

Today's weather



HIGH: 70
LOW: 49

Sunrise: 7:35
Sunset: 6:53

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WEDNESDAY, October 12, 2022

BRUNSWICK

Opioid settlement funds redirected to Cathy's House

Madisyn Woodring
The Gazette

BRUNSWICK — A motion was passed during Brunswick's Committee of the Whole meeting Monday to redirect the funding the city received from the Ohio Opioid Settlement Fund to the local recovery organization Cathy's House.

In Ohio, about 2,000 local governments will receive money from the settlement fund, which will be distributed over an 18-year period. Brunswick was given about \$10,350 in 2022, which will be given to Cathy's House.

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wick. Cathy's House Executive Director Jon Robinson attended the previous Committee of the Whole meeting on Sept. 26 to talk about the organization and answer questions.

The organization is the only certified recovery house for men in Medina County, and people mainly come to Cathy's House from inpatient treatment. He said Cathy's House provides an affordable structured living environment for individuals with substance use disorder or alcoholism.

"We walk through life with them, help them attain goals, set recovery plans and do all those sorts of things as well as ensure they get employment, pay rent and whatever else personal goals that they may have," Robinson said.

The demand for resources related to recovery is high, Robinson said. Cathy's House gets about 30 requests for beds per month during the slow season, and it gets busier as the weather gets colder.

"There's a problem in our communities," he said. "We need to find

some solutions to that. Recovery housing is one of many pieces on that."

About \$26 billion will be paid by multiple pharmaceutical companies to settle a variety of lawsuits across the country that claim the opioid epidemic is connected to the companies' business practices. Settlement funds are intended to be used to prevent use and treat and support those recovering from addiction.

Contact reporter Madisyn Woodring at (330) 721-4049 or mwoodring@medina-gazette.com.