

Madison County Substance-Impaired Driving Prevention & Response Program

*2026 Montana Opioid Abatement Trust
Grants*

Madison County DUI Task Force

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Application Form

Region Selection

To collaborate with someone else on this request, click the blue "Collaborate" button in the top-right corner.

Project Name*

Madison County Substance-Impaired Driving Prevention & Response Program

You may only select one Abatement Region, if you are applying for funding from more than one region you will need to fill out and submit a separate application for each region.

Select Multi County Abatement Region OR Metro Region*

Select the Multi-County Abatement Region **OR** the Metro Region you are requesting grant funds from. Click [HERE](#) for a detailed map of Multi-County Regions and Metro Regions.

Abatement Region 4

Regional Funding Request*

If you are applying to multiple regions, please select all the regions to which you are submitting applications.

N/A

Application Overview

About the Organization/Program*

Give a brief description of the Organization/Program/Project. Include the mission statement and the services provided.

Montana DUI Task Forces are county-level, multidisciplinary coalitions that work to reduce alcohol- and drug-impaired driving through education, enforcement support, prevention, and community engagement.

Mission: To reduce impaired driving and related harms through prevention, education, enforcement support, and community collaboration.

The Madison County DUI Task Force is a coalition of law enforcement, public health, schools, and community partners working together to address impaired driving and substance use issues. The Task Force supports enforcement efforts, delivers prevention programming, conducts public education campaigns, provides school-based outreach, and strengthens coordination among agencies to improve community response to emerging substance use trends.

This project expands existing efforts to address opioid- and polysubstance-impaired driving, including the increasing impact of fentanyl on community safety. Key activities include specialized training for law

enforcement, prosecutors, judges, and other criminal justice professionals; increasing community awareness of opioid-related risks; and enhancing coordination among public safety and community partners.

The Task Force serves as a regional resource by supporting training opportunities, information sharing, and collaborative strategies that strengthen opioid prevention and public safety efforts across neighboring Region 4 counties.

Established in 2008, the Madison County DUI Task Force has a long history of collaborative prevention and public safety efforts. As a frontier county, Madison County faces unique challenges related to geography, staffing limitations, travel distances, and access to specialized training and prevention resources. This project will strengthen regional capacity to address opioid- and polysubstance-related issues while improving public safety outcomes throughout Region 4.

What category does the program fit into*

Check the category/categories the program fits into. You may select more than one option.

Click [HERE](#) for a list of approved opioid remediation uses

Prevention

Exhibit E List of Opioid Remediation Uses

Schedule A - select all that apply

G. PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Exhibit E List of Opioid Remediation Uses

Schedule B - select all that apply

D. ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE-INVOLVED PERSONS

G. PREVENT MISUSE OF OPIOIDS

H. PREVENT OVERDOSE DEATHS & OTHER HARMS (HARMS REDUCTION)

I. FIRST RESPONDERS

J. LEADERSHIP, PLANNING, & COORDINATION

K. TRAINING

How does the program meet the Opioid Remediation Guidelines*

Provide a detailed explanation of how the program fits into the approved Opioid Remediation Guidelines selected in the above question.

Please be specific

This project aligns with approved opioid remediation strategies by supporting prevention, professional training, first responder preparedness, criminal justice system improvement, and cross-sector collaboration to address opioid misuse and related harms.

Opioids, fentanyl, prescription medications, marijuana, and other substances continue to contribute to impaired driving and public safety concerns across Montana. Drug-impaired driving investigations and prosecutions have become increasingly complex, requiring specialized knowledge of toxicology evidence, emerging drug trends, evolving laws, and coordinated response strategies.

The project will strengthen the regional response to opioid- and polysubstance-impaired driving through training for law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, probation personnel, emergency responders, and other public safety partners. Training will focus on drug-impaired driving investigations, prosecution strategies, toxicology evidence, fentanyl awareness, and coordinated response efforts designed to improve public safety and system effectiveness.

The project will also support community prevention and public education activities that increase awareness of opioid misuse, fentanyl risks, overdose prevention, and the dangers of substance-impaired driving. Prevention efforts will focus on reducing risk factors, increasing awareness of emerging drug trends, and promoting safer communities.

As a frontier county, Madison County faces unique challenges related to geography, staffing limitations, travel distances, and access to specialized training and prevention resources. Through prevention, education, first responder support, and collaboration, this project will strengthen regional capacity to address opioid-related harms and improve public safety in Region 4.

