

Buncombe County
Recovery Plan Performance Report



**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

August 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Buncombe County
2022 Recovery Plan

Table of Contents

General Overview..... 2

- Executive Summary 2
- Uses of Funds 3
- Promoting Equitable Outcomes..... 6
- Community Engagement..... 8
- Labor Practices 9
- Use of Evidence 9
- Performance Report..... 10

Project Inventory..... 12

- Buncombe County Government Projects 12
- Subrecipient Projects 16

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Buncombe County presents the following plan for the use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF), intended to promote an impactful, sustainable, and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in our community. The County is committed to investing these funds in projects that:

- Align to county strategic plan and community priorities
- Support equitable outcomes for most impacted populations
- Leverage and align with other governmental funding sources
- Make best use of this one-time infusion of resources
- Have a lasting impact

We began our process by engaging the community through a survey seeking input regarding COVID-19 recovery priorities (April 2021). The survey yielded over 7,600 responses identifying the top ten categories for consideration, which included: Affordable Housing; Mental Health; Homelessness; Workforce Development; K-12 Education Support; Early Childhood Education; Business Relief; Infrastructure & Broadband; Food System; and Environmental Preservation.

Buncombe County has implemented two rounds of requests for proposals (RFPs) in compliance with our procurement policy and in order to create an open and inclusive process for distributing funds. Both RFPs invited proposals from any municipal corporation or public body, and bodies politic and corporate of the State of North Carolina, as well as nonprofit organizations whose principal place of business is located in Buncombe County. The first RFP opened on June 1, 2021 and closed on July 15, 2021, and the second RFP opened on March 1, 2022 and closed on April 12, 2022, both providing a six-week period for submission. During the RFP processes, the County hosted virtual workshops for community partners and county departments interested in applying for funding (June 2021 and March 2022). These workshops provided an overview of ARPA and SLFRF requirements, as well as an opportunity for potential applicants to ask questions about the funding and RFP processes. A recording of the workshop and catalog of all questions and answers were posted on the County's recovery funding webpage (www.buncombecounty.org/recoveryfunding).

A review team was established to evaluate all requests for proposals post RFP deadlines. The first review team was comprised of 21 individuals representing 16 Buncombe County departments. The second was made up of 17 individuals representing 15 departments. Upon completion of evaluations based on a standardized review tool, all proposals, reviewer scores and comments, and fund eligibility research were presented to the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners for their review.

The first RFP process was open to any SLFRF eligible project while the second RFP prioritized the following impact areas identified by the Board of Commissioners in conjunction with the County's five-year strategic plan:

- Affordable Housing
- Aging/Older Adults

- Business Support/Economic Development
- Environment/Climate
- Homelessness
- Infrastructure & Broadband
- K-12 Education
- Mental Health/Substance Use
- Workforce

So far Buncombe County has voted to approve awards of \$28.6 million to 30 projects. 25 of these projects, totalling \$17.7 million have started as of June 30, 2022.

Buncombe County is committed to creating an equitable and meaningful portfolio of SLFRF funded projects that serves those most disproportionately impacted by the pandemic through a mix of county and community-led projects. This includes projects led by internal county departments as well as projects led by community-based organizations. We will continue to monitor and assess the performance of active projects as we approach the one-year mark of the early implemented projects funded by SLFRF. Additionally, the County is working to create an impact analysis of funded projects to track community outcomes and best tell the story of the impact Recovery Funds have had in Buncombe County.

An ongoing challenge we have been faced with comes in the form of trying to balance the need to move swiftly with this funding in order to address urgent needs with going at a pace that allows us to be strategic about decision making, especially as we continue to learn about ways to potentially leverage additional ARPA funding and State funds. As an early implementer of SLFRF, Buncombe County has had to adjust certain processes, such as data collection and reporting, to comply with the new and updated requirements set forth by Treasury and the Final Rule in 2022.

Uses of Funds

Buncombe County has been working diligently over the past year to design and implement a process to help support a strong and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn in our jurisdiction. This one-time infusion of flexible funds has provided a unique opportunity to offer direct support to projects, programs, and services that align with pressing needs in our community and the County's strategic plan.

The Board of Commissioners have assumed the responsibility for making award determinations in alignment with the County's five-year strategic plan, the initial community and employee funding priorities survey (released in April 2021), ARPA community input sessions, Buncombe County's FY23 budget priorities, and coordination with the City of Asheville to ensure the maximization of SLFRF funds. Based on these factors, Commissioners have elevated the following categories within the Strategic Plan for priority funding:

Strategic Area 1: Educated and Capable Community

- Early Learning
- K-12 Education

Strategic Area 2: Environmental & Energy Stewardship

- Environment/Climate

Strategic Area 3: Resident Well-Being

- Affordable Housing
- Homelessness
- Mental Health/Substance Use
- Aging/Older Adults

Strategic Area 4: Vibrant Economy

- Business Support/Economic Development
- Infrastructure & Broadband
- Workforce

As of June 30, 2022, Buncombe County has established 25 projects totaling \$17.7 in awards. These projects include the following use of funds by expenditure category provided by US Treasury:

Public Health (EC 1): 8 projects totaling \$4,353,087

Several public health projects were established to combat the COVID-19 public health emergency through vaccine distribution, promotion, community incentives for receiving a first and second dose vaccine, and the purchase and distribution of KN95 masks for staff, visitors to County offices, and inmates at the County jail. SLFRF funds were utilized to create a county-led Community Paramedic Program and extend the operating hours for a Behavioral Health Urgent Care (BHUC) center to help address the ever-increasing behavioral health and substance use issues in our community. The remaining projects in the Public Health category support victims' services, including providing clinical supports for child and adult abuse, and a collaboration between four prominent victims services organizations in Buncombe County, to include housing, case management, court advocates, and legal assistance.

"The pandemic resulted in additional stress and tension within families that at times manifested into increased violence. Support from Buncombe County through the ARPA program is enabling us to sustain the Family Visitation Program and help families visit together in a way that protects child and adult victims and develops safe, positive and healthy relationships. In addition, our Family Visitation Program does not work in isolation as we rely on Helpmate, Our Voice, and Pisgah Legal Services to be there to help survivors of violence meet their needs including shelter, counseling, legal, and much more." - Laura Jeffords, executive director of The Mediation Center.



Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2): 15 projects totaling \$11,116,940

This category holds the largest number of SLFRF projects to date. Affordable housing and homelessness continue to be one of the most substantial issues that Buncombe County is faced with, and it was selected as the top area of need in our 2021 community survey. SLFRF funds have provided over \$7 million to increase affordable housing stock and create new permanent supportive housing for those facing chronic homelessness. Another four community-led projects totaling \$905,000 fall under “Household Assistance” in the form of food assistance, rent and utility assistance, and internet access programs for individuals and families living in poverty. An additional \$3.1 million has been allocated for projects addressing early childhood education and disparities, business incubator programs, loans and grants to mitigate financial hardship, and nonprofit and other economic support.

