

REGION 2 OPIOID ABATEMENT COUNCIL

Serving Larimer County



A Regional Approach to Addressing the Opioid Epidemic

States are in the process of implementing structures and plans to distribute at least \$50 billion awarded to states and localities from opioid-related lawsuits. Through each state's unique settlement process, states are working to identify priorities for reducing opioid-related deaths and investing in substance use disorder (SUD) prevention, treatment, and recovery infrastructure.

The Department of Law created the Colorado Opioid Abatement Council (COAC) in agreement with local governments to provide oversight of the opioid funds and to ensure the distribution of those funds complies with the terms of any settlement and the Colorado Opioid Settlement Memorandum of Understanding. The COAC is responsible for oversight of opioid funds from the regional share and for developing processes and procedures for the statewide infrastructure share.

The State of Colorado activated Regional Opioid Abatement Councils which are responsible for distributing opioid settlement funds over 17 years for substance use disorder treatment, recovery, harm reduction, law enforcement, and prevention/education programs. The 19 regional councils determine how to distribute and manage their funds with oversight from the statewide Colorado Opioid Abatement Council.

The Region 2 Opioid Abatement Council consists of representatives of Larimer County, the City of Loveland, the City of Fort Collins, the Town of Wellington, the Town of Estes Park, and the Larimer County Board of Health. Larimer County Region 2 has allocated all funding (5.5 million) for 2022-2024. We are pleased to share a summary of those funding activities.

Approved Funding Areas



**Defined in the Colorado Opioids Settlement Memorandum of Understanding*



Region 2 Funding Summary

Harm Reduction - Harm reduction is an evidence-based approach that is critical to engaging with people who use drugs and equipping them with life-saving tools and information to create positive change in their lives and potentially save their lives.

Administration - Costs associated with meeting coordination, grant administration, conference participation, and stipends for community member involvement.

Social Connections - Social connection refers to one's social network and roles, the functions these relationships serve, and their positive or negative qualities. Social connection can lead to longer life, better physical and mental health, and well-being.

Co-Responder Diversion Programs - Programs that partner law enforcement with mental health professionals to respond to situations where a person is experiencing a mental health crisis.

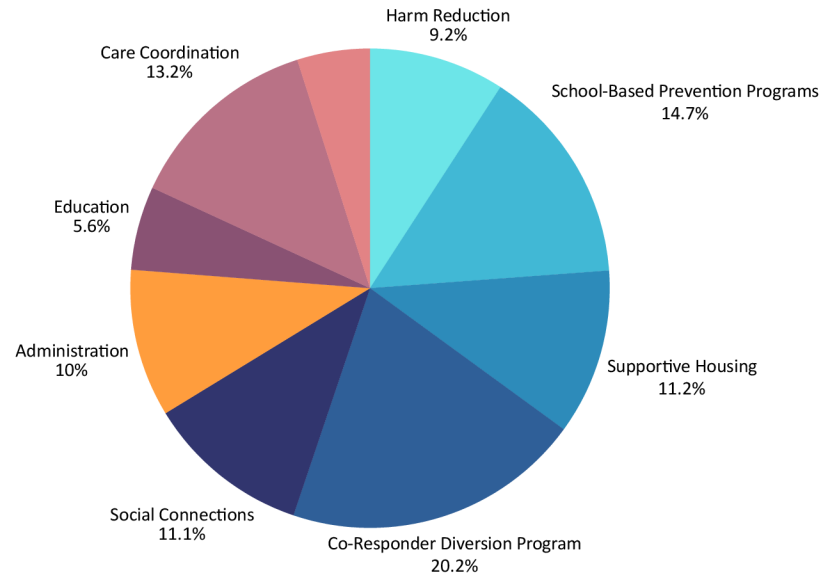
Supportive Housing - Programs that combine affordable housing with supportive services for recovery to help people lead more stable lives.

School-Based Programs - Mental health and opioid awareness and prevention programs for youth that are activated in partnership with the school districts.

Care Coordination - Referrals for individuals with opioid use disorder for treatment and ongoing support programs.

Education - Participating in community events and providing education focused on addiction and recovery resources.

Data & Evaluation - Community-wide assessment used to explore and evaluate the current regional needs revolving around opioid and fentanyl misuse.



organizations Funded

Abundance Foundation - provides recovery coaches and learning programs for those in sober living houses.

Colorado Health Network - reduces and prevents drug overdose by providing naloxone, increases access to harm reduction supplies, increases linkages to care, reduces disease transmission from re-use of supplies.

Colorado State University Prevention Research Center - works collaboratively with Larimer County school districts to prevent SUD among middle and high school students.

Denver Rescue Mission and Harvest Farm - provides case management and community life coordination and expands supportive housing.

Larimer County Sheriff's Office - expands the Larimer County Co-Responder Unit to provide more coverage to respond to mental health and substance use calls.

North Colorado Health Alliance - provides care coordination and navigation to treatment and recovery, stigma reduction, provider education, and evaluation.

Rise Above Colorado - implements opioid and fentanyl awareness prevention campaign targeted to Larimer County youth ages 12 – 17.

Yarrow Collective - promotes social connectedness for people struggling with substance abuse.