



# Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

2K

Agenda Item #

**Requested Meeting Date:** July 22, 2025

**Title of Item:** AIM VCET Opioid Funding Request

<input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY	<b>Action Requested:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft) <i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item <input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing*
<b>Submitted by:</b> Kelli Crowther		<b>Department:</b> H&HS
<b>Presenter (Name and Title):</b> Kelli Crowther, PHN, Opioid Coordinator or Erin Melz, PH Supervisor		<b>Estimated Time Needed:</b> 0
<b>Summary of Issue:</b> Final approval of funding application on behalf of AIM VCET.  This application was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Opioid Subcommittee on July 10th, 2025.  Project: AIM VCET- Raman Spectrometer  Overview: AIM VCET has been involved in direct contact with opioid users since the deployment of the VCET in 2022. AIM The contact with controlled substances happens on a regular basis. Those contacts are ever changing with the evolution of persons involved with the distribution controlled substances. These substances are typically never in a pure form of a single substance and are mixed with other unidentifiable compounds that basic level field testing methods available to law enforcement are unable to detect. Advanced field testing equipment is currently available through different vendors and provides a direct and immediate advantage to law enforcement either at the scene or during evidence processing. Technology of this type will provide law enforcement with a more immediate determination of the type of substance a person has consumed or prevent further dispersement of those substances prior to creating a damaging trickle down effect to addicted persons. Safety of not only law enforcement officers but those in contact during these instances is paramount and deserves the attention of available resources. Drug and narcotic detection equipment provides the officer with an user friendly point and shoot system that generates and immediate identification of mixed substances while lesses the possibility of accidental exposure or inaccurate substance identifications.		
<b>Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments:</b>		
<b>Recommended Action/Motion:</b> Approve \$32,900 one time payment funded with Opioid Settlement Funds to AIM VCET.		
<b>Financial Impact:</b> <i>Is there a cost associated with this request?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <i>What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$</i> <i>Is this budgeted?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <i>Please Explain:</i> Opioid Settlement Funds will be used to support this project.		

# Aitkin County Health and Human Services

## Contact:

Please direct all correspondence to the contact information provided below.

### Liz Short, PHN

Aitkin County Public Health

((218) 927-7267

[Elizabeth.short@co.aitkin.mn.us](mailto:Elizabeth.short@co.aitkin.mn.us)



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.  
**Aitkin County**

## 2023

## Opioi Settlement (OS) Funding Application

### Section 1: Applicant Information

Date	05/08/2025
Organization Name	AIM VCET
Street Address	218 1st St NW
Mailing Address if different	
City, State, Zip Code	Aitkin MN 56431
County	Aitkin


Primary Contact	Greg Payment
Phone	218-927-7424
Email	greg.payment@aitkincountymn.gov

Financial Contact	Aitkin County-Kathleen Ryan
Tax ID/SSN	41-6005749
Phone	218-927-7354
Email	kathleen.ryan@aitkincountymn.gov

Information provided in this application may be used for promotional materials. This includes, but is not limited to: fact sheets, Minnesota Department of Health reports, newsletters, social media posts, and media releases. Additional information may be requested by Aitkin County Public Health e.g. a release might be requested for individuals in photographs.



By checking this box, you acknowledge and accept the statement above.

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	AIM VCET
<b>Brief Overview</b> <small>If request is over \$25,000, provide a brief description of the outcomes and goals for the project</small> Aitkin Itasca Mille Lacs Violent Crimes Enforcement Team is partially grant funded through the OJP MN State grant for Violent Crime Enforcement Teams. AIM VCET is responsible for identifying and disrupting mid and upper level controlled substance dealers including 	
<b>Funding Request</b>	\$ 32,900.00

## Section 2: Project Category

Each project should fall within one or more of the following mitigation categories. Select one or more of the categories that best match your project.

### Treatment

☐ Support treatment of Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and any co-occurring Substance Use Disorder or Mental Health condition through evidenced based or evidence informed programs or strategies.

Examples may include:

- Treat OUD
- Support People in Recovery
- Connect People who need help connecting to the services they need (connections to care i.e. transportation)
- Address the needs of criminal justice-involved persons
- Address the needs of the perinatal population, caregivers, and families including babies with neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome
- Medication-assisted treatment (MAT) such as methadone, buprenorphine or naloxone.

