



# HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

## STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS 2024 REPORT

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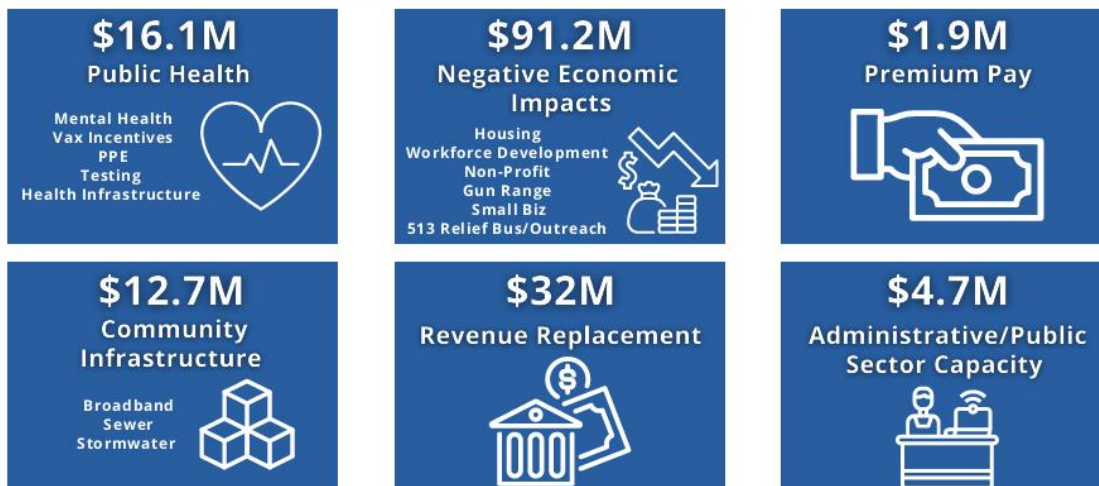
# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hamilton County, Ohio (County) received \$158.8 million from the American Rescue Plan – State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (ARPA). Upon notification of this funding in 2021, the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners initiated stakeholder processes and public hearings to help inform their decisions on programs that will:

1. Address any continued urgent needs of families, residents, and community due to the pandemic, and
2. Address broader community needs that were exacerbated by the pandemic.

The community engagement and stakeholder processes were detailed in previous recovery plan performance reports. Since receipt of ARPA funding, the County has expended \$94.8 million and has an additional \$42.7 million in obligations (total of \$137.5 obligated and/or expended).

## ARPA Funding Total: \$158.8M\*



*\*Sum of programs may not match total due to rounding.*

Programs that were launched in 2022 and early 2023 continued over the past year and were focused on increasing affordable housing stock; preventing homelessness; improving mental health, especially among teens; and continued operation of the 513 Relief Bus to bring services directly to the community. New programs underway include deployment of stormwater grants, emergency housing, and court technology improvements. As programs closed out over the past year, the Board of County Commissioners reallocated funding as necessary. As such, some allocation amounts in this report will differ from previous years. The County looks forward to continuing to report on the impact of these programs over the coming years. A few program highlights are summarized in the next four pages with more detailed information in the Project Inventory section.

## YOUTH RESILIENCY AND MENTAL HEALTH

The Board of County Commissioners allocated **\$10 million** for mental health. To help address the impacts of social isolation and build resiliency, ARPA funds are being used to expand youth and teen programs focused on outdoor activities, extracurriculars, mentoring, after school and summer programs. In addition, funding was used to expand the mobile crisis team to 24/7 and help expand youth suicide prevention programs.

### PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT - INSPIRE

In 2023, the Board launched the **Inspire Youth Initiative** which provides grants of up to \$5,000 to non-profit grassroots organizations and youth agencies to provide activities that improve the physical, mental, and social health of Hamilton County youth in low- to moderate income communities. To date 92 organizations have received funding that helped **13,246 youth**. Organizations funded ranged from marching bands and dance academies to youth football and arts programs.



*Cincinnati Music and Arts presented at a Board of County Commissioners meeting to share the results of the Inspire Youth Initiative grant.*

### Highlights

- 27 organizations received a total of \$3.9 million for youth resiliency programs reaching almost 18,000 youth.
- Mobile Crisis Team expanded to 24/7. To date, 5,459 residents have been assisted.
- 92 organizations received funding through Inspire program reaching more than 13,000 youth.

## 513 RELIEF BUS AND IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES

In June 2021, the County launched the 513Relief Bus to provide resources directly to those who need it most and ensure health and social services are more effectively provided to County residents. Using ARPA funds, the County expanded this program through the procurement of a new bus and expanded medical and social services. The new bus launched in January 2023.

\$5 million in funding is allocated to this program which includes acquisition, programming, and marketing for the bus. In addition to the 513Relief Bus, a portion of this allocation is targeted to improve health outcomes with a focus on cardiovascular disease, as local data shows that cardiovascular related conditions (i.e., high blood pressure, high cholesterol, obesity) are the most prevalent health condition(s) within Hamilton County.

A tour of the 513 Relief Bus can be viewed here: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C9k-0U4vuox/>

### Highlights

- 231 locations since 2021.
- 21,654 residents received services and assistance

### PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: 513 RELIEF BUS - YOUTH EVENT

On April 13, 2024, the 513 Relief Bus partnered with the Hamilton County Office of Youth to host an event aimed at youth and included employment opportunities, free on-site physicals, free haircuts, no-cost birth certificates, and more. A total of 1,013 youths attended the event, with **243 people hired on the spot** (for those that already had a work permit) and **205 physicals were completed**.



## HOUSING

With ARPA funding, the Board of County Commissioners embraced the opportunity to provide strong leadership to make transformational change in housing. **\$46.9 million is allocated** towards this effort and includes mortgage assistance, affordable housing production and preservation, and homelessness prevention as further summarized below. All programs support the Board of County Commissioners priorities of affordable housing and helping residents stay in their homes.

**Affordable Housing Production.** Numerous local and national studies have been published on the need for additional affordable housing. The Board of County Commissioners recognized this need by allocating \$34.3 million for production of new affordable housing and rehabilitation of existing affordable housing units. Of this allocation, \$8 million is targeted specifically for re-entry, senior, and disabled housing. These funds will support low to moderate income households. The first round of funding awards were provided to projects that are shovel ready but had a remaining financing gap due to construction cost increases. Without the Board's commitment to affordable housing and these federal dollars, several of the affordable housing projects that were funded would not have moved forward.

**Affordable Housing Preservation.** To help keep people in their homes, \$1.3 million is allocated for a home repair loan program prioritizing low-income households and those households located in qualified census tracts. The Board recently authorized an agreement with LISC to administer this program that will launch in September.

**Mortgage Assistance.** \$6.2 million is budgeted for mortgage assistance programs for homeowners that are at or below 300% of the federal poverty level.

**Homelessness Prevention.** One of the most effective ways to reduce homelessness is to step in before someone loses their housing. Not only is it more cost-effective, but more importantly, it is less disruptive on the person or family. **\$3 million in ARPA funding is obligated to expand the shelter diversion program** which is targeted to those who have lost their housing, are doubled up, and/or are running out of stable housing options. In addition, **another \$1.89 million is being distributed in grant funds for solutions to prevent homelessness.** Both programs are focused on residents that are in jeopardy of losing their housing. Lastly, **\$150,000 is obligated to assist with emergency housing;** this program is being managed by the Community Action Agency.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- 1,755 households received mortgage assistance.
- Prevented 535 adults and 858 children from homelessness.
- \$19.9 million in awards will create or preserve 724 units of affordable housing. These projects leveraged \$10.57 for every \$1 of ARPA funding.

## TARGETED WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

As reported in the 2023 Annual Recovery Plan Performance Report, two professions hit particularly hard because of the pandemic were childcare teachers and nurses. To help solve these key workforce needs, the Board allocated funding for nursing school expansion and to increase the pipeline for childcare teachers. As a result, \$1.5 million is being provided to Cincinnati State Technical and Community College who will expand their existing nursing program to increase the number of nursing graduates by 100 per year. \$1.8 million is being provided to 4C for Childcare who is using the funding to increase the number of childcare teachers by 100. To date 72 childcare teachers have been trained and employed.

In addition to nursing and childcare teacher shortages, other industries are in high demand for employees. Those include manufacturing, construction and trades, mental health, transportation, IT, and hospitality. To assist these industries, the Board released a grant application to expand workforce development training programs within these industries. A total of \$1.9 million in funding is being deployed, and through March 31, 2024, more than 1,300 residents are being served.

### Highlights

- \$1.9 million in workforce development grants deployed.
- \$1.5 million in funding to help address nursing shortage.
- \$1.8 million in funding to help address childcare teacher shortage. 72 childcare teachers have been trained and employed.

### PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT – BUILDING FUTURES

In 2023, the Board authorized a \$225,000 grant with the Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio to pilot a new workforce training program. Building Futures is a twelve-week pre-apprenticeship readiness program designed to provide participants with the skills and trade-specific instruction to enter an apprenticeship. In addition to the specific training, participants are provided a stipend, supportive services, and case management. The first class of 14 graduated in May 2024 with certifications including OSHA-10 and industry recognized credentials from North America’s Building Trades Union. Three participants obtained employment before graduation as a bricklayer, carpenter, and laborer. The second class received 74 applications (for 20 openings) and began at the end of April.

# USES OF FUNDS

## INTRODUCTION

ARPA provided Hamilton County with a once-in-a-generation opportunity to address the most significant impacts of the pandemic while ensuring that the community emerges more resilient. Previous Recovery Plan Performance Reports detailed the County’s approach to developing its programs, including community and stakeholder engagement.

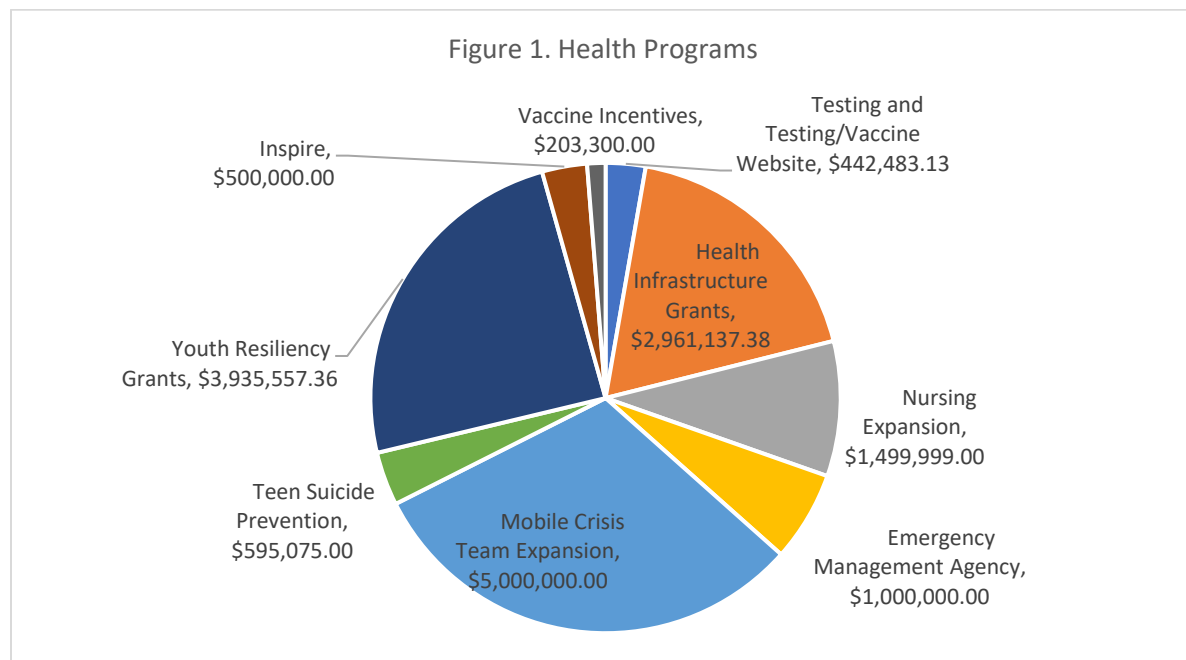
As some programs closed out in 2023, the Board amended its ARPA budget as necessary to reallocate funding to expand existing budgets or add new programs. For example, given the demand for continued mortgage assistance, the Board reallocated remaining funding to this line item. This type of action is anticipated to continue throughout 2024 to ensure the County’s plan remains flexible to community needs.

