

Opioid Settlement Update & Next Steps

Board Of County Commissioners
September 15, 2025



UNIONCOUNTY
north carolina

Agenda

- Welcome / Strategic Planning Team Introductions
- NC Opioid Settlement Background and MOA Requirements
- NC Best Practices
- Union County Opioid Funding & 2023 Strategic Plan Review
 - Initial Funded Partners / Impact Report
- 2025 Strategic Planning Next Steps
- Closing Comments



Opioioid Strategic Planning Team



Janet Payne
Human Services Administrator



Jackie Morgan
Human Services Business
Operations Director



Maribel Andon
County Managers Office



Stephanie Starr
Human Services Community
Support and Outreach Director



Ana Diaz
Public Health Epidemiologist

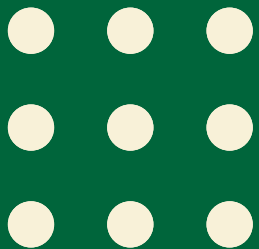


Traci Colley
Public Health Director





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NC Opioid Settlements

Background and MOA Requirements

Nidhi Sachdeva, MPH

NCACC Director of Strategic Health and Opioid Initiatives

Union County | September 15-16, 2025



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Opioid Settlement Technical Assistance Team

Purpose

- Improve the health of NC counties
- Support local governments in utilizing opioid settlement funds to maximize resources and impact through technical assistance, outreach and training, and collaboration.



