Medfield Opioid Abatement Fund Planning

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Abatement Funds

What are Abatement Funds:

On July 21, 2021, Attorney General Maura Healey, now Governor Healey, announced a $26 billion resolution with opioid distributors which will provide more than $500 million to the Commonwealth and its cities and towns for prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery across Massachusetts.
Funds from these settlements began flowing into Massachusetts in June 2022.

Finalized Statewide Opioid Settlements:

Finalized AGO settlements under which Massachusetts municipalities are eligible to receive direct payments in exchange for signing releases include:

- McKesson, Cardinal, and AmerisourceBergen (the “Distributors”)
- Johnson & Johnson (“J&J”)

Nearly all Massachusetts cities and towns are participating in, and currently receiving funds under these settlements.

As of February 15, 2023, **over $42 million** has been paid to Massachusetts cities and towns from the Distributors and J&J settlements.

Statewide Opioid Settlements

Massachusetts has been involved in the resolution of additional litigation.

Once the terms of these settlements are finalized, additional funds will be allocated to the state.

To learn more about about the AG's Statewide Opioid Settlements with Opioid Industry Defendants, read here



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Municipal Abatement Funds

Under the State-Subdivision Agreement, funds from statewide opioid settlements are allocated as follows:

- **40%** to the state's municipalities to expend on approved programs and strategies.
- 60% to the state's Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund (ORRF)

Requires all funds to be used to supplement and strengthen resources for prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery.

Requires annual reporting to EOHHS by municipalities that receive annual payments of $35,000 or more.

The annual municipal reporting form is submitted through a web-based reporting platform.

Commitment to Abatement

Reflects the input of:

- Our communities
- People who have personal experience with the opioid crisis
- Experts in treatment and prevention
- Staff and organizations that are carrying out the abatement work.

AND

- Leverages programs and services already reimbursed by state agencies and programs
- Encourages innovation, fills gaps and fixes shortcomings of existing approaches
- Supplements rather than supplants resources for prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery
- Includes evidence-based, evidence-informed, and promising programs
- Takes advantage of the flexibility that is allowed with these funds.

Municipal Use of Abatement Funds



Municipal abatement funds **must** be used to implement any of the authorized strategies set forth in the State-Subdivision Agreement that include:

1. Treatment for opioid use disorder
2. Support for people in treatment and recovery
3. Harm reduction
4. Connections to care
5. Meeting the needs of justice-involved individuals
6. Support for pregnant and parenting individuals and their children
7. Prevention and Prevention Education

https://www.mass.gov/doc/march-4-2022-ma-subdivision-agreement/download

Opioid Abatement Partnership

Care Massachusetts



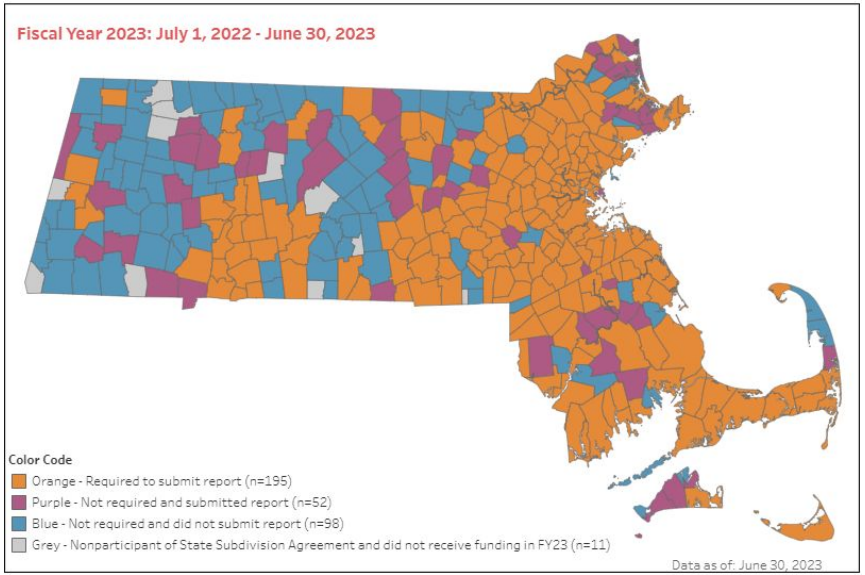
- John Snow Institute (JSI) was contracted by MDPH and BSAS in 2023 to launch Care Massachusetts to provide technical assistance and training to communities across Massachusetts to support their efforts in meeting the terms of the State Subdivision Agreement.
- Offer webinars and office hour support monthly or more
- 1:1 consultation with Care Massachusetts representative, Kate Lena.
- Works collaboratively Provides resources and technical assistance to help communities implement strategies that are both impactful and equitable.
- Utilizes rigorously tested approaches that center the input of people most impacted by the overdose crisis.
- Opportunity to attend multiple trainings facilitated by RIZE, an independent nonprofit foundation working to end the opioid epidemic in Massachusetts and reduce its devastating impact on people, communities and our economy and Care Massachusetts.

