

Orange County Proposition 36 Update

August 2025



Overview

- Program Implementation
- Program Census Updates
- Next Steps

Prop 36 Program Implementation

- Prop 36 passed by California voters in November 2024, allowing individuals who possess illegal drugs to be charged with a “treatment-mandated felony,” instead of a misdemeanor, in some cases.
- OC’s Collaborative Courts brought Health Care Agency (HCA), District Attorney and Public Defender together late in 2024 to plan for implementation
- HCA staff began Prop 36 evaluations on December 27, 2024, utilizing existing staff

Prop 36 Program Implementation continued

- Prop 36 Evaluations are conducted centrally in Santa Ana and in custody by BHS staff
- Court progress reviews are being completed at the four branch courts, during Prop 36 court sessions
- Opioid Settlement dollars are funding two Prop 36 clinicians

Prop 36 Program Census Update

- **609** prospective participants referred
- **355** agreeing to be evaluated for Prop 36
 - 64% unhoused
 - 79% Medi-Cal members
- **167** agreeing and accepted into program
- **12** individuals exited from program
- **155** currently in the program

Next Steps and Questions

- In process of hiring second clinician for Prop 36
- Awaiting outcome of Prop 47 grant submission

Orange County Opioid Abatement Settlement Plan Update

August 2025



Overview

- Opioid Settlement Plan Timeline
- Plan Strategies and Updates
- Next Steps

Opioid Settlement Plan Timeline

- **November 2022** – OC received the first payment of opioid settlement funds
- **January 2023** – HCA created a detailed plan that leveraged existing prevention, treatment and recovery systems already in place
- **October 2023** – HCA launched the Fentanyl is Forever Campaign in OC, using opioid funds

Opioid Settlement Plan Timeline continued

- **Early 2024** – HCA reached out to cities that contributed some of their funding to provide a menu of supports
- **November 2024** – HCA held an Opioid Response for Cities Forum to share County's Plan, align efforts and network
- **December 2024** – HCA began braiding funding into adult SUD residential master contracts, increasing bed capacity

Six High Impact Abatement Priorities

1. Fund-Matching for substance use disorders (SUD) facilities
2. New or expanded SUD treatment infrastructure
3. Communities of color and vulnerable populations
4. Diversion of people with SUD from justice system
5. Vulnerable youth drug addiction prevention
6. Naloxone distribution and expansion

Plan Strategy 1

Addressing the Needs of Criminal Justice-Involved Persons

- Provide Medications for Opioid Use Disorders (MOUD) to individuals who are incarcerated
- Fund recovery residential stays for individuals with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) upon transition to the community
- Braided funding to support Intensive Outpatient Treatment in custody setting
- Fund two staff positions for Proposition 36

Plan Strategy 2

Addressing the Needs of Pregnant or Parenting Women and Their Families

- Funding for two coordinators (Alcohol & Drug Counselors) for linking mothers with substance use disorders to treatment services and supports

Plan Strategy 3

Preventing Misuse of Opioids & Overdose

Fentanyl is Forever Multi-media Campaign and website

- Opioid facts, dangers of illicit fentanyl, locations for Naloxone, and local resources for treatment and recovery services
- Public Service Announcements from various perspectives

Expand the Friday Night Live Programing

- Youth opioid misuse and/or overdose prevention efforts

Plan Strategy 4

Preventing Overdose Deaths by Implementing Harm Reduction strategies

- Naloxone education, training, and distribution
- Overdose Prevention Kit distribution
 - Naloxone (Narcan or Kloxxado) and fentanyl test strips
- Medication disposal using Detera Pouches



Plan Strategies 5 and 6

5. Expanding SUD Treatment Services

- Braid Funding into existing master contracts for adult residential treatment services, including withdrawal management
- Braid funding for sobering center services

6. Expanding SUD Recovery Supports

- Braid funding into existing Recovery Residences master contract

Next Steps and Questions

- Update Opioid Settlement Plan
- Plan a second Opioid Response for Cities Forum
- Begin Quarterly Plan Update Meetings

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