



NC Opioid Settlements MOA Coordination Group

Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2025; 12:00P – 1:15P (via Zoom)

I. ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCES

Members in Attendance:

Commissioner Emily Truman, Gates County
David Ellis, Wake County
Gordon Watkins, Forsyth County
Dr. Jennifer Green, Cumberland County
Eric Olmedo, City of High Point
Louis Leake, Fayetteville Comprehensive Treatment
Steve Mange, Department of Adult Correction
Michelle G. Ries, NC Institute of Medicine

Guests in Attendance:

Alyssa Benziger, Elizabeth Brewington, Hillary Chen, Andrea Des Marais, Megan Fullwood, Cecilia Gonzales, Katherine Gora Combs, Stephen Marshall, Daniel Mosteller, Victoria Reichard, Jill Rushing, Nidhi Sachdeva

II. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 12:05 p.m. by Gordon Watkins.

III. NEW BUSINESS

National Opioid Settlements

Daniel Mosteller, Associate Deputy Attorney General, North Carolina Department of Justice, presented information on the status of the various national opioid settlements and how NC is impacted.

NC Opioid Settlements Dashboards

Katherine Gora Combs, Co-Investigator, UNC Injury Prevention Research Center (IPRC) and Cecilia Gonzales, Project Director, UNC IPRC, presented the updates and changes to the CORE-NC website (ncopioidsettlement.org) including new data dashboards.

Local Governments: Planning, Implementing, and Reporting

North Carolina Association of County Commissioners' Nidhi Sachdeva, Director of Strategic Health and Opioid Initiatives, Elizabeth Brewington, Manager of Health Programs, and Jill Rushing, Senior Health Programs Manager and Evaluator, presented the successes, challenges, and resources for local governments working on opioid abatement strategies.

General Discussion and Next Steps

There was a brief discussion about the presentations and the next meeting date. Gordon Watkins reminded members that according to the NC MOA (Section E.7, page 9) the Coordination Group is not required to meet until May 2028, unless there is a special meeting called.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Gordon Watkins adjourned the group at 1:09 p.m.



NC Opioid Settlement MOA Coordination Group

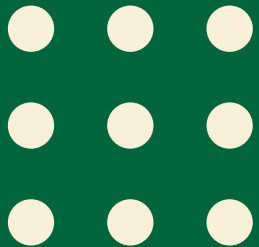
May 7, 2025; 12:00 – 1:00P

[Zoom Registration](#)

Agenda	
12:00 – 12:05P	Welcome and Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gordon Watkins, Forsyth County• Nidhi Sachdeva, NC Association of County Commissioners
12:05 – 12:15P	National Opioid Settlements <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daniel Mosteller, NC Department of Justice
12:15 – 12:25P	CORE-NC Updates: Website and Impact Dashboards <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cecilia Gonzales, UNC Injury Prevention Research Center• Katherine Gora Combs, UNC Injury Prevention Research Center
12:25 – 12:45P	NC Local Governments: Planning, Implementing, and Reporting Successes and Challenges, Technical Assistance and Supports <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nidhi Sachdeva, NC Association of County Commissioners• Elizabeth Brewington, NC Association of County Commissioners• Jill Rushing, NC Association of County Commissioners
12:45 – 1:00P	General Discussion, Next Steps, and Future meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gordon Watkins, Forsyth County
1:00P	Thank yous and Adjourn



North Carolina Association
of County Commissioners



NC Opioid Settlements Memorandum of Agreement Coordination Group

May 7, 2025

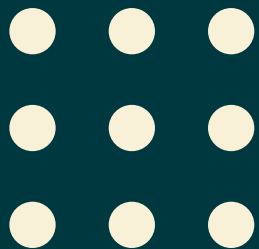


North Carolina Association
of County Commissioners

Welcome and Introductions

Gordon Watkins, Forsyth County

Nidhi Sachdeva, NC Association of County Commissioners





North Carolina Association
of County Commissioners

Coordination Group Members

Appointed By	Appointee Name	Appointee Affiliation
NCACC - County Commissioner	Commissioner Emily Truman	Gates County
NCACC - County Manager	David Ellis	Wake County
NCACC - County Attorney	Gordon Watkins	Forsyth County
NCACC - Health/HS Director	Dr. Jennifer Green	Cumberland County
NCLM - Municipal Manager	Eric Olmedo	City of High Point
DHHS Secretary	Louis Leake	Fayetteville Comprehensive Treatment (OTP)
DHHS Secretary	Alyssa Kitlas	Wake County Behavioral Health
DHHS Secretary	Louise Vincent	NC Survivors Union
DHHS Secretary	Margaret Bordeaux	On The Bright Side
NC Attorney General	Steven Mange	NC Department of Adult Correction
Speaker of the House	Dr. Kara Millonzi	UNC School of Government
Senate President Pro Tem	Michelle G. Ries	NC Institute of Medicine



NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENTS

Daniel Mosteller, Associate Deputy Attorney General
North Carolina Department of Justice
May 7, 2025

Exciting Updates from CORE-NC

NC MOA Coordination Group
May 7, 2025



COMMUNITY OPIOID RESOURCES ENGINE



Cecilia Gonzales

Project Director, CORE-NC



Katherine Gora Combs

Co-Investigator, CORE-NC



In the last year, CORE-NC has...

- ① Established a cohesive **brand identity**
- ② Improved the **usability of the website**
- ③ Launched **new data displays**
- ④ And **much more!**

1

Brand Identity



CORE-NC

COMMUNITY OPIOID RESOURCES ENGINE

The CORE-NC logo centers on the **visual metaphor of a guiding star**, aligning with CORE-NC's mission to guide communities and illuminate important data and resources about the opioid settlements.



CORE-NC

COMMUNITY OPIOID RESOURCES ENGINE

The **star-shaped core** is formed by the convergence of **four distinct colors**, symbolizing the collaborative partnership between the four key partners.



NC Department of
Justice



NCDHHS

NC Department of
Health & Human
Services



NC Association of County
Commissioners



UNC | INJURY PREVENTION
RESEARCH CENTER

UNC Injury Prevention
Research Center



CORE-NC

CORE-NC has **two standard logo configurations** as well as an **icon**.