The project will also support community prevention and public education activities that increase awareness of opioid misuse, fentanyl risks, and the dangers of substance-impaired driving.

New Program or Existing*

Is the funding intended for a new program or to expand an existing program?

A proposed supplement or expansion to a program.

Fiscal Information

Requested Amount*

\$50,000.00

Program Budget*

How will the funds be allocated? Attach a detailed line item budget breakdown for the program. If the funds are intended for a multi-year program please specify the amount budgeted for each year.

Madison County DUITF Narrative Budget.pdf

Source of Funding*

Does the program currently receive funding from another source? If yes, please explain in detail. (i.e. amount, funding source, etc.)

Grant funding is intended for the creation or expansion of opioid prevention, treatment, and recovery projects. The money is **NOT** meant to replace or supplant existing funding.

Yes, the Madison County DUI Task Force currently receives funding from several local sources. Primary funding is derived from driver license reinstatement fees collected from individuals convicted of alcohol- and drug-related DUI offenses and distributed back to the county in accordance with Montana law. Additional revenue is generated through compliance checks and local contributions or donations.

Estimated funding available for SFY2027 includes:

- Cash on hand (carryover): \$5,334.53
- Estimated DUI reinstatement fees: \$7,000
- Compliance checks: \$6,500
- Contributions and donations: \$8,000

Total Estimated Available Funding: \$26,834.53

Funding levels may vary annually based on collections, enforcement activity, and local support. Madison County serves as the fiscal agent for the Madison County DUI Task Force. Program funds are maintained in a dedicated county account and administered under established county financial policies and procedures with oversight by the Madison County Board of Commissioners.

Existing funding supports core DUI Task Force activities, including impaired-driving prevention, community outreach, enforcement support, compliance checks, administrative expenses, and public awareness efforts. These resources are essential to maintaining current operations but are limited in scope and capacity.

The requested Opioid Abatement funding will not replace or supplant existing funding sources. Instead, it will expand current efforts by supporting specialized training for law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, probation personnel, and other public safety professionals; increasing awareness of opioid misuse, fentanyl risks, and polysubstance-impaired driving; and strengthening regional collaboration to improve responses to opioid-related public safety concerns.

This funding will allow the Madison County DUI Task Force to build upon its established foundation and expand prevention, education, training, and system-improvement efforts specifically focused on opioid- and polysubstance-related harms throughout Madison County and Region 4.

Existing local funding is not sufficient to provide the level of specialized training, regional coordination, and opioid-focused prevention activities needed to address the increasing impact of fentanyl and polysubstance use. Opioid Abatement funding will allow the Task Force to expand services beyond current capacity and address identified gaps in rural and frontier communities.

Do you have a Fiscal Agent*

Yes

Fiscal Agent Contact Info

Fiscal Agent Name*

Madison County

Fiscal Agent Email Address*

madco@madisoncountymt.gov

Program Abstract

Program Description*

Describe the objectives of this project. Provide a detailed overview of the program, including its purpose, priorities & objectives, and intended results.

Program Description

The Madison County DUI Task Force is expanding its efforts to address opioid misuse, prevent opioid-related harms, and strengthen the community's response to opioid and polysubstance-impaired driving. As a county-level, multi-disciplinary coalition, the Task Force works to reduce alcohol- and drug-impaired driving through education, enforcement support, prevention, and community engagement.

This project builds upon existing prevention and enforcement efforts by addressing the growing impact of opioids, including fentanyl and other synthetic substances, on public safety and community health. The project will expand training, prevention, public awareness, and cross-agency coordination activities designed to reduce opioid misuse and improve community response to opioid-related risks.

A primary objective is to strengthen the capacity of criminal justice and public safety professionals to identify, investigate, prosecute, and adjudicate opioid- and drug-impaired driving cases. A key component of the project is the development and delivery of a regional Drug-Impaired Driving and DUI Prosecution Training for sheriff's deputies, local police departments, Montana Highway Patrol troopers, prosecutors, judges, probation personnel, behavioral health professionals, and other public safety partners. Training will focus on fentanyl awareness, emerging drug trends, investigative techniques, report writing, prosecution strategies, and coordinated responses across agencies and jurisdictions. The project will also enhance first responder awareness of opioid-related risks, including fentanyl exposure, overdose recognition, and safe response practices.

