

Opioid Settlement Updates

Wake County Board of Commissioners Health and Human Services Committee

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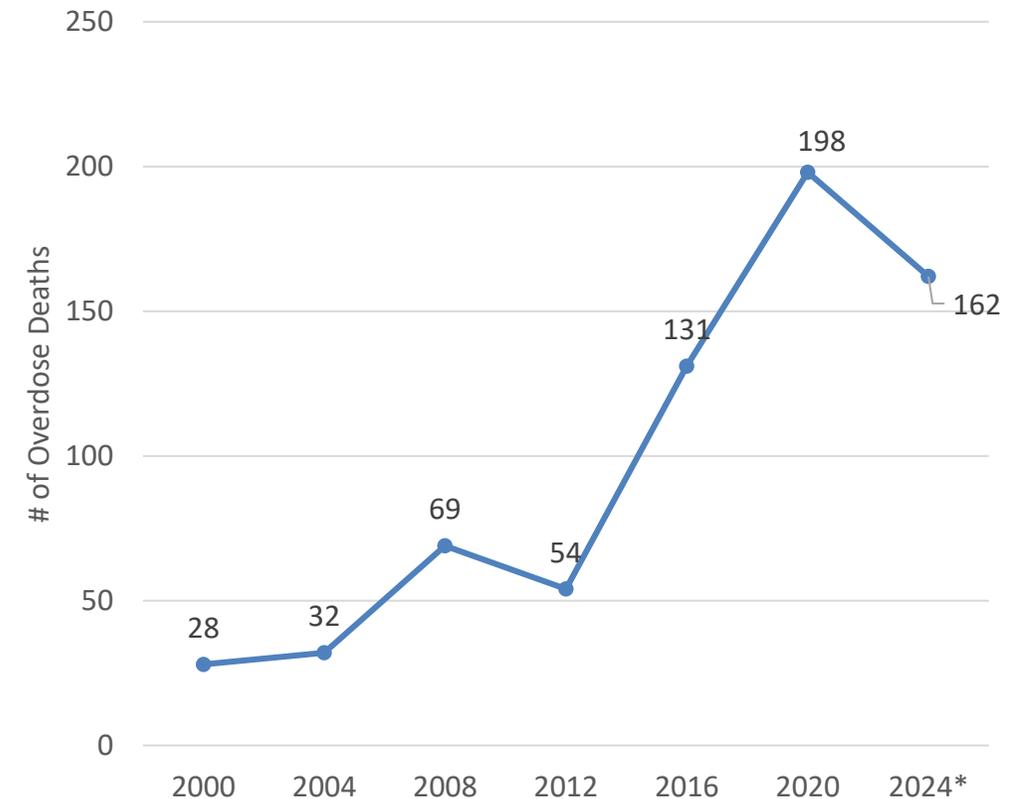
Today's Presentation

- **Wake County overdose trends**
- **Settlement funding framework**
- **Wake County investment strategy**
- **Looking ahead**

