

Wake County OPIOID SETTLEMENT

FY26 and FY27
Funding Plan



WAKE COUNTY
Behavioral Health

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The FY26 and FY27 Funding Plan for Wake County’s Opioid Settlement Funds recommends allocating **\$19,472,000** to support the following strategies:

1	Collaborative strategic planning
2	Evidence-based addiction treatment
3	Recovery support services
4	Recovery housing support
5	Early intervention
6	Naloxone distribution
7	Criminal justice diversion
8	Addiction treatment for incarcerated individuals
9	Education and primary prevention

BACKGROUND

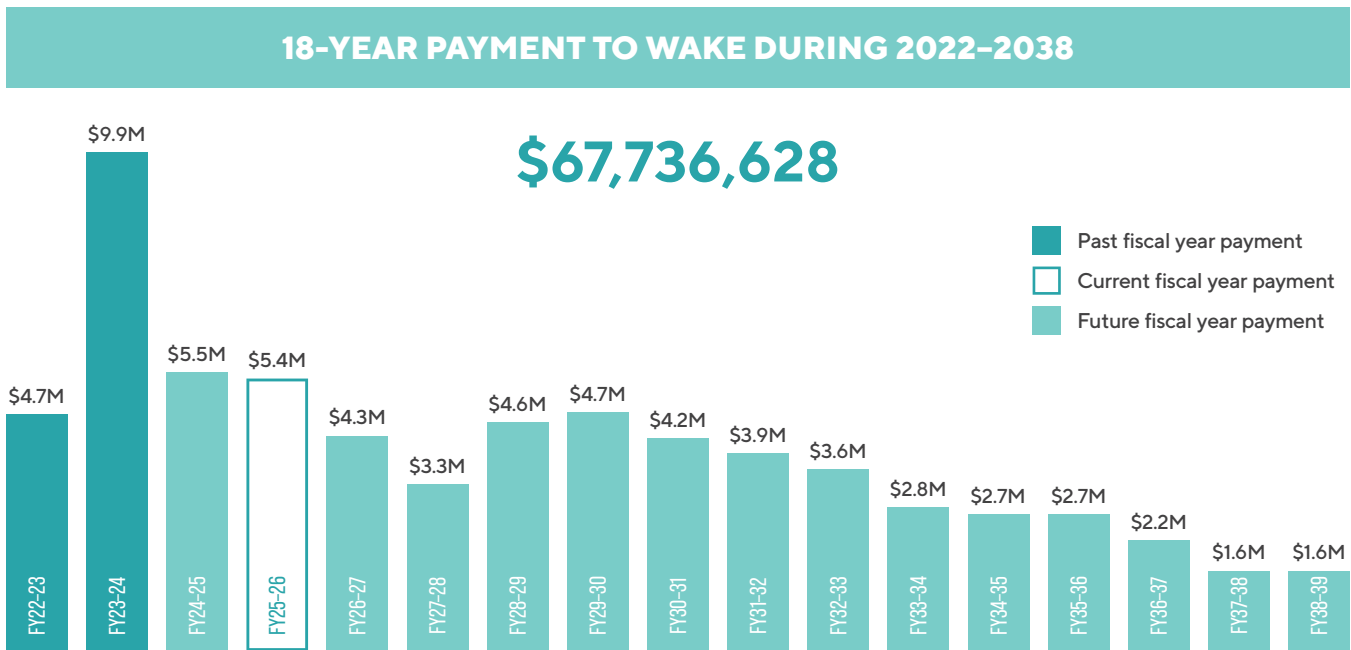
North Carolina is part of a historic agreement that will bring \$1.5 billion to the state and will provide much needed relief to communities impacted by opioids. In November 2021, Wake County agreed to participate in the national settlement and will receive approximately \$67.7 million over an 18-year period. The use of these funds is guided by the [North Carolina Memorandum of Agreement](#) and requires formal approval and authorization of an expenditure plan by the Wake County Board of Commissioners.

