



Request for Applications (RFA)

Cabarrus County Opioid Settlement Funds

Justice-Involved Reentry and Recovery Support Programs (2026–2027)

RFA Release Date: June 2, 2026

Application Deadline: July 1, 2026 by 5:00 p.m. EST

1. Purpose and Overview

Cabarrus County is issuing this Request for Applications (RFA) to award funding through the North Carolina Opioid Settlement Agreements. Cabarrus County is projected to receive approximately \$23 million over a multiyear period (2022–2038) and is prioritizing initiatives that address the intersection of the opioid crisis and the criminal justice system.

This funding opportunity seeks applications for new or expanded evidence-based or evidence-informed reentry programs that provide comprehensive support services to individuals with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and/or co-occurring Substance Use Disorder/Mental Health (SUD/MH) conditions who are:

- Transitioning from jail or prison into the community;
- Under community corrections supervision (e.g., probation or parole); or
- Residing in reentry programs or transitional facilities.

The County seeks proposals that strengthen continuity of care, reduce overdose risk, support long-term recovery, and improve successful community reintegration outcomes for justice-involved individuals.

2. Priority Areas and Strategy Alignment

Applications submitted under this RFA must clearly align with **Opioid Settlement Strategy 12: Reentry Programs**, as outlined in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments.

Priority consideration will be given to projects that support evidence-based or evidence-informed reentry initiatives designed to assist individuals with substance use disorders as they transition from incarceration or detention back into the community.

Eligible projects should demonstrate how proposed services advance the goals and allowable uses established under Strategy 12, including improving outcomes related to:

- Access to treatment and recovery services;
- Overdose prevention and harm reduction;
- Care coordination and continuity of care;
- Housing stability;
- Employment and educational opportunities; and
- Other reentry-related needs for impacted individuals.

Examples of Eligible Activities

The following examples represent eligible activities that may be proposed under this RFA. Applicants may also propose related activities that are consistent with the NC Opioid Settlement MOA and Strategy 12 (Reentry Programs) requirements.

Service Coordination and Care Navigation

- Provide culturally responsive, person-centered services that address the complex needs of individuals returning to the community following incarceration.
- Coordinate “warm handoffs” between correctional facilities, detention centers, and community-based providers.

- Employ community health workers, clinical social workers, forensic peer support specialists, or linkage-to-care navigators to assist participants with reentry planning and ongoing support.

Recovery and Support Services

- Connect participants to addiction treatment, recovery supports, harm reduction services, primary healthcare, and behavioral health services.
- Assist individuals with obtaining identification documents and accessing housing, transportation, employment, benefits, and other social supports.
- Provide overdose prevention education, naloxone training, and harm reduction education to incarcerated individuals and their loved ones prior to release.
- Establish take-home naloxone distribution programs for individuals upon release from incarceration.

Employment and Education Supports

- Provide workforce readiness training, including resume development, interview preparation, and employment retention supports.
- Assist participants in pursuing educational opportunities, apprenticeships, internships, and employment placement.
- Offer peer mentoring, case management, education fairs, and employment-focused support services for individuals with a history of incarceration.

Reentry Program Development

- Establish or expand reentry programs that link or refer individuals with opioid use disorder to community-based care and support services immediately upon release.

3. Eligibility

Eligible applicants include, but are not limited to:

- Nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) status;

- Community-based organizations;
- Government agencies;
- Faith-based organizations providing recovery support services; and
- Other entities with demonstrated experience serving justice-involved populations.

Applicants must demonstrate the capacity and ability to serve residents of Cabarrus County.

4. Funding Information

Total Available Funding

Up to **\$200,000** is available for the 2026–2027 funding cycle.

Project Period

Funded projects will operate during the period of:

August 15, 2026 – June 30, 2027

Continuation or renewal funding may be considered based on program performance, outcomes, compliance, and availability of funds.

Allowable Costs

Allowable expenses may include, but are not limited to:

- Personnel and fringe benefits;
- Program supplies and materials;
- Housing-related supports or subsidies;
- Transportation assistance;
- Direct client services;
- Workforce development and training activities; and
- Other eligible costs consistent with the NC Opioid Settlement MOA.

5. Application Requirements

Applications must include the following components:

A. Project Description

A detailed description of the proposed program, including:

- Target population;
- Services to be provided;
- Geographic area to be served;
- Program goals and anticipated outcomes; and
- How the project addresses the needs of justice-involved individuals with OUD and/or SUD/MH conditions.

B. Strategy Alignment

Applicants must clearly explain how the proposed project aligns with **Opioid Settlement Strategy 12: Reentry Programs** and how activities are allowable under the NC MOA.

Applications should specifically describe how the proposed initiative will:

- Improve access to treatment and recovery supports;
- Reduce overdose risk;
- Support successful community reintegration; and
- Address barriers commonly experienced by justice-involved individuals.

C. Organizational Capacity

Applicants should describe:

- Organizational mission and experience;
- Relevant qualifications and expertise;
- Existing partnerships or collaborations; and
- Capacity to successfully implement and manage the proposed project.

D. Budget and Budget Narrative

Applicants must submit:

- A detailed project budget; and
- A narrative explaining how requested funds will be used.

E. Evaluation and Outcomes

Applications should identify measurable outcomes and describe how success will be tracked and evaluated throughout the project period.

6. Timeline

- **RFA Release:** June 2, 2026
- **Questions Deadline:** June 17, 2026
- **Proposal Deadline:** July 1, 2026
- **Award Notification:** July 24, 2026
- **Projected Start Date:** August 15-31, 2026

Contact

Questions regarding this RFA may be directed to Cabarrus County Human Services – Opioid Settlement Team at OSF@cabarruscounty.us

7. Submission Instructions

Completed applications must be submitted electronically no later than:

July 1, 2026 by 5:00 p.m. EST

Late or incomplete applications may not be considered.

Submission instructions and required application forms will be provided separately.

8. Additional Information

Cabarrus County reserves the right to:

- Reject any or all applications;
- Request additional information from applicants;
- Negotiate modifications to proposals; and
- Award funding in whole or in part based on available funds and community priorities.

All applications become the property of Cabarrus County. The application packet is attached.

Awarded applicants will need to be established as active vendors with Cabarrus County, which will require registration through PaymentWorks.

Funding awards are contingent upon compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local requirements related to opioid settlement funding.

More information about the North Carolina Opioid Settlement Funds is available [here](#).

More information about Cabarrus County's OSF efforts is available [here](#).