



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.
- 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: Collaborative Strategic Planning
 - b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A 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	AFrale	BHovis	TKeigher	SShehan	Vote
2025-391	12/09/2025	SS	JB	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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- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit A, Strategy
- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$150,237.48
- 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: fund an additional Prevention Strategies Coordinator to support the additional workload of the program.
 - Program will monitor outcomes and impact of funded and recommended programs and ongoing assessment of data and current and emerging community needs.
 - Monitoring, surveillance, data collection, and evaluation of programs and strategies described in this opioid abatement strategy list.
 - Maintain a dashboard to ensure accountability and transparency with use of the Opioid Settlement Funds
 - Provide oversight and management of funded programs.
- g. Provider: Gaston County Public Health

The total amount of Opioid Settlement Funds appropriated for the above named and authorized strategies is \$150,237.48.

Adopted this the 9th day of December 2025.



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 12/09/2025
Department Director Date

Date

* Requires resolution by the Board of Commissioners

JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUEST:

This Board Action, if approved, appropriates \$150,237.48 in Opioid Settlement funds which will be used to fund an established Public Health position from part-time to full-time status. This position will provide programmatic and substances administrative support to the Prevention Strategies Manager and Assistant Health Director by overseeing Opioid-funded initiatives to ensure that programs are effectively implemented, monitored, and compliant with Opioid Settlement agreements. This position will also support Gaston County Opioid initiatives by assisting with the coordination of the Gaston Controlled Substances Coalition and the Opioid Settlement Team.

Year 1 (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026): \$51,412.51
Year 2 (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027): \$98,824.97

** 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 12/09/2025
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*
- ☒ Additional Appropriation of Funds*

* Requires resolution by the Board of Commissioners

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION As it appears in Munis	ACCOUNT NUMBER										AMOUNT**
	4	3	3	5	6	7	4	2	6	5	
	Fund	Dept	Div	SubDiv	Prg	SubPrg	Future	Func	Obj	Proj	
Ex. Employee Training	XXXX	XXX	XXX	XXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXX	XX	XXXXXX	XXXXX	Ex. \$5,000.00 Ex. (\$5,000.00)
	Ex. 1000-BGT-000-00000-000000-0000000-0000-01-520011-										
Fund Balance Appropriated	2055-NDP-000-00000-FBApro-0000000-0000-99-490000-										(98,824.97)
Salaries	2055-HLT-000-00000-CSPIng-Stratg1-0000-05-510001-										67,500.00
FICA	2055-HLT-000-00000-CSPIng-Stratg1-0000-05-510100-										5,163.72
Retirement	2055-HLT-000-00000-CSPIng-Stratg1-0000-05-510101-										9,686.25
401K Contribution	2055-HLT-000-00000-CSPIng-Stratg1-0000-05-510102-										3,375.00
Health Insurance	2055-HLT-000-00000-CSPIng-Stratg1-0000-05-510103-										12,000.00
Dental Insurance	2055-HLT-000-00000-CSPIng-Stratg1-0000-05-510104-										300.00
Life Insurance	2055-HLT-000-00000-CSPIng-Stratg1-0000-05-510105-										200.00
Phone Service	2055-HLT-000-00000-CSPIng-Stratg1-0000-05-530002-										600.00

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Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
www.gastongov.com

DHHS - Public Health Division Board Action

File #: 25-587

Commissioner Keigher - DHHS - Health Division - To Approve a Resolution to Direct the Expenditure of Opioid Settlement Funds and Appropriate \$150,237.48 (Year 1: \$51,412.51, Year 2: \$98,824.97, Total: \$150,237.48)

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 \$150,237.48. 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 (Resolution 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 dollars in settlement funds.

This Board Action, if approved, appropriates \$150,237.48 in Opioid Settlement funds which will be used to fund an established Public Health position from part-time to full-time status. This position will provide programmatic and substances administrative support to the Prevention Strategies Manager and Assistant Health Director by overseeing Opioid-funded initiatives to ensure that programs are effectively implemented, monitored, and compliant with Opioid Settlement agreements. This position will also support Gaston County Opioid initiatives by assisting with the coordination of the Gaston Controlled Substances Coalition and the Opioid Settlement Team.

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POLICY IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Spending Authorization Resolution and Budget Change Request (BCR)

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

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