

The County of Ocean, New Jersey:

Recovery Plan,

2022 Report

*Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal
Recovery Funds*

The County of Ocean, New Jersey
2022 Recovery Plan

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Required Category 1

Executive Summary

I. GENERAL OVERVIEW

1: Executive Summary

A. SLFRF Funds Received

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law by President Joe Biden on March 11, 2021. The law established the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program, affording state, local, and Tribal governments (recipients) with the opportunity to remediate the negative economic and public health impacts engendered and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. In turn, it is the responsibility of each government's leadership to cultivate a comprehensive recovery plan that directly responds to the aforementioned impacts, and aims to improve upon the hardships faced by residents, businesses, and communities at-large.

The County of Ocean was allotted \$117,938,762.00 in SLFRF funds – of which \$58,969,381.00 has been received as of December 31, 2022. With intense collaboration and input from the County's departments, leadership personnel, dedicated ARPA Management Team (Team), and other stakeholders – a strategic recovery plan has been designed. The subsections of the Executive Summary and the subsequent primary sections of this report detail the County's SLFRF Recovery Plan.

B. County of Ocean – SLFRF Use of Funds Plan – By Expenditure Category

The United States Department of the Treasury (Treasury) has established a finite list of expenditure categories for which SLFRF recipients may dedicate their funds. As of December 31, 2022, the expenditure categories include (1) Public Health, (2) Negative Economic Impacts, (3) Public Sector Capacity, (4) Premium Pay, (5) Infrastructure, (6) Revenue Replacement, and (7) Administrative. It is important to note that each of the aforesaid expenditure categories holds several subcategories that provide a more granular level of detail with respect to each recipient's dedication of funds to SLFRF projects. Said detail will be explored in the *Project Inventory* section of this report. The County of Ocean intends to utilize its SLFRF funds across the following expenditure categories in the following manner:

➤ **Public Health (EC1)**

At this time of this Recovery Plan, the County has allocated an aggregate total of \$3,688,678.00 in SLFRF funds to Public Health.

1. Use of Funds Plan Overview

The County's ARPA Management Team has worked extensively with the Department of Human Services, Senior Services, Management & Budget, and Finance to ascertain the key areas in the County for which the COVID-19 pandemic has created an intense negative impact on the public health of its residents. A primary target area of remediation for which the County is pursuing is the negative mental and behavioral health impacts borne from and exacerbated by the pandemic. The County understands that addressing mental health issues calls for nuanced and specialized skills. As such, the intelligent selection of professional partners offering behavioral health care expertise, case management, and linkages to services is paramount. In turn, the County is executing projects such as the On Point co-responder program that diverts individuals experiencing mental illness from the criminal justice system, and provides critical professional partnership support to law enforcement operations to ensure the communities impacted by COVID-19-derived or exacerbated stress, anxiety, and depression can be effectively targeted for care.

As a result of the pandemic, many children and adolescents have experienced the loss of a caregiver due to COVID-19 directly, or suicide or drug overdose incidents borne from the pandemic's impacts. In turn, children and adolescents have experienced grief that has been intensified or has been persistent and pervasive for a period of time that has transformed itself into trauma. In response, the County is effectuating child and adolescent grief and trauma programs under its ARPA plan to treat immediate complicated grief instances as well as prevent future concerns such as mental illness and substance misuse in adulthood. *Note: Such future*

complications are engendered by prolonged, complicated, and unaddressed grief. In addition to children and adolescents suffering from grief due to the loss of a caregiver, children and young adults with disabilities are another pandemic-impacted group for which the County is targeting in its Recovery Plan. Disabled children and adolescents are at a higher risk of social and behavioral health challenges, due to their preexisting conditions creating a predisposition for isolation. The social distancing and stay-at-home measures imposed by the pandemic exacerbated the isolationism faced by the aforementioned disabled children and young adults, and therefore increased this group's proclivity for heightened behavioral and social health ailments. The County will be instituting a social connection program – wherein the impacted individuals will be provided with the techniques necessary to restore their emotional health and well-being via social skills training.

Lastly, with respect to public health, the County will be executing an emergency response upgrade program. As previously stated, the COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted public health within the County of Ocean in the areas of mental health and substance use disorders. In addition, violent crime, gun violence, and exposure to violence has amplified across the country, thereby creating harmful short-term and long-term effects on the physical, socioeconomic, and economic well-being of the County's residents. To effectively respond to increased mental health and substance use disorder incidents and the amplification of community violence, a high-functioning / low interference mission critical emergency response radio system is a requirement. As such, the County is executing an emergency response system upgrade project under its Recovery Plan.

2. Category Goals / Outcomes

The County has several targeted goals for each program effectuated within the Public Health expenditure category of its Recovery Plan. While the intended outcomes are manifold from an overall category perspective, goals have been specifically written for each project by the overseeing department (see the *Project Inventory* section of this report). In summary, the County intends to target mental health issues faced by the general public and those in disproportionately impacted areas through its On Point program. Through its child and adolescent trauma and grief programs, the County is targeting the mitigation of pandemic-caused and exacerbated trauma and complicated grief faced by children and adolescents of caregivers who have died due to COVID-19, suicide, or drug overdose. The County aims to provide disabled children and young adults with the techniques they need to improve their mental and behavioral health as a result of pandemic-heightened isolationism. Lastly, the County is targeting upgrades to its high-functioning, low interference mission critical emergency response system to afford first responders with the ability to act upon calls in a fast, secure, and effective manner.

3. Strategy for Goal Achievement

The County has approached the design of its Recovery Plan through the lens of strategic partnerships and collaboration. For each project, the selection of specialized subrecipients to manage the program or the choice of a skilled vendor to execute the required work has been or will be pursued. For example, in its On Point program, the County will leverage the expertise of Bright Harbor Healthcare to provide mental and behavioral health care management. In its child and adolescent grief and trauma programs – the County will be working with organizations with licensed professionals trained in the provision of grief and trauma counseling interventions. The County will also be working with residents, businesses, and organizations to effectively target the beneficiaries for which its programs intend to serve. For example, the County will work with Children's System of Care and school-based leadership to identify children and adolescents who are suffering from mental and behavioral health issues resulting from grief, trauma, or social isolation.

4. Progress Against Intended Goals / Outcomes

As of the date of this Recovery Plan, the projects that fall within this expenditure category have yet to commence. In turn, there is no progress reporting applicable. See the *Project Inventory* section of this report for more detail.

5. [Noteworthy Challenges / Opportunities in the Reporting Period](#)

As of the date of this Recovery Plan, the projects that fall within this expenditure category have yet to commence. In turn, there is no challenge or opportunity reporting applicable. See the *Project Inventory* section of this report for more detail.

➤ **Negative Economic Impacts (EC2)**

At the time of this Recovery Plan, the County has allocated an aggregate total of \$9,513,936.00 in SLFRF funds to Negative Economic Impacts.

1. [Use of Funds Plan Overview](#)

In collaboration with the Department of Human Services, the County's ARPA Management Team has cultivated a targeted funding plan in the negative economic impact arena. As a result of the pandemic, residents, communities, and businesses in the County have experienced economic and fiscal hardships. In turn, it has been increasingly challenging for impacted individuals to realize economic restoration and return to a state of economic wellbeing and normalcy. Taking this further, the pandemic has proven to yield negative economic impacts on certain classes with greater intensity than others. In turn, the County's Recovery Plan institutes programs that target economic restoration for both impacted and disproportionately impacted groups.

The County has effectuated the Housing Insecurities and Homelessness Services project – a full spectrum program providing temporary / transitional housing support through rapid re-housing strategies, and fiscal aid and wraparound services to those experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness. The program will seek to address the housing stabilization needs of individuals and families, and offer financial assistance (i.e., rental security deposits, temporary rental assistance, rental application fees, moving expenses, etc.) on a case-by-case basis. In addition, there is a large population within the County that is at a risk of becoming unhoused. The State of New Jersey has the second highest foreclosure rate in the country, with Ocean County proving to be the highest in the state. As a result of the pandemic, foreclosure rates increased further – with the majority of foreclosures relating to senior citizens at or below the Asset Limited Income Constrained and Employed threshold. In turn, with the aim to mitigate foreclosures and prevent the unhousing of seniors, the County is instituting the Eviction, Foreclosure, and Homelessness Prevention Legal Services Program.

In addition to the homeless population and income-restricted seniors, disabled senior citizens and disabled young adults are a disproportionately impacted group at a heightened risk of the impacts of COVID-19. Disabled seniors and young adults are a marginalized class with preexisting health ailments with accompanying risks that have been amplified due to the pandemic. Furthermore, disabled seniors and disabled young adults have enhanced difficulties finding and maintaining work – with the pandemic increasing their risk of financial insecurity. As a result, the County's Recovery Plan includes the expansion of the already instituted Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) program, thereby offering care management services with a higher degree of focus and intensity to disabled seniors and young adults.

Lastly, it is a key objective of the County to ensure that the intended beneficiaries of both ARPA and non-ARPA COVID-19 recovery programs receive the support provided to them. As such, it is critical to help ensure that there is (1) no lack of awareness of benefit program availability, and (2) that beneficiaries eligible for programs are able to navigate through the application processes to receive the support for which they need. With this, the County is instituting the Benefits Navigator program to provide support maneuvering through the benefit programs available to the County of Ocean's residents.

2. [Category Goals / Outcomes](#)

As is the case with the County's Public Health expenditure category, there are several goals effectuated for each program within the Negative Economic Impact section of the Recovery Plan. To remediate the negative economic impacts of the pandemic, the County aims to provide temporary rapid re-housing assistance to

households experiencing homelessness, as well as financial assistance and wraparound services to this marginalized group in an effort to lead the beneficiaries to economic restoration. In addition, the County is targeting the prevention of individuals becoming unhoused – either through foreclosure or eviction – by providing legal consultation and representation to said group. The County is pursuing case management support for senior citizens and disabled adults in the County by expanding its Aging and Disability Resource Center footprint (i.e., adding case manager depth to existing contracts). Lastly, to catalyze the breadth of impact for all ARPA (and non-ARPA COVID-19) benefits programs, the County is creating benefits navigation support.

3. [Strategy for Goal Achievement](#)

In addition to the approach taken to design programs under the Public Health expenditure category, the County of Ocean established projects under the Negative Economic Impacts category through a collaborative lens. For example, the County will be working in concert with specialists such as Ending Homelessness Group or the Affordable Housing Alliance to execute the rapid-rehousing and financial assistance program. To optimize the legal consultation and representation services under the Eviction and Foreclosure Prevention program, the County will partner with organizations such as the Community Health Law Project and the attorneys therein. The County will leverage its extensive network of schools, law enforcement agencies, CBOs, faith based organizations, senior centers, social media outlets, etc. to achieve the case management objectives of the Aging and Disability Resource Center program. Lastly, the County will ensure it utilizes the services of organizations equipped with Alliance of Information and Referral System certified Community Resource Specialists to achieve the benefits navigation support targeted under the Benefits Navigator program.

4. [Progress Against Intended Goals / Outcomes](#)

As of the date of this Recovery Plan, the projects that fall within this expenditure category have yet to commence. In turn, there is no progress reporting applicable. See the *Project Inventory* section of this report for more detail.

5. [Noteworthy Challenges / Opportunities in the Reporting Period](#)

As of the date of this Recovery Plan, the projects that fall within this expenditure category have yet to commence. In turn, there is no challenge or opportunity reporting applicable. See the *Project Inventory* section of this report for more detail.

➤ **Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity (EC3)**

At the time of this Recovery Plan, the County has allocated an aggregate total of \$60,663.00 in SLFRF funds to Public Sector Capacity.

1. [Use of Funds Plan Overview](#)

There were several COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites established throughout the County as a result of the pandemic. In turn, ensuring effective operations and social distancing protocol adherence at said sites was paramount. To achieve the aforementioned, security presence was required. As such, the County of Ocean's Sheriff's Office staffed its officers to provide security services at the testing and vaccinations sites. To provide fiscal support to the public sector workforce that allocated time to this critical pandemic-derived activity, the County has established the COVID-19 Vaccination & Testing Time project. This project provides \$60,663.00 in wages and employer-FICA costs directly attributable to the officers' security hours incurred at the testing and vaccination sites from January 2022 – September 2022.

2. [Category Goals / Outcomes](#)

At the time of this Recovery Plan, there is only one single program associated with Public Sector Capacity. In turn, the goal of the County's Public Sector Capacity plan is to provide fiscal support for wages and associated employer-FICA costs incurred by the Sheriff's Office for time dedicated to the provision of security at the County's COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites.

3. [Strategy for Goal Achievement](#)

To ascertain the appropriate public sector capacity wage and employer-FICA amount (7.65%) attributable to the officer time dedicated to security services at the County's COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites, (1) timesheets produced by the Sheriff's Office and (2) the hourly rate for each individual who performed security services over said period was utilized.

4. [Progress Against Intended Goals / Outcomes](#)

As of the date of this Recovery Plan, there were 1,346 public sector capacity hours incurred from January 2022 – September 2022 for security services provided by the Sheriff's Office. This hour production equates to \$60,663.00 in COVID-19 wage and employer-FICA costs.

5. [Noteworthy Challenges / Opportunities in the Reporting Period](#)

As of the date of this Recovery Plan, there were no noteworthy challenges that materialized in the Public Sector Capacity arena. The County will continue to work with the Sheriff's Office and other departments to identify opportunities for Public Sector Capacity funding needed.

➤ **Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure (EC5)**

At the time of this Recovery Plan, the County has allocated an aggregate total of \$2,774,956.00 in SLFRF funds to Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure.

1. [Use of Funds Plan Overview](#)

It is the responsibility of the County of Ocean and its associated municipalities to safely and effectively remove, manage, and treat stormwater. To effectively assume this responsibility, critical infrastructure required in the provision of stormwater management services is a prerequisite. Without resilient and adequate infrastructure, the capability of the County and its municipalities to sufficiently reduce and recapture stormwater is diminished. In turn, the deferral or avoidance of infrastructure improvements leads to insufficient service and negative environmental consequences faced by the County's communities.

With this, the County will be instituting the Beach Haven Stormwater Infrastructure project and the Ship Bottom Stormwater Infrastructure project as part of its ARPA Recovery Plan. The Beach Haven Stormwater Infrastructure project will target the improvement of existing drainage inlets, piping, and pumping stations on 7th Street, 12th Street, and Pearl Street (as well as Delaware Avenue and County Road Bay Avenue). The Ship Bottom Stormwater Infrastructure project will target the construction of a stormwater pump station within the right-of-way of the southern end of Central Avenue, which terminates at the Manahawkin Bay. Through both programs, the County has effectuated an initiative to manage, reduce, and recapture stormwater, rectifying infrastructure degradation and targeting the improvement of the health and safety of its residents.

2. [Category Goals / Outcomes](#)

While the County's present Recovery Plan focuses solely on stormwater infrastructure improvements, there are multiple goals associated with the infrastructure section of the Recovery Plan. With respect to the Beach Haven Stormwater Infrastructure project, to improve the health and safety of the residents in the surrounding area, the program's goals are to (1) remove and replace existing stormwater drainage inlet and piping infrastructure and (2) add new stormwater pumping stations to achieve the effective management and

functioning of the stormwater facilities. With respect to the Ship Bottom Stormwater Infrastructure project, the program's goal is to improve the health and safety of the residents in the surrounding area by way of constructing a stormwater pump station that provides a mechanical means to discharge collected rainwater runoff through the existing outfall pipe during periods of high tide.

3. [Strategy for Goal Achievement](#)

To effectively execute the stormwater infrastructure improvement programs and achieve their associated goals, the County is utilizing the expertise and experience of the County Engineer and his associated department personnel. In addition, the County is partnering with the Borough of Beach Haven's Engineering Department and Underground Utilities (the vendor selected by Beach Haven to facilitate the infrastructure project) to effectuate the Beach Haven Infrastructure Improvement project. Furthermore, the County Engineer will be working with Ship Bottom's leadership to achieve the objectives of the associated program.

4. [Progress Against Intended Goals / Outcomes](#)

As of the date of this Recovery Plan, the projects that fall within this expenditure category have yet to commence. In turn, there is no progress reporting applicable. See the *Project Inventory* section of this report for more detail.

5. [Noteworthy Challenges / Opportunities in the Reporting Period](#)

As of the date of this Recovery Plan, the projects that fall within this expenditure category have yet to commence. In turn, there is no challenge or opportunity reporting applicable. See the *Project Inventory* section of this report for more detail.

