

Gulf Coast RC&D Council Grant Application FY2027

Project Information

Project Name

Baldwin County Coroner Drug Surveillance

Project Category

Community Project

How many people will benefit from this project?*

8,260,000 – Residents and visitors of Baldwin County for one year

Project Description

This funding will provide drug surveillance supplies for the Baldwin County Coroner's Office to perform drug testing in overdose or suspected overdose cases. The data from this surveillance will be used by Law Enforcement and the District Attorney's Office to prosecute dealers of lethal drugs, specifically fentanyl. These drug tests will also allow for the Baldwin County Coroner's Office to speed up the timeline for the next of kin when a family has lost a loved one. Impacts of this program benefit all residents and visitors of Baldwin County, approximately 8,260,000 annually.

We will purchase drug testing supplies to be used in the Randox Multiplex Analyzer.

Project Overview

During the past 18 months the use of this drug testing equipment and supplies has assisted law enforcement and the District Attorney's office with timely data. This data provides the probable cause needed to charge dealers and keep them in custody until their court date. We have participated in 9 cases where charges have been applied.

In addition, this same test and data speeds up the timeline for releasing the decedent back to the next of kin for final disposition. The drug test performed with this funding provides an analytical quantitative report in approximately 2 hours as compared with waiting for results from the state lab which takes approximately 90 days.

Projected Project End Date

12/31/2027

Project Budget Request

\$20,000

Budget Items: Randox – Evidence MultiSTAT Toxplex Quant Kit - \$1,000 per 12 cartridges