



Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority

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Grants Committee

Minutes

December 6, 2024

3:00 pm

All virtual meeting

Video link:

<https://youtu.be/YRfnctyBYBY>

1. Call to order, establish quorum

Dr. Sarah Thomason, Chair

Dr. Sarah Thomason, chair of the OAA Grants Committee, called this meeting to order. The following Grants Committee members were in attendance: vice-chair Dr. James Thompson, Senator Todd Pillion, Mr. Timothy Spencer, Ms. Sharon Buckman, Mr. Jim Holland, and Delegate Briana Sewell. We have a quorum. Anthony McDowell, Charlie Lintecum, Adam Rosatelli, Cindy Newman, Matthew Terrill, James Schliessmann, Cara Moisan, Kathleen Dupre, Jennifer Sawyer, and Sharekka Bridges are present from the OAA.

2. Approval of November 9, 2024, minutes

Dr. Sarah Thomason, Chair

A motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to approve the November 9, 2024, minutes.

3. Update from the Director of Operations
 - a) Amendments to State Agency Awards
 - b) Amendments to City and County Grants
 - c) Overview of NEW City/County Individual Distribution Grant Applications and Recommendations for FY2025 Awards
 - d) Overview of Proposed New Grant Opportunity:
"Operation STOP!"

Cecil "Charlie" Lintecum,
Director of Operations

Mr. Lintecum shared a presentation (attached to these minutes).

Senator Pillion asked if VDH had a lower than expected request for Naloxone. Mr. Lintecum clarified that the distribution program did not include Naloxone distribution, but there were fentanyl and xylazine test strips, which there was a lower demand for. The Naloxone purchase process had a lower cost than anticipated, which was addressed at the previous grants committee meeting regarding the carry-over amount for this agency.

Dr. Thompson asked if there were any limitation on who qualifies for the Roads to Recovery Withdrawal Management Program scholarships, and if participants needed specific types of referrals to participate. Roads to Recovery are just providing the step-down program assistance such as peer support and

connection to services, they will not be billing for any type of facility or treatment services. Ms. Newman does not believe there are any limitations.

4. Public comment period

Mike Fatula, Opioid Response Coordinator for the City of Richmond wanted to acknowledge OAA for making the move to create the new grant opportunity, "Operation STOP!", using data to identify who is at highest risk right now and giving the localities with highest percentage increase the opportunity to apply for funds. Dr. Thomason thanked Mr. Fatula for his comment.

5. New Business

Dr. Sarah Thomason, Chair

- a) Consider amendments to state agency awards
- b) Consider amendments to City and County Grants
- c) Consider recommended individual grant awards to cities and counties for FY2025 awards
- d) Consider approval of new grant opportunity:
"Operation STOP!"
- e) Consider any other items of new business

- a) A motion was made to approve the amendments to state agency awards as recommended by staff, seconded, and voted unanimously.
- b) A motion was made to approve the amendments to City and County grants as recommended by staff, seconded, and voted unanimously
 - Mr. Holland recused himself from the voting for a potential conflict of interest.
- c) A motion was made to approve the individual grant awards to cities and counties for FY2025 as recommended by staff, seconded, and voted unanimously.
- d) A motion was made to approve the new grant opportunity "**Operation STOP!**" as recommended by staff, seconded, and voted unanimously.
- e) No new items of new business

6. Grants Committee Member Comments and Discussion

Dr. Sarah Thomason, Chair

Mr. Spencer asked Mr. McDowell to name which organization performs surveys for localities to ascertain what is needed most in specific regions. The OAA has an agreement with the Wright Center at VCU where they are able to provide technical assistance to cities and counties throughout Virginia on a contractual, consultant basis directly with cities and counties. The Wright Center is also producing a Toolkit, paid for via an OAA grant.

7. Adjourn

Dr. Sarah Thomason, Chair

Meeting adjourned at 3:46PM.

OPIOID ABATEMENT AUTHORITY (“OAA”)
STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

I **James Holland** state that I have a personal interest in agenda item **5 (b)** regarding **an amendment to Chesterfield County grant.**

because **of my position on the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors.**

Therefore, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3112, I must refrain from participation in this matter. I ask that the OAA Executive Director (or a member of his staff) accept this statement and ask that it be made a part of the minutes of this meeting.

