

Opioid Settlement Matching RFP

****REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS WILL OPEN APRIL 1ST, 2025****

FUNDER

Vital Strategies is a global health organization that believes every person should be protected by a strong public health system. Our overdose prevention program works to strengthen and scale evidence-based, data-driven policies and interventions to create equitable and sustainable reductions in overdose deaths. Work across seven U.S. states is supported by funding from the Bloomberg Philanthropies Overdose Prevention Initiative, launched in 2018, and by targeted investments from other partners.

PURPOSE

This project will leverage opioid settlement funds to increase access to evidence-based harm reduction and overdose prevention services within rural counties, municipalities and Native nations. It will also seek to strengthen community engagement around the opioid settlements, particularly with people who have lived or living experience of drug use.

Opioid settlement funds provide an important opportunity to improve access to evidence-based harm reduction and overdose prevention services. To expand these evidence-based services, Vital Strategies will match county/municipality/Native nation opioid settlement funding directed towards evidence-based harm reduction and overdose prevention interventions up to \$100,000.00 for one year.

GRANT OPPORTUNITY

This request for applications aims to establish a co-funding mechanism to support counties, municipalities and Native nations in leveraging Opioid Settlement Funds. Vital Strategies will provide matching funds for a one-year period for evidence-based harm reduction and overdose prevention programming funded with Opioid Settlement dollars.

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. Please note that neighboring counties can submit one joint application. Native nations are eligible for a 1:3 matching grant up to \$100,000. Recipients will be responsible for continued funding of these community-based initiatives after the one-year match from Vital Strategies ends.

ELIGIBILITY

Local governments, local health departments, Tribal government and Tribally designated entities managing Tribal opioid settlement funds are eligible to apply for the opioid settlement match RFP.

Applicants will need to submit proof of the county/municipality/Native nation's commitment to earmark a matching portion of Opioid Settlement Funds to this initiative. Such proof may be either a formal recorded budget discussion and/or a letter of commitment supplied by the county/municipality/Native nation.

Services and interventions described in the proposal must align with a selection of Vital Strategies' [technical interventions](#) and must be allowable expenses under the applicable settlement agreements (e.g., the uses listed in [Exhibit E](#) of the distributor and Janssen settlement agreements, the uses listed in [Schedule B](#) of the Purdue Tribal Opioid Settlement Agreement).

Examples of Eligible Services

Please note that these are just examples and eligible evidence-based harm reduction and overdose prevention services are not limited to this list.

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
7. Incorporating harm reduction, treatment, and prevention messaging into appropriate cultural practices.

Questions about eligibility or proposal details can be submitted via email to Giavana Margo at gmargo@vitalstrategies.org.

The maximum allowable funding request per applicant is \$100,000 over the one-year grant period. The one-year grant period is anticipated to begin on July 21, 2025, and funding is non-renewable beyond the grant period; this is a one-time-only award. Funding must be matched with county/municipal/Tribal Opioid Settlement dollars. Full applications will be due by 11:59pm EST on June 30, 2025.