



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: *September 16, 2025*

DATE: Thursday, September 11, 2025

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Lauren Beal, Grants and Community Program Analyst
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THROUGH: Gabrielle Enfield, Community Reinvestment Manager
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SUBJECT: Recommendation, in accordance with NRS 244.1505 and NRS 433.742, to de-obligate previously approved allocations of Washoe Opioid Abatement and Recovery Funds (WOARF) non-bankruptcy funds through the One Nevada Agreement in the amount of [\$442,716] for the Northern Nevada Harm Reduction Alliance Building Communities of Support project that no longer needs the previously approved levels of funding and to approve allocation of Washoe Opioid Abatement and Recovery Fund (WOARF) non-bankruptcy funds through the One Nevada Agreement, in the total amount of [\$442,716], to The Reno Initiative For Shelter And Equality for the Building Communities of Support project; approve associated resolutions, and authorize the County Manager to sign necessary award documents.

And, if approved, direct Finance to make necessary net zero cross-fund and/or cross-functional budget appropriation transfers and budget amendments. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

The Washoe Opioid Abatement and Recovery Fund (WOARF) through the One Nevada Agreement, provides grant awards for the purpose of abating and recovering from the opioid epidemic in accordance with the Opioid Litigation Settlement Documents Use of Funds, NRS 433.742, and NRS 244.1505.

The Washoe Opioid Abatement and Recovery Fund conducted an open and competitive grant solicitation for projects to address one of the five priorities identified in the Washoe County Opioid Use Community Needs Assessment 2023-2025. The application period was from May 15th, 2024, to June 30th, 2024. The applications were reviewed by a panel consisting of Washoe County staff, subject matter experts, and people with lived

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experience and considered for the proposal's alignment with the Needs Assessment Priority, sustainability, and populations the project seeks to serve. Applications were presented to Washoe County leadership. The recommended set of awards included the Northern Nevada Harm Reduction Alliance's (NNHRA) Building Communities of Support Project funded at \$523,403. In August 2025, NNHRA and the Reno Initiative for Shelter and Equality (RISE) began the process of merging their nonprofit entities. As a result, the award for the Building Communities of Support project will be rolled over to RISE to fulfill the grant agreement of the Building Communities of Support project.

The Board of County Commissioners should accept this proposed project, approve amendments to the adopted fiscal year budget, and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Vulnerable Populations, and Innovative Services

PREVIOUS ACTION

September 10, 2024 - The Board approved allocation of Washoe Opioid Abatement and Recovery Fund (WOARF) non-bankruptcy funds through the One Nevada Agreement, in the total amount of [\$4,009,786], to government entities or nonprofit organizations created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes; approve associated resolutions, and authorize the County Manager to sign necessary award documents, for six projects.

August 20, 2024 – The Washoe Opioid Abatement and Recovery Fund has received \$6,933,405.05 in distributions from the Opioid Litigation Settlements in accordance with the One Nevada Agreement since August 23, 2022.

July 16, 2024 – the Board approved the Settlement between Kroger and the State of Nevada is in an amount of \$26,718,162 before attorney's fees are deducted and paid over a 10-year period. Pursuant to the One Nevada Agreement, Washoe County will receive an estimated annual allocation of \$100,043.47 for 10 years.

January 23, 2024, - the Board approved the creation of one new full-time Grants and Community Program Analyst position, pay grade 16 (Office of the County Manager), upon evaluation and approval by the Job Evaluation Committee (JEC); and authorize Human Resources to make the necessary changes; 100% funded by Opioid Settlement funds [Estimated annual costs \$125,687; Fiscal Year 2024 impact \$62,844].

November 14, 2023 – the Board approved the Settlement between the State of Nevada and Masters Pharmaceutical, LLC in the amount of \$1,428,552.26 before attorney's fees. Pursuant to the One Nevada Agreement, Washoe County will receive an estimated total net allocation of \$54,819.67.

For all Board of County Commissioner actions related to the Washoe Opioid Abatement and Recovery Fund visit the Washoe County [WOARF Website](#).

BACKGROUND

Washoe County collaborated with the State of Nevada and other jurisdictions across the State to litigate against pharmaceutical companies and other distributors of opioids that participated in the opioid epidemic. Through this partnership, under the [One Nevada Agreement](#), Washoe County will receive approximately \$41 million over the next 20 years to address the opioid epidemic through evidence-based, strategic initiatives in alignment with community needs and SB 390. The funds received are to be recognized as funds received from pharmaceutical organizations that have filed bankruptcy and those that have not filed bankruptcy and will be disbursed through the Washoe Opioid Abatement and Recover Fund (WOARF) managed by the Office of the County Manager, Community Reinvestment Division. As of May 15, 2024, when the Notice of Funding Opportunity was announced, Washoe County had received \$4,747,618.72.