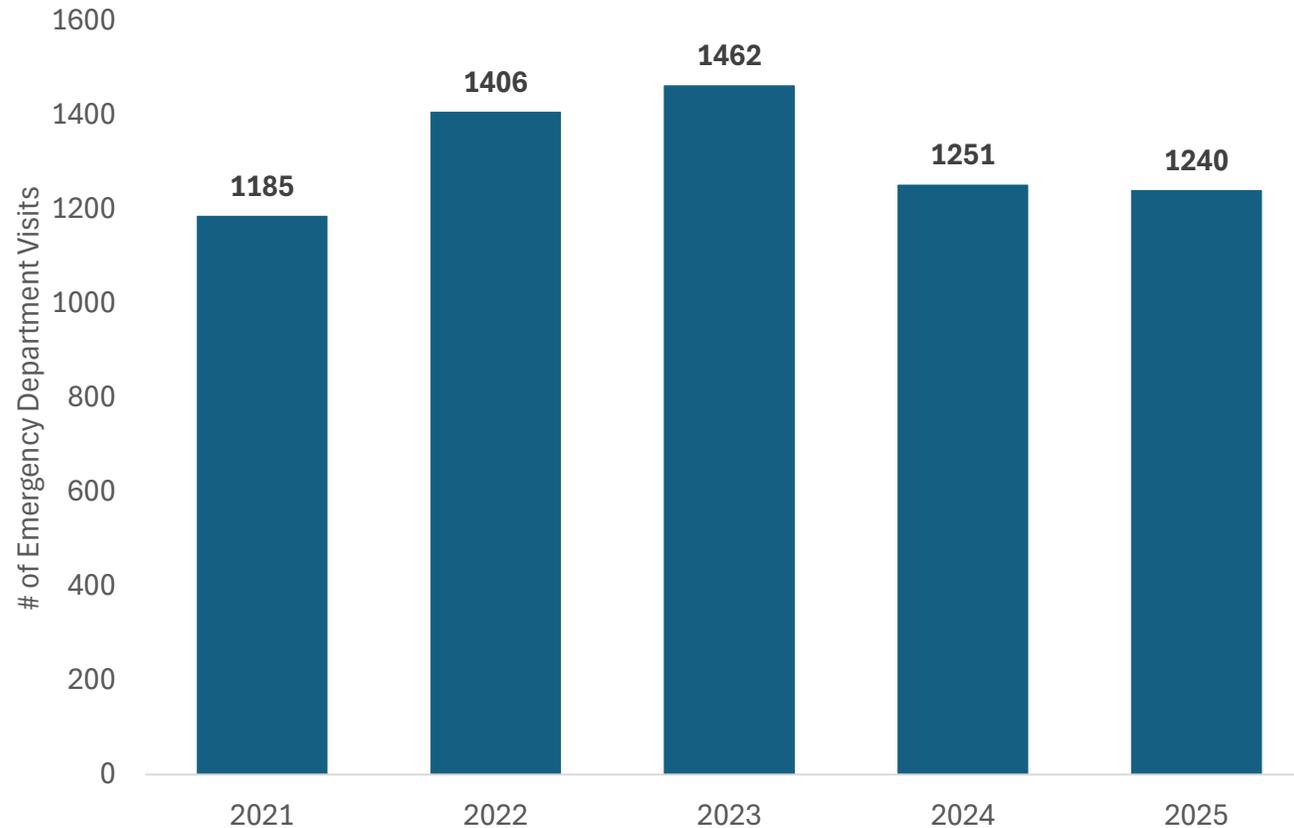
Reducing Overdose Deaths in Wake County

Wake County is investing national opioid settlement funds to reduce overdose deaths and strengthen recovery across our community.