Babies Need Bottoms diaper bank was awarded funding to support diaper assistance to Early Child Care Education Centers in Buncombe County. By providing diapers and wipes for ECECs to distribute to enrolled low-income families, more children are having basic needs met while caregivers are able to obtain childcare they need to work, and also receiving material support that helps them stretch their household budget further.

One partner recently shared with us, "We have parents with multiple children in our program and they have expressed how grateful they are not to have to worry about providing their children diapers when they are at school. They have even cried in relief when we told them they did not have to bring them."



Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity (EC 3): 0 projects
As of June 30, 2022, Buncombe County has not yet allocated funds for Public Sector Capacity.

Premium Pay (EC 4): 1 project totaling \$1,023,741

Buncombe County utilized these funds to recognize the COVID-19 risk incurred to front-line essential staff working from March 10, 2020 – March 10, 2021. The nature of assigned work for many County staff required direct or indirect contact engaging with the general public. The goal is to reward those employees who endured health risk of COVID-19 exposure due to the nature of their essential work during the first year of the pandemic. Eligible duties include those of first responders as well as forward-facing staff providing mandated services to the public. These funds will provide eligible staff with a one-time lump sum payment to reward them for their dedication as well as the risk incurred during the stated time period.

Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure (EC 5): 0 projects

No water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure projects have been allocated through SLFRF funds as of June 30, 2022.

Revenue Replacement (EC 6): 0 projects

The County has elected the standard allowance of up to \$10 million in revenue replacement to be used for the provision of general government services. As of June 30, 2022, Buncombe County has not yet allocated funds for revenue replacement projects.

Promoting equitable outcomes

Buncombe County elevates equity as a priority area for our governmental institution and community. Equity has been established by County Leadership as a “Foundational Focus Area” and “Organizational Value” in the County’s 2020-2025 strategic plan (www.buncombecounty.org/2025) with the goals of ensuring that policies and practices eliminate barriers to allow for equitable opportunity, as well as ensuring that representative and inclusive practices are reflected in decision making.

Buncombe County has explicitly named racial equity as a goal. Effective July 1, 2021, our Board of Commissioners adopted a Racial Equity Action Plan (2021-2025) that will advance our strategies surrounding racial equity throughout the SLFRF process (www.buncombecounty.org/equity). While inequities and lack of inclusion exist across all areas - race, gender, age, sexual orientation, ability, and more, the County is focusing on racial equity because of pronounced disparities in this area. Because we know that there are the largest disparities by race across all sectors, focusing on racial equity helps us to get our systems and structures in place in order to improve all types of equity.

We chose to design our request for proposals (RFP) processes in order to maximize participation from historically marginalized and underrepresented populations. Project proposals submitted by County departments were subject to the same process as community proposals in an attempt to minimize institutional advantage. Buncombe County promoted the RFPs through both traditional marketing and grassroots outreach to community-based organizations. We hosted a virtual workshop for community partners to field all questions or concerns about the application process and made recordings and notes from the workshops public on our Recovery Funding webpage, as well as emailing all community partners who registered for the workshop or reached out to us individually about SLFRF funds to share this information. The workshops included simultaneous Spanish interpretation for limited English proficiency participants.

Equity impact was a critical factor in deciding project awards. The RFP has a dedicated section for “Equity Impact” that asks all applicants to identify how this effort will help build toward a just, equitable, and sustainable COVID-19 recovery, as well as describing how the root causes and/or disproportionate impacts of inequities are addressed. Buncombe County promoted the RFP through both traditional marketing and grassroots outreach to community-based organizations. We hosted a virtual workshop for community partners to field all questions or concerns about the application process and made recordings and notes from the workshops public on our Recovery Funding webpage, as well as emailing all community partners who

registered for the workshop or reached out to us individually about SLFRF funds to share this information. The workshops included simultaneous Spanish interpretation for limited English proficiency participants.

Buncombe County is investing SLFRF resources to stabilize the hardest-hit populations in our community while advancing racial equity and build an equitable economy for the long term. Our diverse portfolio of awards includes assistance to households, small businesses and nonprofits to address the impacts of the pandemic, which have been most severe among low-income populations such as residents of low-income neighborhoods, minorities, disconnected youth, the unemployed, formerly incarcerated people, veterans, and people with disabilities. SLFRF-funded services to these populations include: affordable housing, child care, food access, job apprenticeships, historic preservation, home repair, housing stabilization, mental health counseling, school-based health, summer camp, small business development, victims' services, violence prevention/intervention, and more.

In April 2022, the Appalachian Regional Commission published a case study, "[ARPA in Appalachia](#)", highlighting Buncombe County's strategy and deployment of funds demonstrate commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Buncombe County has made a strong commitment to equity. It is a critical component of the county's existing strategic plan, the regional strategy developed by the Land of Sky Regional Council, and the City of Asheville, which created its own office of Business Inclusion. This equity commitment was reflected in the county's process for reviewing options and deploying ARPA funds. For example, the county provided program materials in English and Spanish; informational workshops in both languages were widely publicized; and the community priority list was based on community feedback collected via a survey. All RFP funding requests also required a discussion of how the proposal would address root causes of inequity and contribute to a more equitable COVID-19 recovery.

- ARPA in Appalachia Case Study

As we move forward with the SLFRF planning and distribution process, equity continues to be at the forefront of all conversations. The County is working closely with all subrecipients to ensure the administrative components of funding are not a hindrance to their project or programmatic success. As we partner with subrecipients to develop performance measures, we are identifying specific targets intended to produce meaningful equity results.

For example, Commissioners awarded funds to One Buncombe, small business relief program supporting highly impacted businesses with grants for the purpose of rehiring and retaining employees. To prioritize equity, the subrecipient established goals for participation by

historically marginalized and underrepresented populations. The project aimed to have 5% of recipients be minority-owned businesses and 50% women-owned businesses, and the organization engaged in inclusive practices for outreach, engagement and service to those populations. At project close, 141 grants were made, including 22% minority-owned businesses and 69% women-owned businesses.

Additionally, we are constantly staying apprised of opportunities to learn more about racial equity as it pertains to the SLFRF process through resources such as the Government Alliance for Racial Equity (GARE), Race Forward, and the National Association of Counties (NACo). We will continue to keep racial equity top of mind as we further develop how we design and implement SLFRF to promote equitable outcomes.

Community Engagement

When Buncombe County learned that flexible recovery funding for local governments would be coming to our community through ARPA, Commissioners quickly began priority setting. Commissioners began their discussions in March 2021 with the county's Strategic Plan Focus Areas because those priorities were recently established with extensive community engagement.

In April 2021, Buncombe County issued a community survey seeking input about COVID recovery priorities, in alignment with the County's strategic plan focus areas. By the time the survey closed in May 2021, more than 7,600 survey responses were submitted. The top ten categories were: Affordable Housing; Mental Health; Homelessness; Workforce Development; K-12 Education Support; Early Childhood Education; Business Relief; Infrastructure & Broadband; Food System; and Environmental Preservation.

In June 2021, the County hosted a virtual workshop for community partners interested in participating in the request for proposal process. Spanish interpretation services were offered for this workshop for limited English proficiency attendees. We received 187 registrations for this workshop and published an RFP addendum on our Recovery Funding webpage with all asked and answered questions from the workshop, as well as all questions submitted in writing to the County.

