



ULSTER COUNTY OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER

Comptroller's Opioid Snapshot

Released December 2022

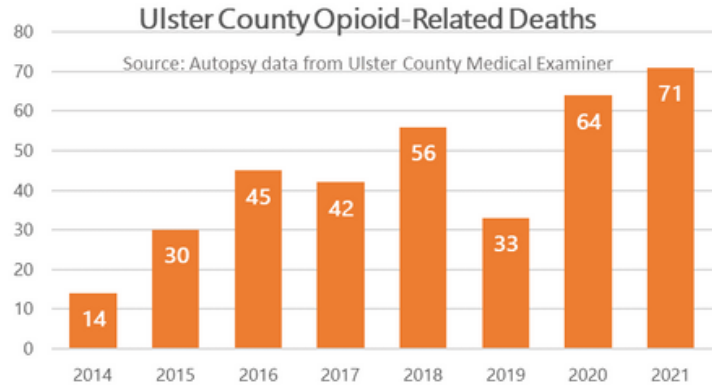
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Like many communities, Ulster County has been facing the scourge of the opioid epidemic and the associated substance use disorder.

Ulster County opioid deaths are up and have continued an increasing trend since 2014, rising from just 14 deaths in 2014 to 71 in 2021, a 407% increase. Opioid overdose deaths increased 11% between 2020 and 2021.

To address this problem, Ulster County continues to pursue a variety of strategies to address this looming public health crisis including:

- The creation of the Opioid Response as County Law Enforcement program (ORACLE) budgeted for \$230,000 expenditures in 2022 and \$580,000 in budgeted expenditures for 2023
- Expansion of mobile mental health services through an annual \$150,000 contract with Access Supports for Living
- The re-introduction of a County Department of Mental Health budgeted for 2023 at \$1.8 million in administration and \$1.7 million in programs, \$11.2 million in contracted services, and \$2.2 million for narcotics addiction control services.
- Support for school-based mental health services beginning in 2022 using \$750,000 of federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and \$750,000 in Ulster County funds as per Resolution 290 of 2022
- The creation of a County Crisis Stabilization Center purchased for \$2 million with \$1 million in renovations using ARPA funds
- Development of three respite houses using \$1.5 million in ARPA funds



Now with the anticipation of \$1,469,126 in opioid funds from a series of historic settlements achieved by Attorney General Letitia James, the County will be able to pursue additional programs.

Ulster County Opioid Settlement Funds					
Date Received	Settlement Source	2022 Funds Received	2022 Funds Anticipated	% Restricted	Annual Payment #
4/22/2022	Distributors	\$ 229,241.79	\$ 229,241.79	50%	1 of 16
6/15/2022	Janssen Pharmaceutical	\$ 455,921.16	\$ 455,921.16	50%	1 of 6
9/7/2022	Allergan Pharmaceutical	\$ 492,676.01	\$ 492,676.01	50%	1 of 1
11/30/2022	Distributors 2d Payment	\$ 119,440.23	\$ 119,440.23	50%	1 of 1
	Endo Pharmaceutical		\$ 171,846.99	100%	1 of 1
2022 Total		\$ 1,297,279.19	\$ 1,469,126.18		

These funds are the result of the \$1.5 billion that Attorney General James has secured so far for New York State from settlements with the manufacturers and distributors of opioids. There are additional settlements anticipated in the future.

The 2022 receipts began a series of annual payments that will be received. Additional settlements are anticipated with CVS, Rite Aid, Walgreens, Purdue Pharma, and others. The settlement funds must be spent in accordance with approved uses. Approved uses per the settlement agreement include projects related to the treatment, prevention, and a variety of other related costs including training, research, and first responder support.

In addition to the settlement funds, the Ulster County Sheriff's Office has secured two opioid related grants. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance for the Grant Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-based Program (COSSAP), in the amount of \$1,299,960 to support ORACLE's activities. This award was in addition to a similar \$900,000 previous award of funding.

While preventing fatal overdoses is a step in the right direction, that epidemic remains a persistent issue for our community, and we expect continued efforts. The Comptroller's Office will monitor and share vital information on how opioids impact Ulster County residents and finances.