KNOX COUNTY
GRANTS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS
NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

PURPOSE

Knox County Opioid Settlement Funds will be allocated to projects and programs aimed at remediating, preventing, and educating on substance misuse. This effort will combat the opioid epidemic by supplying essential resources for the community. These funds are generated through the Tennessee Opioid Abatement Trust Fund and legal settlements with pharmaceutical companies.

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

In conjunction with the Knox County Health Department, Knox County Grants and Community Development (KCGCD) has developed a basic framework for the distribution of opioid settlement funds to best serve the residents of Knox County. This framework was developed based on guidance from Johns Hopkins University, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and the Tennessee Opioid Abatement Council. Funding will be allocated across the following six priority areas chosen to specifically address the needs of our community.

PRIMARY PREVENTION

Evidence-based prevention programs can significantly reduce rates of substance misuse. Prevention programs aim to educate and support individuals, families, and communities to prevent the misuse of drugs and the development of substance use disorders.

HARM REDUCTION

Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) is a chronic condition that requires an array of services to limit the potential for future adverse events such as serious infections or fatal overdoses. This category emphasizes strategies that prioritize the safety, health, and well-being of individuals affected by opioid use through harm reduction approaches. Currently, Harm reduction services in Knox County are often limited by financial and staffing constraints.

TREATMENT

Treatment for Substance Use Disorder (SUD) is essential for a safe pathway to long-term SUD recovery. To increase the awareness of treatment availability both the provider and patient require knowledge of treatment screening, treatment options, and treatment accessibility. Treatment priorities encompass reducing barriers to Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) and expansion of treatment services availability.

RECOVERY SUPPORT

Recovery from OUD is possible given the right circumstances and situation. Many factors contribute to the potential for an individual to relapse and resume opioid use and, therefore, recovery programming should be broad in the type of services provided.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Comprehensive educational and training programs can empower first responders, schools, community support groups, and families to make informed decisions, enhance skills, and develop effective strategies to prevent opioid misuse, expand treatment, promote recovery, and improve overall public health.

RESEARCH AND DATA COMMUNICATION

The collection of timely, accurate, and relevant data is integral to the success of opioid use disorder program planning, implementation, and evaluation. Quality data provides planning personnel with the information to make informed decisions regarding the efficient and equitable distribution of resources necessary to address the opioid epidemic. Furthermore, as the epidemic is a public issue that affects many individuals and communities alike, public-facing reports such as community dashboards are an effective way of keeping members of the community involved and updated on the scope of the issue.

AVAILABLE FUNDING

Based on the estimated opioid settlement information provided by the Tennessee Office of the Attorney General, Knox County expects to award approximately $12 million* in the current funding cycle. While there is no set maximum award amount, the County expects to fund multiple projects, and asks that applicants take this into consideration while developing their funding requests.

Please note, that the effective date and final agreement of outstanding settlements may impact the total amount of funds available and/or timeline of funding allocations.

PROJECT PERIOD

The project period will be a total of three years with approved projects requiring submission of quarterly reporting and reimbursement requests.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Knox County is seeking applications from experienced organizations actively engaged in addressing the opioid epidemic. Additional eligibility requirements include:

1. The organization must be located within, and serving residents of, Knox County.

2. The organization must have a Unique Entity ID (UEI) and be registered within the federal System for Award Management (SAM) database at https://sam.gov.

3. The organization must be registered with the TN Secretary of State and listed as *"Active"* at https://tnbear.tn.gov/Ecommerce/FilingSearch.aspx (this requirement does not apply to government agencies interested in applying).

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES AND COSTS

The following activities align with the six priority areas and are eligible for funding. Funds must be used for costs directly associated with implementing eligible activities.

PREVENTION
Develop and implement provider/family partnerships and programs that will provide child and family support for parents with OUD and any co-occurring SUD/Mental Health conditions. Support could include assistance with childcare, home-based wrap-around services, and parent skills training.
Provide enhanced support for children and family members suffering trauma as a result of addiction in the family including offering or connecting children who have been affected by trauma with trauma-informed behavioral health treatment.
Provide evidence-based substance misuse prevention education in Knox County middle schools, high schools, and youth-focused programs.
Collaborate with Knox County Schools to increase student involvement in school clubs, sports, and programs as a protective factor against substance misuse.

