

# CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

## TWENTY SIXTH COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. R-25-141 ENACTMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSORED BY: Nichole Rogers, Tammy Fiebelkorn, Renée Grout, Dan Champine, by request

### 1 RESOLUTION

#### 2 APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO SERVE INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING 3 SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER.

4 WHEREAS, on October 26, 2023, R-23-174 was enacted establishing a  
5 policy for the expenditure of opioid settlement monies and requiring that City  
6 and County leadership develop a strategic plan on how to spend opioid  
7 settlement monies; and

8 WHEREAS, on April 7, 2025, City Council passed R-25-128 Approving and  
9 Adopting The Local Government Coordinating Commission Joint Opioid  
10 Settlement Implementation Plan and Appropriating Opioid Settlement Funds;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque's opioid settlement funding allocation  
13 is guided by the recommendations outlined in the List of Opioid Remediation  
14 Uses of the settlement agreement in the New Mexico Opioid Allocation  
15 Agreement, informed by the Vital Strategies report, and responsive to the  
16 targeted eight (8) categories the LGCC identified in its Joint Implementation  
17 Plan; and

18 WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County System Gap  
19 Analysis identified individuals experiencing opioid-related crisis require  
20 immediate access to specialized care that addresses both substance use and  
21 behavioral health needs outside of the emergency department or criminal  
22 justice system; and

23 WHEREAS, the City has constructed a comprehensive stabilization  
24 system—including the Medical Sobering Center, First Responder Center,  
25 Medical Respite Center, and Recovery Housing—that is designed to reduce

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1 repeat overdoses, hospital strain, and incarceration by providing evidence-  
2 based treatment and harm reduction services; and

3 WHEREAS, these centers, once fully operational, will provide capacity for  
4 more than 26,000 patient encounters per year, offering low-barrier, trauma-  
5 informed services that connect individuals to long-term recovery supports;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, opioid settlement funding will allow the City to operationalize  
8 these centers with wraparound supports, medical staffing, and peer-led  
9 engagement, ensuring that the people in crisis receive stabilization and  
10 recovery resources without delay; and

11 WHEREAS, 24-hour access to inpatient treatment is critical for individuals  
12 with severe opioid use disorder (OUD); and

13 WHEREAS, the VOICES New Mexico Study found that 92.4% of individuals  
14 experiencing housing instability reported drug use in the past 30 days,  
15 underscoring the urgent need for stable recovery housing as a foundational  
16 component of overdose prevention and long-term treatment success; and

17 WHEREAS, the City's investment in recovery housing will provide long-  
18 term, stable housing options for individuals in early recovery, particularly  
19 those transitioning from incarceration or unstable environments; and

20 WHEREAS, the City operates sheltering centers that not only provide  
21 emergency housing but also offer onsite services—such as case management  
22 and housing navigation—serving as stabilization pathways and a critical entry  
23 point into recovery; and

24 WHEREAS, the City is committed to ensuring full transparency,  
25 accountability, and community engagement in the allocation and  
26 implementation of opioid settlement funds; and

27 WHEREAS, the City's investments prioritize timely, flexible, and evidence-  
28 based strategies that deliver immediate impact while building a foundation for  
29 long-term recovery.

30 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF  
31 ALBUQUERQUE:

32 SECTION 1. PROGRAMMING. The departments of Finance and  
33 Administrative Services (DFAS) and Health, Housing and Homelessness (HHH)

1 shall create two programs within Fund 201 as follows:

2 (1) Leveraging the Sobering Center.

3 (2) Recovery Housing.

4 SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION. That opioid settlement funds in the amount  
5 of \$4,589,736 are hereby appropriated from Fund 201.

6 (A) LEVERAGING THE SOBERING CENTER. (Vital Strategies  
7 Recommendation #15)

8 i. *Intent.* These funds shall be used to expand medical support, harm  
9 reduction, in-patient treatment, and overdose prevention services. This shall  
10 include expanding access to crisis stabilization to help reduce hospital strain  
11 by providing services at the First Responder Receiving Area, Medical  
12 Sobering Center, and Micro Community Recovery Housing.

13 ii. Funds in the amount of \$2,339,736 are hereby appropriated to the  
14 Health, Housing, and Homelessness Department for Fiscal Year 25.

15 First Responder Receiving Area \$1,389,736

16 Micro Community Recovery Housing \$950,000

17 iii. Funds in the amount of \$2,250,000 are hereby appropriated to the  
18 Health, Housing, and Homelessness Department for Fiscal Year 26.

19 Medical Sobering Center \$2,250,000

20 SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. If any section, paragraph, sentence,  
21 clause, word or phrase of this Resolution is for any reason held to be invalid  
22 or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall  
23 not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this Resolution. The  
24 Council hereby declares that it would have passed this Resolution and each  
25 section, paragraph, sentence, clause, word or phrase thereof irrespective of  
26 any provision being declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid.

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