



**Ohio's opioid settlements:
Building More Resilient Communities TOGETHER**

Alisha Nelson,
OneOhio Executive Director



Addiction is a treatable, chronic medical disease involving complex interactions among brain circuits, genetics, the environment, and an individual's life experiences. People with addiction use substances or engage in behaviors that become compulsive and often continue despite harmful consequences.

American Society of Addiction Medicine

The Disease of Addiction - Progression

Disease Progression

1. Development of a Substance Use Disorder
2. Harmful use
3. Hazardous/ at-risk use
4. Low risk use
5. No substance use

The Disease of Addiction - Characteristics

Chronic Disease

Underlying changes in brain circuits persist beyond withdrawal management (detoxification) particularly in individuals with severe disorders.

Treatable Disease

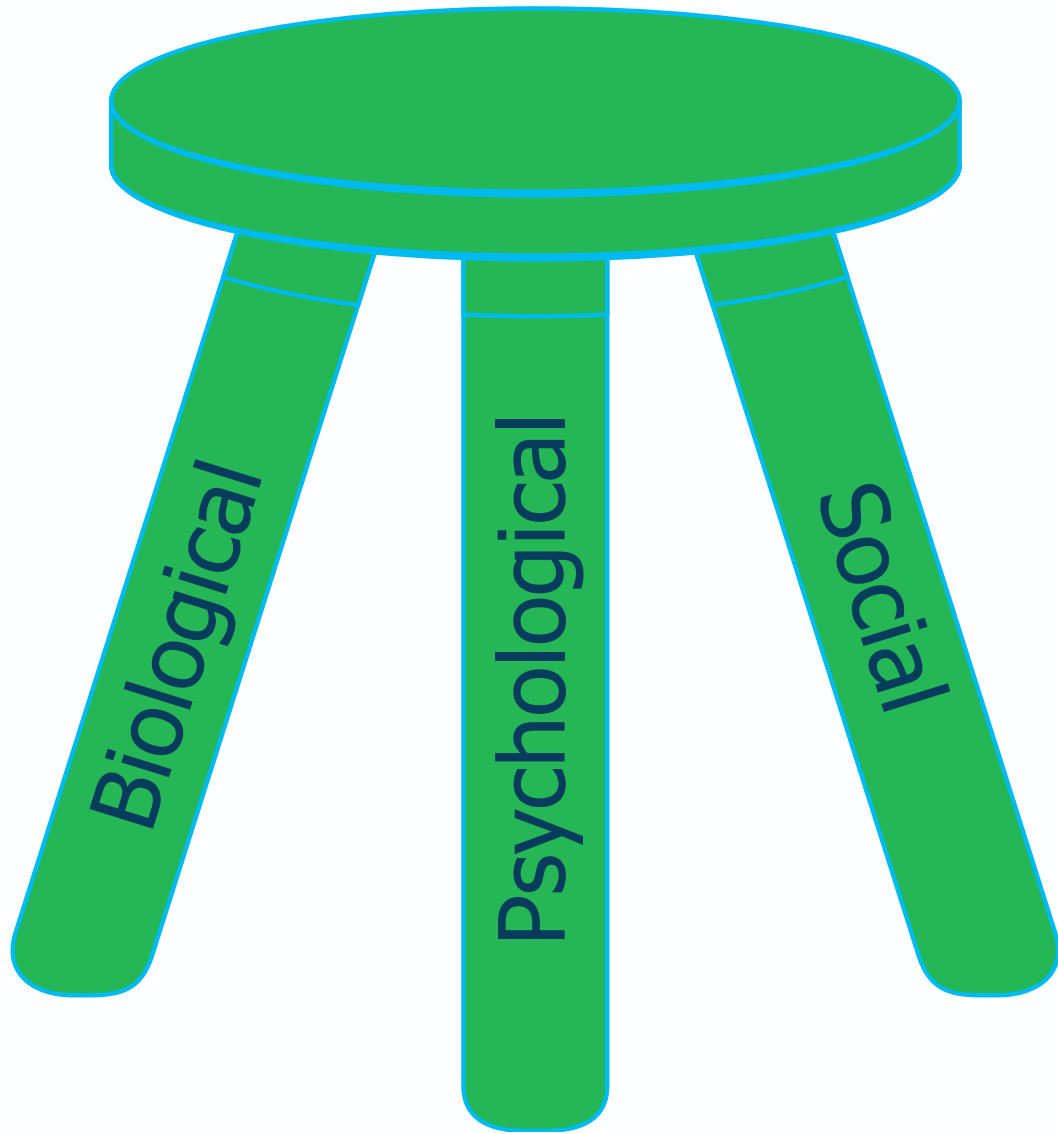
With professional treatment, substance use disorder remission rates approach 50% for general population and exceed 80% in healthcare professionals.

Progressive Disease

Persists over time and physical, emotional, and social changes are cumulative and progresses as substance use continues.

Potentially Fatal Disease

Substance use disorders cause premature death through overdose, organic complications involving vital organs, and by contributing to suicides, homicides, motor vehicle crashes and other traumatic events.