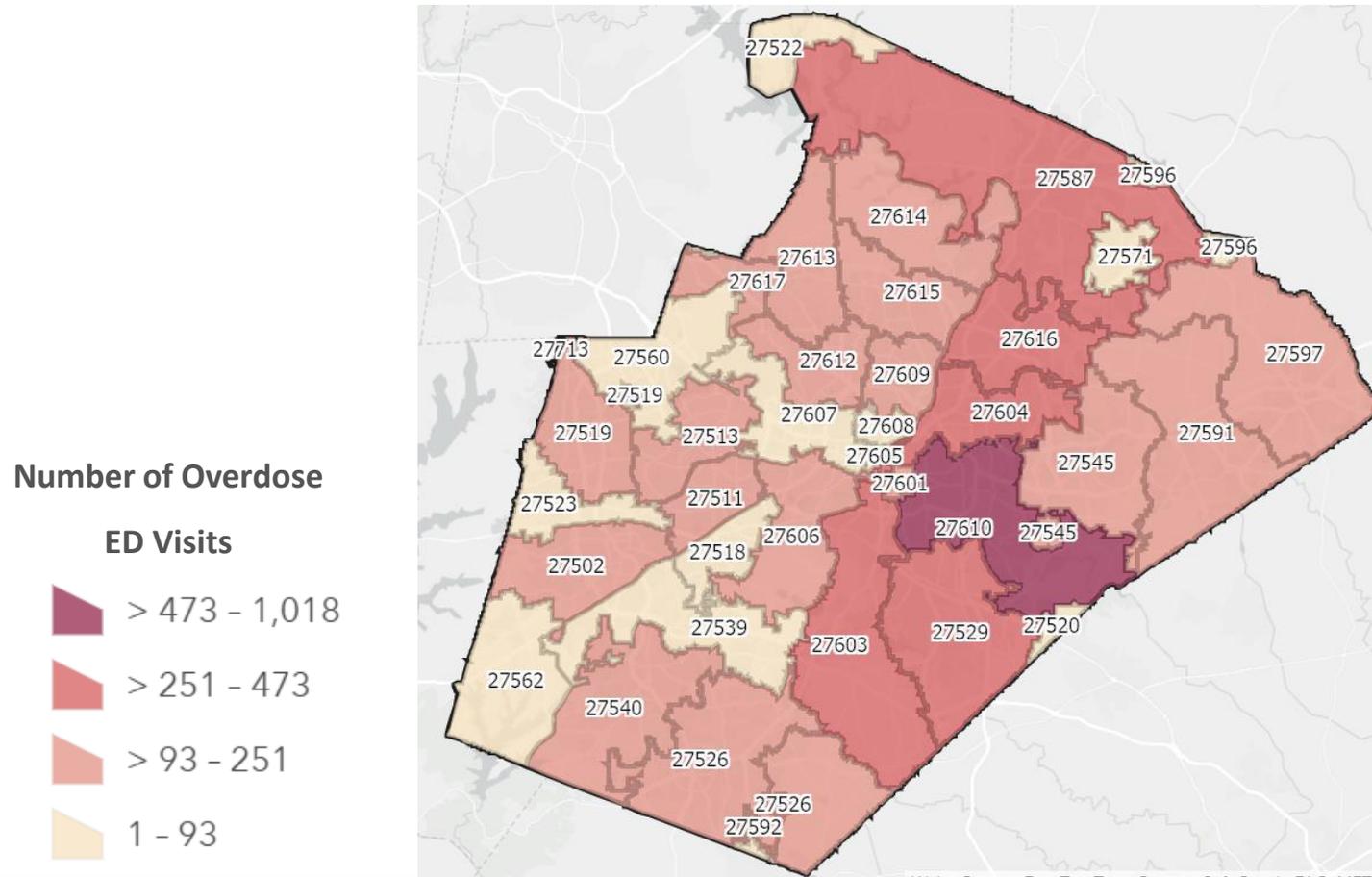
Overdose Deaths in Wake County, 2000 - 2024*



Unintentional or Undetermined Intent Medication or Drug Overdose Emergency Department (ED) Visits, Wake County, 2021-2025



Number of ED Visits for All Drug/Medication Overdoses in Wake County by Patient Residential Zip Code, 2020-2024



NC Opioid Settlement Overview

Why this funding exists

- National settlements resolved opioid litigation with major pharmaceutical companies
- Funds support opioid prevention, treatment, and recovery