➤ **Revenue Replacement (EC6)**

At the time of this Recovery Plan, the County has allocated an aggregate total of \$7,550,000.00 in SLFRF funds to Revenue Replacement expenditures.

1. [Use of Funds Plan Overview](#)

The County of Ocean opted to perform the revenue replacement calculation to ascertain the pool of funds available for the provision of government services under its ARPA program. Utilizing calendar year 2019 as its base year, the County realized \$13,496,712 and \$26,491,681 in revenue loss during 2020 and 2021, respectively. In aggregate, over the 2020-2021 period, the County experienced a revenue loss of \$39,988,393.

With this said, to-date, the County has approved \$7,550,000.00 in funds for the provision of government services. This allocation is associated with a beach replenishment program for the restoration of the Ocean County shoreline from the Manasquan Inlet to the Barnegat Inlet. The local economy in the County is heavily impacted by the coast, and the ramifications of shoreline erosion harm the economic viability already damaged from the pandemic. In turn, the County is instituting a beach replenishment project under the provision of government services to cover the non-federal cost of the beach renourishment program.

2. [Category Goals / Outcomes](#)

At the time of this report, the sole project effectuated under the revenue replacement expenditure category is the County's Beach Replenishment program. The goal of said program is to achieve environmental remediation by way of replacing portions of the coastline from the Manasquan Inlet to the Barnegat Inlet lost as a result of erosion. Consequently, through the shoreline restoration project, the County aims to eschew the continued degradation of its coast and subsequent negative health and economic impacts imposed upon its communities.

3. [Strategy for Goal Achievement](#)

As of the date of this Recovery Plan, the County's use of SLFRF funds in the category of revenue replacement focuses on beach renourishment. With this stated, the County will institute a multi-departmental and third-party specialist team to execute the shoreline restoration program. The expertise of County-proper personnel (i.e., Planning Department and Engineering Department leadership) and outside vendors (i.e., beach replenishment contractors) will be leveraged to achieve the goals established for the program. The County will leverage its experience executing prior beach restoration programs and the intellectual capital of its personnel to effectuate the ARPA Beach Replenishment program.

4. [Progress Against Intended Goals / Outcomes](#)

As of the date of this Recovery Plan, the projects that fall within this expenditure category have yet to commence. In turn, there is no progress reporting applicable. See the *Project Inventory* section of this report for more detail.

5. [Noteworthy Challenges / Opportunities in the Reporting Period](#)

As of the date of this Recovery Plan, the projects that fall within this expenditure category have yet to commence. In turn, there is no challenge or opportunity reporting applicable. See the *Project Inventory* section of this report for more detail.

➤ **Administrative (EC7)**

At the time of this Recovery Plan, the County has allocated an aggregate total of \$1,770,000.00 in SLFRF funds to Administrative expenditures.

1. [Use of Funds Plan Overview](#)

The County has placed a tremendous amount of importance in the effective management and execution of its SLFRF program. Furthermore, adherence to legal and regulatory governance in connection with the SLFRF program has been deemed paramount by the County. With this, a professional services contract has been executed with Witt O'Brien's LLC (Witt O'Brien's) to support the County's leadership in its execution of the SLFRF program. In addition to dedicating County-proper personnel to an ARPA Management Team tasked with building the Recovery Plan and assuming responsibilities of and executing the tasks that branch from said plan, the County has equipped itself with a layer of administrative consultation support through its strategic partnership with Witt O'Brien's.

2. [Category Goals / Outcomes](#)

The two primary goals of the County's administrative expenditure plan are to (1) support County leadership in the execution of its Recovery Plan by way of enriching the overall intellectual capital available to effectuate the SLFRF program, and (2) offer legal and regulatory compliance support to the County's ARPA governance.

3. [Strategy for Goal Achievement](#)

To achieve the aforementioned administrative goals, the County has executed a contract with Witt O'Brien's LLC. The Witt O'Brien's management consultants dedicated to the County's SLFRF program are equipped with a high-degree of exposure to the ARPA program at-large. In turn, the professionals collaborating with the County's internal ARPA Management Team have the ability to add first-hand ARPA management experience – an administrative quality of high value to the County of Ocean.

4. [Progress Against Intended Goals / Outcomes](#)

As of the date of this Recovery Plan, Witt O'Brien's has served in a review capacity for high-level activities executed by the County's ARPA Management Team. For example, Witt O'Brien's reviewed the 2020 and

2021 Revenue Replacement calculation financial models built by the County to confirm adherence to Treasury's Final Rule. For each project, the County's internal ARPA Management Team performed extensive program eligibility assessments based upon each project's purpose, beneficiary, and Final Rule applicability. Thereafter, projects were routed to Witt O'Brien's for a secondary review. Furthermore, after the ARPA Management Team designed and drafted this Recovery Plan, it engaged Witt O'Brien's to perform a secondary review.

5. Noteworthy Challenges / Opportunities in the Reporting Period

As of the date of this Recovery Plan, there are no noteworthy challenges to report in the Administrative expenditure category. With respect to opportunities, the ability of Witt O'Brien's to work remotely in its consulting capacity expands the breadth of ARPA management services the consulting firm is able to provide to its clients. In turn, this enriches the firm's exposure and administrative consulting acumen. As a result, the management consulting advisory services received by the County of Ocean is enhanced – which is a strategic advantage of the County in the overall administration of its SLFRF program.

Required Category 2

Uses of Funds

2: Uses of Funds

A. [SLFRF Expenditure Category Plans & Public Impact](#)

The subsections below partition the County’s Recovery Plan by expenditure category, and provide further detail surrounding the programs that have been or will be executed therein. In addition, detail surrounding the strategies employed to maximize the pragmatic impact of the programs and services designed to achieve a strong and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn is included. Insight surrounding the ways in which the funds presently support and/or will support the communities, populations, and individuals in our jurisdiction is conveyed in this section of the Recovery Plan.

➤ **Public Health (EC1)**

With respect to approved projects, a total of \$3,688,678.00 in SLFRF funds have been dedicated to Public Health expenditures.

1. [Strong and Equitable Recovery Plan for the County’s Communities – Public Health](#)

The public health of the County’s residents was negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In turn, in addition to the degradation of health in the communities at-large, a widening of the health gap between marginalized and non-marginalized groups was realized. With this, to address all parties, the County has instituted initiatives in its Recovery Plan such as the Social Connections program to target the remediation of mental and behavioral health issues faced by senior citizens and disabled persons. The County understands the impact with which rectifying community violence and addressing mental health / substance use disorder has on promoting equitable outcomes in its communities. As such, the On Point program has been instituted by the County to offer co-responder support to the County’s municipal police departments in the form of behavioral health expertise. Furthermore, without a high-functioning, low interference emergency response system – the ability to attain equity by way of effectively responding to emergencies in the County’s disproportionately impacted communities would be inhibited. To eschew this potential inhibitor – the County is effectuating an upgrade series to its emergency response system. Furthermore, the County understands the present mental, behavioral, and social inequity faced by children and adolescents who have lost a caregiver due to COVID-19, suicide, or a drug overdose. The County is also aware of the long-term developmental risks associated with this class of beneficiary. In turn, to promote equitable development for all children – the County has established the Child & Adolescent Grief and Trauma Programs to address the impact faced by this group.

2. [Category Goals & Achievement Strategy Detail – Public Health](#)

The careful selection of programmatic output and outcome goals is paramount with respect to determining the success of each of the County’s Recovery Plan programs. Furthermore, effectively tracking the progress against said goals and making augmentations to each program as dictated by the data collected is equally as critical. The County has established output and outcome goals and associated tracking metrics for each individual program within the category of public health. For example, the On Point program will track items such as the number of residents served per municipality and the effectiveness of behavioral health intervention training for officers. The Child and Adolescent Trauma Services program will evaluate the number of youth served and pre- and post-test measures of functioning. Performance data against each established project goal will be evaluated by the project’s partners and the County department overseeing the program. See the *Project Inventory* section for more detail surrounding the public health projects and their associated programmatic goals.

➤ **Negative Economic Impacts (EC2)**

With respect to approved projects, a total of \$9,513,936.00 in SLFRF funds have been dedicated to Negative Economic Impact expenditures:

1. [Strong and Equitable Recovery Plan for the County’s Communities – Negative Economic Impacts](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic placed a fiscal strain on many residents, businesses, and communities within the County of Ocean. Financial hardships were created by the pandemic due to layoffs, employee hour reductions, business closures, and such hardships continue to persist. As is the case with public health issues, negative economic impacts were realized throughout the County at-large and broadened the already prevalent economic gaps between non-marginalized and marginalized groups. To address the negative economic impacts faced within the County and both restore and improve upon economic inequities – the County has established several programs in its Recovery Plan. The Housing Insecurities and Homelessness Services program targets unhoused individuals and those at risk of becoming unhoused by way of providing temporary lodging support, fiscal aid, and transition services to permanent housing. The County’s Aging and Disability Resource Center program addresses the care management needs of senior citizens and disabled young adults in the County, aiming to improve their personal and societal position by way of enhancing their physical, mental, and social health. The Eviction, Foreclosure, & Homelessness Prevention Legal Services program offers legal consultation and representation to low-income persons within the County of Ocean who are at risk of eviction or foreclosure. The program aims to maintain the County’s low-income senior citizens in their residences – and thereby afford this marginalized group the opportunity to sustain and improve upon their economic position. Lastly, the County’s Benefits Navigator program offers support to non-English speaking residents and other minority groups by way of connecting these individuals with the recovery program aid for which they are eligible.

2. [Category Goals & Achievement Strategy Detail – Negative Economic Impacts](#)

As stated in the Public Health subsection above, the careful selection and performance tracking of programmatic output and outcome goals is paramount with respect to determining the success of each of the County’s Recovery Plan programs. In turn, within the Negative Economic Impacts expenditure category, the County has established output and outcome goals and associated tracking metrics for each individual program. For example, the Ending Homelessness program will track items such as the number of households receiving eviction prevention services and the number of households transitioned to permanent housing. The Aging & Disability Resource Center program will evaluate the number of senior citizens and disabled adults supported and the number of linkages to care management services achieved. Performance data against each established project goal will be evaluated by the project’s partners and the County department overseeing the program. See the *Project Inventory* section for more detail surrounding the negative economic impact projects and their associated programmatic goals.

➤ **Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity (EC3)**

With respect to approved projects, a total of \$60,663.00 in SLFRF funds have been dedicated to Public Sector Capacity expenditures:

1. [Strong and Equitable Recovery Plan for the County’s Communities – Public Sector Capacity](#)

In the area Public Sector Capacity, the County is dedicating SLFRF funds to the wages and employer-FICA costs associated with time incurred by the Sheriff’s Office for security services provided at the COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites in the County. Only direct hours spent on said COVID-19 related activities are being reimbursed under this program. At the time of this Recovery Plan, this is the sole item that falls within the Public Sector Capacity expenditure category. In turn, there are no community equity items associated with this category.

2. [Category Goals & Achievement Strategy Detail – Public Sector Capacity](#)

As stated above, the sole program in the County’s Public Sector Capacity Recovery Plan section is Sheriff’s Office COVID-19 testing and vaccination wage and employer-FICA cost reimbursements. As such, there are no programmatic goals associated with this program apart from tying-out the number of security hours incurred with their associated wages and employer-FICA costs

➤ **Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure (EC5)**

With respect to approved projects, a total of \$2,774,956.00 in SLFRF funds have been dedicated to Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure expenditures:

1. [Strong and Equitable Recovery Plan for the County’s Communities – Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure](#)

Within the Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure expenditure category, the County is dedicating SLFRF funds to stormwater infrastructure improvements in the Borough of Beach Haven and Ship Bottom. In order to maintain and improve the health and safety of the communities in the aforementioned target areas, the remediation of degraded drainage inlets, piping, and pumping stations is required. In addition, improvements to infrastructure to support the removal of stormwater in areas of flood risk is a focus of the County. Facilitating infrastructure improvements will support the health and safety of the residents in the impacted areas, and promote equitable outcomes for those located in the areas of stormwater improvement needs.

2. [Category Goals & Achievement Strategy Detail – Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure](#)

The goals of the stormwater infrastructure programs effectuated under the County’s ARPA program are to (1) remove and replace existing stormwater drainage inlet and piping infrastructure (2) add new stormwater pumping stations to achieve the effective management and functioning of the stormwater facilities, and (3) construct a stormwater pump station that provides a mechanical means to discharge collected rainwater runoff through the existing outfall pipe during periods of high tide. Items (1) and (2) correlate to the Beach Haven Stormwater Infrastructure project, while item (3) corresponds to the Ship Bottom project. Each of the aforementioned items are designed for the purpose of improving the health and safety of the residents impacted by the stormwater improvements. To track the effectiveness of each programmatic goal, progress reporting during each phase of the project lifecycle, as well as infrastructure effectiveness benchmark reporting will be regularly measured.

➤ **Revenue Replacement (EC6)**

With respect to approved projects, a total of \$7,550,000.00 in SLFRF funds have been dedicated to Revenue Replacement expenditures.

1. [Strong and Equitable Recovery Plan for the County’s Communities – Revenue Replacement](#)

The ability of the County to continue in its provision of general government services is of critical importance in terms of facilitating a strong and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The County is responsible for executing environmental remediation, as this is an essential service for which the government must provide. In turn, the County is establishing the Beach Replenishment program – a coastline renourishment initiative aimed at mitigating and correcting the erosion of the shoreline from the Manasquan Inlet to the Barnegat Inlet. The economic viability of the County – with respect to both impacted and disproportionately impacted communities alike – is highly correlated to the shore. In turn, the continued erosion of the coast exacerbates the negative economic impacts already faced by the County’s communities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With this, the environmental remediation effort to be executed by the

County under the Beach Replenishment program targets economic restoration across the impacted communities.

2. [Category Goals & Achievement Strategy Detail – Revenue Replacement](#)

At the time of this report, the Beach Replenishment program detailed above is the sole project that falls under the Revenue Replacement expenditure category in the County’s Recovery Plan. With this said, as is the case with all County SLFRF programs – the Beach Replenishment project has defined programmatic goals for which the County has established to gauge its effectiveness. This includes progress reporting during the project’s lifecycle, for which County leadership will utilize to augment the program to improve performance as needed. In addition, the program will leverage effectiveness benchmarking – wherein the progress made during the program shall be measured against benchmarks that – if met – will signal goal achievement.

➤ **Administrative (EC7)**

With respect to approved projects, a total of \$1,770,000.00 in SLFRF funds have been dedicated to Administrative expenditures.

1. [Strong and Equitable Recovery Plan for the County’s Communities – Administrative](#)

The successful management and execution of the County’s SLFRF Program is a prerequisite to achieving the individual program goals that have been established to restore the health and wellbeing of the County’s communities. In turn, optimizing the governance of the Recovery Plan is a goal established by the County’s leadership to yield program effectiveness across all other expenditure categories. With this, the County has allocated SLFRF funds to contract Witt O’Brien’s, a professional consulting firm supporting the County’s ARPA Management Team in its administration of the Recovery Plan. It is the assertion of the County that collaboration with a third-party firm specialized in ARPA management consulting would improve the overall value of the programs established in its Recovery Plan. In turn, by enhancing the management and execution of each individual program through a collaborative consultative effort – the value received by each program’s beneficiary (i.e., the impacted communities within the County) is improved. This administrative effort enriches the overall value realized by the County’s SLFRF program, and supports its universal goal of promoting equitable outcomes across its communities.

2. [Category Goals & Achievement Strategy – Administrative](#)

As stated in the prior section, the County has contracted with Witt O’Brien’s to effectively manage its SLFRF program and achieve legal and regulatory compliance assurance. This partnership was established to improve the overall administration of the County’s Recovery Plan, and in turn, the value received by the Recovery Plan’s beneficiaries. With this, to ascertain the quality of the administrative relationship between the County and its consultant, administrative hours incurred and leadership satisfaction surveys will be tracked and analyzed by the ARPA Management Team.

B. [Other Federal Recovery Funds](#)

The County of Ocean utilized \$61M in Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) to support public health and economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Of this amount, approximately \$6.2M was provided to nonprofit organizations such as Chai Lifeline, The Hope Center, A Need We Feed, and the Special Children’s Center. Utilizing the services of the New Jersey Redevelopment Authority and the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, approximately \$9.8M was provided to small businesses throughout the County (inclusive of said entities’ fees). Additional CRF funds were provided to municipalities, county agencies, and other entities – including the County itself – for various pandemic recovery initiatives (i.e., public health, medical expenses, economic support, etc.).