Once the first round of RFPs had been submitted, Commissioners organized three virtual community input sessions by County Commissioner districts (September 2021) in order to hear the thoughts and concerns of citizens regarding SLFRF proposed projects. Commissioners also invited all RFP applicants, both internal departments and external community organizations, to give a three-minute virtual presentation at one of three Commissioner's meetings in September and October 2021. 99 community organizations attended and presented at these meetings, along with 10 county departments. All input sessions and project presentations were live streamed via Facebook Live. Recordings of the three ARPA Community Input Sessions can be found at the links below, as well as on Buncombe County's Recovery Funding website: www.buncombecounty.org/recoveryfunding.

ARPA Community Input Session 1 (District 1)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwmsgCyk02Q&t=1s>

ARPA Community Input Session 2 (Districts 2 & 3)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OVqpJnoCsp88>

ARPA Community Input Session 3 (Districts 2 & 3)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ER3eJ5DdSc>

Buncombe County has made concerted efforts to approach the community engagement aspect of the SLFRF process through an equity lens that provides translation services and reducing barriers to participation, such as virtual options for attendance and multiple ways to engage with the County. Each step of the way we have clearly communicated with all RFP applicants about opportunities for engagement, timing of awards, and next steps, as well as posting recordings of workshops, all submitted RFPs, presentations made at Commissioner meetings, and a dashboard of awards made to date on our [Recovery Funding website](#).

Labor Practices

Buncombe County has not implemented projects in the Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure expenditure category as of June 30, 2022. All subrecipients of SLFRF dollars are required to adhere to the procurement and labor standards defined in the Code of Federal Regulations 2CFR § 200.318 “General Procurement Standards”. This compliance requirement is included in subrecipient agreements. Additionally, the County’s [Procurement Policy](#) establishes the following participation goals for contracts and purchases:

According to NCGS 143-129(b) the County has no authority to establish preferences of any kind and are bound by law to award to the “lowest responsible, responsive bidder, taking into consideration quality, performance and the time specified in the proposals for the performance of the contract.” However, it is the desire of the County to purchase from Minority Businesses and suppliers located within Buncombe County whenever possible. Local suppliers and Minority Business suppliers should be encouraged to compete for County business.

Participation Goals

The Buncombe County Government Minority Business Plan states that annual verifiable goals for minority business participation in construction projects (other provisions apply depending on project type & funding), procurement projects, professional, and other service projects are as follows:

- Construction – 12% overall for all minorities
- Procurement – 10% overall for all minorities
- Professional – 10% overall for all minorities
- Other Services – 10% overall for all minorities

Use of Evidence

Buncombe County is not utilizing SLFRF funds for evidence-based interventions at this time.

Performance Report

Buncombe County has put great thought and effort into designing a performance management system for SLFRF projects in order to monitor the success of each program. All awardees (including internal county departments and external subrecipients) are required to submit monthly expenditure and performance reports to the County by the 15th of each month for the life of their grant. This ensures all costs made with SLFRF funds are eligible and provides reporting for distinct performance measures required by US Treasury, as well as additional custom performance measures created by Buncombe County in order to meaningfully track and communicate the impact of each project.

Buncombe County has established a Subrecipient Policy guiding performance management for subawards. In addition to monthly reporting, all subrecipients are required to complete a risk assessment upon execution of their award agreement. Each subrecipient is classified into one of three risk categories: Standard Risk, Enhanced Risk, or High Risk.

Standard Risk	Enhanced Risk	High Risk
<p>There is a low risk that the subrecipient will fail to meet project or programmatic objectives or incur significant deficiencies in financial, regulatory, reporting, or other compliance requirements.</p> <p>General guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No audit findings • Minor audit findings and assessed as low risk by auditor • Successful history with federal awards • Seasoned staff and systems 	<p>There is moderate risk that the subrecipient will fail to meet project or programmatic objectives or incur significant deficiencies in financial, regulatory, reporting, or other compliance requirements.</p> <p>General guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization without prior experience with federal awards • Newer staff or systems • Limited prior audits 	<p>There is high risk that the subrecipient will fail to meet project or programmatic objectives or incur significant deficiencies in financial, regulatory, reporting, or other compliance requirements.</p> <p>General guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No prior audits • Prior audit findings with major deficiencies or material weaknesses • Organization without sufficient personnel, accounting systems, and internal controls

Buncombe County is developing and implementing a monitoring plan for each particular subaward based on the findings of the Subrecipient Risk Assessment. These plans are communicated to subrecipients and modified as needed.

As of June 30, 2022, the County has 20 active projects and 5 completed projects. Current performance data for each individual project can be found in the *Project Inventory* section of this report.

Key performance indicator highlights from our completed projects include:

Mountain BizWorks: One Buncombe Small Business Grants

\$500,000 was awarded to aid COVID-impacted small businesses (under 25 employees).

- 141 grants were made

- 22% (31 businesses) were minority-owned and received a total of \$125,000
- 69% (95 businesses) were women-owned and received a total of \$390,000
- 253 full-time and living-wage jobs were retained
- 196.5 full-time and living-wage jobs were able to be rehired
- 85.5 jobs were added



Buncombe County Government: COVID-19 Vaccination Outreach & PPE

\$172,000 was awarded to internal county-led projects to promote and incentivize COVID-19 vaccinations, as well as provide KN95 masks to all Buncombe County employees and visitors. Through these initiatives:

- 905 \$100 gift cards were distributed to individuals receiving a first dose COVID-19 vaccine through the County between August 31, 2021 and June 30, 2022
- 230 \$25 gift cards were distributed to individuals (18+) who drove someone to get their first dose COVID-19 vaccine
- 774 Western North Carolina Nature Center passes were distributed to children ages 5-17 who received a first dose COVID-19 vaccine
- As of June 30, 2022, 70% of Buncombe County's population has received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine
- 63,000 KN95 masks and 70,000 surgical masks were purchased for distribution at 25 County office locations, as well as the Buncombe County Jail.

Buncombe County Government: Incentive for COVID Risk to Buncombe County Employees

\$1,023,741 was awarded to recognize the COVID-19 risk incurred to front-line essential staff working from March 10, 2020 – March 10, 2021.

