



Christian County Commission

100 W. Church Street Room 100
Ozark, Missouri 65721
(417)582-4300

Lynn Morris
Presiding Commissioner

Bradley A. Jackson
Eastern Commissioner

Johnny Williams
Western Commissioner

August 28, 2026
8:00 am

OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS DISCUSSION

This is a work study instead of a Commission Meeting

AGENDA

Call the meeting to Order

Self-Introduction of attendees

Recap / Financial Update of the Opioid Accounts
Restricted vs Unrestricted

What projects should be considered?
Presentation of each proposed program and concepts

September 3rd Commission Meeting – Discussion of Opioid Settlement Money

- a. How many programs?
- b. Cost per program – Money spent annually?
- c. Application Process
- d. Goal – Start programs 2027

Additional topics to discuss?

I would like to have another meeting before the end of September / 1st October.

Comments / Questions?

Adjourn

Proposal for Funding Urinalysis and Educational Programming Costs for Diversion Program Participants

To: Christian County Commissioner's Office

From: Christian County Prosecuting Attorney's Office

Date: 8/28/2026

Subject: Request to Utilize Opioid Settlement Funds to Cover Urinalysis and Educational Programming Costs for Diversion Program Participants.

Purpose

The purpose of this proposal is to request Christian County opioid settlement money to cover the costs of required urinalysis and educational programming for participants in the newly developing Christian County Diversion Program. Providing financial assistance would help remove a potential barrier to successful program participation while maintaining accountability and monitoring requirements of the prosecutor's office.

Background

Diversion Programs provide eligible individuals with an opportunity to address underlying issues contributing to their involvement in the criminal justice system, while holding individuals accountable for their actions. Regular drug testing and educational programming are important components of the program. Urinalysis allows the Diversion Program's team to monitor compliance, identifying potential substance-use concerns, and respond appropriately to additional intervention if required. Educational programming allows for the program to address underlying criminal thinking behaviors.

The cumulative cost of required testing and educational programming will create a financial hardship for many participants. Those costs may compete with participants' basic necessities such as housing, transportation, food and other treatment expenses. In some cases, the added financial burden may discourage participation or create an additional obstacle for those who are otherwise making meaningful progress in the program.

Funding Request and Fiscal Considerations

The proposed funding would:

- Cover required urinalysis and programming costs for participants.

- Ensure that financial hardship does not prevent or interfere with compliance within the program.
- Maintain consistent and reliable monitoring of Diversion Program conditions.
- Support community-based participant accountability.
- Reduce barriers that may contribute to program failure or reentry into the criminal justice system.

The requested allocation can be structured to provide assistance based on program participation need. The Diversion Program staff will maintain records of expenses and provide periodic expenditure reports to ensure transparency and fiscal responsibility. Although, it is difficult to anticipate the number of participants at this time, records that are kept will determine the average cost of testing per participant and moving forward this would allow the Prosecuting Attorney and the Commissioner's Office to evaluate future expenditures.

The following are costs based on having 200 participants through 2027:

Oral saliva onsite testing by the Diversion Court staff: \$124 per box of 25 ct. \$1120 would cover this cost through 2027.

Urinalysis testing by an off-site organization: \$25 per test. \$6000 would cover this cost.

Educational programming referred to a community-based organization: \$50,000 would cover this cost.

Conclusion

Required urinalysis and educational programming is an essential accountability component of a Diversion Program. Participants must be held responsible for their actions, and they need to be compliant with program requirements. However, the financial requirements should not become an insurmountable barrier to successful completion.

We respectfully request that the Christian County Commissioner's Office consider allocating opioid settlement funds to cover costs for eligible Diversion Program participants. This investment would strengthen the program's ability to monitor compliance, support treatment and rehabilitation, lower county recidivism rates and promote successful outcomes for participants while serving the broader interests of Christian County.

Respectfully,

Christian County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
Diversion Program