

GLENDALE'S OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

By Elise Smith, MPA



WeArePublicHealth.org





THE NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT

- Pharmaceutical companies failed to prevent the flooding of communities with opioids.
- McKesson Corporation, Cardinal Health, Inc., and AmerisourceBergen Corporation (The Distributor Settlement)
- **One of multiple** opioid-related lawsuits. Other corporations have similar settlements being passed down.
 - Lag in how information trickles down from the news to the County.
- The Distributor Settlement is worth approximately \$19.5 Billion.

GLENDALE'S ALLOCATION

\$124,320

First Disbursement

2.3%

Share of Funds

18

Years of Payments

~\$2.2 Million

Over 18 Years

- Exact value of future payments are unknown.
- Funds are distributed by the County and monitored by the Attorney General.
- Reporting requirements currently unknown.
 - Required to spend money across any of the **9 domains** identified in the One Arizona Distribution Agreement.
 - Contractual agreement exists between Glendale and the State **not** the County.

9 ELIGIBLE SPENDING DOMAINS



Expand Harm Reduction Programs



Increase Warm Hand Off Programs & Recovery Services



Broaden Access to Naloxone



Improve Treatment in Jails & Prisons



Increase use of Medications to Treat Opioid Use Disorder



Provide Treatment During Pregnancy & Postpartum



Enrich Prevention Strategies



Expand Services for Neonatal Withdrawal Syndrome



Support Data Collection & Research

THE PUBLIC HEALTH FELLOWSHIP



- Public Health Fellows were assigned to 6 cities/sites with the highest populations in Maricopa County.
- Position is dedicated to understanding and formulating interventions to address **substance use and mental health** in the community.
- Enhance information-sharing and collaboration.
 - Bridges communication between the city and county.
 - Share best practices and combine efforts.
- Beginning September 2022, serves for a period of 2 years.
 - Salary is fully paid for by Maricopa County.

Elise Smith, MPA



- **City of Glendale Public Health Fellow**
- **Education**
 - Bachelors of Social Work, University of Utah
 - Masters of Public Administration, Arizona State University
- **Experience**
 - Worked in various behavioral health settings in both case management and residential treatment for adolescents.
 - Served as a Program Manager for nonprofits including, Arizona Town Hall and the Arizona Faith Network.
 - Performed qualitative research on homeless populations, with published work in the International Journal of Homelessness (2021) doi.org/10.5206/ijoh.2021.1.13651



WHAT IS THE COUNTY DOING NOW?



*MCDPH has hired a contractor– **LeCroy & Milligan**– to complete a county-wide needs assessment related to opioid use. This data will guide the decision-making for future county-wide interventions.*

- **Assessment Tasks:**
 - Evaluation of current Substance Use/Opioid Use Disorder trends.
 - Conduct a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis of core abatement strategies.
 - Identify needs and gaps in funding related to core strategies and high-risk populations.
 - Evaluate awareness, readiness, and capacity of community stakeholders to implement core strategies.
- **Methodology:**
 - The Vendor will utilize qualitative and quantitative assessment tools.
 - Key Informant Interviews
 - Listening Sessions
 - Electronic Surveys
- **Proposed Timelines:**
 - All tasks must be completed by June 30, 2023.

GLENDALE'S OPTIONS

1

City of Glendale
Returns its Funds

2

Return Funds to
Maricopa County

CITY OF GLENDALE RETAINS ITS FUNDS



- Will have to spend money in accordance with the 9 domains and maintain reporting requirements to AG's office **for the next 18 years.**
 - Maintain communication with County to monitor for redundancies in effort.
- **Creating infrastructure to address Substance Use within the City of Glendale.**
 - Fellow will be exiting after 2 years but will be responsible for creating a sustainability plan.

RETURNING THE FUNDS TO MARICOPA COUNTY



- **Funds are reabsorbed into the County's account.**
 - Maricopa County will be responsible for reporting requirements.
 - Priorities from County Needs Assessment will dictate how and where money is spent.
- **The County will focus spending where high need exists.**
 - Glendale is home to high need populations and will likely be a region of emphasis for future interventions.
- The County will be building and coordinating **regional partnerships, Glendale is included** regardless.
- County **has capacity and expertise** in tracking, strategizing and intervening in matters related to Substance Use.

Regardless of the city's decision, the intention of Maricopa County is to support Glendale in taking on this task and helping to define what is appropriate for the needs of our community.

Glendale submits a decision to retain or return the settlement funds.

Does not need to occur immediately.

Anticipate:

- County Needs Assessment Results
- Reporting Requirements
- What Cities in the Region are Doing

Likely to revisit in the Late Spring 2023



NEXT STEPS



Q & A

THANK YOU