



Opioid Settlements:

Special Initiatives for High-Risk Populations

Agenda

Presentation purpose:

Recommend Opioid Settlement initiatives for high-risk populations, specifically individuals in need of assistance following an overdose and Mecklenburg County's incarcerated population.

Agenda items:

- Expand Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) in Mecklenburg County Detention Center
- Establish Reentry Support Services
- Create Post Overdose Response Team (PORT)
- Increase Naloxone Funding



NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT



**\$74M over
an 18-year
period**

- Mecklenburg County is set to receive over \$74 Million over an 18-year period resulting from the National Opioid Settlements.
- Between May – July 2023, approval for the Opioid Settlement Spending Plan was granted, the community application portal was opened, proposals were received and reviewed, and the BOCC approved the County Manager's funding recommendations from the RFP Process.



FUNDING CAPTURE

Funding Overview	
Total Received	\$21.19M
Total Invested	\$10.92M
Total Expensed	\$1.6M
Unobligated	\$10.27M



OPIOID SETTLEMENT WAVE 1 SPENDING PLAN

**\$10.9M
Invested
in Key
Priorities**

Invested Strategies	
Collaborative Strategic Planning	\$350K
Early Intervention	\$2.25M
Evidence-Based Addiction Treatment	\$2.25M
Syringe Services Programs	\$210K
Naloxone Distribution	\$330K
Recovery Support Services	\$2M
Recovery Housing Support	\$3M
Employment-Related Services	\$525K





Medication Assisted Treatment in the Detention Center and Reentry Programs

Opioid Use and the Criminal Justice Population



- Drug overdose is among the leading causes of death for individuals re-entering the community.
- Individuals reporting opioid use are significantly more likely to be involved with the criminal justice system.
- Justice-involved individuals are more likely to die of an opioid overdose compared to the general population.



Expanding MAT Services in Detention Center

- An estimated 150-200 residents of the Mecklenburg County Detention Center (MCDC) residents meet criteria for Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT).
- MCDC has continued MAT for 74 residents since October 1, 2023.
- MAT is offered by a community partner agency for Pregnant Women and individuals who enter the jail receiving opioid treatment.
- We propose adding MAT initiation for all individuals using opioids upon entry to the jail.



Proposed Structure of MAT in Detention Center

- We propose that MAT services are provided in the Jail by Vital Core with the following staff components:
 - MAT Physician or Advanced Practice Provider (PA or NP)
 - 1 Master's Level Licensed Clinician
 - 1 Registered Nurse



Budget for MAT in Detention Center

Annual Cost Estimate (3% annual inflation increase)	
Description Population	100
Staffing (3 positions)	\$ 395,800
Employee Education, Recruiting, Orientation, and Parking	\$ 3,000
Computers, Program and Office Supplies, and Equipment	\$ 9,000
Pharmacy	\$ 90,000
Software License, Hardware, Installation, and Training	\$ 7,500
Estimated Annual Cost:	\$ 505,300



Reentry Support Services

- Allocate \$200k per year over 3 years to Alliance Health to create a team of positions within their provider network to offer re-entry services to individuals being released from the Detention Center.
- The staff would be Peer Support Specialists and/or Qualified Substance Use Professionals.
- These positions will link re-entering residents to physical and mental healthcare, government benefits, employment and housing.



Budget for Reentry Services

Annual Cost Estimate (3% annual inflation increase)	
Staffing (3-5 positions)	\$ 175,000
Employee Education, Recruiting, Orientation, and Parking	\$ 3,000
Computers, Program and Office Supplies, and Equipment	\$ 9,000
Software License, Hardware, Installation, and Training	\$ 7,500
Estimated Annual Cost:	\$ 194,500





Post Overdose Response Team

Post Overdose Response Team

- Post-overdose response teams (PORT) conduct outreach and offer services to people who have experienced an overdose within 72 hours.
- Teams consist of health-related professionals, such as outreach specialists, peer recovery specialists, healthcare professionals or emergency medical services (EMS) personnel.
- Teams can be coordinated by county agencies or by community-based organizations operating in partnership with county agencies.



How Does the PORT Model Work?



