Board of County Commissioners

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Carroll County Government

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Commissioners Allocate \$108K for Opioid Programs

Westminster, MD, Thursday, November 1, 2018 – Today, the Carroll County Board of Commissioners (BOC) voted to allocate the remaining \$108,000 to four shorter-term programs supporting opioid prevention issues. These monies represent the balance of the \$300,000 increase approved during the FY19 budget process. The BOC previously charged the Senior Opioid Policy Group to develop some new ideas for programs unique to Carroll County which may assist in the fight against opioid addiction.

Mr. Ed Singer, Health Officer for the Carroll County Health Department, presented information on four different priority initiatives to the commissioners which were recommended by the Senior Opioid Policy Group.

The approved proposals for funding are:

Sources of Strength Program - \$43,000

Sources of Strength is an evidence-based peer leadership program, initiated by Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) with the support of state funding through the Carroll County Health Department, that develops relationships among students and adults. Funding will expand the program to additional schools.

Behavioral Health Resource Guide - \$15,000

This guide, developed by the Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County and community partners, is widely utilized by emergency medical services, law enforcement, providers, CCPS and other community partners.

Pilot Street Smart Program in Westminster Boys and Girls Club- \$25,000

The National Boys and Girls Club has programming related to prevention of risky behaviors which will be used to develop a local curriculum to expand programs in the areas of prevention.

Vehicle for Youth Service Bureau - \$25,000

Funding will purchase an additional vehicle to help the Carroll County Youth Service Bureau's Assertive Community Treatment team provide comprehensive, recovery-oriented, mental health/substance use treatment to individuals with severe and persistent mental illness.

Commissioner Dennis Frazier, District 3 said, "I think these four programs represent an excellent multi-tiered strategy to expand our tools for fighting opioid addiction in Carroll County. This should give us more information about which types of "out-of-the-box" programs might be the most successful in the future."

Today's open session will be available for viewing on the <u>county meeting portal</u>, <u>YouTube channel</u>, and the <u>county Facebook page</u>. In addition, all meetings will be replayed on Comcast Channel 24.

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CARROLL COUNTY

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