



Council Business Meeting

December 19, 2023

Agenda Item	Support letter for Oregon Jail Medicine for Opioid-Use Disorder Grant Program Legislation	
From	Tonya Graham	Mayor
Contact	tonya@council.ashland.or.us	
Item Type	Requested by Council <input type="checkbox"/> Update <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Direction <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing <input type="checkbox"/> New Business <input type="checkbox"/> Old Business <input type="checkbox"/>	

SUMMARY

Mayor Graham is bringing information about this legislative proposal by Representative Pam Marsh and a support letter forward for Council consideration. The Mayor asks Council to sign on to the letter, which she will send to Representative Marsh from the Office of the Mayor later this week.

REFERENCES & ATTACHMENTS

- Jail-Based Medication Legislation Letter
- Oregon Jail MOUD Grant Program
- Jail MOUD Request



December 19, 2023

Dear Representative Marsh,

Thank you for your long-standing efforts to improve health care for all Oregonians. I am writing on behalf of the Mayor's office and the Ashland City Council to express our support for your legislation to establish the Oregon Jail-Based Medication for Opioid-Use Disorder (MOUD) Grant Program. The Council appreciates this proposal as it will fund the creation or expansion of jail-based counseling and MOUD programs serving adults in custody with opioid use disorder.

Opioid addiction is a serious problem across Oregon, and the Ashland community is feeling the impacts. The time when an adult who has opioid use disorder is in jail is a critical time for intervention – an opportunity that is almost always lost due to the lack of jail-based counseling and MOUD programs in Oregon.

With this legislation, you are inviting the Oregon Legislature to invest in a cost effective, evidence-based program that will save lives and help Oregonians suffering from opioid use disorder while reducing the cost to society that results from untreated addiction.

The Ashland City Council is pleased to support this legislation and thanks you for your good work on behalf of all Oregonians.

Sincerely,

Tonya Graham

Mayor of Ashland on behalf of the Ashland City Council

The Oregon Jail-Based Medication for Opioid-Use Disorder Grant Program

The **Oregon Jail-Based Medication for Opioid-Use Disorder (MOUD) Grant Program** will provide \$XM in funding to create or expand jail-based counseling and MOUD programs serving adults in custody with opioid use disorder. The program will be established within and administered by the Criminal Justice Commission in collaboration with the Oregon Health Authority. The two agencies will provide technical assistance and help establish best practices for jails statewide.

Need for the Jail MOUD Grant Program:

The opioid addiction crisis has cast a bright light on the need to improve MOUD services within our local jail systems. Currently, when adults in custody enter a local carceral facility they are no longer eligible for OHP or Medicaid to support continuing or initiating addiction treatment. Consequences include traumatic withdrawal in jail, disruption of community addiction treatment plans and jeopardized continuity of addiction care at release. **The gap in medication services misses an opportunity for evidence-based treatment that would promote recovery and help end cyclical drug use and incarceration.** Most jails lack the infrastructure and funding to implement or expand addiction care, including MOUD.



- In 2022, over 1,200 Oregonians lost their lives to fatal drug overdose.
- *Nearly 60% of incarcerated individuals have a substance use disorder*, but most go untreated.
- In 2021, only 12% of incarcerated people were offered MOUD in American jails and prisons.
- Research shows that incarcerated people and those recently released from incarceration face a significantly elevated risk of overdose death as compared to the general public. One estimate indicates that incarcerated people are *129 times more likely to die of overdose* within 2 weeks of release.
- MOUD is an evidence-based treatment, significantly improving health outcomes for people with opioid use disorder, such as raising patient survival rates, increasing retention in treatment, reducing criminal activity, and improving a patient's ability to gain and maintain employment.
- One estimate indicates that every dollar spent on prison-based treatment saves between \$2-\$6 due in part to reductions in criminal behavior and associated costs.

Program Objectives:



- Provide MOUD at the time people are incarcerated.
- Create an opportunity (not a mandate) for jails to create or expand programs; support jails at whatever level of capacity they currently have.
- Fund a spectrum of needs, such as medications, telemedicine, mobile treatment units, acute withdrawal screenings and medication storage.
- Provide a carve-out of funding for rural, frontier and tribal jails. A grant review committee will advise CJC on grant awards.