Madison County and surrounding communities are rural and frontier areas where access to specialized training and subject matter experts is often limited. This project helps address those challenges by bringing high-quality training, education, and collaboration opportunities directly to the region, strengthening local capacity and improving coordination.

The project will also expand prevention and education efforts through community outreach, school-based education, public awareness campaigns, and interactive prevention activities that increase awareness of opioid risks, fentanyl exposure, overdose prevention, and the dangers of substance-impaired driving.

The intended results include increased community awareness of opioid-related risks, improved knowledge and skills among criminal justice and public safety professionals, stronger coordination among partner agencies, and enhanced capacity to prevent and respond to opioid and polysubstance-related harms.

Ultimately, the project seeks to reduce impaired driving, decrease opioid-related risks, improve community safety throughout Madison County and neighboring rural and frontier communities through regional training, collaboration, and coordinated response efforts, and support long-term reductions in opioid-related harms.

Specific Goals*

Describe the primary goals your program seeks to achieve. For each goal, explain how the program intends to accomplish it.

Goal 1: Strengthen the capacity of criminal justice and public safety professionals to respond to opioid- and polysubstance-impaired driving.

Madison County DUI Task Force will accomplish this goal by developing and delivering a Drug-Impaired Driving and DUI Prosecution Training for law enforcement, Montana Highway Patrol, prosecutors, judges, probation personnel, treatment professionals, and public safety partners. Training will focus on fentanyl awareness, emerging drug trends, investigative techniques, report writing, prosecution strategies, and coordinated responses across agencies and jurisdictions. These efforts will improve the ability of professionals to identify, investigate, prosecute, and adjudicate opioid- and drug-impaired driving cases.

Goal 2: Increase community awareness of opioid misuse, fentanyl risks, overdose prevention, and impaired driving.

The Madison County DUI Task Force will accomplish this goal through community outreach, public awareness campaigns, school-based prevention activities, and interactive educational events. Prevention efforts will provide youth, families, and community members with information about opioid misuse, fentanyl exposure, overdose prevention, and the impact of impaired driving. These activities are intended to increase awareness, reduce risk factors, strengthen protective factors, and support healthy decisions.

Goal 3: Improve regional collaboration and coordination to reduce opioid-related harms in rural and frontier communities.

Madison County DUI Task Force will accomplish this goal by strengthening partnerships among law enforcement, prosecutors, public health agencies, schools, behavioral health professionals, and community organizations. Through coordinated planning, training, communication, and resource sharing, partners will work together to address opioid-related challenges and improve response efforts. Emphasis will be on supporting rural and frontier communities where access to specialized training and resources is often limited.

The program is expected to increase the knowledge and skills of criminal justice and public safety professionals, improve community awareness of opioid-related risks, strengthen cross-agency collaboration, and enhance the region's ability to prevent and respond to opioid and polysubstance-related harms. These efforts will support reductions in impaired driving and improve community safety throughout Madison County and neighboring rural and frontier communities.

Evaluation Method*

Please explain in detail how you will gauge the effectiveness and overall impact of the program. What specific evaluation methods, tools, or metrics will you use to measure success.

The Madison County DUI Task Force will use a combination of process and outcome measures to evaluate the effectiveness and impact of the program.

Process evaluation will track program implementation and participation, including the number of trainings conducted, the number of attendees participating in the Drug-Impaired Driving and DUI Prosecution Training, the number of prevention activities completed, the number of educational materials distributed, and the number of individuals reached through community outreach, public awareness campaigns, and school-based prevention efforts.

Outcome evaluation will measure changes in knowledge, awareness, and capacity among participants. Training participants will complete pre- and post-training evaluations to assess increases in knowledge related to opioid and polysubstance-impaired driving, fentanyl awareness, investigative techniques, prosecution strategies, and coordinated response efforts. Participant feedback surveys will also be used to measure satisfaction, confidence, and intended application of knowledge gained.

Training attendance, continuing education credits, and participant completion rates will also be tracked and reported.

Community prevention efforts will be evaluated through attendance records, participant feedback, and outreach tracking to measure awareness and engagement. The program will also document collaborative activities among partner agencies, including meetings, training participation, and coordinated initiatives implemented as a result of the project.

