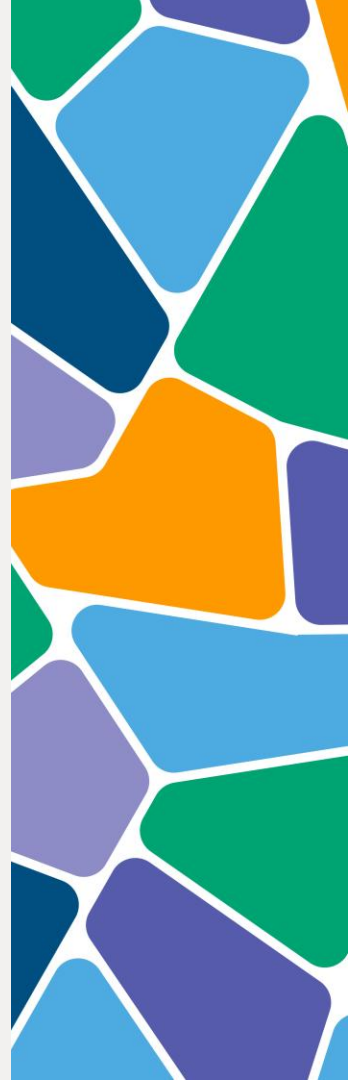
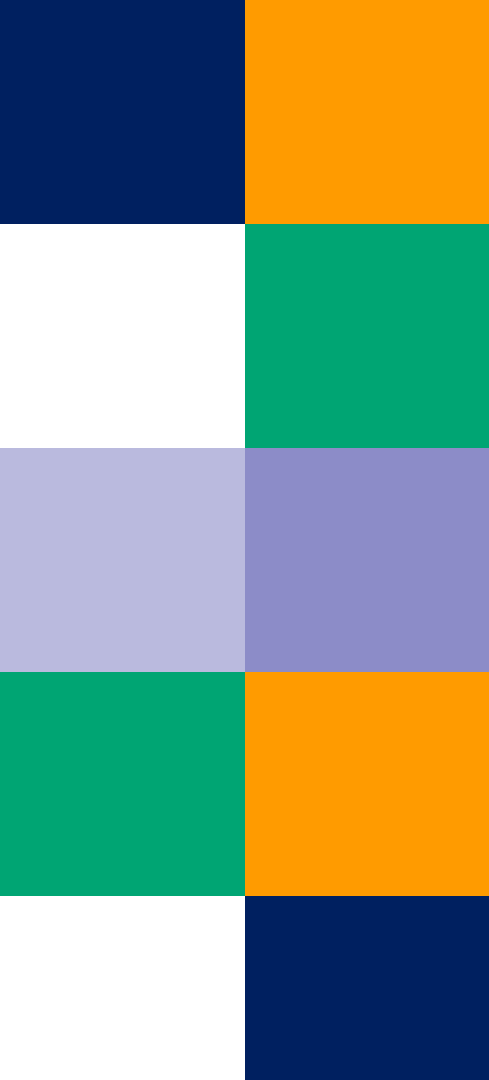




Creating Connection and Learning Together: Regional Collaboration

Moderated by Liz Whynott, Senior Program Officer of
Mosaic's Municipal Training & Technical Assistance Program



A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide consists of a 5x2 grid of colored squares. The colors, from top to bottom and left to right, are: dark blue, orange, white, green, light purple, green, orange, and dark blue.

