

Political Subdivision Opioid Settlement Funds

Progress Report

Rolette County Public Health District

Reporting Period: 2023-2026

Submitted by: Barbara Frydenlund, RN, Administrator

Initially we endured a delay in receiving the full amount of County Opioid Settlement funds from Rolette County which was due to internal issues within the Auditor's Office; however, the accounting and disbursement process has since been corrected with support from the North Dakota Attorney General's Office, the Rolette County Board of Health, and the Rolette County Commission. This delay was not reflective of any lack of support for our efforts. The Rolette County Commission remains 100% supportive of our opioid prevention initiatives and continues to demonstrate strong commitment to this work. As with all accounts receivable and payable, County Opioid Settlement funds are tracked through our QuickBooks accounting system, and fiscal audits are completed by the North Dakota State Auditor's Office to ensure transparency and accountability.

To date, we have expended only a minimal amount of County Opioid Settlement Funding. County opioid settlement funds have been used to support the purchase of supplies for the Rolette County Syringe Service Program, most importantly syringes, ensuring continued access to harm reduction services within the community. In addition, sharps disposal kiosks purchased with State Opioid Response (SOR) funding will be installed this spring at three county locations, with installation costs supported by County Opioid Settlement funds.

CredibleMind, a web-based mental health platform, was implemented in 2025 with the intention of utilizing County Opioid Settlement Funding to cover the initial setup cost and annual subscription. However, we were fortunate to receive a local mini grant that covered the initial costs, preserving county opioid funds for future needs. The Rolette County Sheriff's Department has also recently requested Mental Health First Aid training for their staff, and we are currently in the planning stages of coordinating schedules to provide this training.

We have continued to supply naloxone to local law enforcement, EMS, Syringe Service Program clients, and through the Narcan kiosk located in Dunseith. Many of the distributed doses have been obtained free of charge from a collaborating charitable organization, which has decreased reliance on state-supplied naloxone and prevented the need to spend County Opioid Settlement Funding for this purpose. Drug Take Back events have been supported through our SOR funding and through in-kind support from the Rolla Police Department and the Rolette County Sheriff's Department, further demonstrating strong local collaboration.

Our partnerships with local city and county law enforcement agencies continue to strengthen, reinforcing a unified approach to prevention and recovery. Most recently, we have established a collaborative working relationship with the newly hired Inmate Transition Liaison at the Rolette County Sheriff's Department, creating a consistent process to ensure individuals being released

from custody receive Inmate Release Kits and are better connected to community-based support services. We are also in the planning stages of recognizing the 25th Anniversary of the Rolette County Public Health District, during which time we will present a \$2,000.00 contribution to the Rolette County Sheriff's Department K9 Unit in appreciation of their partnership and service to the community.

Anticipated upcoming expenses to be allocated to County Opioid Settlement Funding include the 2026–2027 CredibleMind subscription; Mental Health First Aid instructor and supply expenses; staff expenditure to attend the Rx Summit in April 2026; continued support of the Rolette County K9 Unit; installation costs for sharps disposal kiosks in three county locations; and the purchase and installation of additional naloxone vending kiosks in two to three additional locations within our service area. These planned investments reflect our continued commitment to prevention, harm reduction, mental health support, and strong community partnerships.

This mitigation plan will continue to be revisited and adjusted based on local data, emerging needs, stakeholder feedback, and available resources. RCPHD remains committed to responsive, evidence-informed strategies that reduce harm, increase access to services, and strengthen community resilience.

Sincerely,

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