



**BECKER COUNTY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**

For

Becker County Opioid Remediation to Support Epidemic Response Strategies, including Prevention, Treatment, Recovery, and Harm Reduction.

Application Open Submission Dates: October 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024

RFP Details Can be Found on the County Website Page:
<https://www.co.becker.mn.us/ucfiles/hs/Opioid-RFP-2024.pdf>

SUBMITTAL OF QUALIFICATIONS

**PLEASE SUBMIT ALL REQUESTED INFORMATION ELECTRONICALLY
THROUGH THE LINK SENT TO YOU**



For questions, please contact
Becker County Public Health at
218-847-5628 ext. 5415

Overview

Minnesotans have suffered tremendously from the opioid epidemic. Opioid overdose deaths dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic. Reports show 978 opioid-involved overdose deaths in Minnesota in 2021, a 44% increase from 2020 when there were 654 opioid-involved deaths in Minnesota in 2020; this number has more than doubled from 2019 to 2022. In 2021, American Indian Minnesotans were ten times as likely to die from a drug overdose than white Minnesotans. Black Minnesotans were more than three times as likely to die from drug overdose than white Minnesotans.

Additional data on the opioid epidemic in Becker County and in Minnesota can be found on the Minnesota Department of Health's [opioid dashboard](#). The dashboard contains detailed information on overdose deaths, opioid-related hospital visits, the number of opioid prescriptions dispensed, the prevalence of substance use disorder, and more. It also includes links to sources where some of the above-referenced data can be tracked on a county level.

The Minnesota Attorney General's Office joined the historic multibillion dollar multi-state settlement agreements with pharmaceutical distributors, manufacturers, and pharmacies.

According to the [Minnesota Opioid State Sub-Division Memorandum of Agreement](#), Public Health departments shall serve as the lead agency and Chief Strategist to identify, collaborate, and respond to local issues as Local Governments decide how to leverage and disburse Opioid Settlement Funds.

Purpose of RFP

The purpose of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to identify qualified organizations to respond to the opioid crisis through opioid epidemic response strategies, including prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction. The goal of this approach is to fund projects in Becker County that will have a high impact, particularly for Becker County communities most disproportionately impacted by the opioid crisis. The service area includes all territories of Becker County including those on the White Earth Reservation.

Funding Requirements

Selected organizations will receive funding to complete the following activities:

- Implement an opioid epidemic response project, including prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction strategies.
- Complete a yearly Project Summary Report, including updated organization contact information, an account of the use of funds, and a description of outcomes.
- Present report and outcomes to the Becker County Opioid Settlement Advisory Council at least once during the funding period.
- This current Request for Funding Proposal (RFP) will be no more than a duration of one year.

Application Scoring Criteria

The only applications considered by the Application Review Team are ones that contain all elements listed below:

- Applicant Information
- Organization Overview
- Project Narrative
- Workplan (see Appendix A)
- Budget and Budget Narrative (see Appendix B)
- Letters of Commitment (if relevant)
- Additional Required Attachments:
 - Copy of applicant's insurance policy or waiver request
 - W-9

Selected applicants will be those that most clearly detail the following:

- A clear, comprehensive, culturally relevant, and high-impact plan for addressing the chosen opioid abatement strategies
- Financial responsibility and capacity to meet funding requirements

Prior to entering the review process, applications will be reviewed to determine whether they meet the requirements outlined in this application. Submissions that meet all requirements will then be scored by an

Application Review Team consisting of 3-5 reviewers. Each application is reviewed and scored out of 80 by each reviewer, and the average composite of the scores becomes the application's final score. The Application Review Team will then inform the Advisory Council of the application scores and project summaries. Using the application's final review score, considerations from the Application Review Team, input from the Advisory Council, and the availability of funds, the Director of Human Services will make a recommendation to the Becker County Board of Commissioners regarding what proposals to fund. All final grant award decisions will be made by Becker County Board of Commissioners.

Contract Agreement

The selected proposal, along with the Requested Funding Proposal (RFP) and any counter proposal will be incorporated into a formal agreement after potential negotiations. It is the intent of Becker County to award contract(s) for a term of up to 12 months.

Rejection of Proposals

Becker County does not promise to accept the lowest cost proposal and specifically reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any formal proposal requirements, to investigate the qualifications and experience of any Applicant, to reject any provisions in any proposal, to obtain new proposals, to negotiate the requested services and contract terms with any Applicant. Incomplete proposals and proposals not sufficiently detailed or not in acceptable form may be returned for completion or may be rejected by Becker County.

To request an application for the RFP, please click on this link <https://forms.office.com/g/SYaywCcs3R> and complete and submit the form. The application materials and instructions will then be emailed to you.