Required Category 3

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

3: Promoting Equitable Outcomes

The County of Ocean is cognizant of the challenges that exist with respect to communicating program transparency and fund availability to its marginalized, underserved, and adversely affected population groups. The County understands that ensuring awareness of and access to its programs (with particular emphasis on the aforesaid groups) is imperative in order to promote equitable outcomes of the County's SLFRF program. The detail below outlines the objectives, strategies, initiatives, and efforts the County of Ocean has employed / will employ through its SLFRF program to maintain and improve equity restoration in its communities.

A. Design

➤ **Goals – Intended Beneficiaries:**

The County has designed its Recovery Plan to include the targeting of underserved and marginalized groups within its boundaries. Through various programs detailed in this report (i.e., Benefits Navigator, Aging & Disability Resource Center) the County has aimed for the inclusion of adversely affected beneficiary groups in its SLFRF program. Non-English speaking persons are targeted by way of the Benefits Navigator Program. Senior citizens and disabled residents are a direct recipient of the Aging, Disability, and Resource Center Program, the Social Connections Program, and the Eviction, Foreclosure, and Homelessness Prevention Program. The unhoused and those at risk of becoming unhoused are targeted in the Housing Insecurities and Homelessness Services program project instituted by the County. Children and adolescents who have lost a caregiver due to COVID-19, suicide, or drug overdose – and thereby are presently experiencing or at risk of experiencing mental and behavioral health issues – are a marginalized group targeted in the County's Recovery Plan. In addition, disproportionately impacted communities are a recipient of the On Point co-responder program by way of eschewing those with mental health issues from the criminal justice system.

➤ **Awareness:**

To achieve awareness of the programs made available under its SLFRF Recovery Plan, the County will be leveraging connections with organizations such as the Children's System of Care, the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, educational facilities, and mental health and substance use disorder providers. In addition, the County will work with community-based organizations, businesses, nonprofit entities, and its residents to enrich the breadth of its Recovery Plan programs. Furthermore, the subrecipients for which the County partners (i.e. the Community Health Law Project) will be instructed by the County's leadership to execute outreach on behalf of the program for which they have been contracted to facilitate.

➤ **Access & Distribution:**

As previously stated, the County will be instituting a Benefits Navigator Program in its Recovery Plan. The purpose of this project is to bridge the gap between the programs offered by the County and the recipients eligible for the services provided by said programs. In addition, individual programs within the County's Recovery Plan are designed with the intention to rectify prospective access and distribution issues. For example, the Care Managers associated with the Aging and Disability Resource Center program will communicate and work with the senior citizens and disabled residents serviced by the program in a manner dictated by the needs of the beneficiaries themselves. If one beneficiary is in need of on-site care while another beneficiary would derive more value from a virtual session – both implementation methods will be pursued by the program. The County's ARPA Management Team and the individual departments and project-partners managing each Recovery Plan program are privy to the need to institute multivariate points of access to the plan's beneficiaries.

➤ **Outcomes:**

It is a primary goal of the County's Recovery Plan to close economic gaps by way of providing universal levels of service across the County's communities. In turn, to realize equity in the area of economic growth throughout the County – it is important the ensure marginalized / underserved groups receive focused support. In turn, the County has effectuated SLFRF projects including but not limited to the Housing Insecurities and Homelessness Services program, the ADRC Program, the Social Connections Program, and the Eviction, Foreclosure, and Homelessness Prevention Program to close the aforesaid economic gaps that have been exacerbated by the

pandemic. Furthermore, as previously stated, programmatic goals have been set for each project, including those programs designed to benefit marginalized groups. Data will be collected to gauge progress against these goals, and in turn, progress towards equitable outcome delivery. At the time of this report, the Recovery Plan programs have yet to commence. However, equitable outcome progress will be measured on an ongoing basis – and progress will be communicated in the County’s subsequent Recovery Plans accordingly.

B. [Implementation](#)

➤ *Goals, Targets, & Equitable Outcome Progress*

1. [Economic / Racial Equity Target 1 – Homeless Population](#)

The County aims to mitigate homelessness. The Housing Insecurities and Homelessness Services program has been instituted to achieve this equity objective.

Goal Progress: At the time of this report, the aforesaid program has yet to commence. Goal progress will be conveyed in this section in the County’s subsequent Recovery Plan reports.

Challenges / Constraints: At the time of this report, the aforesaid program has yet to commence. Any noteworthy challenges and constraints will be conveyed in this section in the County’s subsequent Recovery Plan reports.

2. [Economic / Racial Equity Target 2 – Senior Citizens](#)

The County aims to provide care management support, and eviction, foreclosure, and homelessness prevention legal services to senior citizens within the County. The Aging & Disability Resource Center and the Eviction, Foreclosure, and Homelessness Prevention Legal Services programs have been instituted to achieve these equity objectives.

Goal Progress: At the time of this report, the aforesaid programs have yet to commence. Goal progress will be conveyed in this section in the County’s subsequent Recovery Plan reports.

Challenges / Constraints: At the time of this report, the aforesaid programs have yet to commence. Any noteworthy challenges and constraints will be conveyed in this section in the County’s subsequent Recovery Plan reports.

3. [Economic / Racial Equity Target 3 – Disabled Citizens](#)

The County aims to provide care management support, social connection support, and eviction, foreclosure, homelessness prevention legal services to disabled citizens within the County. The Aging & Disability Resource Center, Social Connections, and the Eviction, Foreclosure, and Homelessness Prevention Legal Services programs have been instituted to achieve these equity objectives.

Goal Progress: At the time of this report, the aforesaid programs have yet to commence. Goal progress will be conveyed in this section in the County’s subsequent Recovery Plan reports.

Challenges / Constraints: At the time of this report, the aforesaid programs have yet to commence. Any noteworthy challenges and constraints will be conveyed in this section in the County’s subsequent Recovery Plan reports.

4. [Economic / Racial Equity Target 4 – Children & Adolescents Suffering from the Loss of a Caregiver](#)

The County aims to provide trauma and grief support services to children and adolescents within the County that have experienced the death of a caregiver due to COVID-19, suicide, or a drug overdose. The Child & Adolescent Trauma Services and the Child & Adolescent Grief programs have been instituted to achieve these equity objectives.

Goal Progress: At the time of this report, the aforesaid programs have yet to commence. Goal progress will be conveyed in this section in the County’s subsequent Recovery Plan reports.

Challenges / Constraints: At the time of this report, the aforesaid programs have yet to commence. Any noteworthy challenges and constraints will be conveyed in this section in the County’s subsequent Recovery Plan reports.

5. [Economic / Racial Equity Target 5 – Non-English Speaking Residents & Other Underserved Groups](#)

The County aims to provide benefit navigation support services to non-English speaking residents and other underserved groups that are in need of and eligible for recovery funds. The Benefits Navigator Program has been instituted to achieve this equity objective.

Goal Progress: At the time of this report, the aforesaid program has yet to commence. Goal progress will be conveyed in this section in the County’s subsequent Recovery Plan reports.

Challenges / Constraints: At the time of this report, the aforesaid program has yet to commence. Any noteworthy challenges and constraints will be conveyed in this section in the County’s subsequent Recovery Plan reports.

➤ ***Negative Economic Impact Strategies – SLFRF Focus Areas***

The Negative Economic Impact expenditure category is a Treasury-defined focus area with respect to serving disproportionately impacted and marginalized groups. In the commentary detailed above, the Housing Insecurities and Homelessness Services program (serving the homeless), the Aging and Disability Resource Center Program (serving senior citizens and disabled persons), the Eviction, Foreclosure, & Homelessness Prevention Legal Services Program (serving senior citizens and disabled persons), and the Benefits Navigator Program (serving non-English speaking residents and other marginalized groups) all fall within the Negative Economic Impacts expenditure category. With this, refer to the narrative above and the *Project Inventory* section of this Recovery Plan for detail surrounding the objectives and the output and outcome measures for achieving equitable outcomes within this SLFRF focus area.

Required Category 4

Community Engagement

4: Community Engagement

The County of Ocean's Community Engagement Plan

Whether it be through written, oral, virtual, in-person, and/or other modes of communication, the County of Ocean understands that input from its SLFRF stakeholders (i.e., constituents, County departments, community-based organizations, residents, etc.) is paramount. The County understands that, in order to achieve its equity goals during the execution of its SLFRF program, community engagement is necessary to enrich the value of the projects targeted to each program beneficiary. In turn, the County has several community outreach methods in which it will employ to spread awareness of its Recovery Plan and receive the feedback required to improve its projects. The County also understands the importance of placing particular emphasis on engagement initiatives with respect to its SLFRF program's marginalized beneficiaries. As such, the following strategies have been / will be employed to capture input from SLFRF stakeholders – including underserved or adversely affected groups (i.e., persons with disabilities, people of color, senior citizens, people of low income, populations with limited English-speaking proficiency, etc.):

➤ The Homeless Population

The homeless population is a targeted pandemic-impacted group for which the County of Ocean's SLFRF funds have been allocated via project establishment. The County will be coordinating its efforts with the Ending Homelessness Group, Affordable Housing Alliance, Mental Health Association of New Jersey, Ocean County Department of Human Services and other related stakeholders to enrich outreach and communication with the aforementioned underserved group. Furthermore, the County will institute regular structured program monitoring efforts with its program subrecipients and contractors to gauge levels of service delivery. Based upon the results of said structured program monitoring efforts, the County will augment its communication efforts with the homeless beneficiary class to improve upon its associated programs.

➤ Senior Citizens

Senior citizens are a targeted pandemic-impacted group for which the County of Ocean's SLFRF funds have been allocated via project establishment. The County will be coordinating with the Community Health Law Project, community-based organizations, faith based organizations, law enforcement agencies, senior centers, and social media outlets to enrich the outreach and communication efforts with seniors. Furthermore, the County will institute regular structured program monitoring efforts with its program subrecipients and contractors to gauge levels of service delivery. Based upon the results of said structured program monitoring efforts, the County will augment its communication efforts with the senior citizen beneficiary class to improve upon its associated programs.

➤ Disabled Residents

Residents within the County of Ocean with disabilities are a targeted pandemic-impacted group for which the County's SLFRF funds have been allocated via project establishment. The County will be coordinating with the Community Health Law Project, the Ocean Partnership for Children, community-based organizations, faith based organizations, and social media outlets to enrich the outreach and communication efforts with disabled residents. Furthermore, the County will institute regular structured program monitoring efforts with its program subrecipients and contractors to gauge levels of service delivery. Based upon the results of said structured program monitoring efforts, the County will augment its communication efforts with the disabled beneficiary class to improve upon its associated programs.

➤ Children & Adolescents Suffering from the Loss of a Caregiver

Children and adolescents within the County of Ocean suffering from the loss of a caregiver due to COVID-19, suicide, or drug overdose are a targeted pandemic-impacted group for which the County's SLFRF funds have been allocated via project establishment. The County will be coordinating with the Children's System of Care, the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, educational facilities (i.e., public schools), and mental health and

substance use disorder treatment providers to enrich the outreach and communication efforts with the impacted children and adolescents. Furthermore, the County will institute regular structured program monitoring efforts with its program subrecipients and contractors to gauge levels of service delivery. Based upon the results of said structured program monitoring efforts, the County will augment its communication efforts with the aforesaid children and adolescent beneficiary class to improve upon its associated programs.

➤ **Non-English Speaking Residents and Other Underserved Groups**

Non-English speaking residents and other underserved groups within the County of Ocean experiencing difficulty accessing and navigating the benefit programs available to them are a targeted pandemic-impacted group for which the County’s SLFRF funds have been allocated via project establishment. The County will be coordinating with Alliance of Information and Referral System (AIRS) certified Community Resource Specialists (CRS) to enrich the outreach and communication efforts with the impacted beneficiary class. Furthermore, the County will institute regular structured program monitoring efforts with its program subrecipients and contractors to gauge levels of service delivery. Based upon the results of said structured program monitoring efforts, the County will augment its communication efforts with the non-English speaking and other underserved groups to improve upon its associated programs.

With respect to each of the aforesaid disproportionately impacted groups – as well all impacted beneficiaries of the ARPA program at-large – the County will be utilizing its website, social media outlets, Constant Contact email marketing software, and other mechanisms to enrich community engagement. Furthermore, the County’s Department of Human Services will be leveraging its oversight and development boards (microcosms of the impacted communities for which they have been established to represent) to enhance the breadth and awareness of the projects instituted under this Recovery Plan. These oversight and development boards provide conflict free feedback and guidance to the Board of Commissioners for the systems of care under the auspices of Human Services, which translates seamlessly into the ARPA program. The County has and will facilitate continuous communication touchpoints with the aforesaid constituents to ensure feedback is captured and considered for program augmentation – where necessary – in order to improve the pandemic restoration impacts intended through its SLFRF programs.

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Required Category 5

Labor Practices

Required Category 6

Use of Evidence

6: Use of Evidence

➤ Public Health (EC1)

As per Treasury’s Compliance and Reporting Guidance last updated September 20, 2022 – Version 5.0 (*the latest version as per the date of this Recovery Plan*), the definition of “evidence base” is defined as follows:

Strong Evidence

“Strong evidence means that the evidence base can support causal conclusions for the specific program propose by the applicant with the highest level of confidence. This consists of one or more well-designed and well-implemented experimental studies conducted on the proposed program with positive findings on one or more intended outcomes.”

Moderate Evidence

“Moderate evidence means that there is a reasonably developed evidence base that can support causal conclusions. The evidence base consists of one or more quasi-experimental studies with positive findings on one or more intended outcomes OR two or more non-experimental studies with positive findings on one or more intended outcomes. Examples of research that meet the standards include: well-designed and well-implemented quasi experimental studies that compare outcomes between the group receiving the intervention and a matched comparison group (i.e., a similar population that does not receive the intervention).”

Preliminary Evidence

“Preliminary evidence means that the evidence base can support conclusions about the program’s contribution to observed outcomes. The evidence base consists of at least one non-experimental study. A study that demonstrates improvement in program beneficiaries over time on one or more intended outcomes OR an implementation (process evaluation) study used to learn about and improve program operations would constitute preliminary evidence. Examples of research that meet the standards include: (1) outcome studies that track program beneficiaries through a service pipeline and measure beneficiaries’ responses at the end of the program; and (2) pre- and post-test research that determines whether beneficiaries have improved on an intended outcome.”

There is a rigorous evaluation process that accompanies each SLFRF program approved by the County’s ARPA Management Team. In addition, evidence-based and evidence-informed practices instituted by organizations such as the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institute of Health, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration are adhered to by departments such as the Ocean County Department of Human Services in the generation of ARPA projects. First, a department, agency, nonprofit, or other entity cultivates a project or program proposal. This proposal is routed to the ARPA Management Team – upon which the team will perform a cross-walk between the project request and the eligibility of the use of funds in connection with the Final Rule. Only upon determining that the project targets a Treasury-eligible beneficiary and that the use of funds is allowable and reasonable in its response to mitigate a COVID-19 related impact faced by said beneficiary, will the ARPA Management Team hold meetings with the requesting entity. In these meetings, the Team will accumulate information regarding the origination of the request, the evidentiary-basis upon which the project’s interventions were selected, the program execution plan, the program outreach plan, the beneficiary vetting plan, etc.

It is critical that the requesting entity has confidence – based in fact – in the ability of its program’s interventions to remediate the negative health or economic impacts targeted. For example, the Ocean County Department of Human Service’s On Point program has leveraged data from its prior co-responder programs executed between the department’s selected subrecipient and the municipal police departments. It is this tactical experience and the previous results of the program that provide both the requesting department and the ARPA Management Team with the degree of confidence necessary to fund the project under the County’s Recovery Plan. Furthermore, the County leverages the experience and acumen of its SLFRF consultant, Witt O’Brien’s in the project vetting and evidentiary-evaluation process. This principle is applied across each of the County’s SLFRF programs.

