

Opioid Settlement Funds

Lake County Request for Funding Proposals

Overview

Lake County invites organizations or groups addressing opioid prevention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery to apply for funding to support development, implementation, enhancement or expansion of programs. This includes programs addressing substance use disorders, polysubstance use and co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. While the selection process will utilize a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process, the number of awards will be dependent on the amount of funds available for annual allocation. The amount of funds available will differ annually.

Background

In 2021, a \$26 billion nationwide settlement was reached to resolve all Opioids litigation brought by states and local political subdivisions against the three largest pharmaceutical distributors: McKesson, Cardinal Health and AmerisourceBergen (“Distributors”), and manufacturer Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and its parent company Johnson & Johnson (collectively, “J&J”). In 2022, additional settlements with pharmacies and manufacturers were announced, including CVS, Walmart, Walgreens, Allergan and Teva. In 2023, a settlement with Kroger was also reached.

Fifty percent (50%) of the settlement amounts will be sent directly to county and local governments. Payments for all settlements will be received separately. Eighty-five percent (85%) of funds must be used for opioid remediation, with seventy percent (70%) being used for future opioid remediation. Exhibit E of the settlements provides a non-exhaustive list of expenditures that qualify as being paid for Opioid Remediation.

Michigan can also expect additional funds received through companies Purdue Pharma, Mallinckrodt PLC and Endo, which are pursuing bankruptcy plans that include funding opioid abatement trusts.

Currently, Lake County has received approximately \$172,854 dollars from opioid settlements. Due to funding amounts changing annually, Lake County expects to have funding available for opioid remediation activities: Strategy #1 for up to two years (2026 and 2027), and Strategy #2 for up to five years (2026 through 2030). The number of payments/length of future agreements may differ.

Goal

The goal of this opportunity is to serve Lake County through development, implementation, enhancement or expansion of evidence-based strategies or promising practices to prevent and address the adverse impacts of the drug overdose epidemic.

Eligibility

Organizations or groups addressing opioid prevention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery are eligible for funding to support development, implementation, enhancement or expansion of programs. This includes programs addressing substance use disorders, polysubstance use and co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders.

- Eligible applicants must have proper licensing and be capable of showing a budget, an audited financial statement, and being set up as a county vendor.
- Eligible applicants adhere to the following:
 - Meet Michigan Attorney General's Opioid Guidance: Exhibit E
 - Proposed projects must align with Strategy 1 and/or 2 as established by Lake County and outlined in Exhibit A
 - Organizations should have demonstrate a proven track record of working in the field of substance use disorder, substance misuse, or related areas.
 - Be a 501 ©3 non-profit organizations
 - Be a School Districts
 - Be a Local Units of Government
 - Be a Other tax-exempt organizations

Requirements

Priority will be given to proposals that:

- Focus on individuals and communities most profoundly impacted by opioid use disorder (OUD) and co-occurring substance use disorder/mental health conditions (SUD/MH)

Organizations awarded funded are required to:

- Ensure utilization of funds supplements, rather than supplants, existing funding
- Ensure funds are utilized to serve the residents of Lake County
- Ensure that projects align with Strategy 1 and/or 2 as established by Lake County and outlined in Exhibit A
- Ensure all funds are used in alignment with Exhibit E and the definition of opioid remediation
- Ensure indirect costs do not exceed ten percent (10%)
- Provide data on program outputs, outcomes, impact and effectiveness, following agreed upon metrics
- Complete required quarterly and annual Grantee Reports

Reporting Requirements

- Organizations should provide quarterly progress reports by the 15th of January, April, July, and October to tlake@co.lake.mi.us, outlining the following for the previous quarter:
 - Staff working on the project
 - Community partners involved with the project
 - Challenges and barriers experienced within the associated timeframe
 - Successes experienced within the associated timeframe
 - Anticipated next steps
- Closeout report outlining the entire project, to be provided by 30th of the month following the close of the project to tlake@co.lake.mi.us, to include
 - Metrics to gauge outputs, outcomes, impact and effectiveness as determined through scope of work

Allowable Uses of Funds & Funding Restrictions

Specific to the J&J, Distributor, CVS, Teva, Allergan and Walmart settlements, funds must be spent on opioid remediation. Opioid Remediation is defined as,¹

Care, treatment, and other programs and expenditures (including reimbursement for past such programs or expenditures except where this Agreement restricts the use of funds solely to future Opioid Remediation) designed to (1) address the misuse and abuse of opioid products, (2) treat or mitigate opioid use or related disorders, or (3) mitigate other alleged effects of, including on those injured as a result of, the opioid epidemic.

