

In It for the Long Run: Strategies for Maximizing the Impact of Opioid Settlement Funding across the Continuum of Care

The \$50 billion in opioid settlement funding expected to flow from opioid-related lawsuits presents a unique opportunity for states to make substantial investments in the substance use disorder (SUD) prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction infrastructure needed to make long-term progress in confronting the opioid epidemic. With overdose deaths continuing to top 100,000 per year and widening disparities in overdose rates between population groups, states can also use the opioid settlement process to assess current gaps in systems of care and invest in proven community-based prevention and response efforts in communities at highest risk of overdose. This preconference will explore how states are approaching the unique opportunity and potential impact of the opioid settlement process, how states are using settlement funding to supplement and align with opioid strategies and activities at the state level, and how states can leverage settlement funding to address widening disparities in treatment access and outcomes across income, racial, and ethnic groups.

Learning Objectives:

As a result of attending this meeting, participants will understand:

- the current and changing landscape of the opioid and substance use epidemic
- the unique opportunity to maximize opioid settlement spending for long-term investments in the substance use care continuum, including prevention, treatment, recovery services, and the promotion of evidence-based practices.
- how the opioid epidemic has disproportionately impacted different segments of the population, including variation in geographic regions, income levels, and racial and ethnic groups, and what policy and programmatic actions most effectively address current disparities in overdose rates and other opioid-related harm

MONDAY, AUGUST 14

12:00 pm –
12:10 pm

Welcome

- **Hemi Tewarson**, Executive Director, National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP)
- **Karen Scott**, President, Foundation for Opioid Response Efforts (FORE)

12:10 pm –
12:55 pm

Addressing an Evolving Substance Use Crisis

Moderator:

- **Hemi Tewarson**, Executive Director, NASHP

Speakers:

- **Jean Ko**, Deputy Director of Scientific Programs, Division of Overdose Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- **Tom Coderre**, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA)

<p>12:55 pm – 1:10 pm</p>	<p>A Call to Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justin Phillips, Founder and Executive Director, Overdose Lifeline
<p>1:10 pm – 2:15 pm</p>	<p>Maximizing the Impact of Opioid Settlements to Build a Continuum of Care</p> <p>Opioid settlements have provided state officials a unique opportunity make substantial investments in the substance use disorder (SUD) prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction infrastructure needed to make long-term progress in confronting the opioid epidemic. In this panel discussion, state leaders and addiction experts will discuss how states are working to align resources and efforts as part of a broader vision for combatting addiction, and opportunities for states to confront current challenges as we look beyond the COVID-19 public health emergency.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ken Shatzkes, Program Director, FORE <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regina LaBelle, Director, Addiction and Public Policy Initiative, O’Neill Institute at Georgetown University Law Center • Dave Baker, Chair, Minnesota Opioid Advisory Council and Representative, Minnesota House of Representatives • Heidi Hedberg, Commissioner, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
<p>2:15 pm – 2:30 pm</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>2:30 pm – 3:30 pm</p>	<p>Improving Outcomes for Populations Hit Hardest by the Opioid Epidemic</p> <p>This session illuminates how the opioid epidemic has disproportionately impacted different segments of the population, with ongoing disparities across geographic regions, income levels, and racial and ethnic groups. In this discussion, experts and state officials will discuss effective strategies for effectively engaging disproportionately impacted communities and reducing barriers to prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction services for individuals at the highest risk of overdose and other opioid-related harms.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katie Greene, Director of Public Health, NASHP <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amanda Latimore, Director, Center for Addiction Research and Effective Solutions (CARES), American Institutes for Research • Malik Burnett, Medical Director, Center for Harm Reduction Services, Maryland Department of Health • Katherine Marks, Commissioner, Kentucky Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental, and Intellectual Disabilities
<p>3:30 pm</p>	<p>Adjourn</p>