



Opioid Settlement Funds Annual 2024

Implementation Plan for Palm Beach County



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A. Letter from the Chair of the Advisory Committee and Director of the Community Services Department

On behalf of the Palm Beach County Behavioral Health, Substance Use, and Co-Occurring Disorders Advisory Committee (BHSUCOD) and the Community Services Department (CSD), we are proud to present the 2026 Fiscal Year Opioid Settlement Funds Implementation Plan.

This report reflects our ongoing commitment to addressing the opioid crisis and the complex challenges associated with substance use and co-occurring disorders. With input from our dedicated committee members, community partners, and residents of Palm Beach County, we have identified key priorities and strategies to reduce overdose deaths and improve access to care. Together with our system partners, we are working to sustain progress and build a more resilient, recovery-oriented ecosystem of care.

The BHSUCOD has played a central role in advancing this vision, guiding the development of strategic plans and investment recommendations, including the most recent updates approved in Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Plan 2024 (Plan 2024). These efforts have helped shape a strategic, community-driven approach to allocating opioid settlement funds.

This plan reaffirms our collective commitment to expanding access, strengthening care coordination, and promoting recovery through a data-informed, equity-driven, and person-centered lens. It reflects both the progress made and the urgent work ahead to ensure individuals and families affected by substance use and co-occurring disorders have the resources and supports needed to thrive.

We thank all those involved in this essential work and look forward to continued collaboration as we move forward together.

Sincerely,

Pastor Rae Whitely, Chair
PBC Behavioral Health, Substance Use and Co-Occurring Disorders Advisory Committee

Dr. James Green, Director
PBC Community Services Department

B. Background

On March 22, 2022 the BCC approved participation in the Settlement Agreement and Release between the State of Florida and Endo (Florida Opioid Agreement and Statewide Response Agreement) and authorized the Mayor to execute the Subdivision Settlement and Participation Form. The County worked with the Palm Beach County League of Cities to secure inter-local agreements with Palm Beach County Municipalities that represent a more than 50% of municipalities' total population as required by the Florida Plan (Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners Agenda. March 22, 2022).¹

Palm Beach County submitted its Florida Opioid Agreement and Statewide Response Agreement Qualified County Qualification Form to the State of Florida on April 12, 2022. In doing so the County certified:

- The County has a population of at least 300,000 and an opioid taskforce or other similar board, commission, council, or entity, including some existing sub-unit of the County's government responsible for substance abuse prevention, treatment, or recovery of which it is a member or it operates in connection with its municipalities or others on a local regional basis.
- The County has an abatement plan that has been adopted or utilized to respond to the opioid epidemic.
- The County was as of December 31, 2021, either providing or is contracting with others to provide substance use, prevention, recovery, and treatment services to its citizens.
- The County has entered an inter-local agreement with at least 50% of the Municipalities (by population) located within the County.

Section 1 of Resolution R2022-1340 ([5.D.1.R2022-1340.pdf](#)) established the Palm Beach County Behavioral Health, Substance Use, and Co-Occurring Disorder Advisory Committee (BHSUCOD) in part to comply with requirements related to the Florida Opioid Agreement and Statewide Response Agreement. The purpose of the BHSUCOD is to enhance the County's capacity and effectiveness in formulating comprehensive, integrated, and effective behavioral health, substance use, and co-occurring disorders prevention, treatment, support, and recovery policies, as well as to offer recommendations regarding the County's provision of services to the citizens of PBC. Further, the BHSUCOD, supported by the Community Services Department (CSD), was established to increase the coordination and interactions between organizations, agencies, and institutions whose mission is to resolve substance use and behavioral disorders in PBC.

The BCC designated the PBC Community Services Department (CSD) as the lead entity overseeing behavioral health and substance use disorder. CSD coordinates with other system

¹ [PBC Board of County Commissioners March 22, 2022 Agenda](#)

partners, providing leadership, funding, and performance management to support countywide efforts. The BHSUCOD meets bi-monthly during even-numbered months, and the established subcommittees meet in the alternating odd-numbered months. The BHSUCOD and subcommittee meetings are facilitated by the Office of Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorders (OBHSUD) Program, with subcommittees co-facilitated by BHSUCOD Members. Importantly, all meetings are publicly noticed, consistent with the Florida Sunshine Law, and each of the subcommittees provide an opportunity for any interested residents and/or stakeholders to have input on the subcommittee topics. This input is shared with the BHSUCOD and helps inform the direction of the County's efforts.

