



**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. Prevent Misuse of Opioids
 - b. Strategy is included in Exhibit B of the NC MOA

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
2026-014	01/27/2026	BH	SS	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	U

DISTRIBUTION.

Laserfiche Users

A=AYE, N=NAY, AB=ABSENT, ABS=ABSTAIN, U=UNANIMOUS

A Resolution by the County of Gaston to Direct the Expenditure of Opioid Settlement Funds
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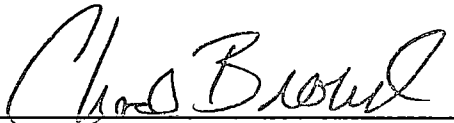
- c. Item letter and/ or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA. Exhibit B, Strategy G
- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$ 320,000 00
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place: Start date January 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2027
- f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Prevent Misuse of Opioids

Funds will be used by WBTV to deliver a comprehensive media campaign featuring sponsored interview segments, digital ads, social reels, and targeted outreach across streaming, YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram—supported by Gaston County Communications and backed by data-driven insights and the Opioid Settlement Team/funded programs. The program will be managed by the WBTV

- g. Provider: WBTV

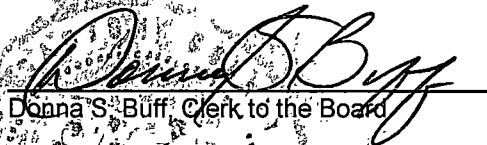
The total dollar amount of Opioid Settlement Funds appropriated for the above named and authorized strategies is \$320,000.00

Adopted this the 27th day of January, 2026



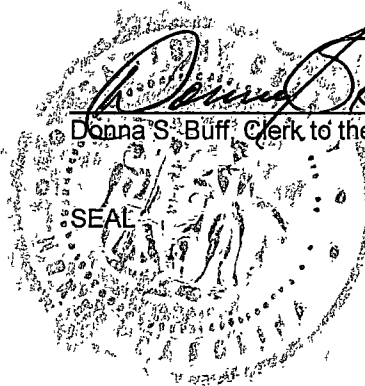
Chad Brown, Chairman
Gaston County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST



Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the Board

SEAL



GASTON COUNTY BUDGET CHANGE REQUEST (BCR)

TO: Matthew Rhoten, County Manager

FROM: HLT Health
 Dept. Code Department Name
Brittain Kenney 01/06/2026
 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*

☒ Additional Appropriation of Funds*
- * Requires resolution by the Board of Commissioners

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	ACCOUNT NUMBER	AMOUNT**
As it appears in Munis	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> 4335674265 </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.7em;"> FundDeptDivSubDivPragSubPragFutureFuncObjProj </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.6em;"> XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX </div>	
Ex. Employee Training	Ex. 1000-BGT-000-00000-000000-00000000-0000-01-520011-	Ex. \$5,000 00 Ex. (\$5,000.00)
Fund Balance Appropriated	2055-NDP-000-00000-FBApro-00000000-0000-99-490000-	(140,000.00)
Other Services	2055-HLT-000-00000-WBTVGM-StratgG-0000-05-530015-	140,000.00

JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUEST

Gaston County joined the State in the National Opioid Settlement. This BCR appropriates Year 1 \$140,000.00 /Project Total \$320,000.00 of our allotment for Prevent Misuse of Opioids will be used to support a county-wide public awareness initiative focused on prevention, education, and community outreach. The initiative will be implemented in partnership with WBTV and will utilize a mix of broadcast and digital communications. The effort will be coordinated with Gaston County Communications and aligned with priorities identified by the Opioid Settlement Team. WBTV will be responsible for campaign management. Year 1 (July 1st, 2026 – June 30, 2027) \$140,000 00 Year 1 Only

** 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 01/06/2026
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☐ Line-Item Transfer Within Department & Fund

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☒ Additional Appropriation of Funds*

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ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION As it appears in Munis	ACCOUNT NUMBER	AMOUNT**
Ex. Employee Training	<div> <div>4335674265</div> <div>Fund Dept Div SubDiv Prag SubPrag Future Func Obj Proj</div> <div>XXXX XXX XXX XXXXX XXXXXX XXXXX XX XXXXXX XXXXX</div> </div> Ex. 1000-BGT-000-00000-000000-000000-0000-01-520011-	Ex. \$5,000.00 Ex. (\$5,000.00)
Fund Balance Appropriated	2055-NDP-000-00000-FBApro-0000000-0000-99-490000-	(180,000.00)
Other Services	2055-HLT-000-00000-WBTVGM-StratgG-0000-05-530015-	180,000.00

JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUEST

Gaston County joined the State in the National Opioid Settlement. This BCR appropriates Year 2 \$180,000.00 /Project Total \$320,000.00 of our allotment for Prevent Misuse of Opioids will be used to support a county-wide public awareness initiative focused on prevention, education, and community outreach. The initiative will be implemented in partnership with WBTV and will utilize a mix of broadcast and digital communications. The effort will be coordinated with Gaston County Communications and aligned with priorities identified by the Opioid Settlement Team. WBTV will be responsible for campaign management. Year 2 (July 1st, 2026 – June 30, 2027) \$180,000.00 Year 2 Only

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Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
www.gastongov.com

DHHS - Public Health Division Board Action

File # 26-017

Commissioner Keigher - DHHS - Health Division - To Approve a Resolution to Direct the Expenditure of Opioid Settlement Funds and Appropriate \$320,000 00 (Year 1 \$140,000.00, Year 2: \$180,000.00, Total. \$320,000.00)

STAFF CONTACT

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

BUDGET IMPACT

Increase revenue and expenses in the Opioid Settlement Funds by \$320,000 00 No additional 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 has 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 \$14 million in settlement funds.

This Board Action, if approved, appropriates \$320,000 in Opioid Settlement funds to support a countywide public awareness initiative focused on prevention, education, and community outreach. The initiative will be implemented in partnership with WBTV and will utilize a mix of broadcast and digital communications. The effort will be coordinated with Gaston County Communications and aligned with priorities identified by the Opioid Settlement Team. WBTV will be responsible for campaign management and execution

Year 1 (January 1, 2026 - June 30, 2026) \$140,000 00

Year 2 (July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027) \$180,000 00

POLICY IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Spending Authorization Resolution and Budget Change Request (BCR)

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

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