When available, the Madison County DUI Task Force will review local and regional data sources, including impaired driving statistics, drug-impaired driving trends, overdose data, and other relevant public safety and public health indicators to help assess program impact and identify emerging needs.

Success will be measured by increased participation in training and prevention activities, improved knowledge and confidence among criminal justice and public safety professionals, increased community awareness of opioid-related risks, strengthened collaboration among partner agencies, and enhanced regional capacity to prevent and respond to opioid and polysubstance-related harms.

This evaluation approach will provide both quantitative and qualitative data to demonstrate program effectiveness, support continuous improvement, and ensure accountability for opioid abatement funding.

Data Source*

What data or evidence will you collect to show you are meeting your program goals? What specific information, metrics and documentation will you provide to demonstrate the program objectives have been achieved.

The Madison County DUI Task Force will collect quantitative and qualitative data to document program activities, measure progress, and demonstrate outcomes.

Data collected will include training attendance records, registration and sign-in sheets, training agendas, and pre- and post-training evaluations. These tools will measure participation and increases in knowledge related to opioid and polysubstance-impaired driving, fentanyl awareness, investigative techniques, prosecution strategies, and coordinated response efforts.

Prevention and community outreach activities will be documented through attendance records, outreach logs, educational material distribution records, public awareness campaign metrics, and participant feedback when available. School-based prevention activities will include participation records and documentation of presentations and events.

The Task Force will also track coalition and partnership activities, including meeting attendance, collaborative planning efforts, training participation, and cross-agency initiatives developed through the project.

Local and regional data sources will be reviewed when available to identify trends and provide context for program activities. These may include impaired driving statistics, drug-impaired driving data, overdose data, law enforcement reports, and public health indicators.

The project will document professional continuing education credits awarded through training activities. Training records, completion certificates, and approved CLE, POST, and CEU credits will serve as additional measures of program quality, professional engagement, and workforce development. Training records will also document the number and type of professionals trained, including law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, probation personnel, and emergency responders.

Documentation used to demonstrate achievement of program objectives will include training records, survey results, prevention participation data, outreach metrics, coalition activity records, participant feedback, continuing education records, and available impaired driving and overdose data.

These data sources will demonstrate increased training participation, improved knowledge and skills among criminal justice and public safety professionals, expanded prevention outreach, strengthened partnerships, and increased capacity to address opioid and polysubstance-related harms.

Awareness*

How do you plan to create awareness of this program? Briefly describe what action the program plans to take to create awareness in the community.

The Madison County DUI Task Force will create awareness of this project through a coordinated outreach and education campaign utilizing existing community partnerships, public events, schools, media outlets, and social media platforms. Information about the program, training opportunities, opioid-related risks, fentanyl awareness, overdose prevention, and the dangers of substance-impaired driving will be shared throughout Madison County and neighboring rural and frontier communities.

Awareness efforts will include community presentations, prevention events, school-based outreach, public awareness campaigns, educational materials, and participation in local community events. The Task Force will work closely with law enforcement, public health agencies, schools, behavioral health providers, community organizations, and local governments to promote the program and increase community engagement.

Training opportunities will be promoted through professional networks, law enforcement agencies, prosecutors' offices, judicial partners, public health organizations, and regional stakeholder groups to maximize participation and strengthen cross-agency collaboration.

Social media, local newspapers, radio announcements, community newsletters, and partner communication channels will be used to increase awareness of program activities, available resources, and key prevention messages. These efforts will help educate community members, support informed decision-making, and increase awareness of opioid-related risks and substance-impaired driving.

Awareness efforts will also be integrated into existing community events and prevention activities hosted or supported by the Madison County DUI Task Force, including community prevention events, youth outreach activities, school presentations, safety campaigns, and regional training opportunities. These established events provide direct access to youth, families, community leaders, and public safety professionals and help ensure consistent prevention messaging throughout the region.

By utilizing multiple communication channels and trusted community partners, the Madison County DUI Task Force will expand the reach of the program, encourage participation, and strengthen community-wide efforts to reduce opioid- and polysubstance-related harms.

Additional Documents

Tax Exempt Organization*

By clicking this box you are confirming the applying organization is a tax exempt organization.

Yes

Tax Exempt Determination Letter*

Please upload a copy of the Organization 501(C)(3) Tax Exempt Determination Letter.

