

## Opioid Settlement Funds Available for Community Partners Eastern Idaho Public Health – July 14, 2023

Idaho statistics from the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare’s Drug Overdose Prevention Program (DOPP), report 241 Idahoan Deaths related to opioid overdose in 2021.<sup>1</sup> Of those deaths, 152 were related to fentanyl overdose.<sup>1</sup> The state also experienced over 5,000 drug overdose visits to emergency departments and over 1,000 of those visits involved opioids.<sup>1</sup>

Opioids are a class of drugs used to reduce acute and chronic pain. Examples of opioids include prescription opioids (also known as prescription pain relievers such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine, and morphine, synthetic opioids like fentanyl, and the illegal drug heroin. Opioids attach to opioid receptors in brain cells to release signals that block the perception of pain; these can also boost feelings of pleasure.

Illicitly manufactured fentanyl (IMF) is claiming lives of Americans at alarming rates. The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has reported that six out of every ten DEA tested pills with fentanyl contain at least 2mg of fentanyl, the potential lethal dose.<sup>2</sup> In 2022, the Drug Enforcement Agency seized more than 58.3 million fentanyl-laced fake pills and more than 13,000 pounds of fentanyl powder.<sup>2</sup> The 2022 DEA seizures are equivalent to more than 387,000,000 lethal doses of fentanyl.<sup>2</sup>

To help accomplish this mission, Eastern Idaho Public Health is excited to announce the opportunity to provide subgrants to organizations working to combat the opioid crisis in Eastern Idaho. Eastern Idaho Public Health’s vision focuses on healthy people in healthy communities with a mission to prevent disease, disability and premature death, promote healthy lifestyles; and protect and promote the health and quality of our environment.

Opioid settlements from drugmakers and major pharmaceutical distributors will provide funding for treatment, recovery, prevention, and harm reduction in Idaho.

Strategies eligible for subgrant funding must align with the approved opioid abatement strategies found on the Office of the Attorney General for the State of Idaho’s [website](#).

The opioid settlement subgrant application can be found on Eastern Idaho Public Health’s [website](#).

Eastern Idaho Public Health aims to award \$40,000 in subgrants to organizations working to combat the opioid crisis in the following Idaho counties: Bonneville, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison, and Teton. Although the application is open all organizations within Region 7 working to combat the opioid crisis, priority will be given to non-profit organizations, local governments, first responders, schools, and healthcare providers.

###

---

1 Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. (n.d.). *Drug overdose prevention program*. Idaho. <https://www.gethealthy.dhw.idaho.gov/drug-overdose-dashboard>

2 United States Drug Enforcement Administration. One Pill Can Kill | DEA.gov. (n.d.). <https://www.dea.gov/onepill>