



DISCUSSION REGARDING USE OF OPIOID FUNDS

CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

DECEMBER 2, 2025

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ASHLYNN WILKERSON, ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY

LIEUTENANT LEE MCWHORTER, COMMUNITY OUTREACH DIVISION

Background: Two Funding Buckets

Opioioid Settlement Funds

Formula-Allocated

Anticipate Receiving ~\$248,700/Year

Funding through 2038

\$830,000 Currently Unallocated

Opioioid Abatement Grants

Competitive Grant Opportunities

Several Rounds Opened to Date: Additional Rounds Anticipated

Norman Received Two Grants:

- 1) 2024: \$190,000 for Virtue Center
- 2) 2025: \$498,000 for Virtue Center for 3 years



Settlement Funds Eligible Projects: Evidence Based Strategies



Treatment & Recovery



Prevention & Education



Criminal Justice & Public Safety



Oversight & Coordination



Settlement Funds Eligible Projects: Staff Process

Review Team

- City Manager's & City Attorney's Offices
- Police Department & Municipal Court

Project Consideration

- Brainstorm Project Ideas
- Determine Budget: One-Time Expense or Recurring (Annual) Expense

Project Selection

- Eliminate Ineligible Projects
- Prioritize Projects Based on Council Retreat Discussion
- Finalize Recommendations for Council Consideration



Proposed Projects for Settlement Funds

Project	Estimated One-Time or Annual Cost	Comments
Currently Funded		
A Better Way: Opportunity Knocks	\$334,000	Currently underway; total \$384,000; Sanitation covering \$50,000; expires April 2026; suggest moving project to opioid grant funding
Proposed Projects		
Additional NARCAN	\$20,000	Increase accessibility; one-time expense
Drug Treatment for City Prisoners at Cleveland County Detention Center	\$50,000	Limit to Norman residents; one-time expense
Municipal Court's Community Court	\$10,000	Mostly overtime for officers
Additional Pro-Active Community Engagement (PACE) Activities	\$20,000	Mostly overtime for officers; focused on individuals with substance abuse and co-occurring homelessness/mental health disorders
Social Worker/Outreach Coordinator	\$90,000	Provide and coordinate wrap-around Community Court/Continuum of Care services for individuals with substance abuse and co-occurring homelessness/mental health disorders
Community Resiliency Manager	\$110,000	Manage resources, coordination of services, unsheltered incident command, coordinate departmental response, permanent supportive housing, grant management, oversee Circle of Care coordination
Social Work Intern	\$7,500	Coordinate with OU School of Social Work; NPD have positive history with Social Work interns; \$2,500 stipend/semester

TOTAL Proposed One-Time Expenses: \$70,000 | TOTAL Proposed Annual Expenses: \$237,500

Next Steps/Discussion

- Confirm Council Direction
- December 2025
 - Draft Job Descriptions
 - Advertise for Positions
- Early 2026
 - Seek Council Appropriation for Positions
 - Review Resumes/Interview Candidates
 - Secure Office Space (utilize existing vacant space)
 - Hire & Onboard New Employees

Questions?

