# **Region V Systems Opioid Settlement Funds Grant Announcement**



# History

In July of 2023, Region V Systems received funds from the Nebraska Opioid Settlement Remediation Advisory Committee to fund opioid abatement strategies as identified in the opioid settlement agreements.

The Region V Systems' Opioid Steering Committee was established in October 2023 with over 60 stakeholders and constituents from Region V Systems catchment area. This steering committee worked to identify how these funds would be distributed, what programs/ services already existed, and refined the list of opioid abatement strategies based on Region V Systems' unique needs.

On March 19-20, 2024, the Region V Systems Settlement Funds Summit was convened with the assistance of the Opioid Response Network (ORN). During this summit over 110 Region V Systems stakeholders participated in training and education on the opioid epidemic and prioritized funding areas outlined in this grant application through a strategic planning process.

# **Eligible Applicants**

Any agency within Region V Systems' 16-county catchment area is invited to apply for these grant funds. Applicants must submit a complete application and the project/service must fit within at least one of the prioritized abatement strategies as outlined in this grant announcement.



### Key Dates and Deadlines

- Application Released 4/15/24
- Application Deadline 5/6/24
- Awardees Announced 6/17/24
- Anticipated Start Date 7/1/24

### Total Funding Available

\$625,000

### Total Number of Awards

Region V Systems intent is to fund a minimum of two priority areas as outlined in this grant application.

# Length of Grant Award

Applicants can request 1-3 years.

# Inquiries

For more information please contact Region V Systems Opioid Project Manager:

Trina Janis

Phone: 402-441-4391

Cell: 402-200-9836

Email: opioid@region5systems.net

### **Fiscal Considerations**

Region V Systems Opioid Settlement Funds will be awarded on an expense-based reimbursement system. Approved agencies will have the option to submit requests for reimbursement monthly and must submit reimbursement requests no later than quarterly.

Region V Systems will discuss invoice submission guidelines and site visits with applicants upon approval of awards by the Regional Governing Board.

### **Risk Assessment**

All agencies applying for funding will undergo a risk assessment. This will include checking to verify that the executive director and agency are not listed on the Federal Office of Inspector General's List of Excluded Individuals and Entities (LEIE). Region V Systems may contact applicants to obtain additional information to verify through the federal LEIE database if necessary. If an agency or executive director is listed on the LEIE that application will not be moved forward for review by the grant review committee.

Applicants requesting \$10,000 or more in grant funding will be subject to an extended risk assessment. These applicants should complete the extended risk assessment portion of the grant application. Applicants requesting \$10,000 or more who do not complete this section of the grant application may not be considered for funding.

## Amount and Length of Award

Region V Systems has allocated \$625,000 of opioid settlement funds for this grant application with a goal of funding a minimum of two of the priority areas outlined within this application. Applicants may apply for a 1-3 year term based on scope and size of project.

### **Submission Questions**

All questions regarding this grant application should be made in writing to Trina Janis, Opioid Project Manager and emailed to <u>opioid@region5systems.net.</u> All notices, decisions, document, and other matters relating to this grant application will be electronically posted on Region V Systems' website at <u>www.region5systems.net</u>. Region V Systems reserves the right to amend, modify, supplement, or clarify this grant application at anytime at its sole discretion.

## **Review of Applications**

All grant applications that pass Region V Systems' risk assessment will be reviewed by a grant review committee comprised of one Regional Governing Board member, one Behavioral Health Advisory Committee member, two Opioid Steering Committee members, and appropriate employees of Region V Systems. This grant review committee will make recommendations regarding funding applicants with final approval of those recommendations by the Regional Governing Board.

Region V Systems reserves the right to request clarification or additional information from any applicant. This solicitation does not obligate Region V Systems to award a grant to any applicant. Region V Systems, at its option, reserves the right to waive as informality any irregularities in and/or reject any or all applicants who do not respond to questions or submit complete applications.

