

# PREVENTION GRANT AWARDS 2026-27

Organization	Project Title	Budget Approved	1 or 2 Years	Top 5 Counties
Anderson County Sheriff Department	Anderson County DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Program	39,435.00	1	Anderson
To operate a DARE program in the school district.				
Appalachian Artisan Center of Kentucky, Inc.	First Impressions	95,302.00	1	Knott, Perry, Letcher, Floyd, Magoffin
For a program designed to offer new training opportunities to these individuals in recovery.				
Baptist Health Deaconess	Baptist Health Deaconess Madisonville Opioid Prevention	405,471.00	2	Hopkins, Muhlenberg, Webster, Caldwell, McLean
For education, early intervention, and community engagement to prevent first-time opioid use, address mental health needs, and promote resilience among vulnerable populations.				
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass, Inc.	High School Mentoring Program Continuation	144,331.00	2	Fayette, Scott, Clark, Montgomery, Jessamine
To support a high school mentoring program.				
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Kentuckiana	Building Futures: Youth Mentorship to Prevent Opioid Use	198,729.00	1	Jefferson, Hardin, Nelson, Oldham, Shelby
To support youth mentorship programming.				

Blue Grass Community Action Partnership	Whole-Person Recovery and Opportunity Initiative	213,268.00	2	Jessamine, Lincoln, Franklin, Scott, Boyle
To provide recovery supports in nine county community services offices.				
Boys & Girls Clubs of Kentuckiana	SMART Moves in SMART Spaces	100,000.00	1	Jefferson, Hardin, Nelson, Oldham, Shelby
To support the SMART Moves youth program.				
Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Cincinnati	Great Futures Start Here: Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Cincinnati Prevention Programming in Northern Kentucky	175,696.00	1	Kenton, Campbell
To support youth mentorship programming.				
Bright Light Foundation	Bright Minds, Safe Futures Kentucky: A Statewide Fentanyl Awareness & Prevention Initiative	77,450.00	2	Fayette, Madison, Boyle
For a statewide school-based initiative to educate, empower, and protect Kentucky students from the rising dangers of fentanyl and substance-related harm.				
Campbell County Drug Free Alliance Incorporated	The Campbell County Drug Free Alliance Youth Opioid Prevention & Community Safety Initiative	274,717.00	2	Campbell
For youth prevention programming.				
City of Bellevue	D.A.R.E. Program Implementation ('26-'28)	29,315.00	2	Campbell
For a DARE Middle School program Bellevue Independent Schools.				

Communicare, Inc.	FY27 Communicare Opioid Abatement Prevention Grant	181,271.00	1	Hardin, Nelson, Marion, Breckinridge
For youth prevention programming.				
Community Advocates for Resources and Empowerment	Shelter Saves Lives	201,055.00	1	Jefferson
For harm reduction efforts and shelter for those dealing with substance misuse and homelessness.				
Comprehend, Inc.	Preventing Opioid Misuse Through Trauma Informed Family Support	155,575.00	2	Bracken, Fleming, Lewis, Mason, Robertson
For family-focused and youth prevention efforts.				
Cordata Healthcare Innovations, Inc.	Cordata 2026-2027 KY Opioid Abatement Prevention Application	496,190.00	2	Franklin, Warren, Hardin, Jessamine, Boyd
To support Quick Response Teams and Situation Tables in several communities.				
East Kentucky Health Services, Inc.	Building Drug-Free Futures: A Youth Prevention Initiative for Knott County	218,639.00	1	Knott, Floyd, Perry
For youth prevention programming.				
Emergency Shelter of Northern Kentucky, Inc.	Low-Barrier Shelter & Services for Vulnerable Adults	179,975.00	1	Boone, Campbell, Kenton
To support year-round shelter and wrap-around services for adults experiencing substance use disorder and homelessness.				
Erlanger Elsmere Board of Education	The PeaCE Project (Positive Childhood Experiences)	250,000.00	2	Kenton
For youth programming through the PeaCE Project in the school district.				

Franklin County Health Department	Franklin County 2039: Scaling Coordination for Impact and Sustainability (A Collaborative Proposal of the Just Say Yes Initiative, Franklin County ASAP, the Wanda Joyce Robinson Foundation, and the Boys and Girls Club of Frankfort)	750,000.00	2	Franklin
To support the county-wide Just Say Yes initiative and its partnerships in youth programming.				
Girl Scouts Of Kentucky Wilderness Road Council, Inc.	Fostering Resilience: Girl Scout Troops for Youth in Foster & Kinship Care	224,995.00	2	Rowan, Perry, Whitley, Fayette, Laurel
To establish trauma-informed Girl Scout troops for girls ages 5-18 who are in foster care or kinship care due to parental substance use, incarceration, or related instability.				
Graves County Local KY-ASAP Board	Mayfield-Graves County ASAP Youth Council	180,400.00	2	Graves, Calloway, Fulton, Marshall, McCracken
To support activities of the Mayfield Graves County Youth Council focused on opioid and substance use prevention, mental health awareness, and providing safe, positive alternatives for young people.				
Green River Regional Health Mental Retardation Board, Inc. d/b/a River Valley Behavioral Health	Western Kentucky Alliance for Drug Endangered Children Expansion Project	253,169.00	2	Daviess, Hancock, McLean, Ohio, Union
To support various youth prevention projects in the region.				
Hope Center, Inc.	Hope Center OUD Prevention Services Continuation Project	186,318.00	1	Fayette, Bourbon, Clark, Jessamine, Scott
To provide prevention and harm reduction services to homeless adults.				
Hope's Hands Inc.	Roots of Resilience: Youth Empowerment for Opioid Prevention	297,182.00	2	Owen
For youth prevention programming in Owen County.				
HOTEL INC	Pathway to Prevention	75,000.00	1	Warren
To support adults experiencing homelessness and substance misuse.				

