Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
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DHHS - Public Health Division

Board Action

File #: 26-184

Commissioner Keigher - DHHS - Health Division - To Amend Approved Resolution 2025-155 to Direct the Expenditure of Opioid Settlement Funds and Appropriate $668,378.00 ***(Year 1: $516,815.16, Year 2: $151,562.84, Total: $668,378.00)***

STAFF CONTACT

Abigail Newton - Assistant Public Health Director - DHHS - Public Health Division - 704-853-5103

BUDGET IMPACT

Increase Opioid Fund Balance and Expenditures by $516,815.16 in FY26. No County Funds.

BACKGROUND

The State of NC joined in the national litigation against pharmaceutical supply chain participants who engaged in the manufacture, marketing, promotion, distribution, or dispensing of opioid medications that have harmed the public. On June 8, 2021, the Board of Commissioners approved the Memorandum of Agreement Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation (Res. 2021-172) joining in the national litigation. Gaston County was awarded $40,520,354.00 in settlement funds to be received over a period of 18 years. To date the County has received $11,845,106.51 in settlement funds.

This Board Action, if approved, amends Year 1 funds to $516,815.16 and Year 2 funds to $151,562.84 with the total project for $668,378.00 in Opioid Settlement funds remaining the same. The continuation of Gaston County Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Scholarship fund (GCMATS). The GCMATS program was developed and implemented by McLeod Centers for Wellbeing and provides Gaston County's uninsured/ underinsured residents with the opportunity to receive Evidence-Based Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder along with care navigation to address social determinants of health that may impact a patient' s recovery, the most important among these being financial insecurity.

Year 1 (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026): $516,815.16

Year 2 (July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027): $151,562.84

POLICY IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Spending Authorization Resolution and Budget Change Request (BCR)

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:

NO.	*DATE*	*M1*	*M2*	*JBailey*	*CBrown*	*CCloninger*	*AFraley*	*BHovis*	*TKeigher*	*SShehan*	*Vote*
2026-159	**05/26/2026**	**AF**	**JB**	**A**	**A**	**AB**	**A**	**A**	**AB**	**A**	**U**

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c. Item letter and/ or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit A, Strategy 2
d. Amounted authorized for this strategy: $ 668,378.00
e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place: Start date July 1, 2025, through End date June 30, 2027.
f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Gaston County Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Scholarship fund (GCMATS)
The GCMATS program will be developed and implemented by McLeod Centers for Wellbeing and will provide Gaston County's uninsured/underinsured residents the opportunity to receive Evidence-Based Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder along with care navigation to address social determinants of health that may impact a patient's recovery, the most important among these being financial insecurity.

g. Provider: McLeod Centers for Wellbeing

The total dollar amount of Opioid Settlement Funds appropriated for the above named and authorized strategies is $668,378.00.

Adopted this the 26th day of May, 2026.

Chad Brown, Chairman
Gaston County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the Board

SEAL

GASTON COUNTY
BUDGET CHANGE REQUEST (BCR)

TO: Matthew Rhoten, County Manager

FROM: HLT — Dept. Code; Health — Department Name

Brittain Kenney — Department Director; 05/27/2025 — Date

REQUEST TYPE:

- [ ] Line-Item Transfer Within Department & Fund
- [ ] Project Transfer Within Department & Fund
- [ ] Line-Item Transfer Between Departments
- [ ] Line-Item Transfer Between Funds*
- [x] Additional Appropriation of Funds*

* Requires resolution by the Board of Commissioners

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION As it appears in Munis	ACCOUNT NUMBER 4 Fund, 3 Dept, 3 Div, 5 SubDiv, 6 Prog, 7 SubProg, 4 Future, 2 Func, 6 Obj, 5 Proj	AMOUNT**
Ex. Employee Training	Ex. 1000-BGT-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-01-520011-	Ex. $5,000.00 Ex. ($5,000.00)
Fund Balance Appropriated	2055-NDP-000-00000-FBApro-0000000-0000-99-490000-	(516,815.16)
Professional Services	2055-HLT-000-00000-MATSch-Stratg2-0000-05-530010-	516,815.16

JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUEST:

Already approved BCR. This BCR appropriates updates Year 1 funds from $314,126.00 to $516,815.16 and reduces Year 2 funds to $151,562.84 Total Project $668,378.00 stays the same.
Year 1 (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026): $516,815.16
Year 2 (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027): $151,562.84
Total Budget: $668,378.00

** Decreases in expenditures and increases in revenue accounts require brackets. Increases in expenditures and decreases in revenue do not require brackets. Please note that transfers between funds require inter-fund transfer accounts.

GASTON COUNTY
BUDGET CHANGE REQUEST (BCR)

TO: Matthew Rhoten, County Manager

FROM: HLT — Health
Dept. Code — Department Name

Brittain Kenney — 04/10/2025
Department Director — Date

REQUEST TYPE:

- [ ] Line-Item Transfer Within Department & Fund
- [ ] Project Transfer Within Department & Fund
- [ ] Line-Item Transfer Between Departments
- [ ] Line-Item Transfer Between Funds*
- [x] Additional Appropriation of Funds*

* Requires resolution by the Board of Commissioners

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION As it appears in Munis	ACCOUNT NUMBER 4 Fund, 3 Dept, 3 Div, 5 SubDiv, 6 Prog, 7 SubProg, 4 Future, 2 Func, 6 Obj, 5 Proj	AMOUNT**
Ex. Employee Training	Ex. 1000-BGT-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-01-520011-	Ex. $5,000.00 Ex. ($5,000.00)
Fund Balance Appropriated	2055-NDP-000-00000-FBApro-0000000-0000-99-490000-	(151,562.84)
Professional Services	2055-HLT-000-00000-MATSch-Stratg2-0000-05-530010-	151,562.84

JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUEST:

Already approved BCR. This BCR appropriates updates Year 2 funds from $354, 252.00 to $151,562.84. Total Project $668,378.00 stays the same.
Year 1 (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026): $516,815.16
Year 2 (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027): $151,562.84
Total Budget: $668,378.00

** Decreases in expenditures and increases in revenue accounts require brackets. Increases in expenditures and decreases in revenue do not require brackets. Please note that transfers between funds require inter-fund transfer accounts.

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: Evidence-Based Addiction Treatment
   b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A of the NC MOA

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NO.	*DATE*	*M1*	*M2*	*JBailey*	*CBrown*	*CCloninger*	*AFraley*	*BHovis*	*TKeigher*	*SShehan*	*Vote*
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