In 2022, Washoe County completed a Needs Assessment to provide guidance to the County on the opioid abatement and recovery priorities for 2023-2025. The Needs Assessment identified [five priority goals](#). On May 15, 2024, a Notice of Funding Opportunity was opened to provide competitive grant award for up to 4.5 million dollars from WOARF to implement strategies associated with the Top 5 Priority Areas in the Needs Assessment and in-line with the opioid settlement's use of funds strategies, which dictate the dollars must be used for OUD and the impacts of opioid misuse.

Priority Uses of the Funds:

- Ensure funding for opioid use disorder treatment services for uninsured and underinsured Washoe county residents.
- Initiating buprenorphine in the emergency department, as well as during inpatient hospital stays, and care navigators to assist with setting up outpatient resources for continued care and management.
- Use a multidisciplinary approach to providing overdose prevention outreach and education, inclusive of under resourced communities, such as Black Indigenous and People of Color communities, in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner (organizations, media, churches).
- Implement child welfare best practices for supporting families impacted by substance use.
- Increase detoxification and short-term rehabilitation program capacity.

Washoe Opioid Abatement and Recovery Fund

The Washoe Opioid Abatement and Recovery Fund offers funding to eligible County departments and agencies, nonprofits, and businesses that provide services in Washoe County that are aligned with the County Needs Assessment and in accordance with Opioid Litigation Settlement Documents Use of Funds and NRS 433.742. The County requested proposals for projects or programs to help the community recover from and abate the opioid epidemic, aligned with the priorities of the County Needs Assessment, and further the County's strategic goals.

Expenditure of public money - NRS 244.1505 provides that the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners may expend money for any purpose which will provide a substantial benefit to the inhabitants of the County and that the board may make a grant of money to a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable, or educational purposes, or other governmental entity, to be expended for a selected purpose.

WOARF GRANT AWARDS SUMMARY

The Reno Initiative For Shelter And Equality			
Project # WOARF24- 0011	Building Communities of Support	\$442,716	Approval Recommended
Description:	The Reno Initiative for Shelter and Equality's Building Communities of Support (BCOS) program will address the needs of people who use drugs (PWUDs) in Washoe County through comprehensive harm reduction strategies, community engagement, and advocacy, led by the expertise and leadership of individuals with lived experience. BCOS will embed Harm Reduction Outreach workers who have lived experience in communities to provide targeted outreach, safer use supplies, and overdose education (including rescue breathing) and naloxone distribution (OEND) to PWUD, develop an advisory council of PWUD to guide program activities, outreach, and education, provide community education on OEND, drug checking supplies, training on the SOS contaminated drug phone app, and engage families and communities in developing a destigmatizing and supportive environment for PWU		
Category:	Priority 3: Overdose prevention education and outreach inclusive of under resourced communities.		

FISCAL IMPACT

The total fiscal impact of this allocation is \$0

Should the board approve the award of WOARF non-bankruptcy funds, FY26 budget will be adjusted with the following net-zero appropriation transfers:

Fund/Function	Cost Object & Description	G/L Account & Description	Increase/ (Decrease)
Other Restricted Fund (270)/ Health and Sanitation	IO20547 NNHRA OD	485300 – Other Misc Govt Rev	(\$442,716)
Other Restricted Fund (270)/ Health and Sanitation	IO20547 NNHRA OD	710119 - Subrecipient Payments	(\$442,716)
Other Restricted Fund (270)/ Health and Sanitation	IO 20561 RISE	485300 – Other Misc Govt Rev	\$442,716
Other Restricted Fund (270)/ Health and Sanitation	IO 20561 RISE	710119 - Subrecipient Payments	\$442,716

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation, in accordance with NRS 244.1505 and NRS 433.742, to de-obligate previously approved allocations of Washoe Opioid Abatement and Recovery Funds (WOARF) non-bankruptcy funds through the One Nevada Agreement in the amount of [\$442,716] for the Northern Nevada Harm Reduction Alliance Building Communities of Support project that no longer needs the previously approved levels of funding and to approve allocation of Washoe Opioid Abatement and Recovery Fund (WOARF) non-bankruptcy funds through the One Nevada Agreement, in the total amount of [\$442,716], to The Reno Initiative For Shelter And Equality for the Building Communities of Support project; approve associated resolutions, and authorize the County Manager to sign necessary award documents.

And, if approved, direct Finance to make necessary net zero cross-fund and/or cross-functional budget appropriation transfers and budget amendments. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: *“move to in accordance with NRS 244.1505 and NRS 433.742, to de-obligate previously approved allocations of Washoe Opioid Abatement and Recovery Funds (WOARF) non-bankruptcy funds through the One Nevada Agreement in the amount of [\$442,716] for the Northern Nevada Harm Reduction Alliance Building Communities of Support project that no longer needs the previously approved levels of funding and to approve allocation of Washoe Opioid Abatement and Recovery Fund (WOARF) non-bankruptcy funds through the One Nevada Agreement, in the total amount of [\$442,716], to The Reno Initiative For Shelter And Equality for the Building Communities of Support project; approve associated resolutions, and authorize the County Manager to sign necessary award documents.*

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