

**OPIOID OPERATIONAL COMMAND CENTER
ORF Targeted Abatement Grant Program
Local Abatement Plan**

IMPORTANT NOTE: Please review the instructions provided in the Call for Proposals document prior to completing this form.

The application package should be submitted via Smartsheet Form to the link below.

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/7abd36feaa304e9dad2e776c198e857f>

Jurisdiction/subdivision: Somerset County

Point of Contact:

First/Last Name: Sharon Muir

Position: Internal Auditor

Phone: 410-651-0320

Email: smuir@somersetmd.us

Mailing Address:

Somerset County Commissioners

11916 Somerset Ave, Rm 111

Princess Anne, MD 21853

Total Allocated Funds \$92,634.00

Primary State Finance and Procurement Article 7-331/Chapter 270 Legislative Provision Local Abatement Plan will fulfill (click here to review these legislative bills)

I. PLAN SUMMARY *The plan summary must provide a clear summary of the projects to be funded and the activities that will be conducted in service of the Local Abatement Plan, and clearly tie to the provisions of the legislation identified above.*

The Somerset County Health Department (SCHD) is a public health agency located in rural Westover, Maryland that serves one of the most poverty stricken counties in the state. It is staffed by 67 state employees dedicated to serving the public by preventing illness, promoting wellness and protecting the health of the community. Funding from this application will aid SCHD in hiring one Peer Recovery Support Specialist (PRSS) I, Certified. Peer Recovery Specialists act as educators, mentors, and advocates for individuals in recovery. They guide and support individuals working toward, or engaged in, long-term recovery from an addiction to alcohol or other drugs. They provide individuals with an array of supportive services including one-on-one peer connections, groups, systems navigation and transportation, perform outreach and education, and help to reduce stigma in the community.

In June of 2023, the Somerset County Health Department released an interactive online dashboard highlighting the number of overdose deaths in Somerset County. Data may be compared against the number of overdose deaths for all Eastern Shore counties, and the entire state of Maryland---this is vital in painting a perspective on the severity of overdoses in Somerset County. In addition, overdose deaths may be broken down by substance, to shed further light into the drug epidemic plaguing our area. The purpose of this dashboard is to raise awareness regarding overdoses by supplying the public, and

community partners, with accurate, up-to-date information in efforts to perform data-driven outreach. Funding from this grant would assist in paying for the licensure needed to house this data dashboard.

II. PLAN PROBLEM STATEMENT *The problem statement section describes why the plan is needed and identifies the most significant issues, problems, trends, or opportunities that will be addressed by the Local Abatement Plan.*

According to the Vital Statistics Administration in 2020, overdoses in Somerset County reached an all time high of 16 fatalities. Although this number may seem low, when comparing it against population data from the 2019 US Census, this equated to 62.46 fatal overdoses per 100,000 people. This figure is slightly higher than Maryland's Eastern Shore as a whole (55.18 per 100k), and remarkably higher than the State (46.30 per 100k). The goals and objectives listed within this application will assist with the prevention of drug use and future overdoses, and the PRSS will aid people who use drugs in their first step towards recovery.

III. PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES *Program Goals and Objectives should define the central aim and principal goals of the Local Abatement Plan that will be addressed by the project activities, and clearly tie to the provisions of the legislation identified*

Goal #1: Increase awareness of recovery and/or harm reduction services amongst people who use drugs, and their families.

Objective 1.1: By June 30, 2025, SCOUT will recruit and hire 1 PRSS I, Certified to promote recovery and/or harm reduction resources

Goal # 2: Improve early identification and intervention of opioid addiction

Objective 2.1: By June 30, 2026, the PRSS will identify and connect 50 individuals to treatment and recovery services at all contact points within the public health system by using existing screening tools for referrals.

Goal #3: Expand access to services that support recovery and prevent death and disease progression

Objective 3.1: Expand access to recovery support by ensuring people who qualify for Medical Assistance (MA), are signed up so they can get needed supportive services to assist in recovery. This should be completed within the first 5 days of the initial meeting.

Goal #4: Continue featuring an Overdose Fatality Dashboard on the SomersetHealth.org webpage.

Objective 4.1: Increase awareness on the overdose epidemic and data-driven community initiatives to combat the issue.