Nidhi Sachdeva

*Director of Strategic Health &
Opioid Initiatives*



Jill Rushing

*Senior Health Programs Manager
and Evaluator*



Elizabeth Brewington

Manager of Health Programs



Andrea Des Marais

*Senior Manager of Health
Programs and Evaluator*



Hillary Chen

Manager of Health Programs



Alyssa Benziger

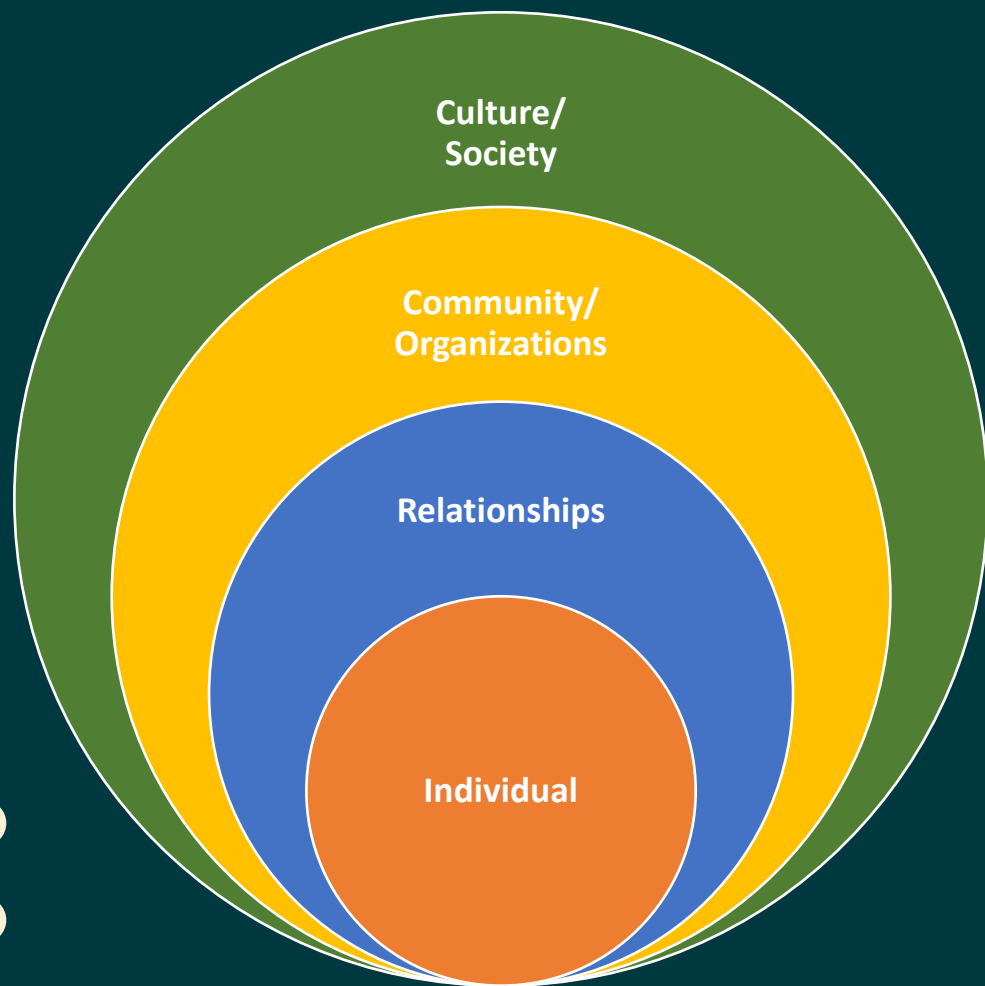
Health Programs Coordinator



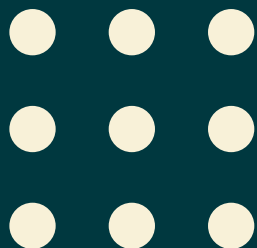


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Hope for NC Opioid Settlements



All people in NC
are healthy and
have connections
to supports and
services within a
culture of care.





CORE-NC

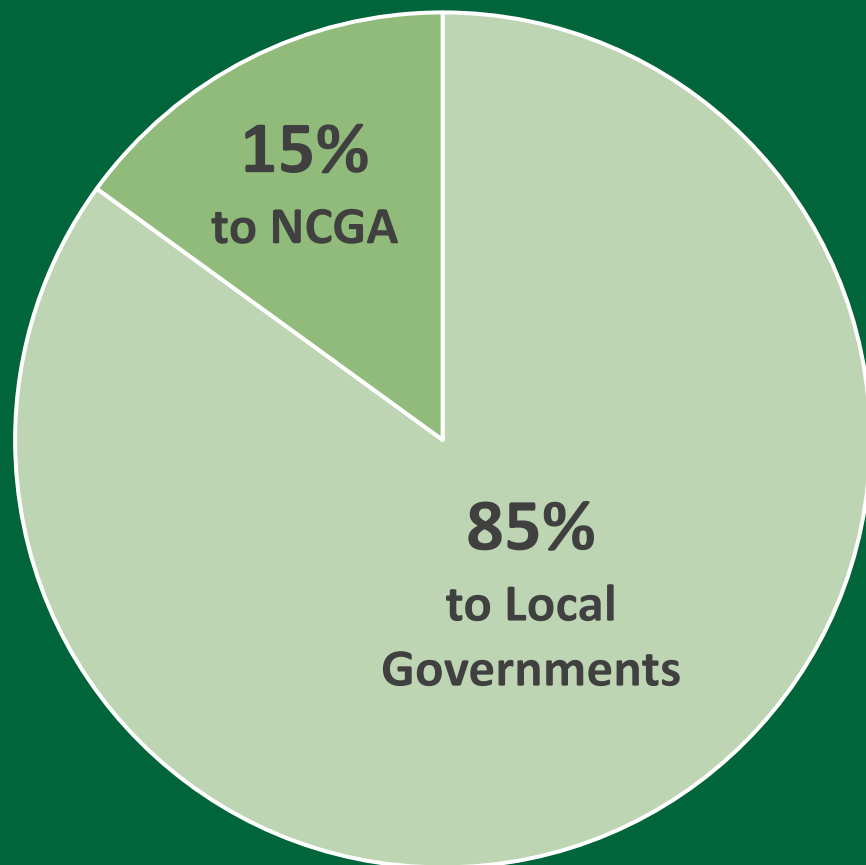
COMMUNITY OPIOID RESOURCES ENGINE





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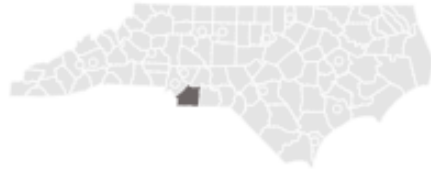
NC Opioid Settlements



- North Carolina will receive over \$1.6 billion over an 18-year period, which began in 2022
- 85% goes directly to Local Governments listed in the NC MOA (all 100 counties; 17 eligible cities)
- 15% goes to the State of NC



