

Opioid Abatement Funding – June 2024 Report City of St. Petersburg

This memo is intended to provide an update to the Statewide Council on Opioid Abatement in accordance with the reporting requirements set out in the Statewide Response Agreement and in HB783.

The City of St. Petersburg received the first-round distribution of opioid settlement funding in FY23, totaling \$310,871.37. The City then received \$773,493.66 during FY24, for a total of \$1,084,365.03 in funding received to date. Staff have explored how to mobilize this funding for highest impact to meet the emerging needs of the community now. This included reviewing data on the municipal, county, Metropolitan Statistical Area, state, and national levels to understand which demographics or populations are most vulnerable in this space; attending the County's Opioid Abatement Fund Advisory Board meetings to stay up to date on how these funds are being used and managed locally; and meeting with community stakeholders to gather feedback on where they see gaps in services or funding in the local community. The City of St. Petersburg has determined it will administer a grantmaking cycle to fund local organizations doing work that aligns with the State's approved uses as outlined in the Statewide Response Agreement. An overview of the grant cycle is listed below, including tentative timeline.

City of St. Petersburg Opioid Settlement Funding – Grant Program Overview

- Local 501c3 non-profits who serve residents in the city of St. Petersburg will be eligible to apply for funding under two tier options, depending on the scope of their proposal and their organizational capacity:
 - Tier 1: \$25,000
 - Tier 2: \$100,000
- Applicants must identify which approved use(s) their proposal is aligned with, as outlined in Exhibits A and B of the Statewide Response Agreement. Applicants must identify what community gap/need they are intending to address through their proposal, what data they used to identify that need, and how their proposal will impact residents.
- Based on the guidelines from the State of Florida's Opioid Settlement list of approved uses and informed by the Pinellas County Opioid Task Force's strategic plan, the City of St. Petersburg seeks to fund grant proposals that align with overarching categories of impact areas listed below.
 - In addition to accepting proposals that align with those impact areas, priority in awarding grants will be given to proposals that **fill gaps from other funding sources**, and that focus on **respite housing, harm reduction, and peer support**.
- Impact Areas:
 - Treatment and Recovery Support Services: This category seeks to fund proposals that increase opportunities for individualized treatment programs and peer support and recovery services among people with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD).



Examples of work in this impact area may include, but are not limited to, the following strategies from the Settlement Agreement Approved Uses:

- Residential and inpatient treatment, intensive outpatient treatment, outpatient therapy or counseling, and recovery housing that allow or integrate Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) with other support services.
 - Expanding warm hand-off services to transition to recovery services.
 - Providing comprehensive wrap-around services to individuals in recovery including housing, transportation, job placement/training, and childcare.
 - Expanding availability of treatment for Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and any co-occurring Substance Use Disorder (SUD)/Mental Health (MH) conditions, including all forms of Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
 - Supporting mobile intervention, treatment, and recovery services, offered by qualified professionals and service providers, such as peer recovery coaches, for persons with OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions and for persons who have experienced an opioid overdose.
 - Providing the full continuum of care of treatment and recovery services for OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions, including supportive housing, peer support services and counseling, community navigators, case management, and connections to community-based services.
 - Creating and/or supporting recovery high schools.
- Overdose Prevention & Harm Reduction: This category seeks to fund proposals that prevent overdose deaths and reduce other opioid-related harms among people with OUD.

Examples of work in this impact area may include, but are not limited to, the following strategies from the Settlement Agreement Approved Uses:

- Increasing availability and distribution of naloxone and other drugs that treat overdoses for first responders, overdose patients, individuals with OUD (Opioid Use Disorder) and their friends and family members, individuals at high risk of overdose, schools, community navigators and outreach workers, persons being released from jail or prison, or other members of the general public.
- Educating the public and first responders regarding the existence and operation of immunity and Good Samaritan laws.
- Evidence-informed programs to reduce harms associated with intravenous drug use, including supplies, staffing, space, peer support services, referrals to treatment, fentanyl checking, connections to care, and the full range of harm reduction and treatment services provided by these programs.
 - Please note that while the Approved Uses document includes references to supporting syringe service programs, FL Statute 381.0038



still applies to syringe-service program operations. 381.0038(f): “State, county, or municipal funds may not be used to operate [a sterile needle and syringe] exchange program. Exchange programs shall be funded through grants and donations from private resources and funds.” The Office of the Attorney General advised that these Opioid Settlement dollars are considered state funds.

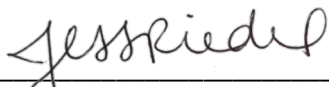
- Supporting mobile units that offer or provide referrals to harm reduction services, treatment, recovery supports, health care, or other appropriate services to persons that use opioids or persons with OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions.
- Substance Use Prevention & Education: This category seeks to fund proposals that provide education and supportive opportunities to prevent substance use and reduce community stigma.

Examples of work in this impact area may include, but are not limited to, the following strategies from the Settlement Agreement Approved Uses:

- Funding for media campaigns to prevent opioid use (similar to the FDA’s “Real Cost” campaign to prevent youth from misusing tobacco)
 - Funding and training for first responders to participate in pre-arrest diversion programs, post-overdose response teams, or similar strategies that connect at-risk individuals to behavioral health services and supports.
 - Supporting community coalitions in implementing evidence-informed prevention, such as reduced social access and physical access, stigma reduction – including staffing, educational campaigns, support for people in treatment or recovery, or training of coalitions in evidence-informed implementation, including the Strategic Prevention Framework developed by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).
 - Funding evidence-based prevention programs in schools or evidence-informed school and community education programs and campaigns for students, families, school employees, school athletic programs, parent-teacher and student associations, and others.
 - Supporting evidence-informed programs or curricula to address mental health needs of young people who may be at risk of misusing opioids or other drugs, including emotional modulation and resilience skills.
 - Creating or supporting community-based education or intervention services for families, youth, and adolescents at risk for OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions.
- Applications will be reviewed by a grant review committee using a standardized evaluation rubric. The review committee will score individually and then come together as a group for final deliberations and awarding decisions.

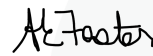


- The performance period for the grant cycle will be January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025.
 - Grantees will be subject to reporting requirements, including collecting and reporting data that aligns with the Statewide Response Agreement's requirements (service utilization data, demographic information, and national outcome measures), as well as engage in any required monitoring and evaluation practices.
- Tentative Timeline
 - August 2024: City Council appropriates funds and approves grant cycle
 - August – September 2024: Application period is open for 45 days
 - October 2024: Grant Review Committee makes awarding decisions
 - November 2024: City Council approves grants in the \$100K tier, as required by City purchasing guidelines
 - November 2024: Agreements with awardees are executed
 - December 2024: Orientation for awardees, review reporting requirements, etc.
 - January 1, 2025: Performance period for awardees starts



Jess Riedel
Senior Operations Analyst

Jess.Riedel@stpete.org
727-893-7901



Amy Foster
Housing & Neighborhood Services
Administrator

Amy.Foster@stpete.org
727-892-5602

