

Working with Local Opioid Coalitions to Maximize the Impact of your Opioid Settlement Funds



**Opioid Settlement
Funds**

June 2023

Housekeeping

- » If you have a technical question, please send a direct message to Audrey Richardson from Aurrera Health Group.
- » Questions can be submitted at any time via the question box in the right-hand corner of your control panel.
- » Today's meeting materials will be available during and after the webinar.

How to Ask Questions

- » Type your comments in the questions box located on your GoToWebinar control panel.
- » Today's webinar will provide an opportunity for Q&A about the topics discussed (opioid coalitions and local planning).
- » If you have questions about your specific plan for spending opioid settlement funds, send an email to OSF@dhcs.ca.gov.

Past Webinars & Listening Sessions

- » Allocating Opioid Settlement Funds (April 4, 2023)
 - [Slides](#)
 - [Recording](#)

- » Opioid Settlement Allowable Expenses (January 26, 2023)
 - [Slides](#)
 - [Recording](#)

- » Opioid Settlement Reporting Requirements (December 7, 2022)
 - [Slides](#)
 - [Recording](#)

Additional Resources

- » [Opioid Settlement Allowable Expenditures](#)
- » [Guide to Allocating Opioid Settlement Funds](#)
- » [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- » [DHCS Technical Assistance Request Form](#)

**For more information on opioid settlement funds,
visit the [DHCS OSF webpage](#).**

Working with Local Opioid Coalitions to Maximize the Impact of your Opioid Settlement Funds

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PHI CENTER FOR
HEALTH
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Amy Max, MPH

Senior Program Manager, PHI Center for Health Leadership & Impact

OTHER EXPERIENCE

- Former Public Health Prevention Service Fellow, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Rosenfield Scholar in Population and Family Health, Columbia University





Learning Objectives

- Provide an overview of California's statewide infrastructure for SUD and overdose prevention that align with high impact abatement activities and other core strategies / approved uses of opioid settlement funds.
- Highlight the critical role of local coalitions in supporting a cohesive local strategy.
- Introduce a tool for participating subdivisions to begin building a local strategy focused on high-impact interventions.



Polls

- 1. Have you engaged your local substance use/overdose coalition in conversations around opioid settlement funding?**
 - A. Yes
 - B. No





Polls

2. Have you started a local planning process to develop a strategy around your opioid settlement funds?

- A. Yes, we have started a local planning process and are currently developing a strategy
- B. Yes, and we already have a strategy in place
- C. No, but we plan to develop a strategy
- D. No, and we don't have plans to develop a strategy



Polls

3. Have you begun spending your opioid settlement funds?

- A. No, we have not spent any of our funds
- B. Yes, we have already spent some of our funds
- C. Yes, we have already spent all of the funds we have received to date



Today's Agenda

- 1. Landscape of SUD programs:** What's already happening in your community
- 2. Local coalitions:** A critical partner for opioid settlement funds
- 3. Readiness tool:** A tool to help you build a strong strategy to maximize the impact of your opioid settlement funds



Five Guiding Principles To Guide Jurisdictions in the Use of Opioid Litigation Funds

Spend the Money to Save Lives

Use Evidence to Guide Spending

Invest in Youth Prevention

Focus on Racial Equity

Develop a Fair and Transparent Process for Deciding where to Spend the Funding

Source: John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
(<https://opioidprinciples.jhsph.edu/the-principles/>)



Landscape of Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Programs and Services

What's already happening in your communities



Department of Health Care Services



County

Jail, Juvenile Justice, County Touchpoints, Prison, Courts, Police, DUI Programs, Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System

HMA, continuity, DHCS

Prevention

Naloxone Distribution Project, Youth, CA Conservation Corps, Drug Take Back, Needle Exchange

HMA, continuity, CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY, CENTER FOR HEALTH LEADERSHIP & PRACTICE

SUD Services

ASAM Levels of Care: 5 Early Intervention, 1 Outpatient, 2 Intensive Outpatient, 3 Residential, 4 Medically Managed

Outpatient, Inpatient

MAT Supportive Housing, NTP Treatment Capacity, CA Hub & Spoke System, Youth Recovery, DUI MAT Integration

YPR, GADTP

Statewide Projects

Tribal MAT, CSAM Mentoring, Fentanyl Outbreak Monitoring, Corrections, MAT Access Point Grants, Media Campaign, MAT Toolkits, 24/7 MAT Consultation, Opioid Safety Initiative, Database Enhancement

CCUW, SIERRA HEALTH FOUNDATION, mediasolutions, HARBAGE CONSULTING, UCSF, CALIFORNIA PUBLIC HEALTH FOUNDATION, CURES 2.0

Clinical

Inpatient, Primary Care Mental Health, Emergency Department, Veterans, Academic Detailing, Waiver Prescriber Support, Perinatal/Newborn, Education

SHOUT, ICCI, UCLA, HMA, ED BRIDGE



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Ways to Maximize Your Impact



- **Develop a strategy:** opioid settlement funding presents a pivotal opportunity to invest in evidence-based programs that save lives. Take the time to engage local leaders and build a cohesive and transparent strategy.
- **Support existing programs:** Connect with local partners doing the work to avoid reinventing the wheel. Programs in your community already exist that:
 - Have been shown to be effective
 - Meet the needs of California's high abatement activities
 - Can be further invested in to increase their reach and impact
 - Support a return on investment (ROI) for local budgets
- **Align funding streams:** Build efficiencies by 'blending and braiding' settlement funds with other local funding streams focused on substance use prevention and treatment.



