



## Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners

# RESOLUTION

### ESTABLISHING THE KALAMAZOO COUNTY OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, From 1999–2020, more than half a million people died in the United States from an overdose involving an opioid, which included both prescription and illicit opioids;

WHEREAS, In 2022 Kalamazoo County tragically experienced 65 fatal overdoses involving opioids which affected people from 21 to 88 years of age who were our children, parents, siblings, partners, neighbors, colleagues, and friends;

WHEREAS, Kalamazoo County joined in national lawsuits against opioid manufacturers, distributors, and pharmacies and will be a recipient of monetary settlements stemming from those lawsuits;

WHEREAS, Collaboration across sectors is essential for success in preventing opioid overdose deaths as medical personnel, emergency departments, first responders, public safety officials, mental health and substance use treatment providers, harm-reduction providers, community-based and faith-based organizations, public health, and members of the community all bring awareness, resources, and expertise to address this complex and fast-moving epidemic;

WHEREAS, The Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners (“County Board”) is authorized by its Bylaws and Rules of Procedure, Article V – Bodies, Section 5.9, to establish from time to time such special (ad hoc) committees as are necessary which shall only be advisory in nature;

WHEREAS, Special (ad hoc) committees established under Article V., Section 5.9 of the County Board’s Bylaws and Rules of Procedure shall:

- (a) have their purpose determined at the time the special (ad hoc) committee is established;
- (b) have at least two (2) commissioners as members of all special (ad hoc) committees; and
- (c) automatically dissolve when its specific task is completed; and

WHEREAS, Special (ad hoc) committees established under Article V., Section 5.9 of the County Board’s Bylaws and Rules of Procedures may report recommendations to the County Board for appropriate action; now, therefore be it,

*Resolved*, That the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners hereby creates a special (ad) hoc committee under Article V., Section 5.9 of the County Board's Bylaws and Rules of Procedure to be known hereafter as the "Kalamazoo County Opioid Settlement Fund Task Force";

*Resolved*, That the Kalamazoo County Opioid Settlement Fund Task Force shall be established as a temporary advisory body of the County Board for the purpose of reporting recommendations to the County Board for appropriate action related to the use and allocation of Kalamazoo County Opioid Settlement Funds;

*Resolved*, That the Kalamazoo County Opioid Settlement Fund Task Force may consist of, but not be limited to: three (3) Commissioners of the County Board; two (2) Representative from Health & Community Services Department, one (1) Representative from Office of Community Corrections, one (1) Representative from Sheriff's Office, one (1) Representative from County Drug-Treatment Court, the DEI Director, six (6) community members to include representation from one (1) mental health provider, one (1) prevention provider, one (1) treatment center provider, one (1) community organization, two (2) persons that identify as being in active recovery or addiction or a family member with a loved one in active recovery or addiction.

*Resolved*, That County Administrative Staff shall work with the Commissioners of the County Board appointed to the Kalamazoo County Opioid Settlement Fund Task Force to invite individual representatives of the sectors identified herein to participate as members of this Ad Hoc Committee;

*Resolved*, That the Kalamazoo County Opioid Settlement Fund Task Force be created and report back to the County Board no later than January 16, 2024, with their progress and plan to develop and report recommendations to the County Board for appropriate action related to the use and allocation of Kalamazoo County Opioid Settlement Funds.

*Resolved*, That the Kalamazoo County Opioid Task Force shall be charged with making a recommendation to the County Board on the following questions:

1. What does the Opioid Community Needs Assessment (OCNA) tell us about the needs of our County?
2. Where should the County Board concentrate funding towards opioid remediation for the next 3-5 years?
3. What funding categories should be created based the OCNA Report?
4. What timeline should the County operate on for releasing funding in the community, i.e. when should a granting portal be open and is there alignment when other funding opportunities are released that should be considered with the timeline?
5. Should the County consider one-year or multi-year funding request proposals?

6. Should the county assume the role of collaborator and when appropriate grant writer with community partners for state and federal funding opportunities?
7. Is a community-wide prevention and education campaign needed to promote de-stigmatization of opioid use and people seeking help for it?
8. Is a county-wide alert system and network collaborative needed to communicate with county residents when there is a cluster of overdoses, or a deadly batch of Fentanyl laced drugs that occur in Kalamazoo County?
9. Are there additional locations or accessible points that need to be considered county-wide for the distribution of Narcan/Naloxone (i.e. vending machines, government buildings, pharmacies, neighborhood associations, etc.)?
10. How should the co-occurring substance use disorders and mental health disorders be considered with this funding?
11. Should settlement funds be used to provide trauma-informed, culturally competent mental health services to adults and children that have been impacted by the loss of a loved one due to opioids?

**Adopted: October 3, 2023**

**Moved           Strebs**  
**Seconded     Wheeler**  
**Carried**

**Roll Call Vote: Yes (8): Gisler, Heppler, Mazer, Morales, Rey, Strebs, Taylor, Wheeler; No (0): None; Abstains (0): None; Absent (1): Deleeuw**



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John Taylor, Chairperson  
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners

STATE OF MICHIGAN )

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COUNTY OF KALAMAZOO )

I, Meredith Place, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of Kalamazoo County, Michigan (the "County") do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners at the meeting held on October 3, 2023. Public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1976, as amended.

IN WITNESS WHEREFORE, I have hereunto affixed by signature this 4<sup>th</sup> Day of October 2023.



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Meredith Place  
County Clerk/Register of Deeds