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LM 6/15/2022

## **RESOLUTION NO. 15-2022**

## A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE DAUPHIN COUNTY OPIOID REMEDIATION GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the United States is facing an ongoing public health crisis of opioid abuse, addiction, overdose, and death. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, including Dauphin County, has been harmed by this crisis. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania local governments spend billions of dollars each year to address the direct consequences of this crisis; and

WHEREAS, since at least 2017, state and local governments in Pennsylvania, including Dauphin County as a "Litigating Subdivision", and around the United States have been pursuing investigations and litigation against certain manufacturers, distributors, and retailers of opioid pharmaceuticals (the "Opioid Defendants") in an effort to hold the Opioid Defendants financially responsible for the impact of the opioid epidemic and to recover resources necessary to combat the opioid epidemic; and

WHEREAS, negotiations to settle claims against several of the Opioid Defendants, specifically McKesson Corporation, Cardinal Health, Inc., AmerisourceBergen Corporation, Johnson & Johnson, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Ortho-McNeil-Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and Janssen Pharmaceutica, Inc. (the "Settling Defendants") have been ongoing for several years and negotiations with the Settling Defendants have resulted in nationwide settlements of state and local government claims to resolve the litigation without the admission of liability on the part of the Settling Defendants; and

WHEREAS, the terms of those nationwide settlements have been set forth in the Distributors Master Settlement Agreement and the J&J Master Settlement Agreement (collectively "Settlement Agreements"); and

WHEREAS, the Settlement Agreements provide, among other things, for the payment of a certain sum to settling government entities in Pennsylvania including to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Participating Subdivisions upon occurrence of certain events as defined in the Settlement Agreements ("Pennsylvania Opioid Funds"); and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania local governments as well as the attorneys representing those local governments have engaged in extensive discussions with the Commonwealth's Office of Attorney General ("OAG") as to how the Pennsylvania Opioid Funds will be allocated, which has resulted in the Pennsylvania Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust (the "Trust"); and

WHEREAS, Dauphin County, as a Litigating Subdivision, is an Eligible Local Government and will receive a Local Allocation from the Trust; and

WHEREAS, Dauphin County intends to disperse the majority of the funds received through a competitive grant process to the most effective permitted opioid remediation uses.

## NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF DAUPHIN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA THAT:

- 1. The "Dauphin County Opioid Remediation Grant Program" (the "Grant Program") is hereby established.
- 2. At least seventy percent (70%) of Dauphin County's allocation from the Trust shall be made available to the Grant Program.
- 3. The Grant Program shall have an advisory board consisting of five (5) members as follows:
  - (a). The Dauphin County Human Services Director, ex officio.
  - (b). The Dauphin County Department of Drug & Alcohol Services Administrator, ex officio.

As appointed by the Board of Commissioners to two (2) year terms:

- (c). One member, preferably representing the treatment and/or prevention provider community.
- (d). One member, preferably representing the recovery community.
- (e). One member, preferably with a medical background.
- 4. The Advisory Board shall draft and publish, no less than annually, Grant Program guidelines and all necessary application forms.
- 5. The Advisory Board shall review all Grant Program applications, and if they so choose also receive applicant presentations, and make award recommendations to the Dauphin County Board of Commissioners. The Advisory Board may require applicants to participate in pre-application conferences.
- 6. Only applications for opioid remediation uses permitted by the Settlement Agreements shall be funded.
- 7. The Dauphin County Human Services Director shall prepare, no less than annually, an opioid remediation "needs assessment" specific to Dauphin County and said report, *inter alia*, shall be used by the Advisory Board in prioritizing award recommendations within the abatement strategies parameters contained in the Settlement Agreements.
- 8. All awardees must show positive performance outcomes to receive subsequent Grant Program funding.
- 9. All relevant Dauphin County staff are hereby directed to assist the Grant Program as needed.

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**ADOPTED AND RESOLVED**, by the Board of Commissioners of Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, in lawful session duly assembled, on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2022.

ATTEST:

Scott Burford, Chief Clerk/Chief of Staff

Chad Saylor, Vice-Chairman

**DAUPHIN COUNTY** 

Mike Pries, Chairman

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** 

(SEAL)