Creating Connections & Learning Together: Regional Collaboration

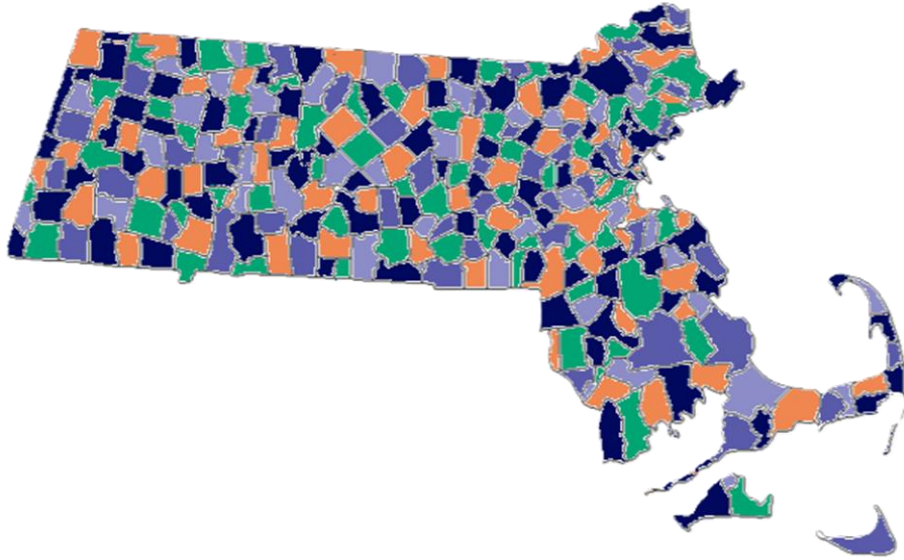
Julia Newhall

Director of Opioid Abatement

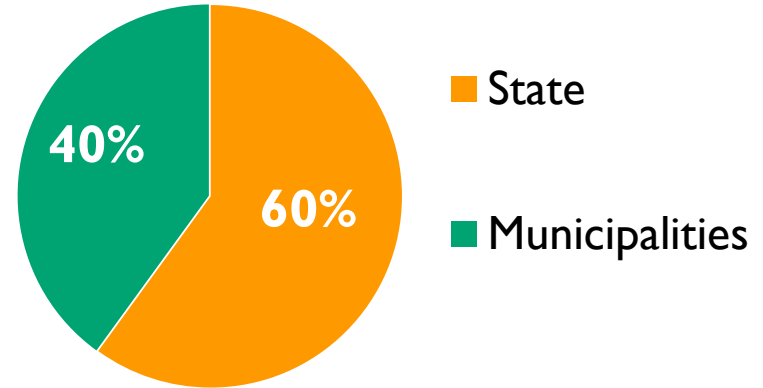
MA Department of Public Health

Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (BSAS)

Massachusetts State Subdivision Agreement



Funding Allocation



TOTAL

\$1 BILLION +

1. Community Engagement
2. Equity-Focused
3. Whole-Person
4. Leveraging Funding
5. Results-Driven
6. Innovation Solutions





Leveraging Funds through Regional Collaboration

Regional Collaboration

Options

1. Create a formal Opioid Abatement Collaborative (OAC) by agreement, and pool some or all funds under one lead municipality
2. Identify and select regional strategies, data, gaps and resources, but each municipality maintains individual control over their funds

Benefits

- May reduce costs (e.g., admin, overhead)
- Minimize duplication of work
- More targeted and efficient use of funds

What's an Opioid Abatement Collaborative?



An OAC is defined as:

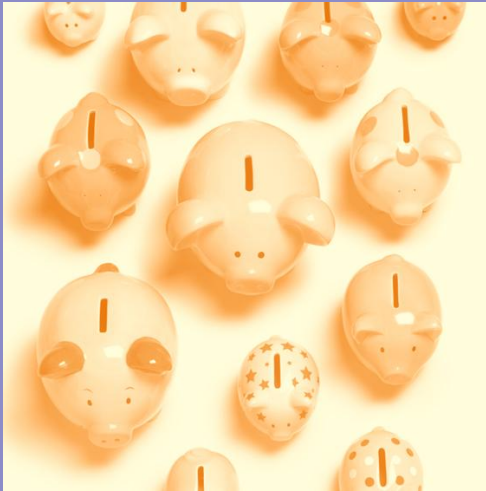
- two or more municipalities;
- who pool some or all their opioid abatement funds;
- pursuant to a formalized agreement

Creating an OAC

1. Agree on participating municipalities and amount of funding to be pooled
2. Identify a potential host agent/municipality
3. Request and receive municipal approval
4. Enter into a written agreement, either through a new IMA or MOU, or by amending an existing IMA



Other ways to Collaborate Regionally



Joint Planning and Needs Assessment

- Hosting a regional listening sessions
- Developing a regional survey among towns, and aggregate data

Selecting same consultant and/or provider

- Each municipality individually contracts the same funds service provider in locations where transportation is a barrier to care, engage a regional transportation provider that are funded based on usage of service

We Can Help

The Mosaic TTA team works closely with the MA Association of Health Boards (MAHB) who can help municipalities navigate the fiscal and/or legal considerations associated with forming an OAC, including:

- Conducting consultations with municipal leadership;
- Drafting and amending intermunicipal agreements and memorandums of understanding; and
- Providing guidance on complying with municipal finance laws pertaining to fund appropriation and utilization



Thank You!





Creating Connections/ Learning Together- *Building shared services through community collaboration*

Date: 10/04/25



Our Assessment Framework for Fund Requests

What category of abatement does it support?