Madison County DUI Task Force - Tax Exempt Status Explanation.pdf

Use this section to upload or explain any additional information regarding the program/organization. ie. a detailed budget projection, program/organization history, etc.

Upload #1

Statement of Need.pdf

Upload #2

Organizational Capacity and Program History.pdf

Upload #3

Madison County DUI Task Force - 3 Letters of Support.pdf.pdf

Additional Information

This project is designed to create lasting benefits beyond the grant period. Training materials, professional relationships, collaborative protocols, and increased local expertise developed through the project will remain available to participating agencies and communities. By strengthening regional partnerships and increasing local capacity, the project will support ongoing prevention, education, and public safety efforts related to opioid- and polysubstance-related harms throughout Region 4.

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- Madison County DUITF Narrative Budget.pdf
- Madison County DUI Task Force - Tax Exempt Status Explanation.pdf
- Statement of Need.pdf
- Organizational Capacity and Program History.pdf
- Madison County DUI Task Force - 3 Letters of Support.pdf.pdf

Madison County DUI Task Force: Opioid & Polysubstance-Impaired Driving Prevention and Response Project

Budget Overview

This budget prioritizes training and system-level improvements to strengthen Madison County's response to opioid- and polysubstance-impaired driving while supporting prevention, public awareness, and cross-agency coordination efforts.

Training & System Improvement – \$25,000

- Drug-Impaired Driving, Prosecution, and Judicial Training (speakers, travel, lodging) – \$14,000
- Law Enforcement and First Responder Training (fentanyl awareness, response protocols) – \$6,000
- Training Materials and Resources – \$2,500
- Venue, Meals, and Logistics – \$2,500

Community Prevention & Education – \$10,000

- School and Community Opioid Prevention Programming – \$3,000
- Community Outreach Events (inflatable brain, VR activities, educational events) – \$4,000
- Educational Materials (opioid/fentanyl awareness) – \$3,000

Public Awareness Campaign – \$5,000

- Social Media and Digital Outreach – \$1,500
- Local Media (radio/newspaper) – \$2,000
- Campaign Materials (printing, signage) – \$1,500

Coordination & Program Implementation – \$6,000

- Travel for Outreach and Trainings – \$3,000
- Meeting Coordination and Planning – \$2,000
- Program Administration and Supplies – \$1,000

Evaluation & Data Collection – \$2,000

- Survey Tools and Evaluation Materials – \$1,000
- Data Tracking and Reporting – \$1,000

Supplies & Equipment – \$2,000

- Prevention, Training, and Educational Supplies – \$2,000

Total Program Budget: \$50,000

Additional Information

The Madison County DUI Task Force was established in 2008 and serves as a countywide coalition dedicated to reducing alcohol- and drug-impaired driving through prevention, education, enforcement support, and community engagement. This project expands existing efforts by addressing the growing impact of opioids, fentanyl, and polysubstance use on public safety throughout Region 4.

Funding will support evidence-informed prevention activities, community education, professional training, and system-level improvements that strengthen the ability of law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, emergency responders, and community partners to address opioid- and polysubstance-impaired driving. Priority will be placed on increasing access to specialized training and resources for rural and frontier communities.

The project is designed to build sustainable regional capacity, improve cross-agency collaboration, enhance public awareness, and strengthen community responses to opioid-related harms without replacing existing funding sources.

Esther Lince, Chairperson
Prevention Specialist
Phone: 406-498-1215
Email: elince@mtpw.org



Steve Filer – Co- Chair
Phone: 406-640-0538
Email: steve.d.filer@gmail.com

Madison County DUI Task Force

Prevention Starts with You, Drive Sober, Safe Roads, Safe Communities

June 17, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

The Madison County DUI Task Force was established in 2008 and serves as a countywide coalition dedicated to reducing alcohol- and drug-impaired driving through prevention, education, enforcement support, and community engagement.

The Task Force operates under the fiscal oversight of Madison County, Montana, which serves as the designated fiscal agent. Funds are maintained in county accounts and administered in accordance with county financial policies and procedures under the fiscal oversight of the Madison County Board of Commissioners.

Madison County is a political subdivision of the State of Montana and, as a governmental entity, does not possess an IRS 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Determination Letter. Governmental entities are not required to obtain 501(c)(3) status and are exempt from federal income taxation under applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.