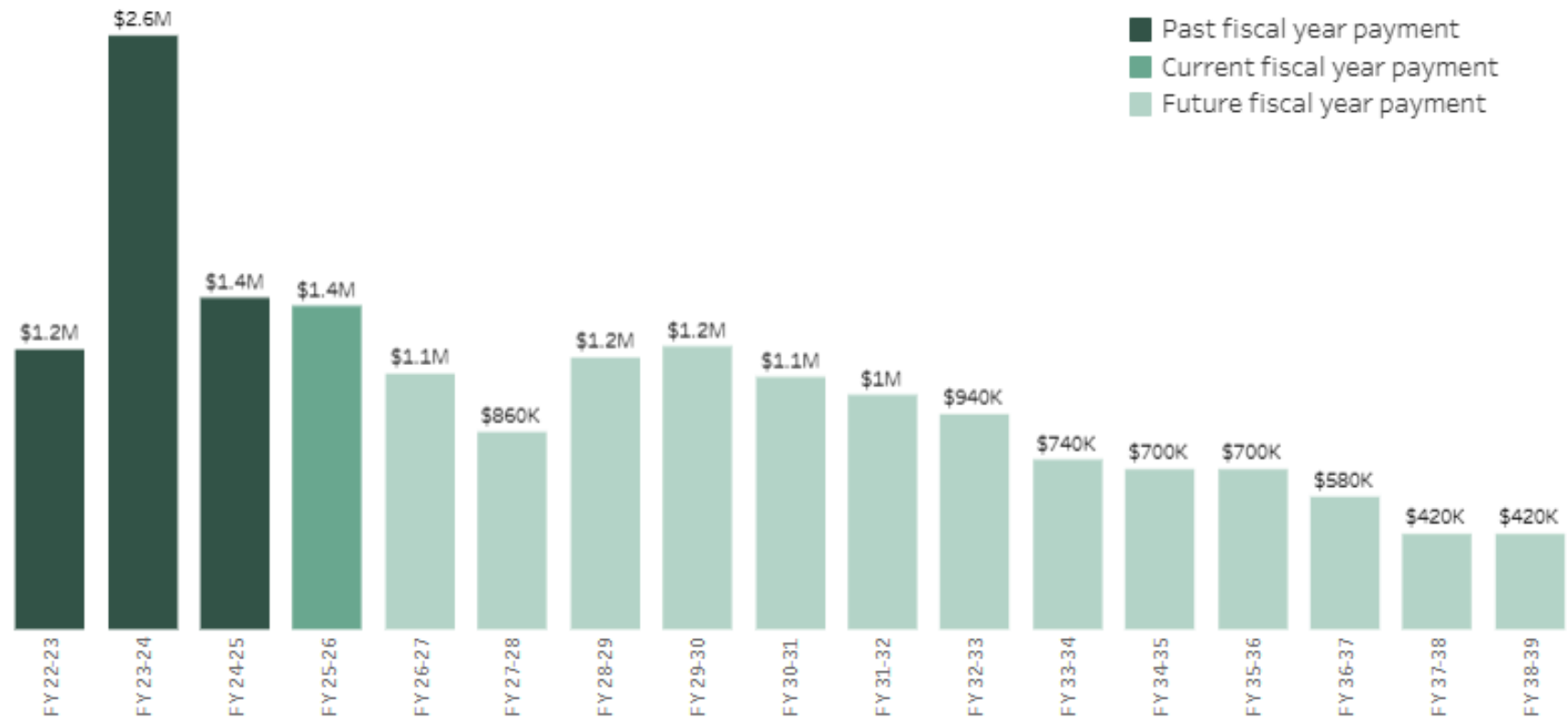
CORE-NC



Select a Local or State Government

Union County

Union County is receiving **\$17,709,301** in opioid settlement funds from 2022 through 2038.