CORE-NC

COMMUNITY OPIOID RESOURCES ENGINE

Primary Logo



CORE-NC

Secondary Logo

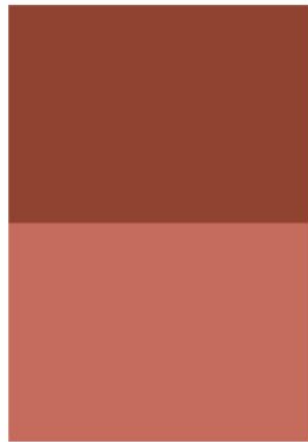


Icon



CORE-NC

CORE-NC also has a **primary color palette**...



RED

HEX	#914131
RGB	145 65 49
CMYK	0 55 66 43

LIGHT RED

HEX	#C6695D
RGB	198 105 93
CMYK	19 69 62 3



GREEN

HEX	#639669
RGB	99 150 105
CMYK	34 0 30 41

LIGHT GREEN

HEX	#81C087
RGB	129 192 135
CMYK	52 4 61 0



BLUE

HEX	#346076
RGB	52 96 118
CMYK	55 18 0 53

LIGHT BLUE

HEX	#8DABB2
RGB	141 171 178
CMYK	47 23 26 0



YELLOW

HEX	#C5963A
RGB	197 150 58
CMYK	0 23 70 22

LIGHT YELLOW

HEX	#E2C676
RGB	226 198 118
CMYK	12 19 64 0



CORE-NC

...and an **expanded color palette** for data displays or other uses.

E	#dfaba5	#EDD2BF	#F1E3BB	#C9E4CB	#B0D4C7	#CEDBDE	#DECCE0	#D0C8C8
D	#DA9D95	#E4BCA0	#EAD49A	#AED6B2	#89BEAB	#AAC0C5	#C6A6C9	#B3A8A8
C	#C6695D	#D79B70	#E2C676	#81C087	#61A88F	#8DABB2	#B68CBA	#978787
B	#B54D40	#C97941	#D8B146	#72AB78	#48846F	#6D939C	#9D67A3	#796969
A	#914131	#95572B	#C5963A	#639669	#2E5447	#346076	#613765	#494040
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8



CORE-NC

COMMUNITY OPIOID RESOURCES ENGINE

2

CORE-NC Website

North Carolina's opioid settlement funds bring supportive services to our communities.

READ NC CASE STUDIES ON HIGH-IMPACT SETTLEMENT STRATEGIES



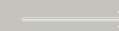
North Carolina's opioid settlement funds bring supportive services to our communities.

READ NC CASE STUDIES ON HIGH-IMPACT SETTLEMENT STRATEGIES



[Local Progress](#)[State-Level Trends](#)[About the Settlements](#)

supportive services to our
communities.

[READ NC CASE STUDIES ON HIGH-IMPACT SETTLEMENT STRATEGIES](#)

Learn how our local governments are using these funds to save lives and build healthier communities.

Local Progress



See what your local government is doing with opioid settlement funds.

[EXPLORE LOCAL PROGRESS](#)

State-Level Trends



View maps, graphs, and other information about what is happening across North Carolina.

[DISCOVER STATE-LEVEL TRENDS](#)

About the Settlements



Learn about the national opioid settlements and the documents that guide local government spending.

[LEARN ABOUT THE SETTLEMENTS](#)

[NCOPIOIDSETTLEMENT.ORG](https://ncopioidsettlement.org)

Local Spending Authorization Report

The Local Spending Authorization Report lets everyone know how a local government plans to make use of opioid settlement funds before they are spent. This report must be completed within 90 days of the passage of a budget or resolution/ordinance authorizing the expenditures of opioid settlement funds. The report details what strategies a local government plans to fund, in what amount, and for how long.



Online Portal

SUBMIT YOUR LOCAL SPENDING AUTHORIZATION REPORT

Resource Links

- [View Local Spending Authorization Report Overview \(PDF\)](#)
- [View Sample Language for Counties Authorizing Opioid Settlement Funds \(NCACC Resource\)](#)
- [Preview the Local Spending Authorization Report Portal \(PDF\)](#)

NCOPIOIDSETTLEMENT.ORG/REPORTING

Resource Directory

The following resources have been compiled by CORE-NC to help local governments in selecting, implementing, and evaluating strategies.

Strategy

Media Type

Focus

SUBMIT

RESET

[A Primer for Implementation of Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution in Jails and Prisons](#)



Strategies: [\(11\) Addiction Treatment for Incarcerated Persons](#)

This primer outlines strategies for developing, coordinating, and monitoring and evaluating jail and prison-based programs

[Addressing Opioids in Your Organization](#)



Strategies: [\(05\) Employment-Related Services](#)

This toolkit includes sample policies, fact sheets, presentations, safety talks, posters, white papers, reports, videos and more to help implement a workplace program on opioids

[Advancing Health Equity Through County Opioid Abatement Strategies](#)



Strategies: [\(01\) Collaborative Strategic Planning](#)

[American Community Survey \(ACS\)](#)



Strategies: [\(05\) Employment-Related Services](#)

The ACS helps local officials, community leaders, and

[NCOPIOIDSETTLEMENT.ORG/RESOURCES](https://ncopioidsettlement.org/resources)



CORE-NC

Resource Directory

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Strategy

Media Type

Focus

(00) General

(01) Collaborative Strategic Planning

(02) Evidence-Based Addiction Treatment

(03) Recovery Support Services

(04) Recovery Housing

SUBMIT

RESET

A Primer for Implementing Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution in Jails and Prisons

Strategies: (11) Addiction Treatment for Incarcerated Persons

Addressing Opioids in Your Organization

Strategies: (05) Employment-Related Services

This toolkit includes sample policies, fact sheets,

Advancing Health Equity Through County Opioid Abatement Strategies

Strategies: (01) Collaborative Strategic Planning

American Community Survey (ACS)

Strategies: (05) Employment-Related Services

The ACS helps local officials, community leaders, and

NCOPIODSETTLEMENT.ORG/RESOURCES



CORE-NC

Resource Directory

The following resources have been compiled by CORE-NC to help local governments in selecting, implementing, and evaluating strategies.