The Disease of Addiction - A Biopsychosocial Illness

Ohioans misuse substances and develop substance use disorders at a **higher rate than the national average.**

24.4%

of Ohioans (12+) reported binge alcohol use, higher than the national average of 21.7%

25.4%

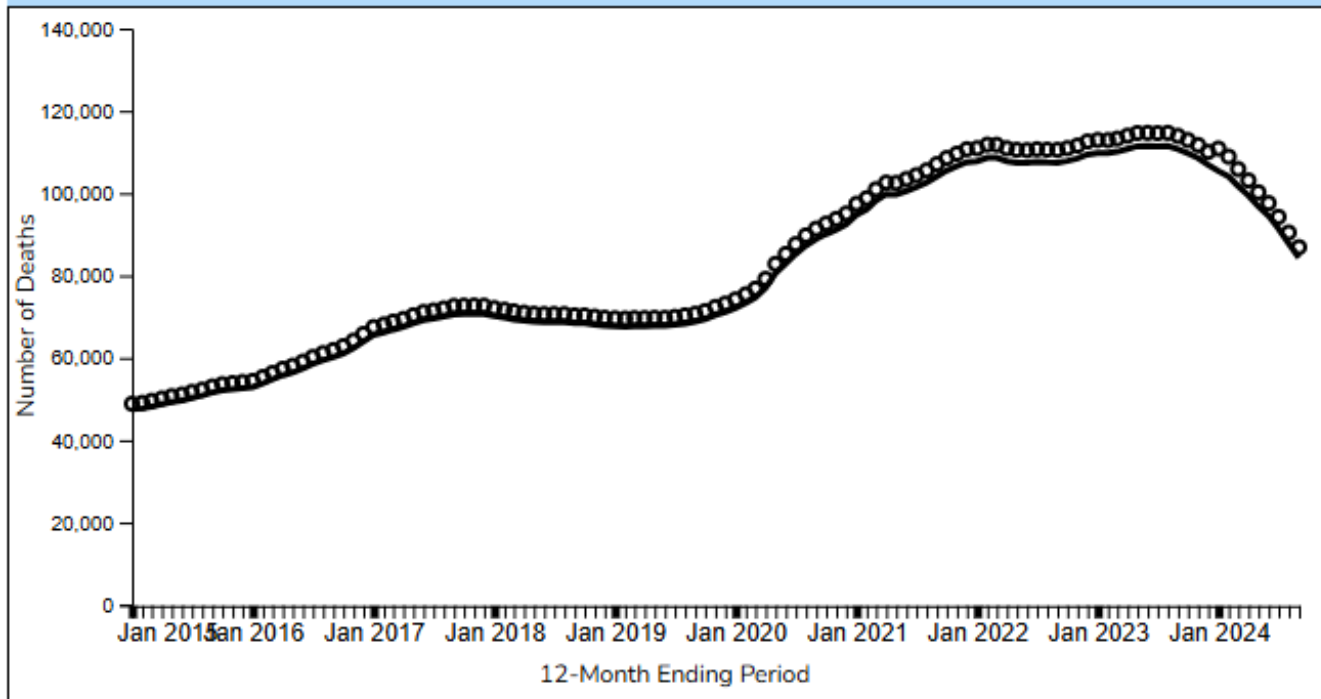
of Ohioans (12+) reported use of tobacco products, higher than the national average of 19.1%

19.2%

of Ohioans (18+) have a substance use disorder, higher than the national average of 17.8%

WORK TOWARDS A HEALTHIER OHIO

Figure 1a. 12 Month-ending Provisional Counts of Drug Overdose Deaths:
United States



While there is still much work to be done to mitigate the ongoing drug epidemic, recent CDC data show encouraging trends nationally regarding drug overdose deaths.

EXPLAINING THE OVERALL DECLINE IN FATAL OVERDOSES

Amidst a reported 24% reduction in overdose deaths nationally⁺, behavioral health experts point to several factors as explanatory of the decline, including:

- Targeted distribution of naloxone
- Access to evidence-based treatment programs
- Resumption of pre-pandemic prevention & response programming
- Shifts in the illicit drug supply

COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY FATAL DRUG OVERDOSES

Ohio Department of Health reporting from 2023 demonstrates an overall decline in the total number and rates of unintentional overdose deaths, however; some demographic groups are disproportionately impacted, and rates continue to rise among some populations ⁺

| Demographic | 2023 Rate of Unintentional Drug Overdose |
|-------------|--|
| Overall | 39.0 |
| Men | 54.3 |
| Black Men | 100.3 |

IMPACT OF STIGMA ON TREATMENT AND RECOVERY

Stigma impacts the health and well-being of individuals with a substance use disorder in several ways:

- **44%** of people with a SUD in 2023 who did not receive treatment cited perception of others as a deterrent to seeking treatment⁺
- Existing data show stigma leads to lower success rates in treatment outcomes, poorer quality of care, and can cause individuals to increase their daily substance use⁺⁺