- 708 Buncombe County employees received Premium Pay in December 2021

PROJECT INVENTORY

Buncombe County Government

Project PRJ_0342: COVID Vaccination Incentive

Funding amount: \$104,500

Project Expenditure Category: 1.1 COVID-19 Vaccination

Project Overview

- Buncombe County Health and Human Services (HHS) will administer a gift card incentive program to promote COVID vaccinations. The program is a continuation of the State of North Carolina's "Summer Card" vaccine incentive program, which ended on 8/31/21. \$100 gift cards will be provided to residents ages 18+ receiving a 1st dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, and \$25 gift cards will be provided to residents ages 18+ who drive another person for a 1st dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Up to \$100,000 in gift cards will be awarded. HHS will administer Western North Carolina Nature Center passes as incentives to promote COVID vaccinations for youth ages 5-17. Up to 500 passes will be provided to residents receiving a 1st dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- *# Service Recipients (people receiving a gift card at a County site upon receiving a first dose COVID-19 vaccine) to date: Goal = 1000*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 1,085
- *# / \$ total value of gift cards procured to date*
 - As of June 30, 2022:
 - 905 \$100 purchased = \$90,500
 - 230 \$25 purchased = \$5,750
- *# / \$ first dose gift cards distributed: Goal = 500*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 855 first dose cards of \$100 value have been issued = \$85,500 (50 of the remaining \$100 cards were transferred to BCSO which would equal the total purchased of 905 cards)
- *# / \$ transportation gift cards distributed: Goal = 200*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 230 cards have been issued = \$5,750
- *% of Buncombe County population at least partially vaccinated: Goal = 70%*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 70% of the total population has received at least one dose of vaccine.

Buncombe County Government

Project PRJ_0394: Community Paramedic Collaborative

Funding amount: \$ 1,074,873

Project Expenditure Category: 1.13 Substance Use Services

Project Overview

- With the expansion of Buncombe County's Community Paramedic program, this project works to put systems in place that will protect community members and broaden access to care for all. Community paramedics teams, including peer support specialists, will coordinate with Law enforcement, Fire Departments, and Public Health to create a

sustainable new model for both Public Safety response and Prevention/Outreach. This project funding will cover the up-front costs for equipment for the program expansion. Personnel, contractual and other operational funding will be leveraged through other revenue sources including Buncombe County general funds and outside grant funds.

Use of Evidence

- Amount of funds allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$177,303.77
 - *Van ambulance and Quick Response Vehicle utilized for multidisciplinary outreach efforts.*

Performance Report

- *# of Service Recipients To Date: # of overdose responses by Community Paramedics*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 90 overdose responses
- *# of contacts made/Releases of information obtained*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 32 ROI's obtained between
- *# of Naloxone reversals in the field by first responders.*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 63 Narcan reversals.
- *# of on-site buprenorphine inductions emergent*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 3 emergent buprenorphine inductions.
- *# of on-site buprenorphine inductions non-emergent*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 7 non-emergent induction.
- *# of outreach events or Community Paramedic deployments utilizing Mobile Command Center annually: GOAL = 12 annually, one per month*
 - As of June 30, 2022: The Mobile Command Center is not fully built yet.
- *# of overdose deaths in Buncombe County: GOAL = percentage decline in deaths per capita annually*
 - As of June 30, 2022: This project has not completed a full year cycle, the cumulative overdose deaths will be calculated and reported at a later date.

Buncombe County Government

Project PRJ 0336: COVID Vaccination Support

Funding amount: \$543,714

Project Expenditure Category: 1.1 COVID-19 Vaccination

Project Overview

- Buncombe County Emergency Services (ES) will partner with Buncombe County Health and Human Services (HHS) to support COVID vaccination planning and implementation during County Fiscal Year 2022 (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022). HHS is the lead department with responsibility for managing the public health response to the pandemic in Buncombe County, and ES is providing medical, logistical and planning support for the vaccination efforts. The primary goals are: an effective and efficient COVID vaccination program; equitable COVID vaccine access with emphasis on historically underserved communities and vulnerable populations; high community rates of vaccination, particularly among vulnerable populations.

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- *# Service Recipients (people receiving a gift card at a County site upon receiving a first dose COVID-19 vaccine) to date:*

- As of June 30, 2022: 15,247
- # of sites, including fixed and mobile (pop-up) where vaccine was administered:
 - As of June 30, 2022: 55
- # of hours of operation of vaccination clinics:
 - As of June 30, 2022: 1,548
- # of first doses administered:
 - As of June 30, 2022: 4,830
- # of second doses administered:
 - As of June 30, 2022: 2,640
- # of third doses administered:
 - As of June 30, 2022: 7,777
- % of eligible Buncombe County population that has received at least one dose:
 - As of June 30, 2022: 70%
- % of eligible Buncombe County population that is fully vaccinated:
 - As of June 30, 2022: 66%

Buncombe County Government

Project PRJ_0403: KN95 Masks for COVID Prevention

Funding amount: \$50,000

Project Expenditure Category: 1.5 Personal Protective Equipment

Project Overview

- Buncombe County government will provide personal protective equipment to the general public and staff through the KN95 Masks for COVID Prevention project. Buncombe County will purchase a total of 45,000 high quality (KN95) face masks to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and the highly contagious Omicron variant. 30,000 masks will be distributed to the general public when in County buildings. 15,000 masks will be distributed among County staff.

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- # of masks purchased, Goal = 45,000:
- As of June 30, 2022: 63,000 KN95 and 70,000 Surgical-type Face Masks
- # of County departments distributing masks:
 - As of June 30, 2022: 14
- # of distribution sites:
 - As of June 30, 2022: 25

Buncombe County Government

Project PRJ_0341: Incentive for COVID Risk to Buncombe County Employees

Funding amount: \$1,023,741

Project Expenditure Category: 4.1 Public Sector Employees

Project Overview

- Buncombe County will utilize these funds to recognize the COVID-19 risk incurred to front-line essential staff working from March 10, 2020 – March 10, 2021. The goal is to reward those employees who endured health risk of COVID-19 exposure due to the nature of their essential work during the first year of the pandemic. Eligible duties include those of first responders as well as forward-facing staff providing mandated services to the public. These funds will provide up to a \$3,000 lump sum payment to employees identified in the “Core COVID” tier, up to a \$1,500 lump sum payment to employees identified within the “High Risk” tier, and up to a \$1,000 lump sum payment to employees identified within the “Medium to Low-Risk” or “COVID Reassignment” tier. Payments will be issued on December 31, 2021.

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- *# of Service Recipients To Date (number of workers served):*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 708
- *# of employees in the Core COVID tier receiving payments:*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 7
- *# of employees in the High-Risk tier receiving payments:*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 444
- *# of employees in the Medium to Low-Risk tier receiving payments:*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 167
- *# of employees in the COVID Reassignment tier receiving payments:*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 90
- *Date of premium pay issuance: 12/30/2021*

Buncombe County Government

Project PRJ_0354: COVID Vaccine Promotion

Funding amount: \$17,500

Project Expenditure Category: 1.1 COVID-19 Vaccination

Project Overview

- Buncombe County’s Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will collaborate with the Communications and Public Engagement (CAPE) department to implement a program outreach campaign aimed at increasing COVID-19 vaccination rates in Buncombe County. This project is complementary to a contract with Market Connections, a 3rd party contracted media firm that engaged with HHS via Public Health funding to provide campaign development and creative services during the months of September and October 2021. Fiscal Recovery Funds will cover direct advertising costs for the County’s COVID-19 vaccination program outreach through television, radio and online media. This is a short-term campaign which will take place during the month of October 2021.

