

Introduced by Presiding Officer on request of the County Executive

**RESOLUTION NO. 609-2022, ADOPTING THE REPORT OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY INTRA-AGENCY COMMITTEE ON PRIORITIES RELATED TO THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS WITH OPIOID DISTRIBUTORS AND PHARMACIES AND ESTABLISHING THE OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDING SELECTION COMMITTEE**

**WHEREAS**, County Executive Steve Bellone issued Executive Order No. 2-2021 establishing an intra-agency committee to develop priorities related to the settlement agreements with opioid distributors and pharmacies; and

**WHEREAS**, the committee was tasked with drafting a guidance document on how the funding received by the County via the opioid litigation settlement agreements should be allocated; and

**WHEREAS**, the committee met regularly and engaged with the County's substance use disorder experts in the Department of Health Services and other departments as well as key stakeholders within the substance abuse community, including non-profit service providers with expert-level experience in harm reduction, prevention, treatment and recovery services, and organizations that include addicts, families of addicts, and victim's advocates; and

**WHEREAS**, based on a comprehensive review, the committee issued a report, attached as Exhibit "A" to this resolution, recommending that opioid litigation settlement money should be primarily used to fill existing gaps and bolster service delivery in the areas of prevention, treatment and recovery services and activities to combat the opioid addiction crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, the funding priorities recommended in the report are consistent with the requirements for the use of funds included in the opioid litigation settlement agreements and Suffolk County Resolution No. 962-2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the committee also recommended in its report that an application process be developed through which opioid litigation settlement funding can be allocated for proposals submitted by not-for-profit organizations and other public and private agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, an Opioid Settlement Funding Selection Committee should be established to manage the important task of allocating opioid litigation settlement funding received; now, therefore be it

**1<sup>st</sup>** **RESOLVED**, that this Legislature hereby approves and adopts the report that is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and be it further

**2<sup>nd</sup>** **RESOLVED**, that the Opioid Settlement Funding Selection Committee ("Committee") is hereby established to select proposals submitted by not-for-profit organizations and other public and private agencies; and be it further

**3<sup>rd</sup>**                   **RESOLVED**, that the Committee shall consist of the following five (5) members:

- 1) The County Executive, or his designee, who shall serve as Chair;
- 2) The Presiding Officer of the Suffolk County Legislature, or his or her designee;
- 3) The Minority Leader of the Suffolk County Legislature, or his or her designee;
- 4) The Commissioner of the Department of Health Services, or his or her designee; and
- 5) A victims' advocate, who shall be selected by the other four (4) Committee members.

and be it further

**4<sup>th</sup>**                   **RESOLVED**, that the Committee shall make determinations on applications with guidance and technical support from the substance use disorder experts in the Department of Health Services; and be it further

**5<sup>th</sup>**                   **RESOLVED**, that the Committee shall:

- 1) Promulgate such rules and/or regulations as may be necessary to carry out the intent of this resolution and to administer the application program;
- 2) Meet regularly on a schedule adopted by its members; and
- 3) Conduct an annual review of the application program and provide an annual written report to the County Legislature's Ways and Means Committee, or any successor committee, no later than March 15 each year, which includes, at a minimum, the following information for the preceding calendar year: the number of grant applications received by the Committee; the number of grants awarded; and the total amount of grant monies awarded

and be it further

**6<sup>th</sup>**                   **RESOLVED**, that three (3) members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum to transact the business of the Committee at both regular and special meetings; and be it further

**7<sup>th</sup>**                   **RESOLVED**, that the Department of Health Services shall deliver an annual update to the Legislature with respect to the opioid settlement funds that have previously been allocated. The update shall include details on the disbursement of the funds, progress on the implementation of the program or activity funded and the effectiveness of the program or activity in meeting the objectives for which the funding was initially awarded; and be it further

**8<sup>th</sup>**                   **RESOLVED**, that disbursement of grant funds of opioid litigation settlement money to not-for-profit organizations and other public and private agencies, except with respect to County agencies, shall be contingent upon the execution of an agreement between the County of Suffolk with each grant awardee, the terms of which shall be set by the Committee with the approval of the Department of Law; and be it further

**9<sup>th</sup>**                **RESOLVED**, any and all grant awards made by the Committee shall be consistent with the funding priorities identified in the report attached as Exhibit “A” to this resolution, as well as the requirements for the use of funds included in the opioid litigation settlement agreements and Suffolk County Resolution No. 962-2021; and be it further

**10<sup>th</sup>**                **RESOLVED**, that funding for the grant awards, up to \$25 Million for the first round of funding, shall be subject to appropriations pursuant to a duly enacted resolution of this Legislature; and be it further

**11<sup>th</sup>**                **RESOLVED**, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(26) and (33) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW insofar as these actions constitute routine or continuing administration and management not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED: July 26, 2022

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone  
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: July 28, 2022