### Prevention

☐ Support efforts to prevent over-prescribing and ensure appropriate prescribing and dispensing of opioids through evidenced based or evidenced informed programs. Support efforts to discourage misuse of opioids through evidence based or evidenced informed programs. Examples may include:

- Training for health care providers
- Continuing Medical Education on appropriate prescribing of opioids
- Media campaigns to prevent misuse
- Funding evidence-based prevention programs in schools
- Upstream education on the harm of other addictive and harmful substances such as alcohol, tobacco or marijuana.

### Harm Reduction

☐ Harm reduction is a set of ideas and interventions that seek to reduce the harms associated with both drug use and ineffective, racialized drug policies. Harm reduction stands in stark contrast to a punitive approach to problematic drug use—it is based on acknowledging the dignity and humanity of people who use drugs and bringing them into a community of care in order to minimize negative consequences and promote optimal health and social inclusion. Examples of Harm Reduction may include:

- Support Services for children and families affected by substance use disorders.
- Overdose Prevention including distribution of Narcan, Fentanyl test strips, safe use education materials and increased access to proven effective and promising overdose prevention practices utilized in other counties and states.
- Community education to reduce the stigma around OUD

### Research and Training

☒ Support opioid abatement research and training. Examples may include:

- Funding for staff training or networking programs and services to improve the capability of government, community, and not for profit entities to abate the opioid crisis.
- Monitoring, surveillance, data collection and evaluation of programs and strategies described in this opioid abatement strategy list.
- Research non-opioid treatment of chronic pain.
- Research on novel harm reduction and prevention efforts such as the provision of fentanyl test strips.

## Section 3: Guiding Principles

**Your project will need to be guided by the following five principles set forth by the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. Please indicate which of these principals apply to your program. You do not have to meet all of the guiding principles.**

- ☒ Spend Money to Save Lives.
  - OS dollars will be used on a specific project and not to fill budget gaps or shortfalls in other programs. OS dollars are being used to expand on an existing evidenced based program or initiative.
- ☐ Use Evidence to Guide Spending
  - There is evidence to support expansion of an existing program. This could include an initiative or program that was not successful but there are learned outcomes that could be successful.
- ☐ Invest in Youth Prevention
  - This program supports, children, youth and families in effective programs.
- ☐ Focus on Racial Equity
  - This program serves a specific demographic or underserved population in our community. Check one.
    - ☐ Socioeconomic
    - ☐ Seniors
    - ☐ Youth
    - ☐ Veterans
    - ☐ Homeless
    - ☐ Black/Indigenous/People of Color
    - ☐ Other\_\_\_\_\_
    - ☐ LGBTQ
- ☐ Develop a Fair and Transparent Process for Spending Funds
  - There is a process in place for clear and transparent use of OS dollars

**Please Note:**

***It is the Applicant's sole responsibility to keep clear and detailed records that demonstrate the OS dollars requested were used for the amount and purpose(s) outlined in the initial application. Aitkin County Public Health and/or the Minnesota Attorney Generals Office, reserves the right to audit the Applicants records at any time without prior notice.***

## Section 4: Work plan and Goals

**Give a detailed description of your project work plan and goal.** List your goals related to the project. Include planned activities to meet these goals, intended timeline and responsible individual(s). Add rows as needed.

AIM VCET has been involved in direct contact with opioid users since the deployment of the VCET in 2022. AIM The contact with controlled substances happens on a regular basis. Those contacts are ever changing with the evolution of persons involved with the distribution controlled substances. These substances are typically never in a pure form of a single substance and are mixed with other unidentifiable compounds that basic level field testing methods available to law enforcement are unable to detect. Advanced field testing equipment is currently available through different vendors and provides a direct and immediate advantage to law enforcement either at the scene or during evidence processing. Technology of this type will provide law enforcement with a more

ACTIVITIES TO ACCOMPLISH GOAL(S)	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUAL(S)
Purchase handheld Ramon spectrometer	June 2025	Greg Payment
Deploy purchased equipment	July 2025	Greg Payment


## Section 5: Evaluation:

If your request is over \$25,000 please complete this section. If it is under \$25,000 you do not need to complete this section. What would indicate to you that this project was successful? How will you measure progress or change? Describe your anticipated impact(s). Add rows as needed.

Project Outcomes	How will you measure these changes?	What will you do with these results?
Increase in the identification of unknown or unidentifiable substances. Reduce the risks associated to substance users consuming dangerous unknown substances. Provide accurate reporting for furthering care or treatment of addicted persons.	Reporting is automatically generated with the device and will be included in current court, probation and laboratory records	Information received can provide a distinct advantage to locating and preventing further distribution of illegal opiates. The results of the generation of immediate intelligence for law enforcement investigations will provide increased opportunities to provide need services addicted persons.

**PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY:** Identify how you will work to sustain the project beyond the initial funding.

Sustainability will remain consistent as this grant will provide the opportunity for the needed one time purchase of equipment. Additional upkeep of the device will be maintained by AIM VCET and equipment will receive additional insurance coverage through providers associated to AIM VCET.

## Section 6: Budget and Funding Request

Please complete the total project funding table below or the attached Excel sheet. You can also attach your own detailed budget.

### Total Project Funding Table

A) How much funding are you requesting from the Aitkin County Opioid Settlement Funds?	\$ 32900
B) Do you anticipate any additional funding for this project? <i>Include other grants, donations, fundraised amounts, budgeted dollars, etc.</i>	\$ 0
C) How much do you or a partner anticipate contributing in-kind to the project? <i>Include staff/volunteer time, etc.</i>	\$
<b>Total Project Cost</b> (should equal the sum of the 3 lines above)	\$ 32900

Submit your completed application via email to [Elizabeth.short@co.aitkin.mn.us](mailto:Elizabeth.short@co.aitkin.mn.us)  
Please put **OS Application** in the subject line.



## Quote Detail

**DetectaChem, Inc.**

120 Industrial Blvd.  
Sugar Land TX 77478  
(855) 573-3537  
United States  
(855) 573-3537

**Quote #:** QUO08284

**Date:** 5/30/2024

**Expires:** 10/1/2025

**Sales Rep:** EMP49 Melissa Kusske

**Terms:** Net 30

**Requested By:**

**Lead Time:** 30-90 days

**Bill To:**

AIM VCET - Aitkin-Itaska-Mil...  
218 1st NW  
Aitkin MN 56431  
United States

**Ship To:**

AIM VCET - Aitkin-Itaska-Mil...  
218 1st NW  
Aitkin MN 56431  
United States

**Memo:**

**Domestic Wire Instructions**

ABA Routing #: 113011258  
Receiving Bank: Zions Bancorporation, N.A. dba Amegy Bank  
Receiving Address: 1717 West Loop South, Houston Texas, 77027  
Beneficiary Name: DetectaChem Inc.  
120 Industrial Blvd., Sugar Land, TX 77478  
Beneficiary Account #: 5794216910

**International Wire Instructions**

ABA Routing #: 113011258  
SWIFT Code: ZFNBUS55  
Receiving Bank: Zions Bancorporation, N.A. dba Amegy Bank  
Receiving Address: 1717 West Loop South, Houston, TX 77027  
Beneficiary Name: DetectaChem Inc.  
120 Industrial Blvd., Sugar Land, TX 77478  
Beneficiary Account #: 5794216910

Item	Description	Un...	Ord Qty	Rate	Amount
Apex <sup>7</sup> -NARC	Apex <sup>7</sup> Raman Spectrometer with Drug, Narcotic and Precursor Library. Includes Charger, Point-and-Shoot Adaptor, Vial Holder, Testing Standard, Updates, Support and 1 Year Warranty	EA	1	24,900.00	24,900.00
MDD-DHE-AQR-10	MobileDetect Pouch - Heroin w/QR (DHE) 10 cnt.	EA	1	0.00	0.00
MDD-SFYL-BOX-10	Box, 10 MobileDetect Fentanyl Test Kits in a Box	EA	1	0.00	0.00
Apex <sup>7</sup> Ext. Warranty +4	Factory Extended 4 Year Warranty for Manufacturer Defects. Begins After Standard 1 Year Product Warranty Expires.	EA	1	7,950.00	7,950.00
S&H - Apex <sup>7</sup>	Shipping & Handling charges are transit charges only and do not include any international tariffs, taxes, storage, customs, or clearing agent charges.  Purchaser is responsible for additional charges.	EA	1	50.00	50.00



**DETECTACHEM**

**Quote Detail**

DetectaChem, Inc.  
120 Industrial Blvd.  
Sugar Land TX 77478  
(855) 573-3537  
United States  
(855) 573-3537

**Quote #:** QUO08284  
**Date:** 5/30/2024

Item	Description	Un...	Ord Qty	Rate	Amount

**Total** \$32,900.00

Quote is valid for quantities stated or greater, and all line items listed. Any removal of line items or reduction in quantity will require a revised quote. Price given is in \$USD; shipping not included in total unless noted. Explosive detection products manufactured by DetectaChem are export controlled under EAR 1A004.D which regulates the export of trace explosive detection technology. Any re-export without a license from BIS is in strict violation of US law and the policy of DetectaChem. For guidelines visit: <http://www.bis.doc.gov/>