



LEGISLATIVE MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Suzanne Sherman, City Manager

THRU: City Manager's Office

DATE: October 17, 2024

RE: Consideration of organizations to receive funding through the Opioid Settlement Proceeds Grant.

SUMMARY:

The City of Palm Bay previously joined the class-action lawsuits regarding the opioid crisis. The City has begun receiving settlement funding and holding the funds in a separate account, Fund 129. The funding comes from seven (7) different companies and the details of each settlement varies, to include the amount of each settlement, how the amounts are calculated, and when the settlement payments end. Generally speaking, the payments will end anywhere between 2028 to 2040. For Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, the City received \$86,397.57. For FY 2024, the City received \$189,221.79 for a total of \$275,619.36, not including interest gained (estimated in August to be just under \$7,000). Due to the variable nature of the funding, staff is recommends using a Request for Application (RFA) process for all funds, less interest. Interest gained from the previous fiscal year will be added to next fiscal year's RFA. The City is authorized to retain a maximum of five percent (5%) of the total proceeds to cover administrative costs related to oversight of the funding and associated programs. The balance of funding totaling \$261,838.39 was published in the Request for Applications (RFA) for Opioid Settlement Proceeds Grant Program of the City of Palm Bay.

Schedule A and B of the Florida Opioid Allocation and Statewide Response Agreement provides the details of the approved uses of settlement proceed funds. Schedule A includes Core Abatement Strategies, which include the categories of medication to reverse overdoses, medication-assisted and other opioid-related treatment, support for pregnant and postpartum women, expanding treatment for neonatal abstinence syndrome babies, expansion of warm hand-off programs and recovery services, treatment for incarcerated population, prevention programs, expanding syringe service programs, and evidence-based data collection and research analyzing the effectiveness of abatement strategies.

All of these strategies are further described in Schedule B under the categories of Treatment, Prevention, and Other Strategies, and under each category there are numerous examples provided of specific things the funds can be used to accomplish. As the opioid crisis has a direct impact on both Police and Fire Departments, one suggestion for uses of the funds is to use it internally on eligible expenditures to support public safety staff. Examples include mental health and wellness services and/or education and training for staff involved in responding. Additionally, equipment can be purchased to assist in response to an opioid crisis. Lastly, funds may be used to establish a law enforcement position to assist with education and training in schools.

At Regular Council Meeting on July 18, 2024, Palm Bay City Council authorized the staff to publish a Request for Applications (RFA) from agencies and nonprofits seeking settlement proceed funds for uses as deemed eligible by Schedule A and B. The RFA was published on Friday, August 16, 2024 and applications were due by 5:30 PM on Friday, September 13, 2024.

The City received proposals from four (4) entities, proposing a total of nine (9) programs. Of the four (4) entities/applications, two (2) were deemed ineligible and/or incomplete, as identified below with an "***". Details can be found in the attached Staff Summaries and Recommendations. The remaining two (2) eligible applicants are prepared to provide a brief five-minute overview of their proposals, followed by a question-and-answer session, at the discretion of City Council. The City received applications for the use of funds towards Treatment, Prevention, and/or Other Strategies from the following agencies:

- Brevard Prevention Coalition, Inc.
- COTG 2021, LLC dba Covid On The GO**
- Operation New Hope
- Safe Place Treatment Services**

The evaluation committee was comprised of staff members from the Community & Economic Development Department, City Manager's Office, and City Attorney's Office. Attached is a detailed summary of staff comments and recommendations; however, below, staff recommends settlement proceeds be awarded as follows:

Brevard Prevention Coalition (BPC)

Program: Position Choice, Positive Life

Funding Request: \$75,000

Schedule B category: Prevention

Summary: Substance misuse prevention strategies for approximately 120 Palm Bay youth, ages ranging from 6-17 years old, providing workshops with hands-on activities in proper nutrition, mindfulness, physical activity, creative arts, skill-building and vocational training, teen internship opportunities, and more.

Brevard Prevention Coalition (BPC)

Program: Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) Treatment & Recovery Support

Funding Request: \$75,000

Schedule B category: Treatment

Summary: Collaboration with the Central Florida Treatment Center (CFTC) providing medically-assisted treatment and counseling to 10 OUD clients in Palm Bay; commits to providing supplemental resources to approximately 100 CFTC clients who are Palm Bay residents.

Operation New Hope (ONH)

Program: Ready4Work Recovery Support

Funding Request: \$74,608

Schedule B category: Treatment

Summary: Support for 10 Palm Bay residents providing comprehensive wrap-around offering access to a mental health therapist, case manager, and job coach; provided job training and matched to 500+ employers; evidence-based treatment and services to facilitate lifestyle stability for client and family.

Due to the size of the proposals, applications can be furnished upon written request to the Community & Economic Development Department at HCDinfo@pbfl.org.

REQUESTING DEPARTMENTS:

Community & Economic Development Department

FISCAL IMPACT:

If awarded, Opioid Settlement Proceeds Grant from Fiscal Years 2023 & 2024 will be appropriated and included on the next available budget amendment.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Motion to 1) award of Opioid Settlement Proceeds Grant funds to eligible applicants as determined by City Council; and 2) authorize the City Manager to execute a Subrecipient Agreement and any subsequent amendments (limited to amendments that do not increase funding award).

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Opioid RFA & Amendment 1 to RFA
2. Schedule A and B
3. Resolution 2021-33
4. Staff Summaries and Recommendations
5. Opioid Settlement Proceeds – FY 2023 & 2024