Strategy

Media Type

Article/Blog Post

Case Study

Course/Training

Data

FAQs

Guides and Toolkits

Infographic

Focus

SUBMIT

RESET

A Primer for Implementation of Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution in Jails and Prisons

Strategies: (11) [Addiction Treatment for Incarcerated Persons](#)

s in Your

[t-Related Services](#)

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Advancing Health Equity Through County Opioid Abatement Strategies

Strategies: (01) [Collaborative Strategic Planning](#)

American Community Survey (ACS)

Strategies: (05) [Employment-Related Services](#)

The ACS helps local officials, community leaders, and

NCOPIOIDSETTLEMENT.ORG/RESOURCES

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Strategy

Media Type

Focus

North Carolina

SUBMIT

RESET

A Primer for Implementation of Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution in Jails and Prisons

Strategies: (11) Addition Treatment for Incarcerated Persons
prison-based programs

Addressing Opioids in Your Organization

Strategies: (05) Employment-Related Services
This toolkit includes sample policies, fact sheets,
workplace program on opioids

Advancing Health Equity Through County Opioid Abatement Strategies

Strategies: (01) Collaborative Strategic Planning

American Community Survey (ACS)

Strategies: (05) Employment-Related Services
The ACS helps local officials, community leaders, and

NCOPIOIDSETTLEMENT.ORG/RESOURCES



3

Data Displays and Other Offerings



Currently Available

- Payment Schedule
- Local Spending Plans
- Past Spending
- Local Progress
- Strategy Implementation

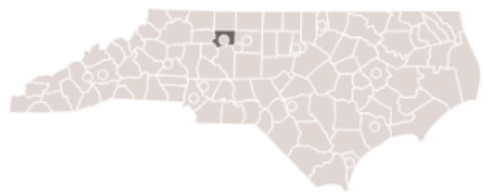
NCOPIOIDSETTLEMENT.ORG/TRENDS



Local Progress

Explore the current status of the opioid settlements in each local government, all in one place.

[NCOPIOIDSETTLEMENT.ORG/TRENDS/LOCAL-PROGRESS](https://ncopioidsettlement.org/trends/local-progress)

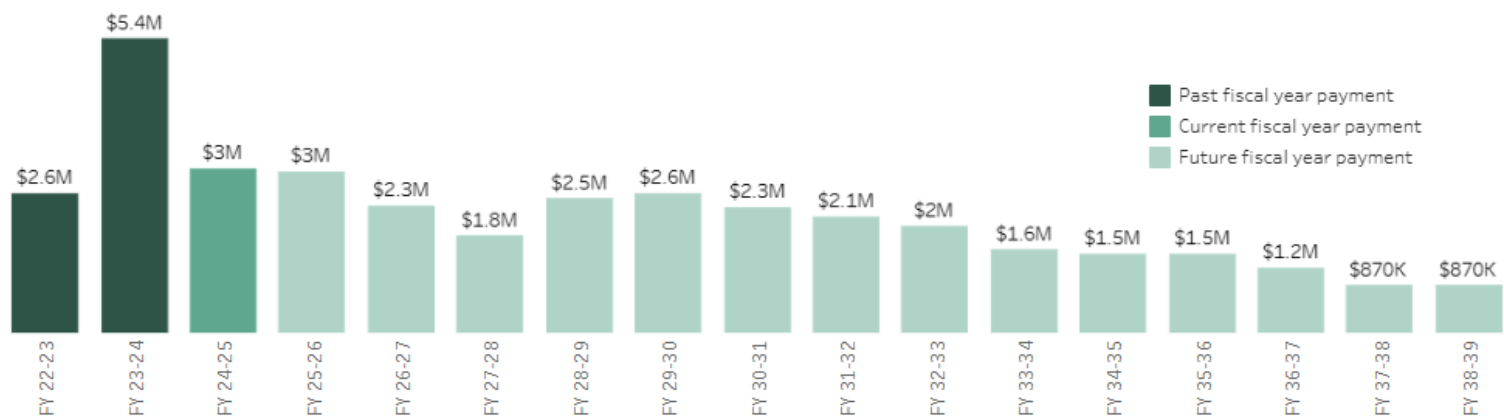


Choose a local government:

Forsyth County

PAYMENTS

Forsyth County is receiving **\$37,049,172** in opioid settlement funds from 2022 through 2038.



Download estimated payments
for all local governments



View legal and
technical notes



NCOPIOIDSETTLEMENT.ORG/TRENDS/LOCAL-PROGRESS



CORE-NC

SPENDING PLANS

Local governments must approve and share **spending plans** before spending opioid settlement funds. Local governments may not spend more than the approved amounts (though they may spend less).

Forsyth County has approved and shared **3** spending plan(s).

Forsyth County	7/27/2023	Resolution 2023-832 and Ordinance 2023-466	Click to view spending plan
	12/7/2023	Resolution 2023-1073 / ordinance 2023-523	Click to view spending plan
	10/3/2024	#2024-1372	Click to view spending plan

Download spending plan data
for all local governments



Visit document library to
see all spending plans



View legal and
technical notes



In their spending plans, local governments approve spending on **Exhibit A** and/or **Exhibit B** strategies.

Exhibit A strategies are **high-impact strategies** to address the opioid overdose epidemic.

Exhibit B strategies are from the national settlement agreements. These strategies are available to local governments that have first engaged in the **Collaborative Strategic Planning process**. There are over 100 **Exhibit B strategies** that are grouped into 12 **Exhibit B categories**.

Download the
Exhibit A
strategy list



Download the
Exhibit B
strategy list



Learn about the **Collaborative
Strategic Planning process** required
for Exhibit B strategies



View legal and
technical notes



Forsyth County has shared plans that approve spending for **19 unique strategy(s)** between Summer 2023 and Summer 2025.

Forsyth County	Ex A 1. Collaborative Strategic Planning	\$50,000	7/1/2024	
	Ex A 2. Evidence-Based Addiction Treatment	\$1,000,150	7/1/2024	
	Ex A 3. Recovery Support Services	\$152,335	7/1/2023	
		\$475,273	7/1/2024	
	Ex A 4. Recovery Housing Support	\$34,824	1/1/2024	
		\$308,335	7/1/2024	

NCOPIOIDSETTLEMENT.ORG/TRENDS/LOCAL-PROGRESS



CORE-NC

Collaborative Strategic Planning Report and Recommendations

Local governments that wish to spend opioid settlement funds on any **Exhibit B strategies** must first engage in the **Collaborative Strategic Planning process**, resulting in a report and recommendations to the local governing board. This process is not required for **Exhibit A strategies**.

