

Guilford County Impact Report Narratives for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Each local government that receives opioid settlement funds is asked to share an Annual Settlement Update describing how they have made use of settlement funds during each fiscal year. For each strategy funded, local governments also share additional narratives to describe their progress and successes (success information is optional for some local governments). Across all funded strategies, each local government selects one progress narrative and one success narrative to spotlight each fiscal year.

Guilford County provided the following narrative information for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (July 2023 through June 2024):

Annual Settlement Update

In FY 23-24, Guilford County made significant progress in its opioid settlement work. The Drug and Injury Prevention program continued to offer community education and outreach services as well as beginning distribution of naloxone, fentanyl test strips, and xylazine test strips. These are given out strategically to individuals, community-based organizations, and at community events and trainings. Guilford County also completed the strategic planning process for Option B of the MOA. CCR Consultants worked with County leaders to come up with a list of recommended priorities for settlement funds that included things like continuing and expanding harm reduction services and naloxone access, continuing collaborative work with the newly formed GOPEC group (Guilford Overdose Prevention and Education Collective), and funding inpatient treatment as well as Medication-Assisted Treatment. Guilford County began work to create a residential Women's and Children's Treatment facility, and a work group has held several meetings to lay the groundwork as well as select a provider to run the facility. Construction continued on the Lee's Chapel facility where Daymark will be expanding their inpatient treatment services.

Strategy Spotlights

❖ Exhibit A, Strategy 7: Naloxone Distribution

Progress Narrative

The Drug and Injury Prevention program began a community naloxone distribution program. This included partnering with community-based organizations to distributed naloxone to targeted communities, as well as offering naloxone and harm reduction trainings to the public.

❖ Exhibit A, Strategy 7: Naloxone Distribution

Success Narrative

The Drug and Injury Prevention program began a community naloxone distribution program. Naloxone is distributed via program staff, other public health staff, and community-based organizations. In FY 24, the program distributed 6,292 naloxone kits to community members. These naloxone kits were primarily distributed in communities with high risk of overdose such as unhoused

people, people leaving Guilford County jails, and people struggling with behavioral health conditions and substance use disorders.

Progress and Success Narratives for All Funded Strategies

❖ Exhibit A, Strategy 1: Collaborative Strategic Planning

Progress Narrative

The community input period and strategic planning process was completed, and a full report with recommendations of priority areas for spending was delivered to the Guilford County Commissioners.

Success Narrative

We identified a local agency to collaborate with for a post-overdose response team. We also identified the need for a low barrier MAT program as a result of meeting during the strategic planning process. One organization in our community was starting to offer low barrier MAT, but the need for expansion of this offering was realized.

❖ Exhibit A, Strategy 2: Evidence-Based Addiction Treatment

Progress Narrative

This strategy provided 16 long-term group living beds as part of a package of residential recovery services that also includes evidence-based recovery programming and low-barrier MAT. We also selected a provider to operate a future treatment center for women with children.

Success Narrative

Planning efforts are fully underway to create a unique residential treatment center for women who have children under the age of 12 years old. An advisory committee, full of community stakeholder agencies, has been formed to inform planning efforts and has met several times. We also held an RFA and interview process to select a treatment provider to oversee the facility. We selected Volunteers of America as the provider.

❖ Exhibit A, Strategy 7: Naloxone Distribution

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