Municipal Opioid Abatement Funds Data Dashboard

Use the link to…

- Search by location to see funds received by each municipality.
- View data detailing how much of the funds have been spent and on which of the seven approved strategies.
- Which populations are being served.
- Explanation of successes or barriers, and other information.

Data Dashboard



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Medfield Next Steps for Opioid Abatement Work

- Meet with Community Stakeholders/Working Group - may include: fire, police, BOH, prevention staff, school administrators, select board, individuals with lived experience
- Offer 3 community listening sessions - engage people with lived experience
- Gather and analyze current data
- Collect new data: develop survey, implement, organize findings
- Provide “report” of results and communicate findings
- Use findings to guide planning
- Contract with SAFE Coalition to assist with these initial steps of the work.

We have ongoing efforts to find a candidate for the abatement work. We are actively seeking a qualified candidate to expand capacity to conduct this work in the manner outlined by the state-subdivision agreement and considering the data collected in our community.

SAFE Coalition

SAFE is a Franklin, MA based nonprofit organization helping to educate and support those impacted by substance use disorder and mental health concerns. They work closely with neighbors, local businesses, and schools across southeastern Massachusetts to conceive, develop, and deliver programming.

➔ **Why SAFE?**

- Existing working relationship
  - Partner for naloxone trainings
- Partnership with the DA office
- Committed to recovery work
- Responsive and preventative approach
- Currently serves 36 communities throughout Massachusetts

https://www.safecoalitionma.org/

SAFE

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

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Community Needs Assessment



Why is this step so important?

- To raise awareness about the community's opioid abatement efforts.
- To gather essential information about community impacts and needs related to the opioid epidemic from a variety of diverse sources
- To help identify service gaps where needs are not being met as well as barriers to care
- To inform the selection of strategies to be implemented in the community
- To help ensure that opioid settlement funds address the community's greatest needs

https://www.bnphp.org/FormCenter/General-Forms-4/Foxborough-Opioid-Crisis-Community-Surve-49

Action Thus Far

In partnership with DA Morrissey's office: Secured 10 **SamBoxes** for Municipal Departments/Buildings (Dec 2023)

In the Fall of 2023 we partnered with SAFE Coalition to offer two **Naloxone training** sessions for town staff at the public library and several for the community at The Parc.
Training included:

- How to spot signs of an overdose
- How to administer Narcan
- Provision of 2 doses of Narcan for all attendees to keep.

Replenished **Naloxone** for all of the medical bags for MPD

Purchased **Naloxone Cases** for MPD to hold doses of Naloxone and gloves for quick retrieval





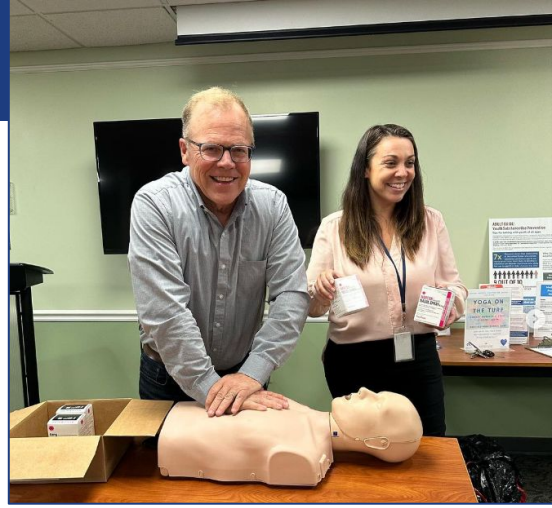


Photo credit: Kate Thomas



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Want to Be Involved or Have Questions??

Please contact me,

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