

Anderson County, Tennessee

Board of Commissioners

RESOLUTION NO. 24-07-1193

ORIGINAL RESOLUTION NO. 24-07-1177

RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 24-07-1177 ESTABLISHING SELECTION PROTOCOL AND PROCEDURES FOR THE DISBURSEMENT OF OPIOID ABATEMENT FUNDS

WHEREAS, the overdose epidemic is a national crisis, and for millions of Americans, it has become very personal. Too many Anderson County families have lost their children, siblings, parents, and friends to substance misuse and overdose. Every loss is a painful reminder that we must take bold action to end our county's overdose epidemic; and

WHEREAS, the number of opioid-related deaths continuously rose from 1999 to 2022. Over one hundred and seven thousand (107,000) Americans died from overdose in 2022, and studies show that over 2.1 million Americans continue to suffer from Opioid Use Disorder; and

WHEREAS, the overdose crisis has negatively affected thousands of Anderson County citizens, including immense pressures on local governments coffers. Anderson County Government has witnessed first-hand the ravaging effects on our citizens and the financial strain from depleted governmental resources including manpower especially in the public safety sector that can be directly attributed to this crisis; and

WHEREAS, the Anderson County Board of Commissioners, County Mayor and all County Officials have taken a strong and progressive stance to fund creative programs that address addiction in our community including two highly successful programs in our Sheriff's Office Detention Facility, additional resources for Emergency Medical Service, Office of Emergency Management, Family Justice Center, Health Department and Drug Court; and

WHEREAS, Anderson County recognizes that it will take more than governmental efforts to combat the crisis, and success will come through community partners that fully understand the causation factors, identification of those in need, and the complicated web surrounding delivery of services. Local governmental efforts and our established community partners have collaborated in reducing overdoses in our county by 6% during the past eighteen (18) months through programs designed to specifically target the needs of Anderson County citizens; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to fund additional county programs geared towards identification, treatment, rehabilitation and education, the Board of Commissioners has authorized lawsuits against pharmaceutical manufacturers, distributors, retailers and illicit prescribers. These suits have resulted in settlements and bankruptcies producing several thousand dollars of additional local revenue to combat the epidemic; and

WHEREAS, Anderson County needs community partners to produce outreach programs designed to address the many adverse effects caused by the overdose epidemic. Therefore, it is the desire of the Board of Commissioners to establish eligibility requirements, protocol for the selection of community programs and grantees, and procedures for disbursement of county opioid abatement funds in order to continue an aggressive fight against the overdose crisis.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Anderson County Board of Commissioners meeting in regular session this 21st day of October 2024 that we authorize the following protocols and procedures for the disbursement of restricted Opioid Abatement Funds to our community partners:

SECTION 1: Compliance with Tennessee Law

All disbursements of Opioid Abatement funds shall comply with:

- A) The eligibility requirements codified at *Tenn. Code Ann. §5-9-109* (Exhibit 1) which defines Qualifying Organizations;
- B) Legal authority conferred through *Tenn. Code Ann. §5-9-203* (Exhibit 2);
- C) *Tennessee's Opioid Abatement and Remediation Uses* created by the Tennessee Opioid Abatement Council (Exhibit 3);
- D) Tennessee Attorney General requirements found in the *Tennessee Opioid Settlement Guide for Local Government, as continually revised* (Exhibit 4);
- E) *1981 Financial Management Act* and those local Finance Policies created thereto.

SECTION 2: Opioid Settlement Committee

The Opioid Settlement Task Force shall be renamed and confirmed as the Opioid Settlement Committee.

SECTION 3: Grantee Application Procedure

A) Written Application Required

All Qualifying Organizations and governmental agencies serving Anderson County wishing to apply for community grants funded by Opioid Abatement funds shall complete a written application for funding. The application (Exhibit 5) will include information describing the organization, funding request, project description, budget and work plan.

B) Application Review

The process for review of applications for grant funds will be as follows:

1. Applications will be delivered to the Anderson County Finance Director to determine whether the applicant (grantee) meets the eligibility requirements and for evaluation of the proposed community programs, if acceptable then
2. Application is forwarded to the Opioid Settlement Committee who may conduct interviews and obtain additional information from candidates, if needed, if application is recommended for funding, then
3. The Budget Committee will review the application. If application is qualified, recommended for funding then
4. The Anderson County Board of Commissioners will make the final decision on qualified applicants and grant funding. See SECTION 4 below.

C) Submissions of Funding Applications and Proposals

Applications for grant funds should be mailed or delivered to:

Office of the Finance Director
Anderson County Courthouse
100 N. Main Street, Room 210
Clinton, TN. 37716
Attn: Anderson County Opioid Settlement Committee

D) Creation of Additional Requirements

The Opioid Settlement Committee may create and recommend additional requirements for the disbursement of Opioid Abatement Funds with subsequent approval from the Board of Commissioners. Additional requirements may include adjustments to the selection process, maximum annual caps on awards, required eligibility documents, scoring matrix, submission deadlines, etc.

E) Finance Director Approval

The Anderson County Finance Director may require additional documents from recipients in order to comply with accounting procedures and finance policies, and ensure the proposed grantee and program comply with state mandates. This may include examination of balance sheets and annual audits for all grantees.

F) Annual Status Report

By the last day of each fiscal year (June 30), recipients of grant funds shall file a written status report with the Opioid Settlement Committee listing program successes and failures, obstacles to successful completion, proposed program modifications, and recommendation as to continued program funding.

SECTION 4: Final Approval of Selected Programs and Disbursement Amounts

The Anderson County Board of Commissioners will consider each qualified application separately, and make a final determination as to applications/programs to be selected and the amount of funding provided. Following the Notice of Award, the organization will be presented with a contract detailing the specific metrics and timeframe for reporting. Each

qualified application will be accompanied separately by a Resolution for approval and funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect upon passage. The public welfare requiring same.

RESOLVED, APPROVED AND EFFECTIVE this 16th day of December 2024.

H. Tyler Mayes

H. Tyler Mayes, Chair, AC Comm.

Terry Frank

Terry Frank, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jeff Cole

Jeff Cole, County Clerk