I Would Rather Be Reading	Opportunity Ecosystem Expansion: Trauma-Informed Literacy, Career Pathways and Safe Spaces as Opioid Prevention	301,568.00	2	Jefferson
To support prevention efforts for youth ages 5–15 by expanding the Educate & Elevate afterschool program.				
Kentucky Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs	Kentucky Youth Prevention Initiative (KYPI)	600,000.00	2	Barren, Warren, Daviess, Harlan, Jefferson
To support youth programming in several locations.				
Knox County Board of Education	Building Resilient, Drug Free Schools	226,417.00	2	Knox, Whitley, Laurel
To provide family and youth prevention programming in the school district.				
Lawrence County Health Department	CommUNITY for Lawrence County Youth	299,973.00	2	Lawrence
To support the Lawrence County Health Department's CommUNITY prevention program.				
Lexington Leadership Foundation	LLF Youth Empowerment Program Expansion	222,654.00	2	Fayette, Jessamine, Scott
To youth programming for at-risk youth.				
Lincoln Trail District Health Department	Overdose Fatality Review	129,262.00	2	Hardin, Larue, Nelson, Marion, Washington
To support regional overdose fatality review efforts.				
Men 2 Be	Tools in the Toolbox: A Five-Day-a-Week Prevention & Workforce Pathway Expansion	400,000.00	2	Christian, Trigg, Todd
To expand the Tools in the Toolbox youth program.				
Morehead State University	Morehead State University Collegiate Recovery Resource Center	235,000.00	2	Rowan, Montgomery, Boyd, Floyd
To support the Collegiate Recovery Resource Center (CRRC).				

Mountain Comprehensive Care Center	MCCC's Youth SUD Prevention Initiative	444,620.00	2	Pike, Johnson, Floyd, Magoffin, Martin
To support youth programming in the region.				
NewSong Counseling Center	Empowering Communities: Expanding Mentorship and Group Services to Support Adults in Empowering Children	37,802.00	1	Montgomery
To support youth mentoring and mental health support for youth and adults.				
North Central District Health Department	Bridging the Gaps: Mobile Harm Reduction and Reentry Naloxone Initiative	246,457.00	2	Henry, Shelby, Trimble, Spencer
To provide mobile harm reduction services.				
Northern Kentucky Area Development District	Northern Kentucky Deflection & Public Safety Collaborative (NKYDPSC)	500,000.00	1	Boone, Campbell, Kenton, Grant, Pendleton
To support a regional deflection and public safety effort in Northern Kentucky.				
Northern Kentucky Community Action	Fatherhood Prevention & Family Resilience Program (Fatherhood Program)	263,246.00	2	Boone, Campbell, Kenton, Grant
To provide father-focused prevention efforts.				
Owensboro/Daviess County Family YMCA	Family Support Group with the Daviess County Juvenile Drug Treatment Court	56,614.00	1	Daviess
To support families involved in juvenile drug court.				
Pendleton County Champions Inc.	Building a Resilient Community: Youth Prevention, Adult Education, and Overdose Reduction in Pendleton County	221,968.00	2	Pendleton
To provide youth prevention programming.				
Shawnee Transformation Youth Coalition	The Pivot Project - Your move, Your moment, Your pivot	250,000.00	2	Jefferson
To provide youth prevention programming.				