Currently, there are seven (7)² subcommittees listed in the BHSUCOD Operational Guidelines³, that also serve as strategic priority domains in the Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Plan 2024. The subcommittees are:

1. Prevention and Education
2. Treatment and Recovery
3. Public Policy & Advocacy
4. Justice System and Public Safety
5. Evaluation and Monitoring
6. Essential Services
7. Faith Based Initiatives

Together, these subcommittees support a coordinated, community-based structure to guide implementation, monitor progress, and ensure that local lived experience informs decision-making and system design.

The BHSUCOD provided its formal recommendations to the BCC in accordance with Section 17.42 of the Florida Statutes (2022) by way of the Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Plan 2024 (Plan 2024). The Plan 2024 provided updated progress on initiatives from the 2022 Plan and introduced new priority recommendations to address opioid use, substance use, and co-occurring disorders. CSD and OBHSUD also presented a multi-year Expense Plan for Opioid Settlement Funds, which the BCC approved on October 22, 2024.

Public engagement was central to the development of the Master Plan, with multiple opportunities for comment and input from residents and stakeholders. This input was synthesized through thematic analysis and directly informed the recommendations included in the Plan 2024. The BCC held a workshop to review and discuss the plan and adopted the proposed funding framework of 90% of funds directed toward social determinants of health—including housing, recovery supports, care coordination, and prevention—and 10% toward deep-end treatment and crisis care, with guardrails to prevent supplanting of existing funding streams with Opioid

² The Addiction Stabilization Subcommittee was the 8th Subcommittee, but has since been removed due to the closure of the Addiction Stabilization Unit.

Settlement Funds.

C. Implementation Plan

During the past twelve months, the County developed and released a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Opioid Settlement Funds (OSF) that would align with the County’s and BHSUCOD’s Mission to ensure access to individualized, person-centered, recovery-oriented care and supports through integrated and coordinated services using a “no-wrong door” approach for all Palm Beach County residents in need. To that end, the NOFO was released to the public on March 7, 2025, responses were due and received on April 7, 2025, which was followed by review panel scoring and ranking. Funding recommendations were released on May 28, 2025. A presentation was provided to the BHSUCOD to appraise members and the public of the results of the NOFO recommendations.⁴ As of the end of July 2025, contracts are in the final stages of development and will be presented to the BCC on September 9, 2025 for approval. Contracts will be retroactive to August 1, 2025 and expire on June 30, 2028.

A. NOFO Categories

The NOFO focused on three (3) categories: Recovery Supports; Community Education and Engagement; and Deep-End treatment.

1. Recovery Supports

In the Recovery Supports category, the County received five (5) proposals of which two (2) are being recommended for funding. One proposal is with Rebel Recovery, Florida, Inc. and will offer housing and peer supports, resource and care navigation to individuals with opioid and substance use disorder, as well as co-occurring disorders. This program’s anticipated funding is \$457,850 and aligns with Core Strategy E (Expansion of Warm Hand-Off Programs and Recovery Services) and Approved Use B (Support People in Treatment and Recovery). The focus population for this proposal includes both residents of the County and individuals with justice involvement.

The other proposal recommended for funding is from The Lord’s Place, Inc., which will utilize peer outreach to assist individuals with substance use disorder to access housing, recovery supports and other essential resources related to social determinants of health. This program’s anticipated funding is \$350,000 and aligns with Core Strategy Expansion of Warm Hand-Off Programs and Recovery Services) and Approved Use B (Support People in Treatment and Recovery). The focus population for this proposal is unhoused and unsheltered individuals.

