



Opioid Settlement Funded Overview as of June 25, 2025

Background: Since August of 2022, the Rhode Island Executive Office of Health & Human Services (EOHHS) and partners at the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals (BHDDH) and the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) along with the Department of Corrections (RIDOC), the Department of Housing, and other state agencies to carry out planning and implementation of opioid abatement activities.

Budgetary Overview: From Fiscal Year 2023 through 2025, over \$48 million dollars from the opioid settlement funds has been allocated in the following priority areas: racial equity, governance, data, social determinants of health (SDOH), prevention, harm reduction/rescue, treatment, and recovery.

EOHHS, BHDDH, and RIDOH have encumbered or obligated approximately \$40.2 million dollars by creating more than 100 contracts, grants, and/or MOUs within the pillars. According to the Rhode Island Financial Accounting System (RIFANS), over \$22 million dollars have been spent – however, this is only through May 2025. It is also important to note that this spending does not include amounts to date, and it is dependent on several factors including program planning, development, and workforce capacity. In addition, some of the settlement funded projects are expansions of existing initiatives and are braided with federal funding. Some federal contracts do not always allow funding to be carried forward, requiring those dollars to be spent first (before less restricted funding like the settlement dollars). With the state fiscal year closing on June 30th and reconciliations being completed, we anticipate the final spending amounts for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025 will show an additional increase. The State in partnership with University of Rhode Island (URI) and Brown University are continually evaluating the impact of these investments by tracking programmatic performance and monitoring trends in surveillance data.

The table below breaks out total allocations, spent, and estimated encumbered or obligated by agency for SFY23 – SFY25. As noted above, additional spent amounts have been invoiced and will not be reflected until after fiscal close reconciliation is complete in late July.

Agency	Total SFY23-SFY25 Allocations	Total SFY23-SFY25 Spent through May 2025	Estimated encumbered or obligated for SFY25 and SFY26
EOHHS	\$24M Est.	\$12M	*\$23M
RIDOH	\$8M Est.	\$5M	\$8M
BHDDH	\$16M Est.	\$5M	\$9.2M
Total	\$48M Est.	\$22M	\$40.2M

**Note: \$500K is being held in EOHHS’ account for stimulant use treatment.*

Program Highlights and Summary: The information below provides an update of programmatic milestones. Please note that this is not an exhaustive list of funded programs but does include major programs and their progress.

MULTI-PILLAR

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) in partnership with the Rhode Island Foundation, has been made \$2,475,000 available for a 3rd round of funding for community organizations to apply for grants with an anticipated award in August 2025. Grants will fund the following:

- Innovative trauma-informed programs for first responders with the goal of preventing mental health crises and helping first responders more easily return to work.
- Creative supportive or empowering programs carried out by organizations focused on increasing individual, family, or community recovery capital for people and families affected by the overdose crisis.
- Evidence-based or evidence-informed community-based trauma-informed supports, opioid prevention services, and leadership opportunities targeted towards youth and young adults.
- Activities that focus on addressing the evolving overdose epidemic, including outreach to private locations and targeted outreach to populations that are disproportionately impacted or marginalized, including communities of color, the LGBTQ+ community, and aging populations.

\$2,300,000 in Community Overdose Engagement (CODE) funds by the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH), in partnership with the EOHHS and Behavioral Healthcare Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals (BHDDH), has been awarded to eleven (11) Health Equity Zone (HEZ) collaboratives to improve the health of

Rhode Island communities who have been significantly impacted by overdose. Grants awarded will fund at least one of the following strategies:

- Ensuring Racial Equity
- Addressing Emerging Issues
- Reinforcing Comprehensive Prevention
- Supporting Recovery

Following are the expected outcomes of these initiatives:

- Increased community capacity to address the overdose crisis within specific municipalities and neighborhoods.
- The development and implementation of evidence-based or innovative initiatives that utilize and are responsive to state and local data to address the unique needs of communities.
- The development of strong collaborative partnerships between state and community partners
- The ability to rapidly implement interventions in response to emergent overdose data.
- Implement key policies and strategies that have been identified as priorities by the community and align with the State's strategic plan.
- Evaluation of initiatives to determine impact, effectiveness, and replicability statewide
- Implement key policies and strategies that have been identified as priorities by the community and align with the State's overdose strategic plan.

