

Orange County Government

Regional Opioid Settlement Fund Priorities

Prepared By: Health Services Department



Presentation Outline

- **Background**
- **Recommended Interventions**
 - **Treatment**
 - **Recovery**
 - **Prevention**
 - **Data Collection & Research**
- **Summary**



Background

In 2022, the Orange County Regional Settlement Fund Committee was appointed. The Committee was tasked with recommending funding priorities for the county. The Committee's recommendations are based in part on best practices identified by a group of experts brought together by Johns Hopkins University.

The Johns Hopkins team includes experts in public health, addiction medicine, recovery, treatment, and harm reduction. The team was created to develop guidelines to assist local communities in effectively spending money from opioid settlements.



Background

The Orange County Opioid Settlement Committee includes:

- **City of Orlando representatives:**
 - Kathleen Russell, Director of Government Relations
 - Chris Spurlin, Assistant Chief Orlando Fire Department
 - Sergeant Tyler Olsen, City of Orlando Police Department

- **Orange County Government representatives:**
 - Christopher Zuver MD, EMS Medical Director
 - Raul Pino MD, Director Health Services
 - Captain Susan Wallis, Orange County Sheriffs Office

- **Community representatives:**
 - Josef Thundiyil MD, Orlando Health Emergency Department
 - Robert Karch MD, Orange County Director of FL Department of Health



Background

Current County Funded Interventions

Orange County Board of Commissioners has appropriated general funds that have been instrumental to the following interventions that would be enhanced and expanded by the Opioids Settlement Trust Fund:

Treatment Interventions

- Orange County Jail Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) clinic
- Expand access to behavioral healthcare

Recovery Interventions

- Recovery Enhancement Project (REP)

Prevention Interventions

- One Pill Can Kill Campaign
- ACT 2 Save a Life overdose recognition and response training



Background

Five-year Trend for Opioid Related Deaths and Overdoses

Year	Estimated Population	Total # of Overdoses	Estimated Rate per 1000
2018	1,384,000	346	0.25
2019	1,395,000	365	0.26
2020	1,404,000	449	0.32
2021	1,423,000	539	0.38
2022	1,452,000	462	0.32



Background

Regional Opioid Settlement Funds

- Total funds for years 1–6 \$26 million
- Average funding allocated for years 2-6 \$5.2 million
- Allocation of funds in five-year cycles allows for equal yearly distribution of funds—ensuring the sustainability of interventions that reduce overdoses and overdose deaths
- Conservative allocation of funds is recommended to account for discrepancies in funding projections due to bankruptcy proceedings for existing settlement agreements



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Treatment

Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) and other opioid-related treatments:

- **Expand access to MAT and behavioral health services at Federally Qualified Health Centers**
- **Expand access to MAT and behavioral treatment options for individuals with substance use disorders who are uninsured, underinsured, or do not qualify for Medicaid/Medicare**
- **Explore offering mobile services to include MAT, telehealth, testing, and vaccinations**



Treatment (cont.)

- **Expand Naloxone distribution and Naloxone training**
 - Opioid Navigator Street Teams
- **Expand MAT education and awareness training for healthcare providers**
 - Provide Physicians training and technical assistance
- **Expand enrollment of infants diagnosed with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) in the Florida Early Steps Program**
 - Hire a case manager to facilitate enrollment in the Early Steps Program



Recovery

- **Expand the scope of Recovery Enhancement Project services**
 - Expand the number of hospital-based and community-based Opioid Navigators
 - Create a seamless transition from inpatient to outpatient care & social support resources
 - Create a seamless transition from jail to outpatient care & social support resources
- **Provide funding for an additional case manager in the 9th Circuit Court Jail Diversion Programs (Adult Drug, Opioid, Veterans, and Mental Health Courts)**



Prevention

- **Implement the CDC Stop Overdose campaign**
 - Facts on Fentanyl
 - Polysubstance Use Facts
 - Life Saving Naloxone
 - Stigma reduction
- **Promote the 24-Hour Recovery Support Hotline**
 - Addiction Happens...Recovery Works
- **Expand overdose recognition and response training**
 - ACT 2 Save a Life
- **Promote the Better Without It initiative**
 - Targets Middle & High School students



Data Collection & Research

Utilize evidence-based data collection and research to analyze the effectiveness of treatment, recovery, and prevention interventions.

- **Identify community-level protective factors**
- **Identify community-level barriers to healthcare**
- **Recommend policy or program changes to prevent overdoses**
- **Recommend new programs and services**



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- **Recommendations**
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 - Supporting Recovery
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Summary

Regional settlement funds provide multiple opportunities to build on the County's existing opioid epidemic mitigation interventions.

The Committee's recommendations will:

- **Expand interagency partnerships**
- **Expand access to systems of care**
- **Expand health promotion messages**
- **Expand harm reduction initiatives**
- **Expand prevention outreach to young people**
- **Expand partnerships with local recovery support organizations**

In the future, you will see items coming to the Board related to contracts for implementing the interventions discussed today.