This letter is provided to document the fiscal relationship between Madison County and the Madison County DUI Task Force and to explain the absence of a 501(c)(3) determination letter.

If additional information is needed, please contact Madison County.

Sincerely,

Esther Lince

Esther Lince
Chairperson-Madison County DUI Task Force
mcduidf@outlook.com
406-498-1215

Statement of Need

Region 4's rural and frontier communities continue to face increasing challenges related to opioid misuse, fentanyl exposure, overdose risk, polysubstance use, and impaired driving. While these issues are often viewed through a public health lens, they also create significant impacts on public safety systems, including law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, emergency medical services, and community organizations.

Drug overdoses are now the fourth-leading cause of injury death in Montana, accounting for 1,501 deaths between 2014 and 2023, an average of 150 deaths annually. Montana's opioid overdose death rate increased 117 percent during that period, driven largely by fentanyl and methamphetamine. Fentanyl-related overdose deaths have more than tripled since 2020, while more than half of overdose deaths involve multiple substances, demonstrating the growing complexity of substance use and overdose prevention efforts.

The burden on emergency response systems remains substantial. In 2024, Montana emergency medical services responded to 844 opioid overdose-related 911 calls, averaging approximately 70 overdose responses per month. Naloxone was administered in 325 of these incidents. Emergency departments also reported 557 suspected opioid overdose visits in 2025, including 148 suspected fentanyl overdoses.

The need is also evident locally. Between June 1, 2025 and June 1, 2026, the Madison County Sheriff's Office recorded 65 DUI arrests and investigated 15 impaired-driving crashes. During that same period, 10 cases involved drugs either alone or in combination with alcohol, 26 cases remained pending litigation, and 34 cases resulted in convictions. These numbers demonstrate the continuing impact impaired driving has on public safety and the criminal justice system.

Montana Crime Lab data further demonstrate the growing impact of drugs on impaired driving investigations. Fentanyl detections in drug-impaired driving cases increased from 12 cases in 2020 to 99 cases in 2023, while methamphetamine remains one of the most frequently detected substances identified in impaired driving investigations. Drug-impaired driving investigations and prosecutions continue to evolve as law enforcement and prosecutors respond to emerging substances, changing laws, toxicology evidence, and increasingly complex cases involving multiple impairing substances. Recent statewide training initiatives have expanded their focus beyond alcohol-impaired driving to address drug-impaired driving, toxicology evidence, oral fluid testing, and evolving legal standards, demonstrating a growing need for specialized training and system improvements.

Region 4 includes Beaverhead, Broadwater, Deer Lodge, Granite, Jefferson, Madison, Meagher, Park, and Powell Counties. These counties are largely rural and frontier

communities where access to specialized training and resources is often limited by geography, staffing, and travel costs. Many agencies within Region 4 operate with limited staffing and training resources, making access to specialized training and professional development opportunities particularly important.

To address these challenges, the Madison County DUI Task Force proposes a regional initiative focused on prevention, public awareness, professional training, and cross-agency collaboration. By strengthening the ability of law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, emergency responders, and community partners to respond effectively to opioid- and polysubstance-impaired driving, the project will enhance public safety, improve system coordination, and support efforts to reduce opioid-related harms throughout Region 4.

Organizational Capacity and Program History

The Madison County DUI Task Force was established in 2008 and serves as a countywide coalition dedicated to reducing alcohol- and drug-impaired driving through prevention, education, enforcement support, and community engagement. The Task Force brings together representatives from law enforcement, public health, education, local government, emergency services, treatment providers, and community organizations to address substance-related harms and improve public safety.

Madison County serves as the fiscal agent for the Task Force and provides financial oversight through established county policies and procedures. The Task Force has a long history of coordinating community-based prevention activities, public education campaigns, enforcement support efforts, and professional training opportunities.

The Task Force has successfully implemented numerous initiatives designed to reduce substance-related harm and improve community awareness. Examples include community prevention events, school-based education programs, youth engagement activities, public awareness campaigns, impaired driving prevention efforts, law enforcement partnerships, and regional training opportunities. The Task Force also collaborates with local schools, healthcare providers, public health agencies, community coalitions, and public safety partners to maximize resources and improve outcomes.

As a frontier county, Madison County faces unique challenges related to geography, limited staffing, travel distances, and access to specialized services and training. The Task Force has developed strong partnerships and collaborative strategies to address these challenges and expand access to prevention resources and professional development opportunities.