MUNICIPAL COORDINATION

Municipal Initiatives Fund

The City of Providence received \$200,000 to increase transparency, coordination, and alignment with the State. In addition to improving alignment with the State's overdose response plan and to reduce duplication of efforts, the city will also expand existing downtown outreach programs and provide lead coordination for the use of an office space inside RIPTA's Kennedy Plaza Hub that will improve privacy for clients and outreach staff.

EOHHS has received additional applications and is in the process of final evaluation and procurement.

COMMUNICATIONS

Transparency and public information by supporting the maintenance of www.PreventOverdoseRI.org

EOHHS continues to partner with Brown University to support Rhode Island's main landing page for communications on the overdose crisis. This website includes up to date information on the Governor's Overdose Task Force and its Work Groups, public health announcements and messaging, public access and trainings for free naloxone and other harm reduction tools as well as a public data dashboard on the overdose crisis. The landing page of the website had 13,626 views between January and March 31, 2025. The website's newly created Settlement page has been viewed 232 times January through the end of March 2025.

Ensuring translation of communications on the overdose crisis

EOHHS has allocated \$80,000 to ensure access through the translation of materials including marketing campaigns.

EVALUATION/DATA/SURVEILLANCE

Evaluation Capacity

EOHHS has entered a 3-year contract with URI to increase evaluation capacity. This investment is focused on a comprehensive evaluation of the strategic plan (Roadmap) using the continuum of care framework. Currently, a collaborative and feedback process is underway for the Treatment, Prevention, and Harm Reduction priorities. Key information is being gathered and will be examined to help us understand one of many questions including the extent to which programs are working toward addressing the comprehensive strategic plan's (Roadmap) desired outcomes.

Surveillance Systems and State Laboratory

Funds have been allocated to support enhancing RIDOH's overdose surveillance systems:

- Supporting contract medical examiners to reduce the delay in death reporting.
- Enhancement of Overdose Fatality Review Team (OFR) to meet National OFR Standards.
- Creation of a heat map dashboard to allow harm reduction workers to create custom maps that they can use to track non-fatal and fatal overdoses in Rhode Island.
- Created an updated automated integrated overdose surveillance system with daily tracking, which went live on October 2, 2023, after a year of work.
- Purchased key bio surveillance lab supplies to enhance drug supply testing.

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

Housing Services Supports for Justice-Involved Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) Clients

EOHHS has partnered with the Department of Corrections (RIDOC) through a Memorandum of Understanding to provide care packages that include basic needs, transitional supplies, vital records, and resources for people with an OUD or are at risk of an opioid overdose who are being released from the ACI or currently justice involved such as those on probation.

OUD/SUD Problem-Solving and Statewide Housing Navigation Supports

EOHHS has partnered with Crossroads Rhode Island to provide housing problem solving services and to prevent and divert people from entering the homeless crisis response system and coordinated entry system by providing staff engagement in housing problem solving conversations paired with the use of flexible funds to resolve the crisis. Successes to date include providing \$48,000 in landlord incentives to make units available to clients with a history of SUD/OUD. Also, Crossroads has been able to administer over \$62,000 to assist clients with first month's rent, move-in expenses, and reoccurring subsidies to help clients remain housed at an affordable rental price. The Crossroads team also assists with financial planning and job training to increase client income over the course of the project with the goal of assisting clients in increasing their income and finding gainful employment so that they can assume the full cost of the rental agreement when the settlement flexible subsidy expires. Approximately 21 clients have benefited from the security deposit/move-in fee or flexible subsidy to date.

Medical Respite

EOHHS in partnership with the Department of Housing has expanded Westbay Community Action's medical respite services targeting people with SUD or those at risk of an overdose by providing shelter to those preparing for and/or healing from acute medical and behavioral health issues. To date, over 250 people who might have otherwise been discharged to homelessness or remained in inappropriate congregate or unsheltered settings, have received respite services through Westbay Community Action, Thundermist Health Center, and Elwyn

Adult Behavioral Health. As of FY26 the Hallworth House and Thundermist programs will be continuing with a total respite capacity of 43 beds.

