

**RESOLUTION OF THE MECKLENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DIRECTING 5.5 MILLION IN SECOND ROUND OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND
EXPENDITURES,**

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County joined in the Memorandum of Agreement between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments outlining the distribution of proceeds relating to the National Settlement of Opioid Litigation, and any subsequent settlement funds that may come into North Carolina as a result of the opioid crisis has against companies engaged in the manufacturing, distribution, and dispensing of opioids, including settlements with drug distributors Cardinal, McKesson, and AmerisourceBergen, and the drug maker Johnson & Johnson and its subsidiary Janssen Pharmaceuticals, referred to as Wave 1 of the Opioid Settlement; and

WHEREAS, additional settlement funds, referred to as Wave 2 with additional settling defendants including Walmart, Inc., Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., Allergan Finance, LLC, Allergan Limited, CVS Health Corporation, CVS Pharmacy, Inc., and Walgreen Co., as well as their subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, and directors and the Kroger Settlement will be disbursed to Mecklenburg County as well; and

WHEREAS, the allocation, use, and reporting of the second round of opioid settlements, Wave 2, funds stemming from these national settlement agreements and certain bankruptcy resolutions (“Opioid Settlement Funds”) are governed by the Memorandum of Agreement Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation (“MOA”); and

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County has recognized, received, and appropriated additional Opioid Settlement Funds pursuant to these national settlement agreements and deposited the Opioid Settlement Funds in a separate special revenue fund as required by section D of the MOA; and

WHEREAS, the terms of the settlement, regardless of allocation, requires the funds be utilized only for opioid remediation activities which the County will fund pursuant to Option A of the MOA; and

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County will receive \$74,854,434 from the Opioid Settlement funds over a sixteen (16) year period to be distributed between 2022 and 2038; and

WHEREAS, section E.6 of the MOA states:

E.6. Process for drawing from special revenue funds.

- a. Budget item or resolution required. Opioid Settlement Funds can be used for a purpose when the Governing Body includes in its budget or passes a separate resolution authorizing the expenditure of a stated amount of Opioid Settlement Funds for that purpose or those purposes during a specified period of time.
- b. Budget item or resolution details. The budget or resolution should (i) indicate that it is an authorization for expenditure of opioid settlement funds; (ii) state the specific strategy or

strategies the county or municipality intends to fund pursuant to Option A or Option B, using the item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to identify each funded strategy, and (iii) state the amount dedicated to each strategy for a stated period of time.

WHEREAS, on May 17, 2023, Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners approved an initial \$10.9M investment in eight strategies from Exhibit A of the NC MOA. The strategies included: 1) Collaborative Strategic Planning, 2) Evidence Based Addiction Treatment, 3) Recovery Support Services, 4) Recovery Housing Support, 5) Employment Related Services, 6) Early Intervention, 7) Naloxone Distribution, 8) Syringe Service Programs. These strategies were developed based on recommendations from community survey results, insights from an Opioid Summit community meeting, and input from the Substance Use Disorder Task Force and other stakeholders.

WHEREAS, there is a need to increase funding for Naloxone (also known as Narcan) to ensure the continued distribution and availability of this resource across the community.

WHEREAS, there is a need to expand upon opioid overdose response services in Mecklenburg County by establishing a Post Overdose Response Team. The team will provide urgent follow-up with individuals who have overdosed on opioids and offer connections to ongoing physical and behavioral health treatment and support.

WHEREAS, there is a need to expand Medication Assisted Treatment services in the Mecklenburg County Detention Center to support incarcerated residents experiencing opioid use or dependency, reducing their overdose risk upon re-entry into the community, and decreasing recidivism rates.

WHEREAS, there is a need to continue funding these strategy areas to ensure a comprehensive continuum of care for individuals at-risk of Opioid Use Disorder (OUD), engaged in active OUD, or in recovery from OUD.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in alignment with Option A of the NC MOA, Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners authorizes the expenditure of opioid settlement funds as follows:

1. First strategy authorized

- a. Name of strategy: Naloxone Distribution
- b. Strategy is included in [Exhibit A](#)
- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A to the MOA: Item 7
- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$400,000.
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
Start date of December 3, 2024, through end date of June 30, 2028
- f. Description of the program, project, or activity:

- Continue support programs or organizations that distribute naloxone to persons at risk of overdose or their social networks.
- This includes programs that provide naloxone to persons upon release from jail or prison, emergency medical service providers or hospital emergency departments that provide naloxone to persons at risk of overdose, or community-based organizations that provide

services to people who use drugs. Programs or organizations involved in community distribution of naloxone may, in addition, provide naloxone to first responders.

- Fund naloxone distribution throughout Mecklenburg County including, but not limited to, community organizations, first responders at MEDIC, and the Towns of Davidson, Cornelius, Huntersville, Matthews, Mint Hill, and Pineville.

2. Second strategy authorized

- a. Name of strategy: Post-overdose response team
- b. Strategy is included in [Exhibit A](#)
- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A to the MOA: Item 8
- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$2.5 million.
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
Start date of December 3, 2024, through end date of June 30, 2028
- f. Description of the program, project, or activity:

- In collaboration with Alliance Health and Atrium Health, establish a Post-Overdose Response Team (developed as part of expanding existing emergency department opioid overdose response services).
- The Post-Overdose Response Team will connect persons who have experienced non-fatal drug overdoses to addiction treatment, recovery support, harm reduction services, primary healthcare, or other services or supports they need to improve their health or well-being.

3. Third strategy authorized

- a. Name of strategy: Addiction Treatment for Incarcerated Persons
- b. Strategy is included in [Exhibit A](#)
- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A to the MOA: Item 11
- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$2 million.
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
Start date of December 3, 2024, through end date of June 30, 2028
- f. Description of the program, project, or activity:

- In collaboration with Mecklenburg County Detention Center and VitalCore, connect individuals with medication assisted treatment (MAT) as part of the rehabilitation and reentry process for people incarcerated in the correctional facility. MAT addresses substance use as a risk factor for future incarceration and may contribute to long-term recovery and reduced recidivism.
- Funds allocated under this strategy will be used specifically to expand Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) services in the Mecklenburg County Detention Center.

4. Fourth strategy authorized

- a. Name of strategy: Reentry Programs
- b. Strategy is included in [Exhibit A](#)
- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A to the MOA: Item 12
- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$600,000.
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
Start date of December 3, 2024, through end date of June 30, 2028

f. Description of the program, project, or activity:

- In collaboration with Alliance Health, expand programs and staffing that connect incarcerated persons to addiction treatment, recovery support, harm reduction services, primary healthcare, or other services or supports they need upon release from jail or prison, or that provide any of these services or supports.

The total dollar amount of Opioid Settlement funds to be appropriated across the above identified strategies is estimated to be five million five hundred thousand dollars (\$5,500,000).

Adopted this the _____ day of _____, 20XX.

Mark Jerrell, Chair Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Clerk to the Board