

Brown County Minnesota Opioid Response

Overview

Minnesotans have suffered tremendously from the opioid epidemic. Opioid overdose deaths have increased dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic. Data from the Minnesota Department of Health shows that from 2020 to 2021, opioid-involved overdose deaths increased by 44%, to an all-time high of 978 deaths in 2021. Fentanyl, a highly potent synthetic opioid, was involved in the majority of the deaths.

Additional data on the opioid epidemic in Minnesota and in Brown County can be found on Minnesota Department of Health's drug overdose dashboard, [located here](#). The dashboard contains detailed information on overdose deaths, opioid-related hospital visits, the number of opioid prescriptions dispensed, the prevalence of substance use disorder, and more. It also includes links to sources where some of the above-referenced data can be tracked on a county-level.

In July 2021, the Attorney General's Office joined historic \$26 billion multistate settlement agreements with pharmaceutical distributors McKesson, Cardinal Health, and AmerisourceBergen, and opioid manufacturer Johnson & Johnson. These settlements will bring more than \$300 million into Minnesota over the next 18 years to fight the opioid crisis. In December 2022, the Attorney General's Office joined five additional multistate settlements worth \$20.4 billion with major opioid manufacturers Teva Pharmaceuticals and Allergan, and three of the nation's largest retail pharmacy chains—Walmart, CVS, and Walgreens. Minnesota's share of these settlements could be around \$235 million.

The Attorney's General Office reached an agreement with Minnesota cities and counties on how funds from these settlements would be allocated, with 75% to counties and cities and 25% to the State. Brown County will be receiving approximately 1.2 million dollars over the next 18 years that can be used to combat the opioid crisis, including detailed programs and strategies focused on treatment, prevention, and harm reduction.

Funding Disbursement

In March of 2023, stakeholders from across Brown County met to review state and local opioid related data and completed a community needs assessment. In this assessment, stakeholders were asked several questions about the resources, needs, and barriers in Brown County. Those in attendance also ranked four categories to allocate settlement funds to – Prevention, Treatment and Recovery, Criminal Justice, and Harm Reduction. This community needs assessment and fund allocation survey provides Brown County with an overview of the areas of importance in our community.

Using this information as a guide for settlement disbursement, the Brown County Opioid Advisory Council is pleased to announce a rolling quarterly grant opportunity. Organizations who serve Brown County residents are eligible to submit a grant application to the council. These applications will outline the implementation of an opioid epidemic response project. [The Minnesota Opioids State-Subdivision Memorandum of Agreement](#) contains an extensive list of opioid abatement strategies. Multiple applicants may be selected during each quarter with awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$25,000 and will be funded for 12 months. Extraordinary requests over \$25,000 may also be considered with additional reporting requirements.

Application Selection

The Brown County Opioid Advisory Council will meet on a quarterly basis to review and score the [grant application](#). Applicants may reach a total score of 50 points with points being given for Organization Overview (10 points), Project Narrative (25 points) and Budget/Budget Narrative (15 points). Any application receiving 35 points or less may not be considered for funding. Brown County reserves the right to 1) to determine whether any aspect of an application satisfactorily meets the criteria established in this process; 2) to seek clarification or additional information from any applicant; 3) to negotiate, sequentially or simultaneously, pricing and/or terms with any applicant or vendor; 4) to reject any or all applications with or without cause; 5) to waive any irregularities or informalities in an application; 6) to cancel or amend by addenda this application process, in part or entirely; 6) to award multiple awards to applicants; and/or 7) award reimbursement to a vendor that did not submit an application.

Contract Agreement

The contracting parties will be Brown County and each Applicant selected to provide the services as described in this section. The selected application and any counter proposal will be incorporated into a formal agreement after negotiations. It is the intent of Brown County to award contract(s) for a term of 12 months.

