



VERMONT LEGISLATIVE  
**Joint Fiscal Office**

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**Fiscal Note**

March 11, 2025

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**H.218 – An act relating to fiscal 2026 appropriations from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund**

As recommended by the House Committee on Human Services, Draft 5.1<sup>1</sup>

**Bill Summary**

The bill proposes to appropriate \$8,788,210 from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund for use in fiscal year 2026. The bill would also carry forward \$1,100,000 appropriated from the Fund in fiscal year 2025 for the purpose of awarding grants to the City of Burlington for a new overdose prevention center. Per the bill, any unmet need in fiscal year 2026, up to \$550,000, would be addressed in the Department of Health’s budget adjustment proposal. Below is a summary of proposed appropriations.

**H. 218 – Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriations from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund**

Sec. 1(a)	Description	Appropriation		
		Dept./Agency	FY 2026 Amount	Duration Intent
(1)	26 outreach or case management positions within preferred provider networks	Health	\$1,976,000	Annually*
(2)	Vermonters for Criminal Justice Reform to fund an outreach worker position	Health	\$76,000	
(3)	Recovery Residences	Health	\$1,400,000	Annually*
(4)	Syringe Services	Health	\$850,000	Annually*
(5)	Contingency Management Not more than \$35,000 to the Dept. of Corrections to implement a contingency management pilot in Chittenden County for individuals under the supervision of the Dept. of Corrections. The remainder goes to the Dept. of Health for grants to providers for ongoing support	Health and Corrections	\$800,000	
(6)	Brattleboro Fire Dept. to establish community training programs on the administration of opioid antagonists, CPR, first aid, and Stop the Bleed protocols	Health	\$32,157	

<sup>1</sup> The Joint Fiscal Office (JFO) is a nonpartisan legislative office dedicated to producing unbiased fiscal analysis – this fiscal note is meant to provide information for legislative consideration, not to provide policy recommendations.

(7)	Champlain Housing Trust to continue a pilot program providing access to wound care and preventative health care in three low-barrier shelters within Chittenden County	Health	\$44,229	
(8)	Long-term programs at shelters for individuals experiencing homelessness, including harm reduction supports and clinical nursing programs (Office of Economic Opportunity)	Children and Families	\$800,000	
(9)	Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS) of Southeastern Vermont's Project Connectionworks to reduce opioid disorder morbidity and mortality in Windham County	Health	\$309,000	
(10)	Training of Vermont's judges on issues related to opioid use disorder and strategies for use in dockets	Judiciary	\$50,000	
(11)	Elevate Youth Services to establish Healthy Youth Program counselors at the Basement Teen Center at Kellogg-Hubbard Library in Washington County	Health	\$200,000	
(12)	Friends for Change's Youth Center in Bellows Falls for the purpose of delivering intervention strategies and harm reduction supports to youth and young adults	Health	\$100,000	
(13)	Spectrum Youth and Family Services for two new positions to expand opioid use disorder screening, treatment, and case management services to youth in Chittenden and Franklin Counties.	Health	\$170,000	
(14)	Prevent Child Abuse Vermont for the purpose of teaching parenting skills and providing social and emotional parenting supports for individuals with opioid use disorder	Health	\$80,000	
(15)	HireAbility Vermont to provide specialized employment services for individuals with opioid use disorder in Burlington, Newport, Rutland, and Bennington	Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living	\$850,000	
(16)	Northeast Kingdom Community Action to hire four peer support specialists to assist individuals with opioid who are transitioning out of homelessness into safe, permanent housing	Health	\$550,000	
(17)	Connecticut Valley Addiction Services, Inc. to expand opioid use treatment in rural Windsor County	Health	\$150,000	
(18)	Vermonters for Criminal Justice Reform and the Johnson Health Center to continue and improve the Managed Medical Response Partnership	Health	\$300,000	
(19)	Treatment Associates of Washington County Mental Health to hire an embedded recovery coach	Health	\$30,000	
(20)	Umbrella to provide integrated services between domestic and sexual violence providers and partners in recovery in northeastern Vermont	Health	\$20,824	
<b>TOTAL FY 2026 APPROPRIATION</b>			<b>\$8,788,210</b>	

*\* It is the intent of the General Assembly that these positions be funded annually by the Opioid Abatement Special Fund unless and until the Special Fund does not have sufficient monies to fund this expenditure.*

All grant agreements associated with funds appropriated above would require outcome and measurement data to be collected and reported to the department issuing the grant and to the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee.

## Background and Details

A history of the expenditures from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund from January 1, 2023 through December 23, 2024 can be found below.

### OPIOID ABATEMENT SPECIAL FUND (21378) 1/1/2023 through 12/23/2024

REVENUE

Settlement Payments	25,944,366
Interest Earnings	167,437
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>26,111,803</b>

Act #	EXPENSES (2023 thru 2025)	Appropriated
Act 22 of 2023	Treatment satellite services	2,000,000
	<i>Outreach &amp; Case Management (26 staff)</i>	1,976,000
	Syringe Service Providers	400,000
	Contingency Mgmt Services	840,000
	Wound Care Program	100,000
	Harm Reduction Test Strips	200,000
	Drug Testing Services	700,000
Act 178 of 2024	<i>Overdose Prevention Center - Burlington</i>	1,100,000
	Overdose Prevention Study	300,000
Act 113 of 2025 (Budget)	<i>Syringe Services Programs</i>	1,050,000
	<i>Recovery Residences</i>	1,200,000
	Recovery Centers / DOC	1,060,000
	SUD Stabilization Beds	1,000,000
	Contingency Mgmt Svcs - ongoing support	800,000
	School Based SUD Services	714,481
	Recovery Housing Supports	325,000
	Managed Medical Response - Johnson Health Ctr	150,000
	Managed Medical Response - VT'er for Criminal Justice Reform	150,000
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATED</b>		<b>14,065,481</b>
<b>UNAPPROPRIATED REVENUE</b>		<b>12,046,322</b>

<sup>i</sup> The full fiscal note history is available on the fiscal tab of the bill page on the General Assembly website and can be pulled up through a bill number search on the JFO page.