

Adams County, Colorado
Recovery Plan

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2021 Report

Adams County, Colorado
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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Adams County intends to divide the first ARPA tranche of \$50 million into three categories: 1) Internal Priorities, 2) Contingency, and 3) External Priorities to promote a response to the pandemic and economic recovery.

Internal Priorities || \$10 million (20%): These priorities were recommended by the County's Community Recovery Working Group (CRWG) which comprised of executive, senior and key staff members, informed by the Response & Recovery Teams (RRTs), and approved by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) in August 2021.

In 2020, the BOCC created seven RRTs to better understand emerging needs, provide information, and aid in real-time updates, including policy and system shifts; cross-sector community partners were invited to engage in the RRTs. The RRTs were: Aging Adults Services; Business Support; Child Care; Food Security and Basic Essentials; Housing Stability; Support for the Unemployed and Future Workforce; and Uninsured and Healthcare Access.

Contingency || \$5 million (10%): Contingency is to ensure the County can remain nimble and adaptive to the response to and recovery from the ever-evolving pandemic.

External Priorities || \$35 million (70%): The County is developing an open, competitive grant application for non-profits, businesses, non-governmental organizations and special districts to apply for funding for response, recovery and resiliency projects and programs. In addition to the federal criteria and county goals, the BOCC identified nine funding priority areas: Broadband and Infrastructure; Health Care and Vaccinations; Homelessness Prevention and Affordable Housing; Older Adults; Technical Assistance for Businesses; Transportation Services and Access; Undocumented Residents; Veterans; and Workforce Development and Job Training. The grant program will launch Fall of 2021.

Uses of Funds

At this time, the County is still in the process of determining the external use of funds. Below are the County's Internal Priorities, including the corresponding expenditure category.

Dept.	EC	Project/Program	Amount	Project/Program Description
HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION				
CSWB	EC 2	Housing Navigation & Mediation	\$ 100,000	Full-year extension of services
CSWB	EC 2	Long Distance Travel ARP	\$ 20,000	Long Distance Travel Fund to transition clients from unsheltered (most vulnerable) to doubled-up situations (least vulnerable).
CSWB	EC 3	Mobile Home Initiative	\$ 100,000	Continuation of the Mobile Home Initiative launched to connect mobile home residents to resources such as education and legal support.
TOTAL HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION ALLOCATIONS			\$ 220,000	
BUSINESS RECOVERY & WORKER SUPPORT				
EXT	EC 2	Village Exchange Center: Low Wage Worker Fund	\$ 250,000	2nd Round
CSWB	EC 3	Neighborhood Mini Grants and Neighborhood Communications	\$ 16,000	Up to 10 mini grants to launch neighborhood groups to address housing and educational disparities.
CSWB	EC 2	Special Events Operating	\$ 7,000	Homelessness outreach events to help obtain their IDs, promote new initiatives, and build and develop neighborhood groups.
HS	EC 2	Workforce & Business Center project designated staff	\$ 304,320	Increase capacity to provide workforce supports at four locations
TOTAL BUSINESS RECOVERY & WORKER SUPPORT ALLOCATIONS			\$ 577,320	
CHILDREN & FAMILIES				
HS	EC 2	20 FTE for streamlining services	\$ 1,700,000	Poverty prevention/caseload reduction
TOTAL CHILDREN & FAMILY ALLOCATIONS			\$ 1,700,000	
HEALTH CARE & PUBLIC HEALTH				
EXT	EC 1	Adelante Vaccine Clinic	\$ 14,085	Vaccine equity clinics
CEC	EC 1	Wastewater Testing Pilot	\$ 10,000	Early detection of viral transmission within through analysis of sewer basin wastewater samples for SARS-CoV-2 virus particles
FFM	EC 1	Jail HVAC Upgrades	\$ 3,000,000	Total: \$6,000,000. Air quality for congregate setting.
EXT	EC 1	Village Exchange Center Vaccine Incentive	\$ 1,000,000	Vaccine equity clinics/incentives
TOTAL HEALTH CARE & PUBLIC HEALTH ALLOCATIONS			\$ 4,024,085	
TECHNOLOGY & BROADBAND SERVICE				
IT	EC 2	Wireless/Broadband Services	\$ 50,000	Wireless/Broadband RFP, including technical capabilities, populations served, service locations, etc.
CSWB	EC 2	CSWB Smart Benches	\$ 15,000	Smart benches allowing access to Wi-Fi and device charging stations.
TOTAL TECHNOLOGY & BROADBAND SERVICE ALLOCATIONS			\$ 65,000	
FOOD SECURITY, TRANSPORTATION & OLDER ADULTS				
HS	EC 2	20 FTE for Economic Assistance	\$ 1,300,000	24-72 hour eligibility benefit determination
EXT	EC 2	Senior Hub	\$ 1,600,000	Meals on Wheels
CSWB	EC 2	Community Preparedness Recovery Program	\$ 41,000	Focus on communities that are socially and economically disadvantaged and populations with access and functional needs.
TOTAL FOOD SECURITY, TRANSPORTATION & OLDER ADULTS ALLOCATIONS			\$ 2,941,000	
ADAMS COUNTY ORGANIZATIONAL NEEDS				
CSWB	EC 2	CSWB Community Preparedness Recovery Program Coordinator	\$ 110,347	Focus on communities that are socially and economically disadvantaged to help mitigate some disadvantages experienced by these populations.
CSWB	EC 2	CSWB Analyst	\$ 78,000	Data analysis and program evaluation.
CSWB	EC 3	CSWB Social Justice/Race Equity Coordinator	\$ 92,000	Assist in the development, coordination, and implementation of programs that eliminate racial and ethnic disparities. Will lead the development of the County's Racial Equity Action Plan and community engagement plan to inform the County's equity strategies.
CSWB	EC 3	CSWB Homelessness Outreach Coordinator	\$ 55,000	Outreach services to persons who are homeless in Adams County, i.e., crises intervention, provision of basic needs, facilitation of increased access to emergency shelter, transportation, client advocacy, and service linkage.
CMO	EC 7	Communications	\$ 52,248	Advertising, online and print materials
CMO	EC 7	Marketing	\$ 85,000	Outreach and marketing
TOTAL ADAMS COUNTY INTERNAL NEEDS ALLOCATIONS			\$ 472,595	
TOTAL ALLOCATIONS			\$ 10,000,000	

