

MOSAIC OPIOID RECOVERY PARTNERSHIP COMMUNITY-BASED OPIOID RESPONSE EFFORTS GRANT GUIDELINES

Background:

The Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts participated in the historic legal efforts to demand abatement from several private companies for the harms caused by the opioid epidemic. As a result, our state will receive more than \$900 million over 18 years for substance use prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery support. Massachusetts will dedicate 40% of the funds to municipalities and 60% to the statewide Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund (ORRF) to mitigate the impacts of the opioid overdose epidemic.

The Healey-Driscoll Administration selected RIZE Massachusetts Foundation (RIZE) to create and manage the Mosaic Opioid Recovery Partnership (Mosaic), funded by ORRF and the MA Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Addiction Services, through a unique public-private partnership that will allow small, community-based organizations and municipalities to apply for settlement funds. It is specifically designed to support communities and populations that have been historically underserved and have experienced a higher rate of opioid-related overdose deaths. The grants will be community-led and culturally responsive, aimed at reaching individuals and families affected by the opioid overdose epidemic. The goal of Mosaic is to fund community-led initiatives that use ideas with promise to address the opioid crisis. The grants will strengthen prevention, harm reduction, treatment, recovery, trauma, and family support programs.

Shaped by the MA Department of Public Health and managed by RIZE, Mosaic is a grant program like no other. Just like a mosaic is made up of individual materials to create a complete picture, this program brings together the best ideas and initiatives across the Commonwealth to create a comprehensive response to the opioid overdose crisis. Mosaic is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to save lives, end stigma, and improve the quality of life for people living with substance use disorder. The Healey-Driscoll Administration chose RIZE to manage Mosaic because it brings together key stakeholders based on trusted relationships and credibility among practitioners, researchers, decision-makers, community leaders, and people affected by addiction. Centering the voices of people with lived and living experience is part of RIZE's DNA and is integral to the success of Mosaic to ensure dollars are reaching the communities most impacted by the opioid crisis.



Through Mosaic, RIZE will distribute approximately \$5 million annually.

RIZE Massachusetts Foundation

RIZE Massachusetts Foundation (RIZE) is the only public-private partnership solely dedicated to funding solutions to end the overdose crisis. RIZE's goal is to ensure that people suffering from substance use disorder have access to care and experience better quality of life and overall health. Guided by individuals with lived experience and unafraid of new ideas, RIZE is building networks, creating programming, and supporting community partners using novel approaches to preventing overdose. RIZE seeks to increase visibility, expand the evidence base, and inform policy so that we can elevate programs with promise. At the same time, RIZE is amplifying the voices of its community partners to bring greater awareness and urgency to the devastating impact of the overdose crisis. We envision a Massachusetts with zero stigma and zero deaths.

The Community-based Opioid Response Efforts (CORE) Grant Program:

RIZE will award \$3,750,000 over three years to organizations with locally led initiatives to reduce the harms caused by the opioid overdose epidemic through Mosaics' Community-based Opioid Response Efforts (CORE) grant program. The primary goal of this first round of grantmaking is to help organizations deepen their impact, bring their work to scale, and build a strong and sustainable infrastructure to meet the needs of the populations they serve. The three-year general operating support grants will range from \$50,000 to \$150,000 annually, depending on the organization's size and budget.

- Organizations with budgets of \$250,000 or less may request up to \$50,000 per year or 30% of their annual operating budget, whichever is less, for three years.
- Organizations with budgets between \$250,000 and \$1 million may request up to \$100,000 per year or 30% of their annual operating budget, whichever is less, for three years.
- Organizations with budgets ranging from \$1 to \$5 million may request up to \$150,000 for three years.

The grants will be awarded to organizations that center the voices of those most affected by the opioid epidemic in their communities. The organizations should be focused on one or all of the following: prevention, harm reduction, treatment, recovery, trauma, and family supports. Organizations in communities across the Commonwealth are encouraged to apply.

