

Richmond County Impact Report Narratives for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Each local government that receives opioid settlement funds is asked to share an Annual Settlement Update describing how they have made use of settlement funds during each fiscal year. For each strategy funded, local governments also share additional narratives to describe their progress and successes (success information is optional for some local governments). Across all funded strategies, each local government selects one progress narrative and one success narrative to spotlight each fiscal year.

Richmond County provided the following narrative information for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (July 2023 through June 2024):

Annual Settlement Update

Richmond County continues efforts to address the addiction of opioids and other drugs and the impact they are having on our families and communities throughout the county. Through the use of our opioid settlement funds, we have purchased and distributed naloxone to our first responders, schools, and to the public through peer support counselors; provided funding to Samaritan Colony to provide housing, treatment, and support to 30 Richmond County men; supported our DEFT (Drug Endangered Family Task Force) with development of Strategic Plan and other initiatives; and worked on developing funding initiatives to address in the upcoming year.

Strategy Spotlights

❖ Exhibit A, Strategy 3: Recovery Support Services

Progress Narrative

Samaritan Colony provided services to 30 Richmond County men through funding provided by Opioid Settlement Funds during the past year. All of these men were referred for treatment and after completing the 28-day in-house program at Samaritan Colony, all were connected to employment services and obtained employment, all were connected to and adhered to treatment and all were transferred to after-care housing or returned to safe house after completing the 28-day program.

❖ Exhibit A, Strategy 3: Recovery Support Services

Success Narrative

The following is a success story about a young African American male from Rockingham in Richmond County. The young man was diagnosed with opioid use disorder and needed professional help. He was screened by staff at our facility, accepted, and placed in our transitional house to await a bed at Samaritan Colony. He completed his stay at the transitional house and was transferred to Samaritan Colony by a member of our staff. He completed 28 days of intense inpatient treatment in our primary care facility and was then transferred to a Samaritan Colony Recovery home in Aberdeen, N.C., where he could continue his treatment at a lower level and engage in a 12-step program of recovery. Then, he went to work for a company owned and operated by a previous client of Samaritan Colony. He continues to work on a twelve-step program that includes carrying the message to other

people who need help and continues to grow spiritually, mentally, and physically. He provides a fine example of recovery principles in action and leads the way for those who follow.

Progress and Success Narratives for All Funded Strategies

❖ Exhibit A, Strategy 1: Collaborative Strategic Planning

Progress Narrative

The Drug Endangered Family Task Force (DEFT) completed a strategic plan, maintained updated online data base and opioid website, monitored programs funded by the County Commissioners, held monthly meetings with community partners, and solicited, interviewed and recommended to County Commissioners new projects to fund with opioid settlement funds. This strategy allowed a funded part-time position to operate the program.

Success Narrative

The success story we want to share is a new program that will be funded in the coming year that had been denied the previous year. Through the RFA process, Richmond County was able to help this sub-recipient build capacity to clarify their scope of work and better define their objectives.

❖ Exhibit A, Strategy 3: Recovery Support Services

Progress Narrative

Samaritan Colony provided services to 30 Richmond County men through funding provided by Opioid Settlement Funds during the past year. All of these men were referred for treatment and after completing the 28-day in-house program at Samaritan Colony, all were connected to employment services and obtained employment, all were connected to and adhered to treatment and all were transferred to after-care housing or returned to safe house after completing the 28-day program.

Success Narrative

The following is a success story about a young African American male from Rockingham in Richmond County. The young man was diagnosed with opioid use disorder and needed professional help. He was screened by staff at our facility, accepted, and placed in our transitional house to await a bed at Samaritan Colony. He completed his stay at the transitional house and was transferred to Samaritan Colony by a member of our staff. He completed 28 days of intense inpatient treatment in our primary care facility and was then transferred to a Samaritan Colony Recovery home in Aberdeen, N.C., where he could continue his treatment at a lower level and engage in a 12-step program of recovery. Then, he went to work for a company owned and operated by a previous client of Samaritan Colony. He continues to work on a twelve-step program that includes carrying the message to other people who need help and continues to grow spiritually, mentally, and physically. He provides a fine example of recovery principles in action and leads the way for those who follow.

❖ Exhibit A, Strategy 7: Naloxone Distribution

Progress Narrative

Opioid settlement funds provided 320 naloxone kits throughout the county during the past year. Naloxone was provided to first responders, schools, and individuals across the county by peer support specialists.

Success Narrative

A 22-year-old male who had previously received treatment suffered a relapse and was provided with naloxone through opioid settlement funds. Fortunately, the naloxone saved his life, and he re-entered treatment. Today, he is doing well.