HARM REDUCTION
Provide comprehensive Advanced Harm Reduction Services with wrap-around services including linkage to treatment for opiate use disorder (OUD), access to sterile syringes, and linkage to care and treatment of injection-related infections.
Implement a mobile unit and/or street outreach-based Harm Reduction programming to increase availability of naloxone and other drugs treating overdoses.
Implement community-based, drug-checking devices.

TREATMENT
Distribute MAT to individuals who are uninsured or whose insurance does not cover the needed service.
Implement and coordinate MAT for justice-involved individuals through on-site modalities, expanding access to off-site providers to maintain continuity of care, and/or implementing bridge programs to link individuals to care upon release.
Expand availability of treatment including all forms of Medication-Assisted Treatment approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
Implement or expand availability of telehealth to increase access to treatment, including MAT, as well as counseling, psychiatric support, and other treatment and recovery support services.
Implement or expand "bridge programs" in emergency departments and other hospital settings, which link individuals who have overdosed directly to community-based treatment

programs. Services can include but is not limited to peer navigation, case management, initiation of MAT, and connection to social services.

Provide inpatient treatment beds for uninsured and underinsured individuals.

Expand existing services to include more outpatient treatment options for uninsured and underinsured individuals.

Implement "quick start" protocols for OUD treatment to minimize intake and referral processes needed to initiate medications for opioid use disorder, e.g., same-day starts, walk-in modalities, mobile medical and street-based modalities, etc.

Expand peer navigation programs to include naloxone distribution, linkage to care, social needs and warm hand-offs to recovery services, in addition to expanding services such as navigators and on-call teams to begin MAT in hospital emergency departments, including 24-hour availability, and expand peer navigation programs to include inpatient hospital care for individuals with SUD-related illnesses and conditions.

Provide comprehensive prevention, treatment, and recovery services and supports for uninsured pregnant women throughout pregnancy and up to 12 months postpartum.

Implement rapid re-housing in tandem with Medication-Assisted Treatment in addition to establishing low-barrier supportive housing opportunities.

Provide mobile intervention such as street medicine or mobile unit services, treatment, and recovery services, offered by qualified professionals and service providers, such as peer recovery coaches.

RECOVERY SUPPORT

Provide affordable and high-quality housing for recovery that allow or integrate MAT and/or other support services including comprehensive wrap-around services such as housing, transportation, workforce development such as job placement/training, and childcare.

Provide treatment and recovery support services such as residential and inpatient treatment, intensive outpatient treatment, outpatient therapy or counseling including recovery services such as travel for treatment appoints, payment for MAT, room rent for recovery housing, etc.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Provide education and training via academic detailers, or peer-to-peer education to increase awareness of MAT and prescribing practices through MAT trainings to medical providers, medical students, first responders, peer recovery coaches, and/or recovery outreach specialists.

Provide education to school-based and community-based professionals who work with youth to decrease opioid misuse among adolescents.

Provide training for obstetricians or other healthcare personnel who work with pregnant women and their families regarding treatment.

Provide education and support for families affected by Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome.

Provide workforce development, education, and mental health support for addiction professionals.

Provide trauma-informed training for first responders and bedside providers.
RESEARCH AND DATA COMMUNICATION
Conduct evidence-based data collection to analyze the effectiveness of the abatement strategies within Knox County.
Implement data tracking software and applications for overdoses/naloxone revivals.
Create and/or expand databases to accurately monitor OUD programming outputs across sectors.

DEFINITIONS:

Bridge Program: A program in which treatment is initiated in settings such as emergency departments for individuals experiencing substance use disorder with direct linkage to a sustainable treatment program.

Evidence-based: Inclusion of best available research on best practices

Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT): the use of medications in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies to treat opioid use disorders.

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS): postnatal opioid withdrawal syndrome in newborns whose mothers were using or treated with opioids while pregnant.

