



Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funds

Presented by

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August 3, 2021



American Rescue Plan Act

- \$1.9 T COVID-19 economic stimulus bill signed into law March 11, 2021, including key provisions:
 - **COVID-19 response** (testing, vaccination, contact tracing)
 - **Business Relief** (PPP, Restaurant Revitalization, Shuttered Venues Grants, EIDL)
 - **Household Relief** (direct payments, tax provisions /credits, unemployment, rent/mortgage/utility assistance, food assistance/SNAP)
 - **Housing & Homelessness** (HOME, Section 8 housing vouchers, Homeowner Assistance Fund, housing counseling)
 - **Education** (K-12 funding/ESSR, colleges/university student grants, Child care stabilization grants)
 - **Health care** (Mental Health & Substance Abuse Block Grants, COBRA, Medicaid & CHIP)
 - **Other** (transportation, agriculture, arts & culture, cybersecurity)



ARPA Allocations to Buncombe County Government

- Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA): \$6.2 M
- Transportation Grants: \$1.2 M
- Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF): \$50.7 M



FRF Preliminary Allocations

- State of North Carolina: \$5,439,309,692
- Asheville: \$26,293,853
- Black Mountain: \$2,601,209
- Biltmore Forest: \$451,276
- Montreat: \$277,267
- Weaverville: \$1,283,395
- Woodfin: \$2,140,691
- Buncombe County: \$50,733,290



Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF)



Buncombe Process

MARCH

Begin with Board priorities

APRIL-MAY

Gather input on possible use of funds

MAY-JUNE

Establish fund priorities based on guidance

JUNE-JULY

Solicit projects

JULY-AUG

Establish budget & evaluate projects

AUG

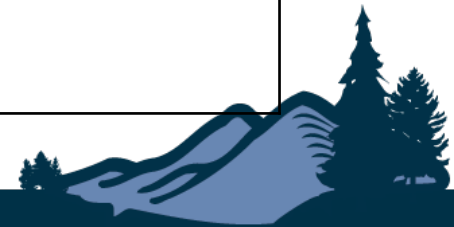
Initial round of awards

We are Here



Schedule

Session	Purpose
August 3, 3:00 p.m. Commissioners Briefing Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide direction on initial investments• Discuss urgent project request• Receive full copies of proposals
August 17, 3:00 p.m. Commissioners Briefing Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Receive list of scored/vetted projects
August 31, 10:00 a.m. Commissioners Special Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review/approval of initial round of awards



Updates

- Determined that Buncombe is not eligible to claim Fiscal Recovery Funds funds for general revenue loss
- Hired 1 Business Officer to assist with fund management (may add 1-2 more later if needed)
- Estimated up to \$1,212,943 needed for fund administration for the life of the fund
- Estimated \$543,714 needed for vaccination activities for FY2022



Request for Proposals

- Opened June 3; Closed July 15
- Open to County departments, Public & Nonprofit organizations with a principal place of business in Buncombe County
- Seeking projects to help the community recover from and respond to COVID-19 and its negative economic impacts
- Broad eligibility aligned to US Treasury Guidance for FRF
- Inclusive outreach & engagement process, including multilingual recovery funding workshop and new webpage - www.BuncombeCounty.org/RecoveryFunding



Eligibility

All proposals are being screened for eligibility based on 3 criteria:

1. Does the organization meet RFP criteria? (public or nonprofit organization whose principal place of business is Buncombe County?)
Initial screening complete
2. Does the project qualify under the US Treasury guidance for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund? ***Screening underway (due 8/17)***
3. Does the project meet a public purpose with County legal authority to fund under NC General Statutes? ***Screening underway (due 8/17)***



Review

All proposals are being scored based on 10 core criteria:

- Project Plan
- Statement of Need
- Link to COVID-19
- Population Served
- Results
- Evaluation
- Equity Impact
- Project Partners
- Organizational Capacity
- Budget

Review underway (due 8/17)



Review Team

- 21-member internal team with various experiences, backgrounds & skills
- Diverse representation of demographics, county departments represented, and positions within the organization

Agriculture & Land Resources	Air Quality	Budget	Comms & Public Engagement	Finance	General Services	Health & Human Services	ID Bureau
Justice Services	Performance Management	Planning	Public Libraries	Recreation Services	Sheriff	Solid Waste	Strategic Partnerships