Table Key:

- CED = Community and Economic Development Department
- CMO = County Manager's Office
- CSWB = Community Safety and Well-Being Department
- EXT = External Partner
- FFM = Facilities and Fleet Management Department
- HS = Human Services Department
- IT = Information Technology and Innovation Department

Other Federal Recovery Funds

The County received \$14.12 million in Emergency Rental Assistance funding in tranche 1. The County partnered with Maiker Housing Partners, Brighton Housing Authority, Commerce City Housing Authority and the COVID Eviction Defense Project to administer the funds with 90% of funds for direct rental and utility assistance and 10% of funds for operating costs for the partners.

Below is a snapshot of the (ERA) distributions to date for tranche 1:

Program Snapshot	
Launch Date	3/29/2021 (Operating 20 weeks)
Paid Households	681
Average Funding Amount	\$8,941
Average # of Months of Rental Assistance	6.13
Average # of Months of Utility Assistance	0.67
Funding Snapshot (Excludes Admin)	
Rental Assistance Paid to Date	\$5.87 million
Utility Assistance Paid to Date	\$216,000
Additional Pending Payment (Rent + Utilities)	\$1.55 million
Total Encumbered	\$7.64 million
Total Remaining	\$5.08 million
Application Snapshot	
Applications Pending Review	295
Applications Under Review	255

The County will award the second tranche of federal allocation of Emergency Rental Assistance in the Fall of 2021, \$11.18 million including 15% operating costs. The County anticipates fully expending all ERA funds by the end of 2021/early 2022.

Promoting equitable outcomes

As the federal rule outlines, communities and populations most disadvantaged prior to the pandemic are those who continue to be the most impacted including low-income communities and people of color.