Activities must meet the definition of opioid remediation, be evidence-based strategies²³ or promising practices and align with allowable uses outlined by [Exhibit E](#).⁴ These strategies include:

1.) Core Strategies

- Naloxone or other FDA-approved drug to reverse opioid overdoses
- Medication-assisted Treatment (MAT) distribution and other opioid-related treatment
- Address the needs of pregnant and postpartum women
- Expanding treatment for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)
- Expansion of warm hand-off programs and recovery services
- Treatment for incarcerated population
- Prevention programs
- Expanding syringe service programs

¹ <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/>

² <https://www.lac.org/assets/files/TheOpioidEbatelement-v3.pdf>

³ <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/pubs/2018-evidence-based-strategies.pdf>

⁴ <https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Exhibit-E-Final-Distributor-Settlement-Agreement-8-11-21.pdf>

- Evidence-based data collection and research analyzing the effectiveness of the abatement strategies within the state

2.) Approved Uses - Prevention

- Prevent over-prescribing and ensure appropriate prescribing and dispensing of opioids
- Prevent misuse of opioids
- Prevent overdose deaths and other harms (harm reduction)

3.) Approved Uses - Treatment

- Treat Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)
- Support people in treatment and recovery
- Connect people who need help to the help they need (connections to care)
- Address the needs of criminal justice-involved persons
- Address the needs of pregnant or parenting women and their families, including babies with NAS

4.) Approved Uses – Other Strategies

- Supporting first responders
- Leadership, planning and coordination
- Training
- Research

Indirect costs may not exceed ten percent (10%) of funds.

Selection and Award Process

All proposals submitted should include the completed Request for Proposals document below, resume or biography of the project director, any optional documents and the attached budget template. Proposals will be reviewed and scored by County Administration, with the final determination being made by the Lake County Board of Commissioners.

Proposals are due to Lake County at tlake@co.lake.mi.us by March 13, 2026. Notice of award is expected to occur by April 8, 2026. Following the notice of award, organizations will meet with the County Administrator to discuss the contract process and specific metrics for the project identified. The period of funding is expected to be May 1, 2026 through April 30, 2027.

Lake County reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and/or change specifications of this Request for Proposal as deemed necessary.

Any questions related to this funding opportunity can be directed to tlake@co.lake.mi.us

Request for Proposals

Lake County Opioid Settlement Funds – FY 2026

RFP Posted	January 9, 2026
Proposals Due	March 13, 2026
Anticipated Notice of Award	April 8, 2026
Anticipated Performance Period	May 1, 2026 - (start date - end date)
Questions to	Tobi Lake, County Administrator: tlake@co.lake.mi.us

To Be Completed by Organization Submitting Proposal: Add additional sheets as needed

1. Organization Information	
Organization Name	
Street Address	
Email Address	
Phone Number	
Name of Project Director	
Title of Project Director	
Name of Authorized Representative	
Title of Authorized Representative	
Signature of Authorized Representative	
Date	
2. Organization Description (Tell us about accomplishments/successes, mission & vision) Scoring criteria: 10%	
3. Project Description Including Project Objectives Scoring criteria: 25%	

4. Populations Served/Target Population and Geographic Area Served Scoring criteria: 5%			
5. Statement of Need for the project (Provide information including data related to the need identified in proposal) Scoring criteria: 15%			
6. Project Timeline Overview Scoring criteria; 5%			
7. Scope of Work Scoring criteria: 20%			
Activity	Outputs	Outcomes	Timeline
8. Success – How will success be measured? Scoring criterial: 10%			
9. Sustainability – How will the project be sustained after funding cycle? Scoring Criteria: 10%			
10. Budget – Total amount requested		\$	
11. Budget Narrative – How will funds be used to meet project goals?			
12. New or Existing Project – Check one		___ - Existing ___ - New	
12.a. If existing, how many unique individuals are served annually by the current project?			

Project Budget Template						
Request for Proposals						
Proposed Budget - Opioid Settlement Funds						
Organization:						
FY:						
Expense	Description	Exhibit E (Reference Sections Addressed)	Strategy Category 1 or 2	Cost	Quantity	Total Cost
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
					Total	\$ -

