

Opioid Epidemic Response Advisory Council grantees for Fiscal Year 2023

A multi-faceted approach is needed for Minnesota to prevent opioid use disorder, reduce the number of opioid overdoses and improve treatment of opioid addiction. For Fiscal Year 2023, the Minnesota Department of Human Services is issuing \$5.7 million in grant funding to 12 organizations as part of a comprehensive statewide effort to address the opioid addiction and overdose epidemic. Grantees were recommended by the Opioid Epidemic Response Advisory Council. Below are the organizations receiving funding and activities being funded.

Twin Cities metropolitan area

- **Pillsbury United Communities will receive \$300,000** to provide multi-tiered outreach, culturally-informed prevention models and referrals, and naloxone kit training and distribution. The outreach will include broad outreach, relationship-based outreach, and a mass media campaign targeting families at highest risk in the Phillips and Cedar Riverside neighborhoods in Minneapolis.
- **Neighborhood Health Source will receive \$300,000** to train peer educators who are representative of the Latin, West African, and African American communities to provide education on opioid use disorder prevention and harm reduction. Efforts will include a media campaign, direct education, and the provision of naloxone and fentanyl test strips.
- **Neighborhood Health Source will also receive \$216,628** to increase its capacity to serve the community in Minneapolis and the north metro by adding one FTE for a behavioral health therapist, and increasing the FTE capacity for peer recovery coaching by half of an FTE.
- **Hennepin Health System will receive \$311,320** to build workforce capacity and recommendations for treatment of perinatal substance use disorders, including opioid use disorder; to increase the number obstetric care providers who prescribe medications for opioid use disorder throughout the state; and to evaluate activities that educate about opioid use disorder.
- **RS Eden will receive \$1,187,395** to expand its continuum of recovery services to provide clinically monitored withdrawal management alongside comprehensive and immediate access to medication-assisted treatment. This will help people with opioid-related substance use disorders make the transition from initial outreach and assessment to structured treatment. With this funding, RS Eden will serve Black communities, American Indian communities, multi-racial people, justice-involved individuals, people who are economically disadvantaged, and other populations in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

- **Wayside Recovery Center will receive \$686,744** to break down barriers to accessing care and ensure the continuity of medication-assisted treatment services for clients discharging from their residential care. They will do this by expanding services to include outpatient medication-assisted treatment services with care coordination and wraparound recovery services. In addition, these services will focus on addressing disparities experienced by Black women with substance use disorder, and women who are pregnant and parenting.

Greater Minnesota

- **Rural AIDS Action Network will receive \$300,000** to continue providing naloxone distribution targeting rural communities throughout Minnesota.
- **Minnesota Hospital Association will receive \$360,994** to provide rural physicians and hospital networks with buprenorphine waiver training, and to provide Alternative to Opioid Prescribing Training, which encourages prescribers to exhaust non-opioid pain management interventions before utilizing opioids.
- **Rice County will receive \$334,009** to develop partnerships to help the East African community receive coordinated care and services, including medication-assisted treatment and harm reduction services.
- **St. Joseph Medical Center will receive \$564,519** to improve the continuum of care for individuals with substance use disorders, from outreach through follow-up, encompassing diverse community settings such as primary care clinics, emergency departments, jails, public health organizations, behavioral health treatment programs, women’s shelters, and recovery programs and communities. These funds will particularly be focused on serving American Indians, individuals with low incomes, people involved in the justice system, and pregnant and parenting women in Cass County and Crow Wing County.

Statewide

- **Steve Rummier Hope Network Statewide will receive \$300,000** to launch a media campaign with the goal of educating the public on the dangers of fentanyl. A portion of the funding will also help with distribution of overdose prevention resources, such as fentanyl test strips and the overdose reversal medication naloxone. The target audiences of the campaign are individuals between the ages of 13-18, individuals who are Black or Indigenous, and individuals in active use.
- **Niyah Recovery will receive \$300,000** to help reduce stigma of opioid use disorder within East African community via several outreach campaign strategies, including community-based media outlets, social media platforms, and in-person outreach at community businesses and events.
- **Minnesota Certification Board will receive \$509,379** to provide culturally specific training and credentialing for peer support specialists with a diverse set of cultural competency training. The training will focus on American Indian, Karen, Hmong, Latino, Black and multi-racial communities, as well as those involved in the criminal justice system.