Forsyth County has submitted 1 report(s) and recommendations.

2023-05-04 | [Click here](#) for Forsyth County Collaborative Strategic Planning Report and Recommendations presented on 2023-05-04

*Learn about the Collaborative Strategic
Planning process required for Exhibit B strategies*



*View legal and
technical notes*

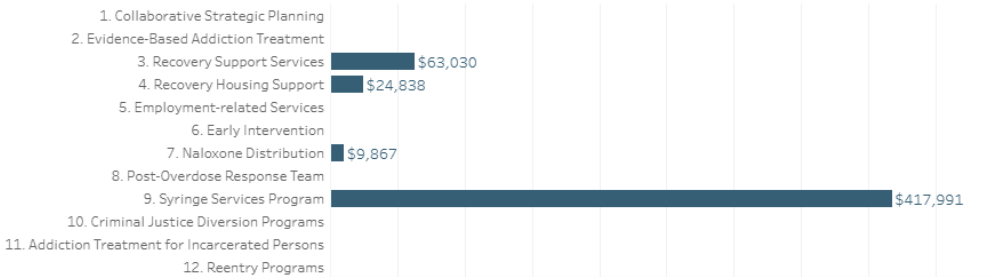


NCOPIOIDSETTLEMENT.ORG/TRENDS/LOCAL-PROGRESS

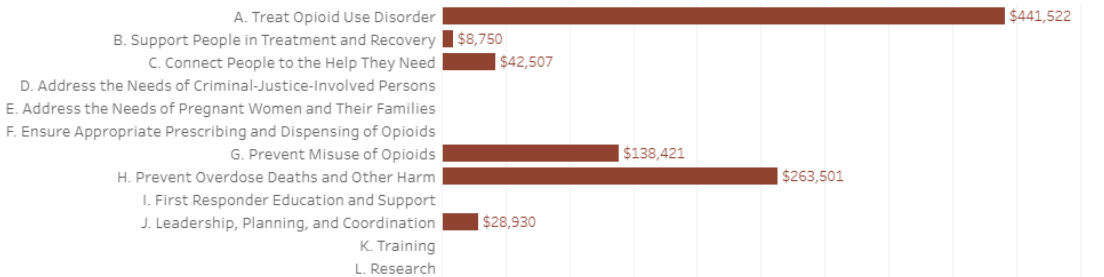
PAST SPENDING

Forsyth County has spent **\$1,439,356** on **4** Exhibit A strategy(s) and **6** Exhibit B category(s) between Summer 2022 and Summer 2024.

They funded these **Exhibit A strategies...**



...and these **Exhibit B categories:**



[Visit document library](#)
to see all financial reports



[Download past spending data](#)
for all local governments



[View legal and](#)
technical notes



NCOPIOIDSETTLEMENT.ORG/TRENDS/LOCAL-PROGRESS



CORE-NC

ANNUAL SETTLEMENT UPDATE

Forsyth County has shared this update to describe how they have made use of settlement funds in FY 2023-2024:

In FY 23-24, we approved the funding for twelve different strategies, although one funding strategy never had money dispersed. We were able to fund a variety of different practice variations of addressing OUD, includ...

[\[Click to see full narrative\]](#)

*View legal and
technical notes*



LOCAL CONTACTS

Denise Price, Deputy County Manager/Health and Human Services Director
Forsyth County
priceed@forsyth.cc

Forsyth County website: <https://www.co.forsyth.nc.us/>

Forsyth County opioid settlement website: [Not Provided](#)

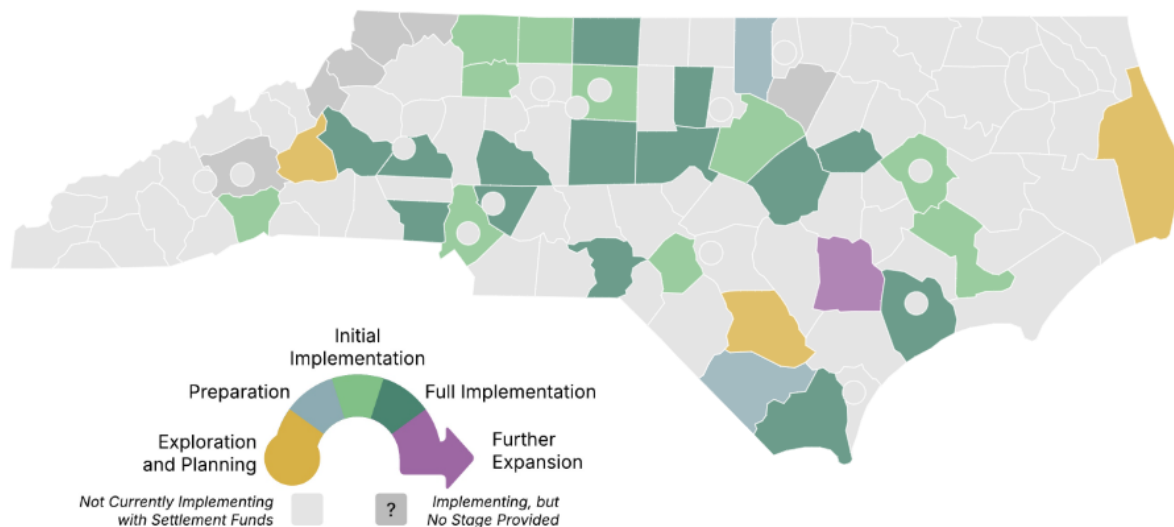
 View on Tableau Public

 Share

NCOPIOIDSETTLEMENT.ORG/TRENDS/LOCAL-PROGRESS

Implementation Stage

Ex A| 1. Collaborative Strategic Planning



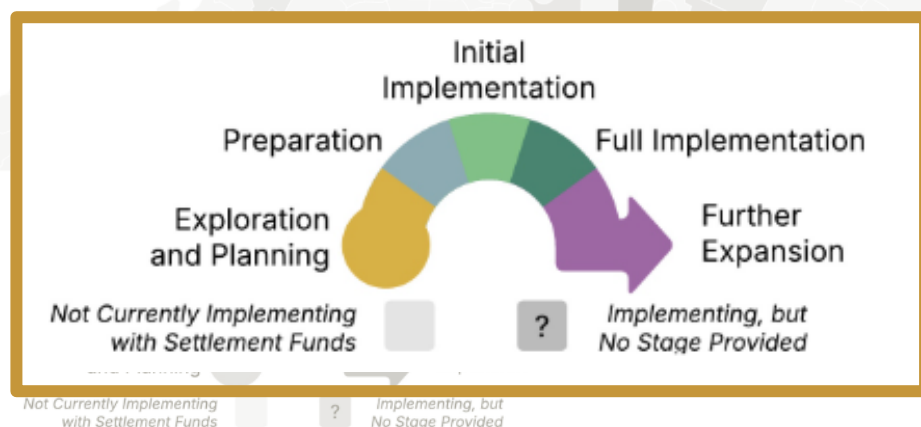
Strategy Implementation

Explore the current stages of implementation for each strategy funded by local governments