Somali Community of Louisville, Inc.	Substance Use Prevention for Immigrants, Refugees, and Second-Generation (2nd Gen) Youth	219,560.00	2	Jefferson
To provide prevention and education programming to the refugee community.				
South Central Workforce Development Board	From Recovery to Employment (R2E): A Recovery-Ready Workforce Pathway into High Demand Careers	392,586.00	2	Barren, Warren, Simpson, Logan, Hart
To support workforce development efforts in the region.				
South Central Kentucky Kids on the Block	Educational Puppetry Programs for Substance Use Prevention	21,960.00	1	Bourbon, Breathitt, Clay, Harlan, Jessamine
To support educational programs in schools.				
St Claire Regional Medical Center, Inc.	Youth Prevention Ambassadors	249,759.00	2	Boyd, Carter, Clark, Montgomery, Rowan
To enhance the Rural Health Scholars program.				
St. John Center	Housing and Supportive Services as OUD Overdose Prevention	300,000.00	2	Jefferson, Oldham, Bullitt
To support harm reduction services and prevention for homeless population.				
Taylor County Schools	Making Middle School Meaningful: A Comprehensive Approach to Prevention	100,000.00	1	Taylor
To support Middle School youth prevention programming.				
The Greater Louisville Workforce Development Taskforce	The Spark Series: Igniting Compassionate Leadership to Retain the Next Generation	101,798.00	1	Jefferson, Oldham, Bullitt, Shelby
To deliver the training to businesses.				
The Kentucky Center for Grieving Children and Families	KCGCF In-School Grief Support Group Expansion	200,001.00	2	Scott, Woodford, Clark, Jessamine, Franklin
To support school-based grief support groups for students in schools.				

The Support Agency	Distribution of Detera In-Home Disposal Pouches in Russell County, KY	18,060.00	1	Russell
To promote drug disposal practices.				
Thompson Scholars Foundation, Inc.	Four Pillars for Positive Childhood Experiences	260,140.00	2	Clay
To support out-of-school youth programming.				
Three Rivers District Health Department	Empower Youth Voice in Prevention and Education	200,182.00	1	Carroll, Gallatin, Owen, Pendleton
To support Planet Youth programming.				
University of Kentucky Research Foundation: Education	#IChampionHealth Live Like a Champion: Expanding Youth Substance-Use Prevention (Grades 4-8) Through Statewide Regional Train-the-Trainer Partnerships	198,906.00	2	Fayette, Lawrence, Rowan, Montgomery
To support the #IChampionHealth school- and community-based youth prevention initiative.				
University of Kentucky Research Foundation: Social Work	Stronger Together: A Prevention Program for Families of People Who Use Opioids	200,000.00	2	Fayette, Jefferson, Kenton, Pike, Madison
To support the Stronger Together is a statewide text message education project for Kentucky parents, guardians, spouses or partners, and adult children or siblings of people who use opioids.				
Unlawful Narcotics Investigations, Treatment & Education (Operation UNITE)	Operation UNITE: Educate. Empower. Prevent. – Building Resilience Through Creative Experiences	500,000.00	1	Pulaski, Martin, Lawrence, Russell, Madison
To support youth prevention programming.				
Western Kentucky MH-MR Board, Inc. dba Four Rivers Behavioral Health	Before the First Time	207,661.00	2	McCracken, Graves, Calloway
To support the Before the First Time community-based prevention initiative.				

Young Adult Development In Actn Inc	Opioid Use Prevention for Youth in Smoketown	150,000.00	2	Jefferson
To support the Blueprint 502 out-of-school time program at the Smoketown Community Center				
Young People in Recovery	Young People In Recovery-The More You Know	357,996.00	2	Carter, Boyd, Rowan, Laurel
To support local chapters in four communities.				

# TREATMENT & RECOVERY GRANT AWARDS 2026-27

Organization	Project Title	Budget Approved	1 or 2 Year	Top 5 counties served
4th Dimension	Appalachian Women's Peer Recovery Navigation, Transportation, & Alumni Support Initiative	167,060.00	2	Harlan, Letcher, Perry, Knott, Leslie
To support transportation, continuity of peer support, and post-discharge recovery navigation for women with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD).				
A New Beginning for Women and Children	RSWS - Recovery Support Wraparound Services	156,871.00	2	Graves, McCracken, Fulton, Carlisle, and Hickman
To provide recovery supports for women and their children.				
Appalachian Research and Defense Fund of Kentucky, Inc.	Hybrid Application: Project Renew Continuation (Project Renew Continuation) and Expanding Recovery for Eastern Kentuckians Through Medical Legal Partnerships (MLP Expansion)	122,366.00	2	Lee, Breathitt, Powell, Clark, Wolfe
To support Project Renew.				
Bluegrass Community and Technical College	Central Kentucky Recovery-to-Work Program	427,622.00	2	Fayette, Scott, Boyle, Woodford, Jessamine
To support workforce development efforts and training.				
Boyd County Detention Center	Comprehensive Opioid Treatment, Recovery, and Reentry Continuum at Boyd County Detention Center	422,218.00	1	Boyd, Carter, Greenup
Recovery and treatment support for incarcerated individuals.				
Camp Graves	Camp Rendezvous OUD Recovery Support Project	86,908.00	2	Graves, McCracken, Calloway, Marshall, Ballard
To support recovery-oriented peer support for veterans and vulnerable community members impacted by Opioid Use Disorder (OUD).				