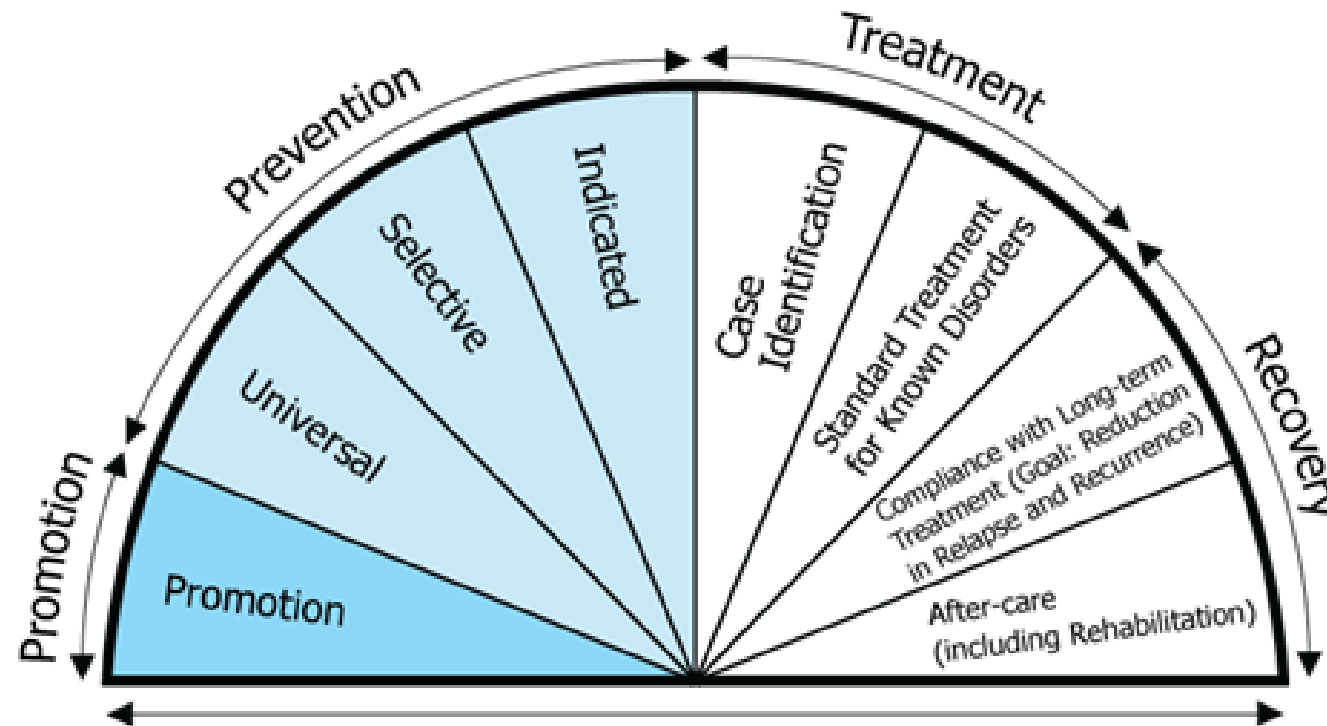
⁺ 2023 National Survey on Drug Use and Health

⁺⁺ National Institute on Drug Abuse

WHAT WE KNOW WORKS

CONTINUUM OF CARE

Minimizing the prevalence and effects of substance use disorder (SUD) in our communities entails engaging the issue through a wide scope – the continuum of care model offers perspective



SURGEON GENERAL REPORT ON ADDICTION

The U.S. Surgeon General's 2018 report spotlighting opioids reaffirms the need for investment in high-quality programming across the continuum of care to address the opioid crisis, including⁺:

- Prevention
- Screening and Early Intervention
- Treatment and Management of Opioid Use Disorders
- Recovery Support Services

⁺Facing Addiction in America – The Surgeon General's Spotlight on Opioids (2018)

LASTING IMPACT

For individuals with a SUD, entry into treatment and movement towards long-term recovery are critical to the sustainability of the continuum of care model. The longer an individual is in recovery, the likelihood of relapse decreases significantly.

| Time in Recovery from SUD | Abstinence Rate+ |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| 0-1 years | 36 percent |
| 1-3 years | 66 percent |
| 3+ years | 86 percent |

+An Eight-Year Perspective on the Relationship Between the Duration of Abstinence and Other Aspects of Recovery

Opioid litigation 101

How Did Ohio Get Here?



OHIO OPIOID LITIGATION TIMELINE (2017 – Q1 2023)

May 2017
State of Ohio
Sues 5 Drug
Companies

Mar. 2020
OneOhio
Agreement
Announced

Dec. 2021
OneOhio
Recovery
Foundation
Formed

Nov. 2022
Walmart, Teva and
Allergan National
Settlements
Reached

Mar. 2023
OneOhio
Receives First
Settlement
Payments

Oct. 2019
Cuyahoga &
Summit Co.
Bellwether
Settlement
Reached

Jul. 2021
Distributor &
Janssen National
Settlements
Reached;
OneOhio MOU
Established in
Legal Settlement
Documents

May 2022
Gov. DeWine
Hosts First
OneOhio Board
Meeting

Dec. 2022
CVS &
Walgreens
National
Settlements
Reached

Future
Opioid
Lawsuits /
Settlements
Likely

Ohio Opioid lawsuit settlement fund distribution formula

55%

Directly to the OneOhio Recovery Foundation to support statewide and regional prevention, treatment and recovery efforts today and over the long term

