



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

09.09.2024

CONTACT:

Taylor Koopman, PIO

tpkoop@kalcountry.com

269-383-8651

Kalamazoo County and Kalamazoo Community Foundation to Launch Opioid Remediation Mini Grants

KALAMAZOO, Mich. – As the opioid epidemic continues to impact communities across the nation, Kalamazoo County Government is taking decisive action. In partnership with Kalamazoo Community Foundation (KZCF), the County is proud to announce the launch of the Opioid Remediation Mini Grants program, aimed at delivering immediate support to local organizations working to address this critical issue.

This initiative, backed by \$250,000 in opioid settlement funds, is designed to provide swift and targeted funding to local organizations committed to addressing the opioid epidemic and are currently serving individuals impacted by opioid use disorder in Kalamazoo County.

“This partnership with the Kalamazoo Community Foundation allows us to ensure that the opioid settlement funds are distributed where they can make the most impact,” said Lyndi Smith, Deputy County Administrator for External Services. “We know our community needs help, and we are committed to supporting initiatives that address the urgent needs of our residents, particularly those that serve vulnerable populations experiencing gaps in access to services.”

This program represents the initial release of opioid settlement funds aimed at addressing urgent needs while the Opioid Settlement Fund Task Force develops a comprehensive plan for allocating the remaining funds.

Mini Grant funds will support existing community-based projects and organizations dedicated to opioid use disorder and remediation, defined as care, treatment, and other programs designed to:

- address the misuse and abuse of opioid products,
- treat or mitigate opioid use or related disorders, or
- mitigate other alleged effects of, including those injured by the opioid epidemic.

Applications will be accepted from Sept. 10, 2024, at 8 a.m. until **Oct. 1, 2024, at 5 p.m.**, with grant awards being announced on Oct. 28, 2024. Eligible applicants can request up to \$30,000, which must be spent within one year, to expand existing programs or launch new initiatives that align with the County's goals of mitigating the devastating effects of the opioid epidemic.

The grants will prioritize projects that demonstrate a clear strategy for addressing critical needs related to opioid use in Kalamazoo County. Additional consideration will be given to applications that include evaluation metrics, collaborative partnerships, and serve populations with disparities in access to services.

“Kalamazoo Community Foundation understands that to create a thriving community for all, we have to be willing to explore new solutions to address some of the biggest challenges we face,” said Alyssa

Stewart, Chief Community Impact Officer at KZCF. “These mini grants are a great way for us to support residents across the entire County and deliver critical support to those who need it most.”

For detailed information on eligibility and how to apply for a Mini Grant, visit [KZCF's website](#).

Visit [the County's website](#) for more information on Kalamazoo County's opioid settlement funds and how they will be used.

###

About Kalamazoo Community Foundation

KZCF, established in 1925, has the vision of Kalamazoo County being the most equitable place to live, with the mission to mobilize people, resources and expertise and to advance racial, social and economic justice. Learn more at kalfound.org.