Each grant recipient does hereby agree that it will at all times hereafter, during the existence of this Contract, indemnify and hold Brown County harmless for any and all liability, loss, damages, costs, or expenses which may be claimed against Brown County or grant recipient (1) by reason of any service client's suffering personal injury, death, or property loss or damages either while participating in or receiving from the grant recipient the care and services to be furnished by the grant recipient under this Contract, or while on premises owned, leased, or operated by the grant recipient, or while being transported to or from said premises in any vehicle owned, operated, leased, chartered, or otherwise Contracted for by the grant recipient or any officer, agent, or employee; or (2) by reason of any service client's causing injury to, or damage to, the property of another person during any time when the grant recipient or any officer, agent, or employee has undertaken or is furnishing the care and service called for under this Contract.

The grant recipient shall ensure that neither it nor any of its owners, managers, or employees or its Subcontractors or the owners, managers, or employees of the Subcontractors assigned to provide services pursuant to this Contract have been debarred or excluded from Medicaid or any other federally funded health care program under the provisions of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1320a-7.

Each grant recipient guarantees that no officer, employee, owner, agent, subcontractor, or assignee shall have any interest in and will not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, that would conflict in any manner or degree with performance of this contract.

Upon approval of Brown County, the grant recipient may hire employees and/or enter into subcontracts for performance of any of the services contemplated under this contract. All agreements in place with employees and subcontractors must contain provisions that make all employees and subcontractors subject to all of the requirements of this contract.

Funding Requirements

Organizations who are selected to receive opioid settlement funding will be required to complete the following activities:

- Implement an opioid epidemic response project, including prevention, treatment, recovery, or harm reduction strategies.
- Submit a mid-year Project Summary Report
- Present to the Council at least once during the funding period.
- Complete a year-end Project Summary Report, including updated organization contact information, an account of the use of funds, and a description of outcomes.

Brown County Opioid Grant Timeline

Quarterly grant application deadlines	Quarter 1 – November 15th
	Quarter 2 – February 15th
	Quarter 3 – May 15th
	Quarter 4 – August 15th

The advisory council will review and score each application received after the quarterly deadline. If approved, applicants will be notified of their individual fund disbursement timeline based on advisory council discretion. Those applicants who are not chosen for funding will receive a letter of acknowledgement.

In accordance with the grant funding requirements, each approved applicant will submit their mid-year and year-end summaries six and 12 months after disbursement, respectively, or as requested by the advisory council.

Grant Application Process

Grant applications and the required documents must be submitted via the [online application](#) by the deadline listed in the [Brown County Opioid Grant Timeline](#). You may enter your information directly on

the online application or copy and paste your information from the application outline below. Hard copy submissions will not be accepted.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

1. **Name of Organization** Click or tap here to enter text.
2. **Name of Contact Person** Click or tap here to enter text.
3. **Address** Click or tap here to enter text.
4. **Phone Number** Click or tap here to enter text.
5. **Email Address** Click or tap here to enter text.
6. **State I.D. #** Click or tap here to enter text.
7. **Project Title** Click or tap here to enter text.
8. **Amount of Dollars Requested** Click or tap here to enter text.
9. **Which category from the Minnesota Memorandum of Agreement applies to your project?
(Choose One)**

Prevention

Treatment and Recovery

Criminal Justice

Harm Reduction

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW (10 scoring points)

10. **Briefly describe the history of the organization and the current staff, leadership, and board (if applicable). Describe the organization's major areas of current work, as well as the organization's mission, vision, and/or values. Include details regarding the organization's experience with opioid/substance use prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction.**

Click or tap here to enter text.

11. **Describe the community(ies) the organization serves, including demographics and aspects of diversity such as age, race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, culture, religion, and sexual orientation. Describe how the community(ies) is represented in decision-making for the organization.**

Click or tap here to enter text.