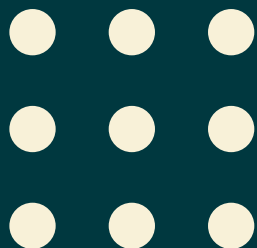




NC Memorandum of Agreement

MOA Includes 5 Broad Requirements for Local Governments

1. Establish and use a special revenue fund
2. Authorize spending ahead of time
3. Understand and follow Option A and Option B
4. Follow all reporting requirements
5. Hold annual public meeting

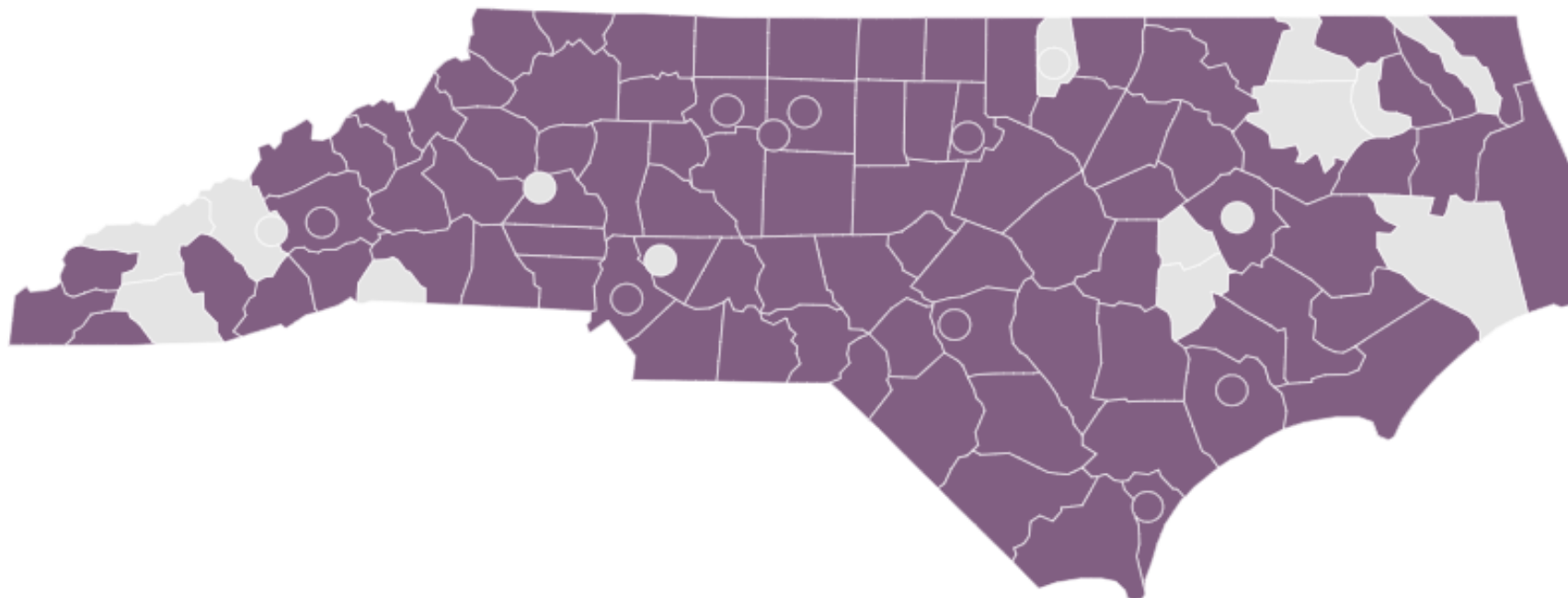




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Local Spending Plans

97 local governments have approved and shared opioid settlement spending plans.



*Download spending plan data
for all local governments*



*Visit document library
to see all spending plans*



*View legal and
technical notes*



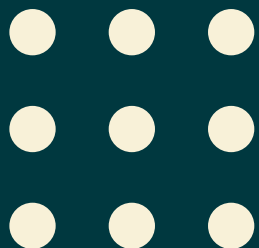


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NC MOA

MOA Includes Five Broad Requirements

1. Establish and use a special revenue fund
2. Authorize spending ahead of time
- 3. Understand and follow Exhibit A and Exhibit B**
4. Follow all reporting requirements
5. Hold annual public meeting





3. Understand and follow Exhibit A and Exhibit B

- Planning is good and is always supported, whether you proceed under Exhibit A or Exhibit B or both

A

Authorize spending on strateg(ies) from Exhibit A

B



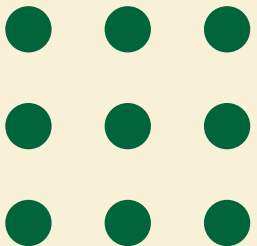
First, engage in collaborative strategic planning process
Then, authorize spending on strateg(ies) from Exhibit A or B



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Remediation Strategies

In line with the National Settlement Agreement, funds “may support **programs or services...that serve persons with Opioid Use Disorder** (OUD) or any cooccurring Substance Use Disorder (SUD) or mental health condition.”