Celebrate Recovery Fairdale, Corp	Celebrate Recovery Fairdale	33,754.00	2	Jefferson, Bullitt
Transportation support for Celebrate Recovery programs.				
ChooseWell Communities, Inc.	KYnship Pathways Pilot	498,594.00	2	Jefferson
To expand the early-recovery stabilization model.				
Chrysalis House, Inc.	Bridging the Gaps: A Comprehensive Continuum of Care for Women with Substance Use Disorders	360,050.00	2	Fayette, Jefferson, Madison, Kenton, Jessamine
To support recovery for pregnant and parenting women with substance use disorders (SUD).				
Clark County Health Department	Building Recovery Capital in Clark County	114,040.00	1	Clark
To support harm reduction efforts.				
Comprehend, Inc.	REACH Expansion: Bringing Evidence-Based SUD/OD Treatment Closer to Home	297,350.00	2	Fleming, Lewis, Mason, Bracken, Robertson
To support access to Medication-assisted treatment (MAT).				
Cumberland River Behavioral Health, Inc.	CRBH Quick Response Team	108,359.00	1	Laurel, Whitley, Bell, Clay, Knox
To support the CRBH Quick Response Team (QRT).				
Cumberland Trace Legal Services, Inc. D/b/a Kentucky Legal Aid	Project Renew: Futures Forward	123,221.00	2	Christian, Hopkins, Daviess, McCracken, Warren
To support Project Renew.				
DV8 Kitchen Vocational Training Foundation, Inc. and DV8 Kitchens	Employee Success Program Support & Additions	263,918.00	2	Fayette, Clark, Scott, Jessamine, Bourbon
To support the Employee Success Program.				

Family Nurturing Center of Kentucky	Healing Together: Integrated Parenting Time, Counseling, and Parent Coaching for Families Affected by OUD	484,625.00	2	Boone, Kenton, Campbell, Grant
To support coordinated services for children and caregivers affected by opioid and polysubstance use.				
Fivco Area Development District	Boyd County Recovery Community Center Initiative	434,596.00	2	Boyd, Carter, Lawrence, Elliott, Greenup
To support the establishment of Pathways to Recovery: Boyd County Recovery Community Center.				
Goodwill Industries of Kentucky, Inc.	Aspire to Recovery	553,864.00	2	Jefferson, Oldham
To support the Aspire to Recovery (ATR) program, a pioneering initiative in Kentucky to support justice-involved individuals recovering from opioid-related substance use disorder.				
Graves County Local KY-ASAP Board	The Next Steps Project	317,602.00	2	Calloway, Graves, Marshall, McCracken, Hickman
To support the Next Steps Reentry Program.				
GRIN GRANT Inc	Comprehensive OUD Recovery Treatment Project: Dental Restoration, PeerPath Detention Training, and Continuing Education	359,084.00	2	Fayette, Jessamine, Clay, Christian, Shelby
To support recovery, stabilization and successful re-entry.				
Horsesensing, Inc.	Residential Treatment and Therapeutic Job Training and Placement Program	114,844.00	1	Jefferson, Shelby, McCreary, Fayette, Washington
To provide support for treatment of opioid use disorder, therapy, on-site sober living, transportation and vocational training and job placement.				
Housing Development Alliance, Inc.	Hope Building	112,500.00	1	Breathitt, Knott, Leslie, Perry
To support the Hope Building hands-on workforce training program.				

Jubilee Jobs of Lexington	Jubilee Jobs: Mobile Outreach for Recovery & Employment (MORE Initiative)	298,179.00	2	Fayette, Jessamine, Scott, Madison, Woodford
To support the Mobile Outreach for Recovery & Employment (MORE Initiative).				
Kentucky Harm Reduction Coalition	Training Institute for Peers (TIP): Strengthening Kentucky's Peer Workforce to Support Treatment Engagement and Retention	\$380,736	2	Jefferson, Bullitt, Oldham, Shelby
To support the Training Institute for Peers (TIP), a workforce infrastructure initiative.				
Kentucky Pharmacists Association	The LAI-Bup Hub KY	648,674.00	1	Greenup, Marion, and Mason
To support a pilot to provide medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) in jails.				
Kentucky River District Health Department	The Hub's Women's Reentry Program: A Peer-Led Jail-Based Treatment & Recovery Navigation Model	320,450.00	2	Lee, Perry, Letcher, Leslie, Knott
To support the Women's Reentry Recovery Program creation of a comprehensive, peer-led reentry and recovery navigation model for incarcerated women.				
KVC Behavioral Healthcare Kentucky, Inc.	EMBARK (Elevate Mothers and Build Addiction Recovery in Kentucky)	631,323.00	2	Boyd, Perry, Letcher, Greenup, Pike
To support the EMBARK (Elevate Mothers and Build Addiction Recovery in Kentucky) program to support pregnant mothers.				
Legal Aid Society, Inc.	Project Renew	123,046.00	2	Jefferson, Grayson, Hardin, Nelson, Shelby
To support Project Renew.				
Lexington Leadership Foundation	Restoring Fathers to Strengthen Recovery	231,526.00	2	Fayette, Jessamine
To support the Restoring Fathers to Strengthen Recovery (RFSR) project.				

