

Opioid Settlement Match RFP



Who is Vital Strategies?

- A global health nonprofit based in New York.
- The Overdose Prevention Initiative is the first domestic program of Vital Strategies with efforts in:
 - MI, PA, NJ, NC, NM, KY, WI
- Emphasis on data-driven decision-making, impact and health systems improvement

Prioritize interventions for impact

Make Medications Accessible

- Maximize naloxone distribution
- Make medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) easy to access
- Offer MOUD in settings where vulnerability is heightened, including jails, prisons, hospital EDs

Engage Communities

- Support mobilization in marginalized communities
- Change the narratives through paid and earned media campaigns
- Expand and strengthen responsive harm reduction services

Support, Don't Punish

- Prevent the criminalization of people who use drugs
- Eliminate punitive sanctions for drug use and strengthen a supportive response in social programs
- Strengthen a supportive response in healthcare, including SUD treatment.
- Establish integrated civilian/community crisis response for behavioral health emergencies

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GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Through this request for proposals, Vital Strategies will provide matching funds to eligible counties, municipalities and Native nations that direct a portion of their settlement funds towards evidence-based harm reduction and overdose prevention programs.

Counties with fewer than 500,000 residents and municipalities within those counties who also received settlement funds are eligible for a **1:1 matching grant up to \$100,000**. Neighboring counties can submit one joint application.

Native nations are eligible for a **1:3 matching grant up to \$100,000**.

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ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Local governments
- Local health departments
- Tribal governments
- Tribally designated entities managing Tribal opioid settlement funds

ELIGIBLE SERVICES TO BE SUPPORTED

- Services and interventions must be allowable under the settlement agreements and align with Vital Strategies' technical interventions.
 - Making Medications Accessible
 - Engaging Communities
 - Support, Don't Punish
- Provide commitment of county/municipality/Native Nation match.
- Ideal for one-time or start up costs, initiative should be sustainable beyond one-year match.

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EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

- 1) **Increasing access to agonist medications for opioid use disorder** to people in contexts where their vulnerability to overdose is heightened, including jails, prisons, and hospital emergency departments.
- 2) **Distribution of harm reduction supplies** (safer drug-use supplies, wound care kits, fentanyl test strips and xylazine test strips, naloxone and hygiene products) to unhoused populations and at encampments.
- 3) **Providing no-cost civil legal aid** or legal intervention for possible violations to the Americans with Disabilities Act (which covers substance use disorders) to people who use drugs and or people with a history of drug use.
- 4) **Culturally-based programs** including ceremony, language classes, traditional healing, drum circles, talking circles, traditional singing and dancing, storytelling, cultural arts such as beading and basketmaking, traditional foods/food sovereignty programs, (youth) culture camps, etc. that aim to provide healing for people who use drugs and/or prevent future drug use.

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KEY DATES

- **April 1st:** Launch of the Request for Proposals (RFP)
- **June 30th:** Deadline to submit completed application
- **July 21st:** Expected start date of projects

OTHER INFORMATION

- Technical assistance available throughout application period.
- Technical assistance available during implementation of project.
- Technical assistance available to establish settlement advisory committees and/or mechanisms for community engagement/input on settlement spending decisions.
- Applicants expected to indicate sustainability plan for the future of the initiative.

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