

Agenda and Minutes

Washington County Opioid Settlement Council

Meeting Information

- Date and time: August 20, 2025 (Wednesday) from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
- Location: Washington County Government Center, Stillwater
- Council meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm.
- Members of the public are welcome to attend council meetings as observers and have an opportunity to share comments during the designated period.

Opioid Settlement Council Members

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emily Brunner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Josephine Igwacho | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jay Pernu |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deb Chmielewski | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lori Kelley | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seth Perry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jessica Feider | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rose Kosin | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carla Schweich |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristi Gullett | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Denise Lasker | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jamie Steber |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alicia House | <input type="checkbox"/> Jess Muszynski | |

Public Health and Environment (PHE) Chief Strategist Representatives

- Rolando Vera | *Correctional Health Nursing Manager*
- Sean Young-Stephens | *Public Health Program Coordinator*
- Allison Spears | *Administrative Assistant*

Agenda Items

- Public comment period
- Welcome, introductions, and updates

PHE provided a brief recap of current status and timeline. PHE also shared an update: Washington County is anticipating distributing up to \$700,000 of opioid settlement funding in this upcoming round. (For comparison, a total of \$519,898 was distributed in the first round.)

- Discuss 2025 grant application process

PHE presented a draft application form that outlines the application process and requirements for the council to review and consider. The draft is based on the previous year's application form with minor

changes throughout. One significant change that was proposed to the council was a new video submission component which would replace the previous requirement for an in-person presentation.

The council discussed the proposed process and provided feedback. Council members were generally supportive of the overall process including the new video submission component.

- Facilitation: council chooses funding priorities for 2025 grants

PHE guided the council through a discussion to determine funding priorities that will serve as required categories in this year's application process. PHE started by providing some context, including a recap of the previous discussion that took place at the May council meeting. The facilitated discussion began with brainstorming in small groups.

Group Brainstorm Summary:

- *Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) availability and access*
 - *Incarcerated people/bridging from incarceration to community*
- *Access to **naloxone and fentanyl test strips***
 - *With related education*
 - *Naloxone machines/dispensers*
- *Minority/marginalized groups*
- *Connection to care – how do I find the help I need?*
- *Justice-involved persons, transitional/supportive living*
- *Unhoused/housing first*
- ***Supporting funding gaps***
 - *Rural areas*
- ***Family support groups** for those with a loved one in treatment*
- *Addressing barriers in accessing treatment*
- *Peer support specialists*
 - *Grassroots, culturally-specific peer support groups*

Following the small group discussions, the full group came back together for a final discussion. Ultimately, the council came to a consensus on the following direction.

Conclusion from Council Discussion:

Council will consider any eligible opioid response strategy.

Emphasis on focus areas identified by community:

- *Treat Opioid Use Disorder*
- *Support justice-involved persons*
- *Support harm reduction*

Council is focusing on addressing barriers/serving unmet community needs.

Diversity and underserved communities will be prioritized across all funding categories. Examples of underserved communities include BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color), LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer), and rural communities.

- Closing and next steps

PHE will finalize the application form based on the council's direction at today's meeting. PHE will launch the application process soon and notify the council when the application is live.

Shared Agreements

- Honor confidentiality
- Be present at meetings and participate
- Listen to understand, not respond – we all have something different to offer
- Be open and respectful to the ideas of others – use respectful language to talk about those impacted
- Speak from your own experience and speak objectively
- Take space/make space – everyone has an equal voice during the meeting
- Have an agenda and stick to it – be efficient
- Only one person speaks at a time

Application for Projects Funded by Opioid Settlement Dollars - 2025 DRAFT

Washington County is seeking applications for community-based projects that will be funded by opioid settlement dollars. Up to \$700,000 of [Washington County opioid settlement funding](#) will be distributed through this round of applications.

To apply, complete this application form describing your proposed project. The application includes two components:

1. **Written responses:** Provide written answers to questions about your proposed project (budget, timeline, population served, etc.)
2. **Video submission:** Upload a short video that tells the story of how you will use this funding to support community members and address the opioid crisis in Washington County (full instructions on page 5)

Proposed projects will be reviewed and selected by the Washington County Opioid Settlement Council.

