



Opioid Settlement Funding

Cardinal County

Highlights for Fiscal Year 2025

In fiscal year 2025, Cardinal County invested opioid settlement funds into programs designed to save lives, expand treatment, and support recovery. As part of North Carolina's landmark opioid settlement, Cardinal County funded 8 projects across 10 organizations, guided by the expertise of community partners and people with lived experience. These efforts focused on six core strategies:

Post Overdose Response Team (PORT)	Deployed peer support specialists to connect individuals with harm reduction supplies, primary care referrals, housing resources, and pathways to treatment following an overdose event.
Naloxone Distribution	Distributed naloxone kits to individuals, families, and community organizations to build overdose reversal capacity across the county.
Addiction Treatment	Connected participants to medication-assisted treatment options and supported access through transportation assistance, appointment coordination, and care navigation.
Recovery Support Services	Provided peer support and wraparound services for individuals with opioid use disorder, including connections to employment, housing, and insurance coverage.
Harm Reduction Services	Offered harm reduction supplies and education to meet individuals where they are, reduce risk, and build trust as a first step toward recovery.
Housing Stability Support	Connected individuals at risk of homelessness to emergency and transitional housing resources, helping stabilize living situations as a foundation for recovery.

Key Measures of Impact

- ✓ **35 referrals to PORT** following overdose reversals in the community.
- ✓ **150 unique participants with opioid use disorder served** through funded programs.
- ✓ **850 naloxone kits distributed** to individuals and community partners.
- ✓ **200 participants connected** to addiction treatment, recovery support, and primary health care services.

Cardinal County's opioid settlement investments are helping reverse a years-long trend. These programs are making a measurable difference — and continued investment is critical to sustaining this progress.

"After surviving multiple overdoses, she finally said yes to support — and with consistent outreach from Cardinal County's Post Overdose Response Team, she began exploring treatment, secured housing, and started sharing naloxone with the people around her. Her journey is proof that meeting people where they are, without judgment, can change the course of a life. (Names have been altered to preserve anonymity.)"