



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

# AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** August 30, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Use of Opioid Settlement Funds

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

Move approval of the recommended use of opioid settlement funds over the next five years.

**BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

The state of Oregon joined in a national opioid lawsuit against manufacturers. In 2021, a nationwide settlement resolved all opioid claims brought by states and local political subdivisions, awarding \$26 billion for distribution over 18 years. The settlement amount Deschutes County is expected to receive is estimated at \$7.1 million over that time.

Settlement dollars must be used for specific abatement strategies, such as:

- Naloxone training and distribution
- Medication-assisted treatment distribution and other opioid-related treatment
- Pregnant & postpartum women and expanding treatment for neonatal abstinence syndrome
- Expansion of hand-off programs and recovery programs
- Treatment for the incarcerated population
- Prevention programs

On July 17, 2023, the Board asked Health Services and Community Justice to collaborate on a proposed plan of the funds. Together, the departments propose a multi-strategy five-year plan that adds capacity and expands existing efforts by:

- 1) Adding targeted expert OUD prevention
- 2) Increasing coordination of surveillance and overdose prevention activities
- 3) Sustaining existing crisis interventions
- 4) Adding direct coordination of services to forensic population
- 5) Adding recovery peer services

**BUDGET IMPACTS:**

\$3.4 million over five years. If approved, a budget adjustment and resolution will be forthcoming from Finance.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Janice Garceau, Health Services Director  
Deevy Holcomb, Community Justice Director  
Jessica Jacks, Public Health Manager