Wake County's role

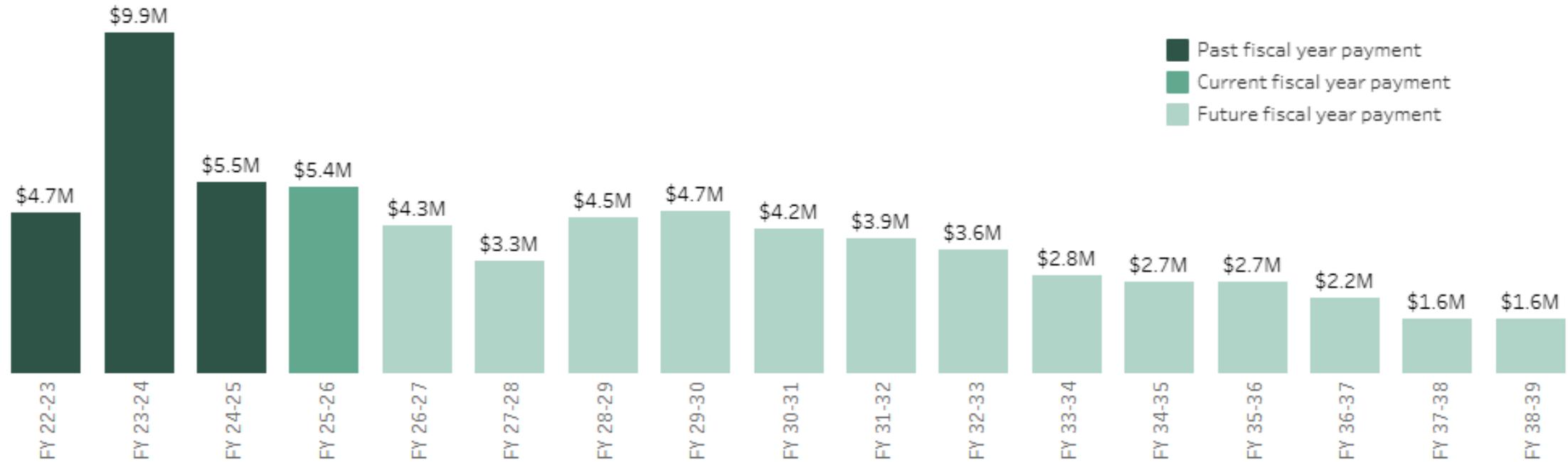
- Joined NC settlement and oversight agreement (Nov 2021)
- Funds began flowing in 2022
- Commissioners approve multi-year spending plans

Where we are now

- FY26–27 Funding Plan approved by Board of Commissioners (June 2025)
- McKinsey settlement funds to be appropriated March 2026

Settlement Funds Coming to Wake County

Wake County is receiving **\$67,736,628** in opioid settlement funds from 2022 through 2038.