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- *# of Service Recipients (total estimated media outreach):*
 - As of December 15, 2021: 172,000
- *% of eligible Buncombe County population that has received at least one dose:*

- As of December 6, 2021: 66%
- *% of eligible Buncombe County population that is fully vaccinated:*
 - As of November 30, 2021: 64%

Asheville Area Arts Council

Project PRJ_0398: Buncombe County Creative Sector Recovery Grant

Funding amount: \$50,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.36 Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Project Overview

Asheville Area Arts Council (AAAC) will work to aid nonprofit arts organizations in supporting existing jobs, creating new jobs, or to restore jobs that were furloughed or eliminated due to the pandemic. AAAC will provide support through project grants up to \$5,000 for nonprofit arts organizations in Buncombe County for eligible operating expenses AAAC will manage all aspects of the regranting process, including applications, outreach, award selection and distribution. AAAC will leverage additional funding from North Carolina Arts Council Grassroots Arts Program for successful delivery of workforce aid in the COVID-impacted arts sector in Buncombe County.

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- *# Service Recipients (arts organizations receiving grants) to date: Goal = 15-20*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 21 arts organizations received grants
- *# of jobs created: Goal = 1-5*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 6 new jobs created
- *# of jobs retained: Goal = 10-15*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 23 jobs retained
- *% of funded organizations that are BIPOC led: Goal = minimum of 20%*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 29.33% - 8 organizations awarded funding are BIPOC led, receiving a total of \$22,000.
- *Purpose of funds:*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 75.9% of funds awarded were for salary support with some other support for rent and utilities.

Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity

Project PRJ_0402: Infrastructure to Support Affordable Homeownership Development

Funding amount: \$1,600,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.15 Housing Support: Affordable Housing

Project Overview

- Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity (AAHH) will establish infrastructure to support the development of affordable homeownership in Buncombe County. This project will support the creation of 43 construction-ready home sites in the Glenn Bridge and New Heights Phase II developments. This one-time infusion of funds will contribute to an equitable, sustainable COVID-19 recovery, preparing AAHH's land for the development

of affordable, energy-efficient homes for vulnerable, low-income households. Infrastructure will include site development, sewer/water/stormwater installation, as well as roads and sidewalks. Infrastructure close-out is expected to be complete for Glenn Bridge by December 2022 and for New Heights Phase II by September 2025.

- <https://www.ashevillehabitat.org/housing-programs/featured-neighborhoods/>

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- **# Service Recipients (households that can be served once construction is complete) to date: Goal = 43**
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0- This will be reported on once construction is complete
- **# of construction ready home sites at Glenn Bridge: Goal = 29**
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0- infrastructure has commenced, but none of the sites have been completed for building yet.
- **# of construction ready home sites at New Heights: Goal = 14**
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0 – infrastructure at New Heights will begin in Spring 2023
- **# of affordable homes completed:**
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0 – To be reported on once home construction is complete
- **# of hours of sweat equity:**
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0 – sweat equity will begin when construction of units begins
- **# of households attaining homeownership of affordable homes:**
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0 – Project will provide 43 building sites for the construction of 43 affordable homes
- **Household Assistance (EC 2.2), Long-term Housing Security (EC 2.15-2.16) and Housing Support (EC 2.17-2.18):**
 - *Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): N/A*
 - *Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 43 building sites for the construction of affordable homes*

Asheville Museum of Science

Project PRJ_0385: AMOS Recovery Plan

Funding amount: \$130,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

- Asheville Museum of Science (AMOS) will use awarded Recovery Funds to support the negative financial impacts of COVID-19 while building the capacity to remain a vibrant and resilient part of the Buncombe County economic and educational infrastructure. Due to the pandemic, AMOS was forced to close its doors for six months (March-September

2020), and re-open at 50% capacity. AMOS will deliver STEM programming to minimize the “COVID Slide” and “Summer Slide” for children in grades K-8.

- <https://ashevillescience.org/>

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- *# Service Recipients (K-8 children visiting AMOS and participating in science education and STEM programming) to date: Goal = 8,100*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 13,000
- *# of at-risk students reach home/school: Goal = 2,000*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 5,500
- *% of students who participate in an evaluated program reporting increased interest in STEM: Goal = 90%*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 91% of 902 students participating in an informal evaluation
- *% of students reporting increased interest in a STEM career: GOAL = 75%*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 90% - out of 162 students ages 11-14 who completed formal evaluations
- *# of nonprofits served:*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 11

Babies Need Bottoms

Project PRJ_0386: Diaper Assistance to Early Child Care Education Centers

Funding amount: \$50,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.37 Other Economic Support

Project Overview

- Babies Need Bottoms (BNB) will provide economic support through its Diaper Assistance to Early Child Care Education Centers. BNB partner with local Early Childhood Education Centers (ECEC) to provide basic needs assistance to the families they serve. BNB will provide diapers and wipes for ECECs to distribute to enrolled low-income families in order for their children to be clean, dry and healthy. Diapers provided through this project will be used by families outside of ECEC hours - during nights, weekends, and school breaks/vacations, as well as assisting with sibling diaper needs. This project is intended to serve 3,900 non-unique children, averaging between 100-200 children a month and distribute at least 86,400 diapers.
- <https://babiesneedbottoms.org/2022/03/17/march-18-2022-arpa-funds-helping-buncombe-nonprofits-recover-from-pandemic/>

Use of Evidence

- \$8,221 in SLFRF funds have been allocated towards evidence-based interventions. During this performance period Babies Need Bottoms has analyzed data collected from the preceding year, discussed data collection questions with national and state experts to assess their suitability for our goals, and refined their collection tool. They have been engaged in data collection for a national economic impact study which has also informed their collection processes. Individual outcome data for this calendar year will be collected April- November 2022. Partner level data will be collected from November- December

2022 in an annual survey. As necessary, informal and ongoing discussions will continue to happen with partners to evaluate performance, troubleshoot and adjust accordingly.

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- **# Service Recipients (total children served) to date: Goal = 3,900**
 - As of June 30, 2022: Diapers have been distributed to serve 756 children
- **# diapers distributed (total): Goal = 86,400**
 - As of June 30, 2022: 20,457
- **# of wipes distributed (total): Goal = 3,900**
 - As of June 30, 2022: 775
- **# of program partners distributing diapers and wipes:**
 - As of June 30, 2022: 7 Early Childhood Education Centers
- **\$ amount of products distributed to date:**
 - As of June 30, 2022: \$11,265.83

Center for Agricultural and Food Entrepreneurship

Project PRJ 0339: Building Capacity for Buncombe County Food Entrepreneurs

Funding amount: \$200,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.32 Business Incubators and Start-Up or Expansion Assistance

Project Overview

- Center for Agricultural and Food Entrepreneurship (CAFE) will support small businesses in Buncombe County, including manufacturers, caterers, food truck operators, and farmers seeking to add value to their agricultural production. Project activities will include providing technical services at no cost to assess clients' needs, arranging for free training to clients, operating Blue Ridge Food Ventures with a focus on growth sustainably to create good paying jobs and income for County residents, coordinating production time and commissary access for clients in FDA-inspected kitchens, allocating up to \$1,000 per eligible client per year to cover commercial production time or one year of monthly commissary fees, equipping commercial kitchens with needed equipment, and providing multilingual access to services.

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project. However, cumulative impacts of the project will be measured upon completion of the grant-related expenditures.

