



Van Buren County Opioid Settlement Funds Request for Proposals (RFP)

Overview

Van Buren County invites nonprofits and public agencies serving Van Buren County residents to apply for funding to support the development, implementation, enhancement, or expansion of programs addressing opioid prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery. This includes services targeting substance use disorders, polysubstance use, and co-occurring mental health conditions.

Proposals will be accepted annually through a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The number and size of awards will vary based on available funds.

Background

In 2021, a \$26 billion nationwide opioid settlement was reached with McKesson, Cardinal Health, AmerisourceBergen, and Johnson & Johnson. Additional settlements with CVS, Walmart, Walgreens, Teva, Allergan, and others followed in 2022 and 2023.

Van Buren County is projected to receive \$2.79 million over 20 years, averaging \$139,500 per year. To date, the County has received \$750,000. The Van Buren County Board of Commissioners estimates \$150,000 will be available annually to fund Opioid prevention programs.

Goal

The goal of this effort is to support evidence-based strategies and promising practices to prevent and address the adverse impacts of the drug overdose epidemic in Van Buren County.

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 include, but are not limited to:

- Nonprofit organizations and public agencies
- Local units of government (cities, villages, townships, counties)
- Tribal governments and sovereign nations
- Public health agencies
- Behavioral health and SUD treatment providers
- Hospitals, healthcare systems, and community clinics
- Schools and educational institutions
- Law enforcement and first responder agencies
- Recovery housing operators and homelessness service providers
- Faith-based organizations and culturally specific service providers

- Community-based and peer-led organizations
- Court systems, re-entry programs, and jail-based services
- Workforce development organizations

To be eligible for funding, applicants must:

- Be a nonprofit or public agency, or a collaborative including such entities
- Be located in or serve residents of Van Buren County
- Propose a project that is fully aligned with Exhibit E of the National Opioid Settlement (<https://www.vanburencountymi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5797/Exhibit-E---Settlement-Spending-Guidelines>)
- Have the capacity to carry out the proposed project
- Demonstrate eligibility as a responsible vendor, including:
- Valid Tax ID and W-9 form
- Current on real or personal property taxes (if applicable)
- Not debarred by local, state, or federal agencies (SAM.gov, OFAC)
- In good standing with applicable licensing and legal requirements
- Able to provide financial audits and fiscal policies upon request

Availability of Funds

Funding awards are subject to the amount of settlement funding available for allocation in each cycle, which may vary from year to year. Applications will be accepted every other year during odd-numbered years, with the next deadline set for **August 15, 2025**.

Each funding cycle will support projects operating from October 1 through September 30 of the following year.

Proposal Requirements

Priorities

- Utilize funds to serve those in Van Buren County
- Serve individuals and communities most impacted by opioid use disorder (OUD) and co-occurring SUD/MH conditions
- Address barriers such as stigma, affordability, access, and transportation
- Respond directly to gaps identified in the 2024 Van Buren County Community Assessment
- Explanation of how success and sustainability will be measured.

High-Priority Focus Areas:

- Transitional/sober living housing
- Recovery support services
- Peer specialists
- Transportation assistance
- Community education and stigma reduction
- MOUD/MAT access, particularly in rural or primary care settings

Organizations awarded funded are required to:

- Ensure utilization of funds supplement, not supplant, existing funding

- Ensure all funds are used in alignment with Exhibit E and the definition of opioid remediation
- Ensure administrative costs do not exceed ten percent (10%)
- Complete required quarterly and annual reports

Reporting Requirements - Organizations should provide quarterly reports 30 days after the quarter ends to the Van Buren County Community Services Director. Progress reports should outline the following:

- Staff working on the project
- Community partners involved with the project
- Challenges and barriers experienced within the associated timeframe
- Key successes
- Anticipated next steps

Annual reports should be provided 30 days after September 30th, and should outline the following:

- Program metrics (outputs, outcomes, and impact)
- Evaluation outcomes based on agreed-upon measures
- Audited financials, including opinion letters, findings, and corrective actions (if applicable)
- Written fiscal policies and internal controls documentation

Allowable Uses of Funds & Funding Restrictions

Activities must meet the definition of opioid remediation, be evidence-based strategies or promising practices and align with allowable uses outlined by [Exhibit E](#). 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
- ✓ 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 needs of pregnant or parenting women and their families, including babies with NAS

4. Approved Uses – Other Strategies *(Please Note: All activities must be directly related to opioid use, prevention, treatment, recovery, or the broader impacts of the opioid epidemic.)*

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

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 the Van Buren County Opioid Settlement Steering Committee.