Lifeline Recovery Center, Inc.	Foundations for Tomorrow: Workforce Readiness and Housing for Recovery and Re-entry at Lifeline Recovery Center	422,120.00	2	McCracken, Ballard, Graves, Marshall, Calloway
To support the workforce and clinical services to residents of a new women's transitional supportive housing campus.				
Louisville Recovery Community Connection	Families Recovering Together	114,600.00	2	Jefferson, Kenton, Pike, Warren, McCracken
To support the Families Recovering Together initiative.				
Memorial Hospital, Inc. d/b/a AdventHealth Manchester	Recovery Without Barriers: Expanding Evidence-Based Care in Eastern Kentucky	447,895.00	2	Clay, Bell, Jackson, Knox
To expand Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) and Behavioral Health services to multiple counties within Southeastern Kentucky.				
Mercy Health - Marcum and Wallace Hospital*	Healing, Empowering, and Living Program (HELP): Designing a Community Care Hub to Improve Recovery Outcomes	253,076.00	2	Estill, Powell
To support the Healing, Empowering, and Living Program (HELP) program.				
Mountain Comprehensive Health Corporation	Transitioning from Society to Recovery: Phase Two	211,142.00	2	Letcher, Harlan, Pike, Perry, Owsley
For recovery supports.				
Nelson County Addiction Response Effort (NeICARE)	Project BRIDGE: Connecting Treatment, Recovery and Community Support	253,202.00	2	Nelson, LaRue, Washington, Marion, Bullitt
To support community efforts in addressing the opioid crisis.				

Northern Kentucky Legal Aid Society, Inc.	Project Renew: Futures Forward	111,880.00	2	Boone, Boyd, Campbell, Fayette, Kenton
To support Project Renew.				
Northern Kentucky University	CORE (Carroll-Owen Recovery Expansion)	410,994.00	2	Carroll, Owen
To support the "No Wrong Door" (NWD) system for substance use disorder (SUD) and opioid use disorder (OUD) recovery support services.				
Oxford House, Inc.	Oxford House Kentucky Expansion, Reentry and Education Initiative	500,000.00	2	Jefferson, Fayette, Kenton, Boone, Campbell
To support access to safe, peer-led recovery housing and enhance recovery supports.				
Recovery Cafe Lexington, Inc.	Recovery Connections - Recovery Cafe Expansion, Phase IV	748,576.00	2	Boyle, Fayette, Franklin, Whitely, Harlan
To support operations and programming in several Recovery Café locations.				
Revive Ministries Inc.	Common Ground Resource Center	232,244.00	1	Jessamine, Fayette, Woodford, Garrard, Mercer
To expand family counseling, psychoeducation, and support groups to address the unmet needs of family members of clients in its treatment programs and in the community.				
Saint Joseph Catholic Orphan Society	Trauma-Informed Residential Treatment for Opioid-Impacted Children	299,500.00	2	Jefferson, Fayette, Hardin, Warren, Kenton
To strengthen addiction-informed treatment capacity within St. Joseph Children's Home's existing licensed residential, therapeutic foster care, and behavioral health services.				

Save The Children Federation, Inc.	Save the Children Parents as Teachers: Supporting Children and Caregivers Impacted by OUD	425,000.00	2	Clay, Jackson, Whitley, Lincoln, Perry
To support an evidence-based early childhood and parenting education program that strengthens the family unit.				
Seven Counties Services	SCS Integrated Treatment and Recovery Services for Adults with Opioid Use Disorder	250,000.00	2	Trimble, Oldham, Bullitt
To expand access to evidence-informed treatment and recovery support services for adults.				
Shepherds House, Inc.	Shepherd's House Women's Crisis Access Recovery Housing (2 year project)	449,651.00	2	Boyle, Fayette, Franklin, Grant, Shelby
To support women's access to crisis recovery housing.				
The Healing Place	Opioid Recovery Life Skills and Family Stability Project	198,850.00	1	Jefferson, Bullitt, Hardin, Oldham, Shelby
To support delivering targeted life skills, parenting education, and peer support services.				
The Morton Center, Inc.	Rapid Access Treatment & Family Stabilization Program: Expanding Immediate OUD Access, Youth Mental Health, and Long-Term Retention	234,776.00	1	Jefferson, Bullitt, Oldham, Henry, Shelby
To support treatment and mental health support for adolescents impacted by parental substance use.				
Three Rivers District Health Department	Recovery Ready Center: Sweet Owen Hub	249,916.00	2	Owen, Carroll, Gallatin, Pendleton, Grant
To establish a Recovery Resource Center (RRC) in Owen County.				
University Medical Center, Inc.	UofL Health Physicians Wellward Chronic Opioid Reduction & Empowerment (CORE) Program	500,000.00	2	Jefferson, Bullitt, Shelby, Nelson, Spencer
To support the CORE Program, a multidisciplinary, Virtual Intensive Outpatient Program (VIOP) designed to reduce opioid dependence and restore function.				