Exhibit A

Lake County Opioid Settlement Spending Strategy Plan

Item Number	Activity/Strategy	Department or Organization providing service	Lead on Investigation (Funding or Service Availability)	Description	Target Audience	Goal/Outcome	Strategy Category (Prevention, Harm Reduction, Linkage to Care, Criminal-legal System, Treatment, Recovery Supports, Pregnant or Parenting Women & Their Families, or Data & Research, Other)	Total Cost with Breakdown	Annual Anticipated Cost(s)
1	Consumer/grassroots effort to build a strong recovery community in Lake county	TBD	TBD	<p>Fund an identified organization to establish the below: 1. Identify and establish recovery supporting activities in the Community such as:</p> <p>a. Mutual Aide Support groups (AA/NA, Life Ring, Smart Recovery, etc.</p> <p>b. Family support groups.</p> <p>c. Other events to support recovery.</p> <p>d. Promotion/raise awareness of available resources.</p> <p>NOTE: Funds may also be used to directly fund various activities such as events and groups, as determined necessary and approved.</p>	<p>1. People who use drugs and/or are seeking recovery.</p> <p>2. Family/friends of people with SUD.</p> <p>3. Community at large.</p>	<p>1. Establish community based resources that support people in their recovery journey. Example: 5 active support groups per week are available.</p> <p>2. Support group for family/friends in place.</p> <p>3. X.# of community events are established.</p> <p>Outcomes to include:</p> <p>1. Need timeframes of completion.</p> <p>2. Clear Deliverables.</p> <p>3. This would come from the RFP responders along with a budget.</p> <p>Up to 3 years initially.</p>	Recovery Supports	TBD	Up to \$25K per year for 2 years, Possible renewable thereafter.
2	Implementation of expanded or improved Harm Reduction Strategies	TBD	TBD	<p>1. Naloxone distribution boxes/vending machines.</p> <p>2. Nalox Box for orgs (like defibrulator).</p> <p>3. Testing strips (fentanyl, xylaxene, etc).</p> <p>4. Syringe exchange, drug testing kits, other harm reduction strategies</p> <p>5. Expanding hours of operation for existing HR strategies (The Red Project).</p> <p>6. Anti-stigma training for professionals in the community (Using community, Law Enforcement, Health Care, Social Services).</p> <p>7. Promoting/educating all available HR strategies.</p>	<p>1. People in the using community.</p> <p>2. Friends/family of using community.</p> <p>3. Staff of related Professional Organizations.</p> <p>4. Community members at large.</p>	<p>1. Make available identified Harm Reduction strategies in the community that do not currently exist.</p> <p>2. Expand existing strategies resources as determined.</p> <p>3. Establish promotion/educations strategies of resources (billboards, social media, radio, etc.)</p>	Harm Reduction and Linkages to Care	TBD	Up to \$40K per year for 3 years, Possible renewable thereafter.

Definitions

Prevention – Activities that educate and support individuals and communities to reduce initiation of substance use, misuse of substances and the development of substance use disorders (<https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/prevention>).

- o Examples include: media campaigns, primary prevention activities such as school-based programming, etc.

Harm reduction – Harm reduction is a set of practical strategies and ideas aimed at reducing negative consequences associated with drug use. Harm Reduction is also a movement for social justice built on a belief in, and respect for, the rights of people who use drugs (<https://harmreduction.org/about-us/principles-of-harm-reduction/>).

- o Examples include: naloxone training and distribution, syringe service programs, testing for communicable diseases, etc.

Linkage to care – Coordination among service providers to connect individuals and families to a full range of services to address the needs of the whole person (<https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/recovery>).

o Examples include: referrals to treatment, referrals to mental health and healthcare providers, connections to social and legal services, etc.

Criminal-legal system – A set of institutions which create and enforce law (<https://bjs.ojp.gov/justice-system>).

- o Examples include: recovery courts, medication to treat opioid use disorder within jails, training for first responders, co-responder models, self-referral strategies, etc.

Treatment – Programs and/or providers specifically designed and trained to assist in addressing the complex disease of substance use disorders, substance misuse, and co-occurring substance use disorder and mental health conditions

(<https://store.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/d7/priv/sma14-4126.pdf>).

o Examples include: withdrawal management, residential treatment, outpatient treatment, treatment for those with co-occurring substance use disorder and mental health conditions, supports and workforce development for behavioral health workers, medication assisted treatment (MAT)/medication to treat opioid use disorder (MOUD), etc.

Recovery supports – Supports that assist in a process of change through which individuals improve their health and wellness, live self-directed lives, and strive to reach their full potential (<https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/recovery>).

o Examples include: peer support workers, peer support groups, recovery housing, recovery community centers, transportation assistance, job training and placement, etc.

Pregnant or parenting people and their families – Individuals that are currently pregnant, have recently had a child, infants, and their family (<https://store.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/d7/priv/sma18-5054.pdf>)

- o Examples include: screening for substance use disorder among pregnant women, monitoring of babies with NAS, childcare during service access, etc.

Data and research – Factual information used as a basis for reason, discussion or calculation and the process of systematic inquiry that requires coll