Ensuring that we have full coverage of support across Prevention, Harm Reduction, Treatment, and Recovery Maintenance

How many people does this program serve?

Providing us visibility into the number of people we are helping



How do you plan to spend the money?

Showing us specificity of need and protecting us from spending in areas prohibited by the State or already covered by another organization.

What are demo/psychographics of the people served?

Showing us any gaps/overlaps in critical coverage dynamics

Is this program currently in operation?

Helping us understand the level of effort needed to enable a program of service



Ensuring Consistent, Agnostic Fund Request Evaluation

Community Organizations

A	B	D	E	F	G	
Framework for Opioid Abatement Funding Needs						
Requesting Group	Program Name	Is this program currently in operation? (Y/N)	Approximately how many people will this program serve annually?	Percentage of people served from Gloucester (%)	1-10	
sample	sample	N	400	50%		
Gloucester Police Dept	Community Impact Unit	Y	100-200	75%	0%	
Gloucester Police Dept	Community Impact Unit	Y	25	80%	0%	
Gloucester Police Dept	Clinical Supervisor Salary 6k per year	Y	50	100%		
Health Department/Police Department	4 Community Input meetings	N	100	100%		
Gloucester Public Schools	Re-Engaging All Youth to School	Y	25	100%	90%	10%
Gloucester Health Department	Teen Center	N	1166	100%	100%	25%
Gloucester Health Department	Teen Mental Health First Aid	N	200	100%	90%	3%
One Stop	Drug User Behavioral Health Equity Program	Y	500	50%	0	2%
Gloucester Police Dept	Rent	Y	3000-5000	85%	30%	15%
Addison Gilbert Hospital	i decide	Y		100%	100%	25%
Younity Access Center	Younity - SAMHSA-funded Access Center serving young adults 16-25	Y	130	66%	50%	50%
Addison Gilbert Hospital	Discover	N	432			



City of Gloucester Opioid Abatement Dollar Request Form

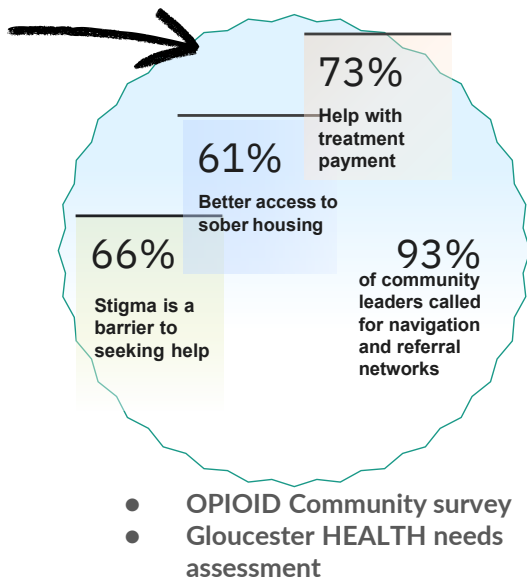
B I U

The City of Gloucester is now accepting Requests for Information (RFI) and Expressions of Interest (EOI)

Public Schools
Health Department
Police Department
One Stop/NSHP
BILH
Younity Access Center
Gloucester Family Health Center
Sawyer Free Library
Rose Baker Senior Center
Open Door
Action
Fishing Partnership
Middlesex Recovery
Wellspring House
Gloucester Housing Authority
CORE Peer Recovery and Resource Center
Children's Friend and Family Services

Building the Strategy

1. What did our DATA show as most needed?



2. What SERVICE PARTNERS best meet these needs?

	Prevention	Harm Reduction	Treatment		Recovery Maintenance	
			4078	4078	4078	4078
100	25	100%	90%	10%		75%
200	100%		100%		80%	
					3%	50%

3. How can we improve NAVIGATION of services and build for SCALE with the dollars allocated?





Shared Services Delivery

1. Service Partners provide shared services for all community organizations serving the community.



- ☐ Recovery Coach
- ☐ Sober Housing
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Community Programming
- ☐ CoPay RX Offset
- ☐ Anti Stigma Education

- ☐ REQUEST
- ☐ SCHEDULE
- ☐ CONFIRM
- ☐ VIEW STATUS
- ☐ REPORT



2. Partners and community organizations use a common platform to access services for their clients with reporting a by product of use.