The 2020 Census figures released earlier this year reflect a shift in the County's demographics: Adams County is now a majority minority county¹. Latinos comprise about 41% of the population, and Black, Native and Asian Americans each represent 2-4% of the population.

The County is committed to focusing on equity which is reflected in both the Internal Priorities and the development of the RRR Grant Program for external partners

¹ *A Colorado county offers a glimpse of America's future*, Washington Post, August 13, 2021.
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2021/08/13/colorado-race-census-adams-county/>

A few examples of Internal Priorities that focus on underserved populations are:

- FTEs for HS eligibility programs. Over the past year, the County experienced nearly a 30% caseload increase. Increasing staff, will increase the number of cases that can be processed for food, medical, cash, childcare and other assistance programs.
- FTEs for CSWB programs. Increasing outreach to unhoused individuals.
- Vaccine equity clinics + incentives for underserved populations including non-English speaking communities, immigrants, refugees, undocumented individuals

The County identified nine priority areas for the RRR Grant Program:

- Broadband and Infrastructure
- Health Care and Vaccinations
- Homelessness Prevention and Affordable Housing
- Older Adults
- Technical Assistance for Businesses
- Transportation Services and Access
- Undocumented Residents
- Veterans
- Workforce Development and Job Training

These priorities are built upon a foundation of equity and people first – helping those who are most adversely impacted by COVID-19.

The County will work to ensure that equity is a component of the RRR Grant Program application. A few examples of these efforts are:

- Collect demographic information of the applicant organizations including staff and boards of directors (if applicable). Provide additional points to women-, BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and Person of Color), LGBTQ+ and veteran-owned businesses
- Require applicants to describe community engagement and how their proposed project/program will improve equity.
- The application and other materials will be translated into Spanish and other languages upon request
- Community outreach and marketing
- When grants are awarded, the County plans to work with individual grantees to develop data metrics for each project. The County also plans to develop a public facing dashboard to track the results of the projects.

Community Engagement

Internal Priorities:

At the onset of the pandemic, the County launched a website, www.AdamsCountyCOVID19.com identifying key resources to support residents and businesses. The County also launched seven RRTs to better understand emerging needs, provide information, and aid in real-time updates, including policy and system shifts that may be needed.

- Aging Adults Services
- Business Support
- Child Care
- Food Security and Basic Essentials
- Housing Stability
- Support for the Unemployed and Future Workforce
- Uninsured and Healthcare Access

The County invited participation on the RRTs from cross-sector community partners to come together to stay abreast of what others are doing related to emergency management, share resources with one another, and identify and lift opportunities for potential coordination of efforts. This included information sharing, breaking down community-wide barriers, and aligning policies and resources to support emergency response efforts. RRTs worked to accomplish the following:

- Determine and monitor baseline and targets, in alignment with state and national COVID-19 response priorities
- Establish subcommittees that are needed to meet targets and are in alignment with the Governor Jared Polis' Stay-At-Home Order and priorities established through his office
- Identify assets and resources and make them publicly available online
- Identify specific resources to be put in place by Adams County Government to meet targets
- Determine where other work is needed to close the gap that can be addressed by Adams County and subcommittee members
- Adams County enlisted the support of the Rocky Mountain Cradle to Career (RMC2C) Partnership's staff, referred to as the backbone, to provide behind-the-scenes support for these seven strategic projects.

Additionally, the County engaged the support of Rox Strategies to expand and continue the work of the Housing and Business Support RRTs. The County anticipates final reports and ongoing recommendations these two RRTs in the next 30-60 days.

The work of the RRTs directly informed the BOCC's Internal Priorities, and the development of a Response, Recovery and Resiliency Grant Program (RRR Grant Program) for external priorities.

The Internal Priorities include funding to conduct community outreach and marketing to promote the RRR Grant Program to reach diverse communities through online, print, radio, community-based communication channels. The RRR Grant Program application and supporting materials will be translated into Spanish, and other languages upon request. The County planning a two-

week soft launch of the RRR Grant Program including webinars and other outreach prior to the 30 day application period.

External Priorities:

The County is developing an open, competitive grant application for non-profits, businesses, non-governmental organizations and special districts to apply for funding for response, recovery and resiliency projects and programs. The grant program will launch Fall of 2021.