Local Coalitions

A critical role in communities



Saving lives with multi-sector partnerships, strategies, & resources for overdose prevention



PREVENT
new addictions



MANAGE
pain safely



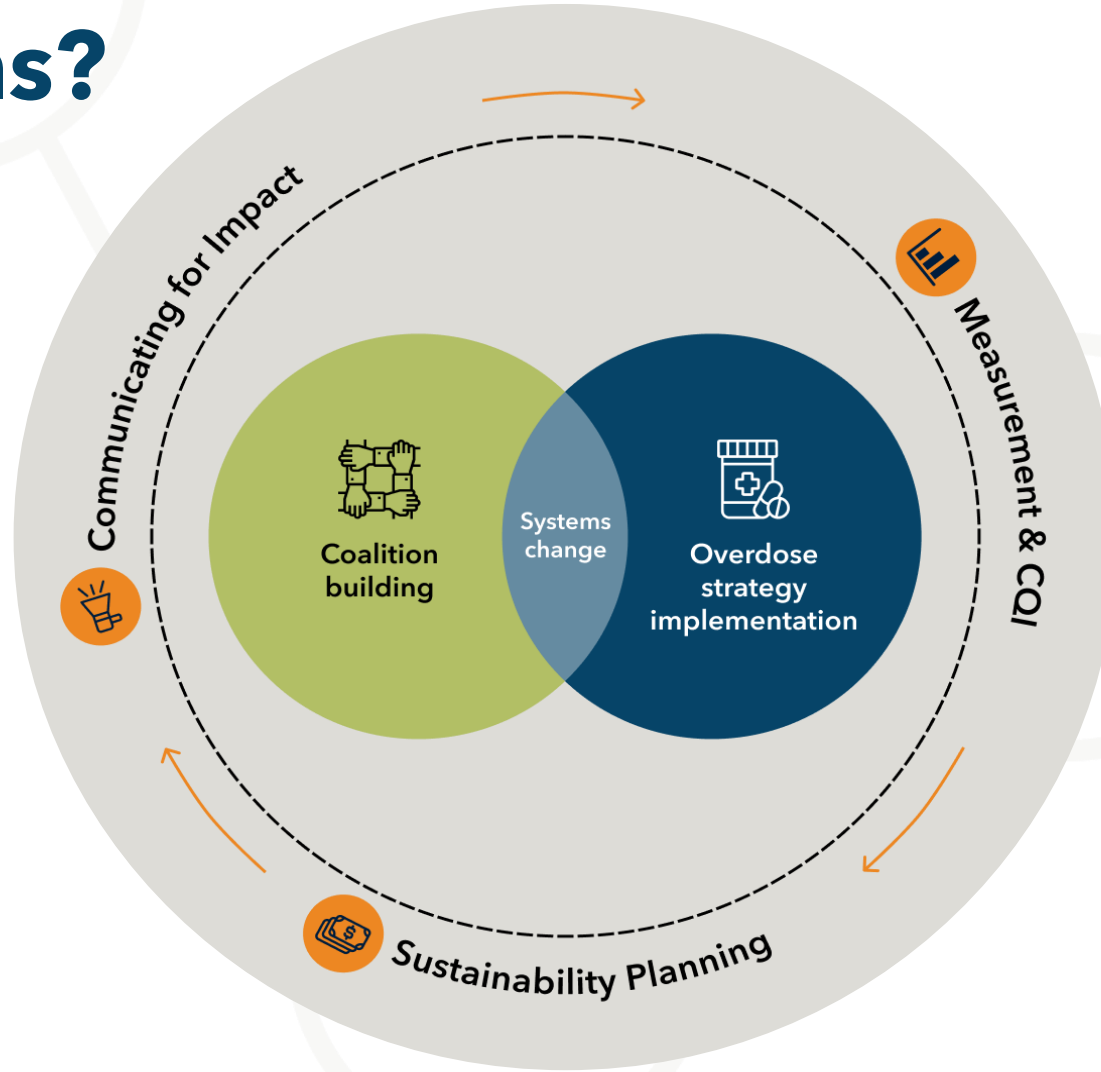
TREAT
addiction



STOP
overdose deaths



Why Coalitions?



