

## **Van Buren County Opioid Settlement Fund – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

### **1. What is the “90% Future Programming” requirement?**

Van Buren County is required to allocate at least **90% of opioid settlement funds** toward **future-oriented opioid remediation activities**, as defined in **Exhibit E** of the National Opioid Settlement. This includes new or expanded services, programs, or infrastructure that address opioid use and its impacts.

### **2. What counts as “future programming”?**

Examples include:

- New treatment or recovery programs
- Expansion of existing services (new staff, extended hours, added locations)
- Transitional or supportive housing for people in recovery
- Harm reduction initiatives
- Pilot projects or demonstration programs
- Capital improvements tied directly to opioid remediation

### **3. What expenses are not considered “future programming”?**

The following do **not** qualify toward the 90%:

- Reimbursement of previously incurred costs
- Supplanting other funds without service expansion
- Indirect or administrative costs unrelated to program delivery

### **4. Can grantees include administrative or indirect costs in their proposals?**

Yes. Up to **10% of a grant award** may be allocated to **indirect expenses**, if they are clearly connected to the implementation or oversight of Exhibit E-eligible opioid work. These must be:

- Justified in the proposal
- Included in the project budget
- Subject to County review and approval

## 5. How will the County monitor compliance with these rules?

- **Proposal Review:** All proposals must label costs as “new,” “expanded,” or “existing” with a short justification.
- **Annual Review:** County staff will review cumulative spending each year to ensure that no more than 10% has been used for non-qualifying purposes.
- **Annual Compliance Statement:** The County will prepare a written confirmation annually to document compliance with the 90% rule.

## 6. What is the biannual reporting requirement?

Under the National Opioid Settlement:

- **Counties must report twice per year**, but **only** if any expenditures do **not** align with Exhibit E.
- **If all spending is compliant, no report is required.**
- These biannual reports will be included in the County’s audit and compliance documentation.

## 7. Where can I find the official list of allowed uses?

Exhibit E provides the full list of allowed uses for opioid remediation. You can access it here:

 [Exhibit E – Final Distributor Settlement Agreement \(PDF\)](#)

## 8. Who can I contact with questions about the policy?

Contact the **Van Buren County Community Services Department** at (269) 657-8253 or email **Lisa Ransler** at [lransler@vanburencountymi.gov](mailto:lransler@vanburencountymi.gov).