

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: December 1, 2025

SUBJECT: Resolution – Opioid Settlement Fund Expenditure Authorization

PRESENTER: Jodi Grabowski, Strategic Behavioral Health Director

ATTACHMENT(S): Yes

1. Budget Amendment
2. Resolution

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Early Intervention was identified as a key strategy in the Henderson County Strategic Plan for the use of the County's Opioid Settlement Funds. Henderson County, through the School Justice Partnership (SJP) has identified a need for intervention services for Henderson County children and adolescents struggling with problematic use of drugs or mental health conditions. Henderson County Public Schools are experiencing an increase in student infractions due to drug involvement.

By November 18, 2025, School Resource Officers reported 32 petitions for substance-related infractions since the beginning of the school year, a 300% increase over this date last year at 8 petitions. These youth can be diverted from the criminal justice system, and assistance is needed to coordinate the diversion and intervention efforts for youth and families.

The Board is requested to consider funding a contracted position within the Henderson County Public School System, to include training and resources to serve in early identification and intervention for children or adolescents who may be struggling with problematic use of drugs or mental health conditions. The coordinator will work with the School Justice Partnership (SJP) to connect youth with specialized community partners and support services and away from future criminal behavioral and court involvement.

The Board must adopt a Resolution per the Memorandum of Agreement Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation which dictates the process for drawing from the Special Revenue Fund. Sufficient available funding exists for this requested resolution.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Board is requested to adopt the Resolution authorizing the expenditures and revenues associated with the Opioid Settlement Fund [Fund 51] for a Coordinator to provide early intervention counseling and coordination for Henderson County youth.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

I move the Board adopt the Resolution authorizing the expenditures and revenues associated with the Opioid Settlement Fund [Fund 51] for a Coordinator to provide early intervention counseling and coordination for Henderson County youth.

HENDERSON COUNTY

Department: Strategic Behavioral Health

Please make the following line-item transfers:

What expense line-item is to be increased?

Account	Line-Item Description	Amount
515500-539000	Contracted services	\$150,000

What expense line-item is to be decreased? Or what additional revenue is now expected?

Account	Line-Item Description	Amount
514500-401000	Fund balance appropriated	\$150,000

Justification Please provide a brief justification for this line-item transfer request.
Budget amendment to appropriate opioid settlement fund balance for funds for an intervention coordinator supporting the School Justice Partnership. BOC approved 12.01.2025

Authorized by Department Head	Date
Authorized by Budget Office	Date
Authorized by County Manager	Date

For Budget Use Only

Batch #

BA #

Batch Date

**HENDERSON COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA**

Before the Board of Commissioners

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

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ENACTMENT _____

WHEREAS Henderson County previously joined national settlement agreements with companies engaged in the manufacturing, distribution, and dispensing of opioids, including settlements with drug distributors Cardinal, McKesson, and AmerisourceBergen, and the drug maker Johnson & Johnson and its subsidiary Janssen Pharmaceuticals; and,

WHEREAS the allocation, use, and reporting of funds stemming from these national settlement agreements and certain 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

WHEREAS Henderson 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; and

WHEREAS section E.6 of the MOA states:

E.6. Process for drawing from special revenue funds.

- a. Budget item or resolution required. Opioid Settlement Funds can be used for a purpose when the Governing Body includes in its budget or passes a separate resolution authorizing the expenditure of a stated amount of Opioid Settlement Funds for that purpose or those purposes during a specified period of time.
- b. Budget item or resolution details. The budget or resolution should (i) indicate that it is an authorization for expenditure of opioid settlement funds; (ii) state 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) state the amount dedicated to each strategy for a stated period of time.

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

1. First strategy authorized
 - a. Name of strategy: Early Intervention.
 - b. Strategy is included in Exhibit A (Exhibit A, Exhibit B)
 - c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: A,6
 - d. Amount authorized for this strategy: not to exceed \$150,000.
 - e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place: December 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027.
 - f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Fund a contracted position, training, and resources to serve in early identification and intervention for children or adolescents who may be struggling with problematic use of drugs or mental health conditions. The coordinator will work with the School Justice Partnership (SJP) to connect youth with specialized community partners and support services and away from future criminal behavioral and court involvement.
 - g. Provider: Henderson County and Henderson County Public Schools

The total dollar amount of Opioid Settlement Funds at this time appropriated is not to exceed \$150,000.

Adopted this the 1st day of December 2025.

WILLIAM LAPSLEY, CHAIRMAN
HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

DENISSA A. LAUFFER, CLERK TO THE BOARD

COUNTY SEAL