Required Category 7

Performance Report

7: Performance Report

To ensure performance management at a granular level, the County has instituted project-level performance reporting. Each SLFRF program that falls within a Treasury-defined expenditure category (i.e., Public Health and Negative Economic Impacts) has its own defined output and outcome programmatic indicators. Each project's output and outcome indicator cluster is provided to the entity overseeing the SLFRF project, with instruction to ensure that – at a minimum – performance against each indicator is continuously measured. Furthermore, if the department that originated the program request is not the entity responsible for capturing performance data (i.e., the program's subrecipient bears said responsibility), the subrecipient will agree to performance reporting and the department will be responsible for ensuring the reporting adherence of the subrecipient. The County has detailed its key performance indicators for each SLFRF project in the *Project Inventory* section of the Recovery Plan. *Note: Mandatory performance indicators and programmatic data are included in the Project Inventory section of the Recovery Plan for projects that fall within Treasury's required categories, if applicable.*

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II. PROJECT INVENTORY

A. Public Health (EC 1) Projects

Project 1.1: On Point Expansion

Funding Amount: \$550,000.00

Project Expenditure Category:

1.12: Mental Health Services*^ | \$550,000.00

➤ Project Description:

Overview of Main Activities:

The Ocean County On Point program is a law enforcement-mental health co-responder program that diverts individuals experiencing mental illness from the criminal justice system, and provides critical professional partnership support to law enforcement operations within the County. Utilizing the ARPA funds dedicated to this project, the existing On Point program infrastructure will be expanded to additional municipalities within the County. The Ocean County Department of Human Services shall either expand its existing contract or secure a novel contract with a vendor staffed with licensed clinical social workers (LCSW), licensed social workers (LSW), licensed professional counselors (LPC), etc. The On Point program's partnered behavioral health specialist will work with the municipal police departments to provide services in the areas of mental health, substance use disorders, behavioral health, developmental or cognitive disability, homelessness support, etc. The program will offer behavioral health care expertise, case management support, and linkages to care in order to ensure the communities impacted by COVID-19-derived / exacerbated stress, anxiety, and depression can be addressed effectively.

Furthermore, the program will offer health care services and support linkages to mitigate the impacts of increased caregiver burden created by the pandemic. In addition, services surrounding alleviating the separation from family, friends, school, and service provider support caused by COVID-19 will be a concerted effort of the program. The program will also address substance use disorders exacerbated by the pandemic, via the provision of counselling and care management support. The On Point program's law-enforcement-mental health co-responder program model will aim to divert individuals experiencing mental illness caused or exacerbated by the pandemic from the criminal justice system. Lastly, training and consultation to officers on topics such as de-escalation skills, identifying signs and symptoms of mental illness, communicating effectively with individuals with developmental and cognitive disabilities, etc. will be provided through the program.

Approximate Timeline:

Under the County's ARPA program, the approximate timeline of the project is two (2) years – from 2023 through 2024. It will be at the discretion of each municipality for which On Point program services are provided, to extend the partnership with the service provider beyond calendar year 2024.

Use of Evidence:

In the setup phase of this program, the Ocean County Department of Human Services leveraged its prior experience with the co-responder model. To elaborate further, in a prior co-responder project with one of the County's municipal police departments - the On Point Program was able to contribute to an 82% reduction in police contact among the residents served at follow-up conducted 3-months post referral. In addition, there was a 46% reduction in police contact 12-months post referral. The efficacy of police mental health partnerships is a well-documented practice. For example, in its Police-Mental Health Collaboration (PMHC) Toolkit, the US Department of Justice – Bureau of Justice Assistance recognizes the co-responder model as a viable strategy in delivering behavioral health care to the public.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms & Project Partners:

As stated, the County will expand its existing contract or secure a novel contract with a behavioral healthcare provider staffed with licensed clinical social workers (LCSW), licensed social workers (LSW), licensed professional counselors (LPC), etc. Thereafter, the entity will partner with municipal police departments within the County to facilitate the co-responder model and provide behavioral health care expertise, case management support, and linkages to care in order to ensure the County's residents impacted by COVID-19-

derived or exacerbated stress, anxiety, and depression receive support. The Ocean County Department of Human Services will bear the responsibility of managing the ARPA program, assessing the effectiveness of the behavioral health provider’s service delivery via data collection, reporting, communication with municipal police department personnel, etc.

Intended Goals / Outcomes:

The goals of the On Point Program are manifold. The program is intended to divert individuals experiencing mental illness from the criminal justice system and provide professional partnership support to law enforcement operations within the County. The program aims to alleviate the stress, anxiety, and depression faced by the general public and those in disproportionately impacted areas – which has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Providing seamless referrals to more pointed social service, mental health, behavioral health, and substance use disorder interventions is another target of the program, as well as providing direct case management support during first-responder calls.

➤ Performance Report:

Legend: Treasury Required Indicator Ocean County Indicator

Project-Specific Output Indicator(s):

Output Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Output Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Number of Residents Served per Municipality	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
Number of Officers Trained	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
Training Hours Provided to Officers	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team’s determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

Project-Specific Outcome Indicator(s):

Outcome Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Outcome Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Number of Residents Served with Additional LEO Contact at 3, 6, and 12 Months Post-Initial Interaction	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
Officer Training Effectiveness Results	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team’s determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

[Project 1.2: Child & Adolescent Trauma Services Program](#)

[Funding Amount:](#) \$150,000.00

[Project Expenditure Category:](#)

1.12: Mental Health Services*^ | \$150,000.00

➤ Project Description:

Overview of Main Activities:

The Child & Adolescent Trauma Services Program is designed for children and adolescents of parents and caregivers who have died due to COVID-19, suicide, or drug overdose and are suffering from grief that – due to the pandemic's hindrance of being able to appropriately say goodbye to the departed – are at an increased risk of prolonged/complicated grief transitioning to trauma. Such grief is considered a mental health condition characterized by a persistent and pervasive longing for the deceased individual that causes significant impairment in functional aspects of the person's daily life. In turn, this impairment may lead to chronic health conditions, mental illness, and substance misuse in adulthood. The purpose of the Child & Adolescent Trauma Services Program is to provide trauma focused interventions, support group services, and other behavioral health remedies to the aforementioned children and adolescents. It is the purpose of this program to treat children and adolescents suffering from the aforesaid conditions, in order to treat immediate complicated grief instances as well as prevent future concerns, such as mental illness and substance misuse in adulthood that are engendered by prolonged, complicated, and unaddressed grief.

Approximate Timeline:

Under the County's ARPA program, the approximate timeline of the project is two (2) years – from 2023 through 2024. With this being said, fiscal and operational strategies to sustain the program via non-ARPA mechanisms beyond 2024 will be evaluated throughout the duration of the ARPA timeline.

Use of Evidence:

In the startup phase of the design of the Child & Adolescent Trauma Services Program – the Ocean County Department of Human Services leveraged insights gleaned from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA) – which has an Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center that provides communities, clinicians, policy-makers, and others with information and tools to incorporate evidence-based practices into their communities or clinical settings. Furthermore, the Human Services Department has leveraged evidence from the Suicide Prevention Resource Center to identify prospective service providers and counseling / training activities that may be performed by said provider in the facilitation of the program. The Department will leverage work product from the National Child Traumatic Stress Network in its selection of program subrecipients and evaluation of the subrecipients' selected activities. The evidence-based model to be employed in this program – such as Complicated Grief Therapy, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Grief, Meaning-In Loss Therapy, etc. – will ultimately be selected by the licensed behavioral health provider chosen to execute the child and adolescent trauma services.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms & Project Partners:

To achieve an optimal level of program service delivery, the County understands the criticality of partnering with specialists to execute the program and communicate its availability to the public. As such, the Ocean County Department of Human Services will partner with an organization staffed with behavioral health providers that have embraced trauma-focused interventions and engaged in training on trauma-informed care and/or trauma-treatment modalities. In addition, to expand the reach of this program to as many children/adolescents presently experiencing or at risk of experiencing pandemic-exacerbated trauma and complicated grief due to the death of a parent or caregiver, the Department of Human Services will collaborate with (1) the Children's System of Care, (2) the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, (3) educational facilities (i.e., public schools) throughout the County, and (4) mental health or substance use disorder treatment providers.

Intended Goals / Outcomes:

The goal of the Child & Adolescent Trauma Services Program is to mitigate the pandemic-caused and exacerbated trauma and complicated grief faced by children and adolescents of parents or caregivers who have died due to COVID-19, suicide, or drug overdose. The program intends to target children and adolescents suffering from the aforementioned, in order to treat immediate complicated grief instances as

well as prevent future health concerns such as mental illness and substance misuse in adulthood that are engendered by prolonged, complicated, and unaddressed grief.

➤ **Performance Report:**

Legend: Treasury Required Indicator Ocean County Indicator

Project-Specific Output Indicator(s):

Output Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Output Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Number of Youth Served	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
Number of Hours of Service Delivered	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team’s determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

Project-Specific Outcome Indicator(s):

Outcome Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Outcome Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Number of Successful Completions	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
Pre- and Post-Test Measures of Functioning	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team’s determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

With respect to both the output and outcome indicators associated with the Child & Adolescent Trauma Services Program – the appropriateness of the indicators will be contingent upon the structure of the program. The program service offering may prove to be primarily dedicated to the training of clinicians to provide trauma counseling. In turn, indicators associated with the number of clinicians trained and the effectiveness of the training may be measured. The program service offering may prove to be primarily dedicated to direct youth support group facilitation, in which case the number of youth served, successful completions, etc. would be tracked. The ultimate structure of the program will be determined through the competitive contracting process, and the indicators will be adjusted accordingly.

[Project 1.3: Child & Adolescent Grief Program](#)

[Funding Amount:](#) \$100,800.00

[Project Expenditure Category:](#)

1.12: Mental Health Services*^ | \$100,800.00

➤ **Project Description:**

Overview of Main Activities:

Similar to the Child & Adolescent Trauma Program, the Child & Adolescent Grief Program is designed for children and adolescents of parents and caregivers who have died due to COVID-19 or suicide, and who are suffering from grief which may lead to negative bereavement outcomes such as substance abuse, anxiety, depression, attachment disorders, suicidal thoughts, and suicide attempts. The difference between the grief

and trauma programs is that the latter focuses on trauma treatment modalities. The purpose of the Child & Adolescent Grief program is to provide grief support group and grief intervention services to the aforementioned children and adolescents. The need for grief intervention services is heightened due to pandemic-caused or pandemic-exacerbated child support group diminishment (i.e., school groups, family groups, etc.), isolation, healthy grief interruption, etc. The ARPA funds allocated to the Program will be used to train clinicians / professionals and peer support group leaders in the County of Ocean via the Dougy Center Models "Facilitating Peer Support Groups" modality. The grief support groups and grief intervention services will be offered to the aforesaid impacted children and adolescents in both impacted and disproportionately impacted communities.

The Ocean County Department of Human Services will partner with an organization that has carefully vetted its clinicians and peer support group leaders and has verified said professionals' competence and ability to attend and successfully complete the Dougy Center Models' Facilitating Peer Support Group training. Subsequent to the training, the clinicians will facilitate peer grief support group counseling sessions to address the negative impacts faced by the child and adolescent beneficiaries due to the loss of their caregiver(s). Furthermore, to promote sustainability following the use of ARPA funds, clinicians will be trained in a "train-the-trainer" model to allow for additional professionals to garner the peer grief support group facilitation skills subsequent to the ARPA period of performance.

Approximate Timeline:

Under the County's ARPA program, the approximate timeline of the project is two (2) years – from 2023 through 2024. With this being said, fiscal and operational strategies to sustain the program via non-ARPA mechanisms beyond 2024 will be evaluated throughout the duration of the ARPA timeline. In addition, as stated above, clinicians staffed by the partnered organization(s) will be trained in a "train-the-trainer" model to allow for additional professionals to garner the peer grief support group facilitation skills for which they can apply subsequent to the ARPA period of performance.

Use of Evidence:

Peer support groups are recognized as an evidence-based program for grief by the Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network of the US Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms & Project Partners:

To achieve an optimal level of program service delivery, the County understands the criticality of partnering with specialists to execute the program and communicate its availability to the public. In order to provide an optimal level of care to achieve the aforesaid programmatic goals, the Ocean County Department of Human Services will partner with an organization staffed with trained clinicians and peer support group leaders equipped to successfully complete and administer the teachings of the Dougy Center Model's Facilitating Peer Support Group training. Through this program, a coalition of well-trained healthcare professionals will be developed - and thusly - a heightened level of care will be made available to the children and adolescents of the program. In order to facilitate the peer grief support group services, the clinicians and peer support group leaders trained via the Dougy Center Model will execute their sessions in outpatient offices of County health facilities, schools, or other areas designated as safe, secure, and optimal locations for support. Lastly, with respect to program conveyance, the Ocean County Department of Human Services will partner with the following entities to drive awareness of the program to reach as many impacted children and adolescents as possible: (1) Children's System of Care, (2) Division of Child Protection and Permanency, (3) School Referrals, (4) Mental Health Disorder Treatment Providers, and (5) SUD Treatment Providers.

Intended Goals / Outcomes:

The goal of the Child & Adolescent Grief Program is to mitigate the negative bereavement impacts of children and adolescents who lost a parent or caregiver due to a COVID-19-related death, suicide, or a drug-related death. The program intends to increase the well-being and personal growth of children and adolescents suffering from the aforementioned grief.

➤ **Performance Report:**

Legend: Treasury Required Indicator Ocean County Indicator

Project-Specific Output Indicator(s):

Output Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Output Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Number of Children & Adolescents Served	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
Number of Hours of Service Delivered	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team's determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

Project-Specific Outcome Indicator(s):

Outcome Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Outcome Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Pre- and Post-Test Measures of Functioning	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team's determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

With respect to both the output and outcome indicators associated with the Child & Adolescent Grief Program – the appropriateness of the indicators will be contingent upon the structure of the program. The program service offering may prove to be primarily dedicated to the training of clinicians to provide grief counseling. In turn, indicators associated with the number of clinicians trained and the effectiveness of the training may be measured. The program service offering may prove to be primarily dedicated to direct youth support group facilitation, in which case the number of youth served, successful completions, etc. would be tracked. The ultimate structure of the program will be determined through the competitive contracting process, and the indicators will be adjusted accordingly.

[Project 1.4: Social Connections Program](#)

[Funding Amount:](#) \$67,500.00

[Project Expenditure Category:](#)

1.12: Mental Health Services*^ | \$67,500.00

➤ **Project Description:**

Overview of Main Activities:

Children and young adults with disabilities are a disproportionately impacted group that proves to be at a heightened risk of social and behavioral health challenges, due to their preexisting conditions creating a predisposition for isolation. The social distancing and stay-at-home measures imposed by the pandemic exacerbated the isolationism faced by disabled children and young adults, and therefore increased this group's proclivity for increased behavioral and social health ailments. Furthermore, due to the aforesaid pandemic-exacerbated harms imposed upon this group, the mental, emotional, and social strain imparted on said group's caregivers (as well caregivers in general) was amplified as a result of the pandemic. In turn, the Social Connections Program is designed to institute social skills programs to remediate the harm imposed upon children and young adults with disabilities that are at a disproportionately higher risk of social and behavioral

health challenges – due to their preexisting conditions creating a predisposition for isolation. Furthermore, the Program is will provide training and support group services to caregivers struggling to cope with their pandemic-heightened caregiver burdens.

Approximate Timeline:

Under the County’s ARPA program, the approximate timeline of the project is two (2) years – from 2023 through 2024. With this being said, fiscal and operational strategies to sustain the program via non-ARPA mechanisms beyond 2024 will be evaluated throughout the duration of the ARPA timeline.

Use of Evidence:

The paper titled "Social Skills Interventions for Individuals with Autism: Evaluation for Evidence-Based Practices Within a Best Evidence Synthesis Framework" involved a meta-analysis, which analyzed data collected from sixty-six (66) experimental and quasi-experimental studies. The paper evaluated the scientific rigor of the included. It identified only two interventions as having the necessary evidence to be considered evidence-based. The social skills group model was one of the two classified as an evidence-based practice ("strong" evidence).

Primary Delivery Mechanisms & Project Partners:

To achieve an optimal level of program service delivery, the Ocean County Department of Human Services will expand upon its innovative disability services contract with the Ocean Partnership for Children, wherein the following strategic interventions will be instituted to remediate the pandemic-exacerbated harm imparted upon disabled children and young adults, as well as caregivers: (1) social skills programs that target the (a) development of skills in social connections, (b) physical wellness, (c) emotional wellness, (d) personal value, and (e) coping skills for feelings of anxiety or depression, and (2) caregiver group sessions that educate caregivers on (a) coping strategies and (b) effectively developing a peer support system. The Ocean Partnership for Children will market the program to the targeted beneficiaries, and will employ its interventions virtually and in-person. Furthermore, transportation shall be provided and translation devices / bilingual staff will be made available per the project’s demands.

Intended Goals / Outcomes:

The goal of the Social Connections Program is to institute social skills programs to remediate the harm imposed upon children and young adults with disabilities that are at a disproportionately higher risk of social and behavioral health challenges - due to their preexisting conditions creating heightened isolationism following the pandemic. In addition, the program aims to provide training and support group services to caregivers struggling to cope with their pandemic-heightened caregiving burdens.

