



MUNICIPAL MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Background: The Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund

For the last several years, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has participated in historic legal efforts to hold private companies accountable for the harms caused by the opioid epidemic. Through settlements with those companies, our state will receive more than \$900 million over 18 years for substance use prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery support. For certain settlements, Massachusetts will dedicate 40% of the funds to municipalities and 60% to the statewide Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund (ORRF) to mitigate the impacts of the opioid overdose epidemic.

The Healey-Driscoll Administration selected RIZE Massachusetts Foundation (RIZE) to create and manage the [Mosaic Opioid Recovery Partnership](#) (Mosaic), funded by ORRF and the MA Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Addiction Services, through a unique public-private partnership that will allow small, community-based organizations and municipalities to apply for a portion of the settlement funds. It is specifically designed to support communities and populations that have been historically underserved and have experienced a higher rate of opioid-related overdose deaths. The grants will be community-led and culturally responsive, aimed at reaching individuals and families affected by the opioid overdose epidemic. The goal of Mosaic is to fund community-led initiatives that use ideas with promise to address the opioid crisis. The grants will strengthen prevention, harm reduction, access to care, recovery, trauma, and family support programs. Through Mosaic, RIZE will distribute approximately \$5 million annually.

Powered by RIZE and the MA Department of Public Health, Mosaic is a grant program like no other. Just like a mosaic is made up of individual materials to create a complete picture, this program brings together the best ideas and initiatives across the Commonwealth to create a comprehensive response to the opioid overdose crisis. Mosaic is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to save lives, end stigma, and improve the quality of life for people living with substance use disorder. The Healey-Driscoll Administration chose RIZE because it brings together key players based on trusted relationships and credibility among practitioners, researchers, decision-makers, community leaders, and people affected by addiction. Centering the voices of people with lived and living experience is part of RIZE's DNA and is integral to the success of Mosaic and ensuring the dollars are reaching the communities most impacted by the opioid crisis.



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RIZE Massachusetts Foundation

RIZE is the only public-private partnership solely dedicated to funding solutions to end the overdose crisis. RIZE's goal is to ensure that people suffering from substance use disorder have access to care and experience better quality of life and overall health. Guided by individuals with lived experience and unafraid of new ideas, RIZE is building networks, creating programming, and supporting community partners using novel approaches to preventing overdose. RIZE seeks to increase visibility, expand the evidence base, and inform policy to elevate programs with promise. At the same time, RIZE is amplifying the voices of its community partners to bring greater awareness and urgency to the devastating impact of the overdose crisis. We envision a Massachusetts with zero stigma and zero deaths.

The Municipal Matching Grant Program:

In 2025, RIZE will award \$1,250,000 to municipalities in one-year matching grants. In 2026 and 2027, RIZE will also award \$1,250,000 per year. The total program funding is \$3,750,000. The program seeks to match municipal opioid settlement funds in cities and towns that are 1) using best practices to end the overdose crisis, 2) utilizing [Care Massachusetts](#) resources, 3) conducting community outreach and needs assessments, and 4) collaborating with others, particularly those that are pooling funds. Opioid settlement funds offer a unique opportunity for communities to bolster their capacity to address the overdose crisis through strong government and community collaboration and to expand interventions that have proven to save lives. See below for examples.

RIZE will match up to \$50,000 per project. Municipalities may apply directly or with a nonprofit partner, including coalitions that target the opioid crisis. Municipalities may apply as an Opioid Abatement Collaborative (OAC). An OAC is any group of municipalities that agree to pool some or all their opioid settlement funds. OAC is a general term that includes shared services arrangements, inter-municipal agreements, memorandums of understanding, and other agreements between municipalities. OACs can combine funds for a joint project and request up to \$150,000 in matching funds.

The proposed projects should focus on at least one of the following areas: prevention, harm reduction, access to care, recovery, trauma, grief, and family supports. Projects must also align with the [Massachusetts State Sub-Division Agreement for Statewide Opioid Settlements](#).

In addition to grant funding, RIZE will provide technical assistance and learning opportunities tailored to the specific needs identified by the grantees. The goal is to strengthen their organizations, including how to develop sustainability. This comprehensive support is designed to facilitate the effective implementation of initiatives and building more resilient communities.



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How Funds Can be Used

The funds can support projects and initiatives developed with input from people with lived and living experience, public health experts, municipal leaders, and families affected by the crisis. Proposed projects and initiatives must align with the [Massachusetts State Sub-Division Agreement for Statewide Opioid Settlements](#) and advance non-punitive, health-centered approaches to substance use disorder-related harms and challenges. Funding is for one year, but applicants can re-apply again in 2026 and 2027.