Signature

Jim Holland

Date

12/6/2024



OAA Grants Committee Meeting

DECEMBER 6, 2024, 3:00PM

ALL VIRTUAL MEETING

[HTTPS://ZOOM.US/J/99442766995](https://zoom.us/j/99442766995)

Agenda Item No. 1

Call to Order
Establish Quorum
Recognition of Guests



Agenda Item No. 2

Approval of Minutes from the November 9, 2024, meeting of the Grants Committee



Agenda Item No. 3

Update from the Director of Operations

Cecil “Charlie” Lintecum



Update on City/County Grant Activities

FY25 City/County Grant Awards

- 68% have returned award packages and funds have been or will soon be transmitted
- 32% have outstanding documentation requirements
 - Regional Abatement Coordinators are following up and providing support

All FY24 City/County Annual Reports Received

- 60% are Compliant
- 40% require additional follow up before final rating can be applied
 - Compliant
 - Substantially Compliant
 - Non-Compliant

Planning Grant Progress Reports Due 12/12/2024

- This includes planning grants awarded in for FY24 (2-year awards) and FY25 (1-year awards)
- May be some amendments for the Committee to consider at the 2/21/2025 meeting



Update State Agency Award Activities

PP2024-2025 MOUs have been sent or are in final revisions

- 31% have been returned and the appropriation transfer process will start next week
- 25% will be sent next week with amendments incorporated from today's meeting
- 44% are either with the awarded agencies or under review/revisions by OAA
 - Some of these may result in future amendments for the Committee to consider

FY24 State Carryforward reports received

- A few amendments will be considered today
- Still working with one agency to receive documentation needed for amendment
 - Will be addressed at 2/21/2025 meeting

FY24 State Annual Reports Due December 9th

- Conducted and posted instructional webinar

Next Proposal Window scheduled for March- May 2025



State Agency Amendment Recommendations

Standard Conditions for all Carryforward Recommendations

1. All carry-forward funds will only be used for 1-time items
2. Use of carryforward funds will not be to expand the project beyond the scope approved by the OAA's Grants Committee for PP2023-2024 or PP2024-2025
 1. Example: only the General Assembly can authorize an increase in an executive agency's maximum employment level (MEL)
3. The approval of carryforward funds does not obligate the OAA to approve increased amounts for subsequent renewal requests
 1. OAA-funded efforts do not create any ongoing obligations for the Commonwealth
4. PP2023-2024 carry-forward funds must be demonstrated to be 80% encumbered before any PP2024-2025 funds will be transmitted
5. All conditions and contingencies approved by the OAA's Grants Committee for these projects' PP2024-2025 award apply to the carry-forward amounts as well



State Agency Amendment Recommendations

State Agency	Project Name	Total PP 23-24 Approved Carryforward	Final PP 23-24 Carryforward	Comments
Department of Corrections (VADOC)	MOUD Social Workers	\$293,236	\$411,986	VADOC has requested to have their PP 24-25 award reduced by \$118,750 to account for increased carryforward. The reduced PP 24-25 award amount would be \$158,020, as opposed to \$276,770 which was originally approved by the OAA Grants Committee (8/2/2024).
Virginia Department of Health (VDH)	Naloxone Distribution Program	\$0	\$385,562	Carryforward was generated due to timing issues, additional funding to support budgeted positions, and variable demand for test strips leading to fewer purchases than anticipated. Carryforward approval is being requested for a one-time expense for the development of an At-Cost Model Portal where organizations can apply for agreements and order Naloxone (different process than the No-Cost portal created last year with OD2A funds).
Virginia Department of Health (VDH)	Substance Use Disorder Coordinators	\$176,278	\$228,731	Carryforward was generated due to delays in hiring one of the three SUD Coordinators. VDH has requested to have their PP 24-25 award reduced by \$52,453 to account for increased carryforward. The reduced PP 24-25 award amount would be \$76,250, as opposed to \$128,703 which was originally approved by the OAA Grants Committee (8/2/2024).
University of Virginia (UVA)	Street Medicine Access Reduction and Treatment	\$0	\$58,380	Carryforward was generated due to a timing issue related to purchasing supplies. Carryforward approval is being requested to complete components of the PP 23-24 approved scope that were unable to be completed. UVA has indicated unmet Year 1 objectives will be shifted to Year 2 (PP 24-25) to be completed but the overall project scope remains unmodified.
Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU)	Virginia Opioid Toolkit for Cities and Localities	\$28,279	\$70,589	Carryforward was generated due to delays in hiring staff. Carryforward approval is being requested by VCU to develop a series of quarterly meetings and outreach sessions to allow community members and Wright Center faculty/experts to share insights, disseminate knowledge, and best practices. The presentations and sessions will be recorded and made available through the opioid toolkit website and depending on the success of the presentations/sessions, frequency may increase to monthly. Addition to scope does not obligate OAA to increase funding at renewal.