Community engagement has been central to Wake County’s planning efforts around the funds. Wake County has hosted community input sessions, conducted community surveys, formed an advisory committee and regularly calls on the Wake County Drug Overdose Prevention Coalition for input on funding needs and priorities.

To identify community organizations best suited to implement the settlement strategies, Wake County conducted a competitive funding process in June 2024 and received 39 project proposals. Applications were reviewed by committee and 23 projects were funded because of this request for proposals. These projects will be funded through June 2027 for program stability to allow for time to hire staff, build up the program, and show outcomes of the work. You can find the full list of projects funded at wake.gov/OpioidSettlement.

FUNDING AVAILABLE

In total, the funds made available to Wake County over the 18-year period of the settlement will be **\$67,736,628** (inclusive of Raleigh and Cary funds).



PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

The funding plan recommends allocating **\$19,481,500** over FY26 and FY27 to support the strategies listed below. To support these top strategies, the funding plan recommends funding the following:

STRATEGY	AMOUNT
Collaborative strategic planning	\$350,000
Evidence-based addiction treatment	\$2,700,000
Recovery support services	\$7,700,000
Recovery housing support	\$4,000,000
Early intervention	\$2,000,000
Naloxone distribution	\$800,000
Criminal justice diversion	\$500,000
Addiction treatment for incarcerated individuals	\$1,100,000
Education and primary prevention	\$331,500
TOTAL	\$19,481,500

▶ **COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIC PLANNING**
\$350,000

Supports strategic planning through the Opioid Settlement Program Manager, Advisory Committee, and community engagement to ensure funds address the greatest needs.

▶ **EVIDENCE-BASED ADDICTION TREATMENT**
\$2,700,000

Expands access to evidence-based treatment, including medication-assisted treatment, for uninsured and underinsured residents through partners like Alliance Health, Morse Clinic of North Raleigh, SouthLight Healthcare and the Wake County Public Health pharmacy.

▶ **RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES**
\$7,700,000

Funds care navigators, peer support, and other services that help people access treatment, harm reduction, and healthcare. Partners include Arise Collective, Carter Clinic, Coastal Horizons, Comprehensive Treatment Center (CTC) Raleigh, Healing Transitions, North Carolina Harm Reduction Coalition, SMART Recovery USA, SouthLight Healthcare's peer drop-in center, Promise Resource Network, UNC Horizons, VOICE Therapeutic Solutions, Wake Monarch and more.

▶ **RECOVERY HOUSING SUPPORT**
\$4,000,000

Provides housing-related assistance—like rent, deposits, and utilities—for individuals in recovery or at risk, through partners like Emmaus House, Fathers Forever, Fellowship Home of Raleigh, and Urban Ministries.

▶ **EARLY INTERVENTION**
\$2,000,000

Supports early intervention programs through organizations like the Alice Aycock Poe Center for Health Education, Boys and Girls Clubs and Communities in Schools of Wake.

▶ **NALOXONE DISTRIBUTION**
\$800,000

Expands overdose prevention efforts by funding naloxone distribution and training through partners such as NC Harm Reduction Coalition and Illuminate NC.

▶ **CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVERSION**
\$500,000

Funds diversion programs that connect justice-involved individuals to treatment and recovery support before trial or incarceration.

▶ **ADDICTION TREATMENT FOR INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS**
\$1,100,000

Provides Medication-Assisted Treatment in Wake County jails through SouthLight, starting treatment as needed upon intake.

▶ **EDUCATION AND PRIMARY PREVENTION**
\$331,500

Funds education and prevention efforts in schools and communities, supported by McKinsey & Co. settlement funds.

This FY2026 and 2027 funding plan allows Wake County to invest in community-identified strategies over a multi-year period to create program stability and show the impacts of these investments, which will be key to future funding decisions. Wake County will continue to seek opportunities for community engagement throughout the planning and implementation process such as through community surveys, outreach events, and input sessions.

For more information, please find additional information at wake.gov/OpioidSettlement ↗.