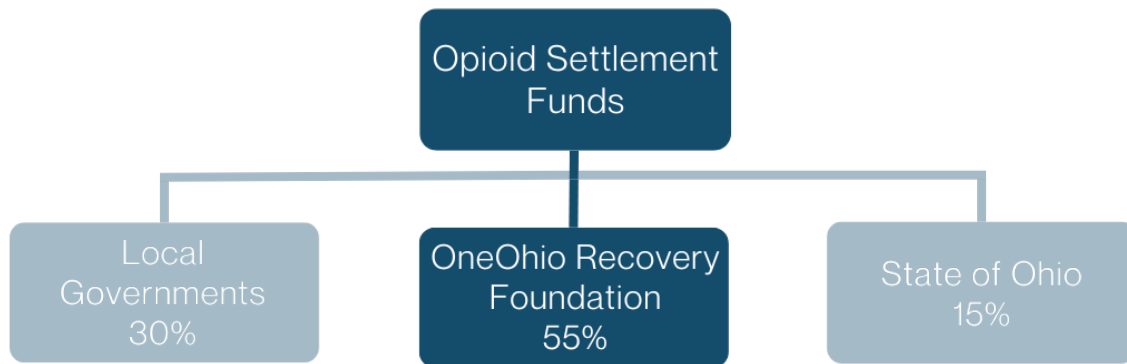
30%

Directly to local governments for community recovery and the immediate needs of residents

15%

Directly to the State of Ohio for prevention, treatment and recovery support services

55% TO THE ONEOHIO RECOVERY FOUNDATION



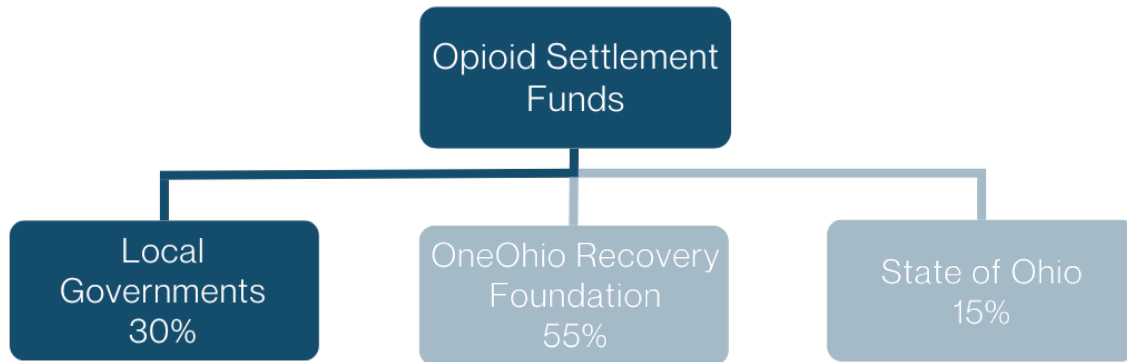
55% of opioid settlement funds go to the OneOhio Recovery Foundation

- OneOhio did not receive first opioid settlement payments until March 2023
- OneOhio is estimated to receive ~\$842M total from national settlements through 2038*

**Payment timing and amounts are subject to change*

For more information, visit: OneOhioFoundation.com/Settlement

30% TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS



30% of opioid settlement funds go directly to **local governments**

- OneOhio Recovery Foundation does not distribute or manage the 30% payments to local governments
- BrownGreer is the directing administrator of the national opioid settlements & NOAT II bankruptcy
- All current national opioid settlement & bankruptcy payments are directed by BrownGreer

For more information, visit: OneOhioFoundation.com/Settlement

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE GUIDANCE



Auditor of State Bulletin
Bulletin 2022-003

DATE ISSUED: March 10, 2022 Updated August 2022 to include a FAQ link

TO: All County, City, Township, Village Officials and Independent Public Accountants

FROM: Keith Faber
Ohio Auditor of State

SUBJECT: OneOhio Opioid Settlement

OneOhio FAQs are available on the AOS website: <https://ohioauditor.gov/references/OtherAccountingFAQs.html>

Ohio reached an \$808 million agreement with the three largest distributors of opioids. The state developed the OneOhio plan, a mechanism to ensure that any money from a negotiated settlement is distributed fairly to the communities hit hardest by the opioid crisis.

The settlement agreement allocates 30% to local governments (LG Share), 55% to a foundation that will distribute funds to projects, and 15% to the Office of the Ohio Attorney General as Counsel for the State of Ohio. This bulletin will focus on the allocation of settlement proceeds provided directly to local governments in the LG Share.

The purpose of this bulletin is to emphasize the separate accountability and accounting guidance for the LG Share of the OneOhio Opioid Settlement Funds (OneOhio Funds).

Approved Uses of the Local Government Share

OneOhio Funds must be utilized in a manner consistent with the "Approved Purposes" definition in the OneOhio memorandum of understanding (MOU). According to the MOU, the Funds must be used for "evidence-based forward-looking strategies, programming and services used to (i) expand the availability of treatment for individuals affected by substance use disorders, (ii) develop, promote and provide evidence-based substance use prevention strategies, (iii) provide substance use avoidance and awareness education, (iv) decrease the oversupply of licit and illicit opioids, and (v) support recovery from addiction services performed by qualified and appropriately licensed providers[.]"