- Members are independently reviewing projects using the standardized, points-based scoring system



Review of Initial Awards

- Board of Commissioners will receive proposal details, including:

Aug 3

- List of projects by category with amounts requested and descriptions
- Full copies of proposals

Aug 17

- Eligibility screening results (based on RFP criteria, US Treasury Recovery Funding guidance, NC general statutes)
- Review team scoring



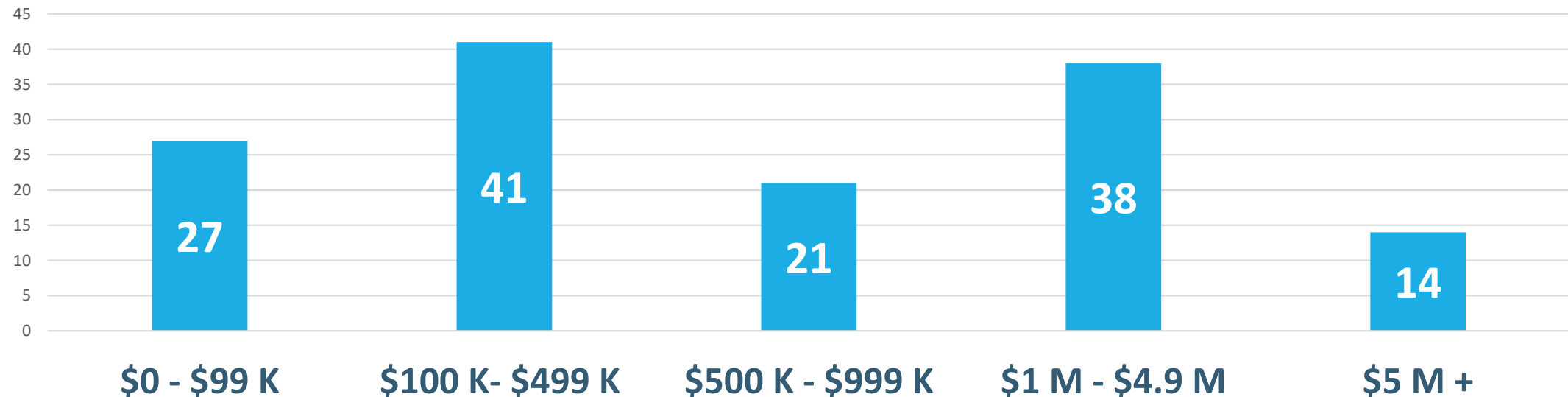
Proposals

	# Proposals	\$ Funds Requested
Nonprofits	96	\$132.9 M
Public Organizations	8	\$29.6 M
County Departments	26	\$51.4 M
Other	8	\$29.9 M
Total	141	\$243.8 M



Proposals

- Smallest request: \$6,938
- Largest request: \$20,000,000
- Median request: \$1,729,185



Eligibility Based on RFP Criteria

	# Proposals	Amount Requested
Ineligible based on organization type (not nonprofit or public)	7	\$7.0 M
Ineligible based on principal place of business (not in Buncombe County)	10	\$23.4 M
Total ineligible based on organization	17	\$30.4 M
Total remaining	124	\$213.4 M