## USES OF ARPA FUNDING

Through its stakeholder and public process, the Board of County Commissioners allocated funding in several categories to assist Hamilton County as an organization and the community continue to recover from the impacts of the pandemic. There is recognition though that the funding levels associated with each program described in this report, and the programs themselves, may fluctuate as the programs are procured, monitored, and closed out.

### PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS

Through its ARPA funding, **\$16.1 million** has been and is being used to address mental health and build resiliency among youth and for health infrastructure. Figure 1 illustrates the budget breakdown of programming targeted to public health.



### **COVID-19 RESPONSE**

As more specifically detailed in the Project Inventory section of this report, \$4.6 million is being used to directly respond to COVID-19. The following programs supported the Board of County Commissioners goal of providing resources to address urgent needs from the pandemic during its height and when most needed. Most of the following programs have concluded.

1. Provided no-cost testing for the general public with two of the three sites located in Qualified Census Tracts. This program concluded in April 2023.
2. Developed a one-stop website for vaccination and testing locations. This program has ended.
3. Purchased and distributed PPE for small non-profits and local governments, including warehousing for the supplies, storage for the 513 Relief Bus and other Public Health vehicles used for vaccinations.
4. Provided grants for hospital systems focused on mitigation and prevention to include projects such as ventilation improvements, COVID-19 related expenses for prevention and mitigation, enhancement of public health data systems, or acquisition of equipment for COVID-19 prevention and treatment. Most of the grants have been completed.
5. Incentivized County employees to get vaccinated. This program is complete.

### **MENTAL HEALTH**

**\$10 million in ARPA funding is being used to help address the mental health impacts** that were exacerbated by the pandemic. Of these funds, \$5 million has been obligated to expand the mental health mobile crisis team that launched in April 2023. More than \$4 million is being used for youth resiliency programs: \$3.9 million has been obligated in grants to youth organizations to expand their services and overcome barriers to participation; \$500,000 is allocated for smaller organizations to purchase supplies such as uniforms and fund participation in field trips. \$595,075 was allocated via grants for youth suicide prevention.

### **NURSING**

Like many areas of the country, the COVID-19 pandemic has strained health care delivery systems. The emotional and physical distress led many nurses and clinical staff to leave the profession. As such, **\$1.5 million in ARPA funding has been obligated to help address the nursing shortage**. In addition to one time expansion costs to allow local schools to accept more students, funding is being used to reduce any barriers to enrollment.

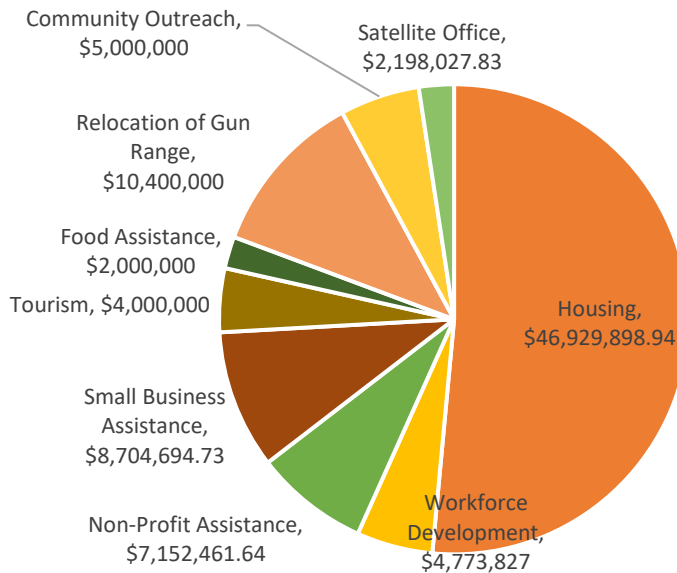
## **PUBLIC HEALTH – NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS: PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY**

**\$1.1 million is allocated to help address the backlog of criminal cases**. This funding is being used to pay salaries for paralegals and attorneys within the Hamilton County Prosecutor’s Office. **\$2.1 million is allocated to Hamilton County Courts to upgrade courtroom technology** to make trials more efficient by allowing virtual hearings, provide access in the event there is another public health emergency, provide greater access for those who may have hearing, visual, or language impairments.

## **NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS**

Of the total amount of ARPA funding, 57%, or \$91 million, is allocated to programs to help address and minimize negative economic impacts. Figure 2 provides a summary of the broad categories of programs that have been or will be implemented.

Figure 2. Negative Economic Impacts



## HOUSING

**\$46.9 million is allocated for housing** and includes mortgage assistance, affordable housing production and preservation, and homelessness prevention as further summarized below.

- **Affordable Housing Production.** **\$26.4 million is allocated for production of new affordable housing** and rehabilitation of existing affordable housing units. Of this allocation, \$8 million is targeted specifically for re-entry, senior, and disabled housing. These funds will support low to moderate income households. The County has partnered with Cincinnati Development Fund to deploy this funding as further described in the Project Inventory section.
- **Affordable Housing Preservation.** The Board authorized **\$9.3 million** for this purpose and includes **\$8 million to renovate** existing single family and multi-family affordable housing and **\$1.3 million for a homeowner repair program**. Both programs focus on low-moderate income households and the home repair loan program will prioritize low-income households and those households located in Qualified Census Tracts when the program launches this fall.
- **Homelessness Prevention.** **\$3 million in ARPA funding is obligated to expand the existing shelter diversion program** which is targeted to those who have lost their housing, are doubled up, and/or are running out of stable housing options. **Another \$1.89 million is obligated for innovative solutions to prevent homelessness**. Both programs focus on residents that are in jeopardy of losing their housing and are being administered by Strategies to End Homelessness. \$150,000 is obligated for emergency housing through a subrecipient agreement with Community Action Agency.
- **Mortgage Assistance.** **\$6.2 million** is budgeted for mortgage assistance programs for homeowners that are at or below 300% of the federal poverty level.

### **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

**\$4.7 million in ARPA funding is allocated for workforce development** and is intended to improve economic success for both residents and companies through programs that connect people to careers with upward mobility and financial stability and that help employers find, develop and retain talent. This allocation includes two areas of investment:

1. **Workforce Development Training Grants.** This funding will support existing training/apprentice programs that are aligned with identified target industries with a specific focus on reducing barriers to participation. In addition, this funding will increase the number of childcare teachers. This funding is obligated to 4C for Children who will conduct intentional outreach to potential candidates, training, credentialing, background checks, etc.
2. **Enhance collaboration and service delivery of workforce partners.** Hamilton County is home to a rich ecosystem of workforce development, education and training programs for adults. However, there is room for better alignment and more connectivity between employers, workforce development partners, and employees to improve outcomes. As such, ARPA funds have been obligated to the Southwest Ohio Workforce Council to provide necessary coordination.

### **SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE**

The Board of County Commissioners allocated **\$8.7 million to assist small businesses** overcome the negative financial impacts of COVID-19 and become more financially sustainable. This program aligns with the Board of County Commissioners focus on small business assistance and helps leverage existing efforts, such as the launch of Hamilton County's first Office of Small Business (through the use of non-ARPA funding). Of this amount:

1. **\$1.5 million** is allocated to small business advisory services. The goal of this program is to help small businesses be more financially sustainable by providing expert advisory services in the following areas: accounting; IT/computer literacy; legal; marketing/social media/websites. This program launched in May of 2023 and remains in operation.
2. **\$7.2 million** was distributed in small business grants. In 2020, through the use of CARES Act funds, the County provided two rounds of small business grants. A third round was launched in the fall of 2021 with remaining CARES Act funding and a portion of ARPA and a fourth round of grant funding was released in May 2023 with applications due in late June. Combining all four rounds of funding (CARES + ARPA), 2,000 grants were distributed. This program is now closed.

### **NON-PROFIT ASSISTANCE**

The Board spent more than **\$7 million to provide grants** in the following three categories which were administered by United Way (results are provide in the Project Inventory section):

1. Non-profits that could demonstrate a revenue loss due to the pandemic.
2. Non-profits that provide assistance to households that were negatively impacted by the pandemic.
3. Non-profits with \$500,000 or less in annual revenues and provide direct social and family services to residents who have been negatively impacted by pandemic. This category of grants was developed after it was identified that some of the smaller non-profit organizations struggled with the prior application process.

Grant funding was deployed in 2022. This program is complete.

### **513 RELIEF AND IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES**

In June 2021, the County launched the 513Relief Bus, in partnership with UC Medical Center, to provide resources directly to those who need it most. This mobile effort provided no-cost vaccinations and Hamilton County Job and Family Services was also on-site to provide rent and utility relief and other critical social services. With **\$5 million in ARPA funds**, the County expanded this program through the procurement of a permanent bus and enhanced the medical and social services provided. This expanded program launched on January 26, 2023, and is an example of Hamilton County's efforts to reduce barriers to accessing services.

In addition to the 513Relief Bus, a portion of this allocation is obligated to improve health outcomes. The Board entered into an agreement with Center for Closing the Health Gap in May 2023 to focus on cardiovascular diseases, as local data shows that cardiovascular related conditions (i.e., high blood pressure, high cholesterol, obesity) are the most prevalent health condition(s) within Hamilton County, and diabetes.

### **RELOCATION OF GUN RANGE**

**\$10.4 million** in funding is allocated to relocate the Cincinnati Police Department gun range given its impacts on the Village of Lincoln Heights. The movement of the gun range will improve the health of the childhood environment and address a long-standing problem on a disproportionately affected population.

### **TOURISM ASSISTANCE**

The American Rescue Plan Act emphasized the need to help with the recovery of the hospitality industry as it was the hardest hit industry. Hamilton County **allocated and has spent \$4 million to help the tourism industry** rebound from shutdowns, reduced hotel occupancy, and two years of reduced travel. Funding was divided equally between the following programs:

1. Arts and Cultural Grants – **Hamilton County distributed \$2 million** in grants to arts/cultural organizations that demonstrated a revenue loss due to the pandemic. This program is complete.
2. Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) - CVB's mission is to promote the Greater Cincinnati area as a convention and leisure destination. Their marketing efforts help drive visitors to visit and spend in Hamilton County. As with the rest of the tourism industry, the CVB experienced a significant decline in revenue due to the pandemic. **\$2 million in ARPA funding** is allowing the CVB to re-engage its marketing efforts to bring tourists back to Hamilton County and support the small businesses, hotels, and hospitality industry that depends on tourism.

### **FOOD ASSISTANCE**

**\$2 million** has been obligated to emergency food assistance for low-income individuals and families. The Board of County Commissioners authorized this funding to help with the continued demand.

### **SATELLITE OFFICE**

To integrate County services more effectively into the community and to provide services available to residents and business impacted by the pandemic, the County intends to use up to **\$2.2 million of ARPA** funding to develop a satellite facility. This office will be centrally located for services around multiple Qualified Census Tracts and significantly more accessible for residents than driving to downtown Cincinnati to access government services. This will also provide enhanced engagement with communities and their residents. The office is currently under renovation. Funding may also be used, if needed, to provide County facility improvements designed to offset COVID-19 impacts.

## REVENUE REPLACEMENT

The calculation of revenue loss was completed by the County Budget Office using the formula required by US Department of Treasury. The 2021 revenue reduction due to the COVID-19 pandemic is \$41,935,127. Of this amount, the Board allocated **\$32 million** of its ARPA funding for government services, primarily for public safety and judicial staffing functions.

## COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

**\$12.7 million** is currently allocated for community infrastructure: **\$3.3 million** for broadband and \$9.4 million for sewer. As previously reported, before recommending any specific broadband programs though, it was necessary to better understand and examine the specific gaps, if any, to direct the most effective use of ARPA funding. As such, the County engaged a consultant to inventory the status of reliable, high-quality broadband and recommend the most effective use of funds to close identified gaps in service, access, or affordability. The report was finalized in the fall of 2022 and concluded that ARPA funding should not be used for investments in broadband infrastructure except where that infrastructure is built to address digital equity/digital inclusion issues (largely inside buildings), as the ISPs currently provide, or will expand their service to deliver, broadband data services at data throughput speeds exceeding those required to satisfy unserved and underserved areas.

Based on this information, in late 2023, the County partnered with United Way to deploy up to \$1 million in grants to expand public wi-fi.