Opioid Use Disorder (OUD): the chronic use of opioids that causes clinically significant distress or impairment.

Provider: a specially trained individual who is certified or licensed as a substance abuse treatment counselor, physician, psychologist, psychiatrist, nurse, or other professional

Quick-start Program: A process in which an individual OUD is provided with same-day MAT initiation, bridge or continuity of care, prescriptions, or some other process that significantly decreases the time between assessment and initiation of medication.

Substance Use Disorder (SUD): a medical condition that is defined by the inability to control the use of a particular substance (or substances) despite harmful consequences.

KEY DATES

ACTION	DATE
Funding Announcement Release	November 1, 2023
Online System Opening Date	November 6, 2023
Application Virtual Workshop	November 7, 2023 (Zoom)
Application In-person Workshop	November 9, 2023 (Burlington Branch Library)
Final Date to Submit Application	December 15, 2023, at 5 p.m.
Anticipated Project Start Date	March 1, 2024

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications are submitted online through the Neighborly software portal utilized by KCGCD for subrecipient and contract management. Applicants may access the KCGCD grants management website at https://knoxcounty.org/communitydevelopment/ or https://portal.neighborlysoftware.com/knoxcountytn/participant#.

Existing subrecipients may log in using their current credentials. New applicants must register for the portal. Neighborly registration information is included at the end of this notification.

KCGCD will provide two Application Workshops. The workshops will go over accessing the Neighborly system, eligibility, and funding priorities. There will also be time for potential applicants to ask any questions they may have.

November 7, 2023
2:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m.
Zoom Registration Link: https://knoxcounty.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYsde6rrzMiGNGeJEIt6sr9LaUatvGuYeq1

November 9, 2023
11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.
Knox County Public Library- Burlington Branch
4614 Asheville Hwy, Knoxville, TN 37914

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS FOR SUBMISSION

- Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws
- Conflict of Interest Disclosure
- Current List of Board of Directors
- Disclosure of Potential Conflict of Interest
- IRS 990 or Financial Statement
- Organizational Chart
- Proof of 501c3/Nonprofit Status
- Copy of most recent TN State Annual Report
- Title VI Agency Certification
- Salary information for the CEO & next highest paid employee, Per Knox County Ordinance (Ord. No. O-92-5-102, § 1, 7-27-92)

SUGGESTED DOCUMENTS FOR SUBMISSION

- Annual Reports
- Client Satisfaction Survey/Form
- Brochures
- Letters of Support
- Program Evaluation Scorecard/Template

SELECTION PROCESS

Application Screening: KCGCD will screen all applications to ensure that they meet the requirements included in the funding announcement.

Application Review: A panel of subject matter experts will review applications to understand the overall demand and effectiveness of the program, utilizing the scoring rubric included in this notification.

Final Decisions: KCGCD will consider rankings along with other factors to make final funding decisions. Other factors may include cost effectiveness, overall funds availability, county government priorities and strategies, federal or state regulations, community need, geographic distribution, balance of focuses and approaches, or other relevant factors. KCGCD may not fund all applications or may only award part of the amount requested within an application. If funding requests exceed available funds, KCGCD may ask applicants to revise projects to address a more limited focus.