Performance Report

- **# Service Recipients (businesses enrolled) to date: Goal = 54**
 - As of June 30, 2022: 16 businesses enrolled
- **# of full-time jobs created: Goal = 35**
 - As of June 30, 2022: 28 full-time jobs created
- **% of newly created full-time jobs retained: Goal = 26**
 - As of June 30, 2022: All 28 newly created full-time jobs have been retained
- **% of newly created part-time jobs retained: Goal = 23**

- As of June 30, 2022: 29 of the 33 part-time jobs created since January 2022 have been retained, with 3 of the 4 “lost” part-time jobs moving into full-time positions.
- *Value of goods made and sold by client businesses: 3-Year Goal = \$5,000,000*
 - As of June 30, 2022: \$2,977,270 in goods value
- *# of startup businesses still operating after one year: Goal = 75%*
 - As of June 30, 2022: This outcome will be reported on in October 2022, which marks one year of the project

Eagle Market Streets Development Corporation

Project PRJ_0399: EMSDC Community Equity Fund

Funding amount: \$375,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.32 Business Incubators and Start-Up or Expansion Assistance

Project Overview

- Eagle Market Street Community Development Corporation (EMSCDC) will provide small business economic assistance through its Community Equity Fund (CEF) project. EMSDC will provide financial capital support (equity infusions) to small businesses that have suffered substantial negative economic impacts from the pandemic in Buncombe County, including but not limited to Black, Indigenous, and People of Color and women-owned businesses. The project will support enrolled businesses with business advisory/acumen training and access to “virtual back-office” support to help with bookkeeping, human resources, accounting, and legal needs. The project is intended to support 6 businesses, create 11 new jobs and retain 2 jobs.

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project. However, the EMSDC CEF Fund Manager performs monthly monitoring of funded businesses and a minimum of 1 site visit per quarter.

Performance Report

- *# Service Recipients (businesses enrolled in CEF) to date: Goal = 6*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 2 BIPOC owned businesses have received funding
- *\$ amount of equity capital invested: Goal = \$300,000*
 - As of June 30, 2022: \$72,000
- *\$ amount of repayment of equity infusions:*
 - As of June 30, 2022: \$18,000
- *# jobs created: Goal = 11*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 4 new jobs
- *# of jobs retained: Goal = 2*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 2 jobs retained
- *Average wage: Goal = \$17.70/hour*
 - As of June 30, 2022: \$20.00/hour

Green Built Alliance

Project PRJ_0387: Clean Energy Upgrades for Low-Income Households

Funding amount: \$250,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.2 Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid

Project Overview

- Green Built Alliance (GBA) will address negative economic impacts via household assistance through its Clean Energy Upgrades for Low-Income Households project. This project will provide free HVAC upgrades for qualifying low-income households with broken heat pumps or old, inefficient oil, propane, and natural gas furnaces. HVAC upgrades will include high-efficiency heat pumps or mini-splits. GBA will also determine if eligible homes are good candidates for free solar systems and will connect 10 households with a solar installer to be selected through a competitive RFP process. This project is intended to serve 40 households and will evaluate modeled energy cost savings and actual savings generated from HVAC repairs/replacements.

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- *# households served: Goal = 45*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 1 household heat pump repair completed
- *# of heat pump repairs: Goal = 6*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 1 heat pump repair completed
- *# of new HVAC systems installed: Goal = 4*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0 – contract with HVAC newly established
- *# of new mini-splits installed: Goal = 13*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- *# of solar systems installed: Goal = 10*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- *Household Assistance (EC 2.2), Long-term Housing Security (EC 2.15-2.16) and Housing Support (EC 2.17-2.18):*
 - Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): Not applicable
 - Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: Not applicable

Homeward Bound of Western North Carolina

Project PRJ_0337: Permanent Supportive Housing Expansion

Funding amount: \$3,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.16 Housing Support: Services for Unhoused Persons

Project Overview

- Homeward Bound of WNC aims to expand permanent supportive housing through acquisition of a motel for the purpose of renovating it into 85 affordable housing efficiency units to serve chronically homeless. This will be accomplished by utilizing contract funds for property acquisition. The subrecipient will establish a plan for the renovation of the facility into permanent supportive housing apartment units, office space

for case managers and program staff, and spaces for community partners to deliver onsite supportive services. Program activities may include establishing a plan for facility operations and delivery of on-site case management, 24-hour staffing, on-site security, and individualized, supportive services focused on housing stabilization, independence, and improving quality of life, to include sustainable financing for operations.

- <https://homewardboundwnc.org/housing/home-is-key/>

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- **# of units completed: Goal = 85**
 - As of June 30, 2022: Currently working with the architect and developer on unit renovations. The goal of 85 completed units is on track to be met by December 31, 2022.
- **# of tenants: Goal = 85**
 - As of June 30, 2022: Lease up of units is on track to begin in January 2023 once construction is complete, with all units expected to be occupied by December 2023.
- **Housing retention rate (% achieving housing stability by either remaining in the program or successfully graduating from the program into other permanent housing): Goal = 89%**
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0% - This will be tracked once units are online and occupancy begins.
- a. **Household Assistance (EC 2.2), Long-term Housing Security (EC 2.15-2.16) and Housing Support (EC 2.17-2.18):**
 - Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: Target = 85
 - i. The estimated date of construction completion of all 85 permanent supportive housing units is December 31, 2022 with a target lease-up date of December 31, 2023.

Land of Sky Regional Council

Project PRJ_0388: Connecting All Communities

Funding amount: \$445,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.4 Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs

Project Overview

- Land of Sky Regional Council (LOSRC) will provide household assistance through its Connecting All Communities internet access & digital literacy assistance project. LOSRC will partner with Housing Authority of the City of Asheville (HACA) to increase access to the internet for low-income residents through WIFI installations in public housing communities. LOSRC will also hire a Digital Navigation Coordinator to perform digital literacy community outreach. The project is intended to provide affordable WIFI to 6 HACA public housing sites, serving about 700 residents and support digital literacy to 300 residents, to include mainly senior, homeless, BIPOC, low-income, and rural populations.

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project. Program evaluation will be conducted for program participants once technology is deployed.

Performance Report

- *# households served to date:*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0 – material procurement for installation is underway, but construction has not begun yet.
- *# of individuals receiving WIFI internet at HACA locations: Goal = 700*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0 – Internet service has not begun yet, but service provider (Elauwit) has been contracted.
- *# individuals receiving digital literacy support: Goal = 300*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0 – position for Digital Navigator has been posted

Mountain BizWorks

Project PRJ_0350: One Buncombe Small Business Grants

Funding amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.29 Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Project Overview

One Buncombe grants are focused on providing relief to highly impacted businesses for the purpose of rehiring and retaining employees. Mountain BizWorks will act as the CDFI (Community Development Financial Institution) to administer the program. This program will give preference to businesses that have a strong plan for growing the number of full-time employees employed; can clearly demonstrate revenue reductions due to the pandemic; and could not qualify for Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) or other major relief programs. The maximum grant awards will not exceed \$5,000 per entity (\$2,500 for sole proprietorships). Mountain BizWorks will prioritize equity and service to businesses owned by people of color; women-owned businesses; sole-proprietorships, single-member LLCs, and or other entities with only one employee.