➤ Performance Report:

Legend: Treasury Required Indicator Ocean County Indicator

Project-Specific Output Indicator(s):

Output Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Output Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Number of Persons Served	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
Number of Sessions Held	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team’s determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

Project-Specific Outcome Indicator(s):

Outcome Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Outcome Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Pre- and Post-Test Measures of Functioning	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
Satisfaction Surveys	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team's determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

[Project 1.5: Emergency Response Upgrades](#)

[Funding Amount:](#) \$2,820,378.00

[Project Expenditure Category:](#)

1.14: Other Public Health Services^ | \$2,820,378.00

➤ Project Description:

Overview of Main Activities:

The COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted public health within the County of Ocean, particularly in the areas of mental health and substance use. Said substance use and overdose deaths have spiked due to the pandemic. In addition, violent crime, gun violence, and exposure to violence has amplified across the country, and in turn, has created short-term and long-term risks on the physical, socioeconomic, and economic well-being of the County's residents. Treasury recognizes these issues, and has stated in its Final Rule that addressing community violence as a public health issue may help prevent and even reduce additional harm to individuals, households, and communities. Treasury has further stated that the need for public health measures to respond to COVID-19 will continue moving forward.

In turn, to aptly and quickly respond to increased mental health and substance use disorder incidents, as well as increased community violence and crime - a high-functioning / low interference mission critical emergency response radio system is a necessity. To ensure the response time between and among the County-proper and municipal public safety teams is timely and effective - upgrades to the emergency response radio system are required. With this, the Ocean County Department of Management & Budget has executed a contract with Motorola to facilitate hardware and software upgrades to the County's ASTRO-25 emergency response radio system. The Emergency Response Upgrades project will support SUAII system improvements over the period of 2022-2024.

Approximate Timeline:

Under the County's ARPA program, the timeline of the project is three (3) years – from 2022 through 2024. Only SUAII system upgrades will be executed with the ARPA funds dedicated to this project during said time period. All 2022-2026 maintenance costs, as well as required upgrades from 2025-on will be financed through the County's operating budget, capital budget, or other funding stream deemed optimal at a future point in time.

Use of Evidence:

The Ocean County Department of Management & Budget leveraged its extensive experience with the existing emergency response system – along with the expertise of the Motorola team – to structure the system upgrades associated with this program. There was no evidence-base applicable in the establishment of this project.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms & Project Partners:

To achieve an optimal level of program service delivery, the County has contracted with Motorola. The Motorola technical and managerial personnel dedicated to the execution of the County's emergency response

system upgrades will be carefully monitoring hardware and software performance. Said personnel will produce reports to the County to convey the effectiveness of the equipment improvements.

Intended Goals / Outcomes:

The goal of the Emergency Response System project is to maintain a high-functioning, low interference mission critical emergency response radio system, in order to ensure that first responder response time is timely, secure, and effective.

➤ Performance Report:

Legend: Treasury Required Indicator Ocean County Indicator

Project-Specific Output Indicator(s):

Output Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Output Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
SUA II System Upgrade Report	NA	Upgraded version from 7.17 to A2021 Main & backup core upgrade Dispatch consoles upgrade Remote RF system upgrade	N/A
<i>Narrative Report: The Motorola leadership team executed various subsystem upgrades in the fourth quarter of 2022. In turn, the County's Emergency Response System was upgraded from 7.17 to A2021.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team's determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

Project-Specific Outcome Indicator(s):

Outcome Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Outcome Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Quarterly Security Patching	NA	Security patching completed, and system repair and parts confirmed.	N/A
<i>Narrative Report: The Motorola leadership team verified that the upgrade was conducted effectively, and the parts are such that the system is able to maintain current-state performance.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team's determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

B. Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2) Projects

Project 2.1: Housing Insecurities and Homelessness Services Program

Funding Amount: \$7,452,576.00

Project Expenditure Category:

2.2: Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid*^ | \$4,648,200.00

2.18: Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance*^ | \$1,596,804.00

2.19: Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators*^ | \$1,207,572.00

➤ Project Description:

Overview of Main Activities:

As a result of the pandemic, homeless individuals, individuals suffering from housing insecurity, and those at risk of becoming unhoused are at an increased risk of both contracting and spreading the COVID-19 virus. The Housing Insecurities and Homelessness Services program is full spectrum program that seeks to provide transitional housing services and support through rapid re-housing to persons experiencing homelessness in Ocean County. The program will seek to address the housing stabilization needs of individuals and families who are at an increased risk of contracting and spreading COVID-19 during the continued pandemic. This program will prioritize households experiencing homelessness by quickly connecting impacted individuals to temporary rapid re-housing assistance. Assistance may include financial support with rental security deposits, temporary rental assistance, rental application fees, moving expenses, utility assistance, and landlord incentives.

Approximate Timeline:

Under the County's ARPA program, the approximate timeline of the project is two (2) years – from 2023 through 2024. With this being said, fiscal and operational strategies to sustain the program via non-ARPA mechanisms beyond 2024 will be evaluated throughout the duration of the ARPA timeline.

Use of Evidence:

The program did not require the need for an evidence-base design. The selection of services for which the program offers was arrived at on the basis of the experience and understanding of the Ocean County leadership team structuring the program. In turn, an evidentiary-base was not needed.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms & Project Partners:

To effectively execute this program, the County is partnering with nonprofit organizations – such as Ending Homelessness Group (EHG), the Affordable Housing Alliance (AHA), and the Mental Health Association of New Jersey (MHA). These entities are highly experienced, competent, and well-versed in the provision of temporary emergency housing, effectuating transitions to permanent housing, rapid re-housing, and wraparound services to the beneficiaries of this program. In the delivery of this program, EHG will continuously evaluate the effectiveness of implementation in congruence with the AHA to address any barriers that may arise and troubleshoot issues. EHG staff will host structured program monitoring efforts with AHA to discuss program effectiveness and augment delivery to best position the project in relation to the emerging needs of the project's recipients. Furthermore, EHG leadership, AHA leadership, and the Ocean County Department of Human Services leadership will consider community outreach strategies to communicate the program to the marginalized beneficiaries of this program.

The program's facility will be used to provide temporary housing to homeless individuals in need of shelter, and case management services will be provided by specialists with the aim of securing permanent housing opportunities. Support will be provided to (1) homelessness-impacted households and (2) households at risk of becoming unhoused that have experienced a financial insecurity caused or exacerbated by the pandemic. For said individuals, financial assistance in the form of rental security deposits, temporary rental assistance, rental application fees, moving expenses, utility assistance, etc. will be provided. These individuals will also receive case management support and wraparound services (substance abuse services, mental health counseling, financial counseling, etc.).

Intended Goals / Outcomes:

The goal of the program is to provide temporary rapid re-housing assistance to households experiencing unsheltered homelessness and moderate to low income households that have experienced a negative financial impact caused or exacerbated by the pandemic that has exposed them to the risk of becoming unhoused. These individuals will be connected to permanent, affordable housing opportunities after initial temporary re-housing assistance. These individuals will also be assessed and provided wraparound services (substance abuse services, mental health counseling, financial counseling, etc.).

➤ Performance Report:

Legend: Treasury Required Indicator Ocean County Indicator

Project-Specific Output Indicator(s):

Output Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Output Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Number of Households Receiving Eviction Prevention Services (Including Legal Representation)	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
Number of Affordable Housing Units Preserved or Developed	N/A: This project does not involve housing unit preservation or development.		
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team's determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

Project-Specific Outcome Indicator(s):

Outcome Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Outcome Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Number of Households Transitioned to Permanent Housing	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
Dollar Amount of Financial Assistance Provided to Impacted Beneficiaries Broken Down by Category (i.e., Rent, Utility, Security Deposits, etc.)	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team's determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

[Project 2.2:](#) Benefits Navigator Program

[Funding Amount:](#) \$900,000.00

[Project Expenditure Category:](#)

2.19: Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators*^ | \$900,000.00

➤ Project Description:

Overview of Main Activities:

As a result of the pandemic, there are many programs (including the SLFRF program) that are available to the residents of Ocean County, and are designed for public health and negative economic impact restoration. However, difficulty accessing and/or understanding these pandemic-derived programs exists. Whether the gap between benefit offerings and the receipt of said benefits is engendered from a lack of recipient awareness, language, cultural, or socioeconomic divides, difficulty understanding the application process, lack of program access, etc. – this is a critical risk issue that must be resolved. Without access to the programs made available to them, the intended beneficiaries of these programs are unable to receive the support they need to recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In turn, the Benefits Navigator Program has been established as part of the County's Recovery Plan to provide support in navigating benefits made available to the County of Ocean's residents - so the impacted and disproportionately impacted individuals are able to access the services and aid designed to support their recovery from the pandemic.

Approximate Timeline:

Under the County's ARPA program, the approximate timeline of the project is two (2) years – from 2023 through 2024. With this being said, fiscal and operational strategies to sustain the program via non-ARPA mechanisms beyond 2024 will be evaluated throughout the duration of the ARPA timeline.

Use of Evidence:

The program did not require the need for an evidence-base design. The selection of services for which the program offers was arrived at on the basis of the experience and understanding of the Ocean County leadership team structuring the program. In turn, an evidentiary-base was not needed.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms & Project Partners:

To effectively execute this program and deliver benefits navigation support to the County's residents, the County will be partnering with an organization equipped with Alliance of Information and Referral System (AIRS) certified Community Resource Specialists (CRS). The County will also consider those in the process of obtaining their CRS certification or an industry recognized equivalent. Utilizing the operational expertise of its AIRS partner, the Department of Human Services and Office of Senior Services will ensure navigation support is provided to various locations throughout the County. In addition, the benefits navigation services will be provided via telephonic/virtual means as appropriate. In the delivery of the program, it will be the service provider partner that will establish support meetings with residents, and structure the duration and communication style of the benefits navigation meetings.

It will be a requirement of the County that the AIRS-certified entities with whom the County partners maintain a client relations management system – and capture and distribute programmatic data to the Department of Human Services at a regular cadence. Furthermore, it is a priority of Ocean County that marginalized residents are effectively targeted and supported through the execution of its ARPA Recovery Plan. In turn, the Benefits Navigator program will incorporate those with cultural and linguistic competency in order to expand project awareness to disproportionately impacted communities (i.e., non-English speaking communities). As is the case with many of the County's SLFRF programs, the service provider is expected to market the service to eligible beneficiaries.

Intended Goals / Outcomes:

The goal of the program is to provide benefits navigation support to the County of Ocean's residents to assist them with accessing the programs and services made available to them for the purpose of recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

➤ Performance Report:

Legend: Treasury Required Indicator Ocean County Indicator

Project-Specific Output Indicator(s):

Output Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Output Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
The Number of I&R Contacts / Inquiries In Which Inquirer Problems or Needs are Addressed	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
Number of Unduplicated Individuals / Families Served	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
Number of Contacts per Individual / Family Served	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023

Output Key Performance Indicator
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team's determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

Project-Specific Outcome Indicator(s):

Outcome Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Outcome Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Number of Linkages Made	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
End of Call Satisfaction Surveys	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team's determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

[Project 2.3: Aging and Disability Resource Center \(ADRC\) Program](#)

[Funding Amount:](#) \$843,360.00

[Project Expenditure Category:](#)

2.19: Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators*^ | \$843,360.00

➤ Project Description:

Overview of Main Activities:

As a class, disabled senior citizens and disabled young adults are at a heightened risk of the impacts of COVID-19, due to their proclivity toward preexisting health conditions. The pandemic exacerbated this risk by intensifying the health ramifications associated with existing ailments. Furthermore, disabled seniors and disabled young adults have enhanced difficulties finding and maintaining employment. In turn, the pandemic has increased their risk of financial insecurity and subsequently healthcare accessibility challenges / housing stability concerns. The amplified medical and financial risks imposed upon disabled seniors and disabled young adults as a result of the pandemic has engendered a need for enhanced services for this population. In turn, Ocean County is increasing the breadth and reach of its Aging and Disability Resource Center through its SLFRF ADRC program. The Ocean County Department of Human Services' Office for Individuals with Disabilities will work in congruence with the Ocean County Office of Senior Services (designated Area Agency on Aging) and a community based organization to provide care management services with a higher degree of focus and intensity to disabled seniors / young adults than the existing Aging and Disability Resource Center. The ADRC program will provide information, assistance, and referral services to a larger set of Ocean County disabled senior citizens and disabled young adults - expanding the service reach to this COVID-19 impacted population. Three (3) Case Managers will be added to the baseline service offering, thereby expanding the reach of the program to an estimated 330 additional senior citizens and young adults (approximately 110 persons per Case Manager). In addition, a flexible funding pool will be reserved – in order to provide additional aid to the beneficiaries of the program predicated upon Case Manager needs assessments at the point of service delivery (i.e., food insecurity support).

Approximate Timeline:

Under the County's ARPA program, the approximate timeline of the project is two (2) years – from 2023 through 2024. With this being said, fiscal and operational strategies to sustain the program via non-ARPA mechanisms beyond 2024 will be evaluated throughout the duration of the ARPA timeline.

Use of Evidence:

The program did not require the need for an evidence-base design. The selection of services for which the program offers was arrived at on the basis of the experience and understanding of the Ocean County leadership team structuring the program. In turn, an evidentiary-base was not needed.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms & Project Partners:

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) recognize the Aging and Disability Resource Center "No Wrong Door" model as a best practice. Furthermore, the County has a rich experience operating within this model, and delivering services to senior citizens and disabled young adults. To expand upon its existing service offering and consequently the reach of its ADRC Program under ARPA, the Ocean County Department of Human Services will partner with the Ocean County Office of Senior Services (designated Area Agency on Aging) and an organization equipped with qualified Case Managers to provide a more intense-level of care management services to disabled senior citizens and young adults. The County has an extensive networks of schools, law enforcement agencies, CBOs, faith based organizations, senior centers, social media outlets, etc. to communicate the availability of the ADRC program to its intended beneficiaries.

Intended Goals / Outcomes:

The goal of the program is to provide care management support to disabled seniors and young adults in the County who are at a pandemic-heightened risk exposure of health issues and financial insecurity - and for whom an intensified health and social service need is required. The program’s intention is to improve the mental, physical, and social health of this impacted and marginalized group – ultimately affording them with the tools and opportunities necessary to optimize their well-being.

➤ Performance Report:

Legend:

Treasury Required Indicator

Ocean County Indicator

Project-Specific Output Indicator(s):

Output Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Output Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Number of Units of Service	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
Number of Individuals Served	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team’s determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

Project-Specific Outcome Indicator(s):

Outcome Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Outcome Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Number of Linkages Made	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
Follow-Up Customer Satisfaction Surveys (email / mail)	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team's determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

Project 2.4: Eviction, Foreclosure, & Homelessness Prevention Legal Services Program

Funding Amount: \$318,000.00

Project Expenditure Category:

2.37: Economic Impact Assistance: Other*^ | \$318,000.00

➤ Project Description:

Overview of Main Activities:

The State of NJ has the second highest foreclosure rate in the country, 2x higher than the rest of the nation. Prior to the pandemic, Ocean County's foreclosure rate was the highest in the state. As a result of the pandemic, foreclosures and reverse mortgages increased, and many foreclosures were resultant of the aforesaid reverse mortgages. The majority of the aforementioned foreclosures were related to senior citizens. There are 25,000 seniors in Ocean County living above the poverty line but below the ALICE threshold (Asset Limited Income Constrained and Employed). This puts the senior citizen class at a disproportionate risk of pandemic-exacerbated foreclosure and housing loss due to financial insecurities. In addition, there are 8,300 citizens in the County with disabilities – who have a high risk of employment challenges (pandemic exacerbated) and thusly suffer from financial insecurities – which leads to a disproportionate risk of foreclosure and housing instability. In turn, the purpose of the Eviction, Foreclosure, & Homelessness Prevention Legal Services program is to provide legal consultation and representation to senior citizens and disabled persons in the County of Ocean operating at or below the ALICE threshold who are at risk of eviction or foreclosure due to financial insecurities caused or exacerbated by the pandemic.

Approximate Timeline:

Under the County's ARPA program, the approximate timeline of the project is two (2) years – from 2023 through 2024.

Use of Evidence:

The program did not require the need for an evidence-base design. The selection of services for which the program offers was arrived at on the basis of the experience and understanding of the Ocean County leadership team structuring the program. In turn, an evidentiary-base was not needed.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms & Project Partners:

To effectively execute this program, the Ocean County Department of Human Services – in congruence with the Ocean County Office of Senior Services – will expand upon its partnership with the Community Health Law Project (CHLP) to ensure an optimal level of legal consultation and representation is provided to the beneficiaries of the Eviction, Foreclosure, & Homelessness Prevention Legal Services program. County proper personnel and the attorneys and project managers with the CHLP will determine the best method for the provision of outreach, advocacy, benefits navigation, and legal aid to the seniors and disabled individuals facing eviction or foreclosure (i.e., in-office, at-resident, virtual, etc.). The legal consultation and representation service offering method will be arrived at on a case-by-case basis, to optimize the designed impact of the program's activities.

