



RESOLUTION TITLE: A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNTY OF GASTON TO DIRECT THE EXPENDITURE OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

WHEREAS, Gaston County has joined national settlement agreements with 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; and,

WHEREAS, the allocation, use, and reporting of 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, Gaston County has received 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, 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in alignment with the NC MOA, Gaston County authorizes the expenditure of opioid settlement funds as follows:

1. First strategy authorized
 - a. Name of strategy: Recovery Support Services
 - b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
 - c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit A, Strategy 3

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$ 234,773.00
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
Start date January 1, 2024 through End date June 30, 2025
- f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Gaston County Parent Partners for Positive Change (PPPC).
Using a harm reduction approach, peer support specialists will be embedded in Children & Family Services and will work with families who are involved with child protective services and permanency planning/ foster care due to a parent's opioid use disorder. The peer support specialists will work with child welfare to address the needs of parents with opioid use disorder and will partner directly with parents to support their recovery. Expected outcomes are improved treatment completion and recovery rates for parents, decreased time in out of home placement for children, and increased reunification rates for children whose parents have an opioid use disorder.
- g. Provider: Olive Branch Ministries

The total dollar amount of Opioid Settlement Funds appropriated across the above named and authorized strategies is \$ 234,773.00.

Adopted this the 28th day of November, 2023.

Chad Brown, Chairman
Gaston County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the Board

SEAL