[NCOPIOIDSETTLEMENT.ORG/TRENDS/STRATEGY-IMPLEMENTATION](https://ncopioidsettlement.org/trends/strategy-implementation)

Strategy Implementation

Explore the current stages of implementation for each strategy funded by local governments



[NCOPIOIDSETTLEMENT.ORG/TRENDS/STRATEGY-IMPLEMENTATION](https://ncopioidsettlement.org/trends/strategy-implementation)



Document Library

Repository of all
submitted reports

Filterable by local
government, report type,
and period

[NCOPIOIDSETTLEMENT.ORG/DOC-LIBRARY](https://ncopioidsettlement.org/doc-library)



CORE-NC Document Library

Select a local government, select a document type, or alter the date parameters below to narrow your search results.

<input type="checkbox"/> by Government Alamance County ▼	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> by Document Type Financial Report ▼	<input type="checkbox"/> from Date 01 / 01 / 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> to Date 01 / 01 / 2040
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For Fiscal Year 2021-2022, Annual Financial Reports were not required from counties and municipalities who did not receive any opioid settlement funds prior to July 1, 2022; therefore, there are no reports available for FY 21-22 for Anson County, Caswell County, Cleveland County, Gates County, Hertford County, Hoke County, Nash County, Pender County, or the City of Henderson.

Local Gov't	Document
Alamance County	FY 2021–2022 Financial Report
Alamance County	FY 2022–2023 Financial Report
Alamance County	FY 2023–2024 Financial Report
Alexander County	FY 2021–2022 Financial Report
Alexander County	FY 2022–2023 Financial Report
Alexander County	FY 2023–2024 Financial Report
Alleghany County	FY 2021–2022 Financial Report
Alleghany County	FY 2022–2023 Financial Report
Alleghany County	FY 2023–2024 Financial Report

[NCOPIOIDSETTLEMENT.ORG/DOC-LIBRARY](https://ncopioidsettlement.org/doc-library)

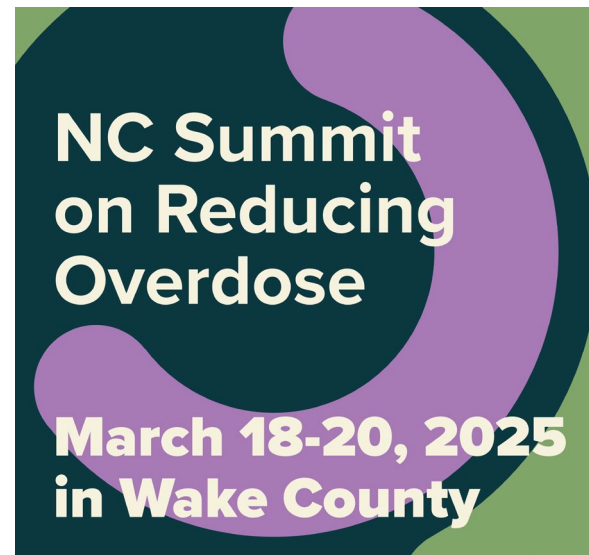


CORE-NC

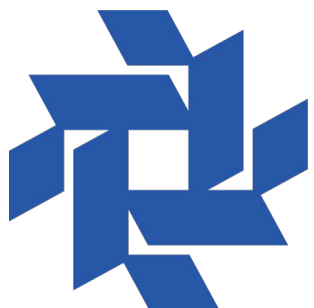
4

Other Highlights

CORE-NC has been **well represented** at both **national and state** public health practice and research gatherings.

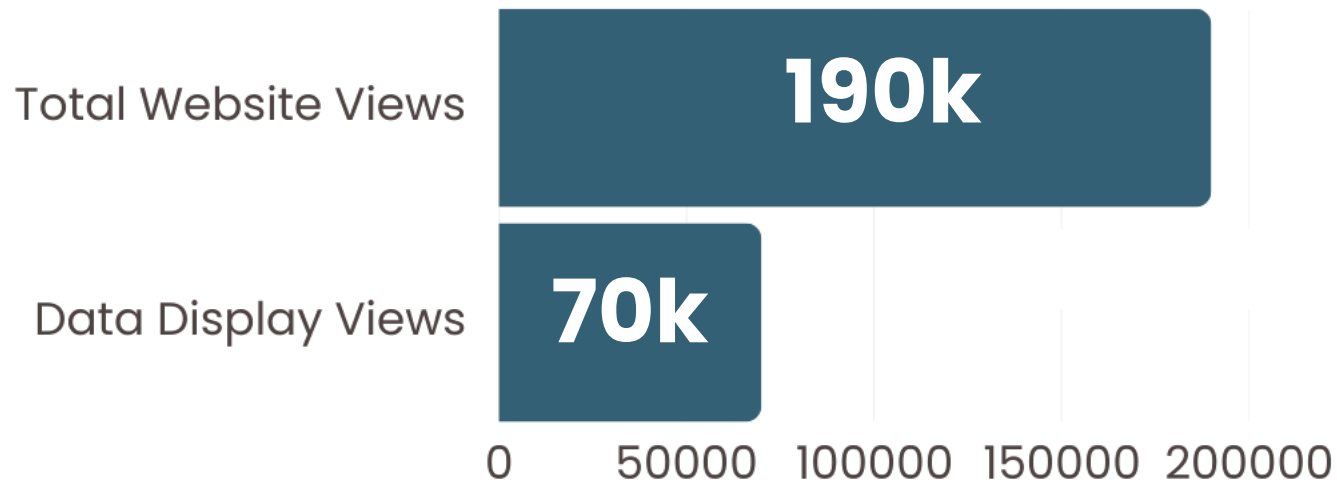


APHA 2024
ANNUAL MEETING & EXPO



**Rx and Illicit
Drug Summit**

Select Project Output



Website data from February 1, 2022 – April 30, 2025



850+

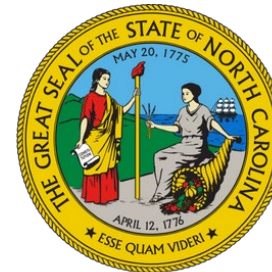
local government
reports processed
for display*

