



Kansas Fights Addiction Fund A Three-Pronged Approach for 2023

Background

As the board concludes its work for 2022 and looks to 2023, there appears to be good traction for moving forward three potential areas of work. This three-pronged approach would include (1) completion of a comprehensive needs assessment to help inform the development of a more dynamic, long-term funding approach, (2) development of a framework to support a short-term (12-16 months) grantmaking strategy, allowing the board to be responsive to the immediate needs of communities and organizations across the state, and (3) development of a plan to devote a portion of the board's designated meeting time in 2023 to hearing from partners in the field and others related to ongoing needs, new and emerging data and potential funding opportunities.

Sunflower staff developed this document to assist the board in beginning to design a general structure for how work in these three areas might move forward in 2023. As always, this three-pronged approach and how this work might be implemented is open for board discussion.

Support to Begin Allocating Grant Funds in 2023

While additional thinking is needed to determine a cost structure for the KFA board's short-term grantmaking in 2023, the board may want to consider approving a general amount to support the development and implementation of the desired needs assessment. The needs assessment will likely require most of 2023 to complete so moving forward sooner rather than later may be helpful. To assist the board in considering this work, Sunflower staff have compiled the following.

Area One- Support for Research and Assessment Grant(s) in 2023 – Up to \$1,000,000

Kansas is fortunate that the Kansas Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee (KPDOAC) will soon release a new state plan and needs assessment. This assessment is expected to provide a high-level review of the current SUD landscape in Kansas and highlight general gaps across related programs and systems in the state. While this assessment will benefit the board as it thinks about its short-term grantmaking opportunities, this assessment will not deliver the scope and comprehensiveness the board will require to develop a long-term, innovative investment strategy.

Based on an earlier directive by the board, Sunflower staff began researching similar needs assessment in Kansas and in other states. While our research continues, our early appraisal would suggest that up to \$1,000,000 would be needed to complete an assessment on a scale and scope that aligns with the desires of the board to be innovative in how/where it deploys future KFA dollars.

To date, one of the most applicable examples of a statewide assessment that staff has uncovered is the recently completed Kansas Early Childhood Needs Assessment. This assessment relied on a deep dive approach and deployed several strategies to better understand the field, many of these strategies appear applicable to KFA work. The estimated cost of this recent assessment was \$1,200,000.

Additional Considerations

Area Two- Develop a Framework to Support Short-term KFA Grantmaking in 2023

Ongoing discussions suggest an interest among the board to develop a short-term grantmaking strategy to support some of the more immediate needs of systems, organizations and communities. Should the board wish to explore this approach, Sunflower staff suggest looking at the recently completed Kansas Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee (KPDOAC) needs assessment and state plan. This new plan outlines the current, immediate and persistent needs that exist across the state and provides stakeholder generated recommendations for how partners, communities and the state might respond. **The focus areas and strategies included in this plan align with strategies in the Abatement Strategies List from the distributor’s settlement; Johns Hopkins principles for the use of opioid litigation funds; guidance from Shatterproof on effective use of opioid settlement dollars; CDC best practices; and many other national guidance resources.** In short, this plan provides a ready to use framework the KFA board could consider in developing an interim (12-16 months) grantmaking strategy.

Below is a brief example of how the board might begin thinking about a framework for its short-term grantmaking strategy. Using the state plan as described above, the board could consider developing request for proposals (RFPs) and allocating funds based on the following prioritized focus areas:

- **Treatment and Recovery**
- **Linkages to Care**
- **Prevention**
- **Harm Reduction**
- **Providers and Health Systems**
- **Public safety**

The tables below depict the recommended strategies in each of the six focus areas.

Treatment and Recovery Strategies in Survey Rank Order of Priority	SME Ranking	Public Comment Survey Theme
1. Expand access to SUD treatment services for those who are uninsured/underinsured	High	X
2. Facilitate integration of mental health and SUD services	Medium	X
3. Expand peer recovery/support services (certified peer mentors)	High	X
4. Expand medication assisted treatment/medications for opioid use disorder (MAT/MOUD)	High	X
5. Coordinate a continuity of care model for justice-involved populations (jail-based SUD treatment and effective re-entry programs)	Medium	X
6. Expand access to recovery housing	High	X

7. Target treatment and recovery resources to high impact, low-capacity geographical areas (rural/frontier)	Medium	X
8. Expand medically-managed withdrawal services	High	X
9. Naloxone distribution in treatment centers and criminal justice settings	High	X
10. Expand telehealth services for SUD treatment services, including MAT/MOUD	High	

The SME treatment subcommittee added workforce development initiatives and financial support for recovery housing to their list of priorities.