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- *# Service Recipients (businesses receiving grants) to date: Goal = 100 or more*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 141 businesses received grants
- *\$ value of total grants: Goal = \$500,000*
 - As of June 30, 2022: \$500,000 has been granted to aid COVID-impacted small businesses
- *% of minority-owned businesses receiving funds: Goal = 15*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 22% - 31 awards to minority-owned businesses totaling \$125,000
- *% of women-owned businesses receiving funds: Goal = 50*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 69% - 95 awards to women-owned businesses totaling \$390,000
- *# of jobs retained: Goal = 50*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 253 full-time equivalent & living-wage jobs retained
- *# of jobs rehired: Goal = 25*

- As of June 30, 2022: 196.5 full-time equivalent & living-wage jobs rehired

Mountain BizWorks

Project PRJ 0400: Expanding Mountain Community Capital Fund

Funding amount: \$1,250,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.32 Business Incubators and Start-Up or Expansion Assistance

Project Overview

- Mountain BizWorks (MBW) will address negative economic impacts by providing start-up and expansion support through its Mountain Community Capital Fund (MCCF) project. MBW will use Recovery Funds to make loans to small businesses founded by low-income entrepreneurs who lack sufficient credit or collateral to access the needed capital to retain and create jobs. At the time each loan is made, MBW will expense an amount equal to 85% of the new loan or \$75,000, whichever is less, to the MCCF to serve as collateral offset/loan guarantee and thereby overcoming the credit/collateral barrier faced by many low-income entrepreneurs. This investment is intended to provide direct loans to 90 businesses and create or retain 320 jobs.
- <https://www.ashevilenc.gov/department/community-economic-development/business-inclusion/mountain-community-capital-fund-information-page/>

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project. Program evaluation will be conducted for program participants once technology is deployed.

Performance Report

- *# of small businesses served: Goal = 90*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0 – actively completing the partnership agreement with MCCF to be able to efficiently deploy and manage the funds.
- *\$ issued in direct loans: Goal = \$1,350,000*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- *\$ contributed to MCCF: Goal = \$1,150,000*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- *# of jobs created/retained: Goal = 320*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- *# of businesses expanded: Goal = 77*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- *# of new businesses created: Goal = 14*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0

Mountain Child Advocacy Center

Project PRJ 0396: Child Trauma Response and Recovery

Funding amount: \$250,000

Project Expenditure Category: 1.11 Community Violence Interventions

Project Overview

- Mountain Child Advocacy Center (MCAC) will deliver services to disproportionately impacted communities through its Child Trauma Response and Recovery Project. MCAC will provide child abuse, prevention, advocacy and therapy services free of charge to children and families impacted by trauma. MCAC will program staff and organizational capacity to respond to the impact of COVID-19 on children suffering from trauma and abuse. The project is intended to serve 275 recipients of trauma-informed, evidence-based clinical treatment.
- <https://mtncac.org/>

Use of Evidence

- Mountain Child Advocacy Center is allocating \$46,394 in evidence-based interventions for this project. All Mountain Child Advocacy Center programs are trauma-informed and evidence-based. Evidence-based treatment (EBT) provided in April includes; Trauma Focused-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), Alternative Family-CBT(AF-CBT), Parent Child Interactive Therapy (PCIT), Problematic Sexualized Behaviors (PSB); Child Parent Psychotherapy (CPP), and Accelerated Response Therapy (ART), and Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT). Various evidence-based assessments are used for pre and post measures depending on age of client and specific modality. UCLA and SDQ assessments are used to measure symptoms for children ages 7-17 years of age, and assessments for young children, 0-6, include SDQ and YCPC. Eighteen families have received Circle of Security (COS) Parenting, in groups and individual training, and one family received Triple P parenting classes.

Performance Report

- *# of service recipients to date: Goal = 8,670*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 3,408 unique individuals receiving services
- *# of service recipients who received advocacy services: Goal = 430*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 184 clients and their families who have received advocacy services
- *# of service recipients who received trauma-informed, evidence-based treatment: Goal = 240*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 128 clients (98 children and 30 adults)
- *# of school children who will receive personal safety lessons: Goal = 8,000*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 3,096
- *# of new businesses created: Goal = 14*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- *Assistance to Unemployed or Under Employed Workers (EC 2.10) and Community Violence Interventions (EC 1.11):*
 - Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs: Not applicable
 - Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs: Not applicable
 - Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs: Not applicable

Mountain Housing Opportunities

Project PRJ_0389: Recovery Starts at Home

Funding amount: \$2,545,231

Project Expenditure Category: 2.15 Housing Support: Affordable Housing

Project Overview

- The Recovery Starts at Home project includes construction of 120 units of new affordable rental housing at Lakeshore Villas, located on Heywood Road in Arden, NC. This standalone development will be comprised of 1, 2 and 3 bedroom units encompassing a range of affordable rents servicing from below 30% Area Median Income (AMI) to a maximum of 80% AMI. Average affordability of all units will be no greater than 60% AMI, and all units will accept Section 8 Housing Vouchers. Property acquisition will occur by December 2021. Construction is estimated to begin by summer 2023 and is estimated to be complete by fall 2024. Complete lease-up is expected by April 2025.

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- *Estimated project completion date:*
 - As of June 30, 2022: April 30, 2025
- *# of units completed: Goal = 120*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- *# of units currently leased: Goal = 120*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- *# of service recipients (total occupants in leased units):*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- *Household Assistance (EC 2.2), Long-term Housing Security (EC 2.15-2.16) and Housing Support (EC 2.17-2.18):*
 - Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): Not applicable
 - Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 120 units to be developed

RHA Health Services

Project PRJ_0390: All Access to Care and Support

Funding amount: \$1,300,000

Project Expenditure Category: 1.12 Mental Health Services

Project Overview

- RHA Health Services (RHA) will provide mental health services through its All Access to Care and Support project. RHA will increase the hours of operation for the Behavioral Health Urgent Care to resume walk-in crisis services that support adults and children 24/7/365. RHA will provide crisis stabilization and emergency care for people experiencing a mental health/addiction crisis and services for people who desire immediate access to assessment, treatment and support for behavioral health needs. The project is intended to serve 2,250 clients over 15 months and reduce unnecessary overutilization of hospital and jail settings by people with mental health needs.

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- # of service recipients to date (overall number of unduplicated BHUC clients): Goal = 2,250
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0 – RHA is still trying to hire for necessary positions for this program
- # of BHUC self-referrals:
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- # of BHUC community partner referrals:
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- # of BHUC Mission/emergency department referrals:
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- # of BHUC EMS referrals:
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- # of law enforcement drop offs:
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0

The Arc of Buncombe County

Project PRJ_0391: Household Assistance to the Intellectually and Developmentally Disabled
Funding amount: \$50,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.2 Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid

Project Overview

- The Arc of Buncombe County, Inc. (Arc/BC) will provide household assistance to I/DD (Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities) citizens and their families/caregivers. The primary focus will be home repairs, rent/mortgage/utility assistance, and counseling/legal assistance to prevent eviction and homelessness. This project will allow Arc/BC to meet “Assistance to Households” client requests 80+% of the time. Arc/BC serves 3,000-5,000 individuals/families each year. All clients/families that receive services from Arc/BC will be 50% or lower than the median area income (based on HUD estimation).