OneOhio Opioid Settlement FAQs
GAAP and OCBOA Preparers should also see
Miscellaneous GAAP FAQs ([GASB FAQs \(ohioauditor.gov\)](https://ohioauditor.gov))

established a separate special revenue fund for the OneOhio Opioid Settlement Monies AOS Bulletin 2022-003?

the fund has not been established, UAN users can use the next available fund within the "Other Special Revenue" series of funds.

code should be used for the OneOhio Opioid settlement monies?

ments should record OneOhio revenue as "Opioid Settlement" or "Settlement revenue (Other—Miscellaneous Non-Operating), as there is no specific line item or within UAN for these proceeds.

24, UAN users should use the newly created Court Related Settlements receipt code 404 and Villages receipt code 618) to record the opioid settlement

24 Village financial statements, the governmental funds revenue account "Fines, Forfeitures and Settlements" reporting revenue (Other—Miscellaneous Non-Operating) reporting revenue accounts beginning with the 2024 Township financial statements, the governmental funds revenue account "Fines, Forfeitures and Settlements" will be updated to "Fines, Forfeitures, and Settlements."

on the OneOhio Opioid settlement monies need receipted into the OneOhio Special Revenue Fund?

ment earnings related to the OneOhio Opioid Settlement monies must be receipted pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code §5705.10.

settlement monies can vary from year to year, for budgeting purposes, receipts for this fund?

based on prior year/years information and amend, if needed, once the information is available. You will also want to monitor appropriations and amend as needed.

- Ohio Auditor of State has developed accountability and accounting guidance for local government officials
- A technical bulletin and FAQ were released in 2022
- AOS resources available at: OhioAuditor.gov/Publications/Bulletins/2022.html

For more information, visit: OneOhioFoundation.com/Settlement



VISIT OUR SETTLEMENT FUNDING PAGE

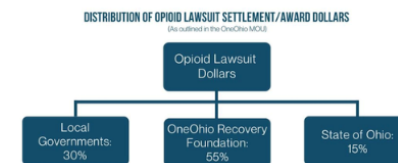
- The OneOhio Recovery Foundation is committed to helping all Ohioans better understand the opioid settlement process
- Links to the public settlement databases managed by BrownGreer and Auditor of State guidance are available on our settlement funding page



SETTLEMENT FUNDING

BACKGROUND

In March 2020, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Attorney General Dave Yost [announced](#) that local governments representing more than two-thirds of the state's population signed on to the OneOhio plan in order to jointly approach opioid settlement negotiations and litigation. The OneOhio plan provides a mechanism for the distribution of opioid settlement funds and outlines how those funds can be used. Specifically:



- **55% of the funding goes directly to the OneOhio Recovery Foundation** to develop and oversee the funding of short-term and long-term planning and supports that local communities need to continue to address this crisis.
- **30% of the funding goes directly to townships, villages, cities and counties** in Ohio to support community recovery and address the immediate needs of residents. These direct payments to local governments are separate and distinct from those managed by the Foundation.
- **15% goes to the State of Ohio** to be used to leverage statewide buying power to offer prevention, treatment and recovery support services. Direct payments to the state are separate and

For more information, visit: OneOhioFoundation.com/Settlement



APPROVED PURPOSES

From the One Ohio MOU:

- Approved purposes shall mean evidence-based forward-looking strategies, programming and services
- Funds from any settlement dollars should be used to prevent, treat and support recovery from addiction

Approved Uses of Funding



Children & Family Supports

Helping addiction-impacted families and children heal through navigation of system resources and improved access to grief and trauma supports.



Criminal Legal System

Addressing the needs of those involved in the criminal legal system at all stages of the process.



Harm Reduction

Supporting public health interventions to reduce the negative impact of behavior associated with substance use.



Infrastructure

Supporting infrastructure projects, including building construction or renovation, technology infrastructure upgrades, and vehicle fleets.



Intervention & Crisis Support

Delivering programs and services that support identification, intervention and crisis support in any setting of care.



Prevention

Supporting prevention at all levels of substance use, including a range of services for individuals, families, communities, and society at large.



Public Safety & First Responders

Supporting the collaborative efforts of first responders and law enforcement officials.



Recovery Supports

Supporting individuals sustaining recovery, building recovery capital, and removing barriers to a life of recovery.



Treatment & Healthcare Services

Expanding the availability and quality of treatment and healthcare services for the care of substance use and co-occurring mental health conditions.