Mobile Wound Care

EOHHS has expanded services in partnership with Westbay Community Action to develop and deploy a mobile wound care outreach team that consists of trained staff to treat wounds and other injuries associated with substance use, particularly due to the impacts of Xylazine. This team of specialized medical professionals and social workers work in partnership with local harm reduction organizations to provide treatment, support, and referrals using a trauma-informed lens. The program currently operates with 5 partners, Community Care Alliance, Project Weber Renew, Thrive, Open Doors, House of Hope and serves clients living in encampments. Since December 2023, this program has served over 200 clients. The team recently received additional funding to expand the outreach and clinical capacity so that two teams will begin operating at separate locations and will operate at least 5 days per week.

PREVENTION

School-Based Prevention Services

BHDDH provided funding to Coastline EAP which contributed to the expansion of Rhode Island Student Assistance Services (RISAS) in middle and high schools across Rhode Island. RISAS is a statewide school and community-based alcohol, tobacco and other drug misuse prevention/early intervention program operating since 1987. As of today, 75 schools have Student Assistance Counselors trained to prevent substance use and promote mental health.

Community-Based Youth Prevention

EOHHS in partnership with Rhode Island Foundation awarded \$2,500,000 for a two-year community-based youth prevention project. This project is now concluding its second year with the following eight organizations participating: Coastline EAP, Parent Support Network, Providence Children and Youth Cabinet, The Providence Center, The Rhode Island Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs, Rhode Island Sports Union, Substance Use and Mental Health Leadership Council of RI, and Woonsocket Prevention Coalition. Four projects service youth primarily in Providence, two state-wide, one in Woonsocket, and one in Kent/South County. Types of programs range from evidence-based health promotion programs, social emotional development trainings, to outreach, harm reduction, case management and counseling services. At the completion of year one, 1,699 individuals were served through all programs. As noted in the multi-pillar section, this funding opportunity is in the process of evaluating applications for another round of funding.

Teen Institute

The Rhode Island Teen Institute (RITI), a comprehensive five-day residential prevention program created in 1989 in response to a community need for substance use prevention services, was funded \$175,000. RITI 2024 was held from August 12-16th at Camp Canonicus in Exeter, RI. A comprehensive evaluation of the program was conducted at completion of the program. The biggest and most sustained improvements observed were for psychological well-being. Several outcomes were shared:

- 11 youth staff, 1 previous participant, and 37 new participants attended
- Among youth participants, all who completed a 3-month follow up survey reported to have enjoyed and learned from the experience.
- A post-program evaluation showed significant improvements were observed for 4 of the 6 measures used to assess competence (teamwork skills, communication skills, decision making skills, and self-efficacy) as well as confidence, amongst other skills.

HARM REDUCTION

Supports for Existing Harm Reduction Agencies

This project is an expansion of peer led harm reduction and recovery support services. There are three organizations providing services across the state: Project Weber/RENEW, AIDS Care Ocean State, and Community Care Alliance. The organizations carry out targeted mobile outreach in overdose hotspots, meeting people where they are and providing naloxone, needle exchange services, fentanyl test strips, and other harm reduction education and materials, as well as connection to treatment, HIV and HVC testing, basic needs, and recovery supports.

Between January 2023 and March 2025, peers providing mobile outreach services completed 64,307 encounters:

- 16,073 of these were unique clients served; and
- 70.3% of these encounters served people who were unstably housed.

Harm Reduction: Reproductive Health Street Outreach

RIDOH in partnership with Project Weber/RENEW and AIDS Care Ocean State has expanded street outreach services to include reproductive health and harm reduction support and services as follows:

- Family planning material at drop-in centers, during mobile outreach efforts, in public health vending machines, and through home delivery.
- Harm reduction supplies include pregnancy tests, feminine hygiene products, emergency contraceptives, safer sex materials, and referral/resource cards.
- Referrals to perinatal peer services, treatment, recovery support, and prenatal care.
- More than 100 reproductive health kits were distributed, and more than 30 prenatal referrals made.