Funding categories

- **To be determined by council**

Diversity and underserved communities will be prioritized across all funding categories. Examples of underserved communities include BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color), LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer), and rural communities.

Project requirements

- Projects must address one or more of the funding categories listed above.
- Projects must serve Washington County community members.
- Projects must be additive - they must implement new services/resources or expand existing services/resources. Opioid settlement dollars cannot be used to replace funding for existing services/resources.
- Project timelines should be up to one year in length - beginning in the first quarter of 2026 with a project completion date no later than December 2026.
- A total of up to \$700,000 will be awarded across all projects funded through this round of applications.
- Applicants that are awarded funding will check in with the County on a quarterly basis.
- Selected applicants must comply with the [County's Standard Terms and Conditions](#) for contractors.



Schedule

- **By August 31** Application process opens
- **October 3** Applications due by 4:30 pm
- **By November 30** Projects are selected and applicants are notified of the results



This application is being administered by Washington County Public Health and Environment to facilitate the review and selection of projects funded by opioid settlement dollars. Your participation is voluntary, but is required in order to be considered for receiving funding in this round. Data submitted to the County through this application are public data.

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Applicant Information

Applicant type*

- I am applying as an individual.
- I am affiliated with an organization that is applying.

Organization name*

Main point of contact*

First Name

Last Name

Email*

Phone*

Briefly describe your organization. What strengths make your organization a good fit for receiving this funding?*

0/2000

Has your organization applied for any opioid settlement funding outside of Washington County? (for example, through the State or another county)*

- Yes
- No

Has your organization received any opioid settlement funding outside of Washington County?*

- Yes
- No

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Proposed Project

Name of proposed project*

! Required field

!

Amount of funding requested*

\$

Project description*

0/2000

Summarize the project's major activities and goals.

Funding category*

- Category 1
- Category 2
- Category 3
- Category 4

Navigate back to first page for more information on funding categories.

Does this project use a strategy that has evidence demonstrating its effectiveness?*

- This project is evidence-based. It uses a strategy that has been researched and shown to be effective.
- This project is innovative. It uses a strategy that has not been researched but has the potential to be effective.
- Other

You selected "evidence-based." What strategy or strategies used in this project have been researched and shown to be effective?*

0/2000

To learn more about evidence-based strategies, visit the [Opioid Solutions Center](#) from the National Association of Counties.

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Proposed Project (continued)

Project budget*

! Required field

0/2000

Provide a breakdown of the project's budget. Include any plans for long-term sustainability.

Project timeline*

0/2000

Outline the project's timeline using specific dates. Project timelines should be up to one year in length - beginning in the first quarter of 2026 with a project completion date no later than December 2026.

Population served*

0/2000

Describe the population this project will serve. Include demographic information (examples: race, ethnicity, gender, age, geography, socioeconomic status, etc.) and anticipated number of people receiving services/resources. Highlight any underserved communities that will be supported by this project.

Expected outcomes*

0/2000

What will the proposed project accomplish? How will Washington County communities benefit as a result of this project? Think about how you will show incremental progress throughout the project (including at quarterly check-ins with the County). What outcomes will you measure to demonstrate success?

(Optional) Is there anything else you would like to share as part of this application?

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Video Submission

This video submission is an opportunity for the Opioid Settlement Council to get to know you in a more personal format beyond your written answers.

In your video, we recommend introducing yourself/your organization and providing an overview of your proposed project. Tell us the story of how you will use this funding to support community members and address the opioid crisis in Washington County. Beyond that, you have creative flexibility to share your concept in whatever way makes most sense for you!

More complex videos will not automatically receive any preference over simpler videos. Your video can be as simple as recording yourself speaking to a phone or webcam. We do not want your video to be a significant burden or financial investment.

Your video's length must be five minutes (5:00) or shorter.

Please upload your video to YouTube as an unlisted video and paste the link below. Video tutorial: [How to upload unlisted videos to YouTube](#)

YouTube link*

Required field

If for any reason this video submission poses a challenge, please [contact staff](#) for support. (For example, we can provide a physical space and computer for you to use to record your video.)

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Submit Form