Workforce Development

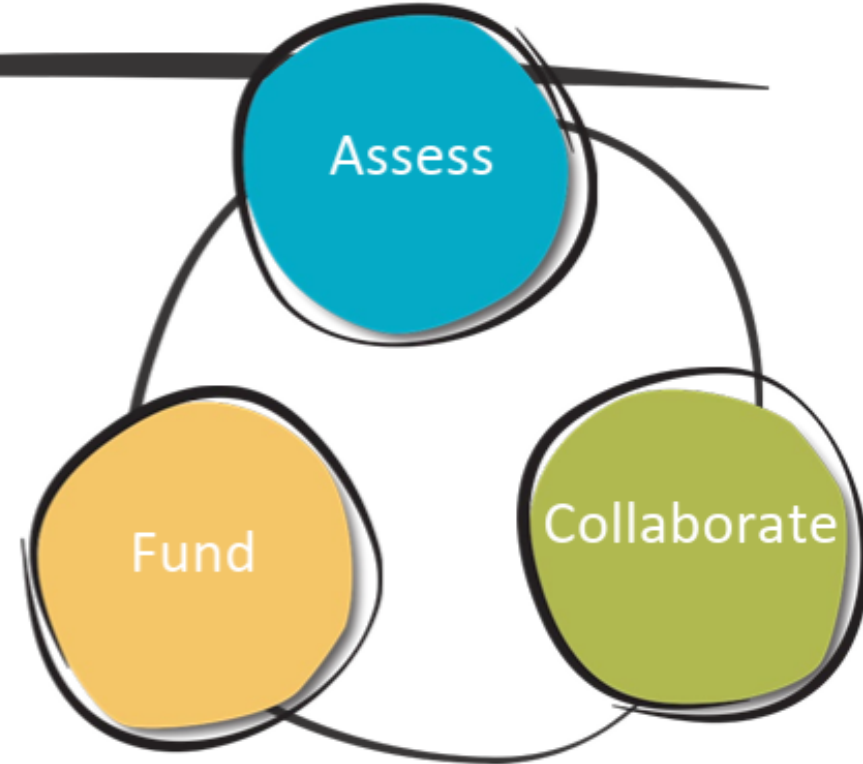
Supporting efforts to recruit and train Ohio's behavioral health workforce.

Empowering State and Local Leaders:

A Comprehensive Framework for Allocating Opioid Settlement Funds

This guide provides state and local leaders with a structured approach to allocate opioid settlement funds effectively. To achieve this, we propose three key strategies:

- (1) assess community needs and resources,
- (2) collaborate with partners for maximum impact, and
- (3) plan a sustainable approach by integrating settlement funds with existing resources.



Please see our [technical appendix](#) for more detailed information on each section.

Pathways to Progress

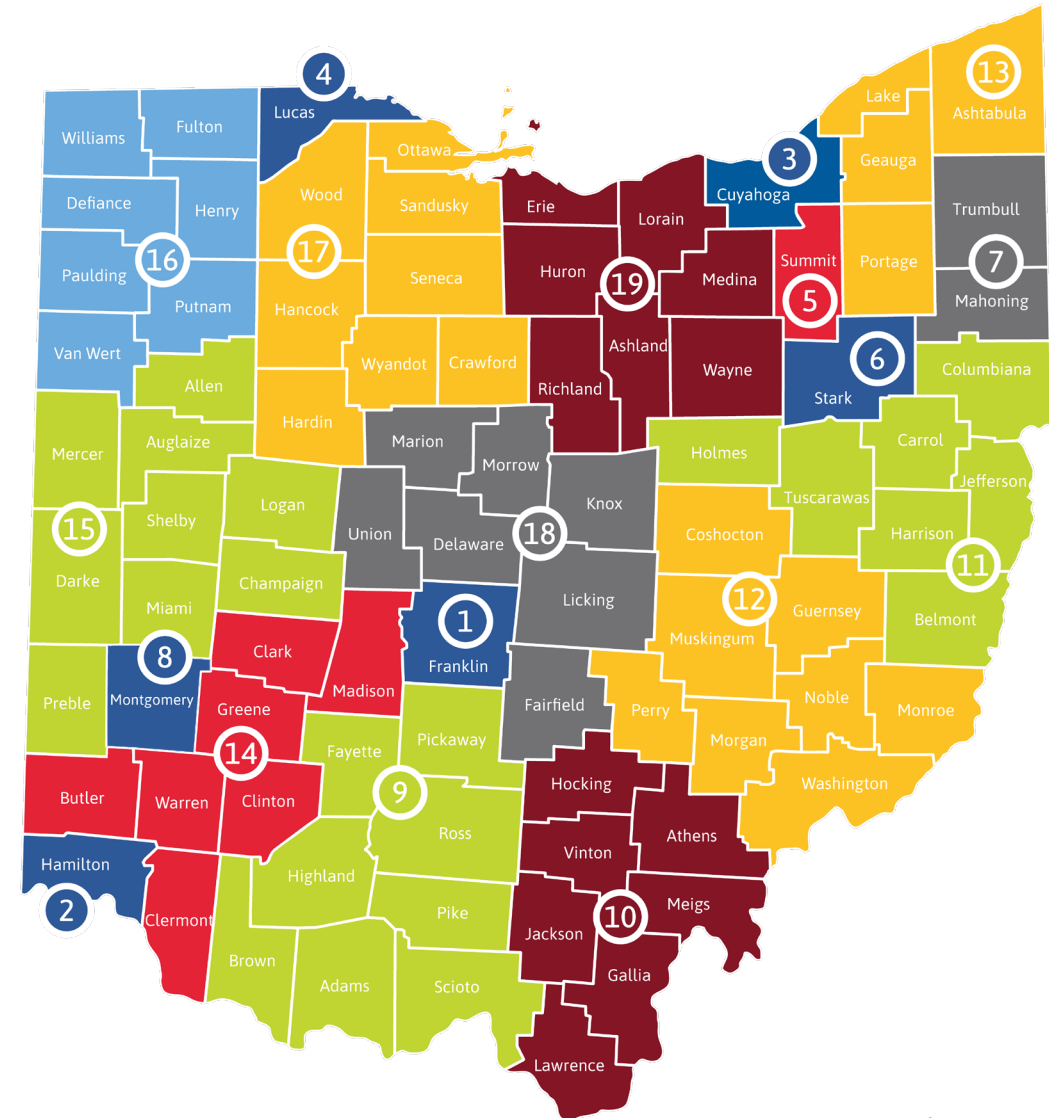
About OneOhio

The OneOhio Recovery Foundation is a **nonprofit charitable foundation** created to distribute 55% of the funds our state receives from the pharmaceutical industry as a consequence of its role in the national opioid epidemic.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Foundation is governed by a Board of 29 leaders from across Ohio:

