

## Understanding the Collaborative Strategic Planning Process Required to Fund Exhibit B Strategies

In keeping with the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that governs the allocation, use, and reporting of opioid settlement funds, a local government must spend these opioid settlement funds on strategies authorized under Option A or Option B.

Under Option A, a local government may fund one or more strategies from MOA Exhibit A, which is a shorter list of high-impact strategies to address the opioid overdose epidemic. This option allows for but does not require specific planning activities at the local level.

Under Option B, a local government must undertake the following steps:

1. The local government **engages in a collaborative strategic planning process** described in MOA Exhibit C. (See pages 2-3 of this document.)
2. The local government **drafts a report and recommendations**, the contents of which are described in the right-hand column of MOA Exhibit C.
3. The local government **formally presents the report and recommendations** to its governing body, such as the county board or city council.
4. The local government **submits the report and recommendations** to the Community Opioid Resources Engine for North Carolina (CORE-NC) within 90 days of the date the report and recommendations were presented to the local governing body.

Once the report and recommendations have been submitted to the local governing body for consideration, the local governing body may decide to fund one or more strategies from the shorter list of approved strategies listed in MOA Exhibit A or the longer list of strategies from the national settlements in MOA Exhibit B.

Use of settlement funds under Option A and Option B. Local Governments shall spend Opioid Settlement Funds from the Local Abatement Funds on opioid remediation activities using either or both of the processes described as Option A and Option B below, unless the relevant National Settlement Agreement or Bankruptcy Resolution further limit the spending.

By going through the collaborative strategic planning process that is required for Option B, the local government not only reaps the benefits of thoughtful planning but also unlocks a wider array of strategies available to address the opioid overdose epidemic, including the strategies listed in Exhibit A as well as those listed in Exhibit B.

**EXHIBIT C to NC MOA:  
COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS UNDER OPTION B**

	<b>ACTIVITY NAME</b>	<b>ACTIVITY DETAIL</b>	<b>CONTENT OF REPORT &amp; RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
A	Engage diverse stakeholders	Engage diverse stakeholders, per "ITEM A DETAIL" below, throughout the collaborative strategic planning process	Report on stakeholder engagement per "ITEM A DETAIL" below
B	Designate facilitator	Designate a person or entity to facilitate the strategic collaborative planning process. Consider a trained, neutral facilitator.	Identify the facilitator
C	Build upon any related planning	Build upon or coordinate with prior or concurrent planning efforts that address addiction, drug misuse, overdose, or related issues, including but not limited to community health assessments.	Report any related planning efforts you will build upon or coordinate with
D	Agree on shared vision	Agree on a shared vision for positive community change, considering how strategic investments of Opioid Settlement Funds have the potential to improve community health and well-being and address root causes of addiction, drug misuse, overdose, and related issues	Report on shared vision for positive community change
E	Identify key indicator(s)	Identify one or more population-level measures to monitor in order to gauge progress towards the shared vision. (The NC Opioid Action Plan Data Dashboard contains several such measures.)	Report on the key indicators selected
F	Identify and explore root causes	Explore root causes of addiction, drug misuse, overdose, and related issues in the community, using quantitative data as well as stakeholder narratives, community voices, the stories of those with lived experience, or similar qualitative information	Report on root causes as described
G	Identify and evaluate potential strategies	Identify potential strategies to address root causes or other aspects of the opioid epidemic; identify these strategies (by letter or number) on EXHIBIT A or EXHIBIT B, and consider the effectiveness of each strategy based on available evidence	Identify and evaluate potential strategies
H	Identify gaps in existing efforts	For each potential strategy identified (or for favored strategies), survey existing programs, services, or supports that address the same or similar issues; and identify gaps or shortcomings	Report on survey of and gaps in existing efforts
I	Prioritize strategies	Prioritize strategies, taking into account your shared vision, analysis of root causes, evaluation of each strategy, and analysis of gaps in existing efforts	Report on prioritization of strategies
J	Identify goals, measures, and evaluation plan	For each strategy (or favored strategy), develop goals and an evaluation plan that includes at least one process measure (How much did you do?), at least one quality measure (How well did you do it?), and at least one outcome measure (Is anyone better off?)	Report on goals, measures, and evaluation plan for each chosen strategy
K	Consider ways to align strategies	For each potential strategy identified (or for favored strategies), consider opportunities to braid Opioid Settlement Funds with other funding streams; develop regional solutions; form strategic partnerships; or to pursue other creative solutions	Report on opportunities to align strategies as described
L	Identify organizations	Identify organizations and agencies with responsibility to implement each strategy; and identify the human, material, and capital resources to implement each strategy	Identify organizations and needs to implement each strategy

M	Develop budgets and timelines	Develop a detailed global budget for each strategy with anticipated expenditures, along with timelines for completing components of each strategy	Report budgets and timelines for each strategy
N	Offer recommendations	Offer recommendations to local governing body (e.g., the county board, city council, or other local governing body)	Report recommendations to governing body

**ITEM A DETAIL: STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT**

	<b>STAKE-HOLDERS</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>CONTENT OF REPORT &amp; RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
A-1	Local officials	County and municipal officials, such as those with responsibility over public health, social services, and emergency services	Report stakeholder involvement (who and how involved in process)
A-2	Healthcare providers	Hospitals and health systems, addiction professionals and other providers of behavioral health services, medical professionals, pharmacists, community health centers, medical safety net providers, and other healthcare providers	same as above
A-3	Social service providers	Providers of human services, social services, housing services, and community health services such as harm reduction, peer support, and recovery support services	same
A-4	Education and employment service providers	Educators, such as representatives of K-12 schools, community colleges, and universities; and those providing vocational education, job skills training, or related employment services	same
A-5	Payers and funders	Health care payers and funders, such as managed care organizations, prepaid health plans, LME-MCOs, private insurers, and foundations	same
A-6	Law enforcement	Law enforcement and corrections officials	same
A-7	Employers	Employers and business leaders	same
A-8	Community groups	Community groups, such as faith communities, community coalitions that address drug misuse, groups supporting people in recovery, youth leadership organizations, and grassroots community organizations	same
A-9	Stakeholders with "lived experience"	Stakeholders with "lived experience," such as people with addiction, people who use drugs, people in medication-assisted or other treatment, people in recovery, people with criminal justice involvement, and family members or loved ones of the individuals just listed	same
A-10	Stakeholders reflecting diversity of community	Stakeholders who represent the racial, ethnic, economic, and cultural diversity of the community, such as people of color, Native Americans, members of the LGBTQ community, and members of traditionally unrepresented or underrepresented groups	same