Intended Goals / Outcomes:

The goal of the program is to provide legal consultation and representation to senior citizens and disabled persons in the County of Ocean operating at or below the Asset Limited Income Constrained and Employed threshold who are at risk of eviction or foreclosure due to financial insecurities caused or exacerbated by the pandemic.

➤ Performance Report:

Legend: Treasury Required Indicator Ocean County Indicator

Project-Specific Output Indicator(s):

Output Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Output Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Number of Clients Served	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
Number of Hours of Legal Services Provided	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team's determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

Project-Specific Outcome Indicator(s):

Outcome Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Outcome Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Number of Evictions/Foreclosures Prevented	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
Number of Linkages Provided (Linkages to Ongoing Benefits and Assistance Programs)	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team's determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

C. Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity (EC 3) Projects

[Project 3.1: COVID-19 Vaccination & Testing Time Program](#)

[Funding Amount:](#) \$60,663.00

[Project Expenditure Category:](#)

3.1: Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers | \$60,663.00

➤ Project Description:

Overview of Main Activities:

As a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic, testing and vaccination sites were established to mitigate the spread of the virus. In turn, due to the volume of residents in need of testing and vaccinations, and the necessity to enforce social distancing at the aforementioned sites, the provision of security at the locations was paramount. In turn, the Sheriff's Office was placed in a position where its officers needed to provide security services at testing and vaccination sites in order to ensure social distancing protocols were met and the safety of the public was achieved. The provision of this service by the County's officers was and is directly correlated to pandemic response. With this, the purpose of the COVID-19 Vaccination & Testing Time project is to dedicate ARPA funds to the cost of the payroll and covered benefits directly correlated to the Ocean County Sheriff's Officers' time spent responding to COVID-19 by way of providing security and

social distance management at the County's COVID-19 vaccination and testing sites. In the establishment of this project and the arrival of the associated dollar value, an assessment was performed for the period of January 2022 – September 2022, utilizing COVID-19 security timesheets produced by the Sheriff's Office and the hourly rate for each individual who performed security services over said period. Furthermore, with respect to "covered benefits," only employer-FICA costs associated with the COVID-19 hours and wages are included in the program.

Approximate Timeline:

Under the County's ARPA program, the funds associated with this project are correlated to the COVID-19 hours, wages, and employer-FICA costs over the period of January 2022 – September 2022. Additional officer hours associated with the provision of security services at the County's COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites will be evaluated by the Ocean County ARPA Management team at a date subsequent to this Recovery Plan.

Use of Evidence:

There is no use of evidence associated with this project.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms & Project Partners:

The delivery of services under this project are correlated with security services provided by the Sheriff's Officers at the County's COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites.

Intended Goals / Outcomes:

The goal of the COVID-19 Vaccination & Testing Time project is to utilize ARPA funds for the payroll and covered benefits (employer FICA) incurred by the Ocean County Sheriff's Office for hours spent providing security and social distance management to the County's COVID-19 vaccination and testing sites (i.e., Public Sector Capacity).

➤ Performance Report:

Legend:

Treasury Required Indicator

Ocean County Indicator

Project-Specific Output Indicator(s):

Output Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Output Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
<i>Narrative Report: The COVID-19 Vaccination & Testing Time project and associated funding amount is driven by the hours expended by the Ocean County Sheriff's Officers providing security and social distance management at the County's COVID-19 vaccination and testing sites. In turn, the performance for the project is directly correlated to past security functions and the funding amount allocated for the same (i.e., hours backup). For this project's period of performance (Jan 2022 – Sep 2022), the total COVID-19 hours incurred were 1,346.00.</i>			

Project-Specific Outcome Indicator(s):

Outcome Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Outcome Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
<i>Narrative Report: The COVID-19 Vaccination & Testing Time project and associated funding amount is driven by the hours expended by the Ocean County Sheriff's Officers providing security and social distance management at the County's COVID-19 vaccination and testing sites. In turn, the performance for the project is directly correlated to past security functions and the funding amount allocated for the same (i.e., hours backup). For this project's period of performance (Jan 2022 – Sep 2022), the total COVID-19 hours incurred were 1,346.00.</i>			

D. Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure (EC 5) Projects

Project 5.1: Beach Haven Stormwater Infrastructure Project

Funding Amount: \$2,332,731.00

Project Expenditure Category:

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater | \$2,332,731.00

➤ Project Description:

Overview of Main Activities:

The County of Ocean and its municipalities hold the important responsibility of safely and effectively removing, managing, and treating stormwater. Without said service or through the deferral of the provision of said service, the negative environmental consequences faced by the communities in the County are amplified. In the Borough of Beach Haven, it has been determined by the Borough Engineer and associated professionals that existing drainage inlets, piping, and pumping stations on 7th Street, 12th Street, and Pearl Street (as well as Delaware Avenue and County Road Bay Avenue) are in need of improvements. In turn, the County has agreed to fiscally support the Borough's stormwater infrastructure facility improvement project through its Recovery Plan. The County has asserted that by supporting Beach Haven's initiative to manage, reduce, and recapture stormwater – the Borough is rectifying a prospective detriment to the municipality's residents and placing the Borough in a position of increased resiliency with respect to adapting to future changes to the climate.

Approximate Timeline:

Under the County's ARPA program, the approximate timeline of the project is two (2) years – from 2023 through 2024. With this being said, should there be infrastructure costs associated with the stormwater project that must be paid post-2024 – while funds shall be incurred prior to 2024 – project development and associated payment may extend to December 31, 2026. This is in-line with Treasury guidelines.

Use of Evidence:

The program did not require the need for an evidence-base design. The selection of services for which the program offers was arrived at via a Shared Service Agreement between the County of Ocean and the Borough of Beach Haven.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms & Project Partners:

To effectively execute this program, Ocean County has entered into a Shared Service Agreement with the Borough of Beach Haven. In this Agreement, the delivery mechanics of the project have been clearly articulated. The Borough's Engineer will design the project with its contractor, and the Borough will procure and pay for the procurement of all permits and approvals necessary to execute the stormwater infrastructure improvements. It will be the responsibility of the Borough and its contractor, Underground Utilities, to perform the drainage facility improvements and pumping station replacements. In turn, the County is serving in a fiscal capacity with respect to the Beach Haven Stormwater Infrastructure program. The acumen, competency, and experience of the Borough's Engineer, municipal leadership, and Underground Utility's professionals will be leveraged to deliver the program's services. The County of Ocean's Engineering Department will be in direct communication with the aforementioned stakeholders, and will be leveraged as needed – without diversion from the Shared Service Agreement.

Intended Goals / Outcomes:

The goals of the program are to (1) remove and replace existing stormwater drainage inlet and piping infrastructure, and (2) add new stormwater pumping stations to achieve the effective management and functioning of the stormwater facilities. Ultimately, each of the aforesaid goals targets the improvement of the public safety of the Ocean County residents in the impacted area.

➤ Performance Report:

Legend: Treasury Required Indicator Ocean County Indicator

Project-Specific Output Indicator(s):

Output Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Output Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Progress Reporting During Each Phase of the Project Lifecycle	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team's determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

Project-Specific Outcome Indicator(s):

Outcome Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Outcome Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Beach Haven Stormwater Infrastructure Effectiveness Benchmark Reporting	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team's determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

[Project 5.2: Ship Bottom Stormwater Infrastructure Project](#)

[Funding Amount:](#) \$442,225.00

[Project Expenditure Category:](#)

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater | \$442,225.00

➤ Project Description:

Overview of Main Activities:

The County of Ocean and its municipalities hold the important responsibility of safely and effectively removing, managing, and treating stormwater. Without said service or through the deferral of the provision of said service, the negative environmental consequences faced by the communities in the County are amplified. In the Borough of Ship Bottom, it has been determined that there is a need to construct a stormwater pump station within the right-of-way of the southern end of Central Avenue, which terminates at the Manahawkin Bay. Moderate to heavy flooding occurs within the project area during storm events, when the tide is high and the collected runoff cannot be discharged into the bay. In turn, there is frequent flooding of roadways and abutting properties, thereby exposing the residents to health and safety risks. The aforementioned pump station will connect to the existing gravity drainage system and provide a mechanical means to discharge collected rainwater runoff through the existing outfall pipe during periods of high tide. The construction of the stormwater pump station will increase public safety, a goal of the County of Ocean in its Recovery Plan.

Approximate Timeline:

Under the County's ARPA program, the approximate timeline of the project is two (2) years – from 2023 through 2024. With this being said, should there be infrastructure costs associated with the stormwater project that must be paid post-2024 – while funds shall be incurred prior to 2024 – project development and associated payment may extend to December 31, 2026. This is in-line with Treasury guidelines.

Use of Evidence:

The program did not require the need for an evidence-base design. The selection of services for which the program offers was arrived at via the expertise of and needs assessment arrived at by the Ocean County Engineer.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms & Project Partners:

To effectively execute this program, the County Engineer will be utilizing his internal team and its accumulated experience in the execution of the Ship Bottom Stormwater Infrastructure project.

Intended Goals / Outcomes:

The goal of the program is to improve the public safety of the Ocean County residents in the impacted area by way of constructing a stormwater pump station that provides a mechanical means to discharge collected rainwater runoff through the existing outfall pipe during periods of high tide.

➤ Performance Report:

Legend:

Treasury Required Indicator

Ocean County Indicator

Project-Specific Output Indicator(s):

Output Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Output Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Progress Reporting During Each Phase of the Project Lifecycle	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team’s determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

Project-Specific Outcome Indicator(s):

Outcome Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Outcome Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Ship Bottom Stormwater Infrastructure Effectiveness Benchmark Reporting	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team’s determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

E. Revenue Replacement (EC 6) Projects

Project 6.1: Beach Replenishment Program

Funding Amount: \$7,550,000.00

Project Expenditure Category:

6.1: Provision of Government Services | \$7,550,000.00

➤ Project Description:

Overview of Main Activities:

The negative economic impacts of the pandemic affected many of Ocean County's impacted and disproportionately impacted households, as well as businesses domiciled within its boundaries. Due to the County bordering the coast, its residents and businesses are at a heightened risk of the negative health and economic impacts of an eroding shoreline. The local economy is heavily impacted by the shore, and the ramifications of shoreline erosion harm the economic viability of the County. In turn, beach renourishment is necessary to mitigate the exacerbation of the negative economic impacts already faced by the residents and businesses within the County of Ocean due to COVID-19.

The purpose of the Beach Replenishment program is to rectify the erosion of the Ocean County shoreline from the Manasquan Inlet to the Barnegat Inlet, aiming to mitigate the negative physical and economic health impacts faced by residents and businesses due to the degradation of the coast. The County of Ocean borders the Atlantic Ocean, and because of its proximity to the shoreline, the residential and business environment is heavily intertwined with the coast. The COVID-19 pandemic imposed new and exacerbated existing physical and economic health risks upon the County's populous, and the increasing erosion of the shoreline is a catalyst to both risks worsening. In turn, the County is pursuing the Beach Replenishment program under the provision of government services.

Approximate Timeline:

Under the County's ARPA program, the approximate timeline of the project is two (2) years – from 2023 through 2024. With this being said, should there be capital / infrastructure costs associated with the project that must be paid post-2024 – while funds shall be incurred prior to 2024 – project development and associated payment may extend to December 31, 2026. This is in-line with Treasury guidelines.

Use of Evidence:

The selection of services for which the program offers was arrived at on the basis of the experience and understanding of the Ocean County leadership team structuring the program. In turn, an evidentiary-base was not needed.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms & Project Partners:

To effectively execute this program, the County understands the criticality of extensive collaboration amongst County personnel, municipal leadership, and third-party personnel throughout each phase of the project. Along with the expertise of the contractors selected to execute beach restoration planning, design, and execution, the County will leverage the experience and intellectual capital of its internal Department of Finance, Planning, Engineering, Management & Budget, Buildings & Grounds, etc. The delivery of the program will involve a multi-departmental team that will function cohesively to promote the replenishment of the coastline.

Intended Goals / Outcomes:

The goal of the Beach Replenishment program is to facilitate environmental remediation via the restoration of the coastline from the Manasquan Inlet to the Barnegat Inlet. The goal of said remediation is to replenish the shore, thereby preserving and improving the physical and economic health and well-being of the County's residents and businesses already in a compromised-state due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

➤ Performance Report:

Legend: Treasury Required Indicator Ocean County Indicator

Project-Specific Output Indicator(s):

Output Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Output Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Progress Reporting During Each Phase of the Project Lifecycle	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team's determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

Project-Specific Outcome Indicator(s):

Outcome Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Outcome Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Beach Replenishment Effectiveness Benchmark Reporting	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team's determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

F. Administrative (EC 7) Projects

[Project 7.1: ARPA Administrative Consulting](#)

[Funding Amount:](#) \$1,770,000.00

[Project Expenditure Category:](#)

7.1: Administrative Expenses | \$1,770,000.00

➤ Project Description:

Overview of Main Activities:

The purpose of this project is to provide consultative support to the County of Ocean in its administration of the SLFRF program. The objective of the project is for the County to receive specialized and tailored support in connection with the effective management of the County's SLFRF program, as well as legal and regulatory compliance assurance.

Approximate Timeline:

Under the County's ARPA program, the approximate timeline of the project is two (2) years – from 2023 through 2024.

Use of Evidence:

There was no evidence-base utilized in the origination of the ARPA Administrative Consulting project.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms & Project Partners:

In order to effectively manage its SLFRF program and achieve legal and regulatory compliance assurance, the County of Ocean is partnering with Witt O'Brien's to receive consultative services. The County will leverage the depth of experience and expertise of Witt O'Brien's to support internal leadership's effective management and execution of its SLFRF program.

Intended Goals / Outcomes:

The goal of the program is to provide the County of Ocean’s ARPA management team with consultative support in its administration of the SLFRF program, as well as legal and regulatory compliance assurance.

➤ Performance Report:

Legend:

Treasury Required Indicator

Ocean County Indicator

Project-Specific Output Indicator(s):

Output Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Output Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
Number of Hours of Consultation Services Provided	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team’s determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

Project-Specific Outcome Indicator(s):

Outcome Key Performance Indicator			
Name of Outcome Performance Indicator	Prior Reporting Period Performance	Current Reporting Period Performance	Change from Prior Period
ARPA Leadership Satisfaction Survey Results	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023	Project to Commence in 2023
<i>Narrative Report: The project shall commence in 2023. In turn, there is no performance reporting applicable at the time of the submission of this Recovery Plan Performance Report.</i>			

Note: The aforementioned Ocean County indicators are subject to change predicated upon the program management team’s determination of the most appropriate performance metrics to utilize as the project is underway.

G. Treasury Mandatory Performance Indicators

1. Public Health Projects – Mandatory Performance Indicators

➤ **Mandatory Performance Category 1: (EC 1.11– Community Violence Interventions)**

Treasury Mandated Key Performance Indicator
Name of Performance Indicator
1. Number of Workers Enrolled in Sectoral Job Training Programs
2. Number of Workers Completing Sectoral Job Training Programs
3. Number of People Participating in Summer Youth Employment Programs

There are no projects associated with this expenditure category as of the date of this Recovery Plan. In turn, the aforementioned Treasury-mandated key performance indicators are not applicable to the County of Ocean’s Recovery Plan.

2. Negative Economic Impact Projects – Mandatory Performance Indicators

- **Mandatory Performance Category 1:** *(EC 2.2 – Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid) (EC 2.15-2.16 – Long-Term Housing Security: Affordable Housing & Services for Unhoused Persons) (EC 2.17-2.18 – Housing Support: Housing Vouchers & Relocation Assistance for Disproportionately Impacted Communities & Other Housing Assistance)*

Treasury Mandated Key Performance Indicator
Name of Performance Indicator
1. Number of Households Receiving Eviction Prevention Services (Including Legal Representation)
2. Number of Affordable Housing Units Preserved or Developed

Treasury-mandated key performance indicator item 1 in the table above is relevant to Ocean County’s “Housing Insecurities and Homelessness Services” project. See the project inventory subsections above for the details surrounding this project and its associated performance indicators.

