

## RECOGNITION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDING

- WHEREAS,** the opioid epidemic has had a devastating impact on communities across the nation, leading to significant increases in substance use disorders, overdose deaths, and associated public health challenges; and
- WHEREAS,** a national settlement with opioid manufacturers and distributors has resulted in funding allocations for local governments in North Carolina to support efforts to address and remediate the impacts of the opioid crisis; and
- WHEREAS,** to receive funds from the opioid legal settlement, Durham County must comply with the Memorandum of Agreement Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation (hereinafter “MOA”); and
- WHEREAS,** the allocation and use of opioid settlement funds must be guided by evidence-based practices, community input, and a commitment to transparency accountability; and
- WHEREAS,** the establishment of an advisory committee, comprised of diverse stakeholders as follows, will facilitate the collaborative strategic planning process required by Option B of the MOA and will ensure that funds are distributed effectively: one local government official, one healthcare provider, one social service provider, one education and employment service representative, one healthcare payer or funder, one law enforcement representative, one employer and business leader representative, one community-based organization representative, and one stakeholder with lived experience, and one who representative of a diverse community (such as people of color, Native Americans, member of the LGBTQ, etc.) (each as defined by Exhibit C of the MOA);
- WHEREAS,** an advisory committee will serve to review and recommend funding proposals and strategic initiatives to the Durham Board of County Commissioners that align with the requirements of the Opioid Settlement Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Through this process, the committee will help inform funding priorities, assess program effectiveness, and ensure decisions are grounded in community needs and evidence-based strategies.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** That we, the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby establish an Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee, to exist. Members shall serve a two-year term and may be reappointed for up to two consecutive terms. The committee shall review proposed programs and strategies and make formal recommendations to the Board that align with the requirements of the Opioid Settlement Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The committee will also promote community engagement and support informed, collaborative approaches to addressing the opioid crisis.; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this committee shall be comprised of one representative to be appointed by the Board of County Commissioners from each of the following (as defined by Exhibit C of the MOA): local government official (representing public health, social services, and emergency services), healthcare provider, social services, law enforcement, education, individuals with lived experience with opioid use disorder, health care payers, Employers and the business community, community groups and organizations, and stakeholders reflecting diversity of

**Commented [CM1]:** Is it really this vague?

**Commented [CM2R1]:** “Community organizations” is a term used in the MOA and represents a category of people listed in Exhibit C of the MOA (see below). I think it’s shorter to cite to the MOA rather than list them here.

Community groups, such as faith communities, community coalitions that address drug misuse, groups supporting people in recovery, youth leadership organizations, and grassroots community organizations

community, who will serve two (2) year terms, and shall comply with all applicable Durham County ethics policies and procedures for citizen appointments; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the committee shall establish bylaws within the parameters established by this Resolution and applicable Durham County policies and shall serve as a resource for providing perspectives on funding priorities; and

**FURTHER**, decisions concerning the allocation and application of opioid settlement funds shall remain under the sole authority of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, in full compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

**FINALLY**, the Durham Board of County Commissioners shall receive periodic reports from the advisory committee and the Opioid Settlement Program Manager regarding recommendations for funding priorities and the progress and impact of previously funded initiatives to ensure ongoing alignment with the MOA requirements, community needs, and best practices.

This is the 9<sup>TH</sup> day of June 2025.

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Nida Allam, Chair

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Mike Lee, Vice Chair

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Michelle Burton, Commissioner

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Wendy Jacobs, Commissioner

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Stephen J. Valentine, Commissioner