Public Health Department
212 Main Ave. N.
Bagley, MN 56621
Phone: (218)694-6581
Fax: (218)344-8141

Clearwater County Opioid Settlement

Request for Proposals (RFP)

Background:

On August 20, 2021, the Minnesota Attorney General's Office joined the historic $26 billion multi-state settlement agreements with pharmaceutical distributors and opioid manufacturers.

This settlement will bring more than $535 million to Minnesota counties and cities over 18 years. For more detailed information, visit the MN Attorney General's Office– Fighting the Opioid Epidemic. Minnesota opioid-related data can be found on the MN Department of Health's opioid dashboard: https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/opioids/opioid-dashboard/index.html

Minnesota has the chance to use settlement funds to save lives and mitigate lifelong harms from drug misuse. To do this, settlement funds should be spent on effective interventions that are based on evidence. Settlement funds present a critical opportunity to work in synergy with other available resources. Maximizing the impact of the settlement funds will require coordination and thoughtful utilization.

Purpose of RFP:

The purpose of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to identify qualified organizations to respond to the opioid crisis through opioid epidemic response strategies, including prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction. The goal of this approach is to fund projects in Clearwater County that will have a high impact, particularly for Clearwater County communities most disproportionately impacted by the opioid crisis.

Funding:

Funding will be allocated through a competitive process. If selected, you may submit eligible expenditures when the grant agreement is fully executed, and the grant has reached its effective date.

This is a competitive grant with a total estimated $93,636.00 for the funding period January 1, 2027-December 31, 2027.

Eligible Applicants:

Eligible applicants must meet the criteria of this application. The goal of this funding is to facilitate the growth of services provided in Clearwater County through establishing new or expanding existing programs. Successful applicants will be working to make a sustainable impact through activities that support one or more of the following categories: harm reduction, prevention, criminal justice, treatment, and recovery.

Approved Activities:

The Minnesota Opioids State-Subdivision and Memorandum of Agreement includes a list of opioid remediation uses. The intent of these activities is not intended to limit the work of Clearwater County organizations. The County is held accountable to report on remediation uses within these categories on a yearly basis**.**

Priority Areas:

- Education
- Accessing Services/Assistance
- System/Organizational Enhancements
- Other: Approaches/strategies that may not clearly fit under the areas listed

Examples for funding (not a comprehensive list). Please refer to the resources below, specifically the MN Opioids State-Subdivision Memorandum of Agreement, Exhibit A, B and C for further examples.

- Broad Prevention strategies to increase protective factors and to live well
- Workforce development projects
- Continuum of care projects, such as supporting those in recovery
- Promote education/stigma reduction campaigns across the lifespan
- Law, policy and practice/criminal justice projects
- Data collection, measurement, evaluation of strategies/projects
- Harm reduction supplies (such as naloxone, Narcan)
- LADC education to increase access and availability of services
- Adult and youth diversion
- Expand treatment and care coordination (including addiction vs. criminal needs)
- Address recovery/housing issues
- Trauma-informed approaches

Eligible Projects:

The applicant recipients shall choose from one of the Opioid Remediation Uses and consider the State Memorandum MN_MoA.pdf (state.mn.us): https://www.ag.state.mn.us/opioids/docs/MN_MoA.pdf

Primer on Spending Funds from the Opioid Litigation – from Johns Hopkins https://opioidprinciples.jhsph.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Primer-on-Spending-Funds.pdf

Recipients of the Opioid Settlement funds from Clearwater County will, in their role, lead efforts that build upon local efforts that support community health improvement plans, while

fostering community focused and collaborative evidence-informed approaches that prevent and address addiction across the areas of public health, human services, and public safety.

All grantees will agree to the following grant requirements:

1. Work collaboratively with the Clearwater County Opioid Steering Committee and the Clearwater County Board of Commissioners

2. Submit detailed budget expenses by April 30, 2027, July 31, 2027, October 31, 2027, and January 31, 2027 (quarterly)

3. Submit data to support project work by April 30, 2027, July 31, 2027, October 31, 2027, and January 31, 2028 (quarterly)

Ineligible Expenses:

Ineligible expenses include but are not limited to:

- Fundraising
- Taxes, except sales tax on goods and services
- Lobbyists, political contributions
- Bad debts, late payment fees, finance charges, or contingency funds
- Per the MOA, Opioid Settlement Funds can only be utilized for future remediation activities.

Review Process:

Funding will be allocated through a competitive process with review by a committee representing a broad range of professionals. Reviewers will be required to identify any conflicts of interest and steps will be taken to mitigate the conflict, or the reviewer will not review an application if a conflict is identified. The review committee will evaluate all eligible and complete applications received by the deadline.

A numerical scoring system will be used to evaluate eligible applications. Reviewers are also encouraged to provide comments along with their scores. Scores will be used to develop final recommendations. Applicants are encouraged to score their own application using the evaluation scoresheet before submitting their application. *This step is not required but may help ensure applications address the criteria evaluators will use to score applications.* Applicants should not submit their own score sheet with their application.

Application Deadline:

The deadline to submit the application and supporting documents is **November 30, 2026**

Late applications will not be accepted. It is the applicant's sole responsibility to allow sufficient time to address all potential delays caused by any reason whatsoever.