

**American Rescue Plan State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds First  
Recovery Plan Performance Report-Dane County Wisconsin Through  
July 31, 2022**

**Executive Summary**

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) was adopted by Congress on March 10, 2021. The ARP included approximately \$350 billion for the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds program. These funds were distributed directly to states, counties and municipalities with a population of 250,000 or more. Funds were distributed to smaller municipalities through each state. Dane county was allocated \$106,189,095 in funding under the American Rescue Plan State and Local Fiscal Assistance Fund. The funds are available for expenditure through December 31, 2024.

As of July 31, 2022, the county has initially allocated the funds as follows:

**Uses of Funds**

| <u>Purpose</u>                | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Provider</u>              |
|-------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| Food Bank Support             | \$13,750,000  | Second Harvest Food Bank     |
| Small business Assistance     | \$14,129,706  | Dane Buy Local, Inc.         |
| Non-profit Assistance         | \$5,000,000   | Madison Community Foundation |
| Broadband Investments         | \$5,000,000   | N/A                          |
| Artist Direct Support         | \$1,000,000   | N/A                          |
| Expo Center Air Purification  | \$1,032,350   | N/A                          |
| Grass Roots Assistance        | \$5,000,000   | Various                      |
| School Based Mental Health    | \$1,367,634   | Various                      |
| Badger Needs Network Facility | \$2,000,000   | BP Needs Network             |
| Hotel Sheltering              | \$14,669,084  | N/A                          |
| Rehousing Initiative          | \$13,200,000  | N/A                          |
| Tiny House Village            | \$500,000     | TBD                          |
| Hotel/Housing Conversion      | \$2,000,000   | TBD                          |
| Centro Hispano Facility       | \$2,000,000   | Centro Hispano               |

|                             |              |                        |
|-----------------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Building Bridges            | \$1,500,000  | Various                |
| Eviction Prevention         | \$750,000    | Tenant Resource Center |
| Women’s Homeless Sheltering | \$169,000    | Salvation Army         |
| Homeless Outreach           | \$900,000    | TBD                    |
| UV Air Filtration           | \$521,300    | Various                |
| COVID Testing Etc.          | \$224,400    | Various                |
| Violence Prevention         | \$300,000    | Public Health MDC      |
| Government Services         | \$21,175,621 | N/A                    |

## **Promoting Equitable Outcomes**

The county has targeted most of its allocation of ARP funds to programs designed to address the unequal impact of the pandemic’s economic impact on lower income households. By funding programs to provide food security, non-congregate sheltering, small business support, school based mental health, and creative assistance to households, the county believes that expenditures of ARP funding will reach those most disadvantaged in our community.

## **Community Engagement**

The county has a robust system of county board committees and commissions that assure through their public meeting processes that the community is informed and engaged in the initiatives funded with ARP dollars.

## **Labor Practices**

The county has prioritized the application of its ARP allocation on services within the community over investments in infrastructure. So, specific labor practices have not been considered. Further, Wisconsin law does not allow for many preferred labor practices by local governments such as prevailing wage requirements, living wage requirements, equal benefit requirements or project labor agreements.

## **Use of Evidence**

The county is not pursuing evidenced based interventions.

## **Table of Expenditures**

Below is a table of obligations and expenditures by expenditure category as of June 30, 2022.