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- # of households receiving rent/mortgage/utility assistance to date:
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- # of households receiving home repair assistance to date:
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- % annual increase in total individuals/families that receive services: Goal = 15%
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- % of “Assistance to Households” client requests met (overall): Goal = 80%
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- Number of people or households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): Not Applicable

The Mediation Center

Project PRJ_0392: Maintaining and Adapting the Continuum of Victims' Services

Funding amount: \$1,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 1.11 Community Violence Interventions

Project Overview

- The Mediation Center will partner with 3 additional Buncombe County based nonprofits, Pisgah Legal Services, Helpmate, and Our VOICE, to continue to provide critical services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse/trauma to respond to disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 while navigating a large gap in Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding. The 4 organizations will work collaboratively to provide vital programming for at least 4,500 individuals (including adults & children) per year through 2 years of funding. The impact of combined services will help mitigate child abuse and neglect, intimate partner domestic violence, intergenerational trauma, and homelessness for individuals and families in Buncombe County.

Use of Evidence

- The Mediation Center and partner agencies implementing this project are allocating \$43,382 towards evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

- *# of service recipients to date (total for all 4 organizations): Goal = 4,500*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 4,250 individuals
- *# of families served through The Mediation Center's Home Visitation program: Goal = 40*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 24 families
- *# of individuals served through The Mediation Center's Home Visitation program: Goal = 100 (40 adult victims, 60 child victims)*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 80 children
- *# of individuals receiving legal aid from Pisgah Legal Services: Goal = 2,000*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 2,173 individuals
- *% of Pisgah Legal Services cases for immigrant households: Goal = 20%*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 37%
- *% of Pisgah Legal Services cases for households with children: Goal = 65%*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 74%
- *# of individuals receiving case management, children's services and/or court advocacy from Helpmate: GOAL = 2,000*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 1,520
- *# of survivors involved with Child Protective Services receiving support from Helpmate: GOAL = 200*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 129
- *# of individuals receiving survivor-centered crisis support from Our VOICE: GOAL = 400*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 477
- *% of survivors utilizing Our VOICE's services who are experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity: GOAL = 20%*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 7%
- *Assistance to Unemployed or Under Employed Workers (EC 2.10) and Community Violence Interventions (EC 1.11):*
 - Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs: Not applicable
 - Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs: Not applicable
 - Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs: Not applicable

Verner Center for Early Learning

Project PRJ_0340: Supporting Early Head Start Families With Flexible Extended Care

Funding amount: \$419,309

Project Expenditure Category: 2.14 Education Assistance: Early Learning

Project Overview

- Verner Center for Early Learning will use this funding to accomplish the primary project goals of increasing the number of families able to access EHS programming, increase the length of attendance of children participating in EHS, and improving family progress towards their own goals and impact on their employment. The project will accomplish these goals by employing teachers, Family Advocates and ECB Specialists to facilitate the project, extend EHS program by 3.5 hours per day, have Family Advocates meet with families at least twice per school year to perform a Family Needs Assessment, and partner with community organizations for enrollment and participant referrals.
- <https://www.vernerearlylearning.org/covid-recovery.html>

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- *# Service Recipients (Children) to date: Goal = 88*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 39 service recipients
- *% of enrolled Early Head Start families utilizing extended hours: Goal = 75%*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 61% of enrolled Early Head Start families utilizing extended hours
- *% of average daily attendance of Early Head Start participants: Goal = 85%*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 81% cumulative average daily attendance
- *# of Early Head Start families obtaining goals set towards obtaining or furthering employment: Goal = 20 families*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 29 families have been able to work more hours or gain employment as a result of having access to Early Head Start extended care
- *Healthy Childhood Environments (EC 2.11-2.14):*
 - *Number of children served by childcare and early learning (pre-school/pre-K/ages 3- 5): 39 as of June 30, 2022*
 - *Number of families served by home visiting: 0*

We Give a Share

Project PRJ_0397: Community Kitchen

Funding amount: \$160,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.1 Household Assistance: Food Programs

Project Overview

- We Give a Share (WGAS) will deliver household assistance through food programs to provide free and healthy meals to individuals experiencing food insecurity through its Community Kitchen project. Farm fresh meals will be prepared by individuals participating in the Kitchen Ready program through a collaboration with WGAS, Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College, and Southside Kitchen (SSK). Job training is provided at no cost to the student, with the goal of placement in the food and

hospitality sector. SSK will be upfitted to include new refrigeration, additional food preparation workspace and equipment, and dry storage receptacles to support the expansion of We Give a Share's meal distribution.

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project.

Performance Report

- *Total # of meals distributed: Goal = 124,675*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 2,215
- *# of meals produced for individuals experiencing food insecurity (e.g. public housing and homeless shelters): Goal = 43,200 annually*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 1,820
- *# of meals produced for contract partners (e.g. schools and early learning programs): Goal = 81,475 annually*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 1,940
- *# of Kitchen Ready job training cycles completed: Goal = 4*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- *# of cumulative students enrolled in Kitchen Ready job training: Goal = 32*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0
- *% of Kitchen Ready graduates placed in service and hospitality jobs: Goal = 80%*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 0%

Working Wheels

Project PRJ_0393: Affordable Vehicle Repairs for Families in Need

Funding amount: \$92,400

Project Expenditure Category: 2.37 Other Economic Support

Project Overview

- Working Wheels (WW) will address negative economic impacts of COVID-19 by providing economic support through the expansion of their Vehicle Repair Program. Working Wheels will invest up to \$1,200 in each vehicle eligible for repair, while program participants contribute 10% of repair costs. All vehicle assessments and repairs will be performed by partner mechanic shops. WW will partner with 7 referral organizations including, Asheville Housing Authority, Buncombe County Re-Entry Council, OpenDoors of Asheville, Pisgah Legal Services, the YWCA of Asheville, the YMI Cultural Center, and Cooperativa La Milpa. Each of these organizations work with a high percentage of Black and Latinx clients and will refer clients over a two-year period.

Use of Evidence

- No SLFRF funds were allocated towards evidence-based intervention for this project. However, Working Wheels will survey all program participants one month after their vehicle repair and compile the results each year in January.

Performance Report

- *# of service recipients to date (households receiving car repair): Goal = 100*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 8 households have received vehicle repairs
- *\$ amount of program contributed repairs (through Vehicle Repair Program):*
 - As of June 30, 2022: \$5,574.83
- *Average cost of vehicle repair: Goal = \$800*

- As of June 30, 2022: \$696.85
- *# of referral partner agencies: Goal = 7*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 4
- *% of Black households receiving car repairs: Goal = 60% of total*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 37.5%
- *% of Latinx households receiving car repairs: Goal = 10% of total*
 - As of June 30, 2022: 37.5%