³ [BHSUCOD Manual Final 01062023 \(2\).pdf](#)

⁴ [OVERVIEW OF NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY \(NOFO\)](#)

2. Community Education and Engagement

This category consisted of four (4) subcategories: Family Supports; Recovery Ready Communities; Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT); and Drug Disposal. Two (2) proposals for Family Supports were submitted, of which both are being recommended for funding. Four (4) proposals were submitted under the subcategory of Recovery Ready Communities of which one is potentially recommended for funding pending alignment of the proposal to Opioid Settlement Funds criteria. Two (2) proposals were submitted for SBIRT, of which one is being recommended for funding. One (1) proposal was submitted under the subcategory of Drug Disposal and it is being recommended for funding.

A. Family Supports

The proposals for Family Supports were submitted by NAMI Palm Beach County, Inc. (NAMI) and the Hanley Center Foundation, Inc. (Hanley). NAMI is providing family support programs for families impacted by opioid use, substance use and/or co-occurring disorders. Anticipated funding for NAMI's program is \$100,000. This program is most closely aligned with Approved Use E (Address the Needs of Pregnant or Parenting Women and their families, including babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome), more specifically strategy 8 (Provide enhanced support for children and family members suffering trauma as a result of addiction in the family; and offer trauma-informed behavioral health treatment for adverse childhood events).

Hanley's proposal includes evidence-based programs for children and teens that were developed by the National Association for Children of Addiction (NACoA), family/caregiver supports and equine-assisted therapy for family members of loved ones with substance use disorder.

Recommended funding for this program is \$550,000. This program aligns with Approved Use E (Address the Needs of Pregnant or Parenting Women and their families, including babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome), and more specifically, strategy 8 (Provide enhanced support for children and family members suffering trauma as a result of addiction in the family; and offer trauma-informed behavioral health treatment for adverse childhood events).

B. Recovery Ready Communities

The proposal in this subcategory that is recommended for funding, pending alignment with the Core Strategies and/or Approved Uses for Opioid Settlement Funds is from Ferd and Gladys Albert Jewish Family & Children's Service of Palm Beach County, Inc. This proposal, requests \$150,000 and aims to provide Mental Health First Aid.

C. SBIRT

Two (2) SBIRT proposals were submitted, of which one is being recommended for funding. Genesis Community Health, Inc. seeks to expand use of SBIRT in primary and behavioral health provider offices. Recommended funding is for \$ 340,000. This proposal aligns with Approved Use C (Connect People Who Need Help to the Help they Need (Connections to Care) and specifically strategy 2 (Fund Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment

(SBIRT) programs to reduce the transition from use to disorders, including SBIRT services to pregnant women who are uninsured or not eligible for Medicaid).

D. Drug Disposal

One (1) proposal for a drug disposal program was submitted by the Palm Beach County Substance Abuse Coalition, Inc./dba Palm Beach Behavioral Health Coalition. Recommended funding is for \$80,000. This proposal aligns with Core Strategy G (Prevention Programs and strategy 4 (Funding for community drug disposal programs). This proposal seeks to assess current drug disposal sites, update and expand the number of drug disposal sites and map sites so there is an ongoing list of usable locations where county residents can safely dispose of unused over the counter and prescription medications. Media campaigns will also be implemented to educate the community at large about the potential hazards of leaving unused medications in homes.

3. Deep-End Treatment

One (1) proposal was submitted for this category of services and it is being recommended for funding in the amount of \$450,000. The Hanley Center Foundation, Inc. submitted this proposal which focuses on women, pregnant and postpartum women. This program aligns with Core Strategy C (Pregnant and Postpartum Women) strategy 2 (Expand comprehensive evidence-based treatment and recovery services, including Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for women with co-occurring Opioid Use Disorder and other Substance Use Disorder/Mental Health disorders for uninsured individuals for up to 12 months postpartum).

D. Other Planned Activities and County Investments

The Community Services Department (CSD), in partnership with the County's Legislative Affairs office, continues to advocate for policies that strengthen person-centered, recovery-oriented systems of care. These efforts support strategic investment, service integration, and alignment with the priorities outlined in the Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Plan 2024⁵.

CSD and the BHSUCOD Advisory Committee continue to coordinate and support a countywide planning process with community partners to drive system alignment, clarify roles, and reinforce shared accountability. Dissemination of the Plan 2024 to policymakers will help ensure consistent engagement and alignment across levels of government.