TEVA Naloxone Distribution HUB

URI serves as the State's centralized naloxone distribution center. URI continues to distribute the 50,000 TEVA naloxone kits to community-based organizations – including the mobile outreach teams and individuals.

- Between January 2023 and December 2024, the total amount of naloxone distributed to community partners, individuals, and family members was approximately 130,355 naloxone kits (this includes the 100,000 kits of naloxone from TEVA across the two-year span).

Overdose Prevention Center

Project Weber/RENEW (PWR) opened the nation's first state-sanctioned Overdose Prevention Center (OPC) also known as Harm Reduction Center. The OPC is located in the RI Hospital district on Willard Street in Providence and began providing services on January 15, 2025. From January 15, 2025 to June 18, 2025, the OPC had 2,517 visits, which 391 were unique encounters. The OPC team has responded to 44 overdose interventions, 1 EMS transport to RI Hospital, and 0 fatal overdoses. 133 unique individuals received services by the co-located clinical provider and there have been 4,478 visits to a drop-in center located on the first floor, which provides hygiene products, shower, laundry, food, peer to peer supports, and other referral services.

Safe Landings

This project was put on hold and BHDDH is in the process of planning.

Post Overdose

RIDOH has partnered with Rhode Island Hospital for the ACT: Addiction Care Today to offer walk-in and same-day appointments for people that may have been discharged from the emergency department to improve treatment on demand for people that may be using drugs or experienced a recent overdose.

Mobile Outreach Focused on the BIPOC Community

RIDOH is in the second year of this pilot program that is funding multiple agencies to carry out new mobile outreach activities with a focus on our BIPOC communities. Following is a summary for each of the funded organizations:

- Project Weber/RENEW has sustained harm reduction and overdose prevention outreach in Kennedy Plaza, to expand day and night outreach programs, expand their court support program (which provides wrap-around case management, linkage to treatment, and harm reduction tools and basic needs), and provide anti-stigma trainings/public-facing events/media campaigns/etc. with the goal of reaching BIPOC communities and bringing more folks of color into overdose prevention efforts.
- Amos House is using strategic canvassing to provide naloxone and training, as well support and recovery information in neighborhoods with predominantly BIPOC residents. They will carry out activities to reduce stigma, and to establish community-based medical care on-site at Amos House or in the community through outreach, with basic primary care, screening for chronic conditions, wound care, and referrals to medical detox/treatment.
- Horizon Health is conducting Rapha Healing Circle groups within BIPOC communities, specifically engaging people who identify as Black/African American women with a focus on Providence, Pawtucket, Central Falls and Woonsocket. Participants of the Rapha healing circle are recruited through partnerships made with local stakeholders such as church groups, recovery houses and community mental health providers. HHP refers Rapha Healing Circle participants to further behavioral health and substance use assessment and treatment as needed and is partnering with URI and PONI to host trainings for the administration of naloxone to Rapha Healing Circles participants.

TREATMENT

Brick & Mortar Treatment

BHDDH has invested settlement dollars braided with federal funding to add 51 more residential beds between three different residential treatment facilities: Zinnia, Bridgemark, and Galilee Mission. (7 female and 44 male). BHDDH is in current contract negotiations with a SUD provider for a 16 bed (Male) SUD residential treatment at the 166 Pawtucket Avenue, Pawtucket location that was occupied by a previous SUD residential program that has been dormant since 2023.

BHDDH staff met with all of the RI SUD residential facilities in June to share information about a new program to reduce stigma, improve trauma informed care and cultural linguistic appropriate services by implementing the “First Impressions Matter” program. Applications were posted on the www.bhddh.ri.gov website with return budget expected by June 23, 2025.

Stimulant Use Treatment

With community input, BHDDH, RIDOH, and EOHHS are collaborating and planning to develop additional supports focused on treatment services for people who use stimulants including an expansion of contingency management. This is particularly important to address disparities in care for Rhode Island’s communities of

color, which as noted in the fatal overdose data, continue to be disproportionately impacted by fatal overdoses and stimulant use.

