



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:

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	CBrown	CCloninger	AFrale	BHovis	KJohnson	TKeigher	RWorley	Vote
2023-389	11/28/2023	RW	BH	A	A	A	A	A	AB	A	U

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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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- d. Amounted 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

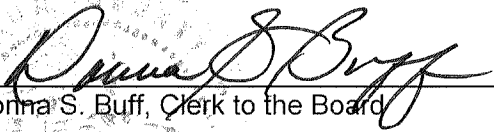
The total dollar amount of Opioid Settlement Funds appropriated across the above named and authorized strategies is \$ 234,773.00.

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

GASTON COUNTY
BUDGET CHANGE REQUEST (BCR)

TO: Dr. Kim S. Eagle, County Manager

FROM:

CSS	Community Support Services
Dept. Code	Department Name

Gregory Grier	10/27/2023
Department Director	Date

FROM: CSS Community Support Services
Dept. Code Department Name

Gregory Grier 10/27/2023
Department Director Date

REQUEST TYPE:	<input type="checkbox"/> Line-Item Transfer Within Department & Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Line-Item Transfer Between Funds*
	<input type="checkbox"/> Project Transfer Within Department & Fund	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Appropriation of Funds*
	<input type="checkbox"/> Line-Item Transfer Between Departments	*Requires resolution by the Board of Commissioners

[illegible]

Check cell- Amounts must sum to \$0 \$		-
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** 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.

JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUEST:

Gaston County joined the State in the National Opioid Settlement. This BCR appropriates Year 1 \$78,257.68/Project Total \$234,773.00 of our allotment for Recovery Support Services, specifically certified peer support services in Gaston County's Children and Family Services, to be delivered by Olive Branch Ministries. Peer support specialists will be embedded in Children and 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. Year 1 (January 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024) \$78,257.68



Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
www.gastongov.com

DHHS - Community Support Services Division

Board Action

File #: 23-526

Commissioner Brown - DHHS - Community Support Services - To Appropriate and Approve a Resolution to Direct the Expenditure of Opioid Settlement Funds for the Gaston County Partners for Positive Change Program to be Implemented by Olive Branch Ministries (**Year 1: \$78,257.68/Total Project: \$234,773**)

STAFF CONTACT

Gregory Grier - Community Support Services - 704-862-6735

BUDGET IMPACT

Increase revenue and expenses in the Opioid Settlement Fund. No additional County funds.

BUDGET ORDINANCE IMPACT

N/A

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 will receive a projected \$43,000,000 in settlement funds to be received over a period of 18 years. To date, the County has received \$ 4,250,134 in settlement funds. To date, \$2,778,431 has been allocated by the Board of Commissioners.

A Request for Proposals for Recovery Support Services, specifically certified peer support specialists to partner with child welfare-involved families to help promote prevention of out of home placement as well as family reunification was issued and posted from September 19, 2023 until October 3, 2023. Two proposals were received. Each proposal was reviewed and scored by a subcommittee of the Gaston County Opioid Settlement Team. One of the two proposals were recommended for funding. The proposal submitted by Olive Branch Ministries is the one recommended proposal.

(Continued on Page 2)

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2023-389	11/28/2023	RW	BH	A	A	A	A	A	AB	A	U

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Commissioner Brown - DHHS - Community Support Services - To Appropriate and Approve a Resolution to Direct the Expenditure of Opioid Settlement Funds for the Gaston County Partners for Positive Change Program to be Implemented by Olive Branch Ministries (**Year 1: \$78,257.68/Total Project: \$234,773**)

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This Board Action, if approved, appropriates \$234,773.00 in Opioid Settlement funds for the Gaston County Partners for Positive Change program to be implemented by Olive Branch Ministries. 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.

Year 1 (January 1, 2024 - June 30, 2024): \$78,257.68

Year 2 (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025): \$156,515.32

POLICY IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Spending Authorization Resolution and Budget Change Request (BCR)