IV. PLAN PROGRAM MEASUREMENT/PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

What you will use to measure (a) the effectiveness of the plan's support of the selected Goal/Strategy, (b) how it fills a gap in the region, and (c) how it serves its intended demographic. These measures may

be quantitative (numeric) or qualitative (descriptive). These performance measures must be reported on annually, by project and ORF provision

Program Measures #1: Number of PRSS hired (1)

Program Measures #2: Number of individuals referred to treatment by PRSS. (50 individuals)

Program Measure #3: Provide education and support to family members or other loved ones on behalf of someone with substance use to assist with negotiating their way through the social, legal, educational and health care systems. (10 families)

Program Measure #4: Facilitate a process for families to develop a plan to: clarify the problem(s); provide emotional support; identify needs and strengths; and identify resources including appropriate levels of services, entitlements, community resources and other natural supports. Ensure that families and other loved ones are equal partners as appropriate in planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating their own plans. (10 families)

Program Measure #5: Number of Overdose Fatality Dashboards featured on the SomersetHealth.org webpage (1)

V. PLAN TIMELINE*Enter project information as necessary*

Goal(s)	Key tasks/activities	Person(s) responsible	Progress Measurement	Begin date	End date
<i>Increase Awareness of recovery amongst people who use drugs and their families</i>	<i>Recruit and hire PRSS I, certified</i>	<i>SCHD</i>	<i>(1) 0.5 FTE PRSS I Certified hired</i>	<i>01/08/2025</i>	<i>06/30/2025</i>
<i>Improve early identification and intervention of opioid addiction</i>	<i>PRSS will identify and connect individuals to treatment and recovery services at all contact points within the public health system by using existing screening tool for referrals</i>	<i>PRSS</i>	<i>50 individuals referred to treatment by PRSS</i>	<i>01/08/2025</i>	<i>06/30/2026</i>
<i>Expand access to services that</i>	<i>Expand access to recovery support by ensuring</i>	<i>PRSS</i>	<i>Completed within the first 5 days of the initial</i>	<i>01/08/2025</i>	<i>06/30/2026</i>

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<i>support recovery and prevent death and disease progression</i>	<i>people who qualify for Medical Assistance (MA), are signed up so they can get needed supportive services to assist in recovery.</i>		<i>meeting with the PRSS</i>		
<i>Increase awareness on Overdose fatalities in Somerset County and community initiatives to combat the issue</i>	<i>Feature Overdose Fatality Dashboard on SomersetHealth.org webpage</i>	<i>SCHD staff</i>	<i>1 Overdose Fatality Dashboard featured on SomersetHealth.org webpage</i>	<i>07/01/24</i>	<i>6/30/26</i>

VI. SPEND PLAN DESCRIPTION *Detailed explanation of planned expenses*

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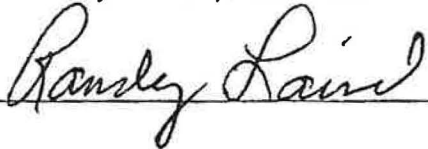
Vacant, Peer Support Specialist I Year :	0111	\$19,792.00	Year 2: 0111	\$19,792.00
	0121	\$1,514.00	0121	\$1,514.00
	0131	\$4,236.00	0131	\$4,236.00
	0141	\$11,173.00	0141	\$11,173.00
	0142	\$8,715.00	0142	\$8,715.00
	0161	\$55.00	0161	\$55.00
Software for Overdose Dashboard	0838	\$832.00	0838	\$832.00

Funding for this initiative is approximately \$92,634.00 and includes salary and fringe a year

To the best of my knowledge, I certify that all the information provided herein is true and correct.

IX. AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL SIGNATURE:

Printed Name: Randy Laird
Title: Vice President



Date:

X. ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES

The signatures below serve to convey the coordination of other local entities or government partners involved in the local abatement plan. Additional signatures should be added as necessary

Signature: D. Weber

Printed Name: D. Weber

Title: Health Officer

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Signature: _____
Printed Name: _____
Title: _____

Signature: _____
Printed Name: _____
Title: _____

Signature: _____
Printed Name: _____
Title: _____