Final decisions will be based on alignment with priorities, quality of proposal, available funding, and compliance with eligibility standards. Following notice of award, organizations may be invited to a brief presentation or interview with the committee to review scope, metrics, and contract terms.

Funding is contingent upon the approval of a final agreement by the Board of Commissioners

Proposals must include the following:

- Applicant Organization Information and Description as it is relevant to the subject
- Project director resume or bio
- Budget template
- Description of the project and its proposed impact
- Specifics on the population being served and geographic impact
- Data supporting needs
- Timely application and feasibility of timeline
- Scope of work and alignment with Exhibit E
- Measures of Success
- Sustainability of work
- Detailed 2 year budget
- Optional: Letters of support, past performance documentation

Scoring Criteria

Proposals will be reviewed by the Van Buren County Opioid Settlement Steering Committee. Final decisions will be made based on alignment with priorities, quality of proposal, and available funding.

Submit proposals by August 15 to: Van Buren County Community Services Department, 219 E Paw Paw Street, Suite 201, Paw Paw MI 49079 or by email at RanslerL@VanBurenCountyMI.gov.

Notice of award is expected to occur before September 30. Following the notice of award, organizations will meet with designated Van Buren County staff to discuss the contract process and specific metrics for the project identified.

Scoring criteria and weighting

CRITERIA SCORES		WEIGHT
1. Adherence to RFP Instructions		0.05
2. Organizational capacity		0.05
3. Project description and goals		0.25
4. Target population and geography		0.05
5. Demonstrated need using data		0.05
6. Timeline		0.05
7. Scope of Work		0.25
8. Measures of Success		0.10
9. Sustainability		0.10
10. Budget		0.05
Total Score		1.00

For questions related to this funding opportunity, please contact Lisa Ransler at RanslerL@VanBurenCountyMI.gov and include **Subject Line format** of 25/26 Opioid RFP Submission.

Request for Proposals

Van Buren County Opioid Settlement Funds – FY 25/26

RFP Posted	July 1
Proposals Due	August 15
Anticipated Notice of Award	September 30
Anticipated Performance Period	October 1 – September 30
Questions to	RanslerL@VanBurenCountyMI.gov

To Be Completed by Organization Submitting Proposal:

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 <i>(Brief overview of mission, services, and population served.)</i>	

3. Project Description Including Project Objectives *(Summarize what the project will do, who it will serve, and the goals.)*

4. Populations Served/Target Population and Geographic Area Served *(Be specific to Van Buren County communities or zip codes.)*

5. Data to Support Need for Project *(Reference local needs or stats from the 2024 assessment if possible.)*

6. Project Timeline Overview *(Key milestones or phases with dates.)*

7. Explain how the project aligns with Exhibit E			
Scope of Work			
Activity	Outputs	Outcomes	Timeline
8. Success <i>(How will you track progress and impact?)</i>			
9. Sustainability <i>(How will this program continue after funding ends?)</i>			
10. Budget – Total amount requested		\$	
11. Budget Narrative <i>(Explain major expenses and how funds will be used.)</i>			
12. New or Existing Project – Check one		___ - Existing ___ - New	
12.a. If existing, how many unique individuals are served annually by the current project?			
12.b. If new, is the project evidence-based or based on promising practices? (Check one and provide link to information on evidence base)		___ - Yes ___ - No Link: _____	

13. Attachments – Supporting Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resume and/or bio of project director • Completed budget template (provided) • Letters of support from partner organizations (optional) • Materials demonstrating experience, organizational impact and/or commitment to addressing the drug overdose epidemic (optional)
14. Conflict of Interest Disclosure – Check Box: <input type="checkbox"/> To the best of our knowledge, no conflicts of interest exist between our organization and any members of the Van Buren County Opioid Settlement Steering Committee. (If unsure, please explain.)	
14. Submission Certification - By signing below, I certify that the information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and that I am authorized to submit this proposal on behalf of the applicant organization. I acknowledge that submission of this proposal does not guarantee funding and that any awarded funds must be used in compliance with the terms outlined in the Request for Proposals and the National Opioid Settlement Exhibit E. Signature of Authorized Representative: _____ Printed Name: _____ Title: _____ Date: _____	