TOTALS: \$497,793 \$1,155,248

RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS TOTAL: \$657,455



City/County Awards Amendment Recommendations

Chesterfield County Cooperative Partnership

- Mobile Outreach for Harm Reduction, Treatment, and Support
 - Amendment to change Powhatan County's matching funds source from Direct Distribution to Individual Distribution
 - This amendment only impacts the source of the matching funds for cooperative partner Powhatan County. All other terms, conditions, requirements, and contingencies from the approval of the renewal still apply.
 - Individual Grant amount requested is **\$22,781** and Direct Distribution match will be reduced in the like amount



NEW City/County Individual Distribution Applications and Recommendations

Virginia Beach - \$636,105 – Individual and Gold Standard

- Youth Peer Support and Preventions Outreach - \$203,500
- Opioid Services at Juvenile Detention - \$75,000
- Virginia Beach Police LEAD Program and Community Outreach - \$140,000
- Virginia Beach City Public Schools (VBCPS) Online Substance Use and Wellness Interventions - \$70,000
- Teen to Teen Social Media Campaign & Outreach Initiative - \$132,605
- Parks and Recreation “This is Not About Drugs” - \$15,000

Warren County - \$72,850 - Individual

- Raymond E. Santmyers Student Union and Activity Center

Lynchburg City - \$193,421 - Individual

- Roads to Recovery Withdrawal Management Program



Overview of Proposed New Grant Opportunity: Operation *STOP!*

Why is this Grant Opportunity Needed?

- While national and state data show a decline in fatal opioid overdoses in 2023 and 2024, the opioid overdose crisis has evolved.
- Overdoses have shifted from over-prescribing and misuse of opioid medications, to now involve fentanyl, frequently mixed with stimulants such as cocaine and methamphetamine.
- This shift has concentrated opioid overdoses in urban areas rather than rural areas.
- Data from the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) shows a 59% increase in opioid overdose deaths per 100,000 persons statewide from 2019 to 2023. Disparities when comparing rates among racial groups during the same time period:
 - White Virginians: Overdose death rate increased by 11%
 - Black Virginians: Overdose death rate increased by 41%
- These trends align with national patterns.
 - KFF News analysis shows national drug overdose rates among Black individuals (47.5 per 100,000) surpass those of White individuals (35.6 per 100,000)
 - National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) highlighted that between 2015 and 2023
 - Overdose deaths among non-Hispanic Black men aged 55 and older increased nearly fivefold.
 - In 2023, deaths in this group were nearly triple the national average for their age demographic, with fentanyl and cocaine as the predominant contributors.



Overview of Proposed New Grant Opportunity: Operation *STOP!*

What does this Grant Opportunity Provide?

- The OAA will make awards of **up to \$500,000 per grant award**, with a maximum total of all **Operation *STOP!* Awards not to exceed \$3 million.**
- Operation *STOP!* grants **are competitive**, only available to the individual cities and counties listed identified, and the evaluation criteria is established by the Code of Virginia.
- Awarded funds will be available **with the initial period of performance of July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026 (FY2026)**. Awarded Cities and counties will have the option to request to renew/extend the period of performance into FY2027 (July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027) and carryforward grant fund balances if necessary or desired. This is a single award with a maximum of two performance periods.
- The primary focus of Operation *STOP!* is for cities and counties to implement an immediate short-term education/prevention program to reduce overdoses and deaths, while assisting the community in the development of a strategy to use other opioid settlement funds for long-term opioid abatement projects.



