBD	TBD
Total (Net to Milwaukee County)			\$111.5 million

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](#), authorizing \$8,512,627 in funding for seven projects across three County departments.

Opioid Settlement Funded Projects – Cohort 3 (Projects funded for FY26-28)

In July 2025, the Milwaukee County Board adopted [File 25-465](#), authorizing \$9,103,671 in funding for seven projects across three County departments.

Table B provides an overview of the projects funded in Cohorts One, Two, and Three.

Table B: Opioid Projects Funding in Cohorts One, Two, and Three

Treatment				
Project	Department Leader	Cohort One Approved Budget	Cohort Two Approved Budget	Cohort Three Approved Budget
Substance Use Disorder System Enhancement	Health & Human Services	\$2,565,352	\$2,565,352	\$1,412,501
Medication Assisted Treatment - Behind the Walls	Health & Human Services	\$2,514,909		
Filling Gaps in Community Paramedic Coverage	Emergency Management		\$2,373,988	
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Capacity	Health & Human Services	\$1,071,140		
PATH: Pre/Post Incarceration Access to Treatment and Healing	Emergency Management		\$1,066,966	
Strengthening Opioid and Substance Use Education and Treatment for Justice-Involved Youth	Health & Human Services	\$799,190		
Opioid Treatment in the Prehospital Environment	Emergency Management	\$536,550		
Homeless Outreach Project	Health & Human Services	\$481,570		
Harm Reduction				
Project	Department Leader	Cohort One Approved Budget	Cohort Two Approved Budget	Cohort Three Approved Budget
Opioid Educator	Emergency Management	\$407,798		
Respite Build-Out – Dedicated Harm Reduction Beds	Health & Human Services		\$426,000	
Harm Reduction Supplies	Health & Human Services	\$910,889		\$1,719,145
CORE Team	Emergency Management	\$97,906		
Narcan Deployment and Education	Sheriff's Office	\$66,500		
Prevention				
Project	Department Leader	Cohort One Approved Budget	Cohort Two Approved Budget	Cohort Three Approved Budget
Coordination of Opioid Prevention Services Project	Health & Human Services	\$4,845,607		\$2,295,087
Aging and Disabilities Services Opioid Prevention Project	Health & Human Services	\$843,661		\$1,018,341
Prevention Integration	Health & Human Services			\$415,184

Other Strategies				
Project	Department Leader	Cohort One Approved Budget	Cohort Two Approved Budget	Cohort Three Approved Budget
ME Staffing needs	Medical Examiner	\$2,290,541		\$1,755,636
FOCUS (Featuring Our Communities' Untold Stories)	Health & Human Services		\$1,412,026	
Harm Reduction Data Analytics	Emergency Management	\$719,909		\$487,777
Grief Outreach and Grief-Informed Care	Health & Human Services		\$630,295	
Portable Body Cooler	Medical Examiner	\$192,448		
Overdose Predication Model	Health & Human Services		\$29,000	
ME Autopsy Carts	Medical Examiner	\$19,450		
Total		\$16,562,469	\$8,512,627	\$9,103,671

2025 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 2025 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

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PREPARED BY:

Heather Wolfgram, Strategy and Performance Project Manager

APPROVED BY:

Nicholas Sinram, 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