Examples:

1. Opioid Use Disorder Treatment
 - A municipality will earmark \$30,000 to purchase a van for mobile medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD), and the nonprofit community health center administering MOUD on the van needs \$30,000 in matching funds for necessary supplies and equipment. The community health center should apply for \$30,000 in matching funds.
2. Support People in Treatment and Recovery
 - An OAC comprised of 8 towns will earmark \$100,000 to revitalize a property for a recovery housing program, and the nonprofit that runs the program needs \$100,000 to hire two recovery coaches to provide services onsite. The nonprofit should apply for \$100,000 in matching funds.
3. Connections to Care
 - A municipal public health department wants to hire a drug user health coordinator. The municipality will earmark \$40,000 to hire the coordinator but needs an additional \$40,000 to offer a fair salary. The municipality should apply for \$40,000 in matching funds.
4. Harm Reduction
 - A municipality wants to purchase harm reduction vending machines or overdose response kits and will earmark \$20,000 but needs an additional \$20,000 to complete the purchase, and fund the installation and marketing. The municipality should apply for \$20,000 in matching funds.
5. Address the Needs of Criminal Justice-Involved Persons
 - A municipality is working with a nonprofit to support people re-entering their community and ensure continuity of care for individuals on MOUD. The municipality will earmark \$40,000 for a re-entry program but needs an additional \$40,000 to fully fund the initiative. The municipality should apply for \$40,000 in matching funds.
 - Municipalities created an OAC to implement Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) across all police departments and will dedicate \$20,000. Matching funds will allow for the coordination

and evaluation of the CIT, with a specific focus on people with substance use and mental health issues. The lead municipality in the OAC should apply for \$20,000 in matching funds.

6. Support Pregnant and Parenting Women and their Families, including babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS)
 - A local community organization provides a post-partum support group for parenting women with opioid use disorder (OUD) and their families at the local nonprofit hospital. There has been a long-identified need to increase the support by implementing home visits. The municipality has agreed to earmark \$50,000 to cover the increased costs, and the nonprofit should apply for \$50,000 in matching funds.
7. Prevent Misuse of Opioids and Implement Prevention Education
 - A municipality earmarks \$50,000 to partner with a nonprofit organization to provide evidence-based education and interventions for youth and adolescents at risk for OUD. The nonprofit should apply for \$50,000 in matching funds.

Funds cannot be used for:

- Care or costs reimbursed by the state, including MassHealth and MA DPH Bureau of Substance Addiction Services, unless they strengthen and supplement these services, not supplant them
- Initiatives and activities that are not considered best practice and cause additional harm and/or trauma for people who use drugs, individuals in recovery and/or treatment, and their family members
- Fundraising pursuits
- Endowments or annual appeals
- Clinical or drug trials
- Direct payments to individuals
- The promulgation of religious beliefs
- Lobbying or legislative activity

Who Should Apply

RIZE seeks to award matching funds to local governments and nonprofit organizations across the Commonwealth that work on any aspect of the care continuum, from prevention to recovery, and that work with communities and populations that are diverse, historically underserved, and have experienced a higher rate of opioid-related overdose deaths. Both government and nonprofit applicants must submit proof of the municipality's commitment to earmark a matching portion of their opioid settlement funds to the proposed initiative. Such proof may be a formal recorded budget discussion or a commitment letter signed by the mayor or city/town manager. Municipalities are encouraged to pool settlement funds and can apply together as an OAC, although one municipality must be designated as the lead applicant.



Municipalities applying as an OAC must submit a joint letter signed by each participating municipality illustrating the shared commitment. Coalitions that target the opioid crisis with documented support of matching funds from any of the cities/towns within the coalition may also apply.

Application Process & Timeline

If your project meets the guidelines, we invite you to complete an [application](#) and submit it by 11:59 pm EST on November 1, 2024. The application questions are at the end of this document for easy review. Questions are highly encouraged and should be submitted to grants@rizema.org. RIZE will post answers to submitted questions on mosaic.rizema.org. All questions will be posted anonymously. RIZE may contact applicants for additional information or clarification if needed during the review process. RIZE is committed to providing ample technical assistance and support during the application process.

Date	Activity
Application Released	September 25, 2024
Informational Webinar	September 30, 2024
Application Due	November 1, 2024 @ 11:59 pm
Notifications	Early January 2025
Grant Period Begins	February 1, 2025

Grant Selection Criteria

All proposals will undergo an unbiased, fair, equitable, and timely review process that includes people with lived and living experience and other subject matter experts. RIZE recognizes that not every proposal will address all items below, but in general, seeks to fund organization- or municipality-led initiatives that:

- Address prevention, harm reduction, access to care, recovery, and trauma, grief, and family supports.
- Have a well-thought-out project and describe the partners engaged (including people with lived and living experience, experts, and professionals) and how their feedback informed the proposal.
- Serve populations and communities with high rates of opioid overdoses and deaths that have been historically underserved.