- **Mandatory Performance Category 2:** *(EC 2.10 – Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers: Job Training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives, and Other Assistance)*

Treasury Mandated Key Performance Indicator
Name of Performance Indicator
1. Number of Workers Enrolled in Sectoral Job Training Programs
2. Number of Workers Completing Sectoral Job Training Programs
3. Number of People Participating in Summer Youth Employment Programs

There are no projects associated with this expenditure category as of the date of this Recovery Plan. In turn, the aforementioned Treasury-mandated key performance indicators are not applicable to the County of Ocean’s Recovery Plan.

- **Mandatory Performance Category 3:** *(EC 2.24-2.26 – Addressing Educational Disparities: Aid to High Poverty School Districts, Academic, Social, and Emotional Services & Mental Health Services) (EC 2.27 – Addressing Impacts of Lost Instructional Time)*

Treasury Mandated Key Performance Indicator
Name of Performance Indicator
1. Number of Students Participating in Evidence-Based Tutoring Programs (See U.S. DOE’s 2021 ED COVID-19 Handbook (Volume 2, Page 20))

There are no projects associated with this expenditure category as of the date of this Recovery Plan. In turn, the aforementioned Treasury-mandated key performance indicators are not applicable to the County of Ocean’s Recovery Plan.

- **Mandatory Performance Category 4:** *(EC 2.11-2.14 – Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care, Home Visiting, Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System & Early Learning)*

Treasury Mandated Key Performance Indicator
Name of Performance Indicator
1. Number of Children Served by Childcare and Early Learning (Pre-School/Pre-K/Ages 3-5)

Treasury Mandated Key Performance Indicator

2. Number of Families Served by Home Visiting

There are no projects associated with this expenditure category as of the date of this Recovery Plan. In turn, the aforementioned Treasury-mandated key performance indicators are not applicable to the County of Ocean's Recovery Plan.

Appendix

Funding by Treasury Expenditure Category

III. APPENDIX – FUNDING BY TREASURY EXPENDITURE CATEGORY

The diagram below documents the Ocean County Recovery Plan’s funding totals (as of December 31, 2022) aggregated by Treasury expenditure category (as per Treasury’s September 20, 2022, Version: 5.0 Compliance & Reporting Guidance). *Note: The light green highlighted expenditure categories in the table denote areas for which specific Treasury-mandated programmatic indicators are required.*

Expenditure Category as per Treasury Compliance and Reporting Guidance Issued: September 20, 2022	Project Funding Amount Approved (\$)
1: Public Health	
A. COVID-19 Mitigation & Prevention	
1.1: COVID-19 Vaccination^	-
1.2: COVID-19 Testing^	-
1.3: COVID-19 Contact Tracing^	-
1.4: Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, Child care facilities, etc.)*^	-
1.5: Personal Protective Equipment^	-
1.6: Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)^	-
1.7: Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)^	-
1.8: COVID-19 Assistance to Small Businesses^	-
1.9: COVID 19 Assistance to Non-Profits^	-
1.10: COVID-19 Aid to Impacted Industries^	-
B. Community Violence Intervention	
1.11: Community Violence Interventions*^	-
C. Behavioral Health	
1.12: Mental Health Services*^	868,300.00
1.13: Substance Use Services*^	-
D. Other	
1.14: Other Public Health Services^	2,820,378.00
Total 1: Public Health	\$3,688,678.00
2: Negative Economic Impacts	
A. Assistance to Households	
2.1: Household Assistance: Food Programs*^	-
2.2: Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid*^	4,648,200.00
2.3: Household Assistance: Cash Transfers*^	-
2.4: Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs*^	-
2.5: Household Assistance: Paid Sick and Medical Leave^	-
2.6: Household Assistance: Health Insurance*^	-
2.7: Household Assistance: Services for Un/Unbanked*^	-
2.8: Household Assistance: Survivor's Benefits^	-
2.9: Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers*^	-
2.10: Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)*^	-
2.11: Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care*^	-

2.12: Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting*^	-
2.13: Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System*^	-
2.14: Healthy Childhood Environments: Early Learning*^	-
2.15: Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing*^	-
2.16: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons*^	-
2.17: Housing Support: Housing Vouchers and Relocation Assistance for Disproportionately Impacted Communities*^	-
2.18: Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance*^	1,596,804.00
2.19: Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators*^	2,950,932.00
2.20: Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation*^	-
2.21: Medical Facilities for Disproportionately Impacted Communities^	-
2.22: Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety^	-
2.23: Strong Healthy Communities: Demolition and Rehabilitation of Properties^	-
2.24: Addressing Educational Disparities: Aid to High-Poverty Districts^	-
2.25: Addressing Educational Disparities: Academic, Social, and Emotional Services*^	-
2.26: Addressing Educational Disparities: Mental Health Services*^	-
2.27: Addressing Impacts of Lost Instructional Time^	-
2.28: Contributions to UI Trust Funds^	-
B. Assistance to Small Businesses	
2.29: Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship^	-
2.30: Technical Assistance, Counseling, or Business Planning*^	-
2.31: Rehabilitation of Commercial Properties or Other Improvements^	-
2.32: Business Incubators and Start-Up or Expansion Assistance*^	-
2.33: Enhanced Support to Microbusinesses*^	-
C. Assistance to Non-Profits	
2.34: Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)^	-
D. Assistance to Impacted Industries	
2.35: Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality^	-
2.36: Aid to Other Impacted Industries^	-
E. Other	
2.37: Economic Impact Assistance: Other*^	318,000.00
Total 2: Negative Economic Impacts	\$9,513,936.00
3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity	
A. General Provisions	
3.1: Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers	60,663.00
3.2: Public Sector Workforce: Rehiring Public Sector Staff	-
3.3: Public Sector Workforce: Other	-
3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery	-
3.5: Public Sector Capacity: Administrative Needs	-
Total 3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity	\$60,663.00

4: Premium Pay	
A. General Provisions	
4.1: Public Sector Employees	-
4.2: Private Sector: Grants to Other Employers	-
Total 4: Premium Pay	\$-
5: Infrastructure	
A. Water & Sewer	
5.1: Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment	-
5.2: Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Collection and Conveyance	-
5.3: Clean Water: Decentralized Wastewater	-
5.4: Clean Water: Combined Sewer Overflows	-
5.5: Clean Water: Other Sewer Infrastructure	-
5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater	2,774,956.00
5.7: Clean Water: Energy Conservation	-
5.8: Clean Water: Water Conservation	-
5.9: Clean Water: Nonpoint Source	-
5.10: Drinking water: Treatment	-
5.11: Drinking water: Transmission & Distribution	-
5.12: Drinking water: Lead Remediation, including in Schools and Daycares	-
5.13: Drinking water: Source	-
5.14: Drinking water: Storage	-
5.15: Drinking water: Other water infrastructure	-
5.16: Water and Sewer: Private Wells	-
5.17: Water and Sewer: IJJA Bureau of Reclamation Match	-
5.18: Water and Sewer: Other	-
B. Broadband	
5.19: Broadband: "Last Mile" projects	-
5.20: Broadband: IJJA Match	-
5.21: Broadband: Other projects	-
Total 5: Infrastructure	\$2,774,956.00
6: Revenue Replacement	
A. General Provisions	
6.1: Provision of Government Services	7,550,000.00
6.2: Non-federal Match for Other Federal Programs	-
Total 6: Revenue Replacement	\$7,550,000.00
7: Administrative	
A. General Provisions	
7.1: Administrative Expenses	1,770,000.00
7.2: Transfers to Other Units of Government	-
Total 7: Administrative	\$1,770,000.00
GRAND TOTAL APPROVED (As of 12/31/2022)	\$25,358,233.00



Ocean County Board of Commissioners

OFFICE OF THE
OCEAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Director Joseph H. Vicari
Deputy Director Gary Quinn
Commissioner Barbara Jo Crea
Commissioner Virginia E. Haines
Commissioner John P. Kelly

101 Hooper Avenue
Toms River, New Jersey
08754-2191
Tel: (732)929-2005
Fax: (732)505-1918

Board Meeting Agenda

Date: February 15, 2023 - 4:00 PM
Location: Administration Building
Room 119
101 Hooper Avenue
Toms River, NJ 08754

Agenda: Adopting The American Rescue Plan Act - Ocean County Recovery Plan, in the amount of \$25,358,233.00.

Official Resolution#	2023000284						
Meeting Date	02/15/2023						
Introduced Date	02/15/2023						
Adopted Date	02/15/2023						
Agenda Item	k-6						
CAF #							
Purchase Req. #							
Result	Adopted						
COUNTY COMMISSIONER	PRES.	ABS.	MOVE	SEC	AYE	NAY	ABST.
Joseph H.	✓				✓		
Gary	✓			✓	✓		
Barbara Jo	✓				✓		
Virginia E.	✓				✓		
John P.	✓	✓			✓		

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS A TRUE, COMPLETE AND ACCURATE COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION, ADOPTED BY OCEAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, NJ AT THE MEETING REFERENCED THEREON

Michelle I. Gunther

Clerk Of The Board

RESOLUTION

February 15, 2023

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law by President Joe Biden on March 21, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the law established the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) Program allowing State, Local, and Tribal governments (recipient) with the opportunity to remediate the negative economic and public health impact engendered and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, United States Treasury (U.S. Treasury) has indicated the County of Ocean is the direct recipient of SLFRF program and entitled to receive the first installment of \$58,969,381 of SLFRF; and

WHEREAS, under the U.S. Treasury guidelines and requirements of SLFRF, the recipient must establish and adopt a Recovery Plan that outlines the use of the funds based on the most recent categories approved on December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the County of Ocean has prepared a Recovery Plan in order to expend a portion of the SLFRF received, in the amount of \$25,358,233; and

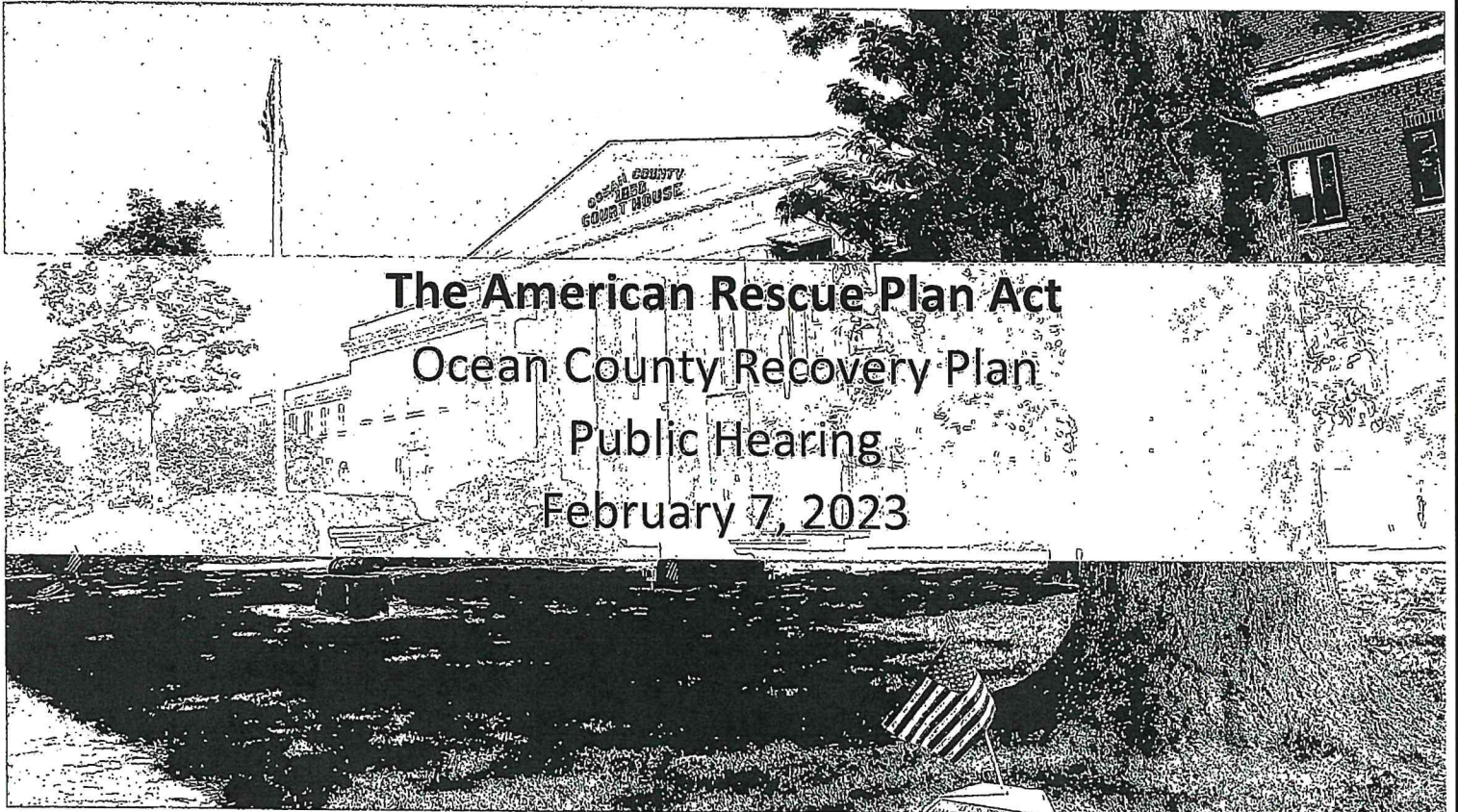
WHEREAS, on Tuesday February 7, 2023, the County held a public hearing to receive comments on the Recovery Plan; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board of Commissioners to approve and adopt the Ocean County Recovery Plan as presented at the public hearing, with the minutes of the public hearing to be posted with the adopted Recovery Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** of the **COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**, as follows:

1. The Board of Commissioners hereby approves and adopts the Ocean County Recovery Plan allocating \$25,358,233 of the SLFRF Program, attached hereto.
2. Certified copies of this Resolution shall be made available to the County Administrator, Department of Finance and County Auditor.

Introduced on: February 15, 2023
Adopted on: February 15, 2023
Official Resolution#: 2023000284



The American Rescue Plan Act
Ocean County Recovery Plan
Public Hearing
February 7, 2023

Introduced on: February 15, 2023
Adopted on: February 15, 2023
Official Resolution#: 202300284

What is the American Rescue Plan Act?

- The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law by President Joe Biden on March 11, 2021. The law established the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program, affording state, local, and Tribal governments (recipients) with the opportunity to remediate the negative economic and public health impacts engendered and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- In turn, it is the responsibility of each government's leadership to cultivate a comprehensive recovery plan that directly responds to the aforementioned impacts, and aims to improve upon the hardships faced by residents, businesses, and communities at-large.



Introduced on: February 15, 2023
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Official Resolution#: 2023000284

Federal Guidelines for American Rescue Plan Act Spending

- The United States Department of the Treasury has established a finite list of expenditure categories for which State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) recipients may dedicate their funds.
- As of December 31, 2022, the expenditure categories include:
 - Public Health
 - Negative Economic Impacts
 - Public Sector Capacity
 - Premium Pay
 - Infrastructure
 - Revenue Replacement
 - Administrative
- It is important to note that each of the expenditure categories holds several subcategories that provide a more granular level of detail with respect to each recipient's dedication of funds to SLFRF projects.



Introduced on: February 15, 2023
Adopted on: February 15, 2023
Official Resolution#: 2023000284

Where will the money go in Ocean County?



Introduced on: February 15, 2023
Adopted on: February 15, 2023
Official Resolution#: 2023000284

SLFRF Funding Allocations in Ocean County

\$3,688,678 – Public Health

- A primary target area of remediation is the negative mental and behavioral health impacts borne from and exacerbated by the pandemic. The County is implementing projects such as the On Point co-responder program that diverts individuals experiencing mental illness from the criminal justice system, and provides critical professional partnership support to law enforcement operations to ensure the communities impacted by COVID-19-derived or exacerbated stress, anxiety, and depression can be effectively targeted for care.



Introduced on: February 15, 2023
Adopted on: February 15, 2023
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SLFRF Funding Allocations in Ocean County

\$3,688,678 – Public Health (Continued)

- As a result of the pandemic, many children and adolescents have experienced the loss of a caregiver due to COVID-19 directly, or suicide or drug overdose incidents borne from the pandemic's impacts. As a result of this trauma, the County is putting into place child and adolescent grief and trauma programs under its ARPA plan to treat immediate complicated grief instances as well as prevent future concerns such as mental illness and substance misuse in adulthood.
- To effectively respond to increased mental health and substance use disorder incidents and the amplification of community violence, a high-functioning / low interference mission critical emergency response radio system is a requirement. As such, the County is executing an emergency response system upgrade project under its ARPA plan.