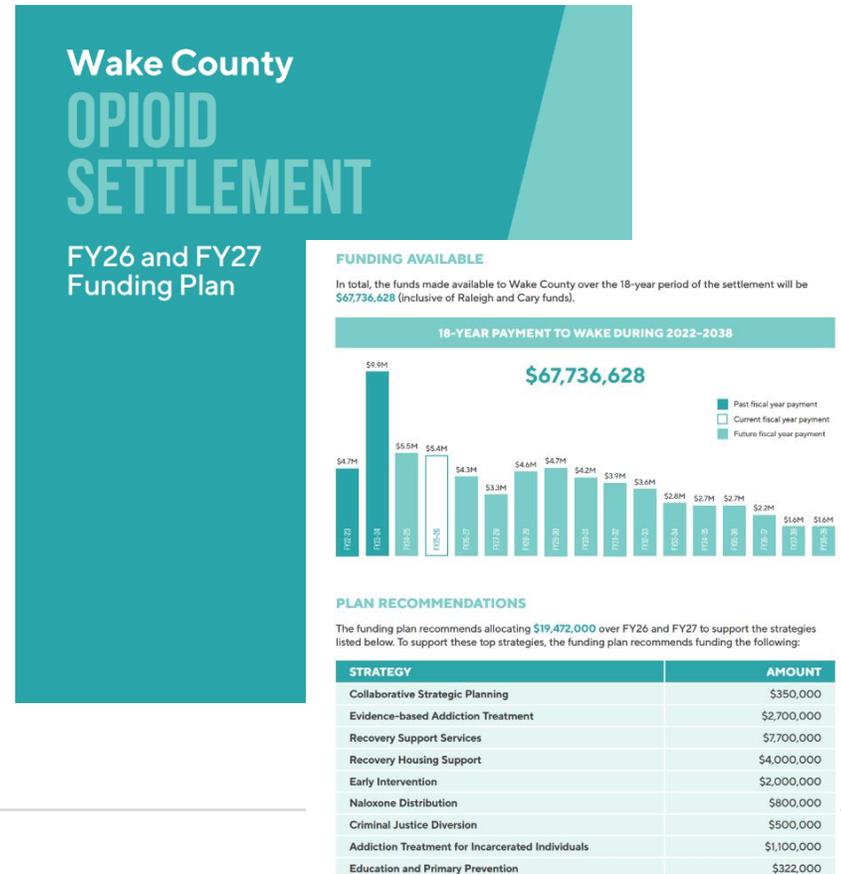
Wake County Settlement Funding Plan

FY 26 + 27 Funding Plan approved by Board of Commissioners in June 2025
Grounded in extensive community engagement and prior Board-approved investments

