Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funds

Presented by

Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships Director

August 31, 2021
Today’s Focus

• Recovery Fund Overview
• Request for Proposals
• Consideration of Initial Awards
• Next Steps
Recovery Funds

• American Rescue Plan Act federal aid to state & local governments
• Funds to turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout & lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery
• Direct, flexible funding
• Buncombe allocation - $50.7 Million
• First half of funds received May 2021, second half scheduled for 2022
• Funds must be obligated by Dec 2024 & fully spent by Dec 2026
# Eligible Uses of Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eligible Category</th>
<th>Example Allowable Uses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Public Health</td>
<td>Vaccinations, Testing, Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Negative Economic Impacts</td>
<td>Household Assistance, Job Programs, Business Relief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities</td>
<td>Education Assistance, Healthy Environments, Housing Support, Homelessness Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Premium Pay</td>
<td>Public Sector Employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Infrastructure</td>
<td>Broadband, Water, Sewer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Revenue Replacement</td>
<td>n/a – Buncombe ineligible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Administrative</td>
<td>Staffing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Buncombe Process (First 6 months)

- **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 31**
  - Initial round of awards

*We are Here*
Request for Proposals

• Issued June 3, 2021; Closed July 15, 2021
• Outreach & engagement including funding workshop with nearly 200 registrants, new Recovery Funding website, multilingual access
• 141 proposals received
• Proposals screened for eligibility within RFP criteria, US Treasury Guidance & Public Purpose/Authority to Fund
• Proposals evaluated by staff review team based on criteria such as: project plan; equity impact; link to COVID-19; budget
• Commissioners received all proposals & provided individualized input on initial round of awards
## Potential Initial Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Health</strong></td>
<td>• COVID Vaccination Support: $543,714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• COVID Contingency: $1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Negative Economic Impacts</strong></td>
<td>• One Buncombe Small Business Grants: $500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Center for Agricultural and Food Entrepreneurship, Building Capacity for Food Entrepreneurs: $200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Disproportionately Impacted Communities</strong></td>
<td>• Verner Center for Early Learning, Flexible Extended Care: $419,309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Homeward Bound, Permanent Supportive Housing Expansion, $1,000,000 additional (total = $3,000,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Premium Pay</strong></td>
<td>• Buncombe County Incentive for COVID Risk: $1,040,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Infrastructure</strong></td>
<td>• Broadband Infrastructure Expansion: $4,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Administrative</strong></td>
<td>• Fund Administration: $606,472</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If Approved, Total Awards to Date as of 8/31/21: $11,309,495**
Next Steps

• Recovery Funding Plan to U.S. Treasury
• Funding agreements for initial awards
• Community listening session
• Continued review of proposals
• Rolling awards
• Possible additional application rounds