

WOODBURY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM(S) REQUEST FORM

Date: 09-18-2025 Weekly Agenda Date: 09-23-2025

ELECTED OFFICIAL / DEPARTMENT HEAD / CITIZEN: Daniel Bittinger - Supervisor/Dr Pamela Ingram

WORDING FOR AGENDA ITEM:

Copperstone Development Opioid Settlement Fund Use Request

ACTION REQUIRED:

Approve Ordinance ☐

Approve Resolution ☐

Approve Motion ☒

Public Hearing ☐

Other: Informational ☐

Attachments ☒

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The settlement funds will be allocated among the State and participating Iowa subdivisions in accordance with the Iowa Opioid Memo of Understanding and must be used for opioid abatement activities

BACKGROUND:

Copperstone Development is a recovery centered program that utilizes evidenced based practices being person-centered, and strength based. This social model ensures quality, integrity, safety and integrates co-occurring with trauma informed approaches to establish clear operation giving the program effectiveness and exceptional outcomes.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Copperstone Development is requesting two years of funding in the amount of \$442,452 over a two-year period to fund 2.5 positions per year, recovery housing, training, certifications, technology needs, etc.
See materials for a detailed breakdown of funding needs

IF THERE IS A CONTRACT INVOLVED IN THE AGENDA ITEM, HAS THE CONTRACT BEEN SUBMITTED AT LEAST ONE WEEK PRIOR AND ANSWERED WITH A REVIEW BY THE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE?

Yes ☐ No ☒

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve funding Copperstone request in the amount of _____.

ACTION REQUIRED / PROPOSED MOTION:

Approve funding Copperstone request in the amount of _____.



Name and Title of Organization's director/leader: Dr. Pamela Ingram	Director/Leader email: pamelasiouxcity@aol.com
Mailing address: 1309 Pierce Street Sioux City, IA 51105	Physical Address: 1309 Pierce Street Sioux City, IA 51105
Main phone number: 712-560-7336	County: Woodbury
Organization website: www.Copperstones.Org	Number of years in business: 3 years Non-profit EIN:93-2796780
Key personnel for this project: Dr. Pamela Ingram	Key personnel contact phone number: 712-899-0763
What services does this organization provide, and how will these additional services fit into OPIOID REMEDIATION USES? Sober Living (Recovery Residence), Recovery Coaching and Peer Support, Mental Health Therapy, Child Custody Study, and Parent Coordination. Copperstone Development is a recovery centered program that utilizes evidenced based practices being person-centered, and strength based. This social model ensures quality, integrity, safety and integrates co-occurring with trauma informed approaches to establish clear operation giving the program effectiveness and exceptional outcomes.	

Budget

Two Year Budget Proposal

Line Items	Year 1	Year 2
Peer Recovery Specialist (1 FTE) \$19 per hour at = \$39,360, @ 2 years = \$ 78,720		
Case Manager (1.5 FTE) \$19 per hour at = \$59,120 (39,360, \$19,760) @ 2 years = \$118,240		
Total Personnel	\$98,480	\$98,480
Fringe Benefits (\$2,624, \$7,200)		
Total Fringe Benefits	\$9,824	\$9,824
Office Space for 2.5 FTE (\$400 @ 12 months)		
Total Office Space	\$4,800	\$4,800
Office Supplies \$1000 per year		
Technology \$1000 per year @ 3.0 =\$ 3000		
Total Supplies & Technology	\$3,000	\$3,000
Transportation and Parking -Parking and Mileage for staff transporting participants to recovery support \$5,800		
Total Transportation	\$5,800	\$5,800
Training, Continuing Education, Certification for Peer Recovery Sustainability \$2,000 a year		
Total Training & Sustainability	\$2,000	\$2,000
Basic and Emergent Needs for Participants (food, emergency needs, recovery residence, recovery support tools) \$ 64,400		
Resources to Support Navigation and Access (filing fees, transportation, emergency co-pays) \$18,400		
Total Program Supplies/ Basic Needs	\$84,800	\$84,800
Total Expenses	\$208704	\$208704
Administration – Fiscal Agent Services provided by (de minimus rate which equals 6% of total expenses \$208704)		
Total Indirect	\$ 12,522	\$12,522
Total	\$221,226	\$221,226

Woodbury County Board of Supervisors
Request for Funding- Opioid Remediation Settlement Funding
Sober Living, to Care and Peer Recovery Coaching, Access to Care
Proposed by Copperstone Development

Proposal Narrative

Copperstone Development seeks \$220,240 per year (\$440,480 over two years) for the outlined needs.