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NC MOA: High Impact Abatement Strategies (Exhibit A)



1. Collaborative strategic planning

2. Evidence-based addiction treatment

3. Recovery support

4. Recovery housing

5. Employment-related services

6. Early intervention

7. Naloxone distribution

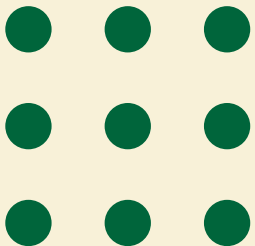
8. Post-overdose response

9. Syringe service programs (SSPs)

10. Legal system diversion

11. Addiction treatment for incarcerated persons

12. Reentry programs



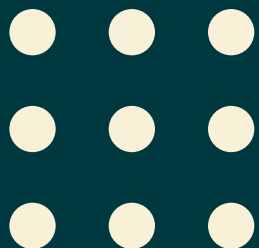


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NC MOA

MOA Includes Five Broad Requirements

1. Establish and use a special revenue fund
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3. Understand and follow Exhibit A and Exhibit B
- 4. Follow all reporting requirements**
5. Hold annual public meeting





4. Follow All Reporting Requirements

REPORT	TIMING
Spending Authorization Report(s)	Due within 90 days of adopting resolution(s)
Annual Financial Report	Due within 90 days of end of fiscal year (9/27)
Annual Impact Report	Due within 90 days of end of fiscal year (9/27)
Exhibit B Report and Recommendations (R&R)	Only required for Exhibit B / not required for Exhibit A Due within 90 days of presentation to local governing body

Transparency and Accountability

ncopiodsettlement.org/reporting

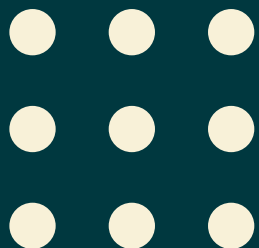


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NC MOA

5. Required Annual Meeting

- At least once a year
 - NCACC recommends on a FY cycle to align with reporting
- County invites all municipalities within
- Open to the public
- Purpose: Collaboration and coordination
 - Input for planning and share progress

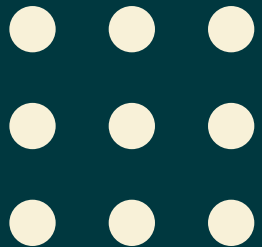




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NC Opioid Settlement Resources

- **Community Opioid Resources Engine (CORE-NC)**
ncopioidsettlement.org | ✉ opioidsettlement@unc.edu
- **NC Association of County Commissioners**
ncacc.org/opioidsettlement | ✉ opioidsettlement@ncacc.org
- **NC Department of Justice**
✉ opioidsettlement@ncdoj.gov
- **NC DHHS**
[North Carolina Overdose Epidemic Data](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/data-research/north-carolina-overdose-epidemic-data) | ✉ opioidsettlement@dhhs.nc.gov





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Opioid Settlement Technical Assistance Team (OSTAT)

Strategic Member Services

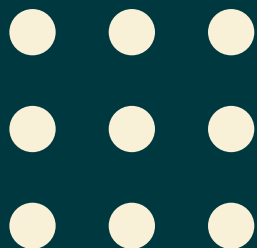
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OpioidSettlement@ncacc.org