Voices Of Community Activists & Leaders (vocal-ny), Inc.	VOCAL-KY Drop-in Center	499,999.00	2	Jefferson
To support a community drop-in center.				
Voices Of Hope - Lexington, Inc.	Building on Proven Recovery Strategies — Education, Technology, and Peer Support	231,663.00	1	Madison and Fayette
To support the annual peer support conference and provide recovery supports to those in need				
Volunteers of America Mid-States	Innovative Recovery Support: Closing Service Gaps with Recovery Community Centers	800,000.00	2	Pulaski, Lincoln, Calloway
To support Recovery Community Center operations in Pulaski, Lincoln, and Calloway counties to deliver peer support, education and outreach, and recovery services.				
Western Kentucky MH-MR Board, Inc. dba Four Rivers Behavioral Health	MATR VAN Continuation and Expansion of Services	245,873.00	2	Fulton, Hickman, Ballard, Carlisle, Livingston
To support mobile harm reduction services in the region.				

# RESEARCH & INNOVATION GRANT AWARDS 2026-27

Organization	Project Title	Budget Approved	Timeline
The Fletcher Group, Inc.	Fatherhood and Recovery (FAR): Examining a Person-Centered Intervention for Fathers in Recovery Housing	\$499,899.46	3 years

## Research Project Summary:

Given the substantial impacts that opioid and other substance use disorder (OUD/SUDs) have had on our society at-large, there is a dire need to continue innovating evidence-based solutions to support individuals impacted. Kentucky, ranked sixth in the nation for drug overdose mortality in 2023, has made and continues to make substantial strides to support Kentuckians impacted by OUD/SUDs. Recovery residences provide substance-free living environments centered on peer support and varying levels of wraparound recovery support services. With evidence indicating that a stay of at least six months or more in a recovery home has been associated with positive recovery outcomes, this setting represents an opportunity to develop, evaluate, and offer programs with the intent to build recovery capital. At present, there are 328 certified recovery residences in Kentucky, (198 or 60%) serving men. One impact of OUD/SUD is on families. Children of parents experiencing an OUD/SUD have elevated risk for experiencing academic challenges, parental abuse or neglect, lack of household resources, and development of SUD. Supporting parents in recovery through education and reunification can have major positive impacts on not only the parent, but their children, co-parents and other family members.

There is a gap in evidence-based programming for parents in the recovery housing setting. To our knowledge, no evidence for father-focused programming exists. As such between Fall of 2024 and Spring of 2025, the Fletcher Group (FGI) and the Commonwealth Center for Fathers and Families (CCFF) conducted a pilot project to develop and evaluate the Fatherhood and Recovery (FAR) intervention. The pilot translated to early development of FAR that involves organizational level training to elevate the role of fatherhood and the provision and facilitator training for a 10-week parenting in recovery curriculum. Evidence from this pilot indicates promise in terms of initial program feasibility, acceptability, and sustainability but there are aspects in need of person-centered re-design. In collaboration with CCFF, FGI proposes a 3-year multi-phase, person-centered effectiveness and implementation evaluation to and further develop and evaluate FAR and its potential impact on the OUD/SUD recovery-related outcomes including fatherhood readiness and recovery strength among fathers residing in recovery housing. A pre-established Core Partner team with diverse backgrounds and lived experiences in OUD/SUD recovery, fatherhood, recovery housing, and research to redesign, implement and evaluate FAR within eight recovery housing programs with up to 192 fathers using a phased approach:

- Phase 1: Person Centered Planning
- Phase 2: FAR Intervention Implementation / Prep for Study
- Phase 3: Study Launch, Data Collection
- Phase 4: Finalize Data Collection, Dissemination

Our multidisciplinary team looks forward to addressing a critical service gap for fathers experiencing OUD/SUDs in Kentucky.

Organization	Project Title	Budget Approved	Timeline
Kentucky Alliance of Recovery Residences	Strengthening Kentucky's Recovery Housing with Recovery Capital Data: A KYARR-KIPRC Collaboration	\$681,925.71	3 years

**Research Project Summary:**

Kentucky continues to experience high rates of opioid and polysubstance use, with significant impacts among pregnant and parenting women, justice-involved individuals, racial and ethnic minorities, and people in rural communities. Recovery housing is a critical but under-measured part of the response. Certified recovery residences provide safe, substance-free environments that support long-term recovery, yet Kentucky lacks standardized, statewide outcomes data to guide best practices, funding, and policy decisions.

“Strengthening Kentucky’s Recovery Housing with Recovery Capital Data” will build a sustainable, statewide recovery housing outcomes system over a 36-month period. KYARR will lead the project and recruit at least 100 certified recovery residences, enrolling approximately 500 residents with or at risk of experiencing opioid use disorder into routine, practice-embedded data collection. Using the BEHAVE platform integrated within Sober Living App Pro, residence staff will document resident demographics, justice involvement, service utilization, admission and discharge patterns, and length of stay, and will administer the Recovery Outcomes Institute (ROI) Recovery Capital Assessment at baseline, 45 days, 90 days, and 180 days .

