



# COUNTY OF SOMERSET DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

## OFFICE OF OPERATIONS & PLANNING

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### 2026 APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS GRANT COUNTY OPIATE SETTLEMENT FUND

#### OVERVIEW:

The Somerset County Department of Human Services is excited to announce the renewal opportunity for funding to support community organizing, evidence-based programs, and innovative new ideas that will abate the opiate epidemic and support residents with substance use disorder. The Department will prioritize applications for projects that are grounded in evidence or that have the potential to have a positive impact on the community it serves. The Department will give priority to submissions in the areas identified in the Memorandum of Agreement between the State of New Jersey and Local Governments on Opioid Litigation Recoveries, published January 2022 (listed below). The Department may also consider applications outside of these categories that are creative and innovative approaches to supporting prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and recovery support services in Somerset County. Finally, The Department will consider individual organizations' proposals, but it is also very interested in collaborative proposals that engage multi-disciplinary, cross-sector and/or cross-agency teams.

*Priority will be given to projects that support the following areas:*

- Support for residents engaged in Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) and other related services
- Support for pregnant and post-partum women with substance use disorder
- Education on neonatal abstinence syndrome "NAS"
- Expansion or support of warm hand-off programs and recovery services
- Support for incarcerated populations with substance use disorder
- Prevention programs or projects

*Other areas may include:*

- Education or support for residents with Opioid Use Disorder "OUD"
- Support residents in treatment and recovery
- Connections to care

- Mission Statement -

The County of Somerset is committed to excellence and innovation in public service, promoting the well-being of all residents and communities by providing effective, efficient and responsive leadership.

*Somerset County Is An Equal Opportunity Employer*

- Addressing the needs of criminal justice involved persons with substance use disorder
- Prevent over-prescribing and ensure appropriate prescribing and dispensing of opioids
- Prevent misuse of opioids
- Prevent overdose deaths and other harm reduction strategies
- First responder education or wellness
- Leadership, planning, and coordination to abate the opioid epidemic
- Training to abate the opioid epidemic
- Research

### **ELIGIBILITY**

- Interested applicants should be one of the following:
  - For-profit or 501(c)3 non-profit agency
  - Organizations with a 501(c)3 fiscal sponsor
  - Coalitions with a lead 501(c)3 organization
  - Agency in good standing with all applicable county, state, and federal requirements

### **SUBMISSION PROCESS**

Interested organizations are required to submit a short Statement of Interest to [opiatesettlement@somersetcountynj.gov](mailto:opiatesettlement@somersetcountynj.gov); title of email must say "Statement of Interest, County Opiate Settlement Fund".

The statement should include a brief description of your organization or coalition, its experience (if any) working in this area, a description of any current evaluation processes, and how the project will advance Somerset County's efforts to abate the opiate crisis, prevent overdose deaths, educate the community, and provide support to residents with substance use disorder, that align with the priorities set forth above.

- Submissions must include anticipated start and end date of the specific project. No services may be rendered prior to the award.
- The agency must complete the project and submit an invoice within six (6) months of the award date and must be completed in 2026. All invoices must be submitted prior to November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Please be sure to include your organization's website and social media channels (if any). Please also provide the following documentation:

- IRS determination letter confirming your organization's (or fiscal sponsor's) 501(c)(3) tax status (if applicable)
- IRS Form W-9 Tax Identification Number and Certification
- Certificate of Employee Information Report
- NJ Business Registration Certificate (NJ BRC)
- Detailed project budget for the program/project for which you are requesting funds

The number of applications supported, and total amount of support, will depend on the nature and quality of the proposals received and the availability of funds per year. The Somerset County Department of Human Services, Office on Operations and Planning, will provide a small number of one-time (per-project, per calendar year), general support grants ranging between \$100.00 to \$5,000.00 per applicant, per project. Projects may only receive funding once; however, an agency may submit multiple applications as long as each application is for a different, distinct project.

Select grant recipients will be invited to present their project at the Local Advisory Council on Alcohol and Drug Use (LACADA) and/or the Opiate Settlement Advisory Council (OSAC). The County Drug and Alcohol Director will select submissions for OSAC to review and will then notify applicants of final decision.

**OTHER:**

1. Funding can supplement but cannot supplant other funding.
2. Funding requests cannot exceed \$5,000.00.
3. Organization cannot submit more than one application per project per year.
4. A representative from the Department of Human Services will notify the agency of the application status within thirty (30) days. The Department of Human Services may request additional information prior to award.
5. Organization must submit impact report to the Department upon completion of project.