Final Approval: Approval of any funding provided through Knox County is ultimately the decision of the County Mayor, with final approval provided by Knox County Commission.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Those selected for funding will be required to complete quarterly reports and reimbursement requests through KCGCD's online grant reporting system. Goals and performance indicators will be set for each contracted program.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Community Relations Manager
Knox County Grants and Community Development
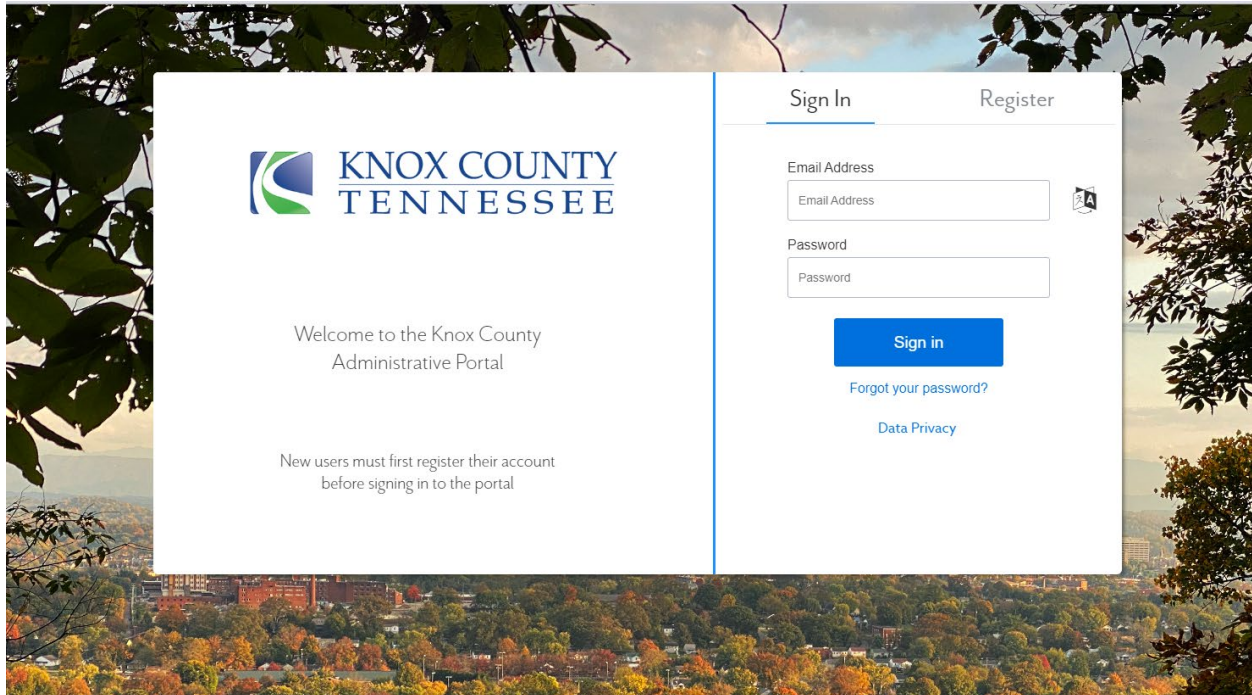865-215-5253
alanna.mckissack@knoxcounty.org
https://www.knoxcounty.org/communitydevelopment/

