

Connecticut Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee

Updates

April 16, 2024

OSAC Updates- Funding Recommendation

- OSAC approved spending up to \$4 million over three years for enabling the state's first mobile opioid treatment program in Connecticut.
- This proposal would fund two mobile units across the state, utilizing data to assess underserved locations in CT.
- The recommendation has been approved by OPM and the Attorney General and we hope to post a RFP as soon as possible.

OSAC Updates- Funding Recommendation

- OSAC must follow the legal guidelines and process instructions for RFPs to ensure open bidding and a fair review.
- We strongly encourage all qualified organizations to bid once the recommendation is approved and the RFP is issued.
- However, in order to follow the necessary steps and make certain we have an unimpeachable process, it may take several months from the time a recommendation is approved by the Committee to the awarding of contracts and getting OTP vans into the communities.

OSAC Updates- Upcoming Recommendations

Three additional recommendations are moving through the process and will be voted on in the next OSAC meeting:

- Department of Corrections expansion of Medication Assisted Treatment
- Arrest Diversion via the Treatment Pathway Program
- Prevention and Harm Reduction through Public Access to Naloxone

- ~ \$6.5 million total

OSAC Updates - Funding Disbursements

- In April, the state received another \$46 million from a group of settlement agreements. This brings our current total to approximately \$116 million.
- There are other settling parties in Connecticut, such as the municipalities and tribal governments. Those parties receive their proceeds directly from the settlement administrator and not the state.
- The state does collect information on the municipal governments' receipt and expenditure of funds annually, with the reporting period due to open again in the Fall 2024.
- Additionally, OSAC has published the projected settlement amounts to be received by municipalities on our website, but that information is limited to two settlement agreements.

OSAC Updates- CORE Report

- A team from Yale, led by Dr. David Fiellin, were contracted to update the CORE Report originally issued in 2016.
- Over the last year, the team has worked to gather information to conduct a needs assessment and make recommendations to OSAC for funding opportunities that comport with the settlement agreements and the principles drafted by a group of experts.
- A final copy of the report was delivered to OSAC in March, with seven funding priorities.

OSAC Updates- CORE Report

- CORE Report Funding Priorities:
 - Increase Access to the Most Effective Medications (Methadone and Buprenorphine) for Opioid Use Disorder Across Diverse Settings
 - Reduce Overdose Risk and Mortality, Especially Among Individuals at Highest Risk and Highest Need with Linkage to Treatment, Naloxone, and Harm Reduction
 - Improve the Collection, Analysis, Sharing, and Use of Data Across Agencies and Organizations Relevant to Addressing the Opioid Overdose Crisis
 - Invest in Training and Support to Increase the Size of the Addiction Workforce and Help Non-Specialists to Provide Services
 - Simultaneously Deploy and Evaluate Select Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Prevention Strategies
 - Invest in Efforts to Reduce Community Stigma Against Opioid Use Disorder and Opioid Use Disorder Treatments
 - Address Social Determinants and Structural Needs of At-Risk and Impacted Populations

OSAC Next Steps

- Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 14, 2024 via Microsoft Teams.
- The subcommittees are continuing to meet on an ad-hoc basis.
- Contact Chris McClure or Luiza Barnat with questions.