## Reporting

All grant recipients will be required to submit quarterly reports regarding outcomes, goals, and progress towards implementing proposed project as outlined in their application. Following funding award, Region V Systems will work with approved applicants to outline required criteria.

# **Region V Systems Priority Opioid Abatement Strategies** April 2024

# **Direct Care for Substance Use Disorder / Mental Health Conditions**

#### A: TREATMENT

- Expand availability of and access to treatment and continuum of care for those that are uninsured/ underinsured and experiencing Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and any other co-occurring Substance Use Disorder (SUD)/Mental Health (MH) conditions. Focus on targeting high impact, low-capacity rural areas and adolescent treatment services.
- Support workforce development for addiction professionals to include training, scholarships, fellowship, incentives, and support for those providing direct care addressing OUD and other SUD/ MH conditions. Target rural and underserved areas.
- 3. Expand mobile interventions, treatment, and recovery services for persons with OUD and other SUD/ MH conditions who have experienced an overdose.

#### **B: RECOVERY**

- 1. Provide full continuum of care (comprehensive wraparound services) for adults and adolescents, to include but not limited to, housing, peer support services, transportation, education, job training/ placement, childcare and connection to culturally appropriate community-based services.
- 2. Support or Expand Peer Recovery Services which may include but are not limited to: support groups, social events, computer access, yoga, etc.
- 3. Expand the recovery eco-system while targeting recovery resources to high impact, low-capacity geographical areas (rural).

#### **C: HARM REDUCTION**

- 1. Targeted Naloxone/Narcan distribution increase availability and distribution.
- 2. Support Mobile Units that offer or provide referrals to harm reduction services, treatment, recovery supports, healthcare or other appropriate services.
- 3. Expand social setting detoxification services.

#### **D: CONNECTIONS TO CARE**

- 1. Provide training/support for emergency room and hospital personnel treating overdose patients on post discharge planning, including community referrals to MAT, recovery case management or peer support.
- 2. Provide funding for peer support specialists and warm handoffs in emergency detox facilities, recovery centers or recovery housing.
- 3. Support crisis stabilization centers that serve as an alternative to hospital emergency departments.

#### **E: CRIMINAL JUSTICE INVOLVED**

- 1. Implement training and standardized SUD/MH screening, treatment, care coordination, and continuity services into the criminal justice system.
- Provide treatment, including MAT/MOUD, recovery support, and harm reduction to those who are leaving jail, prison, or are on probation/parole, are under community corrections or are in re-entry programs.
- 3. Support pre-arrest diversion, pre-trial services, treatment and recovery court and provide treatment (including MAT/MOUD) for persons with SUD/MH conditions.

Release Date: April 15, 2024

### **Community Outreach and Prevention**

#### F: PREVENTION

- Support greater access to mental health services and supports for young people, including services and supports provided by school nurses, behavioral health workers or other school staff, to address mental health needs in young people that (when not properly addressed) increase the risk of opioid or other drug misuse.
- 2. Prevent over-prescribing and ensure appropriate prescribing and dispensing of opioids by: providing medical provider education and outreach regarding best prescribing practices, dosing and tapering patients off opioids and supporting non-opioid pain management alternatives.
- 3. Support stigma reduction efforts regarding treatment and support for persons with OUD, including reducing the stigma on effective treatment.

#### **G: PROVIDERS AND HEALTH SYSTEMS**

- 1. Increase the number of providers treating MAT/MOUD patients; increase access to MOUD treatment through training and education.
- 2. Provide support for Childrens Services, additional positions and services, including supportive housing and other residential services, relating to children being removed from the home and/or placed in foster care due to custodial substance use.
- 3. Support the work of Emergency Medical Systems, including peer support specialists to connect individuals to treatment or other appropriate services following an overdose or other SUD adverse event.

#### H: PUBLIC SAFETY / FIRST RESPONDERS

- 1. Increase capacity of law enforcement and first responders to effectively respond to individuals with SUD/MH conditions.
- 2. Provide wellness and support services for first responders and others who experience secondary trauma associated with opioid related emergency events.
- 3. Expand mental health and drug courts.