



# Opioid Settlement Funds

## Grant Cycle 1

### Request for Proposals

**Total Funding \$100,000**

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Geauga County Board of Mental Health & Recovery Services  
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(440) 285 – 2282  
[www.geauga.org](http://www.geauga.org)

## Executive Summary

This Request for Proposals (RFP) solicits applications for the use of opioid settlement funds originating from the State of Ohio opioid settlement. The purpose of this funding is to support evidence-based and community-driven strategies that prevent opioid misuse, reduce overdose deaths, expand access to treatment and recovery supports, and address the broader impacts of the opioid epidemic in alignment with state settlement requirements and identified local needs. The Board of County Commissioners will make \$100,000 available per calendar year to be used for an approved purpose, and the Board of Mental Health & Recovery Services will accept applications from organizations for the funds to apply for an approved purpose that would directly benefit Geauga County.

### RFP Overview and Key Dates

RFP Title	Opioid Settlement Grant Cycle 1
Proposal Submission Deadline	February 27, 2026
Anticipated Award Date	March 27, 2026
Funding Period	April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027
Issue Date	January 30, 2026
Eligibility	<p>Eligible applicants from Geauga County must be entities authorized to receive and administer Ohio opioid settlement funds and may include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Local government agencies</li><li>Nonprofit organizations</li><li>Substance use disorder and mental health treatment providers</li><li>Recovery housing and recovery support service providers</li><li>Healthcare providers and hospital systems</li><li>Community-based organizations with demonstrated experience addressing substance use disorders</li></ul>

	All applicants must be in good standing with the State of Ohio and demonstrate the administrative and fiscal capacity to manage public funds in compliance with applicable state and local requirements.
Questions	Contact Christine Lakomiak <a href="mailto:clakomiak@geauga.org">clakomiak@geauga.org</a> no later than February 20, 2026

## Funding Priority

The approved use ("Approved Purpose") of the Funds is limited to evidence- based forward-looking strategies, programming, and services used to

- expand the availability of treatment for individuals affected by substance use disorders;
- develop, promote, and provide evidence-based substance use prevention strategies;
- provide substance use avoidance and awareness education;
- decrease the oversupply of licit and illicit opioids; and
- support recovery from addiction services performed by qualified and appropriately licensed providers

## Proposal Components

### A. Organization Face Sheet

This part introduces the applicant and should include the following information:

- a. Name of organization, address, and federal tax ID
- b. Name of Executive Director or CEO, and email address
- c. Amount of funding requested
- d. Title of Proposal

### B. Project Narrative (1-page limit)

This part describes the applicant's plans and should include the following:

- a. A short description of the proposed project or activity. Include the target population and goals and objectives associated with this project.
- b. What specifically will the requested amount be used for?

- c. What data supports the need for this project in Geauga County?
- d. Please include a project timeline and, if applicable, how it will be evaluated. Please describe the evaluation instruments and state the program's outcomes.

C. Include Program Budget

## **Submission Information**

All proposals should be emailed as PDFs to [tslater@geauga.org](mailto:tslater@geauga.org). Applicants will receive an email confirming receipt of their application within 5 business days of submission. If no confirmation email is received, applicants should call the Geauga County Board of MH & RS at (440) 285-2282 to follow up.

## **Review and Selection Process**

The Mental Health & Recovery Services Board is responsible for administering the opioid settlement funding process, including issuing the request for proposals, providing technical assistance, reviewing and scoring submitted proposals for alignment with settlement-permitted uses and community need, and making funding recommendations. The Board of County Commissioners retains final authority for approval of awards and allocation of opioid settlement funds, and reviews the Board's recommendations to ensure compliance with statutory requirements, settlement terms, and county priorities.

The Geauga County Board of MH & RS reserves the right to amend or cancel this RFP at any time, reject any or all proposals, request clarification or additional information, and negotiate with any applicant whose proposal is determined to be in the best interest of the community and consistent with Ohio opioid settlement requirements. The Board also reserves the right to ask clarifying questions about the proposal.

Funding awards are contingent on the availability of Ohio opioid settlement funds and on approval by the Geauga County Board of Commissioners. Awards may be subject to reporting, audit, and performance-monitoring requirements consistent with Ohio opioid settlement oversight expectations.

## Scoring Rubric

<b>Funding Inquiry Selection</b>	<b>Considerations</b>	<b>Input of the Reviewer</b>
Program or Project Goal	Does this goal align with the stated funding priorities?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe or unsure
Program or Project Description	Does the proposal have a clear and realistic plan for execution? • Does the project description align with the project/program goal?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe or unsure
Target Population	• Does the project target individuals with substance use disorder, including co-occurring mental health conditions and/or their impacted family members? • Is the projected number of individuals served appropriate for the amount requested?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe or unsure
Success	• Is the success described realistic and achievable? • Are these intended impacts needed in your community?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe or unsure
Sustainability	• Does the applicant have a feasible plan to sustain services after the project period ends?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe or unsure
Use of Funds	Funds should be used to supplement existing funds for program activities and not replace those funds already appropriated or allocated for the same purpose. The applicant may use funds in the event that an external funding source has ended or is near completion.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe or unsure

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does this request maximize the use of the funding?</li> </ul>	
Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the budget aligned with the work and activities described?</li> <li>• Is the budget clear and realistic?</li> <li>• Is the requested amount appropriate for the proposed activities and desired results?</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe or unsure
Community Need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the applicant demonstrate that the community needs these services</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe or unsure
Community Readiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is this project a good fit for the community?</li> <li>• Is this project likely to succeed?</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe or unsure
Evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the proposal make it clear that the approach they plan to use has some basis in existing evidence or proven practice?</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe or unsure
Reviewer Comments, Questions or Concerns		
Overall Rating – Funding Recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do you recommend this project for funding?</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strongly do not recommend for funding</li> <li>2. Do not recommend for funding</li> <li>3. Neutral</li> <li>4. Recommend for funding</li> <li>5. Strongly recommend for funding</li> </ol>

## **Reporting Requirements**

Grant recipients must submit biannual programmatic and financial reports. Acceptance of awarded funds constitutes the recipient's agreement to all reporting and monitoring requirements. Reports shall document the project timeline, progress toward benchmarks and outcomes, and include a narrative summary of successes, challenges, and corrective actions, as applicable.

The Geauga County Board of MH & RS reserves the right to request supplemental information, conduct in-person site visits, and/or hold virtual meetings as needed to report outcomes to the public.

The Geauga County Board of MH & RS may withhold payments or terminate grant agreements if recipients fail to meet reporting requirements or violate the terms of the grant agreement.