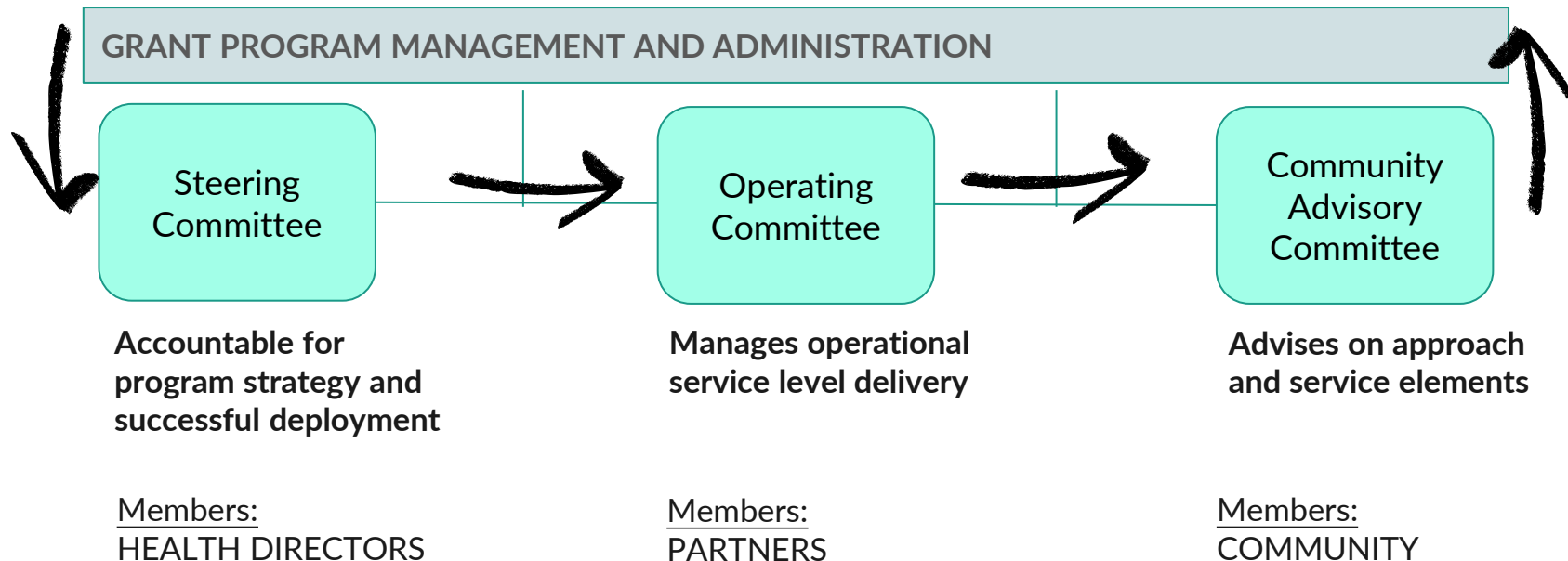


3. Program administration oversees creation of service descriptions, manages platform access, and centrally promotes the program.





How We Govern





Key Learnings in Building Shared Services

Opportunity	Challenges
• Help more organizations and clients • Eliminate redundant staffing/spend • Equitable navigation via shared platform • Health Department role as facilitator	• Longer set up time • Trust in delivery model • Commitment to adopt new way of working • Buy-in by Municipal Administration



Thank you!

Dominique Hurley

Director, Public Health

City of Gloucester

dhurley@gloucester-ma.gov

978 325 5268

Special thanks to steering committee leads:

Ray Cahill, Rockport Health Director

Colleen Fermon, Ipswich Health Director

Building Our Voice: The Opioid Prevention Commission

This commission establishes a powerful mechanism for influencing recovery policy and ensuring strategic allocation of resources.

by Sarah Ahern, Chair Opioid Use and Prevention Commission





Why This Matters Now



Real Community Voice

People with lived experience will directly shape policy decisions affecting our recovery community, ensuring programs truly address our most critical needs.



Dedicated Funding

Opioid settlement funds will support essential programs we actually need and want, with direct input from those most impacted by the crisis.



Systemic Change

We'll tackle fundamental issues like housing, healthcare access, and harmful policies that perpetuate the opioid crisis in our communities.



Our Path Forward

Community Engagement

We're building grassroots support through recovery community outreach and education, creating a unified voice for change.

Steering Committee

Forming dedicated team to guide ordinance development and navigate the passage process through city government.

Mayor Meeting

Scheduled sit-down with the mayor to present our case and gather executive support for our initiative.