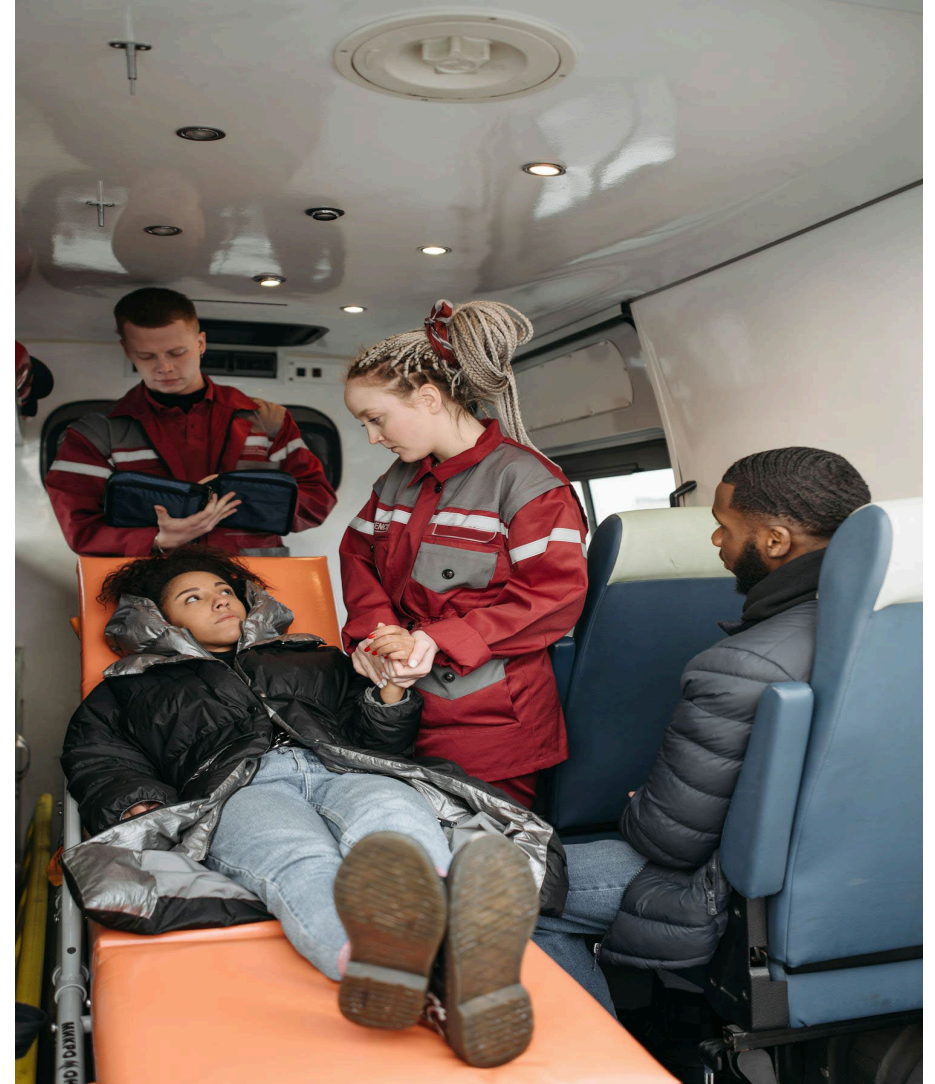
- PORT programs identify eligible individuals through Emergency Medical Services, law enforcement, and hospital emergency departments.
- Programs typically use some combination of phone, text message, or in-person follow-up options
- This ensures participants have access to all the information they need to make informed decisions about their health and wellbeing.



PORT Staffing Structure

In partnership with Atrium Health, establish an integrated healthcare team with the following positions:

- 1 Medical Director
- 1 Medical Provider
- 1 PORT Manager
- 2 Peer Support Specialists
- .5 Data Analyst (Medic)



Budget for PORT

Annual Cost Estimate			
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3*
Initial Setup Costs	\$ 361,689	N/A	N/A
Recurring Operational Costs	\$387,320	\$568,448	\$602,232
Additional Costs	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
Total Cost Projection	\$ 809,009	\$628,448	\$662,232



Budget for PORT

Year 3 PORT Expansion

To support the growth of the PORT program, Year 3 includes the addition of team members:

- Medical Provider
- PORT Program Coordinator
- Peer Support Specialist

Total Additional Year 3 Costs

\$220,320





Naloxone Distribution

Naloxone Distribution



- Allocate \$400K in additional funding to Public Health to ensure ongoing Narcan availability throughout the County.
- This resource will continue to support public schools, law enforcement agencies, emergency medical service providers, and community-based organizations.
- To date, 7,967 Narcan kits have been distributed in the community from Opioid Settlement investments.





Budget Summary and Next Steps

Total Budget Request (Dec 2024 to Jun 2028)

**Total
Budget
Cost:
\$5.5M
(12/04/24 to
06/30/28)**

Medication Assisted Treatment:
\$2M

Reentry Service Positions:
\$600K

Post Overdose Response Team:
\$2.5M

Naloxone Distribution:
\$400K



Requested Board Action

- **Requested Action:** Recognize, Receive, and Appropriate \$5.5M in Opioid Settlement funding for the following service areas from December 4, 2024 through June 30, 2028.
 - o Expand MAT services in the Mecklenburg County Detention Center
 - o Develop reentry support services for residents of the detention center utilizing MAT in partnership with Alliance Health
 - o Create a PORT Model in partnership with Atrium Health
 - o Increase funding for Naloxone distribution in the community





Questions and Discussion