Labor Practices

To be determined.

Use of Evidence

Projects will be evaluated through a rigorous application process and the subsequent required reporting. The process is currently being developed.

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health		
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination	\$93,060.59	\$93,060.59
1.2	COVID-19 Testing	\$376,396.06	\$376,396.06
1.3	COVID-19 Contact Tracing	\$0	\$0
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.)	\$117,985.27	\$117,985.27
1.5	Personal Protective Equipment	\$6,647.24	\$6,647.24
1.6	Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)	\$0	\$0
1.7	Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency	\$0	\$0
1.8	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)	\$273,298.78	\$273,298.78
1.9	Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19	\$56,757.44	\$56,757.44
1.10	Mental Health Services	\$0	\$0
1.11	Substance Use Services	\$0	\$0
1.12	Other Public Health Services	\$54,595.00	\$54,595.00

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts		
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs	\$0	\$0
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid	\$0	\$0
2.3	Household Assistance: Cash Transfers	\$0	\$0
2.4	Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs	\$93,000.00	\$93,000.00
2.5	Household Assistance: Eviction Prevention	\$0	\$0
2.6	Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers	\$0	\$0
2.7	Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)	\$0	\$0
2.8	Contributions to UI Trust Funds*	\$0	\$0
2.9	Small Business Economic Assistance (General)	\$0	\$0
2.10	Aid to nonprofit organizations	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00
2.11	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality	\$0	\$0
2.12	Aid to Other Impacted Industries	\$0	\$0
2.13	Other Economic Support	\$0	\$0
2.14	Rehiring Public Sector Staff	\$0	\$0
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities		
3.1	Education Assistance: Early Learning	\$0	\$0
3.2	Education Assistance: Aid to High-Poverty Districts	\$0	\$0
3.3	Education Assistance: Academic Services	\$0	\$0
3.4	Education Assistance: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services	\$0	\$0
3.5	Education Assistance: Other	\$0	\$0
3.6	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care	\$0	\$0
3.7	Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting	\$0	\$0
3.8	Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System	\$0	\$0
3.9.	Healthy Childhood Environments: Other	\$0	\$0
3.10	Housing Support: Affordable Housing	\$0	\$0
3.11	Housing Support: Services for Unhoused persons	\$0	\$0
3.12	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	\$0	\$0
3.13	Social Determinants of Health: Other	\$0	\$0
3.14	Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators	\$0	\$0

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
3.15	Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation	\$0	\$0
3.16	Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions	\$0	\$0
4	Expenditure Category: Premium Pay		
4.1	Public Sector Employees	\$0	\$0
4.2	Private Sector: Grants to other employers	\$0	\$0
5	Expenditure Category: Infrastructure		
5.1	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment	\$0	\$0
5.2	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance	\$0	\$0
5.3	Clean Water: Decentralized wastewater	\$0	\$0
5.4	Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows	\$0	\$0
5.5	Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure	\$0	\$0
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater	\$0	\$0
5.7	Clean Water: Energy conservation	\$0	\$0
5.8	Clean Water: Water conservation	\$0	\$0
5.9	Clean Water: Nonpoint source	\$0	\$0
5.10	Drinking water: Treatment	\$0	\$0
5.11	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution	\$0	\$0
5.12	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution: lead remediation	\$0	\$0
5.13	Drinking water: Source	\$0	\$0
5.14	Drinking water: Storage	\$0	\$0
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure	\$0	\$0
5.16	Broadband: "Last Mile" projects	\$0	\$0
5.17	Broadband: Other projects	\$0	\$0
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement		
6.1	Provision of Government Services	\$0	\$0
7	Administrative and Other		
7.1	Administrative Expenses	\$268,309.60	\$268,309.60
7.2	Evaluation and data analysis	\$0	\$0
7.3	Transfers to Other Units of Government	\$0	\$0
7.4	Transfers to Nonentitlement Units (States and Territories only)	\$0	\$0

Project Inventory

At this time, the County is still developing the application process to determine community need and eligible projects.