

## 2025 Substance Use Continuum of Care Fund (SUF) Funding Priorities

### **Alcohol Tax Funds (ATF)**

By legislative mandate (KSA §79-41a04 as amended), ATF dollars must be used to fund services or programs whose principal purpose is substance abuse education, prevention, detoxification, intervention and/or treatment. Programs funded through the ATF grant process create a substance use continuum of services. Programs are defined as follows:

- Education and Prevention programs are designed to promote awareness and self-efficacy, and provide information, activities, and skill building to prevent problems with, or addiction to, alcohol and/or drugs.
- Intervention programs are designed to interrupt alcohol and/or drug use and may include involvement in activities applied during early stages of substance use which may prevent the transition from drug use to abuse.
- Substance Abuse Treatment programs are licensed by the State of Kansas to provide substance use disorder treatment services, including detoxification, and are designed to assist clients with discontinuing the use of alcohol and drugs and recovery programs supporting a reduction in relapse.

### **Opioid Settlement Funds (OSF)**

OSF are special purpose, special revenue funds distributed by the Kansas Attorney General's Office to municipalities that joined the statewide opioid settlement agreement. Pursuant to state statute and a Memorandum of Understanding, funds are distributed based on each municipality's population and must be used for **"projects and activities that prevent, reduce, treat, or mitigate the effects of substance abuse and addiction or to reimburse the State or Political Subdivisions for previous expenses related to substance abuse mitigation or arising from covered conduct."** KSA 75-775—781.

The national opioid settlement agreements governing this funding provide a List of Opioid Remediation Uses, including Core Strategies and nonexclusive Approved Uses to support treatment of Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and co-occurring Substance Use Disorder or Mental Health (SUD/MH) conditions through evidence-based or evidence-informed programs and strategies, such as:

- Naloxone and Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) distribution, education, and training.
- Treatment, intervention, and wrap-around services to specialized populations, such as pregnant and postpartum women and families and incarcerated individuals.
- Expansion of recovery and reintegration services for OUD, SUD and SUD/MH, including peer support and comprehensive wrap-around services such as housing, transportation, job training/placement, education, and/or childcare.
- Education and prevention programs, including media campaigns, K-12 education, drug disposal, diversion programs, and syringe service programs.

### **JOHNSON COUNTY REGION FUNDING PRIORITIES FOR SUF**

**In addition to consideration of core purposes of ATF and OSF referenced above, overall priority is given to:**

- Programs that target populations who are at-risk for substance use or abuse including individuals who have mental health issues, people who are homeless and/or have other co-occurring issues, women who are pregnant or nursing, and individuals involved in the child welfare or criminal justice system.
- Programs that address barriers to service including hours of operation, transportation, lack of care for children of parents seeking services, and physical location.
- If fees are charged for services, there are accommodations for clients with no ability, or limited ability, to pay the fees including a sliding fee scale based upon income.
- Programs that demonstrate competency in addressing language and cultural barriers and provide bilingual services in multiple languages, such as Spanish.
- Programs that provide services to meet a current community need defined through indicator data or *Communities That Care* survey trends.

- Programs that demonstrate an awareness of the negative impact of trauma in the prevention and treatment of substance use and co-occurring substance use and mental health disorders and utilize a trauma-informed care approach in the delivery of services.
- Programs that are evidence-based or reflect a best or promising practice and include measures to ensure fidelity.
- Programs that utilize measurable outcome data to improve service delivery.
- Strategies and services that involve families, parents, guardians, and/or other support systems.
- Programs that demonstrate coordination and collaboration with other agencies that support the substance abuse continuum of services in Johnson County and provide connection to community supports.
- Programs that demonstrate through service delivery, competency in addressing the interrelationship between substance use/abuse and other risk factors as defined above.

**Priorities for Education and Prevention Programs include:**

- Strategies that seek to delay the onset of the initial use of substances.
- Programs that target use of gateway drugs and address new trends in drug use across all age groups.
- Programs that utilize *Risk and Protective Factors* strategies across all age groups.

**Priorities for Treatment and Intervention Programs include:**

- Programs that provide effective treatment strategies for individuals with co-occurring substance use and mental health disorders.
- Programs that serve targeted populations and introduce early intervention strategies.
- Programs that incorporate Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) which sustain and support recovery. These include providing peer support, housing, case management, and/or to linkages to recovery communities and activities.

***For Opioid Settlement Funds only, priorities further include:***

- Programs that support early education evidence-based prevention programs and mental health services and supports in schools, including school-based contacts and outreach.
- Programs and services providing training and workforce development for individuals providing support for this population.
- New and/or expansions of existing evidence-based or evidence-informed programs specifically focused on OUD and OUD/MH.
- Programs that expand warm hand-off and recovery services for OUD, SUD and SUD/MH to provide comprehensive wrap-around services, including housing, transportation, education, job training, and childcare.
- Programs that expand reintegration services for individuals in recovery, including recovery centers and peer support as well as supportive housing, and community navigators.