De-identified data will be transferred to the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center (KIPRC), which will serve as evaluation lead. KIPRC will clean, validate, and analyze the data to: (1) describe who is being served in recovery residences; (2) quantify length of stay and resident pathways through housing; (3) examine recovery capital growth over time overall and for priority populations; and (4) map service and geographic gaps in access to recovery-supportive resources. ROI, led by Dr. David Best, will provide subject-matter expertise on recovery capital measurement, advise on instrument use and adaptation, support staff training, and co-interpret and disseminate recovery capital findings and academic outputs. Tara Mosely-Hyde, with People Advocating Recovery (PAR) will assist in an advisory capacity to ensure that the project reflects lived experience and is communicated in accessible, non-stigmatizing ways.

As a component of Dr. Best’s advisory role on the recovery capital assessment, he will provide input on individualizing the Rec-Cap assessment for the Commonwealth of Kentucky to best illustrate the strengths, weaknesses, and gaps in the statewide recovery ecosystem.

Key products will include annual statewide outcomes reports, a public-facing interactive dashboard, and targeted policy and practice briefs. The system will be designed for long-term sustainability, with ongoing platform costs anticipated to be supported through state behavioral health funding so that standardized recovery housing outcomes monitoring can continue beyond the grant period

Organization	Project Title	Budget Approved	Timeline
University of Kentucky Research Foundation: Medicine - Behavioral Science	Strategies for Harnessing Implementation and Facilitating Training on Contingency Management (SHIFT-CM) for Treating Opioid Use Disorder and Stimulant Use Disorder	\$701,661.90	3 years

**Research Project Summary:**

Among people with opioid use disorder (OUD), co-occurring stimulant use (i.e., methamphetamine, cocaine) is a growing concern. For individuals with both OUD and stimulant use disorder, only OUD symptoms can be effectively treated with medications (i.e., buprenorphine, methadone, naltrexone); there are no medications that treat stimulant use disorder. Contingency management is an effective treatment option for stimulant use disorder, reducing substance use and improving treatment attendance. Contingency management provides structured incentives to patients who meet objective goals for positive behavior change (e.g., abstinence as evidenced by a negative drug test). The Kentucky Opioid Response Effort (KORE) has identified contingency management as a high priority for implementation, but very few of Kentucky's treatment providers have implemented it. To be effective, contingency management must be implemented with fidelity, meaning in a way that is consistent with how it was designed in clinical trials. Our proposal seeks to enhance the University of Kentucky's partnership with KORE to develop and test implementation strategies to support agency use of contingency management. Brief trainings and an easy-to-use web-based implementation and fidelity tracking system to support clinicians could improve implementation, and thus, outcomes for people with OUD. We are proposing two goals that will be accomplished over a three-year period. Our first goal is to design and deploy a web-based contingency management implementation and fidelity tracking system (IFTS) that supports agency staff in implementing contingency management with fidelity and provides data dashboards with visualizations. We will use a rigorous, iterative process that integrates the perspectives of clinicians and managers to maximize the likelihood that IFTS will be routinely used. Our second goal is to evaluate implementation outcomes after deploying a contingency management training package (Phase 1) and IFTS (Phase 2) in a single-arm trial of agencies funded by KORE's upcoming pilot program focused on contingency management. In Phase 1, staff will have access to training modules about how to implement contingency management. During Phase 2, staff will gain access to IFTS. For Goal 2, we will analyze IFTS usage data, surveys, and qualitative interviews. Our primary outcome is monthly reach of contingency management (i.e., number of eligible patients receiving at least one session), but we will also measure secondary outcomes of fidelity, adoption, acceptability of contingency management, and clinician competency. Our hypothesis is that adding IFTS will increase contingency management implementation beyond training alone. After the study, the trainings and IFTS will be made freely available to Kentucky's treatment providers, thus supporting statewide efforts to address the opioid epidemic.

Organization	Project Title	Budget Approved	Timeline
University of Kentucky Research Foundation: Medicine - Psychiatry	Helping Kentuckians Overcome Opioid Addiction and Depression with Brain Stimulation	\$733,006.78	2 years

**Research Project Summary:**

The Commonwealth lost nearly 1,000 people to overdose deaths from opioids in 2024. Kentucky has one of the highest prevalence rates of illicit opioid use in the country. Current medication treatments are effective. However, major depression, present in 50-60% of people with opioid use disorder (OUD), causes people to drop out of treatment, stop taking OUD medications, and return to use. This creates a vicious cycle: active opioid use worsens depression, and untreated depression increases the risk of returning to use. A team of clinician researchers led by Dr. Gopalkumar Rakesh, a board-certified psychiatrist with extensive experience treating OUD at the University of Kentucky (UK), is evaluating a promising treatment for people with OUD who are struggling with depression. This treatment, transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS), is FDA-approved for depression but not for OUD. It works by sending a focused electrical current to the brain using a magnet. Emerging research has shown it to decrease opioid craving.