Linkages to Care Strategies in Survey Rank Order of Priority	SME Ranking	Public Comment Survey Theme
1. Expand and coordinate overdose/behavioral health outreach teams	High	X
2. Develop and implement a statewide treatment navigation system	Medium/High	X
3. Post-overdose linkage to care policies in hospitals/EDs	High	
4. Implement SUD screening and referral processes (e.g., SBIRT)	Medium	X
5. Community health worker (CHW)/peer navigation for those with SUD	High	
6. Implement/expand referral management systems (e.g., Integrated Referral and Intake System)	Medium	

Prevention Strategies in Survey Rank Order of Priority	SME Ranking	Public Comment Survey Theme
1. Universal primary prevention strategies that increase protective factors and address overall health and wellness including SUD/suicide prevention/resilience/mental health	High	X
2. Expand public awareness of the drug overdose epidemic and state/local resources	High	X
3. Expand implementation of school-based programming	High	X
4. Expand state and local polysubstance use prevention initiatives	High	
5. Expand medication disposal interventions	Medium	X
6. Community-level strategic planning	Medium	
7. Youth-led prevention activities	High	

Harm Reduction Strategies in Survey Rank Order of Priority	SME Ranking	Public Comment Survey Theme
1. Targeted naloxone distribution	High	X
2. Expand social detoxification programs	Medium	X
3. Fentanyl test strips*	High	X
4. Programs for sterile syringe exchange and other injection supplies*	High	X
5. Supervised consumption and wraparound services*	High	X
6. Expand access to HIV and HCV/HBV testing and treatment (e.g., PrEP)	Medium	
7. Condom distribution/safe sex education among IV drug users	Low	

8. Safe smoking supplies	Low/ Medium	
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Providers and Health Systems Strategies in Survey Rank Order of Priority	SME Ranking	Public Comment Survey Theme
1. Facilitate patients' continuity of care by increasing service integration between health care disciplines, effective care coordination, and referrals management	High	
2. Expand provider and preprofessional education opportunities (e.g., trainings on SUD prevention/treatment, screening processes, controlled substances prescribing, medication disposal programs, wraparound services, clinical support tools)	Medium	X
3. Implement clinical quality improvement initiatives directed toward more effective pain management, standard of care for controlled substances prescribing and dispensing, and/or risk reduction	Medium	X
4. Training and provision of trauma-informed care	Medium	X
5. Screen for fentanyl in routine clinical toxicology testing	Medium	
6. Expand implementation of best practices for treating women of childbearing age, including safe and effective pain management, pregnancy testing, preconception counseling, and contraception access (including long-acting reversible contraception)	Medium	
7. Expand telehealth services for SUD treatment services, including MAT/MOUD	High	
8. Expand utilization of the prescription drug monitoring program, K-TRACS	Medium	
9. Increase the number of DATA 2000-waivered providers and expand utilization of existing waivers to treat MAT/MOUD patients	Medium	X
10. Expand implementation of CDC opioid prescribing guidelines within Kansas health systems	High	
11. Identify and disseminate best practices for prescribing psychotropic medication (e.g., anxiolytics, psychostimulants)	Medium	
12. Neonatal abstinence syndrome/neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome education and resources	Low/ Medium	

If helpful, Sunflower staff could begin work on a draft framework and sample request for proposals (RFPs) the board could begin discussing at their next meeting. To support this work, Sunflower staff will compile and send to the board relevant documents for its review between now and the next meeting. This interim reading will hopefully allow board members more time to digest the information being used to develop a draft, short-term grantmaking strategy. Any questions, comments or suggestions could be discussed beginning at the next board meeting.

Area Three- Planning for Partner Comment and Input in 2023

Engaging partners working in the SUD space is critical to the board's long-term work. Developing a more structured process to collect partner input may be helpful for the board in 2023. And it is possible this process might also uncover additional funding opportunities the board might wish to consider. While

the formal RFP process should attract plenty of quality applications for the board's consideration, having a separate avenue to identify promising approaches or innovative work might be useful to the board.

Thinking Ahead

Sunflower staff are ready to assist the KFA board in however it deems most appropriate and helpful. This document outlines a general process for the board to consider in moving forward those areas of work it has identified as important.

As noted above, Sunflower staff will send the board several documents in the interim which we hope will be helpful in your upcoming work.

- Data, notes and general thinking related to the development of a framework to guide implementation of a more comprehensive needs assessment.
- Thoughts and considerations related to an approach for short-term grantmaking.
- The updated landscape document shared with the board at the September KFA meeting.

For the next meeting, if helpful, Sunflower staff will be prepared to provide a draft framework to guide the needs assessment process and a draft framework to support short-term grantmaking.