In addition to investment in broadband infrastructure, the Board allocated **\$9.4 million for sewer and stormwater projects**. \$5 million of this funding has been obligated to support the extension of sewer service into the western portion of Hamilton County along SR 128 which is a Qualified Census Tract. \$358,000 was spent to remedy cross-connections, which is now complete. The remaining funds are being deployed as grants for construction of stormwater projects.

## PREMIUM PAY

**\$1.9 million** was spent on financial payments to eligible workers (performing essential work) during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Designations of employees were made by the respective managers based upon their knowledge of the individual positions, the work, and application of the Department of the Treasury rules and regulations. These funds have been expended and the program is complete.

## ADMINISTRATIVE

**\$1.5 million** is included in the County's Plan for staff to administer ARPA grant funding and ancillary programming. For instance, this activity will include funding for staff overseeing grant programming, reporting requirements, and financial tracking. In addition, funding was used for consultants to assist with equity, program development/refinement, and compliance.

## NATURAL DISASTERS

In 2023, the US Treasury expanded the uses of ARPA funds to mitigate the impacts of expected disasters a community has identified. The 2019 Hamilton County Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) states that the county could expect to have 9,600 affected residents seeking shelter in a disaster. However, Hamilton County and local mass care partners do not have the capacity to address this need. To begin building Hamilton County's capacity to support mass care efforts and reduce

reliance on outside assistance, Hamilton County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) has set a goal to procure sufficient supplies for 1,200 residents and their pets. With ARPA funds, EMA proposes purchasing additional supplies, as well as the transportation equipment to rapidly deploy those resources. This project will allow EMA to support one large shelter or multiple smaller shelters as needed. It also helps address a clear gap in disaster preparedness capabilities, and most importantly, will directly go to meeting the most basic needs of our community in a time of crisis. **The Board allocated \$200,000** for this purpose.

## OTHER FEDERAL RECOVERY FUNDS

### EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS 1 AND 2

In addition to ARPA funding, Hamilton County is the recipient of Emergency Rental Assistance Programs 1 and 2 which are administered by Hamilton County Job and Family Services. Since April 2021, JFS assisted almost 15,000 renters, 71 percent of whom are Black or African American. This program has concluded.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

As previously reported, while many of the Board-approved programs were launched in late 2021/early 2022, there were several categories of programs that required more input and expertise to ensure the most effective and transformational use of the funding. As more thoroughly described in the 2021 Recovery Plan Performance Report, Hamilton County brought together stakeholders to develop recommended programs for the Board of County Commissioner's consideration. This process was in addition and subsequent to the Board of County Commissioners initial public process that included four stakeholder input sessions involving both internal and external organizations to provide input on community needs and two public hearings held on May 25 and May 27, 2021.

Hamilton County shared grant applications or RFPs on its website and sent them to an email distribution list of approximately 7,000 organizations and businesses.

## PROMOTING EQUITABLE OUTCOMES

Hamilton County strives to develop strategies that promote fair treatment, equal access, opportunity, and advancement for all people, while at the same time working to identify and eliminate barriers that may be preventing participation of some groups.

In general, the majority of Hamilton County's ARPA funded programs are targeted and directed to impacted or disproportionately impacted populations. Furthermore, as summarized in the Project Inventory, many of the programs are focused on identifying barriers to participation and how to overcome them.

As described throughout this report, the County is allocating \$91 million across several areas to minimize the negative economic impact of the pandemic and assist those who have been impacted by the pandemic. A snapshot of the County's ARPA funding and its emphasis on improving access and eliminating barriers include:

- Mortgage and utility assistance is targeted to low-to-moderate income individuals and households. The County contracted with a firm to work with communities and residents so the County can better serve residents that are eligible for the mortgage and rental programs, and, through community-based engagement strategies, help remove any perceived or real barriers to accessing the assistance and Hamilton County contracted with United Way to help residents that may struggle completing the application process. To date, **50% of recipients are minorities.**
- Support to small and minority-owned businesses. In the fourth round of small business grants, **65% of grant recipients were minority owned.** When looking at the aggregate of the four

rounds of grants, 54% were provided to minority owned businesses. Additionally, the small business technical assistance program that launched in May 2023 is intended to prioritize businesses with 0-10 employees and, to date, it is accomplishing this goal as 97 percent of the businesses have 10 or fewer employees.

- \$34 million is targeted to new affordable housing and renovation of existing affordable housing. So far, \$19.9 million is in the process of being deployed to create or preserve 724 units. **Four grant awards have been provided to small developers.**
- \$3.9 million is allocated to organizations that focus on youth resiliency. 85% of the awards are focused on low-income youth and grantees were encouraged to identify ways to overcome barriers such as transportation and reducing fees. Based on initial reporting, more than half of the youth are Black or African American.
- A \$1.3 million home repair program will launch this year and will **prioritize those homeowners in Qualified Census Tracts and those that are disproportionately impacted** (as defined by the American Rescue Plan Act).
- Workforce development training grants are connecting underemployed and unemployed people to careers with upward mobility and financial stability. **Funding is being targeted to identifying and overcoming barriers for residents to participate in training programs.** Examples include scholarships, wrap around services, translation services, and earn to learn.
- Funding is being spent to expand the number of residents that can be helped through the Shelter Diversion Program which focuses on preventing homelessness. To date, 86% of participants were Black/African American.
- The Board provided an additional round of non-profit grants focused on small non-profits based on feedback received from the community. 28 organizations received grant funding for family and social services.
- The 513Relief Bus visits neighborhoods where residents may not have easy access to medical services, workforce development, mental health, or other social services.
  - o This program removes transportation and access barriers by meeting residents where they are.
  - o The bus includes a wheelchair lift to ensure all residents can access services.
  - o 83% of users had incomes below \$31,000 (2024).
  - o 79% of users were Black/African American (2024).
- Hamilton County has partnered with The Center for Closing the Health Gap to provide outreach



**MONDAY, JUNE 24TH | 10AM-3PM**  
**Western Hills - Talbert House** (4968 Glenway Ave. 45238)

- Glucose Monitoring/Screening, Blood Pressure Screening, Cholesterol Screening by **Talbert House**
- Depression, Anxiety and Substance Use Screening provided by **Talbert House**
- Expungement Services by **Hamilton County Public Defender**
- Peer Support Services, Substance Use Assessments, Transportation to Treatment Services by **Addiction Services Council**
- Mortgage, SNAP, Medicaid, Child Support, Workforce Development, & more by **Hamilton County Job & Family Services**
- Resources and Support for Older Adults and Caregivers by **Council on Aging**



and education to improve health outcomes focused predominately on cardiovascular conditions and diabetes. This effort is focusing on residents in concentrated disadvantaged communities.

- \$10.4 million in ARPA funding is being used to relocate the Cincinnati Police Department gun range given its impact on the Village of Lincoln Heights residents. The movement of the gun range will improve the health of the childhood environment and address a long-standing problem on a disproportionately impacted population.
- COVID-19 no-cost testing sites were available with two of the three sites located in Qualified Census Tracts to improve access.
- Through the use of \$5 million in ARPA, a new sewer extension will be constructed that is **located in Qualified Census Tract**.
- \$1.5 million has been obligated to Cincinnati State to address the nursing shortage and increase the number of LPN and RNs from underrepresented backgrounds. Through the nursing expansion program, a portion of the funding is being used for start-up costs for a Nursing Success Strategies designed to help nursing students succeed in two key courses that have been shown to be stumbling blocks of students.

## LABOR PRACTICES

Hamilton County's use of ARPA funds will include infrastructure projects, but at this time, those projects are in the early planning stages. The County will report on whether any of the following practices were being utilized: project labor agreements, community benefits agreements, prevailing wage requirements, and local hiring.

## USE OF EVIDENCE

Hamilton County anticipates a few of its programs to be considered evidence-based interventions, including the following:

### *Homelessness Prevention*

- Shelter Diversion: Local data demonstrates the effectiveness in outcomes from Shelter Diversion programs<sup>1</sup>
- Innovation Grants: Grant applicants will be required to notate any evidence-based interventions.

### *Mental Health*

- Mobile Crisis Team: Studies have demonstrated the effectiveness of mobile crisis teams<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.strategiestoendhomelessness.org/wp-content/uploads/2021-demographics-data.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/12351029\\_Evaluation\\_of\\_a\\_Mobile\\_Crisis\\_Program\\_Effectiveness\\_Efficiency\\_and\\_Consumer\\_Satisfaction](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/12351029_Evaluation_of_a_Mobile_Crisis_Program_Effectiveness_Efficiency_and_Consumer_Satisfaction)

- Youth Resiliency Grants: Studies have showed the positive impact that outdoor activities and after school programs have on youth<sup>3</sup>.
- Suicide Prevention Grants: Grant applicants will be required to notate any evidence-based interventions.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://news.ncsu.edu/2021/11/outdoor-activity-tied-to-mental-health-of-teens-young-adults-during-covid-19-pandemic/>

# PROJECT INVENTORY & PERFORMANCE REPORTING

The following provides a brief description of all projects that are in progress or under development and are categorized as such. This section also reports on each program's performance to date.

## PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEMS

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### COVID-19 TESTING

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$200,360

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$200,360

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 1.2 COVID-19 TESTING

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: PH-1003

#### Overview

The Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners spent \$200,360 in ARPA funding to provide for additional PCR testing for residents. Procurement occurred in January 2022 and the Board entered into an agreement with Ethos Laboratories effective April 4, 2022, for the operation of three no-cost PCR testing sites. Ethos provided no-cost PCR testing at up to three locations. Two of the three sites that were operational through June 2022 were located in Qualified Census Tracts intended to be focused on disproportionately impacted populations (as defined by ARPA) and to reduce barriers to testing such as transportation and cost. The agreement expired on April 3, 2023, and the program has concluded given decreased usage.

#### Performance Report

Performance metrics are reported on a monthly basis to include number of participants disaggregated by race and ethnicity. Program results were included in the 2023 Annual Performance Recovery Report.

### COVID-19 TESTING AND VACCINATION WEBSITE AND COORDINATION

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$242,123.13

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$242,123.13

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 1.7 OTHER COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EXPENSES  
(INCLUDING COMMUNICATIONS, ENFORCEMENT, ISOLATION/QUARANTINE)

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: PH-1003

#### Overview

ARPA funds were used for a centralized website for COVID-19 testing and vaccination locations. In addition, The Health Collaborative previously provided vaccination coordination including: convening regional vaccine providers to share surveillance data, track progress, address challenges, and accelerate vaccine uptake; managing organization and communication of regional vaccine dashboard with Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, and sharing vaccine data on routine basis for situational awareness and planning. This phase concluded in September 2022. Beginning on October 1, 2022, the program transitioned to a centralized website only managed by Hamilton County Public Health. This program ended in December 2023.

### Performance Report

Monthly metrics include unique page views as summarized in Figure 3. The number of page views has decreased since the inception of the website in early 2022 which is to be expected given the decline in COVID-19 cases.

Figure 3: COVID-19 Testing and Vaccine Website Usage

Website Metrics	3/15/22 - 12/30/23
Unique Page Views	30,853
Total Page Views	39,851
Average Time on Site	1:52

## HAMILTON COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$1.0 MILLION

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$537,612.29

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 1.5 PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: CD-1015

### Overview

Hamilton County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (EMA) is being supported with ongoing eligible expenses related to the COVID-19 public health emergency including sourcing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), warehousing/storage of the PPE and COVID-related vehicles, such as the 513 Relief Bus, and administrative staff overseeing this project

### Performance Report

In 2023 and the first half of 2024, EMA provided 182,000 masks, gloves, and gowns to fire departments, developmental disabilities, and other organizations.

## VACCINE INCENTIVES FOR HAMILTON COUNTY EMPLOYEES

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$203,300

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$203,300

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 1.1, COVID-19 VACCINATION

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: PH-1008

### Overview:

Each Hamilton County employee who presented evidence of being vaccinated received a \$100 incentive to be processed via the regular payroll system. The program was open from August – October 2021.

### Performance Reporting

Of the approximately 4,500 employees, 2,052 or 46 percent of the workforce participated in this program. This program is completed.