Advocacy will also focus on advancing policies that support a resilient and recovery ecosystem of care that focuses on individualized needs and supports, in collaboration with partner agencies and advocacy efforts through the State Attorney's Addiction Recovery Task Force.

Investments focus on a range of housing options including transitional, recovery, supportive, permanent, and justice-involved placements. CSD is collaborating with the Department of Housing

⁵ [BHSUCOD2024plan_051324_final.pdf](#)

and Economic Development, the Florida Association of Recovery Residences, and other partners to increase access to affordable, recovery-affirming housing.

Efforts are underway to develop an inventory system to track real-time housing availability, and the County is exploring options to establish an ombudsman or referral protocol to assist individuals at risk of housing disruption.

In addition, Palm Beach County is fostering recovery-ready environments by supporting job readiness, peer recovery services, and behavioral health training across sectors.

Palm Beach County continues to expand access to person-centered, recovery-oriented treatment services in alignment with the 2024 Plan Update. Current efforts focus on building a robust continuum of care that integrates medication-assisted treatment (MAT), recovery supports, and harm reduction strategies across clinical and community-based settings.

The Community Services Department (CSD) is partnering with local providers to expand access to MAT, including mobile MAT delivery, prescriber coordination, and outcome tracking. These services are particularly focused on high-need populations, including pregnant women and individuals reentering the community post-incarceration.

The County is also building a neutral care coordination infrastructure to strengthen and streamline service navigation while reducing duplication. Data from mobile crisis teams, medication-assisted treatment (MAT) programs, and care coordination activities will be integrated into the County's performance monitoring efforts to improve system-wide responsiveness and inform future investments.

Anticipated Funding:

- South East Florida Behavioral Health Coalition (Neutral Care Coordination): \$2 million
- Rebel Recovery (Syringe Services Expansion): \$500,000 (annual operations support)
- Syringe Services Vehicle Purchase: \$250,000 (one time capital expenditure)

As part of its commitment to resilience and recovery readiness, CSD is collaborating with Commonly Well to deploy a countywide resiliency survey and launch a public awareness campaign that promotes behavioral health literacy and reduces stigma.

Anticipated Funding:

- Commonly Well (Resiliency Campaign): \$200,000

E. Evaluation, Research, and Performance Monitoring

Palm Beach County is committed to using data to drive decisions, track outcomes, and ensure accountability across all opioid settlement-funded initiatives. In alignment with SAMHSA evaluation and data quality standards, the County is enhancing its evaluation infrastructure to monitor system performance and community impact.

Key priorities for 2025 include the development of a shared performance dashboard, expanded tracking of medication-assisted treatment (MAT) outcomes, and integration of mobile response and care coordination data. The County will also utilize Resiliency and Community Indicators (RCI) to measure broader systems change, equity, and population health.

CSD and the Office of Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorders (OBHSUD) will continue to build capacity for cross-agency data sharing and support ongoing learning through continuous feedback loops.

Future funding may be allocated to support additional evaluation tools, staffing, or technology infrastructure to meet emerging data and reporting needs.

