

EASTERN CAROLINA COUNCIL
Board of Directors Overview

Eastern Carolina Comprehensive Opioid and Stimulant Response (EC-COSR)

BJA FY25 COSSUP Site-Based Program | O-BJA-2025-172485 | Category 1a

Project Overview

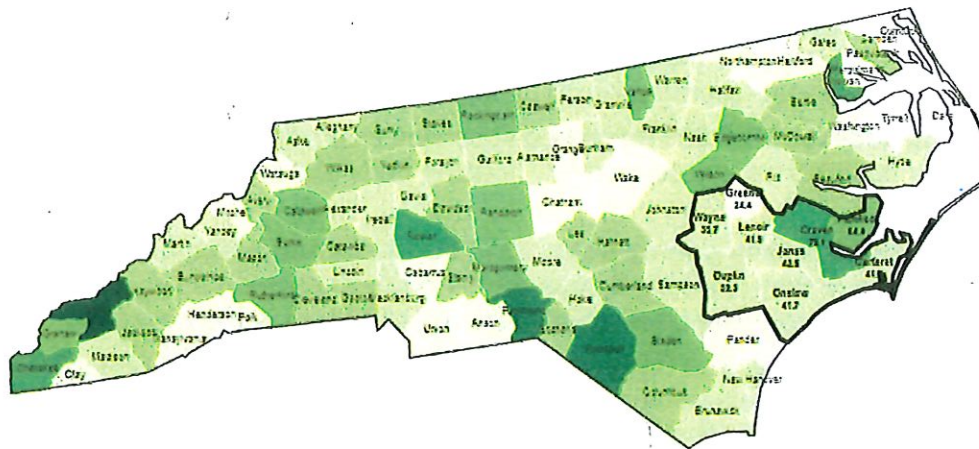
ECC proposes to submit a federal grant application to the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for up to **\$1,599,931** over 36 months to address the overdose crisis across our nine-county region. The project, EC-COSR, would fund regional coordination, transportation to treatment, recovery housing, and care coordination through a three-hub model that mirrors ECC's existing service delivery approach. No cost sharing or match is required.

Why This Project, Why Now

295 Overdose deaths in our region (2023)	82,991 Individuals with unmet SUD treatment need	0 Level 2 recovery housing beds in the region	56% Transportation need met across 9 counties
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Overdose Deaths per 100,000 Residents, 2023

North Carolina counties. Thick black outline = ECC nine-county service area.



Data source: North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services via NCACC County Map 2015. #2 overdose rate: 41.9 per 100,000

Overdose deaths per 100,000 by county, 2023. Black outline = ECC service area. Source: NC DHHS.

Budget Summary

Budget Category	36-Month Total	% of Budget
A. Cross-County Coordination & Admin	\$425,744	26.6%
B. Transportation Services (Primary Priority)	\$360,000	22.5%
C. Recovery/Transitional Housing	\$108,000	6.8%
D. Care Coordination & Case Management	\$315,000	19.7%
E. Coordination & Implementation Assistance	\$175,000	10.9%
F. Travel	\$7,500	0.5%

Benefits to ECC

Strengthens ECC's role as regional backbone. EC-COSR positions ECC as the coordinating entity for substance use services across the region, extending the same hub-and-spoke model ECC already uses for aging services, transportation, and economic development into a new, high-priority program area.

Brings a new full-time position. The grant funds a full-time Regional Coordinator housed at ECC for three years, with a sustainability plan to retain the position through opioid settlement funds and state allocations after the grant period.

Generates \$208,687 in indirect cost recovery. At 15% of modified total direct costs, the grant provides indirect cost revenue to support ECC's administrative infrastructure over three years.

Increases ECC's federal grant portfolio. A successful COSSUP award adds \$1.6 million to ECC's federal grant management track record, strengthening the organization's competitive position for future federal funding opportunities.

Deepens relationships with county leadership. The project builds on four months of cross-county planning and creates ongoing quarterly convenings with all nine counties, reinforcing ECC's value to member counties.

Low administrative risk. No match required. The budget design uses subrecipients (RAI, Rulo Strategies) for specialized functions and hub-level service delivery, keeping ECC's role focused on coordination and oversight, which is what ECC does best.

Benefits to the Nine Counties

Transportation to treatment. \$360,000 over three years funds transportation vouchers across all three hubs, directly addressing the most frequently cited barrier to treatment access. Five counties currently have zero transportation programs for people in recovery.

Recovery housing access. \$108,000 funds bed subsidies in certified recovery residences, addressing a region where four counties have zero recovery housing beds and Level 2 monitored housing is completely absent.

Care coordination that crosses county lines. \$315,000 funds hub-based coordinators who manage referrals, follow-up, and reentry planning across county boundaries. Individuals will no longer fall through the cracks when they move between counties for treatment, supervision, or housing.

A regional resource directory. The Regional Coordinator will maintain a real-time directory of available treatment slots, recovery housing beds, and peer support availability, so that discharge planners, probation officers, and case managers can make same-day referrals across the region.

Smaller counties get access to resources they cannot sustain alone. Jones, Greene, and Pamlico counties lack the population base to support standalone treatment infrastructure. The hub model connects them to regional resources through a coordinator who serves as their link to the broader system.

Data-driven decision-making. The CAST assessment provides a baseline. Quarterly performance data collection and a mid-project assessment will give counties and ECC ongoing evidence about what is working and where to direct future resources, including opioid settlement funds.

Board Action Requested

Staff requests the Board authorize ECC to submit the EC-COSR application to BJA under the FY25 COSSUP program (O-BJA-2025-172485, Category 1a). The application requires a Certification by the Chief Executive Officer using the Appendix 1 template provided by BJA. This certification is a basic minimum requirement; failure to submit it results in automatic denial of the application.

Deadline	Date
SF-424 in Grants.gov	May 4, 2026, 11:59 PM ET
Full Application in JustGrants	May 11, 2026, 8:59 PM ET
Anticipated Award Start	June 1, 2026
Period of Performance	36 months

Questions: David Rosado, Executive Director | Eastern Carolina Council | New Bern, NC