There will be two additional grant rounds in FY25 with different eligibility and criteria. The second round of funding will focus on matching municipal settlement funds in cities and towns using best practices to



end the overdose crisis, utilizing [Care Mass](#) resources, conducting community outreach and needs assessments, and collaborating with others. The third round of funding will focus on population-based or program-specific opioid response efforts. More details on these funding opportunities will be provided later.

In addition to grant funding, RIZE will provide technical assistance and learning communities based on grantee-identified needs to help build stronger organizations.

How Funds Can be Used

The funds can be used for general operating support to stabilize operations, address urgent and emerging issues, build capacity to deliver services or invest in organizational infrastructure. Unlike program-specific grants, general operating grants can help organizations sustain their operations without worrying about covering basic costs. This funding is particularly significant for organizations that need a steady revenue stream and rely on grants and donations.

Funded activities and organizations should utilize a public health framework and focus on prevention, harm reduction, treatment, recovery, trauma, and family supports. Examples include, but are not limited to, improving financial management, building the board of directors, partnering with other organizations in the community, and strengthening staff and volunteers.

Funds **cannot** be used for:

- Fundraising pursuits
- Capital campaigns, endowments, or annual appeals
- Clinical or drug trials
- Support for individuals or the promulgation of religious beliefs
- Lobbying or legislative activity

Who Should Apply

RIZE seeks to fund nonprofit organizations that work on any aspect of the care continuum from prevention to recovery and that work with diverse communities and populations that are historically underserved and have experienced a higher rate of opioid-related overdose deaths. This includes nonprofit organizations that:

- Have a total annual operating budget of under \$5 million.



- Deliver prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and recovery programs and services in Massachusetts.
- Are in good standing and current on state and federal reporting requirements.

Application Process & Timeline

If your organization meets the guidelines, we invite you to complete an [application](#) and submit it by 11:59 pm EST on June 14, 2024. The application questions are at the end of this document for easy review. Questions are highly encouraged and should be submitted to grants@rizema.org. RIZE will post answers to submitted questions on rizema.org. All questions will be posted anonymously. RIZE may contact applicants for additional information or clarification if needed during the review process. RIZE is committed to providing ample technical assistance and support during the application process.

Date	Activity
Application Released	May 15, 2024
Webinar – RSVP HERE	May 21, 2024
Office Hours – details on rizema.org	May 20 – June 13, 2024
Application Due	June 14, 2024 @ 11:59 pm
Awards Announced	July 30, 2024
Grant Period Begins	August 1, 2024

Grant Selection Criteria

All proposals will undergo an unbiased, fair, equitable, and timely review process that includes people with lived and living experience and other subject matter experts. RIZE recognizes that not every proposal will address all of the items below, but in general, seeks to fund organizations that:

- Address prevention, harm reduction, treatment, recovery, trauma and family supports.
- Clearly explain their mission, populations served, and services provided.
- Articulate clear goals for the next 3 to 5 years and explain how these funds will help achieve those goals to sustain activities and services into the future.
- Serve populations and communities with high rates of opioid overdoses and deaths that have been underserved.



- Deliver programs and services that reflect the input of their communities, centering the voices of those with lived and living experience.
- Commit to diversity, equity, and inclusion and engage in activities to address disparities in existing services and outcomes and improve equity.

Evaluation & Reporting

RIZE aims to measure what matters most, not just what is easily measurable. Our evaluations track progress, increase grantee capacity for data-informed decision-making, and develop a community of learning and improvement. This will help grantees understand what works, adjust what doesn't, and create sustainable means to measure success. For example, we could explore questions like:

- How did the funding impact the organizations' capacity and infrastructure (e.g., leadership and staffing, tools and technology, systems and policies, etc.)?
- How did the funding impact the organizations' visibility and sustainability?
- How did the funding impact the organizations' ability to carry out their mission?
- To what extent does the organization use data and information from its ongoing work to improve outcomes over time?
- The evaluation will also gather feedback on the grant application process, technical assistance, and learning events to gather lessons and recommendations for future programs.