- 11 members appointed by Non-Metro Regions
- 8 members appointed by Metro Regions
- 5 statewide members appointed by the Governor
- 4 statewide members appointed by General Assembly
- 1 statewide member appointed by the Attorney General



To learn more, visit: [OneOhioFoundation.com/About](https://www.oneohiofoundation.com/about)

OUR PURPOSE



HEALTH & SAFETY

To promote the health and safety of Ohioans by implementing evidence-based, forward-looking strategies, programming and services that support prevention, treatment and recovery across the state.



ADVOCACY

To advocate for the interests of Ohioans by determining the best way to provide them with the programs and services needed to address substance use disorders and co-occurring mental health disorders.



FUNDING

To fund prevention, treatment and recovery programs and services through a competitive grant process. OneOhio's inaugural grant cycle awarded more than \$45 million to organizations across Ohio.

BUILDING A FOUNDATION WITH A LIFE-SAVING MISSION



2022: Standing Up an Unprecedented Nonprofit from Scratch

- Policies: The all-volunteer Board of Directors established the many policies necessary to effectively govern a large nonprofit with a crucial public mission
- Transparency: Policies ensure OneOhio operates with the highest levels of accountability



2023: Building a Team to Lead OneOhio Into the Future

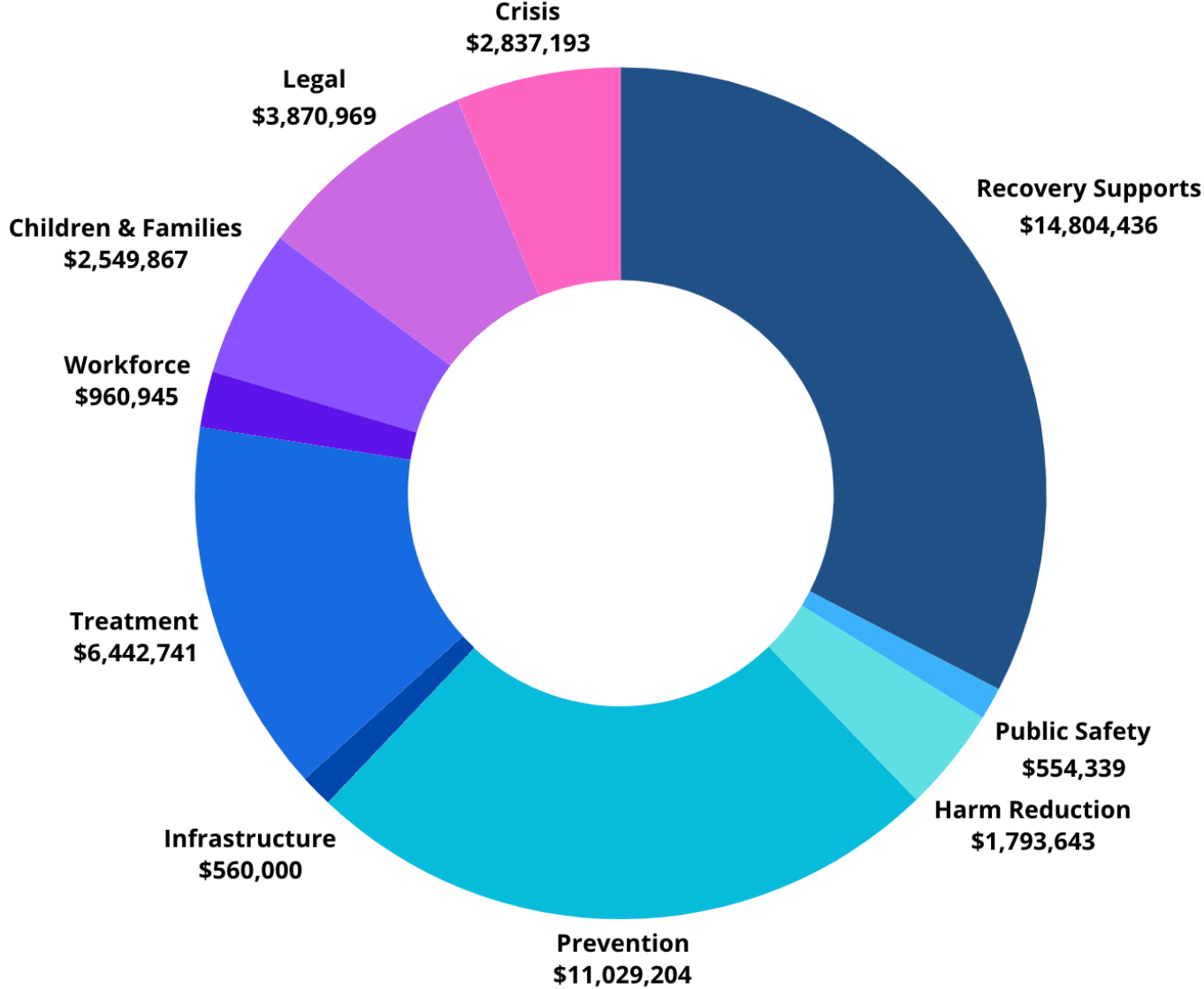
- First Funding: First opioid settlement funds delivered in late March
- New Leadership: First full-time Executive Director appointed in August; First full-time staff hired to support operations



