



OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS AND MANAGER

500 N. Main St., Room 921 • Monroe, NC 28112 • Phone (704)283-3810 • Fax (704)282-0121

A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNTY OF UNION TO DIRECT THE EXPENDITURE OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

WHEREAS Union County has joined national settlement agreements with companies engaged in the manufacturing, distribution, and dispensing of opioids.

WHEREAS the allocation, use, and reporting of funds stemming from these national settlement agreements and bankruptcy resolutions (“Opioid Settlement Funds”) are governed by the Memorandum of Agreement Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation (“MOA”), the Supplemental Agreement for Additional Funds from Additional Settlements of Opioid Litigation (“SAAF”), SAAF-2 and SAAF-3;

WHEREAS Union County has received Opioid Settlement Funds pursuant to these national settlement agreements and deposited the Opioid Settlement Funds in a separate special revenue fund as required by section D of the MOA;

WHEREAS section E.6 of the MOA states that, before spending opioid settlement funds, the local government’s governing body must adopt a resolution that:

- (i) indicates that it is an authorization for expenditure of opioid settlement funds; and,
- (ii) states the specific strategy or strategies the county or municipality intends to fund pursuant to Option A or Option B, using the item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to identify each funded strategy; and,
- (iii) states the amount dedicated to each strategy for a specific period of time.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in alignment with the NC MOA, SAAF, SAAF-2, and SAAF-3 Union County authorizes the expenditure of opioid settlement funds as follows:

1. First strategy authorized
 - a. Name of strategy: **Recovery Support Services (A.3)**: Fund evidence-based recovery support services, including peer support specialists or care

navigators based in local health departments, social service offices, detention facilities, community-based organizations, or other settings that support people in treatment or recovery, or people who use drugs, in accessing addiction treatment, recovery support, harm reduction services, primary healthcare, or other services or supports they need to improve their health or well-being.

- b.** Strategy is included in Exhibit: A
- c.** Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit A.3
- d.** Amount authorized for this strategy: \$ **610,264.00**
- e.** Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
Start date July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2030
- f.** Description of the program, project, or activity: Peer Support Services: Two Peer Support Specialists will support Treatment Courts, and Hajee House will partner with the Union County Human Services Recovery Support Program. Hajee peer support staff will provide direct, community-based support.
- g.** Providers: **District Court-Chief District Court Judge Erin Hucks, and Hajee House**

2. Second strategy authorized

- a.** Name of strategy: **Evidence-Based Addiction Treatment (A.2):** Support evidence-based addiction treatment consistent with the American Society of Addiction Medicine's national practice guidelines for the treatment of opioid use disorder – including Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) with any medication approved for this purpose by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration – through Opioid Treatment Programs, qualified providers of Office-Based Opioid Treatment, Federally Qualified Health Centers, treatment offered in conjunction with justice system programs, or other community-based programs offering evidence based addiction treatment. This may include capital expenditures for facilities that offer evidence-based treatment for OUD.
- b.** Strategy is included in Exhibit A
- c.** Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit A.2
- d.** Amount authorized for this strategy: \$ **700,000.00**
- e.** Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
Start date: July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2030
- f.** Description of the program, project, or activity: Evidence-Based Addiction Treatment will expand access to proven treatment for Union County residents with opioid use disorder, including medication-assisted treatment, integrated

behavioral health care, and coordinated referral pathways. The program will support timely connection to care through qualified providers

- g. Provider: New Beginnings of the Southern Piedmont LLC, and McLeod Center for Wellbeing**

3. Third authorized strategy

- a. Name of strategy: Early Intervention (A.6):** Fund programs, services, or training to encourage early identification and intervention for children or adolescents who may be struggling with problematic use of drugs or mental health conditions, including Youth Mental Health First Aid, peer-based programs, or similar approaches. Training programs may target parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health or human services professionals, or others in contact with children or adolescents.
- b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A**
- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit A.6**
- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: **\$1,450,175.00****
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:**
Start date: July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2030
- f. Description of the program, project, or activity:** Cameron’s House of Hope and the Human Services Agency’s Behavioral Health Collaborative will support Strategy A.6 by providing early intervention and family-centered services for children, adolescents, and caregivers affected by substance use and behavioral health challenges. The Behavioral Health Collaborative will strengthen prevention, screening, referral, counseling services, while Cameron’s House of Hope will provide tutoring, counseling, mentoring, and family support services to improve access to care and promote long-term stability and recovery for Union County families.
- g. Provider: Cameron’s House of Hope and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Collaborative.**

4. Fourth authorized strategy

- a. Name of strategy: Prevent Misuses of Opioids (B-G.8):** Fund evidence-based prevention programs in schools or evidence informed school and community education programs and campaigns for students, families, school employees, school athletic programs, parent-teacher and student associations, and others.
- b. Strategy is included in Exhibit B**
- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit B-G.8**

- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: **\$1,293,038.00**
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
Start date: July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2030
- f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Union County Public Schools will strengthen early prevention and youth programs by expanding a comprehensive K–12 substance use prevention continuum. This expansion will be accomplished through three staff positions: one Lead Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator and two Substance Abuse Educators. In Year 1, services will be provided at Sun Valley Middle School, Sun Valley High School, Porter Ridge Middle and High, Monroe High School, and the Health Science Academy at Monroe Middle School; in Years 2–4, services will continue at those schools and expand to Shiloh Valley Elementary, Porter Ridge Elementary, and East Elementary. The program will provide age-appropriate instruction on decision-making, goal setting, peer resistance, media literacy, and risk awareness, along with staff development, parent education, early intervention support for at-risk students, and train-the-trainer models to build sustainable school capacity and support long-term student success.
- g. Provider: **Union County Public Schools**

