Opioid Settlement Funds (OSF) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)

How did Sonoma County prioritize data driven disparities to promote equitable health outcomes?

1) Prioritized services to align with equity needs
2) Required demonstrable cultural competency in service delivery
3) Aligned NOFA scoring with community equity needs

Prioritized Service Areas in Opioid Settlement Funds (OSF) Notice of Funding Available (NOFA)

This section was featured front and center at the start of the NOFA document under the statement of requirements for the project proposals.

<u>Prioritized Service Areas</u>

The county has identified the following three Prioritized Areas which are the department's highest priorities for funding:
Recovery Residences - Adding additional capacity of at least 60 persons county-wide in recovery residences to fill in the following demographic and regional gaps in the SUD service continuum.
a. BIPOC (7+ residents)
b. Latinx (7+ residents)
c. Men (14+ residents)
d. Men with children (7+ residents)
e. Russian River Area (7+ residents)
f. Emergency Department Discharges (7+ residents)
g. Severe SUD impairment (SB 43) (7+ residents)
These facilities should be monitored with appointed house managers or supervised with trained peers or staff depending on acuity level of residents. All residents should receive SUD services including one or more of the following: outpatient, intensive outpatient, care coordination, recovery services, or medication-assisted treatment (MAT) services. Any program staff, oversight, and residents in facilities from NOFA recipients will be eligible for support from DHS DMC-ODS Care Coordinator positions. This added capacity is needed to address current population needs, and also in anticipation of the implementation of SB 43, which becomes effective January 1, 2026 and will expand conservatorship to address SUD impairment and greater expand the capacity needs in the county. Functionally, SB 43 allows people to be placed on 5150's and other involuntary holds based on presence of a "Severe" SUD diagnosis. SB 43 also expands grave disability criteria to include issues of personal safety and inability to obtain necessary medical care.
Syringe Exchange Programs - Increasing capacity for syringe exchange programs in Sonoma

County. Syringe exchange program services can provide education on safe injection practices, sterile injecting supplies, wound care supplies, connections to SUD treatment, mental health services, and healthcare services. These programs should also provide testing for common injection transmitted infections including human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis C virus (HCV), and hepatitis B virus (HBV).
Prevention, Education, and Harm Reduction - Development of targeted media and information campaigns using a variety of modalities to reach key audiences that are informed by overdose data. Proposals should be focused on one or more demographics such as: Black, Multiracial, Latinx, Russian River Area residents, adults ages 25-44, or youth. Education and harm reduction efforts may include coordinating with community partners, supporting events and engagement activities, and providing training where appropriate such as with Narcan administration and utilization of fentanyl test strips. Areas of focus should be data-driven and include collaboration with Department SUD Prevention and Public Health when possible.

Cultural Competence Opioid Settlement Funds (OSF) Notice of Funding Available (NOFA)

Qualifications and Experience

Potential proposers must demonstrate an ability to provide culturally competent services. Specifically, proposers must disclose: (1) their previous experience with providing services to the diverse ethnic, linguistic, sexual or cultural population to be served; (2) their current ability to provide the specific project services to the diverse ethnic, linguistic, sexual or cultural population to be served; and, (3) the specific outcome measures, qualitative and quantitative, which demonstrate that the project provides culturally and linguistically competent services.
Culturally competent services include sensitivity to the diverse populations affected by OUD/SUD, including addressing health disparities and ensuring that underserved and marginalized groups are well served. The high impact of opioid and other drug related overdose deaths in Black, Latino, and multiracial residents necessitates programming that meets the needs of communities of color and other vulnerable populations that are disproportionately impacted by OUD/SUD."

Scoring Examples from Opioid Settlement Funds (OSF) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA).

The sections here are direct snippets from the NOFA scoring materials used in the procurement process for awarding 5 million in OSF funding to applicants. These items are included as examples of scoring criteria that were adopted to help prioritize Sonoma County's equity

objectives with this project. Emphasis was placed on regional, racial, and ages that have disparate outcomes or vulnerability in the opioid epidemic.

Project Approach and Work Schedule:

Proposer is addressing one of the priority areas of greatest needs identified for SUD in Sonoma County

- Recovery Residences that address demographic and regional gaps: BIPOC, Latinx, Men, Men with children, Russian River Area, Emergency Department Discharges, Severe SUD impairment (SB 43)
- Syringe Exchange Programs
- Prevention, Education, and Harm Reduction focusing on key audiences such as Black, Multiracial, Latinx, Russian River Area residents, adults ages 25-44, or youth.

Specify which regions of Sonoma County are intended to be served, using data to show any disparities in regional equity that the program intends to address.

Include a demographic breakdown of intended population the project will serve including age, gender, race, and ethnicity. Programs must use data to show any demographics with disparities in equity that the program intends to serve.