Overdose Prevention Coalitions



40 local coalitions reach more than 85% of Californians

Go to www.copn.org to find the coalition in your community



The Impact of Coalitions

- ↑ Medication assisted treatment (MAT)
- ↑ Local policy changes
- ↑ Public awareness
- ↑ Naloxone
- ↑ Youth prevention
- ↑ Partnerships with law enforcement
- ↑ Racial equity



21% reduction in fatal opioid overdoses

California communities with an opioid coalition lowered fatal opioid overdoses between 2015 and 2018. (Prev Med. 2021 Dec;153:106861)

Coalition Impacts



Butte Glenn Opioid Safety Coalition has distributed over 24,000 fentanyl test strips throughout the community.



Safe Rx Santa Cruz distributed 550 Narcan units at a free naloxone drive through event.



Empower Watsonville works in partnership with youth to amplify their voice and obtain feedback to help implement policies in their school district.

Coalition Impacts



Safe Rx Mendocino has helped implement a policy that all first responders in their county that requires them to have naloxone at all times.



Sacramento County Opioid Coalition has helped initiate and complete internal policy changes at over 112 local educational institutions.



Santa Barbara Opioid Safety Coalition launched a free, online mail order system for naloxone. Since the launch, 430+ kits have been ordered and at least 7 overdose reversals reported.



The background features a complex network of nodes and connecting lines. The nodes are represented by small, semi-transparent circles in various colors including blue, orange, yellow, and purple. The lines are thin and light-colored, creating a web-like structure across the dark background. The overall aesthetic is modern and digital.

Local Coalition Leaders



Mary Maddux-Gonzalez, MD, MPH

California Overdose Prevention Network (COPN)
Impact Coach

OTHER EXPERIENCE

- Former Sonoma County, CA Public Health Officer / Division Director
- CMO of Redwood Community Health Coalition
- UCSF Associate Clinical Professor
- Past Board Chair of Latino Coalition for a Healthy California





Kim Tangermann

Deputy Director of Public Health, Lake County

SafeRx Lake County





Lindsay Coate

Vice President, Strategic Operations
Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society

Sacramento County Opioid Coalition





Tool Walk-Through

Maximizing the Impact of your Opioid Settlement Funds



Develop a
coordinated and
transparent
process

Connect to
existing programs
and identify
necessary
partners

Prioritize
strategies

Opioid Settlement Funds Readiness Tool

Funding from opioid settlements presents a critical opportunity to invest in evidence-based programs focused on prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction. As stewards of this funding, it is important to develop a strategic approach and organized process on how resources will be allocated in your community to best meet local needs and align with existing efforts.

This tool is designed to help your community develop an organized strategy to maximize local investment and, most importantly, save as many lives as possible. This includes developing a coordinated and transparent process, connecting to existing programs, identifying necessary partners, and prioritizing strategies.

Part 1 - Develop a Coordinated and Transparent Process

Settlement funds will be available for at least 18 years. It is essential to build an organized, transparent, and sustainable process for how funds will be allocated. Use the checklist below to integrate these planning steps into your process:

Review local data: We have looked at our [local data](#) using the CDPH dashboard to prioritize funding towards our highest need communities. For example, some counties have disproportionate overdose rates within specific zip codes and among their black and tribal communities. Local health departments and/or coalitions can provide these analyses, including data from [ODMAP](#) to monitor zip codes with spikes in overdose rates. Based on the data, these are priorities in terms of location and demographics:

Priority population/region 1:

Priority population/region 2:

Priority population/region 3:

Establish vision and purpose: We have outlined our overall vision and purpose for our opioid settlement funds. Articulating a specific vision statement builds a common focus and commitment among partners. It is also an opportunity to align opioid settlement funds with other local initiatives and funding streams dedicated to substance use prevention and treatment.

Build partnerships (see part 2): We have a plan for conducting outreach to local leaders and organizations doing existing work around substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery to build a cohesive funding strategy. This includes local coalitions, public health departments, behavioral health departments, harm reduction organizations, and addiction treatment providers. As a part of this step, it is important to acknowledge any potential turf issues and challenges between local partners and take time to build trust.

Determine structure for decision-making and communications: We have established a written process and structure for how opioid settlement funds will be allocated. This includes documentation of who makes decisions, how decisions are made, and how those decisions are communicated externally.

Conduct an "equity check": We have identified a process to ensure that allocation of funds supports local organizations and interventions that serve those most impacted by addiction and overdose. This includes directly engaging those with lived and living experience and local leaders who represent communities of color, including Black, Indigenous and Latinx.



Thank you!
**Let us know how we can
support your overdose
prevention efforts.**

Contact us at
copn@healthleadership.org

For more resources and to
sign up for our newsletter visit
copn.org



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Questions?

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