Strategies for Utilization of the Opioid Settlement Funds

March 29, 2022

About COCA

- The Council on Chemical Abuse (COCA) is a private, nonprofit corporation established in 1971.
- In 1972, Berks County Commissioners designated COCA as the Single County Authority (SCA) for drug and alcohol services for Berks County.
- COCA administers and manages publicly-funded drug and alcohol prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery support services for Berks County.
- Governed by a volunteer board of directors comprised of community members appointed by the Berks County Commissioners.

Guiding Principles for Use of the Opioid Settlement Funds

Guiding Principles

- Apply the Opioid Settlement Funds to **address the opioid/overdose crisis** currently experienced in Berks County and to help protect the community in the future.
- **Provide allowable services** related to Opioid Use Disorders (OUD) and co-occurring substance use disorder Substance Use Disorder and Mental Health conditions to all communities and residents in Berks County with respect, dignity and equity while supporting culturally appropriate services and programs.

Guiding Principles

- **Address gaps in services** and maintain and enhance established programs and activities.
- **Complement and enhance existing programs** while avoiding unnecessary duplication of effort.
- **Sustain proven and effective services** for expiring grant programs.
- **Collaborate with community organizations** to develop, implement and sustain services to the community.

Guiding Principles

- **Use SOS Berks Opioid Coalition** for input and feedback regarding projects supported through Opioid Settlement Funds.

Approved Uses

- The Settlement Agreement identifies strategies approved for the use of settlement funds (Exhibit E).
- COCA's proposed strategy is in accordance with the approved strategies in the Settlement Agreement.

Treatment

- Treat Opioid Use Disorder and Co-occurring Conditions
- Support People in Treatment and Recovery
- Connect People Who Need Help to Appropriate Services
- Criminal Justice-Involved Persons
- Pregnant or Parenting Women and Babies with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

Prevention

- Prevent Misuse of Opioids
- Reduce Overdose Deaths and Other Harms
- Offer Safe Medication Management

Other Strategies

- Address Issues Experienced By First Responders
- Support Leadership, Planning and Coordination
- Offer Training and Workforce Development
- Participate in Research and Evaluation

Council on Chemical Abuse

YOUR BRIDGE TO ADDICTION RESOURCES

Thank you!

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