

JEAN-MARIE NIEBUHR, LCSW-R COMMISSIONER

DUTCHESS COUNTY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

2024 Opioid Settlement Fund Expenditures Summary

Funding Received in 2024:

- Restricted OASAS Regional Abatement Dollars: \$2,386,977.00
- Restricted Attorney General Settlement funds: \$1,000,798.78
 - This funding comes from groups including the distributors, Janssen, Allergan, Endo, Teva, CVS, Walmart, and Walgreens

OASAS Regional Abatement Dollars Spent In 2024

Initiative	Amount Spent
Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)	\$505,677.14
LEAD Project Manager	\$132,685.76
Oxford House	\$236,153.11
Youth Wellness Mini-Grants	\$23,823.63
Joe's House	\$330,000.00
Hudson Valley Clubhouse	\$19,999.00
OTPS related to Restricted OSF Subdivision	\$9,317.88
Total Spending	\$1,257,656.52

Summary of Initiatives:

Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)

LEAD is a community-based program that allows police officers to redirect individuals engaged in low-level offenses (such as drug possession, prostitution, or minor theft) to social services and treatment instead of arrest or prosecution. The goal is to address the underlying causes of criminal behaviors such as substance use, mental health issues, or homelessness—through harm reduction, case management, and supportive services, improving public safety and reducing recidivism. The Dutchess County LEAD team is a partnership with People, USA, and operates in the City of Poughkeepsie.



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Alternative To Incarceration Social Worker (LEAD Project Manager)

The LEAD Project Manager is the central coordinating role responsible for managing all aspects of a local Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) initiative. The position serves as the operational and strategic hub connecting the Policy Coordinating Group (PCG), the Operations Work Group (OWG), and community partners. The Project Manager oversees daily operations, ensuring that the PCG's policy decisions are implemented effectively, that communications and meeting logistics run smoothly, and that collaboration among partners remains strong. They facilitate PCG and OWG meetings, prepare agendas and materials, track progress, manage budgets and evaluations, and serve as the primary liaison between law enforcement, service providers, and community stakeholders.

Oxford House

The Oxford House model is a peer-run, self-supported housing program for individuals recovering from substance use disorders. Residents live together in democratically governed homes without staff or formal treatment services, sharing responsibility for rent and household management. The model emphasizes mutual support, accountability, and long-term recovery in a stable, substance-free environment. There are now 6 Oxford houses throughout Dutchess County.

Youth Wellness Mini-Grants

This grant was created to support community-based programs that prevent, or address substance use and co-occurring mental health challenges among youth under age 25. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations, municipalities, and grassroots groups providing evidence-based wellness or prevention activities. The county allocated \$200,000 for this initiative, with individual awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$19,000. Priority focus areas include:

- **1. Prevention** programs enhancing protective factors and reducing risk factors such as trauma or health disparities.
- **2. Public Awareness** campaigns to reduce stigma and educate the community on substance use and mental health.



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- **3. Social Media Awareness and Safe Use** education on the impact and risks of social media on youth well-being.
- **4. Other** innovative approaches with strong evidence and measurable outcomes.

Joe's House

Operational support for two years as the residence transitioned to new ownership. This funding support prevented the closure of this facility which provides supportive housing for individuals with substance use disorders.

Hudson Valley Clubhouse

Start up costs to support the Clubhouse for its initial years of operation. The Hudson Valley Clubhouse, located at 98 Cannon Street in the City of Poughkeepsie, is a non-clinical, community-based program that supports adults living with serious mental illness through the internationally recognized Clubhouse Model of psychosocial rehabilitation. Members and staff work side-by-side in a collaborative, "work-ordered day" structure that promotes purpose, belonging, and recovery through meaningful activity, education, employment, and social connection. The Clubhouse provides a welcoming environment where individuals are valued for their strengths rather than defined by their diagnoses, helping to reduce isolation, improve wellness, and foster long-term recovery across the Hudson Valley.