*All time

Key Collaborative Partners



**INJURY
PREVENTION
RESEARCH CENTER**



**NC DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Public Health



CORE-NC

Supporting Partners



GILLINGS SCHOOL OF
GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Funding Partners



CORE-NC activities at UNC IPRC are supported by an award from NC Collaboratory using Opioid Abatement Funds, as authorized under NCGA Session Law 2023-134, Section 9G.8.(b), with additional support from the Duke Energy Foundation and the Governor's Institute.



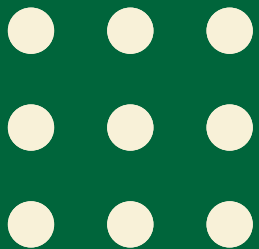


OPIOIDSETTLEMENT

@NCDOJ.GOV | @NCACC.ORG | @UNC.EDU | @DHHS.NC.GOV



North Carolina Association
of County Commissioners



NC Local Governments Planning, Implementing, and Reporting

NC Opioid Settlements MOA Coordination Group

May 7, 2025



North Carolina Association
of County Commissioners

Opioid Settlement Technical Assistance Team

Purpose

- Improve the health of NC counties
- Support local governments in utilizing opioid settlement funds to maximize resources and impact through technical assistance, outreach and training, and collaboration.



Nidhi Sachdeva
*Director of Strategic Health &
Opioid Initiatives*



Jill Rushing
*Senior Health Programs Manager
and Evaluator*



Elizabeth Brewington
Manager of Health Programs



Andrea Des Marais
*Senior Manager of Health
Programs and Evaluator*



Hillary Chen
Manager of Health Programs



Amy O'Regan
Manager of Health Programs



Alyssa Benziger
Health Programs Coordinator





North Carolina Association
of County Commissioners

OSTAT Services

- **Strategic action planning**

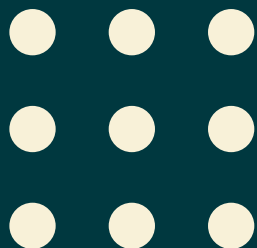
- NC MOA consultation/translation
- Identification and categorization of eligible strategies
- Workforce development
- Opioid Settlement Academy

- **Collaboration and Connections**

- Connections to technical experts
- Cross-county collaborations

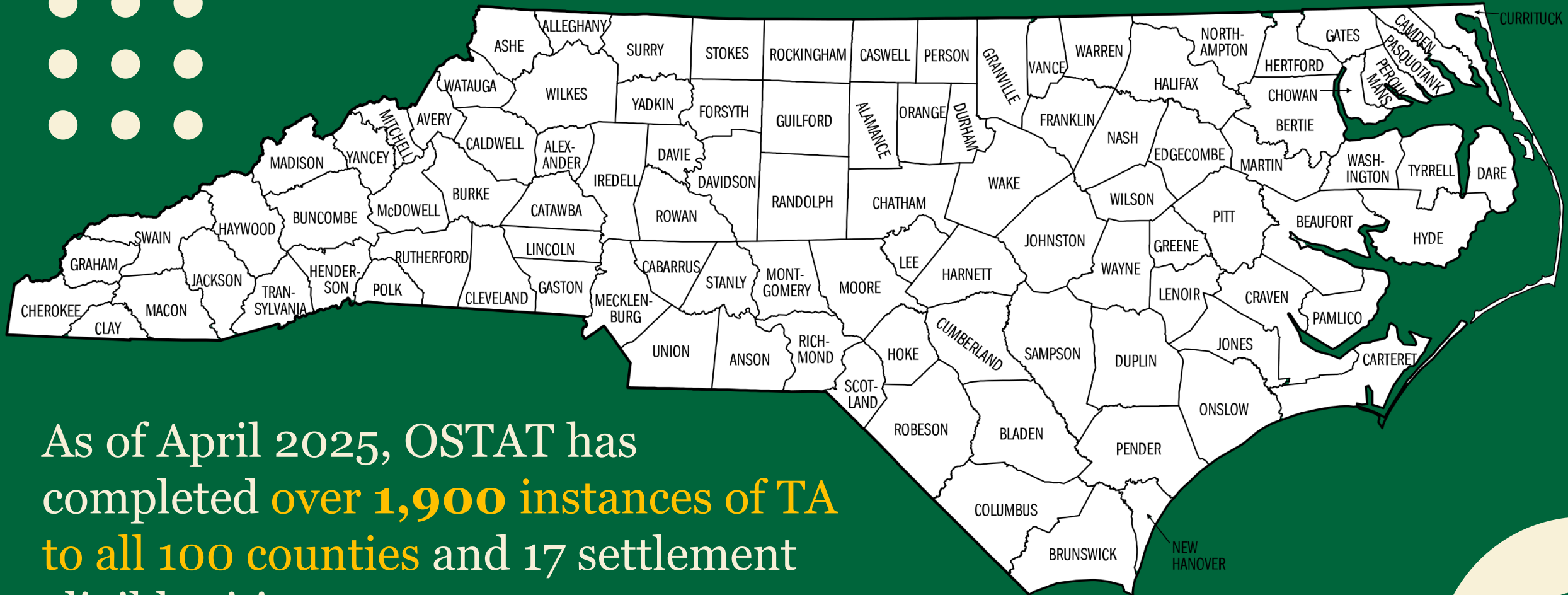
- **Program implementation, reporting, and evaluation support**

- Education and outreach
- Training, capacity building
- Consultation and coaching
- Templates, tools and resource development
- Evaluation and data reporting





North Carolina Association
of County Commissioners

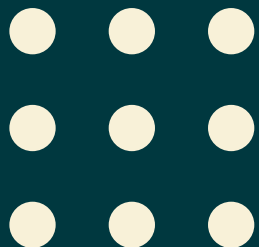


As of April 2025, OSTAT has
completed **over 1,900 instances of TA**
to all 100 counties and 17 settlement
eligible cities



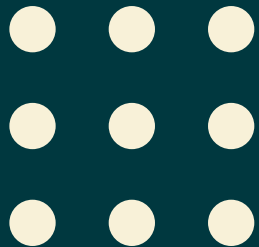
North Carolina Association
of County Commissioners

“[OSTAT] and partners are extremely resourceful and willing to connect local government with the correct resources and information. Their ability to provide support out reaches any other agency to this date, in my opinion.”





