OPIOID RESTITUTION FUND

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 9, 2026

3:00–4:00 pm

1. Introductions

- The council welcomed Dr. Sherri Holt to the committee. She introduced her background as an educator in Baltimore City Public Schools and her work with the nonprofit "Begin a New," noting her personal experience with the overdose crisis.

2. MOOR Updates

- **ORF Dashboard Demo:** The dashboard for tracking Opioid Restitution Fund (ORF) allocations and spending is live with data through FY2025. It will be updated again in August following local subdivision reporting.
- **Technical Assistance & Feedback:**
    - A closed-door meeting for local subdivision leads is scheduled for October to provide technical assistance.
    - Virtual town halls will occur in August across five regions to gather public feedback.
    - A Google survey will be available for those unable to attend public meetings.

3. AIR Presentation: MAPS Project (Adam & Anna)

- The American Institutes for Research (AIR) presented the "Measurements for Accountability to all People and Policy Solutions" (MAPS) findings.
- **Key Findings:** The research identified three interconnected priorities for settlement investments:
    1. **Economic Opportunity:** Affordable housing, reliable transportation, and employment.

2. **Care Coordination:** Reducing fragmentation to prevent service gaps.
3. **Respectful, Informed Care:** Reducing stigma, particularly in rural areas and communities of color.

- **Data Highlights:** Data indicates that pairing individuals with certified peer recovery specialists increases treatment retention by 30%.

4. NOFA Preview

- A new Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFA) is forthcoming. Key focal points include:
    - **Targeting:** Eligibility is restricted to nonprofits (CBOs) providing non-billable services or those providing non-billable services to disproportionately impacted populations.
    - **Recovery Continuum:** Support for housing (first/last month's rent, furniture, utility startup), child care, dental care, financial education, and family support/counseling.
    - **Capacity Building:** Resources for establishing infrastructure in underserved communities and peer integration.
    - To be released next week

5. 2026 Recommendations Discussion

- **Core Priorities:** The council agreed to continue prioritizing transportation and housing as critical pillars.
- **Emerging Issues:**
    - **Medicaid Changes:** Members identified the upcoming January 2027 Medicaid changes (work requirements and six-month renewals) as a significant administrative burden and a potential barrier to care.
    - **Correctional Continuity of Care:** Dr. Malik noted that over 50% of individuals exiting correctional facilities currently lack discharge plans for medication-assisted treatment. Avery confirmed this will be specifically enumerated in the upcoming NOFA.
    - **Harm Reduction:** Discussion highlighted the need to ensure support for harm reduction entities, as federal funding restrictions limit their options.

Next Steps:

- Avery and Lauren will synthesize these recommendations into a draft for council review and discussion at the next meeting.
- The team will circulate ORF Town Halls.