|  | Obligated    | Expended     |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Mental Health Services                     | \$1,367,634  | \$1,107,274  |
| Food Bank Assistance                       | \$13,750,000 | \$11,666,662 |
| Badger Needs Network                       | \$2,000,000  | \$1,800,000  |
| Pandemic Response                          | \$224,400    | \$159,899    |
| Public Health Violence Prev.               | \$300,000    | \$0          |
| UV Filtration                              | \$521,300    | \$0          |
| Capital Improvements to address COVID      | \$1,032,347  | \$1,032,347  |
| Aid to Non-Profit Organizations            | \$5,000,000  | \$5,000,000  |
| Other Economic Support                     | \$2,867,500  | \$867,500    |
| Small Business Assistance                  | \$14,129,706 | \$14,129,706 |
| Grassroots Assistance                      | \$5,000,000  | \$3,924,849  |
| Building Bridget Expansion                 | \$1,500,000  | \$500,000    |
| Eviction Prevention Legal Services         | \$750,000    | \$0          |
| Homeless Outreach Services                 | \$900,000    | \$0          |
| Salvation Army Shelter                     | \$169,000    | \$0          |
| Hotels to Housing Program                  | \$13,200,000 | \$5,431,016  |
| Vulnerable Population/Isolation Quarantine | \$14,669,084 | \$10,441,266 |
| Broadband Infrastructure                   | \$5,000,000  | \$0          |
| Artist Support                             | \$1,000,000  | \$1,000,000  |
| Tiny House Project                         | \$500,000    | \$0          |
| Hotel Conversion                           | \$2,000,000  | \$0          |
| Centro Hispano Facility                    | \$2,000,000  | \$0          |
| Provision of Government Services           | 21,175,621   | \$4,447,646  |

## **Project Inventory**

The following is a brief inventory and description of projects initiated or in process as of the report date.

### **Food Bank Support**

The county has used ARP funds to continue its support of the Second Harvest Food Bank to address the growth in food insecurity caused by the pandemic. The county used CRF funding through 2020 and the first seven months of 2021 to support the food bank's purchase of food for distribution to local pantries. The county extended the effort with \$10 million contract beginning in August of 2021 at a rate of \$833,333 per month through July 2022. This contract was further extended by \$3.75 million to allow support of \$750,000 per month for September 2022 through December 2022.

### **Small Business Support**

The county used ARP funds to assist local small businesses through a partnership with Dane Buy Local, Inc (DBL). The county previously used \$14,800,000 of CRF funding through the same type of partnership with DBL. The \$14.129 million in ARP funding was awarded through an open grant program managed by DBL. It was open to any small business operating within the county. Approximately 3,200 businesses were assisted through the program with an average assistance grant of \$7,200. This project is complete.

### **Non-profit Assistance**

The county used ARP funds to assist local non-profit organizations through a partnership with the Madison Community Foundation (MCF). The county dedicated \$5 million for this initiative. MCF managed a grant program to award funds to local non-profits that experienced a reduction in revenue or increased expenses as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. MCF used developed an online application and conducted two webinars to explain the program. The program assisted 183 organizations with an average assistance grant of \$25,000. This project is complete

### **Broadband Investments**

The county has allocated \$5 million to improve broadband access in accordance with the guidelines in Treasury's interim final rule. The County Board of Supervisors has established a Broadband Task Force to study ways that the county might assist in broadband expansion. The form and timing of assistance has not been determined as of this report date.

### **Artist Direct Support**

The county used \$1 million of ARP funds to assist local artists who were negatively impacted by the pandemic. Many local artists in both the visual and performing realms were negatively impacted by social distancing guidelines due to galleries and venues being closed. Grants of up to \$2,500 were made to individuals through an online application process. Applications were to be reviewed by a committee organized by the county's Office of Cultural Affairs. This project is complete.

### **Expo Center Air Purification**

The county operates an exhibition center campus, the Alliant Energy Center. In order to improve safety for attendees of events at the center, the county invested \$1,032,350 for the installation of ionization air purification equipment at the various buildings at the campus. This project is complete

### **Grass Roots Assistance**

The county is using \$5 million of ARP funds to make grants to local community organizations that provide direct assistance to low income households. The county solicited grant proposals. Minimum grant amounts were \$50,000. Approximately 60 grants were awarded with an average grant of \$75,000. The initial distribution of funds was made in the fourth quarter of 2021. Additional distributions were made in the second quarter of 2022. Further distributions will occur in 2022. All of the \$5 million has been awarded, assistance through various grantees continues.

### **School Based Mental Health**

The county is using \$1.3 million to award grants to local school districts to augment district resources available to address mental health challenges experienced by students as a result of the COVID pandemic.