Proposals by Strategic Plan Focus Area

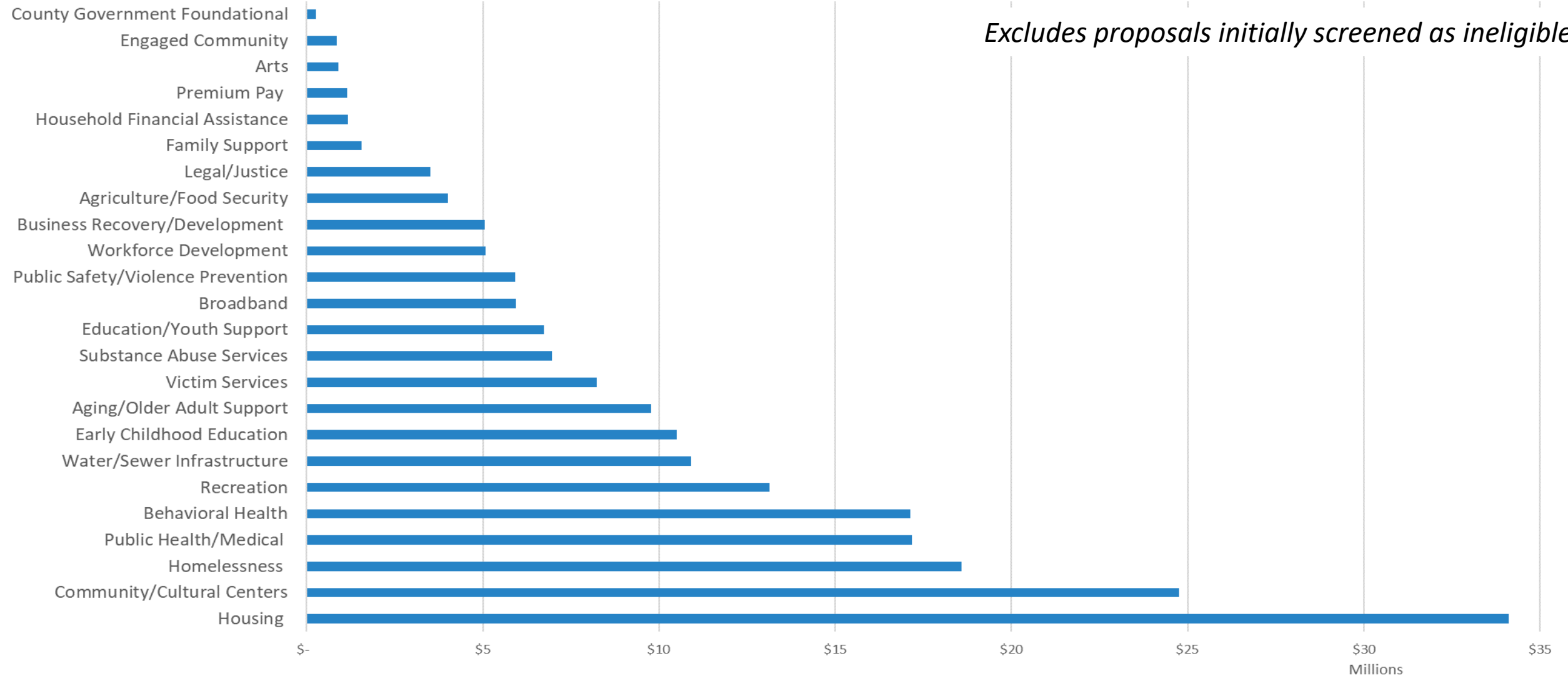
Educated & Capable Community	Environmental & Energy Stewardship	Resident Well-Being	Vibrant Economy
18 proposals \$27.0 M	2 proposals \$10.9 M	89 proposals \$158.0 M	12 proposals \$17.2 M
Foundational			
3 proposals \$262 K			

Excludes proposals initially screened as ineligible



Proposals by Category

Excludes proposals initially screened as ineligible



Allocation

First tranche of funds	\$25,366,645
Vaccination activities	- \$543,714
Fund Administration	- \$606,472
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Available to allocate for initial awards	up to \$24,216,459



Urgent Project Request

Organization: Homeward Bound

Project: Permanent Supportive Housing Expansion

Total request: \$5,881,940

- Request includes acquiring the Days Inn motel on Tunnel Road and renovating it into 85 affordable housing efficiency units to serve people experiencing chronic homelessness
- **Request includes \$2 M to purchase property**
- Total purchase price is \$6.4 M; City of Asheville and Dogwood Health Trust have each committed \$2 M for acquisition; \$400 K from private donors
- **Needs funding in hand no later than August 14**
- **This portion of the request is on the Commissioner agenda for August 3**
- Other portions of request (renovation, operations) will be considered along with all other FRF proposals



Next Steps

Date & time	Session	Purpose
August 17 3:00 pm	Board of Commissioners Briefing Agenda	Receive list of project eligibility and scoring
August 31 10:00 am	Board of Commissioners Special Meeting	Review/approval of initial round of awards



Commissioner discussion

- Direction on budget priorities for initial investment, up to \$24.2 M
- Guidance on balance between categories: focused vs. distributed impact
- Budget contingency to allow flexibility
- Other questions or requests of staff at this time