Our evaluator will develop measures to help grantees track progress toward meeting goals. Evaluation focus areas and metrics will be designed with grantee input and participation, and the evaluation process will respect the grantees' limited time and resources. Grantees are expected to participate in the evaluation, virtual or in-person meetings, technical assistance offerings, and convenings to network, share ideas, and learn from each other.

In addition, we ask grantees to prepare annual progress reports for grants management, share learning among the cohort, and share impact data with others who might benefit from learning alongside us.

Health Equity Statement

RIZE believes that anyone with opioid use disorder (OUD) should have access to a range of substance use treatments, including all types of medication for OUD, psychosocial interventions, harm reduction, community services, and recovery supports. Yet, gaps in access to care remain, especially for people who identify as Black, Indigenous, and people of color, as well as rural residents, LGBTQ+ persons, youth, and others. RIZE makes health equity a grantmaking priority by investing in programs that



increase access to care and address root causes, such as racism, poverty, and power imbalances. RIZE also follows the MA Department of Public Health Principles for Racial Equity and endeavors to meet national [Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services \(CLAS\) standards](#) as an additional tool to help achieve health and racial equity.

Information about Fiscal Agency

If your organization does not have a nonprofit tax status from the Internal Revenue Service, you can still apply for a grant from RIZE using a fiscal agent. A fiscal agent is an organization that agrees to accept and manage grant funds on your behalf.

Before you apply, you must find a fiscal agent for your project. This process can take some time, so starting as soon as possible is best. To find a fiscal agent, look for a 501(c)(3) organization or another eligible organization with a similar mission to yours. Once you've identified a potential fiscal agent, you should establish a formal relationship and written agreement.

Be aware that most fiscal agents charge a fee to cover costs and expenses, including staff time, administrative support, bookkeeping and accounting, reporting, compliance, insurance, and other overhead.

Application Questions

- I. This section provides the opportunity to explain your organization's work and who you serve.
 1. What is your mission? (50 words)
 2. Describe the services your organization provides or the activities it engages in. (500 words)
 3. Thank you for checking off the priority population box above. Please provide more details on your priority population, and if you have numbers, please include them here. (300 words)

- II. We'd like to learn how your organization incorporates diversity, equity, and inclusion principles into its work.
 4. How does your organization ensure its programs and services are accessible and equitable to all community members? (Examples: developing language capacity, hiring staff that reflect the community, etc.) (500 words)



5. How does your organization ensure that the voices of the people you serve inform programs and services? (*Examples: advisory committees, consumers on your board and staff, surveys, focus groups, suggestion boxes, social media engagement, etc.*) (300 words)
6. What steps has your organization taken to create a more inclusive work environment? (*Examples: DEI training, assessing policies, hiring diverse staff, etc.*) (300 words)

III. The goal of this funding is to help you build your organization's capacity to meet the needs of the people you serve. Please tell us how you plan to do that.

7. Please describe your organization's top three to five goals for the next three years. (500 words)

Be as realistic and specific as possible in outlining your goals. If awarded, you will be asked to report on your progress toward achieving these goals and any lessons you learn along the way. We understand that goals are only sometimes achieved as planned and that goals may change over time. We will work with your organization to revise your goals if necessary.

8. How will the funds help you achieve your goals? (500 words)

For example, if your goal is to develop and implement standard data collection protocols and procedures for your organization, you can utilize the funding to cover the costs associated with developing and implementing data collection tools, staff training, and survey development.

Alternatively, if your goal is to use art, yoga, and theater to support individuals in recovery, you could use the funds to cover the salary of a part-time wellness coordinator. This coordinator would provide wellness activities, collaborate with community organizations, and create wellness programming to help individuals recover.

