

Rutherford County Impact Report Narratives for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Each local government that receives opioid settlement funds is asked to share an Annual Settlement Update describing how they have made use of settlement funds during each fiscal year. For each strategy funded, local governments also share additional narratives to describe their progress and successes (success information is optional for some local governments). Across all funded strategies, each local government selects one progress narrative and one success narrative to spotlight each fiscal year.

Rutherford County provided the following information for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (July 2023 through June 2024):

Annual Settlement Update

In fiscal year 2023-2024, Rutherford County focused on strategic planning and community engagement for opioid settlement funds. They partnered with the NC Association of County Commissioners to form a stakeholder coalition addressing opioid overdoses and settlement programming. The committee held a public forum at Isothermal Community College, incorporating public opinion into fund allocation decisions. They released an RFA before selecting four initial funding recipients.

- \$120,000 two-year agreement with Gatespring Consulting for Collaborative Strategic Planning, so that the County may access a flexible list of strategies from Exhibit B.
- \$400,000 two-year award to Rutherford Regional Hospital for intensive outpatient program with medications for opioid use disorders (Evidence-Based Treatment strategy).
- \$335,705 two-year award to Preferred Choice Healthcare for Family Centered Treatment-Recovery program (Recovery Support Services strategy).
- \$258,000 two-year award to United Way of Rutherford County for two Certified Peer Support Specialists, expanding mobile harm reduction and safe syringe programs (Recovery Support Services strategy).

Rutherford County did not disburse funds for any strategies in F.Y. 2023-2024.