



The Commonwealth and its municipalities have a shared commitment to using abatement funds recovered from statewide opioid settlements to supplement and strengthen resources available to Massachusetts communities and families for substance use disorder prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery in a matter that:

reflects the input of our communities, of people who have personal experience with the opioid crisis, of experts in treatment and prevention, and of staff and organizations that are carrying out the abatement work

addresses disparities in existing services and outcomes and improves equity and the health of individuals and communities disadvantaged by race, wealth, and stigma, including through efforts to increase diversity among service providers

addresses mental health conditions, substance use disorders, and other behavior health needs that occur together with opioid use disorder (“OUD”)

leverages programs and services already reimbursed by state agencies and programs, including direct care reimbursed by MassHealth and the state’s Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (“BSAS”)

encourages innovation, fills gaps, and fixes shortcomings of existing approaches; supplements rather than supplants resources for prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery; includes evidence-based, evidence-informed, and promising programs; and takes advantage of the flexibility that is allowed for these funds