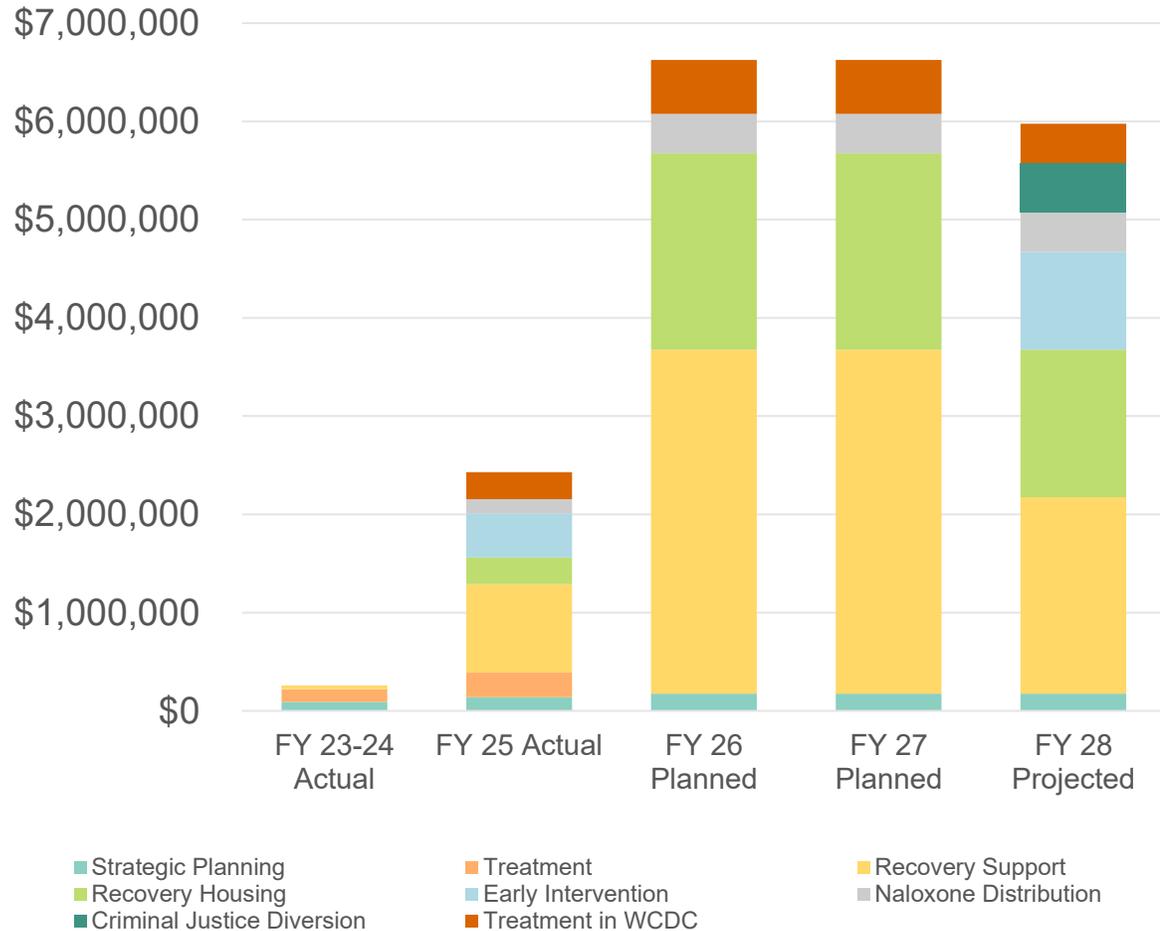
Priority Investment Areas

- Early Identification and Intervention
- Housing Access and Support
- Justice Services
- Naloxone Distribution
- Opioid Use Disorder Treatment
- Recovery Support Services
- Primary Prevention and Education*

* New opportunity using McKinsey and Co. Funds



Scaling Opioid Settlement Investments



- Foundation established in early years
- Scaled investment across priority areas
- Emphasis on strengthening the full substance use continuum
- Designed as a sustained, multi-year strategy
- Focused on long-term sustainability with community partners

Investment Highlights



New Programs Launched



Treatment Access Expanded



Recovery Supports Strengthened

FY2025 Annual Report Highlights



4,075 Recovery support contacts



134 Free buprenorphine prescriptions provided



4,710 Naloxone kits distributed



Dozens supported with transitional housing

Substance Use Treatment in Wake County Detention Centers

"Going to SouthLight ...provided me with a safe place to gather my thoughts, say what was on my mind and most importantly gave me the tools and confidence to be the man I needed to be for myself, my family and my future."

Access to Medication

- 617 individuals received evidence-based addiction medication*
- 96 began treatment for the first time

Re-entry & Overdose Prevention

- 100% of consistent participants continued treatment post-release
- 859 naloxone kits distributed upon release

Behavioral Health Support

- 245 individual counseling sessions
- 120 group counseling sessions

*includes buprenorphine and methadone

Success Story

Housing stabilization supports family recovery

- Mother received recovery services during pregnancy
- Secured stable housing
- Reunited with children and welcomed newborn safely



McKinsey & Co Settlement Funds

- Wake County received a one-time payment of \$331,532.88
- Not subject to the same spending framework that governs the County's primary opioid settlement funds
 - Provides greater flexibility to address emerging gaps
- Releasing a competitive funding opportunity focused on education, prevention, and early intervention
 - Types of projects include but are not limited to:
 - Awareness campaign
 - Evidence-based prevention programs
 - Screening for youth to identify risk
 - Trainings for healthcare providers; trainings on youth mental health first aid
 - Programs to build emotional modulation and resilience skills

Looking Ahead

- Targeted expansion in treatment and diversion
- Monitor emerging trends and adjust strategy as needed

Community Meeting – June 24

- Hear directly from funded programs
- Continued community engagement
- More details forthcoming



Sharing our Work



JOHNS HOPKINS
BLOOMBERG SCHOOL
of PUBLIC HEALTH

Center for Mental Health
and Addiction Policy

INNOVATIONS IN OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND SPENDING

Join the Center for Mental Health and Addiction Policy (CMAP) for a panel bringing together opioid settlement fund recipients and decision-makers to highlight innovative investments, share best practices, and discuss how settlement funds can be used to address the opioid crisis and prevent future harm. This event is free and open to all.

MARCH 25, 2026

4 - 5:30 P.M. | PANEL DISCUSSION
5:30 - 6:30 P.M. | NETWORKING RECEPTION

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
BLOOMBERG CENTER
555 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001

REGISTER AT: [BIT.LY/CMAPNEXUS4](https://bit.ly/CMAPNEXUS4)



PANELISTS



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MODERATED BY



Aneri Pattani
Senior Correspondent,
KFF Health News

**MORE SPEAKERS TO BE
ANNOUNCED SOON!**

Questions & Discussion



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