



## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To: Local Media and Press Release Subscribers

From: Katrina Harwood, Health Officer

Date: October 31, 2024

## Upcoming Opportunities to Provide Feedback on Rock County's Opioid Settlement Funds

Rock County is hosting two town halls at local libraries to share information and gather community input on use of the National Opioid Settlement funds. Town halls are a great opportunity for community members to learn about the impact of the funds on Rock County communities and contribute to planning for the next round of funding. See the town hall dates and locations below:

- Hedberg Public Library, November 19, 6pm
- Beloit Public Library, November 26, 6pm

The town halls are part of an ongoing effort to plan for the use of opioid settlement funds that began in 2022 with a community assessment and the Rock County Opioid Settlement Funds Report of Recommendations. The report was created to summarize and prioritize substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery needs identified by the community. Following the adoption of this report, an Update and Implementation Plan with a 2-year spending plan was developed. This plan allocated \$1.3 million to be spent over the 2024 and 2025 budget years. Since the adoption of the Update and Implementation Plan, additional settlement payments have been received. A brief assessment of community needs and priorities is being conducted prior to allocating additional funds.

In addition to the town halls, Rock County also plans to host multiple focus groups involving those most impacted by the opioid epidemic.

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Rock County Public Health serves Rock County residents by improving population health outcomes and removing barriers through community partnerships to provide everyone the opportunity to reach their full health potential. Visit the Rock County Public Health <u>website</u> and follow them on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u>. Please send all media inquiries to:

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