## COVID-19 MITIGATION AND PROTECTION HEALTH CARE INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$2,961,137.38

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$1,801,003.66

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES  
 IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: PH-1003B

Overview:

The availability of ARPA funds provides an opportunity for the community to ensure that physical health and preparedness infrastructure is available to respond to future waves of COVID-19. These funds were deployed through a grant process for projects that are: in response to and mitigate COVID-19; for ventilation improvements, COVID-19 related expenses for prevention and mitigation; an enhancement of public health data systems; or for acquisition of equipment for COVID-19 prevention and treatment. Table 1 provides a summary of the grant funding.

**Table 1. Healthcare Provider Grants**

Organization	Amount	Purpose
Mercy Health Cincinnati	\$264,761	Negative air pressure rooms and ventilation improvements
First Step Home	\$78,921.79	Ventilation improvements and telehealth
Crossroad Health Center (PQHC)	\$22,585	Ventilation improvements
Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health	\$24,600	Ventilation improvements
University of Cincinnati Medical Center	\$1,473,055.59	Installation of negative air pressure rooms in Emergency Department
Cincinnati Children's Hospital	\$1,097,214	Enhanced public health data system

Performance Report

All projects are complete with the exception of Mercy Health and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital.

**EXPANSION OF LOCAL NURSING PROGRAMS**

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$1,499,999

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$48,600

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 1.14 OTHER HEALTH SERVICES

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: PH-1003C

Overview

The COVID-19 pandemic has strained health care delivery systems in the Greater Cincinnati region. During the COVID-19 pandemic, more than 1,300 additional health workers left their jobs beyond typical turnover, according to the Health Collaborative. Investing in expansion of existing nursing programs can help address this shortage.

The County issued a grant application to expand local nursing program(s) to allow for additional students to enroll in LPN and RN programs. A subrecipient agreement was approved in June 2023 with Cincinnati State who will expand their program to accept an additional 100 students per year. Grant funding is being used for the following purposes:

1. Build out their LPN skills lab;
2. Provide one-year start up salary costs for additional STNA, LPN, and RN instructors;
3. Provide scholarships for students with priority on low income;
4. Provide start-up funding for a Nursing Success Strategies course as data reveals that a stumbling block for retaining disadvantaged nursing students is two key courses in the first year of the clinical program. This new course is designed to overcome this stumbling block.
5. Partner with The Health Collaborative, Center for Closing the Health Gap, and Black Nurses Association of Greater Cincinnati.

### Performance Reporting

Cincinnati State anticipates, among other outcomes, expanding enrollment by 100 students/year; maintaining a 75 percent graduation rate; and maintaining a 95 percent job placement rate. Outcomes will be reported in future Recovery Plan Performance Reports. The new nursing skills lab is expected to be open in August 2024.

## EXPANSION OF MOBILE CRISIS TEAM

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$5 MILLION

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$901,421.74

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 1.12 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: PH-1004A

### Overview

Mobile Crisis Teams provide crisis intervention/de-escalation, referral and/or follow-up to a mental health provider. The goal is to ameliorate a crisis in the least restrictive setting for the immediate protection of the health and safety of the persons involved. Through the use of ARPA funding, the Mobile Crisis Team has expanded to 24/7. Hamilton County Mental Health and Recovery Board is overseeing this program. The program expansion began in April 2023.

### Evidence-Based Interventions

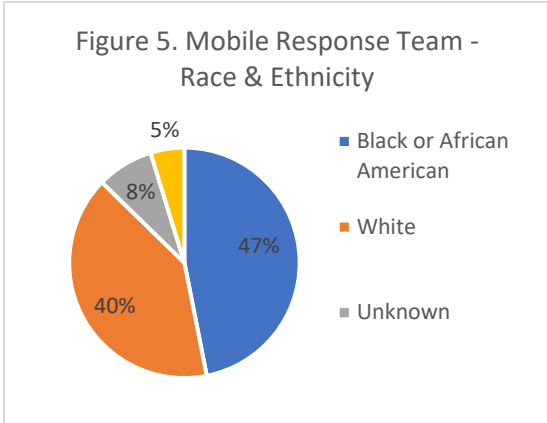
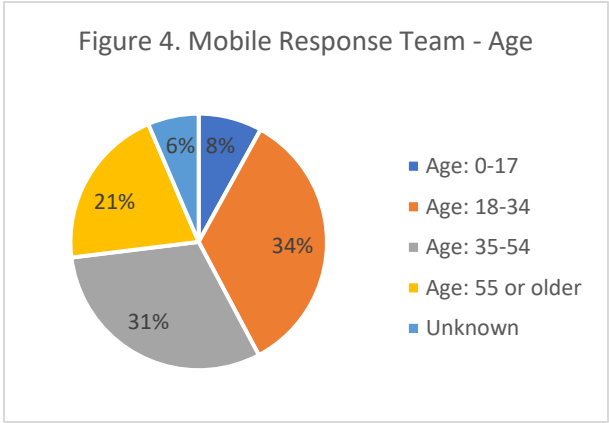
There are studies that show the benefits of mobile crisis teams and their impact on emergency departments<sup>4</sup>.

### Performance Reporting

The expansion of the mobile crisis team launched in April 2023. Results through March 31, 2024 are summarized in Figures 4 - 5. The total population served is 5,459 (unique is 3,775).

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<sup>4</sup>[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/12351029\\_Evaluation\\_of\\_a\\_Mobile\\_Crisis\\_Program\\_Effectiveness\\_Efficiency\\_and\\_Consumer\\_Satisfaction](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/12351029_Evaluation_of_a_Mobile_Crisis_Program_Effectiveness_Efficiency_and_Consumer_Satisfaction)



**TEEN SUICIDE PREVENTION**

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$595,075  
 EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$355,198.17  
 PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 1.12 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES  
 IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: PH-1004B

**Overview**

Given the teen mental health concerns that were exacerbated by COVID-19 shutdowns and social isolation, almost \$600,000 in ARPA funding is assisting organizations that provide direct services for teen mental health and suicide prevention. Grant applications were solicited during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2022 and agreements were awarded in 2023 to the organizations listed in Table 2. In the 2023 annual report, it was noted that \$818,775 had been obligated. Since that time, one grantee was unable to accept the grant award.

**Table 2. Teen Suicide Prevention Grants**

Organization	Amount	Purpose
1N5	\$188,000	Expansion of Building Resiliency in Youth program
Catholic Charities of Southwest Ohio	\$70,000	Suicide prevention for Spanish speaking youth
Best Point	\$112,075	Pediatric mental health urgent care clinic to serve as an alternative to and to reduce the demand on local emergency departments
Mental Health America	\$225,000	Teen mental health first aid program

**Evidence-Based Interventions**

Grant applicants detailed if any of their direct services are evidence-based interventions. According to their applications, the following evidence-based interventions are being used: Catholic Charities of Southwest Ohio - Dialectical Behavioral Therapy; 1N5 - QPR Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Training, Signs of Suicide; Best Point - Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale; Mental Health America - Teen Mental Health First Aid.

**Performance Reporting**

Through the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024, grantees reported interacting with 31,090 youth and teachers. Of this amount, approximately 35 percent were Black/African American and Catholic Charities program targeted an underserved population with 92.82 percent Hispanic.

### SPOTLIGHT ON BEST POINT

Best Point was awarded a \$112,075 grant to expand their pilot pediatric mental health urgent care clinic to provide an alternative to and reduce the demand on local emergency departments. To date, Best Point has served 285 clients.

“A recent client had a barrier to getting additional support due to insurance coverage. During her visit at the urgent care clinic, the team was able to get rapidly connected with Ohio Rise to expand insurance coverage and connect to a partial hospitalization program to best meet her current level of care and move toward stabilization.” Best Point

### BUILDING YOUTH RESILIENCY

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$3,935,557.36

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$2,399,221.62

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 1.12 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: PH-1004C

#### Overview

To help address the impacts of social isolation and build resiliency in youth and teens, ARPA funds are being used to expand youth and teen programs focused on outdoor activities, extracurriculars, mentorships, after school and summer programs, etc. \$3.9 million in awards have been obligated, summarized in Table 3. While this program is open to all youth given the mental health impacts that were exacerbated by the pandemic, 85% of the awarded grants are to organizations that serve low-income youth. In addition, applicants were encouraged to identify ways their program can reduce barriers which include transportation, provision of food or technology, and financial aid.

#### Evidence-Based Interventions

Grant applicants detailed if any of their direct services are evidence-based interventions and were primarily those that are focused on mentoring.

#### Performance Reporting

Organizations that received funding to expand their youth and teen programs are required to submit quarterly and annual reports. Through the first quarter of 2024, grantees reported working with a total of 17,000 youth. Of this amount, approximately 57 percent were Black/African American.

### SPOTLIGHT ON GREEN TEAM PROGRAM

Groundwork ORV received a grant in the amount of \$164,200 to expand their Green Team program that prepares high school students for jobs through paid after school training positions in natural resource management, urban agriculture, etc. During the summer of 2023, 90 youth were employed through this program. Additional information on the program and its impact can be found here:

<https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/ohio/stories-in-ohio/partnership-creates-opportunity-for-youth/>

**Table 3. Youth Resiliency Grantees**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Clifton Cultural Arts	\$55,636	After school program with STEM and Arts programs.
My Cincinnati Youth Orchestra	\$122,500	Music education program.
GRAD	\$224,000	Mentorship program.
Guiding Light	\$23,800	Mentorship program.
Kennedy Heights Art Center	\$74,708	Youth Jazz program.
Families Forward	\$100,000	After school program on music, arts and technology.
Cincinnati Youth Collaborative	\$105,000	Mentoring program.
Adopt A Class	\$165,000	Mentoring program.
Girl Scouts of Western Ohio	\$150,000	Provide for additional Girl Scout programs at no cost.
Urban League	\$225,000	Paid youth internship program.
Groundwork Ohio River Valley	\$164,200	Paid internship program.
Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Cincinnati	\$225,000	After-school program.
ArtWorks	\$224,000	Apprenticeship program in the arts.
Tristate Education and Tech	\$131,857	After-school STEM program.
Talbert House	\$60,000	Summer camp.
Jewish Community Center	\$198,160	Extended summer camp.
IKRON	\$142,500	Youth support services through social skills building and group counseling.
Cincinnati Urban Promise	\$219,000	Summer enrichment STEM program.
BLOC Ministries, Inc.	\$198,487	After-school programs.
Art Academy of Cincinnati	\$70,000	Arts enrichment program.
Peaslee Neighborhood Center	\$197,376	Summer camp to hire youth to gain employment experience, mentor opportunities, field trips.
Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati	\$113,850	Sensory games, created for children with autism to increase self-awareness and self-esteem.
Refresh Collective	\$171,160	Print shop training program for special needs youth and acquire certifications music and arts.
CincySmiles Foundation	\$147,300	Youth ambassadors to gain employable skills and self-esteem through corrected dental procedures.
Best Point	\$173,637	Employment opportunities for at risk youth.
Learning Grove	\$145,000	Mentoring program.
Golden Gloves	\$111,816	Competitive amateur boxing club.

## INSPIRE – YOUTH PROGRAMS

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$500,000

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$461,511.10

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 1.12 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: PH-1005

### Overview

\$500,000 was allocated for youth organizations to receive up to \$5,000 in supplies, uniforms, and field trips. Applications for this allocation are currently under review. The County purchased and supplied the items directly to the organizations (as beneficiaries).

### Evidence-Based Interventions

N/A

### Performance Reporting

92 organizations serving a total of more than 13,000 low-mod income youth received up to \$5,000 in supplies to help youth have new experiences, uniforms, and equipment. Table 4 summarizes the funding that has been awarded.