Through this project, the Madison County DUI Task Force will build upon its established foundation and existing partnerships to strengthen regional capacity to address opioid- and polysubstance-impaired driving, improve public safety, and support communities throughout Region 4.



MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Virginia City, MT

To Whom It May Concern:

As a Sheriff of Madison County, I support the Madison County DUI Task Force's application for Region 4 Opioid Abatement funding.

My deputies regularly encounter impaired drivers and individuals affected by alcohol, drugs, prescription medications, and other substances. Drug-impaired driving investigations are becoming increasingly complex, and law enforcement agencies must stay current on changing laws, emerging drug trends, toxicology evidence, and investigative techniques.

In rural counties such as Madison County, training opportunities can be limited due to staffing, travel, and budget constraints. Access to specialized training helps ensure that deputies are prepared to recognize impairment, conduct thorough investigations, and work effectively with prosecutors and other public safety partners.

The Madison County DUI Task Force has been a valuable partner in supporting prevention efforts, public education, and training opportunities that improve public safety. The proposed project will help strengthen the response to opioid- and polysubstance-impaired driving by providing training and resources that benefit law enforcement and the communities we serve.

Thank you for your consideration of this funding request.

Dated this 18th day of June, 2026.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Wes Heavrin", is written over a horizontal line.

Wes Heavrin

Captain Madison County Sheriff's Office

5 Placer Loop / PO Box 276
Virginia City, MT 59755
Office: (406) 843-5301
Fax: (406) 843-5351
www.madisoncountymt.gov

June 18, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

As a Madison County Commissioner and liaison to the Madison County DUI Task Force, I have had the opportunity to work with and observe the efforts of the Task Force in addressing impaired driving and substance-related issues within our community.

The Madison County DUI Task Force brings together law enforcement, public health, schools, local government, and community partners to address public safety concerns through prevention, education, collaboration, and enforcement support. Through my involvement as liaison, I have seen the value of these partnerships and the positive impact they have on our community.

Madison County is a frontier county that faces many of the challenges experienced throughout Montana related to opioid misuse, fentanyl exposure, polysubstance use, and impaired driving. These issues affect public safety, public health, and the criminal justice system, while limited local resources and long travel distances can make access to specialized training and services more difficult.

The proposed Region 4 Opioid Abatement project would build upon existing community partnerships by expanding professional training opportunities, public education efforts, prevention activities, and regional collaboration. These investments would help strengthen local and regional capacity to address opioid- and polysubstance-related harms while improving public safety outcomes.

Based on my experience working with the Madison County DUI Task Force, I believe this project represents a practical investment in our communities and will provide meaningful benefits to Madison County and other frontier communities throughout Region 4.

Thank you for your consideration of this funding request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Duke V. Gilman", is written over a horizontal line.

Duke Gilman
Madison County Commissioner
DUI Task Force Liaison



MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Virginia City, MT

June 17, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

I serve as a Deputy Sheriff in Madison County and have been actively involved with the Madison County DUI Task Force for the past 3 years. Through both my law enforcement duties and my participation with the Task Force, I have seen firsthand the challenges our rural communities face when it comes to impaired driving and substance use.

One of the greatest strengths of the Madison County DUI Task Force is its ability to bring people together. Law enforcement, schools, public health, community organizations, and local leaders regularly work together to address issues that no single agency can solve alone. The Task Force has created opportunities for education, prevention, and collaboration that have strengthened public safety throughout our county.

I support this funding request because it focuses on building knowledge and strengthening partnerships. The proposed project will provide valuable training opportunities, increase awareness of opioid- and polysubstance-related risks, and help agencies throughout the region work more effectively together. In rural and frontier communities, those partnerships are often our most valuable resource.

I believe this project will have lasting benefits not only for Madison County, but for neighboring communities throughout Region 4. It is an investment in prevention, professional development, and collaboration that will help communities respond more effectively to emerging substance-related challenges.

Thank you for your consideration of this funding request.

Sincerely,

Stewart Neal
Deputy Sheriff
Madison County Sheriffs Office

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stewart Neal" followed by the number "25-16".

5 Placer Loop / PO Box 276
Virginia City, MT 59755
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Fax: (406) 843-5351
www.madisoncountymt.gov