Medication for Opioid Use Disorder – Uninsured and Underinsured

This program allows BHDDH Licensed Outpatient Treatment Programs (OTPs) to provide methadone and buprenorphine to people that are uninsured or underinsured. This includes support to the 24/7 Buprenorphine hotline that anyone can call any time of day to be induced on buprenorphine. This funding also provides administrative support to OTPs to administer the buprenorphine TEVA settlement non-monetary settlement products at various facilities:

- Approximately 1,285 uninsured and underinsured people have been provided MOUDs from 2023 to May 2025.
- 24/7 Buprenorphine Hotline data: Between January 2021 and May 2025, 2,293 clients were prescribed buprenorphine through the buprenorphine hotline.

Contingency Management

BHDDH has encumbered settlement and State Opioid Response (SOR) funds for Contingency Management through a partnership with DynamiCare. This program provides evidence-based treatment for people currently in outpatient treatment who are using stimulants through motivational incentives to help people stay in recovery. Through March 2025, DynamiCare has served 185 people, with a 40% retention rate among individuals actively receiving recovery and treatment retention support services.

Prevention and Treatment for Construction Industry Workers

This project has developed a recovery community among Building & Construction Trades Council Union members. The program is encouraging treatment as well as developing and implementing a communications and intervention strategy with unions and employers in Rhode Island's construction industries.

From January to May 2025, 148 participants in the pre-apprenticeship and apprentice programs have completed Building Future's "Our Response, Our Recovery" curriculum and approximately 2,070 kits of naloxone have been distributed to the building and construction trade industry. Twenty-eight individuals were trained and function as industry peers, 55 individuals received clinical support or referrals, and nearly 1,700 views of their updated resource website occurred from February 2024 to May 2025, because of campaign promotions.

Workforce Support

BHDDH hosted a Stimulant Use Conference that consisted of several national and regional experts to discuss evidence-based practices for Stimulant Use Disorder which provided continuing education credits for professionals. In addition, BHDDH provided funding in partnership with EOHHS and RIDOH to hold a CODE Summit that was attended by more than 250 people. Topics that were discussed included: breaking stigma, review of the State's strategic plan, using data to drive action, peer workforce development, and developing strategic plans.

Youth Infrastructure

A Request for Proposal was posted on the State's Ocean State Procurement portal for gender-specific residential treatment programming. BHDDH is finalizing the review of applications and anticipates awards will be announced over the next month or so.

BHDDH has expanded the Seven Challenges initiative, an evidence-based practice, which includes a Child Psychologist in the RI Training School.

RECOVERY

Supporting RIDOH's Perinatal Substance Use (formerly Substance Exposed Newborns) program

RIDOH has partnered with Care New England to deploy a team of Certified Peer Recovery Specialists/Community Health Workers to provide perinatal peer services for pregnant and parenting people with OUD. Funds also provide enhancements to existing data systems to improve data collection for families affected by prenatal substance use and substance exposed newborns. Below are some key outputs to date:

- Care coordination with Women's Health Street Outreach, Family Visiting, DCYF, Family Court, RIDOC, treatment and prenatal providers.
- 2022-Present: 182 referrals; 97% outreached; and 74% engaged with services.
- Peer coaches available 24/7 at 401-895-6592 with a resource website: recoveryhope4momsri.org.

Family Supports

In partnership with Rhode Island Foundation, \$461,000 has been awarded to six organizations for Family Supports. Grants support programs by organizations made up of or serving families of people who use drugs, people in recovery, or people who have passed away because of an overdose. Organizations that received funding are Friends Way, Interfaith Counseling Center, Progresso Latino, Rhode Island Minister's Alliance, Sharieff's Foundation Project, and Substance Use and Mental Health Leadership Council. Primary populations served are BIPOC and Latinx children and families, church/faith leaders, Limited English proficient Latinos, Immigrants, and People of Color. Specific communities served are Central Falls, Providence, Pawtucket, Blackstone Valley Region, and the East Bay. Notable highlights from reporting through January 2025 were 20 participants engaged in art therapy, 5 referrals to counseling, and 24 churches received resource booklets that were created specifically because of this project. As noted in the multi-pillar section, this funding opportunity is in the process of evaluating applications for another round of funding.

Recovery Housing

BHDDH has obligated funds and is in the process of re-procuring an RFP to increase the number of recovery house beds across the state.