“With the grant, we are able to purchase essential wellness items that are crucial for the physical and mental well-being of our youth. These items include yoga mats, fidget toys, resistance bands, meditation cushions, and other equipment that promote a healthy and active lifestyle. In addition to the wellness items, the grant allowed us to organize yoga practice sessions for underserved youth in our community. These sessions are beneficial in helping them develop essential life skills such as focus, discipline, and self-awareness. The impact of this grant on our community has been remarkable. These wellness items and self-care practices will provide over 1,000 youth in Hamilton County with valuable tools to manage stress and anxiety.” Preston Brown Foundation

“Without contributions like yours, we wouldn’t be able to carry out our 2023 Bright Star Summer Camp Enrichment Program at Bright Star Youth Center which addresses the needs of at-risk youth from low-income families. We accomplish this by providing nutritional meals, physical activity, educational enrichment opportunities, Field Trips, and Summertime Fun for the youth of Cincinnati. Your support helps us carry out our mission of Developing Strong Families, Improving the Lives of Young People and Changing the Face of the Community and in helping those in need here in the Inner-City West End of Cincinnati.” Bright Star

**Table 4. Inspire Awardees**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Zip Code:</b>	<b># Youth</b>	<b>Funding</b>
Academy for Technologists Extraordinaire, Inc	45251	200	\$ 4,996.86
Activities Beyond The Classroom	45203	60	\$ 5,000.00
America's Youngest CEO's Media Group	45232	60	\$ 4,964.50
Arabesque Dance Academy	45224	129	\$ 4,999.48
Arts Connect	45231	50	\$ 4,993.00
Black Ice Drill Team	45224	50	\$ 4,950.00
Bright Star Community Church	45214	100	\$ 5,000.00
Brown Hands Literacy	45231	100	\$ 4,994.24
Cheviot Police Association	45211	150	\$ 3,000.00
Cincinnati Music and Arts Program	45213	60	\$ 4,998.00
Cincinnati Squash Academy	45202	40	\$ 4,991.00
Cincinnati Urban Promise	45211	120	\$ 4,981.97
DSM Music Institute	45224	25	\$ 5,000.00
Evanston Bulldogs Youth Association	45207	102	\$ 4,980.00
First Generation Leaders of America	45241	60	\$ 4,998.53
Flame of Fire Ministries Covenant Church	45241	80	\$ 4,947.04
Gamma phi Delta Sorority	45215	10	\$ 3,500.00
Genesis Academy Learning Center	45239	30	\$ 4,945.57
Genesis Academy Learning Center 2	45239	25	\$ 4,979.69
Get Everything U Foundation	45215	26	\$ 5,000.00
Giving Kids A Fighting Chance	45231	30	\$ 4,990.16
H.E.R. Holloman Enterprise Resources	45224	17	\$ 4,996.88
Hodge-EDU	45213	45	\$ 4,921.35
House of Yahudah	45231	15	\$ 4,705.10
Literacy Network of Greater Cincinnati DBA Queen City Book Bank	45203	2500	\$ 5,000.00
Millvale Community Center	45225	30	\$ 4,894.51
Mshauri Mentoring Program Inc.	45229	20	\$ 4,996.90
Mt Moriah Missionary Baptist Church	45215	15	\$ 5,000.00
NAMI Urban Greater Cincinnati Network on Mental Illness	45207	25	\$ 4,326.61
Nepali Language and Arts Center	45239	60	\$ 4,999.27
Platinum Music "edu"tainment	45236	200	\$ 1,040.00
Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church	45214	15	\$ 4,600.07

Power Forward Athletics	45217	260	\$ 4,991.27
Preston Brown Foundation	45240	475	\$ 5,000.00
Providence Baptist Church	45224	15	\$ 4,871.04
Save Our Youth Kings & Queens	45232	100	\$ 4,976.15
Saving Lives One Heartbeat At a Time	45229	40	\$ 4,936.47
St. Teresa of Avila School	45236	217	\$ 5,000.00
Step Higher Inc. - Nella's Place	45229	30	\$ 5,000.00
The Girls Club	45212	30	\$ 4,960.06
The Protect Brown Girls Organization	45251	25	\$ 4,980.91
Tri-State Education & Technology Foundation DBA Drake Planetarium	45212	500	\$ 4,993.84
Waldrop Health and Youth Ministry	45246	100	\$ 4,997.82
West End Lil Senators Athletic Club	45214	170	\$ 5,000.00
Woodward High School Marching Band	45237	35	\$ 4,753.00
Xcellence Ignited	45241	30	\$ 4,995.39
Young CEO Program S.E.E.W.T.P	45232	40	\$ 4,920.46
Act Your Age	45214	2000	\$ 4,780.56
Arte	45202	50	\$ 5,000.00
Azalea Montessori School	45212	60	\$ 4,998.69
Butterflies in Heels	45204	30	\$ 4,998.52
Cincinnati Black Theatre	45237	35	\$ 4,986.86
Cincinnati Cardinals NLMB	45211	30	\$ 4,965.00
Cincinnati Cardinals Youth Development	45237	300	\$ 4,991.75
Cin-City Gators Youth Organization	45240	420	\$ 4,927.56
Defying The Odds Entrepreneurs	45206	10	\$ 3,532.27
Delta Gamma Lambda Youth & Education Foundation	45206	250	\$ 4,946.80
Everybody is LITT Academy	45240	100	\$ 4,997.10
Finance 4Fun	45202	100	\$ 4,988.41
Futuristic Gymnastics	45237	10	\$ 5,000.00
Girls Health Period	45212	100	\$ 5,000.00
Greater Cincinnati Choral Union	45225	25	\$ 5,000.00
Greater Faith Ministries COGIC	45239	100	\$ 4,974.63
Hair Village Elite	45236	20	\$ 4,933.17
Heartfelt Tidbits, INC	45207	50	\$ 4,995.26

House of Yisrael	45237	25	\$ 4,994.33
JusticeWorks Ohio	45239	15	\$ 4,989.15
M&R Performance LLC	45237	15	\$ 4,965.69
Mentoring Young Minds	45211	200	\$ 4,987.88
Mpressive Exposure	45239	45	\$ 4,991.14
New Prospect Baseball and Outdoor Activities	45237	50	\$ 4,941.95
New Prospect Basketball and Indoor activities	45237	50	\$ 4,874.46
Olivet Food Pantry	45236	600	\$ 4,939.02
On Impact Recruiting Services	45211	50	\$ 4,950.72
Philautia TD	45231	40	\$ 4,992.57
Positive Motivated Messengers Empowering Group Linc. (PNMEG)	45236	40	\$ 4,992.34
Pure and Simple Fitness	45224	50	\$ 3,074.74
Queen City Youth Development Program	45229	48	\$ 4,830.19
R.E.A.L. Truth LLC	45202	300	\$ 4,940.19
Related Marketing	45246	25	\$ 4,988.05
Rose Chapel Missionary Baptist Church	45229	60	\$ 4,996.78
Southern Baptist Church	45229	25	\$ 4,780.00
Step Up Cincinnati	45207	100	\$ 4,985.85
Stylish LeNese Boutique	45227	40	\$ 4,996.68
Taft High School Cheer	45214	32	\$ 4,999.93
The Green Store	45202	25	\$ 4,999.40
Tree Essentials LLC	45207	50	\$ 4,967.88
Trinity Missionary Baptist Church	45227	100	\$ 4,987.79
True Color Magazine	45232	40	\$ 4,158.22
UpSpring	45223	1000	\$ 4,999.16
We Are People Too	45240	15	\$ 4,983.85
Project Yoga Cincinnati	45230	1275	\$ 4,996.82

# NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS

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## ASSISTANCE TO HOUSEHOLDS

### FOOD ASSISTANCE

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$2 MILLION

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$2 MILLION

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 2.1, HOUSEHOLD ASSISTANCE: FOOD PROGRAMS

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: NI-1029

#### Overview

The Board of County Commissioners approved a subrecipient agreement with Freestore Foodbank, the region's largest emergency food and services provider to children and families, in the amount of \$2 million for emergency food assistance for low-income individuals and families.

#### Evidence-Based Interventions

This program is not considered to be an evidence-based intervention.

#### Performance

Funding will be used to purchase up to 1.6 million pounds of food to provide to an estimated 66,000 eligible Hamilton County residents.

### MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$6,211,833.60

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$5,559,455.82

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 2.2, HOUSEHOLD ASSISTANCE: RENT, MORTGAGE, AND UTILITY AID

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: NI-1022

WEBSITE: [WWW.513RELIEF.ORG](http://WWW.513RELIEF.ORG)

#### Overview

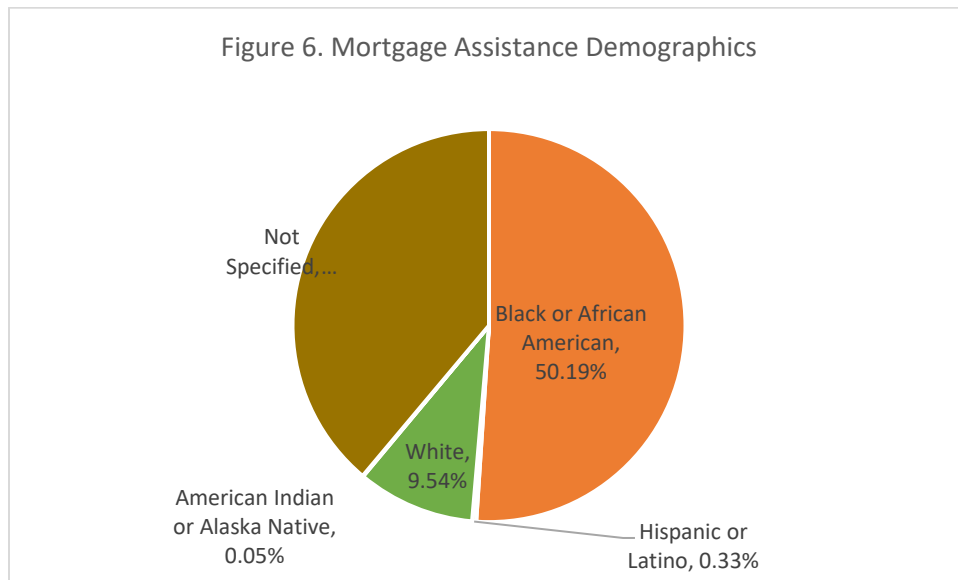
Eligible homeowners can receive financial assistance with mortgage, property tax and/or utility payments to avoid foreclosure and shutoffs. Program eligibility is focused on households that are at or below 300% FPL. The program started in October 2021 and is administered by Hamilton County Job and Family Services. As of July 29, 2024, this program is no longer accepting applications.

#### Evidence-Based Interventions

This program is not considered to be an evidence-based intervention.

## Performance

1,755 households have received assistance through this program. A summary of demographics served is provided in Figure 6.



## EXPANSION OF SHELTER DIVERSION PROGRAM

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$3 MILLION

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$1,801,090

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 2.16 SERVICES FOR UNHOUSED PERSONS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: NI-1021

WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.STRATEGIESTOENDHOMELESSNESS.ORG/SHELTER-DIVERSION-A-BEST-PRACTICE-TO-PREVENT-HOMELESSNESS/](https://www.strategiestoendhomelessness.org/shelter-diversion-a-best-practice-to-prevent-homelessness/)

## Overview

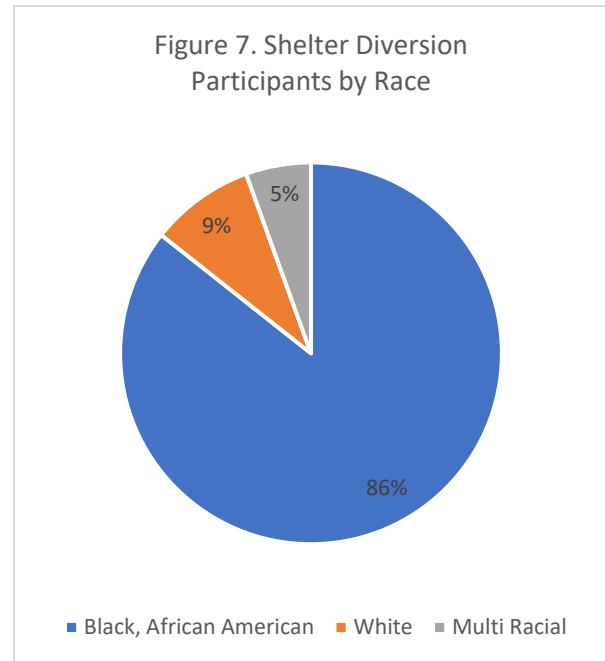
One of the most effective ways to reduce homelessness is to step in before someone loses their housing. Not only is it more cost-effective, but more importantly, it is less disruptive for the person or family. \$3 million in ARPA funding is allocated to expand shelter diversion programs. Shelter diversion programs are targeted to those who have lost their housing, are doubled up, and/or are running out of stable housing options. These programs provide financial assistance for housing costs, robust case management, and wrap around services. An agreement with Strategies to End Homelessness to expand their shelter diversion program was approved by the Board in August 2022.

