



Waynesboro City Council Agenda Briefing

Meeting Date:	April 24, 2023	Staff/Council Member(s): Ginny Newman Mike Hamp
Agenda Item #	15	
Resolution #		
Department:	City Manager/Office on Youth	
Subject:	Opioid Abatement Settlement Funds	

Background: Ginny Newman, Director of the Shenandoah Valley Office on Youth, will present information about the status of the opioid settlement, opportunities for the programmatic use of funds for the benefit of the community, the “Gold Standard” plan established to ensure compliance in the use of funds, share best practice programs and treatment, facilitate access to additional funds, and data-keeping. Based on preliminary and general discussions with representatives from Staunton and Augusta County, I expect both Staunton and Augusta County will consider adopting the Gold Standard and are inclined to develop a regional approach to the use of settlement funds. Ms. Newman will also share information about the opportunity to collaborate with Augusta County and Staunton through a regionalized approach for the enhanced benefit of the greater SAW community.

It is currently estimated that the City of Waynesboro will receive approximately \$600,000 in settlement funds. Adopting the Gold Standard provides the opportunity to receive and compete for additional funds.

The Opioid Abatement Authority (OAA), source of the Gold Standard and steward of settlement funds was established by the Virginia General Assembly in 2021 as an independent entity to abate and remediate the opioid epidemic in the Commonwealth through financial support from the Virginia Opioid Abatement Fund in the form of grants, donations, or other assistance, for efforts to treat, prevent, and reduce opioid use disorder and the misuse of opioids in the Commonwealth.

City Manager’s Recommendation: Receive the information and consider adopting the resolution endorsing the Gold Standard. Provide general guidance on the opportunity to pursue regional programs.

Suggested Motion(s): Move the adoption of the resolution adopting the Gold Standard Program and direct staff to continue discussing a regional approach to the use of settlement funds.

Attachments: Resolution