Resources

- Van Buren County
 - [Community Assessment Executive Report \(2024\)](#)
 - [Community Assessment Report \(2024\)](#)
- Principles for Spending
 - [Principles for the Use of Funds From the Opioid Litigation](#)
- Evidence-Based Strategies and Promising Practices
 - [Evidence Based Strategies for Abatement of Harms from the Opioid Epidemic](#)
 - [Evidence-Based Strategies for Preventing Opioid Overdose: What's Working in the United States](#)
- Local data
 - [Michigan Overdose Data to Action Dashboard](#)
 - Data on overdose deaths, emergency department visits and emergency medical services (EMS) calls and Substance Use Vulnerability Index
 - [Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Opioids Webpage - EMS Responses](#)
 - “Public Use Dataset EMS Responses to Probable Opioid Overdose”, found under “Overdose Reports”
 - [Michigan Substance Use Disorder Data Repository \(SUDDR\)](#) and [Data Visualizations](#)
 - Suspected fatal overdoses and emergency medical services naloxone administration data

- [University of Michigan Injury Prevention Center System for Opioid Overdose Surveillance \(SOS\)](#)
 - County-level data on overdose deaths, emergency department visits and emergency medical services (EMS) calls
- [Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program \(ODMAP\)](#)
 - Near real-time tracking of fatal and non-fatal overdoses and naloxone administration by public health and public safety
- [Wayne State University's School of Social Work Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Dashboard](#)
 - Customizable dashboard that shows multiple topics including, behavioral health, public health, criminal justice, housing, demographic and other data
- Data and information may also be accessed through local communities within health departments, prevention coalitions, harm reduction providers, behavioral health providers, recovery support providers and other groups.

Instructions for Completing the Budget Worksheet

This form will help you itemize your proposed use of Opioid Settlement Funds. Please complete all applicable columns. Totals will calculate automatically.

◆ **Column A – Expense Category:** Use broad categories such as

- Personnel (e.g., Peer Recovery Coach)
- Treatment Services (e.g., uninsured MAT services)
- Harm Reduction (e.g., naloxone kits, fentanyl test strips)
- Transportation (e.g., ride vouchers or gas cards)
- Indirect Costs (e.g., admin, HR, IT support)

◆ **Column B – Description of Item/Activity:** Briefly describe the item or activity being funded.

Example: *“0.5 FTE Peer Recovery Coach (salary & fringe)”* or *“100 naloxone kits + 200 fentanyl test strips.”*

◆ **Column C – Use of Funds (Drop-down):** Choose the category that best aligns with the intent of the expense. Select one of the following from the drop-down list:

- **Prevention**
- **Treatment**
- **Other** (Includes Harm Reduction, Recovery Support, Criminal Justice & Public Safety, Infrastructure, Data & Research)


◆ **Column D – Strategy Category from Exhibit E (Drop-down):** Select the most appropriate strategy from **Exhibit E** using the drop-down menu. Refer to the definitions below to ensure the selection aligns with your funded activity.

◆ **Column E – Quantity** - Enter the number of units (e.g., 10 clients, 0.5 FTE, 100 kits).

◆ **Column F – Cost per Unit** - Enter the cost per unit. **Round to the nearest \$10.**

◆ **Column G – Total Cost** - This column will auto-calculate based on Quantity × Cost per Unit.

Exhibit E Strategy Category Definitions (Column D)

 **Prevention** - Activities that educate or support individuals and communities to reduce substance misuse and the development of substance use disorders.

 samhsa.gov/find-help/prevention

Examples:

- Media campaigns
- School-based prevention programs
- Public awareness initiatives

 **Treatment** - Programs and services designed to address substance use disorders and co-occurring mental health conditions.

 store.samhsa.gov/sma14-4126

Examples:


- Residential or outpatient treatment
- MOUD/MAT services
- Behavioral health workforce supports

 **Linkage to Care** - Coordinated efforts to connect individuals and families with appropriate health, behavioral, and social services.

 samhsa.gov/find-help/recovery

Examples:

- Referrals to treatment or primary care
- Case management
- Coordination with social/legal services

 **Criminal-Legal System** - Programs working within or in partnership with courts, jails, or law enforcement to address substance use.

 bjs.ojp.gov/justice-system

Examples:

- Recovery or drug courts
- MOUD in correctional facilities
- Co-responder and diversion models

 **Recovery Supports** - Services that help individuals maintain recovery and improve quality of life.

Examples:

 samhsa.gov/find-help/recovery

- Peer support or recovery coaches
- Recovery housing
- Transportation, job training, or childcare

 **Pregnant or Parenting People and Their Families** - Specialized services supporting pregnant individuals, postpartum people, infants, and families.

 store.samhsa.gov/sma18-5054

Examples:

- SUD screening during pregnancy
- Monitoring and care for NAS-affected infants
- Family-based service coordination

 **Data and Research** - Use of data and evaluation to inform, improve, or study programs & needs.

Examples:

- Program evaluation
- Needs assessments
- Mapping/data analysis

Proposed Budget - Opioid Settlement Funds

[illegible]