ncacc.org/opioidsettlement



ncopioidsettlement.org



Union County Overview

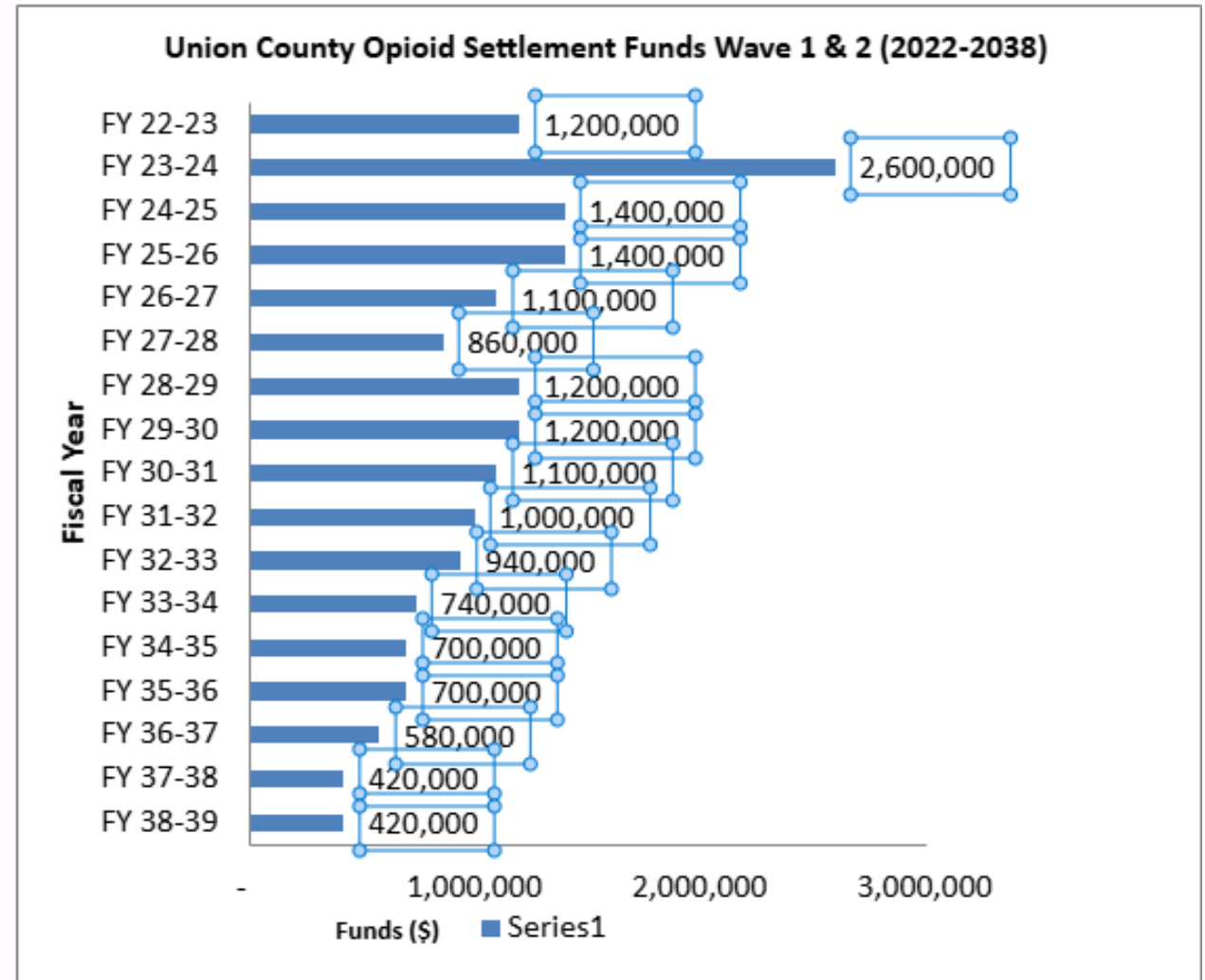
Opioid Funding – State and Union County

Union County (Wave 1 & 2): \$17,709,301
3rd Funding Wave Expected in FY26:
\$2,103,272

Initial settlement payments + Interest
received to date:
\$6,644,773

Long runway (2022-2038)

Funds are front-loaded



Union County Initial Strategic Planning 2023-2026

- Used State's Recommended Collaborative Strategic Planning Methodology
- 5 Meetings (August through December 2022)
- Between-meeting Surveys and Research
- External Partner Presentations
- Recommend Key Strategies and Funding Allocation Approach to the BOCC

A graphic consisting of a dark blue L-shaped bar. The vertical bar is on the left, and the horizontal bar is at the top. To the right of the vertical bar, the text "Collaborative Community Approach" is written in a light gray, sans-serif font, stacked in three lines.