ACCESSING AND REGISTERING FOR NEIGHBORLY

ACCESSING THE PORTAL

Neighborly Software is accessible via any internet connected device. The recommended browser is Google Chrome, but will work with any modern web browser (i.e. Internet Explorer v10+, FireFox, Safari).
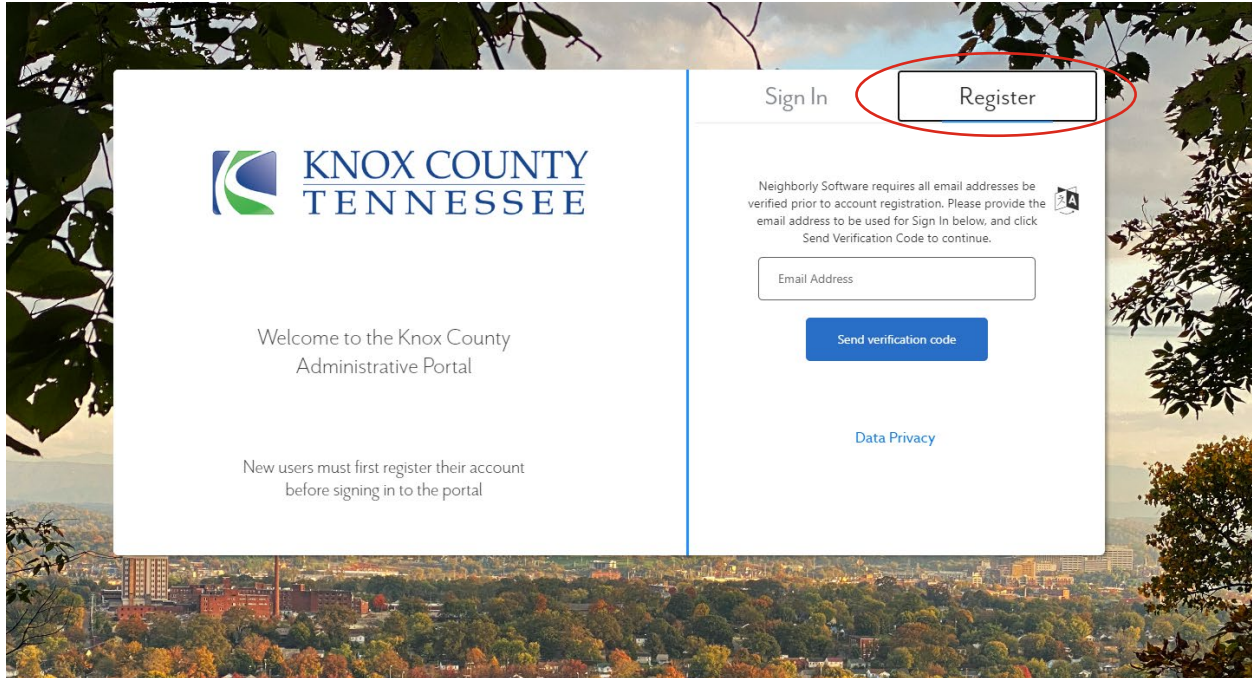
Application Portal Link: https://portal.neighborlysoftware.com/knoxcountytn/participant#

REGISTERING YOUR ACCOUNT

When you access the Portal for the first time, you'll need to Register your account by clicking on the Register link. The registration process will create a username (which is your work email address) and password that will be used for future logins. The email address you choose will also be used for system emails/notifications. For security purposes, the system will validate that you own the registered email address by sending an email with a validation link.

Note: If you do not receive the system email within 2 minutes, check your spam or bulk mail folder. If the email appears in that folder, you should right click on the email to indicate "Not Junk" or "Not Spam" to ensure you receive any other system notifications.

LOGGING IN

Once your account has been registered, you may login (using the same link above) by entering the email address and password used during registration. By checking "Remember Me?", your web browser will remember your email address for future logins (depending on browser and security settings).

Opioid Abatement Funds Application Scoring Rubric

KNOX COUNTY TENNESSEE
GRANTS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Grant Reviewer Name:
Program/Project Name and Agency:
Grant Program:
Priority Category:

Scoring Criteria	5 points Exemplary Response	4 Points Exceeds Requirements	3 Points Meets Requirements	2 Points Minimum Response	1 Point Unsatisfactory Response	0 Points No response
Proposal clearly describes a project/program designed to meet a significant need related to opioid remediation and includes all supporting materials, data, and references necessary to adequately evaluate the proposal.						
Proposal demonstrates a well-designed project/program with clear goals and outcomes that are specific, measurable, reasonable, and time limited.						
Proposal includes an evaluation plan outlining methodology for data collection, evaluation of project/program success, and measurement of client satisfaction.						
Proposal includes a detailed plan for how the project/program will advance equitable outcomes for all served.						

Scoring Criteria	5 points Exemplary Response	4 Points Exceeds Requirements	3 Points Meets Requirements	2 Points Minimum Response	1 Point Unsatisfactory Response	0 Points No response
Project/program supports the objectives of the Opioid Abatement Funds and is within the priority list of programs/projects provided by Knox County.						
Proposal includes an innovative approach to addressing the opioid epidemic with supporting evidence provided as applicable.						
Proposal includes a budget request that is reasonable and reflects only personnel and operating costs that are directly allocable to the project/program.						
Proposal demonstrates outside support for the project/program through the inclusion of leveraged funding and/or collaboration with other organizations serving in the community.						
Proposal supports the long-term needs of the opioid epidemic through a project/program design that is scalable and has the potential to be replicated, if needed.						
Proposal includes evidence that the project/program is sustainable without additional funding support from Knox County.						
Total Score						