### **Badger Needs Network Facility**

The county is using \$2 million to assist the Badger Prairie Needs Network, Inc. to expand its facility. The facility serves as a major food pantry to the southwestern portion of Dane County. The expansion will augment their capability to address food insecurity through the pantry. The expansion will also allow for expansion of regular congregate meals. In addition, the space will be used in an emerging job training initiative involving local employers and the Latino Academy of Workforce Development, Latino Chamber of Commerce, Verona and Fitchburg Chambers of Commerce and others. The project broke ground in the Fall of 2021 and be completed in fall of 2022.

### **Hotel Sheltering**

Beginning in April of 2020, the county initiated a robust non-congregate sheltering program for persons experiencing homelessness. Throughout the pandemic, this effort has housed nearly 300 individuals and families in local motels. The effort involves renting lodging rooms in local facilities, providing food, medical isolation, security and case management. The effort also provides an isolation and quarantine center for those who have tested positive or had a direct exposure to COVID-19. CRF funding was used to support the effort through June 2021. The effort using ARP funds will continue for the vulnerable population services through September 2022. The isolation and quarantine services will continue through February 2023.

### **Rehousing Initiative**

The county is using \$13.2 million over two years to launch and maintain a rehousing initiative to transition households experiencing into permanent housing through concerted case management services and rental subsidies. The effort has focused on households that have been housed in local

hotels and may expand to other homeless households. Approximately 175 household have secured housing through the program.

### **UV Filtration**

The county has allocated \$521,300 to install UV filtration systems at various county facilities. These systems provide protection from viral contagions within buildings by using UV light within the central air handling systems.

This initiative was approved in September 2021. As of June, 2022, purchase orders for some locations had been issued.

### **Building Bridges Expansion**

The county has allocated \$500,000 per year for 2022-2024 to expand this popular school based mental health initiative.

As of June 30, 2022, the initial installment had been included in the adopted budget for 2022.

### **Eviction Prevention Legal Services**

In late September 2021, the County Board approve 2021 RES-115 which allocated \$50,000 to provide legal assistance to prevent evictions. In addition, the County Executive's 2022 budget included \$250,000 per year for 2022-2024 for this purpose. A request for proposals has been issued for a three year contract. The Tenant Resource Center was the successful respondent to the RFP. As of June 30, 2022, the County Board had just recently approved the contract for services.

### **Homeless Outreach**

The County Executive's 2022 budget included \$300,000 per year for 2022-2024 for this purpose. A request for proposals has been be issued for a three year contract.

### **Salvation Army Sheltering**

The County Executive's 2022 budget included \$169,000 for 2022 to assist the Salvation Army fund 24/7 operations if its women's shelter on East Washington Ave. in Madison.

As of June 30, 2022 these funds have not been expended, but a contract is being negotiated.

### **Tiny House Project**

The County Executive's budget included \$500,000 to fund a grant to a non-profit to support the establishment of an additional tiny house village. The funds will be awarded through a grant process in 2022.

As of June 30, 2022, the grant application process was under development.

### **Hotel Conversion Project**

The County Executive's budget included \$2,000,000 to fund a grant to a non-profit to support the conversion of an under-utilized hotel property into permanent affordable housing. The funds will be awarded through a grant process in 2022.

As of June 30, 2022, the grant application process was under development.

### **Centro Hispano Project**

The County Executive's budget included \$2,000,000 to contribute towards Centro Hispano's efforts to rehabilitate and modernize their facility on Badger Road in Madison. Centro provides a wide range of community services at its facility that are targeted to populations disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

Terms of an agreement will be developed in the third quarter of 2022.

### **Providing Government Services**

The county experienced substantial losses in revenue due to the pandemic. Based on the formula in the Interim Final Rule, the county's losses total \$34,419,517 in fiscal year 2020. The County Board has authorized \$4,000,000 for information technology investments related to the pandemic under this permitted use. These investments will allow for the upgrade of county meeting rooms to facilitate hybrid meetings, fund licenses for Zoom meetings, offset costs for cybersecurity upgrades, purchase equipment to facilitate hybrid work arrangements, and the cost of an information technology staff position.

The county has allocated additional funding to support 911 center and Medical Examiner Office operations.

### **Performance Report and Programmatic Data**

Performance data is limited at this time. Future reports will include such data.