Overview of Proposed New Grant Opportunity: Operation *STOP!*

What are the Requirements for this Grant Opportunity?

- **Operation *STOP!*** grant applications should reference how data will be used in implementing the efforts.
- Applicants **MUST** partner with at least one community-based organization that has a track record of success in connecting with and successfully serving the specific population that is at the highest risk of overdose within the city or county.
- The **Operation *STOP!*** grant application (narrative) must address how the cities and counties will specifically accomplish each of the following objectives:
 1. Identify residents at the highest risk of overdose, and specifically those who may be difficult to reach using traditional outreach and education methods.
 2. Develop and implement a targeted outreach and communications strategy for high-risk individuals.
 3. Implement or expand harm reduction efforts targeting the identified high-risk population.
 4. Implement or expand treatment and/or recovery support services for this high-risk population
- Applications must be submitted through the OAA's Grants Portal on or before April 1, 2025, and follow the step-by-step instructions for this application to be considered.



Overview of Proposed New Grant Opportunity: Operation *STOP!*

Who is Eligible to Apply for this Grant Opportunity?

- The OAA has identified a list of cities and counties that, according to data provided to the OAA by VDH, experienced a disproportionately high increase in opioid overdose death rates among Black individuals from 2019 to 2023. Eligible cities and counties must meet the following criteria:
 - A 100% or higher increase in Black opioid overdose deaths per 100,000 population from 2019-2023
 - At least 20 opioid overdose fatalities within the timeframe.



Cities and Counties with Disproportionately High Black or African American Opioid Overdose Deaths

Data Timeframe: 2019 – 2023

Source: Virginia Department of Health

- (1) 5-year case counts of 20 or higher
- AND
- (2) rate of increase = 100% or higher

City or County	Black / African American	
	Opioid Overdose Death Count	Percent of Rate Change
Chesapeake City	84	436%
Norfolk City	224	365%
Portsmouth City	172	300%
Richmond City	580	229%
Henrico County	212	167%
Newport News City	107	114%
Petersburg City	98	103%

Overview of Proposed New Grant Opportunity: Operation *STOP!*

Recommendation to Cities and Counties to form Operation *STOP!* Advisory Group

- The OAA recommends each applicant city or county form an advisory group for the **Operation *STOP!*** Grant project. The advisory group composition should include:
 - Representative(s) from the partnering community-based organization(s).
 - Individual(s) with lived experience of opioid use disorder.
 - Local faith-based organization(s).
 - Local Health Department/District representatives
 - Emergency medical services (EMS) providers serving the community
 - Business community representatives (e.g., chamber of commerce, or local private business).
 - Representatives from local post-secondary institutions who could provide technical assistance.



Agenda Item No. 4

PUBLIC COMMENT

Please keep individual comments to 3 minutes.



Agenda Item No. 5

NEW BUSINESS



New Business

Item 5.a

Consider recommended amendments to existing State Agency Awards as described during this presentation and in Attachment A

DRAFT MOTION: APPROVE RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING STATE AGENCY AWARDS DESCRIBED DURING THIS PRESENTATION AND IN ATTACHMENT A



New Business

Item 5.b

Consider recommended amendments to existing City and County Grant Awards as described during this presentation and in Attachment B

DRAFT MOTION: APPROVE RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING CITY AND COUNTY AWARDS DESCRIBED DURING THIS PRESENTATION AND ATTACHMENT B



New Business

Item 5.c

Consider recommended NEW Individual Distribution Grant Awards to Cities and Counties as described during this presentation and in Attachment C

DRAFT MOTION: APPROVE RECOMMENDED NEW INDIVIDUAL DISTRIBUTION GRANT AWARDS TO CITIES AND COUNTIES AS DESCRIBED DURING THIS PRESENTATION AND IN ATTACHMENT C



New Business

Item 5.d

*Consider approval of new grant opportunity:
Operation STOP!*

*DRAFT MOTION: APPROVE RECOMMENDED NEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY:
OPERATION STOP! AS DESCRIBED DURING THIS PRESENTATION AND IN
ATTACHMENT D*



New Business

Item 5.e

Consider any other items of new business.



Agenda Item No. 6

GRANTS COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION



Agenda Item No. 7

**MOTION
TO
ADJOURN**