2024-2025: Putting Opioid Settlement Dollars to Work Across Ohio

- First-Ever Grant Cycle: Regional Grant Cycle launched in March 2024 and all awards announced by mid-February 2025
- Robust Grant Reporting: A strong grant metrics and reporting system is being implemented to track investment impact in our communities.

2024 REGIONAL GRANT CYCLE



\$45.4
Million Awarded

245
Projects Funded

202
Organizations Supported



REGION 4 (LUCAS COUNTY) 2024 GRANT CYCLE FUNDING SUMMARY

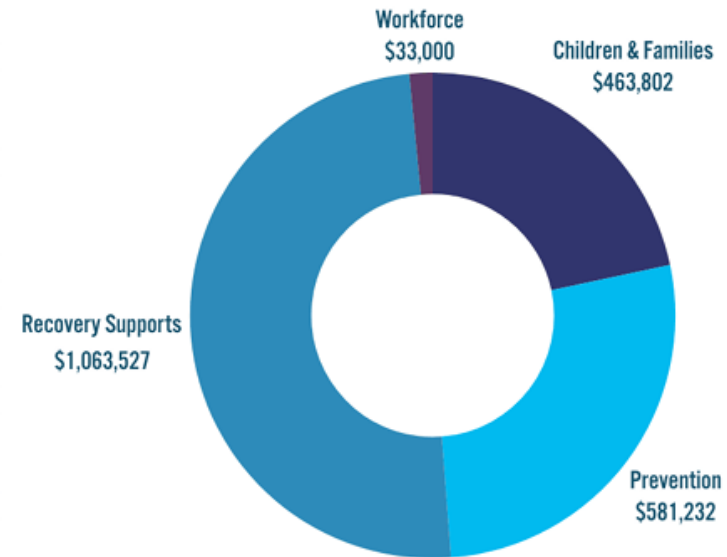
Approved Uses of Funding

-  **Children & Family Supports**
Helping addiction-impacted families and children heal through navigation of system resources and improved access to grief and trauma supports.
-  **Criminal Legal System**
Addressing the needs of those involved in the criminal legal system at all stages of the process.
-  **Harm Reduction**
Supporting public health interventions to reduce the negative impact of behavior associated with substance use.
-  **Infrastructure**
Supporting infrastructure projects, including building construction or renovation, technology infrastructure upgrades, and vehicle fleets.
-  **Intervention & Crisis Support**
Delivering programs and services that support identification, intervention and crisis support in any setting of care.
-  **Prevention**
Supporting prevention at all levels of substance use, including a range of services for individuals, families, communities, and society at large.
-  **Public Safety & First Responders**
Supporting the collaborative efforts of first responders and law enforcement officials.
-  **Recovery Supports**
Supporting individuals sustaining recovery, building recovery capital, and removing barriers to a life of recovery.
-  **Treatment & Healthcare Services**
Expanding the availability and quality of treatment and healthcare services for the care of substance use and co-occurring mental health conditions.
-  **Workforce Development**
Supporting efforts to recruit and train Ohio's behavioral health workforce.

REGION 4 FUNDING SUMMARY

\$2.14 Million

awarded to 8 organizations





REGION 4

2024 REGIONAL GRANT CYCLE REPORT



LUCAS COUNTY 2024 GRANT CYCLE FUNDING SUMMARY

| Organization | Project Summary | Abatement Strategy | Grant |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|-----------|
| Alvis, Inc. | Peer Supports | Recovery Supports | \$133,085 |
| Center of Hope Family Services, Inc. | ELEVATE In-School Support | Prevention | \$51,690 |
| Harbor | LGBTQ+ Substance Abuse Prevention | Prevention | \$529,542 |
| Lucas County Children Services | Family Search & Engagement Specialist | Services for Impacted Children & Families | \$463,802 |
| Neighborhood Properties | The Stable Foundations Grant | Recovery Supports | \$447,282 |
| OhioGuidestone | Rent and Transportation Assistance | Recovery Supports | \$83,160 |
| Ohio Recovery Housing | Peer to Professional Program | Workforce | \$33,000 |
| Zepf Center | Recovery Supports for Lucas County | Recovery Supports | \$400,000 |



BUILDING MORE RESILIENT COMMUNITIES TOGETHER



Get involved – and stay involved – this work is far from complete and now is not the time to slow down our efforts



Reach out to OneOhio if you have ideas for collaborating to maximize local government settlement funds



Encourage family members and individuals with shared and lived experience to get involved in your Region



Encourage local behavioral health professionals and other experts working in the Ohio Abatement Strategy areas to get involved in your Region

For more information about your OneOhio Region, go to: OneOhioFoundation.com/Region4

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