



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Deschutes County Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Chandra Mola, Medical Team Program Manager; Holly Harris Behavioral Health Director

**DATE:** March 7, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Opioid Settlement Dollars

Dear Commissioners,

The Deschutes County Harm Reduction Program (HRP) distributed 5,102 doses of naloxone in 2024 during 1,388 individual encounters with participants of HRP services. It is well documented that high naloxone saturation in affected communities is a key element of reducing overdose fatalities. Last year, 152 overdose reversals were self-reported to Deschutes County HRP services, 41% were young people between the ages of 25-34. Maintaining current levels of naloxone distribution, education, and training in Deschutes County will ensure critical lifesaving outcomes. HRP focuses services on vulnerable populations that are often unhoused and or uninsured.

In alignment with current Opioid Settlement Dollars core abatement strategies, HRP is requesting funds to purchase naloxone:

- Section A: Naloxone or Other FDA-approved Drug to Reverse Opioid Overdoses
  - 2. Increase distribution to individuals who are uninsured or whose insurance does not cover needed service.

HRP has relied on Save Lives Oregon Clearinghouse awards to purchase naloxone amounting to approximately \$70,000 per year. Due to a decrease in funding, Save Lives Oregon anticipates a reduction in awards by 50% for fiscal year 2026. Deschutes County HRP is requesting \$30,000 of Opioid Settlement dollars to make up the shortfall. This will ensure continued naloxone distribution at close to current rates.

Respectfully,

Holly Harris  
Behavioral Health Director