

## WCA AD HOC TASK FORCE ON OPIOID ABATEMENT STRATEGIES

**ISSUE:** Over the last several years, Wisconsin counties have led the effort to hold opioid manufacturers, distributors, and retailers responsible for their respective roles in the opioid epidemic. Recently, a nationwide settlement was reached with a set of defendants in which 71 of Wisconsin's 72 counties agreed to settlement terms. While terms of the settlement call for an 18-year payment structure from the defendants to Wisconsin counties, WCA is exploring a securitization effort which will significantly accelerate the payments.

To assist counties with planning for and expending their opioid settlement funds, the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) has created the WCA Ad Hoc Task Force on Opioid Abatement Strategies.

The Task Force members include:

- Jon Doemel, Winnebago County Executive (Task Force Chair)
- Samantha Kerkman, Kenosha County Executive
- Chris Polzer, Columbia County Board Chair
- Monica Kruse, La Crosse County Board Chair
- Paul Susienka, Bayfield County Sheriff
- Nate Dreckman, Grant County Sheriff
- Kathi Cauley, Jefferson County Director of Human Services
- Hope Otto, Racine County Director of Human Services
- Diane Cable, Eau Claire County Director of Human Services
- Liza Drake, Ozaukee County Director of Human Services
- Linda Conlon, Oneida County Director of Public Health
- Sue Smith, Wood County Director of Public Health