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- Deliver programs and services that reflect the input of their communities, centering the voices of those with lived and living experience and are based on best practices.
- Commit to diversity, equity, and inclusion and engage in activities to address existing disparities in services and outcomes and improve equity.

Evaluation & Reporting

RIZE aims to measure what matters most, not just what is easily measurable. Our evaluations track progress, increase grantee capacity for data-informed decision-making, and develop a community of learning and improvement. This helps grantees understand what works, adjust what doesn't, and create sustainable means to measure success. For example, we may explore questions like:

- To what extent were municipalities and their partners able to implement projects as expected? What challenges did they experience, and how were they resolved?
- How did the matching funds impact municipalities' strategies for using their opioid settlement funds?
- What were the strengths and challenges of municipal-nonprofit partnerships and OACs?
- How many community members were reached with the projects, and what were their characteristics?
- What early outcomes did communities experience as a result of the projects? (e.g., shifts in attitudes and perceptions, increased access to care and resources, strengthened cross-sector collaborations, etc.)

Our evaluation partner, the Institute for Community Health, will develop measures to help grantees track progress toward meeting goals. Evaluation focus areas and metrics will be designed with grantee input and participation, and the evaluation process will respect the grantees' limited time and resources. The evaluation will also gather feedback on the grant application process, technical assistance, and learning events to gather lessons and recommendations for future programs.

Grantees will be offered opportunities to participate in virtual or in-person meetings, technical assistance, and convenings to network, share ideas, and learn from each other. In addition, we ask grantees to share their progress, successes, and challenges at the midway point and the end of the grant period.

Health Equity Statement

RIZE believes that anyone with substance use disorder should have access to a range of substance use treatments, including all types of MOUD, psychosocial interventions, harm reduction, community services, and recovery supports. Yet, gaps in access to care remain, especially for people who identify as Black, Indigenous, and people of color, as well as rural residents, LGBTQ+ persons, youth, and others. RIZE makes health equity a grantmaking priority by investing in programs that increase access to care and



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address root causes, such as racism, poverty, and power imbalances. RIZE also follows the MA Department of Public Health Principles for Racial Equity and endeavors to meet national Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) standards as an additional tool to help achieve health and racial equity.

Application Questions

Contact Information

- Lead organization or municipality
- If a community-based organization, please provide your EIN
- Contact person at the organization
- Contact person at municipality
- Street Address, City, County, Zip Code
- Email
- Phone number
- Amount requested

If you are applying as an OAC, please answer the following:

- Name of the OAC
- Participating cities and towns?
- Lead municipality?

If you are applying as a standalone municipality, please answer the following:

- Please choose the category of settlement funds that your municipality receives on an annual basis.
 - Dropdown menu – select one
 - Less than \$35k annually
 - \$35-\$100k annually
 - Over \$100k annually

If you are applying as a coalition or nonprofit organization, please answer the following:

- Which municipality (or municipalities) is providing matching funds?

Please select the appropriate category from the Massachusetts State Sub-Division Agreement for Statewide Opioid Settlements for your proposed project. (Dropdown menu - **select all that apply**)



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- *Opioid Use Disorder Treatment; Support People in Treatment and Recovery; Connections to Care; Harm Reduction; Address the Needs of Criminal Justice-Involved Persons; Support Pregnant and Parenting Women and their Families, including babies with NAS; Prevent Misuse of Opioids and Implement Prevention Education*

Select the most appropriate continuum of care category for your proposed project. (Dropdown menu - **select one**)

- *Prevention; harm reduction; access to care, recovery; trauma, grief, and family supports*

Project Description & Implementation

1. Please describe your proposed project (50 words max)
2. Please describe the budget for your project; be as specific as possible and include (100 words max)
 - The amount of municipal settlement funds for this project
 - The amount requested from RIZE
 - How you will spend the funds - include amounts allocated to staff/personnel, services provided, equipment and/or contracts, etc.
3. Describe who will execute your project, including specific roles and responsibilities (mention any municipal agencies, departments, community organizations, etc.) (50 words max)
4. Identify potential obstacles to your project's success and describe how you plan to overcome them (100 words max)
5. Explain how you will ensure the funds are used specifically for your project (100 words max)

Identifying Gaps & Measuring Results

1. Discuss the partners you've engaged (including people with lived and living experience, experts, and professionals) and how their input informed your project (100 words max)
2. Describe the data or methods (community outreach, surveys, statistics) used to identify the need for your project. Explain how your project will address these needs and/or gaps (100 words max)
3. Detail the results and outcomes you hope to achieve through your project (100 words max)



UPLOADS:

- Proof of municipal support: This can be a formal recorded budget discussion and/or a commitment letter signed by the mayor or city/town manager. OACs must submit a joint letter signed by each participating municipality that illustrates their shared commitment. Nonprofits and coalitions must submit documented support of matching funds from the cities/towns within the coalition.



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