This proposal addresses four key service needs and priorities in the Siouxland region.

1. Opioid Remediation (Collaboration, Resource and Referral, Support, & Coordination of Service Delivery)
2. Sober Living (Recovery Residence) for Homeless Opioid Users, Parolees, and those coming from SUD treatment and utilization of housing in safe neighborhoods.
3. A comprehensive strategy includes prevention, accessible treatment, harm reduction, and peer/community-based support.
4. Basic needs services (food, shelter, hygiene) address physical and mental health as well as addressing employment barriers.

Core Priorities

B. Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Distribution and other Opioid Related Treatment

Partner with other agencies who provide MAT services.

E. Expansion of Warm Hand Off Programs and Recovery Services

Copperstone Development not only refers individuals to resources but also provides case management to ensure follow-through, especially for those experiencing homelessness, incarceration, or opioid-affected individuals. The warm handoff includes transportation to appointments, assistance with paperwork, attending appointments if requested, and ensuring an ongoing service connection. Copperstone staff are knowledgeable of community resources, continuously partner with and train other providers, and focused on cost efficiency to maximize spending dollars. Clients access inpatient and outpatient treatment referrals, therapy, recovery housing, and support services. (Opioid Remediation Core Strategies Part B1, B4, B5, E3, E4)

F. Approved Uses

All focus areas align with the priorities identified in the Opioid Remediation Funding Guidance, Part I, specifically Items A, B, C, and D, related to treatment.

A. TREAT OPIOID USE DISORDER

Opioid Use Disorder, Substance Use Disorder, Co-Occurring Disorder. (Opioid Remediation Priority Part 1 Treatment Items C & D)

Copperstone expertly supports networking and access to inpatient and outpatient treatment, community-based substance use disorder and mental health providers, medication management, and utilizing Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous and Celebrate Recovery.

Limited options to access help or resources 24 hours a day/ 7days a week.

Copperstone will access resources at any time of day or night. Copperstone will assist in making appointments, coordinating transportation, and providing assistance with filling out and explaining paperwork, accessing insurance, and attending appointments if needed. Copperstone will then assist with obtaining items such as prescribed medication, coordinating transportation to and from treatment, and arranging a transition back into the community for individuals seeking to access care and follow through with SUD and co-occurring services,

B. SUPPORT PEOPLE IN TREATMENT AND RECOVERY (Opioid Remediation Priority Part 1 Treatment Items C & D)

Copperstone employs licensed social workers, counselors and operates sober living for men and women using peer recovery and case management tailored to populations in need, including those with opioid addiction and co-occurring disorders.

Copperstone needs financial support to employ (2.5 FTE) peer support specialists, recovery coaches and case managers who provide outreach and engagement in the community, jails, shelters, sober living homes, and with community providers also fighting against opioid use.

The primary populations served are those with opioid use, mental and/or physical health, or co-occurring challenges. Peer recovery specialists provide advocacy, resource navigation, and support for basic needs to improve wellness and promote

telehealth use. Sober living reduces police contacts and hospitalizations, and improves access to housing, mental health, physical health including dental health services and improving daily living skills.

C. CONNECT PEOPLE WHO NEED HELP THEY NEED (CONNECTIONS TO CARE)

Copperstone will continue partnering with community resources such as schools, adult probation, Department of Human Services, landlords, Sioux City police department, Woodbury County Sheriff's office, Hope Street of Siouxland, Gospel Mission, Warming Shelter, Center for Siouxland, Heartland Counseling, Rosecrance Jackson, Siouxland Adult Medicine, Family Health Care, Keystone Treatment Center, Safeplace, Family Access Center, Siouxland Mental Health, Siouxland Community Health Center, Dr. Baker's office, Diana Castro, Urban Native Center, Oxford House, Chad's House, Woman and Children's Center, and Bridges West.

