

A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNTY OF RUTHERFORD TO DIRECT THE EXPENDITURE OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

WHEREAS Rutherford County has joined national settlement agreements with companies engaged in the manufacturing, distribution, and dispensing of opioids.

WHEREAS the allocation, use, and reporting of funds stemming from these national settlement agreements and bankruptcy resolutions ("Opioid Settlement Funds") are governed by the Memorandum of Agreement Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation ("MOA") and all the Supplemental Agreement for Additional Funds from Additional Settlements of Opioid Litigation (collectively, the "SAAF");

WHEREAS Rutherford County has received Opioid Settlement Funds pursuant to these national settlement agreements and deposited the Opioid Settlement Funds in a separate special revenue fund as required by section D of the MOA;

WHEREAS section E.6 of the MOA states that, before spending opioid settlement funds, the local government's governing body must adopt a resolution that:

- (i) indicates that it is an authorization for expenditure of opioid settlement funds; and,
- (ii) states the specific strategy or strategies the county or municipality intends to fund pursuant to Option A or Option B, using the item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to identify each funded strategy; and,
- (iii) states the amount dedicated to each strategy for a specific period of time.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in alignment with the NC MOA and SAAF, Rutherford County authorizes the expenditure of opioid settlement funds as follows:

1. That the County hereby authorizes administrative expenses, pursuant to MOA Section E.7, in the amount of \$270,000.00 total for three fiscal years (July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029), for compliance, documentation, reporting, and program management support, with R. Scott Luetgenau dba Gatespring as the provider. This authorization is in addition to the strategy authorizations set forth below.
2. That the first strategy authorized hereby is as follows:
 - a. Name of strategy: Evidence-Based Addiction Treatment
 - b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
 - c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A to the MOA: Strategy 2
 - d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$362,976.00 total for three fiscal years
 - e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:
Start date July 1, 2026 through End date June 30th, 2029
 - f. Description of the program, project, or activity:
 - i. Bridge funding for methadone treatment and residential care, delivered through a Spindale FQHC medication unit with Blue Ridge Health



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Bryan King, *Chairman* | Alan Toney, *Vice Chairman* | Michael Benfield | David Hunt | Greg Lovelace
Steve Garrison, *County Manager* | Hazel S. Haynes, *Clerk to the Board* | Richard Williams, *County Attorney*

- ii. Co-located in Blue Ridge Health's Spindale FQHC; integrates MOUD with primary care to reduce stigma and travel burden.

g. Provider: McLeod Centers for Wellbeing

3. That the second strategy authorized hereby is as follows:

- a. Name of strategy: Recovery Support Services
- b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A to the MOA: Strategy 3
- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$150,000.00 total for three fiscal years
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:

Start date July 1, 2026 through End date June 30th, 2029

- f. Description of the program, project, or activity:
 - i. Embedded peer support specialist plus flexible transportation funds to keep people engaged in medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) treatment (with conditions as documented in the Consensus Meeting Brief and will be finalized with awardee after the Board's vote).

g. Provider: McLeod Centers for Wellbeing

4. That the third strategy authorized hereby is as follows:

- a. Name of strategy: Recovery Support Services
- b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A to the MOA: Strategy 3
- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$150,000.00 total for three fiscal years
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:

Start date July 1, 2026 through End date June 30th, 2029

- f. Description of the program, project, or activity:
 - i. Recovery community center expansion and peer-led support services for individuals and families affected by opioid use disorder in Rutherford County (with conditions as documented in the Consensus Meeting Brief and finalized with awardee after the Board's vote).
 - ii. Walk-in recovery support, peer support specialist staffing, structured programming, and community-based engagement.
 - iii. Warm handoffs to clinical providers (McLeod, Blue Ridge Health, PCH) when appropriate.

g. Provider: U&I Enrichment Center

5. That the fourth strategy authorized hereby is as follows:

- a. Name of strategy: Early Intervention for Youth
- b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A
- c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A to the MOA: Strategy 6
- d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$265,200.00 total for three fiscal years
- e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:

Start date July 1, 2026 through End date June 30th, 2029

- f. Description of the program, project, or activity:
 - i. Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) early-intervention programming for youth and families in Rutherford County, delivered through school and community partnerships (with

conditions as documented in the Consensus Meeting Brief and finalized with awardee after the Board's vote).

- ii. Trauma-informed, protective-factor activities targeting youth at elevated risk for substance use, with youth-level outcome reporting.

g. Provider: Mosaic Hope

6. That the fifth strategy authorized hereby is as follows:

a. Name of strategy: Naloxone Saturation

b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A

c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A to the MOA: Strategy 7

d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$30,000.00 total for three fiscal years

e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:

Start date July 1, 2026 through End date June 30th, 2029

f. Description of the program, project, or activity:

- i. Low-barrier naloxone purchase and distribution through the Spindale medication unit and justice partners (with conditions as documented in the Consensus Meeting Brief and will be finalized with awardee after the Board's vote).

g. Provider: McLeod Centers for Wellbeing

7. That the sixth strategy authorized hereby is as follows:

a. Name of strategy: Syringe Service and Harm Reduction Programs

b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A

c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A to the MOA: Strategy 9

d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$270,000.00 total for three fiscal years

e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:

Start date July 1, 2026 through End date June 30th, 2029

f. Description of the program, project, or activity:

- i. Sustain the only Rutherford mobile harm reduction team and SSP – a critical bridge for people not yet ready for treatment.

g. Provider: United Way of Rutherford County

8. That the seventh strategy authorized hereby is as follows:

a. Name of strategy: Jail-Based Treatment Expansion (MOUD in Jail)

b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A

c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A to the MOA: Strategy 11

d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$870,000.00 total for three fiscal years

e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:

Start date July 1, 2026 through End date June 30th, 2029

f. Description of the program, project, or activity:

- i. Stand up MOUD inside the Rutherford County Detention Center with a four-partner model and warm handoffs at release (with conditions as documented in the Consensus Meeting Brief and will be finalized with awardee after the Board's vote).
- ii. Screen at intake; wraps clinical care with peer support and case management and 60-day pre-release screening; and leverages partnerships between Preferred Choice Healthcare, Sheriff's Office, Blue Ridge Health (FQHC prescriber) and McLeod Centers (OTP/methadone expertise)

g. Provider: Preferred Choice Healthcare

9. That, pursuant to this authorized strategy, the County Manager, working with the County Attorney, shall negotiate the terms and conditions for the agreement and such documentation to commence said administrative expenses with R. Scott Luetgenau dba Gatespring and said strategies with McLeod Centers for Wellbeing, U & I Enrichment Center, Mosaic Hope, United Way of Rutherford County, and Preferred Choice Healthcare, and further authorizes the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, the Clerk to the Board, and other necessary County officials to execute any such documents in support of this action.

10. That the total amount of Opioid Settlement Funds appropriated across the above-named and authorized strategies is \$2,368,176 over the three-year period.

Adopted this the 1st day of June 2026.

Bryan A. King, Chair
Rutherford County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Hazel Haynes, Clerk to the Board

COUNTY SEAL