For info: Rep Pam Marsh, rep.pammarsh@oregonlegislature.gov

SUPPORTERS

Oregon Jail-Based Medication for Opioid-Use Disorder Grant Program



- Moxie Loeffler, DO, MPH, Public Policy Chair - Oregon Society of Addiction Medicine
- Clackamas County Sheriff Angela Brandenburg & Captain Lee Eby
- Melanie Menear, MHA, MSN, RN CCHP, Healthcare Administrative Services Manager, Clackamas Co Sheriff's Office
- Zachary Myque Obiero, RN, CCHP, Director/RHA, Multnomah County Corrections Health & State of Oregon ADPC Commissioner
- Kerri Hecox, MD, MPH, Medical Director, Oasis Center of the Rogue Valley

Relating-to Clause:

Relating to opioid use disorder treatment in local correctional facilities and tribal jails.

SECTION 1. [Program Purposes and Establishment, Agency Collaboration]

- (1) The Oregon Jail-Based Medications for Opioid-Use Disorder Grant Program is established within the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission to address the need for opioid use disorder treatment for persons in custody within Oregon’s local correctional facilities and tribal jails.
- (2) The commission shall collaborate with the Oregon Health Authority on implementation of the grant program, including, but not limited to, on providing technical assistance to grant-funded programs and identifying best practices.

SECTION 2. [Program Eligibility, Rural and Tribal Set-Aside, Option for Technical Assistance Set-Aside]

- (1) The commission shall award grants to cities and counties that operate local correctional facilities, as defined in ORS 169.005(4), and to federally recognized tribal governments that operate jails in Oregon, for the purposes of expanding efforts to provide opioid use disorder treatment for incarcerated persons while in custody and transition planning services in preparation for their release.
- (2) Eligible applicants may submit an application on behalf of a single applicant or an application on behalf of a consortia of local correctional facilities or tribal jails.
- (3) At least 10 percent of grant funds shall be set aside for awards to local correctional facilities in rural areas and tribal jails. Any set-aside funds unawarded may be subsequently awarded to eligible recipients through a supplemental award process.
- (4) A portion of grant funds may be set aside for the purposes of contracting for statewide technical assistance to assist programs in expanding access to opioid use disorder treatment for persons in custody within Oregon’s local correctional facilities and tribal jails.

SECTION 3 [Program Funding Allowable Awards; Not an Exclusive List]

Grant funds may be awarded to eligible applicants for, including but not limited to, the following purposes:

- (a) Medications for opioid use disorders;
- (b) Access to telemedicine for opioid use disorders;
- (c) Mobile and non-mobile opioid treatment units; and
- (d) Opioid use disorder and risk of acute withdrawal screenings;
- (e) Mitigating operational barriers to opioid use disorder treatment in local correctional facilities and tribal jails;
- (f) Mitigating structural barriers to opioid use disorder treatment in local correctional facilities and tribal jails, including but not limited to, lack of secure medication storage;

SECTION 4. [Minimum Program Rules]

- (1) The commission shall adopt rules to administer the grant program described in section (2).
- (2) The rules must:
 - (a) Define “rural” for the purpose of grant award eligibility criteria;
 - (b) Specify the application process and eligibility criteria for the grant program, including
 - (i) A requirement that any eligible applicant applying on behalf of a city or county local correctional facility or a tribal jail must provide a statement acknowledging that grant funds must serve persons with opioid use disorders who are in custody; and
 - (ii) A requirement that any eligible applicant must include a letter of commitment from the administrator of a local correctional facility or tribal jail acknowledging willingness to participate in the grant program.
 - (c) Include a methodology for reviewing and approving grant applications and distributing grant funds.

SECTION 5. [Grant Advisory Committee]

- (1) The commission shall convene an advisory committee to evaluate applications and make recommendations for grant awards. The committee may also make recommendations regarding best practices for grant-funded programs.
- (2) The chairperson of the commission shall appoint members to serve on the advisory committee.

SECTION 6. [Legislative Report]

No later than December 1, 2024, the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission shall report to the committees of the Legislative Assembly related to the judiciary and health care concerning:

- (1) Grant awards, to date;
- (2) Opportunities for local correctional facilities and tribal jails to access medications through state agencies, on a voluntary basis; and
- (3) Any additional timely and relevant information concerning opioid use disorder treatment in local correctional facilities and tribal jails.

SECTION 7. [Grant Funds as Other Fund]

The Oregon Jail-Based Medications for Opioid Use Disorder Grant Program Fund is established in the State Treasury separate and distinct from the General Fund. Moneys in Oregon Jail-Based Medication Opioid Use Disorder Grant Program Fund are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of Sections 1-3 of this 2024 Act. Interest earned by the fund shall be credited to the fund.

SECTION 8. [Emergency Clause]

This 2024 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2024 Act takes effect on its passage.