

July 15, 2025

LO25-0022, Oversight of the Opioid Restitution Funds

Testimony by Lynn Miller

I have reviewed the Overdose Response Strategic Plan 2025-2027. It's a garbled mess. Ambiguous. Redundant. Has no meaning and heart.

You are looking to fund a plan that will go nowhere. To be successful and expect that you will get results, the addict and only the addict has to fully commit themselves to get help and come clean. With your plan, you will be enabling many addicts to bluff their way to get care and paraphernalia only to keep their habit alive. And nowhere in your plan do you mention long term sobriety.

I do not believe that "our neighbors who are older Black men" are at greater risk. How did you ever arrive at this statistic? Have you walked our neighborhood (one of the most diverse neighborhoods in the city)? Have you seen the recent news of the overdoses occurring in Morrell Park? It's all over Baltimore and ***drugs do not choose their victims by race.***

The drug dealers are going to love you for enforcing this plan. Keeps them in business knowing you will enable the addicts to continue using welfare money (that is funded by us taxpayers) to buy illegal drugs. Did you get that....ILLEGAL drugs.

You need to put funds and a plan in place to stop the dealing...that is the source of why you have a dirty city full of drugs, crime, and hate. This will not change until you stop being stubborn and start being open minded about the reality of what is really going on under your leadership.

I live here, I see it everyday I leave and come home from work. I lived here for 70 years and still get rattled thinking about the incident that happened at our house a little over 2 years ago where a stray bullet entered our house through a window. Some of you on this panel may remember the incident, but it, like many others, has gone by the wayside. Nothing done. And for financial reasons, I am still working and I am still here.

Sincerely,
Lynn M. Miller
Resident of Morrell Park