Introduced on: February 15, 2023
Adopted on: February 15, 2023
Official Resolution#: 2023000284

SLFRF Funding Allocations in Ocean County

\$9,513,936 - Negative Economic Impacts

- As a result of the pandemic, residents, communities, and businesses in the County have experienced economic and fiscal hardships. In turn, it has been increasingly challenging for impacted individuals to realize economic restoration and return to a state of economic wellbeing and normalcy. The County's Recovery Plan institutes programs that target economic restoration for both impacted and disproportionately impacted groups
- The County has effectuated the Housing Insecurities and Homelessness Services project – a full spectrum program providing temporary / transitional housing support through rapid re-housing strategies, and fiscal aid and wraparound services to those experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness.



Introduced on: February 15, 2023
Adopted on: February 15, 2023
Official Resolution#: 2023000284

SLFRF Funding Allocations in Ocean County **\$9,513,936 - Negative Economic Impacts (Continued)**

- With the aim to mitigate foreclosures and prevent the unhousing of seniors, the County is instituting the Eviction, Foreclosure, and Homelessness Prevention Legal Services Program.
- Disabled senior citizens and young adults are a disproportionately impacted group at a heightened risk of the impacts of COVID-19. The County's Recovery Plan includes the expansion of the already instituted Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) program, offering care management services with a higher degree of focus and intensity to disabled seniors and young adults.
- In order to raise awareness of these recovery programs, the County is instituting the Benefits Navigator program to provide support maneuvering through the benefit programs available to County residents.



Introduced on: February 10, 2020
Adopted on: February 15, 2023
Official Resolution#: 2023000284

SLFRF Funding Allocations in Ocean County

\$2,774,956 – Water, Sewer and Broadband Infrastructure

- It is the responsibility of the County and its associated municipalities to safely and effectively remove, manage, and treat stormwater. To effectively assume this responsibility, critical infrastructure required in the provision of stormwater management services is a prerequisite.
- The County will be instituting the Beach Haven Stormwater Infrastructure project and the Ship Bottom Stormwater Infrastructure project as part of its ARPA Recovery Plan. Through both programs, the County has set up an initiative to manage, reduce, and recapture stormwater, rectifying infrastructure degradation and targeting the improvement of the health and safety of the public.



Introduced on: February 15, 2023
Adopted on: February 15, 2023
Official Resolution#: 2023000284

SLFRF Funding Allocations in Ocean County

\$7,550,000 – Revenue Replacement

- The funds will be used for the provision of government services. This allocation is associated with a beach replenishment program for the restoration of the Ocean County shoreline from the Manasquan Inlet to the Barnegat Inlet. The local economy in the County is heavily impacted by the coast, and the ramifications of shoreline erosion harm the economic viability already damaged from the pandemic.



Introduced on: February 15, 2023
Adopted on: February 15, 2023
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SLFRF Funding Allocations in Ocean County

\$1,770,000 – Administrative

- The County has placed a tremendous amount of importance in the effective management and execution of its SLFRF program. Furthermore, adherence to legal and regulatory governance in connection with the SLFRF program has been deemed paramount by the County. With this, a professional services contract has been executed with Witt O'Brien's LLC to support the County's leadership in its execution of the SLFRF program.



Introduced on: February 15, 2023
Adopted on: February 15, 2023
Official Resolution#: 2023000284

SLFRF Funding Allocations in Ocean County

\$60,663 Public Health – Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

- Security provided by the Ocean County Sheriff's Department at several COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites throughout the County as a result of the pandemic which ensured effective operations and social distancing protocol adherence.



Introduced on: February 15, 2023
Adopted on: February 15, 2023
Official Resolution#: 2023000284

Appendix to the ARPA Recovery Plan

Entity (Select from Dropdown)	Department Project Count	Project Name	Treasury - July 17, 2022 - Compliance & Reporting Guidance Expenditure Category	Approved Use Category Amount
Human Services	1a	Housing Insecurities and Homelessness Services	2.2: Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid**A	4,648,200.00
Human Services	1b	Housing Insecurities and Homelessness Services	2.18: Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance**A	1,596,804.00
Human Services	1c	Housing Insecurities and Homelessness Services	2.19: Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators**A	1,207,572.00
Human Services	2	Benefits Navigator Program	2.19: Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators**A	900,000.00
Human Services	3	Aging & Disability Resource Center Program	2.19: Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators**A	843,360.00
Human Services	4	On Point Expansion	1.12: Mental Health Services**A	550,000.00
Human Services	5	Eviction, Foreclosure, & Homelessness Prevention Legal Services Program	2.37: Economic Impact Assistance: Other**A	318,000.00
Human Services	6	Child & Adolescent Trauma Services Program	1.12: Mental Health Services**A	150,000.00
Human Services	7	Child & Adolescent Grief Program	1.12: Mental Health Services**A	100,800.00
Human Services	8	Social Connections Program	1.12: Mental Health Services**A	67,500.00



Introduced on: February 15, 2023
 Adopted on: February 15, 2023
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Appendix to the ARPA Recovery Plan

Entity (Select from Dropdown)	Department Project Count	Project Name	Treasury - July 17, 2022 - Compliance & Reporting Guidance Expenditure Category	Approved Use Category Amount
Finance	1	Beach Replenishment Project	6.1: Provision of Government Services	7,550,000.00
Finance	2	ARPA Administrative Consulting	7.1: Administrative Expenses	1,770,000.00
Management & Budget	1	Emergency Response Upgrades - Public Health CAPEX	1.14: Other Public Health Services^	2,820,378.00
Engineering	4	Beach Haven Stormwater Improvements	5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater	2,332,731.00
Engineering	2	Ship Bottom Stormwater Improvements	5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater	442,225.00
Sheriff's Office	1	COVID-19 Vaccination & Testing Time	3.1: Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers	60,663.00



Introduced on: February 15, 2023
 Adopted on: February 15, 2023
 Official Resolution#: 2023000284

PUBLIC HEARING
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT / OCEAN COUNTY RECOVERY PLAN
PUBLIC HEARING

Date: February 7, 2023

Location: Ocean County Administration Building
101 Hooper Avenue, Room 119
Toms River, New Jersey 08753

Julie N. Tarrant, Chief Financial Officer for the County of Ocean, called the meeting to order at 11:03 AM (EST).

JULIE N. TARRANT, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "We are ready to start. Good morning everyone. I am Julie Tarrant, the Chief Financial Officer for Ocean County. This morning, on behalf of the Ocean County Board of Commissioners, I am conducting a Public Hearing on a portion of the Ocean County American Rescue Plan Act funds.

This Public Hearing on the Ocean County Recovery Plan is to allocate \$25,358,232.00 of the \$58,969,381.00 currently received from ARPA. That is the American Rescue Plan Act.

For the next few minutes I will run through a PowerPoint on where the funds are proposed to go. At this hearing, the County will be taking comments on the \$25.4 million of ARPA fund allocation only. The County will hold additional Public Hearings as it appropriates other ARPA funds. Thank you.

So what is the American Rescue Plan? The American Rescue Plan was signed into law by President Joe Biden on March 11, 2021. The law established the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program, affording state, local and Tribal governments (recipients) with the opportunity to remediate the negative economic and public health impacts caused by COVID-19. I'm not going to sit and read the whole thing because it's just too complicated.

So that's the general background of how the County actually received the funding. The US Treasury has established exact categories that the County must fulfill in

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And then we have the Emergency Response Radio System. This is a capital project that the county is funding. It's an ASTRO 25 Motorola Emergency Response System that is in need of upgrades so the county has decided to allocate funds to that particular system so that way it is low latency and quick response.

So we're going to skip ahead two slides to Negative Economic Impacts. The County is allocating approximately \$9.5 million to the Negative Economic Impacts expenditure category. There are four different programs under this particular expenditure category.

We have the Housing Insecurities and Homelessness Services. It's a pretty intense program but overall it's providing rapid re-housing, it's providing wraparound services, and in certain instances financial support to the homeless population which is an initiative of the county under this recovery plan to address.

We have the Benefits Navigator Program which the county is going to be partnering with the Alliance of Information and Referral System entity. The goal of that is to connect residents in the county with the benefits programs for which they are eligible, helping them become aware of programs that are designed to provide them aid, and then go through the process of receiving the benefits for which they are entitled.

We have the Aging and Disability Resource Center Program (ADRC). So that's going to be providing case management support to senior citizens and disabled individuals within the county with a specific emphasis on those who are lower income.

And lastly we have the Eviction, Foreclosure Legal Services Program. So that's providing both representation and general counsel to individuals who are at-risk of becoming evicted or becoming foreclosed upon. So it's a preventative program to essentially refrain from introducing them into the homeless population. So you pair that program with the Housing Insecurities and Homelessness Services, it's a pretty comprehensive plan of care for both the homeless population and those at-risk of becoming so.

Next slide, there is an Infrastructure expenditure category under the final rule – Water, Sewer and Broadband Infrastructure. At this time, the county is pursuing two stormwater infrastructure programs – one in Beach Haven, one in Ship Bottom. It's an improvement of critical stormwater infrastructure such as pumping stations, gravity lines, piping systems. So there is a need to improve certain infrastructure

in those areas. It's for the management and recapture of stormwater particularly in higher flood zones. So there is approximately \$2.8 million being allocated to Infrastructure.

Revenue Replacement – this is a very final rule term so there is a particular calculation that local governments need to adhere to within the final rule to identify what is called 'revenue loss'. And with that revenue loss figure you can pursue revenue replacement and that's essentially the provision of general government services. Environmental remediation is a government service for which the county is going to be pursuing, under this \$7.5 million Revenue Replacement Project, which is a Beach Replenishment / Shoreline Restoration Project spanning from the Manasquan Inlet to the Barnegat Inlet.

And we have the Administrative Program. It's a primary goal of the county to make sure that we're governing the American Rescue Plan appropriately, making sure that any project that we decide to fund adheres to the final rule, that the beneficiaries for which the programs that we're establishing are eligible to receive the benefits that the programs are designed to offer. And we are contracting with an entity called Witt O'Brien's. They have a tremendous amount of depth in the American Rescue Plan Act. They have other local governments that they work with. So they are able to tap into a pretty high roster of intellectual capital that they in turn offer to us. So we work in tandem with them in making sure that we are adhering to the final rule appropriately and that our program is functioning as it's designed to.

And lastly, this is Public Sector Capacity. So this is a smaller project. This is associated with Security time and the cost of said time provided by Sheriff's Officers to COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites throughout the county.

And we get to our Appendix. So I spoke to the different projects based off of each expenditure category that we just ran through. This is the itemized breakdown of those projects, their dollar values, and the exact Treasury final rule expenditure category for which they are associated."

JULIE N. TARRANT, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Also at that time...there were copies out in the hallway. (Public Hearing packets showing what is on slides reviewed) The first column that's up on the screen are the actual county departments that will be overseeing these different programs.

So at this time we will be asking for comments from the public. Go ahead. Can you just give us your name?"

PASTOR SUE JONES, HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH / PRESIDENT, TOMS RIVER HOUSING AND HOMELESS COALITION, TOMS RIVER: "Question about one of the housing insecurities portion. Have you released who is receiving funds to administer some of those programs?"

JULIE N. TARRANT, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "It will be released after the Board adopts the plan."

PASTOR SUE JONES: "The other question that I have for you is that this is Recovery Plan funding that's coming to us because of the pandemic. After all of these things are implemented and the funding sources change, how are we going to make some of these programs sustainable because it's not just a temporary impact of the pandemic?"

JULIE N. TARRANT, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Really at this time we're just taking comments on what we're expending the funds on."

ANONYMOUS: "So this a like a done deal already. No matter what is said at the microphone, this won't change?"

JULIE N. TARRANT, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "No, not at this time."

ANONYMOUS: "Well I just think it should be on the record that these are all good, but I've been in meetings with Pastor Sue about the Toms River Homeless Coalition. I'm here representing Just Believe. Paul couldn't make it. But the consensus here is that we need a physical structure, not these programs. A lot of these programs, Social Services should be implementing already. What are all these programs for and what is Social Services doing? Because you guys are giving a lot of money to Social Services so what are they doing? They just got a brand new building.

I think we need a structure. We need a homeless center. And that would be better off for these...I'm just going to put it out there...that's where this money should be going to. Infrastructure is on there. Ocean County needs a homeless shelter."

JULIE N. TARRANT, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Thank you. Your name please?"

"Daniel Kessel. I live in Toms River."

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DANIEL KESSEL, JUST BELIEVE, TOMS RIVER: "I'm actually with the homeless every day so I see what's going on with them. I drive for Just Believe. I interact with them. I sleep with them at night. I make sure they're safe. I drive them in the morning to make sure they get where they have to go when I have free time from when I'm not running my business.

These programs – they need some of this, but the main thing they need is a homeless shelter. I'm actually going to speak to you because this is where it matters."

JULIE N. TARRANT, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Sir, you need to face here."

DANIEL KESSEL: "Okay. So I think this \$25 million, the consensus we came up with is, there is about \$5 to \$7 million for a homeless shelter. I know you guys don't want to run it but we have tons of churches and programs that are in this room currently right now that are willing to offer their services to help. We just need help getting the building. You guys get us the building, we'll take care of everything else."

JULIE N. TARRANT, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Okay, thank you. Your name please."

GEMMA BRENNAN, PRESIDENT, ST. VINCENT DEPAUL / ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, TOMS RIVER: "We have thirteen different conferences within the county of St. Vincent DePaul and we're working with the Homeless Coalition. And this is just an example, last year our parish alone was able to raise \$187,000.00 that we gave away to our community members to help them find housing so that they're not living on the streets and in the woods. And if one parish is able to do that, we feel a combined effort with all the other faith communities and other citizens could really make a difference.

If this is not the morning to discuss some of this, when would be the time for us to do that? At a town hall?"

MIKE FIURE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR: "I'm Mike Fiure. I'm the County Administrator. For today it's a Public Hearing on the plan. If there are any other questions that you have, if you want to wait, afterwards I can give you my contact information. I know you've been in contact with the county before about other concepts. But today for this purpose..."

Introduced on: February 15, 2023
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order to allocate these funds and these categories are for Public Health, Negative Economic Impact, Public Sector Capacity, Premium Pay, Infrastructure, Revenue Replacement, and Administrative. Each category is also broken down to additional subcategories of how the funding can be spent.

Next we will go over where this \$25.4 million will go in our first launch of funding. I'm going to turn this over to John Zim who has been involved in this plan all along."

JOHN ZIM, CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANT: "Thank you Julie. For those of you who don't know me, my name is John Zim. I work under Julie Tarrant and Mr. Fiure. I am assisting them with the management of the American Rescue Plan Act.

So there are 14 different projects that the County has approved for funding in this tier of the Recovery Plan. I'm going to speak to the different expenditure categories for which those projects have been allocated.

The first is Public Health. So there is \$3.7 million in funding for the Public Health expenditure category under the final rule. There are five different projects that we are allocating to this category. I'm going to briefly speak to them just so you have an understanding of what they are.

First we have the On Point Program. It's a co-responder program. It is essentially providing mental health and behavioral health and substance use disorder expertise to municipal police departments in the county. So that way when there are calls there is someone who has a more specialized expertise in addressing individuals so that way you can essentially refrain from introducing them into the criminal justice system. That's the ultimate goal of that particular program.

We have the Child and Adolescent Grief and the Child and Adolescent Trauma Programs. So the beneficiaries of those two programs are children and adolescents who have lost a caregiver due to COVID-19 or suicide or overdose and it's in essence providing specialized care to those individuals to prevent them from a prolonged sense of grief which can lead to more intense ailments down the road.

We have the Social Connections Program which is providing support to disabled individuals and senior citizens who have a proclivity for isolationism based off their pre-existing conditions and their age. And this is providing them with some skills and support group assistance to navigate that circumstance.

GEMMA BRENNAN: "Today is not the day."

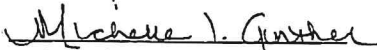
MIKE FIURE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR: "Yeah, and you can make any comment you want but what I'm saying is we need to collect comments on the proposed plan and as Julie said this is just a partial plan of the money that the county will receive under ARPA. So if you do have any thoughts on the programs that we are proposing, we would certainly like to hear that also."

GEMMA BRENNAN: "Well I thank you for your time, but I just needed some guidance. So thank you."

JULIE N. TARRANT, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Anybody else that would like to speak? Okay, if not I will be closing the Public Hearing. I want to thank everybody for their comments today and we will be moving forward from here. Thank you."

There being no additional comments received; Julie Tarrant, Chief Financial Officer adjourned the meeting at 11:19 AM.

Respectfully submitted,


Michelle I. Gunther
Clerk of the Board