## Use of Evidence

Data from [Strategies to End Homelessness](https://www.strategiestoendhomelessness.org/) shows that 90% of participants in 2021 exited the program with permanent housing. And, of the households that exited the prior year, 92.45% of them did not become homeless in 2021. Furthermore, according to Strategies to End Homelessness, of the households who exited the program in 2021, 38.82% increased income.

### Performance Reporting

The Shelter Diversion program provides case management and wrap around services to families and individuals who have experienced a housing crisis and were at risk of experiencing homelessness. Housing Specialists work with families to find affordable housing quickly and provide rental assistance and utility assistance to start them out. Other services provided include: budgeting and financial health management, peer support, food assistance, and connection to resources such as TANF, food stamps, education, employment, child care, mediation, legal, and other public benefits. The average length of time participants are in the program is 5.5 months. From September 2023 – March 2024, the shelter diversion program kept 858 children and 535 adults from homelessness. Figure 7 provides a breakdown of participants by race.



### HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION INNOVATION

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$1,895,547

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$1,758,090.40

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 2.16 SERVICES FOR UNHOUSED PERSONS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: NI-1021A

#### Overview

Through this program, Hamilton County provided funding for solutions to homelessness prevention. Strategies to End Homelessness, the region’s Continuum of Care organization, is administering this grant program on behalf of Hamilton County.

The grant program is directed to organizations engaged in work with households at high risk of homelessness (entering an emergency shelter, sleeping unsheltered on the streets, or fleeing domestic violence) and seeking funding for innovative programs and partnerships to prevent homelessness. Grants will be awarded to programs with the best potential, outcomes, data and performance measures, and therefore have the highest likelihood of reducing the number of people and households sleeping unsheltered or in emergency shelters within Hamilton County. Grants were recently awarded to the agencies listed below in Table 5.

Table 5. Homeless Prevention Grantees

Organization	Program	Recommendation
Found House	Financial Assistance and Housing	\$500,000
Freestore Foodbank	Immigrant and Refugee financial assistance and service connection	\$220,998
St. Vincent DePaul	Financial assistance and trauma-informed wrap around services	\$500,000

Talbert House	Financial assistance and tailored case management	\$489,560
Community Matters	Implement a housing problem solving method with a focus on mediation, which utilizes techniques to help identify immediate alternate housing options and connect families with the assistance necessary to return to permanent housing.	\$85,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$1,795,558</b>

**Evidence-Based Interventions**

It is anticipated that grant applicants will detail if any of their direct services are evidence-based interventions.

**Performance Reporting**

From January 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024, 10 households (10 adults and 8 children) were housing stabilized. The program is in the early stages of implementation so future reporting will include additional outputs and outcomes.

**EMERGENCY HOUSING**

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$150,000

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$0

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 2.16 SERVICES FOR UNHOUSED PERSONS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: NI-1021B

**Overview**

To further assist with emergency housing and prevent homelessness, the Board entered into an agreement with the Community Action Agency to provide hotel stays and wrap around services while the family is connected with more permanent housing. The Board entered into the agreement in February, 2024.

**Evidence-Based Interventions**

N/A

**Performance Reporting**

Future reporting will include metrics such as number assisted, race, ethnicity, etc.

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING PRODUCTION AND PRESERVATION

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$34,372,518.34

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$13,516,028.62

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 2.15 LONG TERM HOUSING SECURITY: AFFORDABLE HOUSING

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: NI-1019

### Overview

Numerous local and national studies have been published on the need for additional affordable housing. The County's Plan recognizes this by allocating \$34.3 million for production of new affordable housing and renovation of multi-family and single-family affordable housing to address the availability of units for low and moderate-income households. Of this allocation, at least \$8 million will be focused on housing for seniors, re-entry, and disabled housing and \$8 million will be focused on rehabilitation.

The Board entered into a subrecipient agreement with Cincinnati Development Fund (CDF) to administer this program in December 2022. CDF is a nonprofit lending institution and U.S. Treasury-certified community development financial institution established in 1988 to finance affordable housing development and community revitalization.

The program is a phased application and award process. The purpose of this approach is to address the great need for affordable housing by making an initial round of awards to truly "shovel-ready" projects, while intentionally preserving funds for smaller developers, projects in the County that might not be "shovel-ready," and generally to allow time for developers and organizations to consider new projects that would access these funds.

\$19.9 million in ARPA funding is being deployed to 20 affordable housing projects, a summary of which is included in Table 6 (a total of \$13.5 million has been spent through 6/30/24).



*Paramount Launch in Walnut Hills is a 56-unit mixed income building partially funded by ARPA (\$350,000).*

**Table 6. Affordable Housing**

Project Name	Amount	Total # of Housing Units
Vandalia Point	2,700,000.00	52
Logan Commons	1,000,000.00	42

CH KeyMark	150,000.00	26
Paramount Launch	350,000.00	56
56 E McMicken	650,000.00	13
1912 Freeman Ave.	150,000.00	1
LPH Thrives	700,000.00	47
Pedretti Place	1,600,000.00	48
MacArthur Park Apartments	1,000,000.00	85
Habitat Homeownership Project	700,000.00	14
Lincoln & Gilbert I	648,718.00	50
West End Affordable	1,000,000.00	15
The Annie	150,000.00	29
Lincoln Heights - Phase II & III	400,000.00	8
CARE Homes Initiative	870,000.00	29
Community & Pendleton	1,500,000.00	61
Alexandra Apartments	800,000.00	83
700 State Street	720,000.00	12
Sedamsville Redevelopment	850,000.00	17
LADD	4,000,000.00	36
<b>Totals</b>	<b>19,938,718.00</b>	<b>724</b>

**Evidence-based Interventions**

The over-arching goal is to increase the number of affordable housing units. No funds will be allocated to evidence-based interventions.

**Performance Reporting**

The awards will result in the following:

- \$19.9 million in ARPA funding for 20 projects that have a total investment of \$230 million;
- Leveraging \$10.57 for every \$1 of ARPA funding;
- 495 units of new affordable housing; 183 of which are less than 50% AMI;
- 69 units will be single family homes;
- 36 single family homes are dedicated to residents with developmental disabilities;
- 229 units are being renovated/preserved;
- Four projects are being awarded to smaller developers;
- Six projects are outside of the City of Cincinnati to provide geographic diversity.

### HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$1.3 MILLION

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$0

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 2.18 HOUSING SUPPORT: OTHER HOUSING ASSISTANCE

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: NI-1020

#### Overview

The Home Repair Program is designed to help eligible residents make necessary home repairs and improvements to allow them to maintain their homes and support the stabilization of households. Eligible residents include those located in Qualified Census Tracts and those designated by ARPA as “impacted” and “disproportionately impacted”.

While the program will be open to both impacted and disproportionately impacted households as allowed per the Final Rule, priority will be on the most disproportionately impacted households, including those in Qualified Census Tracts. In addition to repair services, this program will also direct participants to services that are designed to improve their economic sustainability. This will include but is not limited to applicable workforce development programs, senior services, and financial literacy classes.

Hamilton County entered into a subrecipient agreement on July 18, 2024 with Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) to administer this program. LISC will provide eligible homeowners with needed repairs and ensure participants are connected to support services and programs identified above. The program is expected to launch in September.

#### Evidence Based Interventions

This program is not considered to be an evidence-based intervention.

#### Performance Reporting

Key performance indicators, mandatory performance indicators (as applicable), and output and outcome measures, will be further detailed in subsequent reports. Anticipated metrics include participant data stratified by race, ethnicity, income, zip code, gender, and age; number of recipients connected with other supportive services and any outcomes; list of contractors used stratified by race, ethnicity, zip code, size of business.

### WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TRAINING PROGRAMS

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$4,773,827

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$1,694,371.54

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 2.10, ASSISTANCE TO UNEMPLOYED OR UNDEREMPLOYED WORKERS

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: NI-1023

## Overview

The goal of the \$4.7 million in ARPA funding for workforce development is to improve economic success for both the workforce and companies through programs that connect people to careers with upward mobility and financial stability and that help employers find, develop and retain talent. This allocation includes two areas of investment:

1. Workforce Development Training Grants - Support existing training/apprentice programs that are aligned with the target industries with a specific focus on reducing barriers to participation. And, with a focus on un and underemployed, residents in shelter diversion program, and returning citizens. Of the funding allocated for this investment, \$1.8 million is dedicated to increasing the number of childcare teachers.

Applications for training program grants were released during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, 2022 with awards made during the second quarter of 2023. Table 7 provides a summary of the organizations awarded.

The County entered into a subrecipient agreement with 4C for Children in the amount of \$1.8 million. 4C is using the following strategies to increase the number of childcare teachers by 100: implement a comprehensive media and outreach campaign to grow awareness and interest in the early education profession; provide required training to newly hired participants; reimburse up to \$150 cover screening expenses to reduce a cost barrier; enroll participants in child development associate credential program; and fund ongoing training and education expenses not covered by other sources to ensure retention of teachers. To date, 72 students are employed in the field.

### *Community Action Agency CDL Training program*

Prior to joining the CDL Class A training program, due to multiple felony convictions, this student faced hurdles to obtaining employment that would allow him to be self-sufficient. Despite the challenges, he remained focused on his goal of becoming a CDL Class A driver.

He completed the CDL program, and it became evident that he had transformed not only his career prospects but his entire life. On 8/10/2023, he became employed at a local trucking company. **He earns \$28/hour.**

### Childcare Program

“Devonte learned about our Child Care Careers Program after attending a local job fair and connected to one of our career navigators. When he attended the orientation, we learned he was pursuing another career path separate from his current work within the Cincinnati Public School System. One possible career path he was exploring was early childhood education. After learning he lived close to downtown, the career navigator suggested that Wesley Learning Center might be a good fit. After enrolling in the Child Care Careers Program, He applied for and was offered a position at Wesley Learning Center. He recently completed the program and is now pursuing a CDA! Devonte is truly dedicated to the field of early learning and loves what he is doing with the children he is serving.”

**Table 7. Workforce Development**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Cincinnati Health Network	\$225,000	Medical and dental assistant program.
CincySmiles	\$184,500	Training for medical billing associate and dental laboratory technicians.
Per Scholas	\$200,000	IT training program.
BLOC Ministries Inc.	\$74,527	Culinary training.
Easter Seals	\$225,000	Construction training.
Community Action Agency	\$225,000	CDL certification.
Cincinnati State	\$225,000	Medical Assistant Apprenticeship Program.
IKRON	\$205,000	Certifications for building maintenance, construction, restaurant.
Health Care Access Now	\$184,800	Community health workers certification focused on Spanish speaking population.
Urban League	\$225,000	Construction training.

2. Enhance collaboration and service delivery of workforce partners – Hamilton County is home to rich ecosystem of workforce development, education and training programs for adults. However, there is room for better alignment and more connectivity between employers, workforce development partners, and employees. As such, an RFP was issued during the first quarter, 2023 and the County entered into a subrecipient agreement with the Workforce Council of Southwest Ohio to provide this necessary coordination.

**Evidence-Based Intervention**

The program does not include evidence-based interventions.

**Performance Reporting**

Organizations that received funding submit quarterly reports that include number of participants disaggregated, graduation rates, and job placement rates. Through the first quarter of 2024, more than 1,300 individuals were served through the workforce training grant program, of which 67 percent are Black or African American, and almost 50 percent are ages 19-30. Graduation rates are 61 percent.

**ASSISTANCE TO SMALL BUSINESSES**

**SMALL BUSINESS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$7,204,694.73

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$7,196,694.73

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 2.29, LOANS OR GRANTS TO MITIGATE FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: NI-1025

### Overview:

Through the CARES ACT, Hamilton County, through its Office of Economic Development, conducted two rounds of grants to small businesses. In 2021, a third round was initiated that also included ARPA funding in the amount of \$2.9 million. This grant was open to small business with 50 employees or less, had an economic loss due to the pandemic, and had less than \$2.5 million in annual revenue. All grants were awarded in January 2022 and results were summarized in the 2021 Recovery Plan Performance Report. Remaining ARPA funding in this line item was used for a fourth round of grants in which 447 grants were awarded.

### Performance

Including all four rounds of small business grants (which includes CARES Act funding), 2,002 grant applications were funded. Of these, **54 percent were minority owned and 91% had 10 employees or less.** This program is completed.