Benefits of TMS. TMS is appealing because it is effective for depression, safe, not painful, and does not require anesthesia or surgery. Standard TMS treatment for depression involves daily sessions over 4-6 weeks, a challenging schedule for people struggling with OUD. Recent advances in accelerated TMS protocols deliver multiple sessions per day over fewer days, achieving 80% response in depression compared to 30% with standard protocols. We have adapted this approach to make it feasible for people with OUD. In a pilot study by Dr. Rakesh, his team found that just one day of accelerated TMS reduced attention to opioid and cigarette cues in OUD. The proposed outpatient trial will test whether multiple treatment days produce sustained improvements in both depression and recovery.

Our Research Plan. We will conduct a 2-year, double-blind clinical trial to test whether accelerated TMS is practical, well-tolerated, and effective when combined with buprenorphine (a standard OUD medication) for patients with both OUD and active depression. We will recruit 40 patients from two UK-affiliated clinics. One-half (20 patients) will receive active accelerated TMS treatment three days a week over 2 weeks, followed by monthly maintenance sessions for three months (9 treatment days total), and the other half (20 patients) will receive placebo TMS, which mimics real TMS but delivers no active stimulation. All patients continue buprenorphine throughout the trial. This combination makes biological sense; both TMS and buprenorphine enhance brain circuits responsible for mood regulation and reduce craving through complementary mechanisms. We will measure the feasibility (whether patients complete the treatment), tolerability (patients find TMS acceptable), and preliminary efficacy of TMS (depression severity, opioid craving, and patient-centered recovery outcome). Patients will be compensated for their participation.

Organization	Project Title	Budget Approved	Timeline
University of Kentucky Research Foundation: Pharmacy - B	Estimating Opioid Use Disorder in Kentucky Counties	\$514,194.08	3 years

**Research Project Summary:**

Opioid use disorder (OUD) remains a major public health challenge in Kentucky, yet the prevalence of this condition remains largely unknown at the county-level despite its importance in policymaking and resource allocation. This project aims to generate county-level OUD prevalence estimates for all of Kentucky's counties from 2018 to 2027 using a Bayesian Integrated Abundance (BIA) model that synthesizes partial OUD counts from multiple publicly available, local data sources. This sustainable, statistical modeling approach will improve the accuracy and precision of prevalence estimates for counties where traditional surveillance is either non-existent or may underestimate the true burden. The resulting estimates will help identify the areas most affected by the opioid epidemic, support data-driven planning for state and local agencies and strengthen Kentucky's capacity to address the opioid and polysubstance crisis. The project will also yield a new research partnership with the University of Kentucky's College of Pharmacy and the Institute for Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy.

Organization	Project Title	Budget Approved	Timeline
McNary Group	Unheard Voices: Community-Driven Research on Overdose in Jefferson County	\$526,758.00	3 years

**Research Project Summary:**

Jefferson County, Kentucky faces a severe opioid overdose crisis with 340 resident deaths in 2024. Despite a 32% decline from 2023, profound disparities persist. Black Kentucky residents experience overdose death rates 37% higher than White residents (43.3 vs 31.6 per 100,000), and Black overdose deaths increased 46.5% from 2020-2023. Meanwhile, Jefferson County's rapidly growing immigrant and refugee communities, comprising 9.3% of the population and speaking over 100 languages remain invisible in overdose surveillance and research. Language barriers, immigration fears, cultural stigma, and trauma create substantial barriers to treatment and harm reduction services, yet no data exist on overdose burden among these populations.

This 36-month community-based participatory research project addresses critical knowledge gaps by centering the voices of Black residents, immigrants, refugees, and migrants most affected by the overdose crisis. Our research questions examine the lived experiences and pathways into opioid use disorder across diverse communities, how risk and protective factors vary by race, ethnicity, immigration status, and neighborhood, what barriers prevent access to treatment and harm reduction, and what culturally relevant solutions communities themselves recommend.

We will establish Community Advisory Committees in high-burden Jefferson County neighborhoods, with intentional representation from Black, immigrant, and refugee communities. Community Research Ambassadors—including bilingual/bicultural individuals with capacity in community-identified priority languages—will conduct all data collection: in-depth interviews in participants' preferred languages, culturally stratified focus groups (including language-specific groups), multilingual community surveys, and secondary analysis of geocoded overdose data. Participatory Data Walk events with professional interpretation will engage community members in validating findings and co-creating recommendations.

Deliverables include a comprehensive final report with dedicated sections on Black and immigrant/refugee findings, neighborhood-specific action plans, a policy brief addressing racial/ethnic disparities, language access barriers, and immigration-safe service pathways, and an open-license toolkit for urban overdose research with diverse populations. We will disseminate findings to decision-makers, immigrant-serving organizations, draft a peer-reviewed manuscript, and present at a national conference.

This project builds sustainable infrastructure by training bilingual Community Research Ambassadors, transitioning Community Advisory Committees to ongoing structures anchored by established organizations, and positioning findings to inform Louisville Metro's opioid settlement fund allocation and language access policies. By centering community expertise across linguistic and cultural contexts, we generate actionable evidence for equitable, culturally responsive overdose prevention.