



## Strategies to Address the Opioid Epidemic: Overview and Orientation

Elyse Powell, Ph.D  
State Opioid Coordinator  
Office of the Secretary

Amy Patel, MPH  
Overdose Prevention Program Lead  
Injury and Violence Prevention Branch

1/10/2022

# Resources for Counties implementing Opioid Settlement strategies

- **Assess-** understand what your community needs, what resources you already have, and where the gaps are
  - **NC Opioid Action Plan Dashboard** tracks county specific data, and what actions are already being implemented in your county
  - **Talk to partners** in your county, including the county or regional local health director, county first responders, LME-MCO, treatment providers, and people who have been directly impacted to understand what's already happening
- **Plan**
  - **Bring together stakeholders** to coordinate planning.
  - Connect with **leadership from other counties** that have successfully implemented programs and learn what worked for them.
  - Talk to **neighboring counties** to identify opportunities to work together
  - Look for opportunities to braid funding from **SAMSHA, HRSA, US DOJ and others:** [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)
  - Join the [Opioid and Prescription Drug Abuse Advisory Committee](#) for alerts on new tools and resource opportunities.
- **Implement**
  - There is [a long list of technical assistance providers](#) who can help you implement programs
  - Determine a lead to implement the program.
- **Evaluate**
  - Determine in the planning stages what success looks like. Make sure the lead reports back on how the program is going.
  - There are a number of evaluation resources available, including local academic partners and federal resources, for additional evaluation.



## Resources for specific strategies

- **Visit NCOpioidSettlement.Org** for dedicated resources on each of the Exhibit A strategies
- **NCACC Webinar Series** will deep dive into these strategies
- There is specific technical assistance for each of these strategies, including how-to's and connection to other counties who have done them. Contact [beinjuryfreenc@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:beinjuryfreenc@dhhs.nc.gov)

### Option A County Opioid Settlement Strategies

1. Evidence Based **Addiction Treatment** (MAT inclusive/supportive)
2. **Recovery support services**, including peer support services and care coordination for linkage to care programs
3. **Housing** Support services for people struggling with addiction
4. **Employment** Support services
5. Early-intervention and **prevention**, including mental health first aid
6. **Naloxone** distribution
7. **Post-overdose response teams**
8. **Syringe Service Programs**
9. Pre- or post- **arrest diversion programs**, including court-based diversion programs
10. **Treatment for incarcerated persons**
11. **Re-entry programs**
12. **Strategic planning** to expend opioid settlement funds