### SMALL BUSINESS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$1,500,000

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$388,620.57

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 2.30, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, COUNSELING, OR BUSINESS PLANNING

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: NI-1028

WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.ECDI.ORG/HAMILTON-COUNTY](https://www.ecdi.org/hamilton-county)

### Overview

Through the experience of the three rounds of small business grants, it is clear many of our small businesses excel at their craft yet struggle with back-office functions such as accounting and technology. To continue to support Hamilton County's small businesses, the County entered into a subrecipient agreement with ECDI in April 2023 in the amount of \$1.5 million to provide eligible small businesses with expert technical assistance or advisory services in the following areas: Accounting; IT/computer literacy; Legal; Marketing/social media/websites. Eligible small businesses include those located in a Qualified Census Tract or negatively impacted by the pandemic with less than 50 employees. The program launched in May 2023. Additional information on the program can be found here: <https://www.ecdi.org/hamilton-county>.

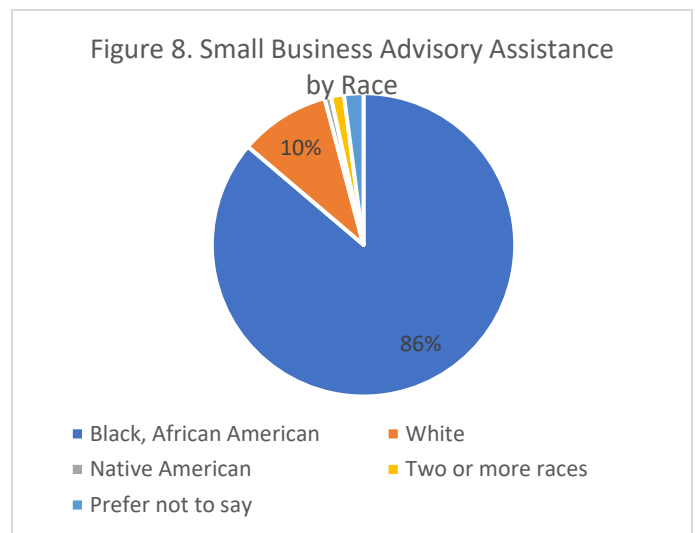
### Evidence Based Interventions

This program is not considered to be an evidence-based intervention.

### Performance Reporting

Since its inception, 144 businesses have been or are being served, with 97% having 10 or fewer employees and 67% were women-owned. A summary of the assistance provided includes:

- 16 new websites launched
- 11 marketing or search engine optimization plans created
- 3 logos designed
- 7 business plans created



- 3 businesses received legal assistance
- 2 businesses received assistance with bidding on government contracts.

## ASSISTANCE TO NON-PROFITS

### NON-PROFIT ASSISTANCE

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$7,152,461.64

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$7,152,461.64

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 2.34, AID TO NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: NI-1024

### Overview

The Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners allocated funding to provide relief to negatively impacted nonprofit organizations or nonprofit organizations who were providing services to clients negatively impacted by the pandemic. The County released an RFP for an organization to administer the program, to which United Way of Greater Cincinnati (United Way) responded and was subsequently selected. A subaward with the United Way was executed in November 2021.

Initial grant limits were set at a minimum of \$25,000 and a maximum of \$250,000. The overall goal was to provide relief to as many nonprofit organizations as possible that provide direct essential family and social services.

After feedback was received from various organizations concerning the restrictiveness and limitations the criterion caused, the Board of County Commissioners invested an additional amount for small nonprofits (defined as having annual revenue of \$500k or less). Small non-profits could apply for up to \$30,000.

Overall results in the in three categories is as follows:

1. Category 1: Non-profits that can demonstrate a revenue loss due to the pandemic were awarded funds in early 2022 (\$3,734,284 awarded to 23 organizations). 35% of the organizations provided services to youth; 13% provided food assistance, another 13% provided mental health services, and another 13% provided housing/homelessness services.

2. Category 2: Non-profits that provided eligible services to residents impacted by the pandemic were awarded funds in early 2022 (\$2,611,745 awarded to 56 organizations). 32% of the organizations funded provided food assistance, 18% provided homelessness services; and another 18% provided job training.

3. Small Non-Profits: Non-profits with \$500,000 or less in annual revenues and provide direct social and family services to residents who have been negatively impacted by COVID-19 were awarded funds in fall 2022 (\$743,741 awarded to 28 organizations). 32% of the organizations funded provided food assistance; 26% of the organizations funded provided education services.

**107 non-profit organizations** that provided family and social services received a total of \$7 million. Services provided included food assistance, education, job training, mental health, and housing services.

A total of \$7.2 million of the allocated funding has been expended to date. All three grant categories focused on non-profits that provide family and social services and the services are targeted to low-mod income households.

#### Evidence-Based Interventions

This program is not an evidence-based intervention.

#### Performance Reporting

A total of 107 non-profit organizations that provide family and social services were provided funding in 2022. Results of the funding were provided in the 2023 Recovery Plan Performance Report.

## AID TO IMPACTED INDUSTRIES

### ARTS AND CULTURAL ASSISTANCE

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$2,000,000

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$2,000,000

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 2.35, AID TO TOURISM, TRAVEL, OR HOSPITALITY

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: NI-1024A

#### Overview

According to ArtsWave, arts organizations in the Cincinnati area experienced losses of \$140 million in revenue since the start of the pandemic when many organizations had to close their doors due to the state ban on mass gatherings and once re-opened had to adhere to decreased audience size. Through a subaward, ArtsWave administered a grant program to arts and cultural organizations based on financial losses. The grant criteria considered pre-pandemic budget size, pandemic-related revenue losses, amount of COVID relief funding received through other programs to-date. Grants were awarded during April 2022.

#### Performance

As reported in the 2021 Recovery Plan Performance Report, 53 Arts and Culture organizations received grant awards with amounts based on financial losses and annual budget. This program is complete.

### HOSPITALITY ASSISTANCE

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$2,000,000

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$2,000,000

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 2.35, AID TO TOURISM, TRAVEL, OR HOSPITALITY

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: NI-1026

#### Overview

\$2 million was provided to Cincinnati USA Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) for marketing funds to promote and attract visitors to Hamilton County. Providing a portion of the CVB's lost revenue will allow them to more fully re-engage in marketing campaigns to draw more visitors back to Cincinnati and Hamilton County and bring additional economic stimulus to the region. As previously reported, per the CVB, 166 groups that were scheduled to come to Hamilton County in 2020 cancelled because of COVID-19. Those canceled events equal 132,000 lost hotel room nights and 173,000 visitors. And these numbers don't include the loss of visitors to signature events that were cancelled in 2020 including: Taste of Cincinnati, Western & Southern Open, Cincinnati Music Festival or Oktoberfest Zinzinnati. To help the local hospitality industry to overcome the continued negative impacts of COVID-19, the region

is relying on the CVB to get back to pre-COVID marketing efforts. A subaward agreement was finalized with the CVB in December 2022.

### Performance

Future reports will include increased hotel room nights, number of major meetings, conventions and sporting events booked, and social media and website traffic.

## OTHER

### 513 RELIEF BUS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$5,000,000

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$1,136,716.62

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 2.37, ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSISTANCE, OTHER

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: PH-1007

WEBSITE: WWW.513RELIEF.ORG

### Overview

Funding for the 513 Relief Bus and Community Outreach is allocated to ensure health and social service information is more effectively provided to underserved populations in Hamilton County with a focus on disproportionately impacted communities. This program includes acquisition of a permanent tech bus and ongoing outreach to educate minorities and disproportionately impacted populations as defined by ARPA to improve health outcomes.

The 513 Relief Bus travels to underserved communities within Hamilton County to help improve health and economic outcomes. **The new 513 Relief Bus launched on January 26, 2023**, and includes general health screenings such as blood pressure, glucose monitoring, cholesterol testing, and referrals for more critical healthcare needs; mental health and substance abuse services; job coaching; financial literacy; senior services; and employment services.

In addition to the 513 Relief Bus, the County entered into an agreement with Closing the Health Gap in May 2023 to expand their programming to improve health outcomes primarily in the areas of cardiovascular disease and diabetes. Secondly, during periods of increased COVID cases, they will provide outreach and education on treatments, vaccinations, and ways to reduce risks such as obesity.

“I like the convenience of it. I like the speed. They check your blood pressure and explain if you need to see a doctor or get a blood pressure cuff” 513 Relief Bus customer

“I just left the 513 Relief Bus. The representative was very kind and the process was easy. Overall, I feel hopeful during my hardship and a word I haven’t used in awhile is HOPEFUL. Thank you for this avenue of help.” 513 Relief Bus customer

### Use of Evidence

The over-arching goal is to provide accessible health and social service assistance to eligible populations. Hamilton County does not consider these evidence-based interventions.

### Performance Report

Since 2021, the 513Relief Bus served 21,654 residents at 231 locations throughout Hamilton County.

## RELOCATION OF CINCINNATI POLICE GUN RANGE

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$10,400,000

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$601,897.05

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 2.37, ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSISTANCE, OTHER

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: PH-1006

### Overview

Hamilton County and partners have joined together to relocate the Cincinnati Police Department firing range that has been in its current location since 1947. When the gun range is in use, which is the majority of the year, the sound of firearms is evident throughout densely populated neighborhoods – particularly in Lincoln Heights – an 88% African American community. The gunfire is constant in the lives of residential neighbors surrounding the facility with approximately 2,300 residents located within one-half mile of the range. Many of these residents are youth, under the age of 15, living in a community with high rates of gun violence and crime.

The movement of the gun range will improve the health of the childhood environment and address a long-standing problem impacting a disproportionately affected community. ARPA funding is being used to fund a portion of this project. To date, funding has been encumbered and expended for Architectural and Engineering Professional Services to develop a Schematic Design of a potential Regional Safety Complex that would consolidate law enforcement gun safety and training efforts into one location for the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office and provide a facility for the relocation of the City of Cincinnati Police Department's existing Gun Range. The project has been bid and a contract for construction is anticipated within the next couple of months.

### Evidence-Based Interventions

The program does not include evidence-based interventions.

### Performance Reporting

As described above, this project remains in the early planning stages. Key performance indicators, mandatory performance indicators (as applicable), and output and outcome measures, will be further detailed in subsequent reports, with the primary reporting being whether the gun range was moved. The bid opening for the construction was July 24, 2024. After that time, the remaining funds will be obligated.

## SATELLITE OFFICE

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$2,198,027.83

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$22,313.11

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 2.37, ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSISTANCE, OTHER

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: CD-1012

### Overview

ARPA allows for the implementation of capital improvements to the degree they are designed to offset COVID-19 impacts or to provide engagement and services to communities and populations impacted by the public health emergency. A County satellite office will have a positive impact on residents by improving access to social services provide by Job and Family Services. The County has leased a warehouse to store PPE and the 513 Relief Bus. This site will also serve as the satellite office and is centrally located to service several Qualified Census Tracts and is much closer than driving downtown Cincinnati to access those services. Currently, the office is under design with the goal of having it operational in 2024. The office is currently under renovation.

### Evidence Based Interventions

This program is not considered to be an evidence-based intervention.

### Performance Reporting

Once the program is activated, performance reporting is anticipated to include: demographics of residents assisted and types of services provided.

## PREMIUM PAY

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### PREMIUM PAY

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$1,864,420.43

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$1,864,420.43

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 4.1, PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYEES

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: CD-1013

### Overview

Employees who were defined as essential workers were provided with a lump sum payment of \$1,000. Each Department Director was provided with the list of eligibility and was required to provide the number of workers and a description of employees recommended for premium pay. Once Directors submitted their recommendations, they were reviewed by both HR and Budget staff. Additional information on premium payments was provided in previous reports. This program concluded in 2022.

### Performance Reporting

3,091 employees were deemed eligible and received \$1,000 in premium pay in 2021/2022. This program has concluded.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

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### WATER AND SEWER

#### SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE – SR 128 EXTENSION

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$5,000,000

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$5,000,000

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 5.2, CENTRALIZED WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND CONVEYANCE

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: CI-1032

### Overview

The project will provide sewer service along SR128 (a Qualified Census Tract). The project area is an unsewered area including numerous failing on-lot treatment systems and multiple wastewater package plants. The project includes the construction of one major pump station; ~10,100 LF of 12" force main sewer; and 6,100 LF of gravity sewers intercepting and replacing existing package plants; and all necessary appurtenances. Whitewater Township Regional Sewer District will implement and oversee this project. An agreement with Whitewater Township was entered into in December, 2022. Whitewater Township received the Ohio PTI, all easements have been secured, and bids were opened on June 6.

