

Gloucester Township Strategic Plan for Opioid Settlement Funds

Purpose

Gloucester Township will invest opioid settlement dollars in life-saving, evidence-based programs that prevent overdose deaths, expand access to treatment, support recovery, and strengthen families—while complying with New Jersey’s rules (funds must supplement, not replace, existing budgets).

Guiding Principles

- Evidence-based & abatement only: Prevention, treatment, recovery, harm reduction.
- Transparency & accountability: Annual public reporting; independent evaluation.
- Coordination: Align with Camden County and NJ’s 2025–2030 Strategic Plan.

Priority Investment Areas

1. Overdose Prevention & Harm Reduction

- Saturate community with naloxone.
- Increase EMS response to better serve community.
- Post-overdose outreach teams (peer-led, SAVE Program Advocate).
- Safer use supplies & drug-checking via authorized harm-reduction partners.
- Provide training to Officers in Opioid related response

2. Treatment Access

- Continue / Expand Project SAVE pathways.
- Expand wellness programs for officers and telecommunicators

3. Youth & Family Supports

- Community Response Canine Program.
- Continue / Expand Family Resource Center programs including peer support, grief counseling, and caregiver support.

4. Data, Evaluation & Coordination

- Shared dashboard with Camden County/NJ.
- Partner with college intern program for independent evaluation.

5. Administration & Compliance

- Fiscal management, audit, and reporting capacity.

Governance

- Form a Guidance Committee with representatives from municipal government, health, law enforcement (deflection only), EMS, schools, providers, clergy, people with lived experience, and finance.

Priorities

- Expand Project SAVE programs
- Provide training to PD Officers on Opioid related response to incidents from Seton Hall University continuing education program.
- Establish Community Resource Canine therapy dog program
- Establish partnership with local schools for prevention and anxiety treatment utilizing CRC
- Expand EMS service to provide quicker response for overdose related incidents.
- Expand Family Resource Center programs

Bottom Line

Gloucester Township will use opioid settlement dollars to save lives now through harm reduction, prevention programs, training, and treatment programs, while building long-term recovery and stability through therapy programs, prevention, and family support—ensuring accountability and alignment with NJ's statewide plan.