Planning





Planning

Successes

- Local governments know where to go for help
 - 963+/1900+ TA requests focused on planning
 - ncopioidsettlement.org
- 92 local governments have submitted local spending plan authorizations (as of February 28, 2025)
- 10 Teams representing 11 Local Governments participated in the Opioid Settlement Academy



Planning



North Carolina Association
of County Commissioners

Planning

Successes

- Opioid Settlement Academy



Planning



Planning

Challenges

- Local governments are balancing many other responsibilities
- Communities' needs exceed resources available to address them
- Changing funding landscape
- Orientating new Commissioners and new local government staff



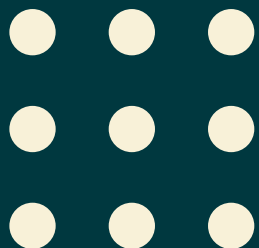


North Carolina Association
of County Commissioners

Planning

Resources and Supports

- NCACC's Collaborative Strategic Planning Toolkit (2024) to walk local governments through best practices in completing the requirements of Exhibit C of the NC MOA
 - Updated the Exhibit C Worksheets



Planning

NC OPIOID SETTLEMENTS: Collaborative Strategic Planning Toolkit, Version 1



North Carolina
Association of
County Commissioners



ncacc.org/ostat
ncopioidsettlement.org



Planning

Resources and Supports

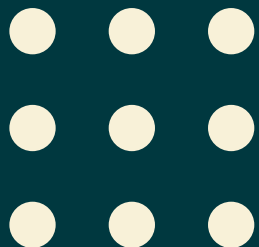
- On-on-one consultations, site visits, presentations
- Monthly TA Office Hours
- Opioid Settlement Coordinators Network and Convenings
- Opioid Settlements Academy
- In development:
 - Pre-Arrest Diversion Handbook





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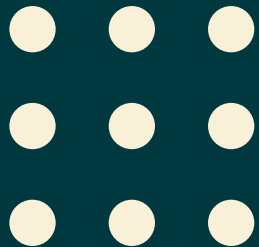
“Opioid Settlement Funds have been one of my ugly monsters I move around my desk and dread tackling...**Your reassurance and information have turned that around for me and I feel so much more confident in taking the steps to start moving forward. And not just me, but my whole team feels more equipped to be successful.** I don’t know if you get to go home every day feeling like you made a difference, but please know you did today!”





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Implementing

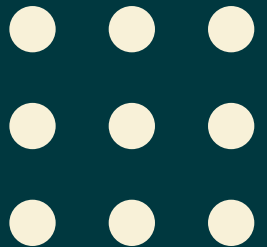




Implementing

Successes

- Local governments are most often allocating funds to Exhibit A strategies
- Local governments are transitioning more to implementation stages
- Top 3 Funded
 - A.7. Naloxone Distribution
 - A.3. Recovery Support Services
 - A.1. Collaborative Strategic Planning

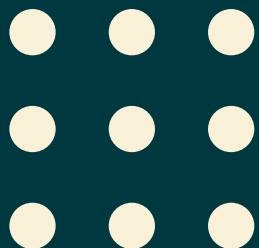




Implementing

Challenges

- Meeting immediate needs vs. planning for long-term
- Understanding the definitions of Exhibit A strategies
 - A.2. Evidence-based addiction treatment \neq A.3. Recovery support
 - A.6. Early intervention \neq B. Primary prevention





Implementing

Resources and Supports

- NCACC Trauma-Informed Counties (in Practice)
 - 10 Trainings
 - Assessment and Recommendations
- Case Studies (NCACC, 2025)
- NC Jail Health Toolkit (DHHS, 2025)
- PORT Trainings (DPH, ongoing)
- NC Naloxone Distribution Toolkit (DPH, 2024)

Implementing

Case Studies on High-Impact Strategies

These case studies were developed by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the North Carolina Department of Public Safety (NCDPS). The case studies are designed to provide a practical guide to implementing high-impact strategies across the state. Each case study focuses on a specific strategy from the 10 High-Impact Strategies for Trauma-Informed Communities and provides a detailed overview of the strategy, including the challenges faced, the solutions implemented, and the outcomes achieved. The case studies are organized into five categories: Collaborative Strategic Planning, Evidence-Based Addiction Treatment, Recovery Support Services, Naloxone Distribution, and Post-Overdose Response Teams.

Collaborative Strategic Planning

Many local governments found that planning for and coordinating the use of special enforcement funds was a priority for their communities. To assist with this, the NCACC developed a guide to help local governments understand the requirements for these funds and how to use them effectively. The guide includes information on the application process, the types of activities that are eligible for funding, and the reporting requirements. The guide also provides a checklist of key considerations for local governments when developing a plan for these funds.

Evidence-Based Addiction Treatment

Expanding the provision of medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) through the local clinic was seen as a natural next step in improving services for people with opioid use disorder. This was especially true because of the longstanding relationships between the major local healthcare providers, the county, community organizations, and other service providers. The guide provides a checklist of key considerations for local governments when developing a plan for these funds.

Recovery Support Services

Local governments used several factors that helped them with designing and implementing Recovery Support Services. One of these factors is providing a variety of flexible services with compassion and empathy. The guide provides a checklist of key considerations for local governments when developing a plan for these funds.

Naloxone Distribution

A reduction in the number of fatal overdoses has been identified as an urgent goal. The case study details the challenges and solutions for implementing a naloxone distribution program. The guide provides a checklist of key considerations for local governments when developing a plan for these funds.

Post-Overdose Response Teams

Peer support specialists are extremely valuable partners, especially in their ability to assist struggling clients and case managers to connect people to services. The guide provides a checklist of key considerations for local governments when developing a plan for these funds.



