



403 Burlington St SE
Mandan, ND 58554

701.667.3370

westernplainsph.org

Opioid Prevention Implementation Plan

Implementation Year: 2026

Pursuant to NDCC 50-36-06, Western Plains Public Health (WPPH) works in collaboration with the Mercer, Morton, and Oliver County Commissions to utilize opioid settlement funding by implementing the following plan. Amendments will be made to incorporate individual community and county needs as they are determined. This plan was derived under the suggestions provided in Exhibit E: List of Opioid Remediation Uses located on the ND Health and Human Services website (<https://www.hhs.nd.gov/opioids/settlement>).

This plan is part of a larger community initiative to reduce opioid use and overdose deaths that WPPH has been working toward since 2019 using State Opioid Response funding.

- Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP)
 - Exhibit E Schedule B Category E. Address the Needs of Pregnant or Parenting Women and Their Families
 - The NFP program supports pregnant and parenting women with opioid use disorder (OUD) and any co-occurring substance use disorder or mental health conditions. The program improves pregnancy outcomes, child development, and family economic self-sufficiency.
 - High rate of return on investment due to the outcomes of the program.
 - The program goals are to improve pregnancy outcomes, child health/development, and economic self-sufficiency of enrolled families.
 - The expansion option is to serve multiparous families and late enrollments
- Youth Prevention Media Campaign
 - Exhibit E Schedule A Category G1. Prevent Misuse of Opioids
 - WPPH is implementing a youth-focused opioid prevention campaign in partnership with Kat and Company through the Living Local Network and Off the Wall Media.
- Collaboration with Morton County Sheriff's Department
 - Exhibit E: Schedule B Category I. First Responders
 - Provide resources for safety of officers to identify fentanyl in the field
 - Exhibit E: Schedule A G2. Funding for evidence-based prevention programs in schools

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- Provide financial support for the Keepin' It Real program administered by School Resource Officers in 4 rural school districts of Morton County
- Explore the option of a public health nurse assisting the Resource Officer in teaching the curriculum
- Community Engagement & Future Planning
 - WPPH has convened a working group that meets monthly to plan future initiatives. The following efforts are planned:
 - Face It TOGETHER Partnership: Introduce peer-to-peer support specialists to serve individuals in recovery
 - Community Take-Back Events: Promote proper disposal of unused prescription medications
 - Leave-Behind Kits: Distribute resource kits to local Sheriff, Fire, and Ambulance personnel
 - Mini-Grants for Community Organizations: Offer funding opportunities to local entities proposing initiatives that align with Exhibit E priorities

Respectfully Submitted,

Erin Ourada, MPH, REHS/RS
Administrator
Western Plains Public Health

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