Many individuals do not receive access to substance use disorder and/or mental health care due to one or more of the following reasons:

- Inadequate resources, lack of assistance to get the needed resources, such as taking a person to a foodbank, getting a birth certificate or social security card, understanding medication with SUD treatment, and the lack of knowledge about how to access care and community resources.
- Challenges staying up on the changing types of use, navigating the current substance use disorder and/or mental health system of care due to barriers related to insurance. Woodbury County is fortunate to have a sufficient number of addiction and mental health professionals. There is a shortage of housing, adequate evidence-based sober living (recovery residences), and funding to assist in navigating these resources. The overall stigma about addressing substance use or mental health issues, particularly with sex offenders who live in Woodbury County, is often challenging.
- Crisis- when individuals are faced with a crisis in substance use or mental health, the support occurs when nonjudgmental relationships are formed and are proactive in having a plan.

According to SAMHSA, research has demonstrated that recovery housing is associated with a variety of positive outcomes for residents including decreased substance use, reduced likelihood of return to use, lower rates of incarceration, higher income, increased employment, and improved family relationships (Jason et al., 2006; Jason & Ferrari, 2010; Polcin et al., 2010).

In 2020, there were an estimated 17,943 recovery homes across the nation (Jason et al., 2020). Tracing its origins to the mid-1800s, recovery housing has evolved into various models to meet the diverse and evolving needs of persons with substance use issues.

D. ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE INVOLVED PERSONS

Copperstone Development partners with Department of Corrections (DOC) and receives referrals from the court system, local jails, and Iowa Prisons. Coordinate and assist in creating a discharge plan for sober living, SUD services, and mental health treatment services, as well as work with individuals on their continued journey of recovery. After referral and acceptance into the program, relationships are established and will continue to exist with Copperstone even after the individual is integrated into the community. This allows the individual to continue to have support with their success. In the event of a relapse, individuals have the opportunity to re-apply for sober living.

There is often a waiting list to get into sober living; therefore, the places within this community work closely together, including but not limited to Hope Street of Siouxland, Oxford House, Bridges West, Gospel Mission and Warming Shelter which often takes the same types of individuals coming from the streets and prison but with more serious mental health needs surrounding the substance abuse. Chad's House serves some of the same individuals but is paid through insurance; therefore, it is often referred to as Copperstone to further assist those who have been incarcerated. Copperstone has also worked with sex offenders who are coming out of prison and have suffered from addiction issues. This population is in our community and allowing them into sober living after being interviewed has also kept the community safer and given opportunities to this population that many do not want to deal with.

Diverting individuals with substance use disorders away from the criminal justice system and into treatment of sober living can reduce police resources, reduce incarceration, and improve community outcomes. By providing access to stable housing and employment opportunities, it can address the underlying factors that contribute to addiction and long-term poverty can address many issues that individuals coming out of prisons need assistance with. Bringing individuals back into our community and providing them with connections to care is a win for both the individual and the broader Woodbury County community. These services are a critical need for Woodbury County based on the current substance use trends, unhoused population, and the co-occurring individuals coming from prison and living within the community.

About Copperstone

Copperstone is a nonprofit founded in 2021 to help unhoused people with addiction or mental illness, and those leaving jail or prison who need continued treatment. It creates a continuum of care for people experiencing homelessness, addiction, or mental illness in Siouxland. Past sober homes were located at 105 15th Street and 923 20th Street. Copperstone needed to expand operations and now offers sober housing for men at 1720 Summit Street with case management. Copperstone has established relationships with several landlords and offers sober living support for 10 additional men at 900 Jackson Street, 1023 Pierce Street Apt. 1, and 306 Fairmont Street, Sioux City, IA.

A women's sober home, Eunoia, located at 406 12th Street, began operations in June 2024 and has 10 beds available. Referrals come for Iowa Prisons and the Department of Corrections, DHHS, community resources and prisons in Iowa.

Copperstone is a Chapter 24-accredited provider of mental health and peer support services. In 2024, both sober living homes were accredited by the National Alliance for Recovery Residences, a national accreditation organization.

Through Copperstone, its volunteers, and local partnerships, opportunities are created for individuals with addiction issues—particularly those with opioid dependency and their families, including those with children—to develop meaningful connections with peers and their community, reinforcing a supportive recovery environment. Community engagement initiatives play a crucial role in enhancing and navigating the challenges of sober living and those suffering from addiction

<https://recoinstitute.com/2024-trends-in-sober-living-and-recovery-housing/>

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