Collaborative
Community
Approach

Strategic Goals (2023-2026)

Goal #1: Preventing opioid use

- Indicator: Opioid prescriptions per capita
- Indicator: Overdose rates per capita (alternative: Overdose or opiate- related calls)

Goal #2: Reducing harm due to opioid and related substance use

- Indicator: Rate of overdose reversals (relates to naloxone distribution)

Goal #3: Connecting affected individuals to the care and support needed

- Indicator: # individuals with OUD (per capita) served by treatment programs

Initial Strategic Plan Funded Initiatives

July 2023-June 2026

- Bridge to Recovery - \$175,000
- Cameron's House of Hope - \$400,000
- Ground 40 - \$350,000
- Naloxone Distribution - \$150,000
(UCPS, UCSO, Union EMS, Health Department, Community Partners)
- New Beginnings - \$175,000
- Treatment Courts - \$750,000
- UCPS/Sheriff's Office (Youth Prevention) - \$200,000
- Wingate University - \$524,783

Program Evaluation Components

Opioid Data Dashboard Data is collected quarterly in Redcap

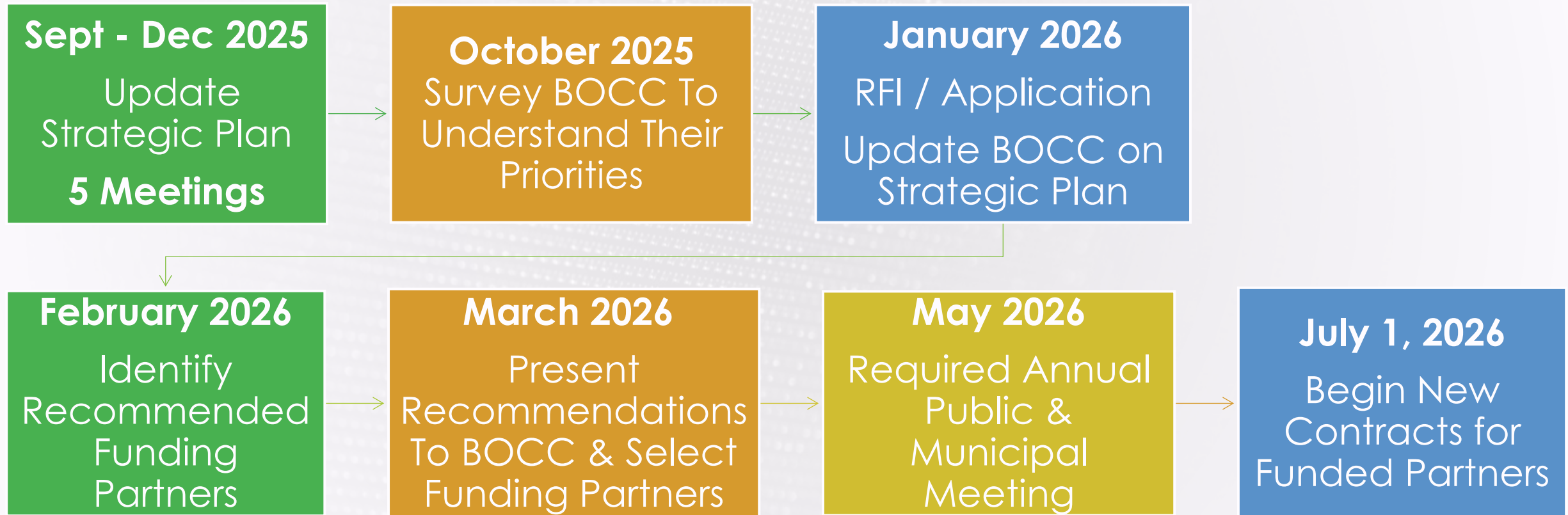
Dashboard performance data components include:

1. Population Level Data
2. Core Strategies Data
3. Funded Partner Data

State requires 3 performance measures

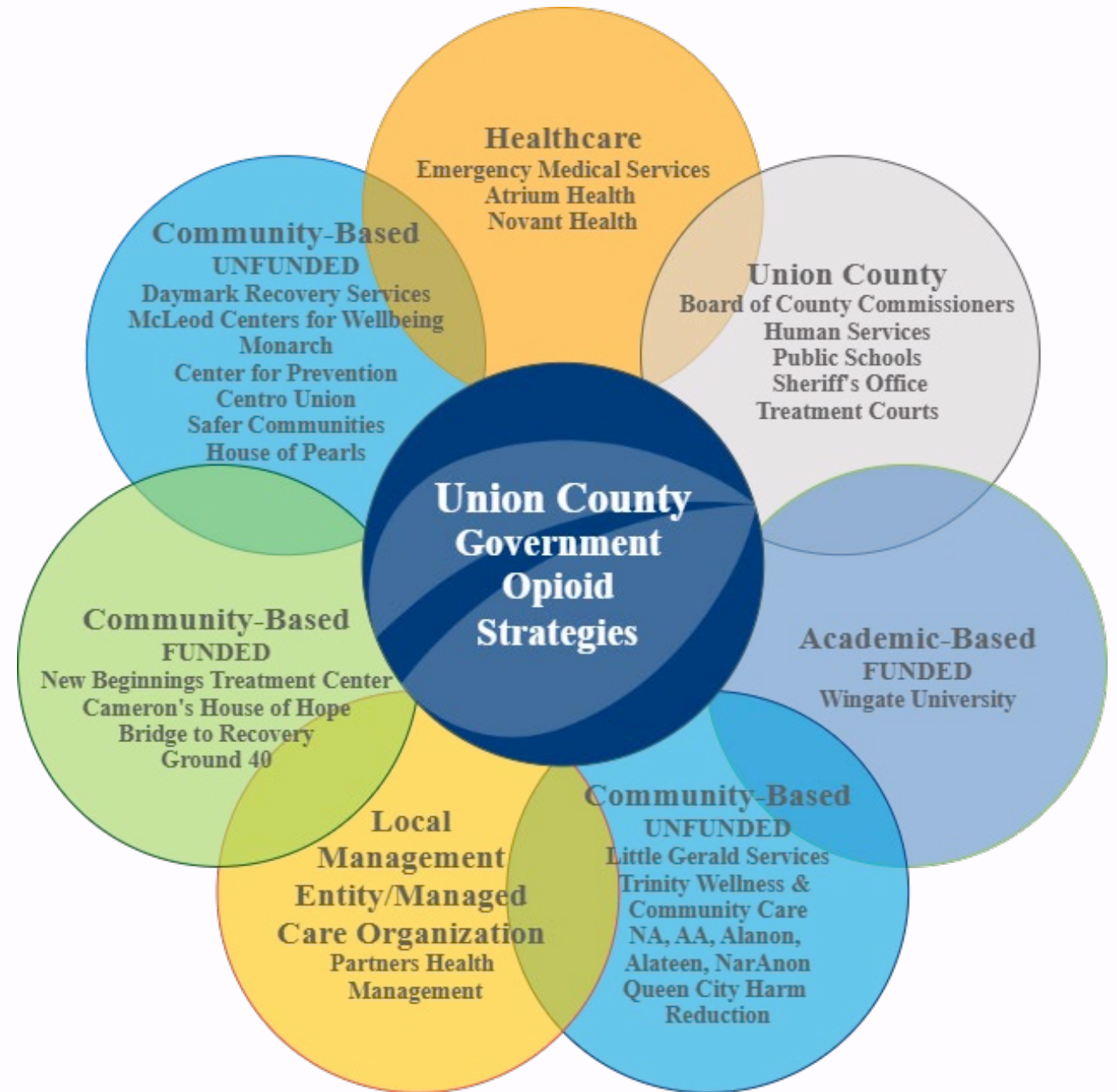
1. Quantity - How much did we do?
2. Quality- How well did we do it? (impact reports)
3. Outcome- Is anyone better off? (impact reports + dashboard)

Timeline: 2026 Strategic Planning Next Steps



Community Engagement Matters

It Takes A
Village



Words to Remember

From Residents Impacted By SUD

“I used to be like really mean. Now I’m like nice and I smile every time ... I’m never mad or anything.” - Child Participant



Questions



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