

## **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**

Between

**[United Way of Rutherford County]**

and

**[Rutherford County DSS]**

### **PURPOSE and SCOPE**

The purpose of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) RCORP-Planning project is to support prevention of and treatment for substance use disorders, including opioid use disorder (OUD). The overall goal of the program is to reduce the morbidity and mortality associated with opioid overdoses in high-risk, rural communities by strengthening the capacity of multi-sector consortia to address one or more of three focus areas at community, county, state, and/or regional levels: (1) prevention—reducing the occurrence of opioid addiction among new and at-risk individuals, as well as fatal, opioid-related overdoses, through community and provider education and harm reduction measures, including the strategic placement of overdose-reversing devices, such as naloxone; (2) treatment—implementing or expanding access to evidence-based practices for OUD treatment, such as medication-assisted treatment (MAT); and (3) recovery—expanding peer recovery and treatment options that help people start and stay in recovery.

[United Way of Rutherford County] has been awarded an RCORP-Planning grant that will benefit [Rutherford County, NC].

### **DURATION**

This MOU shall become effective upon signature by the duly authorized representatives of the Collaborators and [United Way of Rutherford County] and will remain in effect for the duration of the funding period for [Rutherford County Consortium], unless modified by mutual consent and executed in writing by the authorized representatives of all parties. The MOU is at-will and may be terminated by any party at any time upon written notice to the other party.

### **ROLES and RESPONSIBILITIES OF United Way of Rutherford County**

[United Way of Rutherford County] will contribute the following expertise toward completion of the [Rutherford County Consortium]:

Serve as lead agency on project utilizing UWRC Executive Director's experience and expertise in coalition building, program development, resource procurement, strategic planning, needs assessment project management, advocacy on behalf of those in need of services and around stigma reduction (advocacy is not used interchangeably with lobbying. We do not engage in lobbying activities), training in Substance Use prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and recovery to address the priority areas identified as expanding recovery options, harm reduction, prevention, and increasing access to evidence based treatments. ]



As the RCORP-funding recipient, United Way of Rutherford County will undertake the following activities:

Administer HRSA funds on behalf of Rutherford County Consortium in a manner consistent with federal grant guidelines

- Facilitate collaboration toward the completion of the goals, objectives, activities, management, and evaluation of Rutherford County Consortium], as submitted for HRSA funding: this includes planning, promoting, and hosting capacity building trainings for community and targeted trainings for specific populations such as first responders, behavioral health/substance use treatment providers, medical community, faith-based leadership, law enforcement, social services.
- Facilitate and administer training contract for systemic change work for Rutherford County Department of Social Services.
- Conduct focus groups and one-on-one interviews throughout community and work with those in recovery to determine best supports to help create stronger recovery community and a community recovery center.
- Work with Isothermal Community College, Rutherford Regional Medical, Blue Ridge Community Health Services, Partners Behavioral Health LME/MCO, and local providers to develop workforce capacity/workforce development plan.
- Conduct needs assessment/gaps analysis, write strategic plan, and sustainability plan.
- Participate in trainings and assist with community wide capacity building.
- Communicate progress to consortium members and the community.
- Work with law enforcement, EMS, and health department to address harm reduction (syringe exchange, narcan trainings and distribution) and overdose response.

### **ROLES and RESPONSIBILITIES OF COLLABORATORS**

Rutherford County DSS will contribute the following expertise toward completion of the Rutherford County Consortium (see attached list of fellow consortium members):

- Provide Services to families and children affected by abuse/neglect due to opioid and other substance abuse, and provide knowledge and guidance relating to the dynamics of abuse, neglect, and childhood trauma.

Rutherford County DSS commits to undertaking the following activities:

- Assist with providing qualitative and quantitative data regarding families and children effected by abuse/neglect and substance abuse.
- Assist with identifying gaps for gap analysis and needs assessment. Assist with outreach and messaging designed to reduce stigma of those effected by substance abuse.
- Participate in strategic planning sessions.
- Continue participating in the Jail MAT Program by providing contracted therapists/counselors to provide services in the jail.



- Continue to provide contracted therapist to provide mental health assessments and therapy in the jail.
- Participate in Capacity Building Training which will lead to systemic change to incorporate trauma focused care.
- Dedicate staff time for meetings and consultations regarding **Rutherford County Consortium**.
- Treat shared information as confidential and agree not to disclose shared information to unauthorized entities.
- Disclose any conflict of interest that may arise in the course of **Rutherford County Consortium** activities.
- Protect patients and comply with all Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and federal requirements.
- Participate in planning and training activities targeted at reducing morbidity and mortality associated with opioid overdoses in **[Rutherford County]**
- Bring to the table a willingness to be creative and to focus on solutions rather than barriers

### **GOVERNING STRUCTURE**

Group is self governed; lead by Project Director who reports back to United Way of Rutherford County's Board of Directors.

### **USE of Rutherford County Consortium NAME**

No party will use the name or logo of **[Rutherford County Consortium]** in any advertisement, press release, or other publicity without written prior approval of United Way of Rutherford County. United Way of Rutherford County has the right to acknowledge Collaborator's support of the work performed under this MOU in public communications.

### **TERMINATION**

It is mutually understood and agreed by and among the parties that Collaborators will provide at least 30 days' notice of the intention to withdraw from **[Rutherford County Consortium]**. If a Collaborator chooses to withdraw, said Collaborator commits to making arrangements to complete assigned or pending activities before termination.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE AND SIGNATURE**

This MOU will be effective upon the signature of each authorized representative listed in this agreement and will remain in effect for at least the duration of the funding period for **[Rutherford County Consortium]**. Parties indicate agreement with this MOU by their signatures on the appended Letter of Commitment.

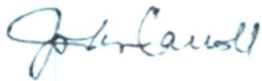
**[United Way of Rutherford County]**

Date:

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**Rutherford County Department of Social Services**



Date: 8/27/2019

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