Performance Report:

The primary performance goal is the completion of the project.

**SEWER AND STORMWATER**

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$4,440,229

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$358,051

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 5.5, OTHER

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 316000063

Overview

Hamilton County continues to examine opportunities to construct stormwater projects to reduce overland flooding. Funding was provided to Hamilton County General Health District in the amount of \$358,051 to correct sanitary sewers that were improperly connected into the stormwater sewers and not caused by the homeowners. This project is complete.

In addition, the County released a stormwater grant application to local governments in late fall, 2023 and has subsequently awarded \$3.6 million in funding as outlined below in Table 8. A second round of stormwater grant applications are anticipated to be released in the coming month.

**Table 8. Stormwater Grants**

Organization	Program Name	Recommendation
Amberley Village	Beechlands Service Drive Fire Lane	\$145,578.00
Village of Newtown	Roundbottom Drywell Improvements	\$150,000.00
Village of Newtown	McCullough Run Remediation	\$214,900.00
Village of Mariemont	Pleasant St Stormwater Pipe Replacement	\$45,090.00
City of Maderia	Euclid Avenue Storm Improvements	\$431,100.00
Symmes Township	Cross Street Storm Improvements	\$31,340.00
Symmes Township	Terwillgersridge Court Storm Outlet Replacement	\$48,400.00
Symmes Township	Timberlake Drive Storm Improvements	\$45,270.00
Springfield Township	Congress Run/Cilley Creek Stormwater mitigation project	\$850,000.00
City of Montgomery	Huntersknoll Ct Drainage Improvements	\$340,500.00
City of Norwood	Elm Avenue Flooding Mitigation	\$1,300,000.00
TOTAL		\$3,602,178.00

Performance Report: Future reports will include the status of the stormwater grants.

## BROADBAND

### BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$3,294,496.81

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$174,380.14

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 5.21, BROADBAND – OTHER PROJECTS

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: CI-1031

#### Overview:

Before recommending specific broadband investments through the ARPA-SLFRF funds, Hamilton County issued an RFP for a consultant to better understand and examine the specific gaps and needs of our County. The consultant’s work was completed in the fall of 2023. The consultant did not recommend investments in broadband infrastructure except where that infrastructure is built to address digital equity/digital inclusion issues (largely inside buildings), as the ISPs currently provide, or will expand their service to deliver, broadband data services at data throughput speeds exceeding those required to satisfy unserved and underserved values.

The Board entered into a subrecipient agreement with United Way of Greater Cincinnati to administer a grant program for local governments and community organizations to provide and/or expand public wi-fi. Grant applications were released on February 8, 2024, and were awarded to the organizations listed in Table 9.

**Table 9. Public Wi-Fi Grante Awards**

Organization	Estimated people served	Summary	Amount
Cincinnati Recreation Commission	29,000	install wi-fi accesspoints at 10 selected parks.	\$191,362
Seven Hills Neighborhood Association	6,800	install 6 wi-fi access points throughout the WestEnd neighborhood	\$57,040.24
Peaslee Neighborhood Center	3,500	boost range and reliability of the Wi-Fi network throughout the, so it can be used by visiting members of the public beyond the lobby.	\$67,222
MORTAR	600	Expand free,high-speed Wi-Fi accessthroughout their 13,500 sq ftbuilding.	\$67,927
Cincinnati Health	4,100	provide public Wi-Fi six community health centers	\$67,041
Price Hill Will	20,000	install 3 outdoor Wi-Fi access points along WarsawAvenue	\$18,005
Cincinnati Urban Promise	50	public will have access to the newly installed Wi-Fi and co-working space	\$10,000

Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation	6,300	expand free public wi-fi access from one to five locations in Walnut Hills	\$29,979
Avondale Development Corporation	11,000	Replace outdated Wi-Fi in 8 affordable housing complexes and add 1 not currently served. Replace outdoor public wi-fi along Reading Road	\$191,362
City of Blue Ash	4,000	install free, public Wi-Fi at the park at Blue Ash Towne Square	\$57,040.24
High Achievers Aim High	2,000	establish 10 new Wi-Fi access points	\$67,222
Green Township	20,000	install public Wi-Fi to cover the areas of the parks most populated	\$67,927

**Performance Report:** Future reporting will include an update on the grant funded wi-fi projects.

## NATURAL DISASTER

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### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$200,000

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$145,546.57

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 8.13, NATURAL DISASTER THREATENED TO OCCUR

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: CD-1015

#### Overview:

In 2023, the US Treasury expanded the uses of ARPA funds to mitigate the impacts of expected disasters a community has identified. The 2019 Hamilton County Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment states that the county could expect to have 9,600 affected residents seeking shelter in a disaster. To begin building Hamilton County's capacity to support mass care efforts and reduce reliance on outside assistance, Hamilton County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) has set a goal to procure sufficient supplies for 1,200 residents and their pets. This project will allow EMA to support one large shelter or multiple smaller shelters as needed around the county. It also helps address a clear gap in our county's disaster preparedness capabilities, and most importantly, will directly go to meeting the most basic needs of our community in a time of crisis.

#### Performance Report:

Over the past year (July 1, 2023-July 1, 2024), EMA purchased cots, linen kits, lights with carry bag and batteries, storage carts, clean up kits, infant shelter boxes, trash cans & bags, first aid kits, administrative supplies for shelter, sensory kits, tools, and charging equipment.

## REVENUE REPLACEMENT

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### COUNTY REVENUE REPLACEMENT

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$32,000,000  
EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$32,000,000  
PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 6.1, PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES  
IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: CD-1011

#### Overview:

Using the Treasury's required formula, the Hamilton County Budget Office determined the County's revenue losses due to the COVID-19 public health emergency to be \$41,935,127. At this time, the County is allocating \$32,000,000 for revenue replacement purposes that were used to offset general governmental salaries.

## PUBLIC HEALTH-NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT: PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY

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### PROGRAM NAME: PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$1,135,000  
EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$491,725.32  
PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY  
IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: CD-1016

#### Overview

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, jury trials were suspended for nearly two years which created a significant backlog of felony cases. And, at the beginning of the pandemic, the Hamilton County Justice Center stopped allowing in-person visitation for the inmates to try to reduce the spread of COVID-19 into the jail. Instead, inmates were given tablets that allow for video visitation, e-messaging, and phone calls which has created a large volume of critical communications coming from the jail. The Prosecutors handling these cases simply do not have the ability to monitor high-threat inmates' communications. As such, four paralegals will be hired to provide this important task of screening the communications. In addition, the Prosecutor's Office hired additional attorneys to assist with the backlog.

### PROGRAM NAME: COURT TECHNOLOGY

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$2,100,000  
EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$17,063.98  
PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 3.4, Effective Service Delivery  
IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: CD-1017

#### Overview

The Hamilton County Courts will upgrade numerous courtrooms based on lessons learned during the pandemic and will enable the Court to make trials more efficient, provide access in the event of another pandemic, and provide greater access for those who may have impairments. The project is currently under final design.

## ADMINISTRATIVE

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**PROGRAM NAME: ADMINISTRATIVE AND CONSULTING**

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$1,453,938.75

EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$561,492.22

PROJECT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY: 7.1, ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: CD-1014

### Overview

Expenses under this category include the hiring of a coordinator to administer the ARPA-SLFRF funding, Prosecutor's Office time in reviewing agreements, and consultants to assist with implementation.

# SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES TO DATE

## Definitions

Authorized funds: Total amount of funds that Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners has voted to budget for programs.

Obligated funds: Total amount of authorized funds the County has contracted to spend through procurements and purchase orders, includes expenditures.

Expenditures: Total amount of authorized funds that the City has spent to date.

PRIORITY	AUTHORIZED FUNDS	OBLIGATED FUNDS	EXPENDITURES
<b>Public Health</b>			
Testing and Testing/Vaccine Website	\$442,483.13	\$442,483.13	\$442,483.13
Health Infrastructure Mitigation	\$2,961,137.38	\$2,961,137.38	\$1,801,003.66
Expansion of Nursing Programs	\$1,499,999.00	\$1,499,999.00	\$48,600.00
Expansion of Mobile Crisis Team	\$5,000,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	\$901,421.74
Youth Suicide Prevention Grants	\$595,075.00	\$595,075.00	\$355,198.17
Youth Resiliency Grants	\$3,935,557.36	\$3,935,557.36	\$2,399,221.62
Youth Programs (Inspire)	\$500,000.00	\$496,095.36	\$461,511.10
EMA Operations	\$1,000,000.00	\$537,612.29	\$537,612.29
Vaccine Incentives	\$203,300.00	\$203,300.00	\$203,300.00
<b><i>SUBTOTAL</i></b>	<b><i>\$16,137,551.87</i></b>	<b><i>\$15,671,259.52</i></b>	<b><i>\$7,150,351.71</i></b>
<b>Revenue Replacement</b>			
Revenue Replacement	<b><i>\$32,000,000.00</i></b>	<b><i>\$32,000,000.00</i></b>	<b><i>\$32,000,000.00</i></b>
<b>Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity &amp; Administrative</b>			
County Staffing/Administrative	\$1,453,938.75	\$561,492.22	\$561,492.22
Prosecutor's Office (Public Sector Capacity)	\$1,135,000.00	\$491,725.32	\$491,725.32
Court of Common Pleas	\$2,100,000.00	\$97,088.00	\$17,063.98
<b><i>SUBTOTAL</i></b>	<b><i>\$4,688,938.75</i></b>	<b><i>\$1,150,305.54</i></b>	<b><i>\$1,070,281.52</i></b>
<b>Premium Pay</b>			
Premium Pay	<b><i>\$1,864,420.43</i></b>	<b><i>\$1,864,420.43</i></b>	<b><i>\$1,864,420.43</i></b>
<b>Addressing Negative Impacts</b>			
Affordable Housing Production	\$26,372,518.34	\$26,372,518.34	\$13,516,028.62
Rehabilitation of affordable housing	\$8,000,000.00	\$8,000,000.00	\$0.00
Home Repair Program	\$1,300,000.00	\$1,300,000.00	\$0.00
Homelessness Prevention	\$5,045,547.00	\$5,045,547.00	\$3,775,141.24
Mortgage Assistance	\$6,211,833.60	\$5,681,033.17	\$5,559,455.82
Workforce Development	\$4,773,827.00	\$4,773,827.00	\$1,694,371.54
Non-Profit Assistance	\$7,152,461.64	\$7,152,461.64	\$7,152,461.64
Small Business Financial Assistance	\$7,204,694.73	\$7,204,694.73	\$7,196,694.73

<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>AUTHORIZED FUNDS</b>	<b>OBLIGATED FUNDS</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>
<b>Addressing Negative Impacts (cont.)</b>			
Hospitality Assistance	\$2,000,000.00	\$2,000,000.00	\$2,000,000.00
Arts and Cultural Assistance	\$2,000,000.00	\$2,000,000.00	\$2,000,000.00
Small Business Technical Assistance	\$1,500,000.00	\$1,500,000.00	\$388,620.57
Relocation of Gun Range	\$10,400,000.00	\$769,468.00	\$601,897.05
513 Relief Bus and health outcomes	\$5,000,000.00	\$2,579,806.26	\$1,136,716.62
Capital Improvements - Satellite Office	\$2,198,027.83	\$22,313.11	\$22,313.11
Food Assistance	\$2,000,000.00	\$2,000,000.00	\$2,000,000.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$91,158,910.14</b>	<b>\$76,401,669.25</b>	<b>\$47,043,700.94</b>
<b>Enhancing Community Infrastructure</b>			
Broadband	\$3,294,496.81	\$1,294,496.81	\$174,380.14
Sewer / Stormwater	\$9,440,229.00	\$8,960,229.00	\$5,358,051.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,734,725.81</b>	<b>\$10,254,725.81</b>	<b>\$5,532,431.14</b>
<b>Natural Disasters</b>			
Emergency Management Agency	\$200,000.00	\$178,648.57	\$145,546.57
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$200,000.00</b>	<b>\$178,648.57</b>	<b>\$145,546.57</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$158,784,547.00</b>	<b>\$137,521,029.12</b>	<b>\$94,806,732.31</b>