5. Fifth strategy authorized

- a. Name of strategy: **Support People in Treatment and Recovery (B-B.3):**
Provide counseling, peer-support, recovery case management and residential treatment with access to medications for those who need it to persons with OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions.
- b. Strategy is included in Exhibit B
- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit B-B.3
- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: **\$300,000.00**
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
Start date: July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2030
- f. Description of the program, project, or activity: 30-day drug and alcohol treatment program specializing in evidence-based, counseling-based and abstinence-base treatment for Opioid-Use Disorder patients. Service is provided to Union County residents who typically cannot access state-sponsored care (Medicaid managed care through Partners LME/MCO).
- g. Provider: **Bridge to Recovery Regional Recovery Center**

6. Sixth authorized strategy

- a. Name of strategy: **Address the needs of Criminal-Justice Involved Person (B-D.3)**: Support treatment and recovery courts that provide evidence-based options for persons with OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions.
- b. Strategy is included in Exhibit B
- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit B-D.3
- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: **\$1,927,626.00**
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
Start date: July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2030
- f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Family Treatment Court and Veterans Treatment Court will support Strategy B-D.3 by addressing the needs of criminal-justice-involved individuals with opioid use disorder and co-occurring substance use or mental health conditions through structured, evidence-based treatment and recovery pathways. These courts provide coordinated oversight, trauma-informed support, peer engagement, and access to treatment, mental health services, and other supportive resources to improve recovery outcomes, reduce recidivism, and promote long-term stability for participants and their families.
- g. Provider: **District Court-Chief District Court Judge Erin Hucks**

7. Seventh strategy authorized

- a. Name of strategy: **Collaborative Strategic Planning (A.1)**: Support collaborative strategic planning to address opioid misuse, addiction, overdose, or related issues, including staff support, facilitation services, or any activity or combination of activities listed in Exhibit C to the MOA (collaborative strategic planning).
- b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit A.1
- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: **\$300,000.00**
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
Start date: July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2030
- f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Collaborative Strategic Planning, will support the administrative infrastructure needed to manage Union County's opioid settlement investments with accountability and compliance. Administrative costs will include 50% of the salary for the Opioid Settlement Program Manager, annual single-audit expenses, software and data-tracking costs, and other operational expenses necessary to support program oversight, reporting, coordination, and fiscal stewardship.

g. Provider: Union County Manager's Office

8. Eight strategy authorized

- a. Name of strategy: Naloxone Distribution (A.7):** Support programs or organizations that distribute naloxone to persons at risk of overdose or their social networks, such as SSP Programs, post-overdose response teams, programs that provide naloxone to persons upon release from jail or prison, emergency medical service providers or hospital emergency departments that provide naloxone to persons at risk of overdose, or community-based organizations that provide services to people who use drugs. Programs or organizations involved in community distribution of naloxone may, in addition, provide naloxone to first responders.
- b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A**
- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit A.7**
- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$140,000.00**
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:**
Start date: July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2030
- f. Description of the program, project, or activity:** Naloxone Distribution will support the purchase of naloxone for use by first responders and for broader community distribution to help reduce overdose deaths and improve access to lifesaving resources. This investment will strengthen Union County's ability to respond promptly to opioid-related emergencies and expand availability for residents, families, and community partners. The Union County Recovery Support Services Program staff will work collaboratively with the Health Department Pharmacist to oversee and manage the naloxone distribution
- g. Provider: Union County Human Services Agency**

9. Ninth strategy authorized

- a. Name of strategy: Employee-Related Services (A.5):** Fund programs offering employment support services to people in treatment or recovery, or people who use drugs, such as job training, job skills, job placement, interview coaching, resume review, professional attire, relevant courses at community colleges or vocational schools, transportation services or transportation vouchers to facilitate any of these activities, or similar services or supports.
- b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A**
- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit A.5**

- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$200,000.
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
Start date: July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2030
- f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Employment-Related Services, will support people in treatment or recovery by connecting them to employment supports and transportation needed to improve stability and long-term recovery. The Human Services Recovery Support Services Program team will help manage this effort by working with funded agencies and peer support staff to navigate individuals to available resources, including job training, job readiness services, resume assistance, interview preparation, and workforce partners such as Economic Development, the Chamber of Commerce, NC Works, SPCC, staffing agencies, and other community providers. This initiative will also fund transportation vouchers or services to help individuals with substance use disorder access MAT treatment, court-related drug testing appointments, treatment court appointments, job training, and other recovery-related services. This approach will reduce barriers to care and employment, support direct linkage from post-overdose response into treatment, and promote recovery-friendly pathways to long-term success.
- g. Provider: **Union County Human Services Agency**

10. Tenth strategy authorized

- a. Name of strategy: **Prevent Misuse of Opioids (B-G.1)**, Fund media campaigns to prevent opioid misuse
- b. Strategy is included in Exhibit B
- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit B-G.1
- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$100,000.00
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
Start date: July 1, 2026, through End date June 30, 2030
- f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Prevent Misuse of Opioids, will support a public education and awareness initiative that provides clear, reliable information to residents and families about opioid risks, prevention, and the services available in Union County. The campaign will use community-centered messaging and carefully selected personal stories of hope, resilience, and recovery to encourage understanding, reduce barriers to seeking help, and highlight that support is available. It will also improve awareness of where and how to access treatment, recovery support, and

other local resources so individuals and families can connect to care as early as possible.

g. Provider: Union County Public Communications

The total dollar amount of Opioid Settlement Funds appropriated across the above named and authorized strategies is **\$7,020,950.38**

Adopted this the 4 day of May 2026.

Brian Helms, Chair
Union County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Lynn West, Clerk to the Board

COUNTY SEAL