FY25 Opioid Settlement Expense Plan

Regional / Abatement	\$	97,694,428.98			
City / County	\$	24,791,658.49			
Total through 2039	\$	122,486,087.47			
Annual (Total / 15 years)	\$	8,165,739.16			
Admin 5%	\$	408,286.96			
Annual Program Appropriation Total	\$	7,757,452.20	SDOH 90% / \$ 6,981,706.98	DEC 10% / 5775,745.22	
OSF Interest		5219,837			
OSRF Interest		51,411,190			
Total Interest		51,631,028			
Expense	Amount	Core Strategy	Approved Use	Type (admin,SDH, DEC)	
Neutral Care (Assess /Coordination)	\$ 1,590,853.60	Expansion of Warm Hand-off Programs and Recovery Ser	Connect People Who Need Help to the Help they Need (con	SDH	
HSNG, TRANS, EMPL (SDOH) Recovery Support	\$ 1,890,853.60	Expansion of Warm Hand-off Programs and Recovery Ser	Support People in Treatment and Recovery	SDH	
Syringe Services Expansion	\$ 500,000.00	Expanding Syringe Services Programs	Prevent Overdoes Deaths and Other Harms (Harm Reductio	SDH	
Community Education and Training	\$ 3,000,000.00	Prevention Programs	Prevent Overdoes Deaths and Other Harms (Harm Reductio	SDH	
a. Family Support (Women, PW, WWC)		Pregnant & Postpartum Women	Address the needs of Pregnant or Parenting Women and the SDH		
b. Community Engagement / Recovery Ready		Prevention Programs	Prevent Overdoes Deaths and Other Harms (Harm Reductio	SDH	
c. Community Drug Disposal		Prevention Programs	Prevent Overdoes Deaths and Other Harms (Harm Reductio	SDH	
d. Public Awareness Campaigns		Prevention Programs	Prevent Misuse of Opioids	SDH	
e. Screening, Brief Intervention , Refer to Tx		Prevention Programs	Prevent Over-Prescribing to Ensure Appropriate Prescribing	SDH	
Deep End (Women, PW, WWC)	\$ 775,745.00	Pregnant & Postpartum Women	Address the needs of Pregnant or Parenting Women and the DEC		
Sub-Total Program	\$ 7,757,452.20				
PBC DH&ED/MHSUD HSNG COORD (interest)	\$ 1,631,027.55	Expansion of Warm Hand-off Programs and Recovery Ser	Support People in Treatment and Recovery	SDH	
Total Program	\$ 9,388,479.75				
Administration	\$ 408,286.96	Evidence-based data collection and research analyzing th	Leadership, Planning, and Coordination	Admin	
FY 25 Total Expense	\$ 9,796,766.71				
FY 25 Total Accrued	\$ 36,984,425.00				
Interest Accrued	\$ 1,631,027.55				
Total Accrued	\$ 38,615,452.55				
Carry Forward After Expense	\$ 28,818,685.84				

Implementation Timeline

Q1 –(FY 2026	Q2 - 2026	Q3 - 2026	Q4 - 2026
Complete NOFOs and contracting with agencies/ BCC approval of contracts	Programs are operational	Host check in to assess any adjustments needed and provide Training and Assistance	Full implementation and evaluation of all funded programs

Monitoring and Evaluation

Palm Beach County is committed to transparent and accountable implementation of the Opioid Settlement Funds. A structured monitoring and evaluation process will be in place to track progress, assess outcomes, and guide continuous improvement.

Quarterly reports will be submitted to the Behavioral Health, Substance Use, and Co-Occurring Disorders (BHSUCOD) Advisory Committee. These updates will include:

- Program implementation milestones
- Participant engagement and service delivery metrics
- Outcomes reporting based on Logic Models submitted with proposals
- Recommended adjustments based on emerging needs or performance trends

Community feedback will play a vital role in shaping how programs evolve. The County will incorporate input from participants, stakeholders, and residents through surveys, community forums, and related needs assessments and studies.

Evaluation efforts will also support the development of a shared data dashboard, integration of mobile response and care coordination data, and use of the Resiliency Capital Index (RCI) to measure broader systems change needs and equity impact.

As new initiatives roll out, Palm Beach County will continue building capacity for data sharing, collaborative learning, and evaluation infrastructure—ensuring investments are both effective and responsive to those most impacted.

Conclusion

This report reflects Palm Beach County’s unwavering commitment to a data-informed, community-led approach in addressing the opioid crisis and building a recovery-oriented system of care.

By aligning investments with the strategic priorities outlined in the 2024 Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Plan, the County is advancing efforts that prioritize:

- Health equity and access to care
- Person-centered recovery supports across the continuum
- Integrated service delivery and system transformation
- Community engagement and cross-sector collaboration

Palm Beach County recognizes that sustainable impact requires both strategic coordination and meaningful partnership with those most affected. Through this implementation plan, the County will continue to work hand-in-hand with residents, providers, and stakeholders to ensure all community members have access to the services, supports, and opportunities they need to thrive.