In order to promote a strong and equitable recovery from COVID-19 and its negative economic impacts, Buncombe County invested federal funds into projects like this one.

**Project**

**KN95 Masks for COVID Prevention**

**Lead Organization**

**Amount**

$41,041.80 actual (vs $50,000 awarded)

**Project Dates**

February 2022 – June 2022

**Impact Area**

Personal Protective Equipment

**How the Funds Were Used**

To help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and its highly-contagious Omicron variant among the general public and county staff, Buncombe County Emergency Services launched the KN95 Masks for COVID Prevention Project. Orders were placed in mid-February 2022 and June 2022 for high-quality (KN95) and surgical-type masks and were received at the Emergency Services Warehouse. Mask distribution began in April, with twenty-five (25) distribution sites operating within Buncombe County, including all public libraries and other county departments that interact with the public (e.g., Election Services). Additional KN95 and surgical-type masks were provided to the Buncombe County Sherriff’s Office for detainees at the Detention Center.

**Results**

- 25 distribution sites
- 14 County departments participated
- 63,000 KN95 masks distributed
- 70,000 surgical masks distributed

“I wear a mask so my students can come back to our classrooms.”

A. Betts Conti
Claxon Elementary

For a complete listing of Buncombe County’s American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CSLFRF) investments, visit [www.buncombecounty.org/recoveryfunding](http://www.buncombecounty.org/recoveryfunding).