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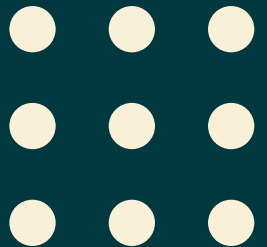
“The [Trauma Informed Counties] workshop was informative and helped me understand how personal and collective experiences of trauma can significantly impact how our citizens interact with us and various agencies in our county... I intend to use this knowledge to help establish and promote a resilient healing and healthy county by ... building trauma-informed service networks and resources for community development and coalition building. As a Commissioner, ...I want to thank you once again for your presentation, and I am grateful to the North Carolina Commissioners Association for providing this fantastic opportunity.”



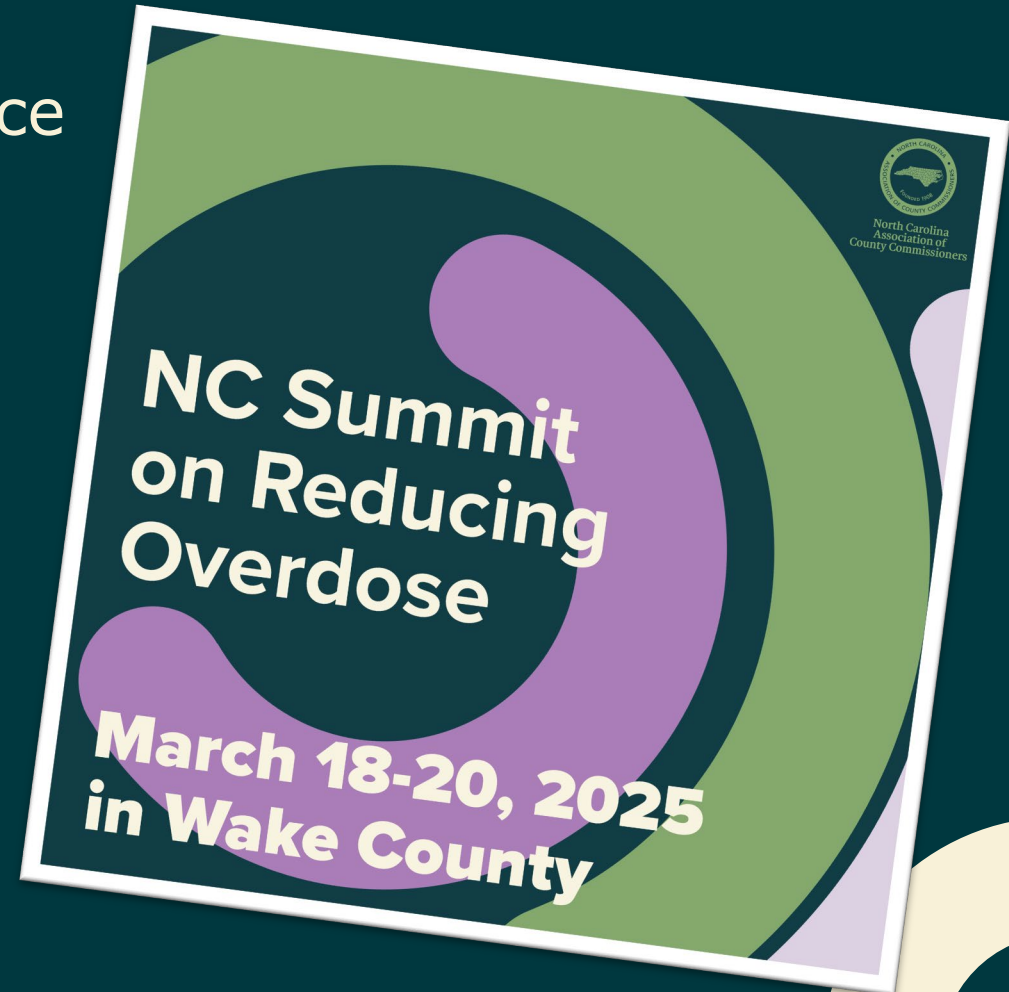
Implementing

NC Summit on Reducing Overdose

- Settlement Administrators Preconference
 - 20 states represented
- Over 700 Attendees
- 2 keynotes
- 5 workshops
- 25 breakout sessions
- Evening programs



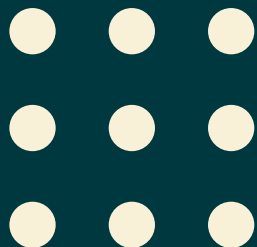
Implementing





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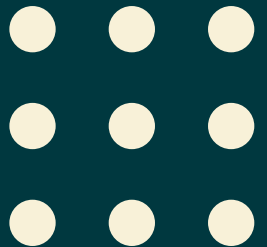
“I appreciate the NCACC team for planning & executing a high-quality conference. Thank you for creating space for people doing the work to interface with elected officials ... It was a wonderful experience.”





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Reporting





Reporting

Successes

- 315+/1900+ TA request focused on annual reporting
- !! 100% compliance for annual reporting in FY 23-24
- Positive and constructive feedback from local governments about annual report process
- NC committed to 100% public reporting
 - opioidsettlementtracker.com/expenditures



Reporting



Reporting

Challenges

- Translating reporting requirements
 - To local governments
 - To subrecipients
- Collecting demographic data





Reporting

Resources and Supports

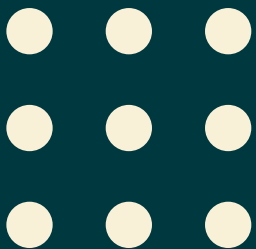
- Required reporting overviews
- Training webinars
- NC Measures Models
 - Annual Impact Report Workbook
- NC Opioid Settlement Coordinators Network trainings at convenings
- Reporting for Subrecipients





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“Of all the grants/projects the county manages, we receive the most support with respect to the Opioid Settlement Funds. **OSTAT makes what would otherwise be a tremendously difficult task manageable. This allows us to focus more on the impact in our community...**”



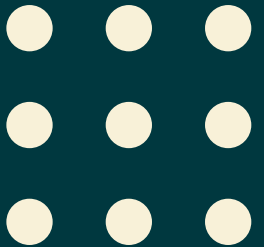


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General Discussion

Next Steps, Future Meetings

Gordon Watkins, Forsyth County





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Thank you!

