## Opioid Settlement Funds

NCCAE-NACo Knowledge Management Forum

August 14

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## Michigan Association of Counties Technical Assistance

- Role of Technical Advisor Opioid Settlement Funds Planning and Capacity Building
  - Vital Strategies and Michigan Association of Counties partnership
  - Position was created in November 2022
  - Provide individualized technical assistance to counties who request support
    - 273 technical assistance requests between November 1, 2022 and August 1, 2024
    - Requests range from general allowable use questions to leading strategic planning countywide
  - Provide opportunities for learning across counties
    - Local Government Learning Community
  - Develop guidance and tools to support county planning processes, spending, monitoring, and transparency

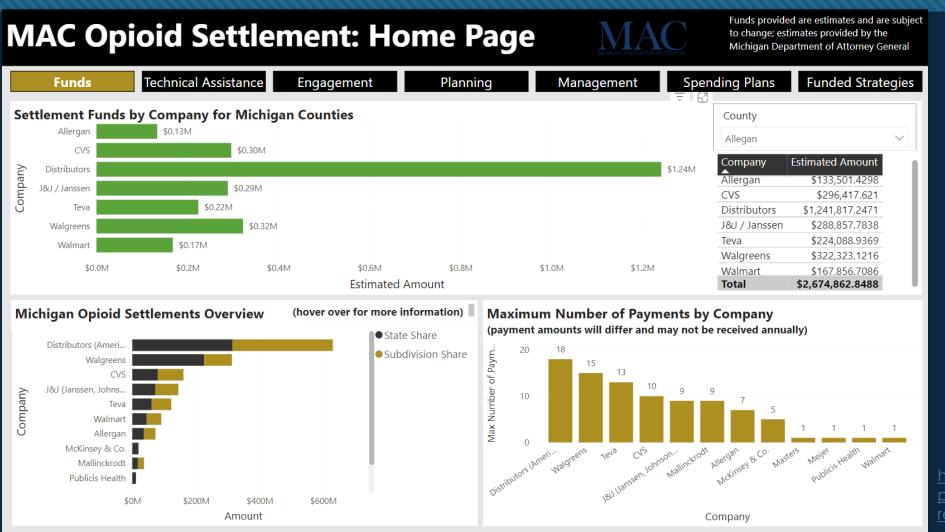
## Michigan Association of Counties Technical Assistance

- Technical Advisor Role
  - Individualized and direct outreach
  - Media and public interest
  - Collaboration with external technical assistance providers
  - Coordination with national experts and across states
  - Liaise with state departments attached to settlements
    - Office of Attorney General
    - O Department of Health and Human Services and Governor's Opioids Task Force
    - Opioid Advisory Commission

# Supports through Michigan Association of Counties (MAC)

- MAC Opioid Settlement Resource Center and Dashboard
  - Includes breakdown of funds, technical assistance requests and counties engaged, and data from annual surveys
- MAC Opioid Settlement Resource Library
  - Explores principles and tracking, evidence-based and promising practices, local government tools, legal resources, equity resources, and additional opportunities for funding
- Michigan Opioid Settlement Funds Toolkit: A Guide for Local Spending
  - Process oriented guidance document for planning and utilization of settlement funds
- Supplemental Templates, Tools, and Guidance Documents
  - Customizable templates and additional direction for local government to use

## MAC Opioid Settlement Dashboard



https://micounties.org/opioid-settlement-resource-center/

## Michigan Opioid Settlement Fund Toolkit: A Guide for Local Spending

The Michigan Opioid Settlement Funds Toolkit: A Guide for Local Spending is a roadmap for local governments to assist with planning for, and utilization of, opioid settlement funds.

The toolkit is intended to provide direction on process and linkage to existing local and national resources to assist with creation of targeted efforts from any starting place.

The toolkit is broken down into four steps for planning:

- Stakeholder Engagement
- Data Gathering
- Determine Process Moving Forward
- Monitoring and Accountability

#### Michigan Opioid Settlement Funds Toolkit

A Guide for Local Spending

- January 2023





https://micounties.org/wpcontent/uploads/Michigan-Opioid-Settlement-Funds-Toolkit-2.pdf

## Recommended Steps: Stakeholder Engagement

- Utilize existing community resources to ensure that those with expertise are represented when planning for spending (health departments, prevention coalitions, harm reduction providers, behavioral health provider agencies, recovery support providers, etc.)
- Consider additional collaborators, such as surrounding counties and regional entities
- Ensure an equity lens, consider who is not at the table
- Ensure those with lived experience with substance use disorder and people who use drugs are engaged in the process

## Recommended Steps: Gather Information

- Review needs assessments, landscape analyses, gap inventories, reports, plans and other information from stakeholders
- Identify if additional information on community priorities needs to be gathered
- Determine the specific needs of your community, consider new and existing programming
- Utilize the <u>MAC Opioid Settlement Resource Center Resource Library</u> to explore principles and tracking, evidence-based and promising practices, statewide tools, local government tools, legal resources, equity resources, other toolkits and reports and additional opportunities for funding

# Recommended Steps: Determine Process Moving Forward

- Identify where to start (multi-sector strategic planning, strategy selection, spending plan development, etc.)
- Determine where capacity to support spending is present and sustainability of funding and strategies
- Choose strategies that are allowable and align with the needs of your community and take into account sustainability due to polysubstance use and the changing overdose environment
- Ensure equity and lived experience are at the core of planning and design

## Recommended Steps: Reporting & Evaluation

- There are no comprehensive reporting requirements in Michigan. While additional reporting is not required, it is essential to provide transparency and accountability for the spending process
- It is recommended that local governments create annual financial and impact reports. These reports may include the amount of funds spent, strategies and programs funded, impact of programs funded, process of strategy selection and dollar amount determinations, and other relevant information
- Evaluation of the outcomes and effectiveness of funding and programming should also be considered

## Customizable Tools and Templates

#### Planning

- Planning Worksheet Template (<u>PDF</u>) (<u>Word</u>)
- Steering Committee Development and Tips for Processing Requests for Funds Guidance Document (PDF)
- Steering Committee Creation Resolution Template (<u>PDF</u>) (<u>Word</u>)
- Opioid Settlement Work Plan Template (<u>PDF</u>) (<u>Excel</u>)

#### Spending

- Spending Plan Template (PDF) (Excel)
- Request for Proposals and Associated Budget Template (PDF) (Word) (Excel)
- Request for Proposals Scoring Template (PDF) (Excel)
- Vendor/Contractor Agreement (PDF) (Word)
- Pass-through Entity Agreement (PDF) (Word)

#### Transparency

- Annual Report Template (PDF) (Word)
- Public-facing Planning Process Document (PDF) (Word)
- Transparency Guidance Document Will be released by the end of August

### Challenges and Opportunities

- Universal Challenges
  - New content area for many local government officials
  - Balancing urgency and thoughtful planning
  - Capacity for planning efforts and administration of funds
- Challenges Across Michigan
  - Assessing optics and public perceptions
    - Provision of timelines, steps, and regular updates
    - Opportunities for public input, stakeholder engagement, and accessible information
  - Ensuring sustainability and expertise
    - O Formalizing of processes, e.g., through a resolution, can help safeguard funds and ensure content experts and directly impacted people are included in planning and spending efforts

## Questions?

## Contact

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