PROJECT NARRATIVE (25 scoring points)

The Minnesota Opioids State-Subdivision Memorandum of Agreement - Exhibit A details abatement sub-categories and abatement strategies. For more details, visit https://www.ag.state.mn.us/opioids/docs/MN_MOA.pdf

12. Which subcategory will your project address?

- Treat opioid use disorder Support people in treatment and recovery
- Connect people who need help to the help they need (connections to care)
- Address the needs of criminal justice-involved persons
- Address the needs of the perinatal populations, caregivers, and families, including babies with neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome
- Prevent over-prescribing and ensure appropriate prescribing and dispensing of opioids
- Prevent misuse of opioids Prevent overdose deaths and other harms (harm reduction)
- First Responders Leadership, planning, and coordination Training
- Training Research Post-mortem

13. Describe how you plan to address the abatement strategy(ies). Share the project, including timeline, high-level overview of implementation and evaluation steps, and intended outcomes. Describe how the project addresses opioid use disorder (OUD)-related stigma.

Click or tap here to enter text.

14. Describe the community(ies) the project is proposing to engage (both demographically and geographically). How are communities that are most at risk or impacted by OUD considered in this project? How does your project address potential barriers to accessing your programming?

Click or tap here to enter text.

15. Describe how the proposed project will meet community needs. How were those needs identified? How does your project support those most disproportionately impacted by the opioid epidemic? How will you ensure this program is culturally, linguistically, and developmentally appropriate for the proposed community(ies)?

Click or tap here to enter text.

16. What is the level of staffing for the project? Ensure accountability to carry out work plan activities and maintain overall support and coordination of the work. If planning to use subcontractors, please describe their responsibilities in carrying out grant activities.

Click or tap here to enter text.

17. How will this project be sustainable beyond the proposed funding period?

Click or tap here to enter text.

BUDGET NARRATIVE AND W-9 (15 scoring points)

The budget template can be found on page 8 of the Grant Application document. Please complete the template (instructions are listed on page 9) and email to jaimie.brand@co.brown.mn.us

A copy of your organizations W-9 is also requested. A blank W-9 form can be found at https://mn.gov/mdva/assets/W9MNGIBill_tcm1066-194970.pdf

Opioid Settlement Grant Budget

Date	
Organization Name	
Phone Number	
Email	
Total Amount Requested	\$0.00

Budget Category	August 1, 2023 - December 31, 2024
Salaries and Benefits	
Contractual Services	
Travel	
Operating Supplies	
Other	
TOTAL	

Budget Narrative

Salaries and Benefits

Contractual Services

Travel

Operating Supplies

Other

Opioid Settlement Grant Budget Instructions

Fill in the following yellow fields: the date, organization name, phone number, and email. In the "Budget Category" section, fill out all yellow fields with the dollar amount spent in each category. Fill out all yellow fields, even if the answer is "\$0". Save the spreadsheet and upload into the grant application.

BUDGET NARRATIVE

Salaries and Benefits

In this section, list the individual(s) in your organization who will be paid to work on this project. Include each individual's title, project job duties, FTE on the project (hours/week), and salary and benefits that would be paid for by this grant.

Contractual Services

In this section, identify contracts that will be used to complete the activities in the workplan. For each contractor, include their name (if known, or write "TBD"), their scope of work related to the grant project duties, and the total amount to be paid.

Travel

In this section, describe who is traveling and for what purpose. Include travel expenses (transportation, lodging, meals) for project-related meetings, trainings, and conferences. Ensure the travel is addressed in the workplan.

Operating Supplies

In this section, list the expenses related to internal supplies and equipment. Supplies and equipment purchased through contractors should be included in the "Contractual Services" section.

Other

In this section, describe expenses not covered in all other sections. Include how each expense contributes to carrying out the workplan.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Staffing and benefits

Staff time to attend conferences, events, and trainings that link to project

Capital improvements or construction projects

Transportation, lodging, meals, and other travel costs that link to project

Printing and copying

Education and informational campaigns/outreach materials

Equipment needed for project

Youth/community member stipends

INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Direct lobbying expenses