



KACo Leadership Institute: **Opioid Settlement Funds – Best Practices**

April 18, 2024

Principle 1: Spend money to save lives

- Establish a dedicated fund
- Supplement rather than supplant existing funding
- Don't spend all the money at once
- Report to the public on where the money is going

Principle 2: Use evidence to guide spending

- Direct funds to programs supported by evidence
- Remove policies that may block adoption of programs that work
- Build data collection capacity

Principle 3: Invest in youth prevention

- Direct funds to evidence-based interventions

Principle 4: Focus on racial equity

- Invest in communities affected by discriminatory policies
- Support diversion from arrest and incarceration
- Fund anti-stigma campaigns
- Involve community members in solutions

Principle 5: Develop a fair and transparent process for deciding where to spend the funding

- Determine areas of need
- Receive input from groups that touch different parts of the epidemic to develop a plan
- Ensure that there is representation that reflects the diversity of affected communities when allocating funds

[Brittney Garrett, Senior Director of Public Safety Engagement & Strategy, Police Assisted Addiction & Recovery Initiative \(PAARI\)](#)

[Heather McDaniel, Vice President, Drug Intervention Institute, Inc.](#)

[Eric Gremminger, ICADC, Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer](#)

[Courtney Jeffries, Executive Director, Graves County ASAP, Mayfield Graves Co. Youth Council](#)

[Eric Hulsey, Senior Technical Advisor, Drug Use Epidemiology and Data, Overdose Prevention Program, Vital Strategies](#)

[Margaret McGladrey, Ph.D., Faculty Director, RITA Hub, University of Kentucky](#)



Kentucky Association of Counties

Contact Us

Lauren Carr

502-343-9944

lauren.carr@kaco.org