Engagement with Executive Leadership: Initial Strategic Outcomes

Key Objectives

- Advocacy for ordinance drafting and enactment
- Securing commitment to robust community stakeholder engagement
- Establishing a clear implementation timeline
- Allocation of dedicated staff resources for commission operations

Strategic Assets

- Cohesive recovery advocacy representation
- Defined strategic objectives
- Data-driven policy recommendations
- Demonstrated community mandate and backing

This initial engagement served to establish a collaborative foundation with municipal executive leadership and initiate the foundational steps for the commission's formal establishment. We underscored the symbiotic benefits of the proposed commission, highlighting its dual impact on advancing the recovery agenda and contributing to broader municipal public health objectives.





Steering Committee: Your Leadership Team

1 Strategy Development

Created a detailed implementation plan. Built coalition support. Navigated city council process.

The steering committee developed a comprehensive roadmap for establishing the commission, identified key stakeholders and potential challenges.

2 Policy Expertise

Refined ordinance language. Addressed legal concerns. Ensured compliance requirements.

Our team worked with legal experts to craft language that established a commission with real power while meeting all legal requirements.

3 Community Mobilization

We Organized PWLLE. Coordinated public testimony. Maintained momentum throughout process.

We ensured diverse community voices are heard at every stage, creating opportunities for meaningful input from PWLLE



Who Gets a Seat at the Table



City Officials

Crucial for strategic alignment, leveraging existing municipal resources, and integrating our efforts within the broader governmental framework.



Harm Reduction

Essential for embedding evidence-based, life-saving interventions and practical expertise directly into our policy and programming.



Lived Experience

Three members whose authentic insights are foundational to understanding treatment, recovery pathways, and systemic barriers from the ground up.



Peer Support

Providing direct connections to community-based support models, vital for fostering sustainable recovery and enhancing collective well-being.



Family Members

Representing the critical support system perspective, offering unique insights into the broader impact and needs of families affected by substance use.

Making Recovery Voices Heard



Quarterly Meetings

Shape community responses to the opioid crisis through regular engagement sessions that drive timely program adjustments.



\$3,000 Annual Stipend

Your expertise matters. This compensation removes financial barriers and values your critical contributions to the community.



Training Provided

Comprehensive orientation ensures all members can participate effectively, regardless of previous experience.



City Support

Full administrative assistance and facilities let you focus on what matters most—creating meaningful change.





Your Voice Will Drive Real Change



Study Local Crisis

Analyze overdose data and service gaps in our community to identify the most pressing needs and intervention opportunities.



Shape Policy

Influence city ordinances affecting people who use drugs, reducing barriers to treatment and support services.



Guide Spending

Direct how opioid settlement money gets invested locally, ensuring funds go to evidence-based programs with community support.



Build Programs

Create evidence-based solutions that actually work, developed with input from those with lived experience.

Timeline to Transform Our Community

1

Month 1-2

Steering committee formation and mayor engagement meeting

- Recruit diverse committee members
- Develop presentation materials
- Conduct initial community forums

2

Month 3-4

Draft ordinance development and community feedback sessions

- Collaborate with legal experts
- Host listening sessions in recovery communities
- Refine proposal based on feedback

3

Month 5-6

City council presentation and ordinance passage

- Coordinate testimony from diverse stakeholders
- Address council questions and concerns
- Celebrate passage with community event

4

Month 7+

Commission launch and first member appointments

- Develop application process
- Select inaugural members
- Conduct orientation and training



Victory for the Recovery Community!



We are proud to announce the passage of our Opioid Use and Prevention Commission ordinance by Greenfield City Council, approved unanimously on May 21, 2025.

- This ordinance creates an unprecedented opportunity for recovery voices to shape policy going forward
- Together, we've established a commission that truly serves our community's needs and will create lasting positive change
- Our voices have been heard. Now the real work begins.

A Historic Victory for Opioid Abatement!



City Council's Unanimous Vote

On August 20, 2025, the City Council voted 11-0 to revoke the existing revenue dedication and establish a Special Revenue Fund for opioid abatement efforts.



Special Revenue Fund Established

This historic decision created a dedicated Special Revenue Fund, ensuring greater flexibility and direct oversight over how opioid settlement resources are utilized.



Empowering the Commission and Mayor

Crucially, this action places all decisions regarding opioid abatement funds directly under the purview of the Opioid Abatement Commission and the Mayor, guaranteeing transparent, accountable, and community-driven resource allocation.



Q & A



mosaic
opioid recovery partnership

Thank You!

mosaic.rizema.org

