

Alignment with Rhode Island Opioid Settlement Guiding Principles

Applications should align with the following Rhode Island Opioid Settlement Guiding Principles wherever possible:

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| Spend money to save lives. | It may be tempting to use the dollars to fill holes in existing budgets rather than expand needed programs, but the Committee should use the funds to add to rather than replace existing spending. |
| Use evidence to guide spending. | At this point in the overdose epidemic, researchers, clinicians, and community partners have built a substantial body of evidence demonstrating what works and what does not. States and localities should use this information to make funding decisions. |
| Invest in youth prevention. | Support children, youth, and families by making long-term investments in effective programs and strategies for community change. |
| Focus on racial equity. | This process should be guided by public health leaders with the active engagement of people and families with lived experience, clinicians, as well as other |
| Develop a fair and transparent process for funding recommendations. | This process should be guided by public health leaders with the active engagement of people and families with lived experience, clinicians, as well as other key groups. |
| Consider future sustainability in all recommendations. | Although there may be some on-time funding recommendations, the Committee should consider the financial sustainability of all investments and try to plan for investments that can be sustained long-term. |