

# American Samoa Recovery Plan Performance Report

## State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds 2021 Report

Note: The Recovery Plan Performance Report will provide the public and Treasury information on the projects that recipients are undertaking with program funding and how they are planning to ensure program outcomes are achieved in an effective, efficient, and equitable manner. While this template includes the minimum requirements for the Recovery Plan, each recipient is encouraged to add information to the plan that they feel is appropriate to provide information to their constituents on efforts they are taking to respond to the pandemic and promote an equitable economic recovery.

Each jurisdiction may determine the general form and content of the Recovery Plan, as long as it meets the reporting requirements, and recipients are encouraged to tailor this template to best meet their needs. Use of infographics, tables, charts, pictures, case studies, and other explanatory elements are encouraged.

### American Samoa 2021 Recovery Plan Performance Report

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## GENERAL OVERVIEW

### **Executive Summary**

*In this section, provide a high-level overview of the jurisdiction's intended and actual uses of funding including, but not limited to: the jurisdiction's plan for use of funds to promote a response to the pandemic and economic recovery, key outcome goals, progress to date on those outcomes, and any noteworthy challenges or opportunities identified during the reporting period. See Section C(1) on page 24 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

American Samoa remains the only part of the United States of America and its Territories that has been blessed with zero cases of locally transmitted COVID-19 virus. While we are grateful for this blessing, it was not accidental that American Samoa has remained COVID-19 free. It required tremendous sacrifice by the people of American Samoa to keep their loved ones safe and protected. We are fortunate to have the support and federal assistance of the various COVID-19 relief and recovery funds to help meet the challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the public health emergency declaration.

Our leaders drew upon the lessons of our history, specifically the 1918 Spanish pandemic that decimated our neighbors 80 miles to the West that lost an estimated 20% of their population as their borders remained open during the critical early stages of the spread. As a result of the first Public Emergency Declaration in March 2020, American Samoa closed its borders as part of its strategy to mitigate the transmission of the Coronavirus that had grown to become a global pandemic. Our borders remain closed to regular commercial travel and all authorized travel by air or sea follow careful protocols to minimize the risk of exposure or transmission of the COVID-19 virus.

The American Samoa ARPA Recovery Plan has been developed to address key territorial challenges that have been exacerbated as a result of the Public Emergency Declaration relating to our limited healthcare services and treatment capacity available in the Territory and the negative impact to our economic drivers as a result of the public health emergency declaration.

American Samoa has a single acute medical facility to serve all its residents. The LBJ Hospital has a total of 124 medical beds and only 10 ICU beds to serve all 7 islands and a population of 52,000 residents. Increasing access to adequate healthcare services and improving treatment options available in American Samoa is a critical need for the territory and has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and the public health emergency declaration restricting travel. Improving our healthcare services and treatment available in the territory is the highest priority of this administration to meet our healthcare needs and allow us to reopen our borders and be ready to respond should COVID-19 reach our shores.

Strengthening our seaport and airport facilities and improving sea transportation between the main island of Tutuila, the Manu'a Islands and Aunu'u are critical for transporting supplies, developing businesses and access to healthcare services. The inadequate state of these facilities has been highlighted under our public health emergency declarations and mitigation efforts to keep COVID-19 outside of our borders. Our entire society is 100 percent dependent on goods being able to flow through our single commercial port. Interruptions and delays, which were a common scenario due to the added vessel clearance and inspection protocols, had a direct and negative impact on our businesses and access to basic necessities. It cannot be overstated that our economy exists only so long as vessels are able to safely unload their cargo and commercial fishing vessels are able to be cleared to deliver their catch to the cannery for processing.

The American Samoa ARPA Recovery Plan will allow much needed improvement to our water distribution system, where much of the piping is approaching 60 years in service. These aged pipes are estimated to be leaking up to 60% of water throughout the distribution system.

Improving our connectivity and broadband access across the islands will be critical to ensuring American Samoa is better prepared to operate with the current COVID-19 pandemic and to strengthen our broadband infrastructure for future challenges.

On behalf of the American Samoa Government and the people of American Samoa, we are truly grateful for the federal assistance these ARPA funds provide to address these critical territorial needs. We are committed to ensuring we implement and execute the American Samoa ARPA Recovery Plan in accordance with the statutory and award guidelines.

## **Uses of Funds**

*Describe in further detail your jurisdiction's intended and actual uses of the funds, such as how your jurisdiction's approach would help support a strong and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn. Describe any strategies employed to maximize programmatic impact and effective, efficient, and equitable outcomes. Given the broad eligible uses of funds and the specific needs of the jurisdiction, explain how the funds would support the communities, populations, or individuals in your jurisdiction. Address how you are promoting each of the following Expenditure Categories, to the extent they apply:*

- a. Public Health (EC 1)*
- b. Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2)*
- c. Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC 3)*
- d. Premium Pay (EC 4)*

- e. Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure (EC 5)
- f. Revenue Replacement EC 6)

Where appropriate, include information on your jurisdiction's use (or planned use) of other federal recovery funds including other programs under the American Rescue Plan such as Emergency Rental Assistance, Housing Assistance, and so forth, to provide broader context on the overall approach for pandemic recovery.

See Section C(2) on page 24 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

Use of Funds table

The following table summarizes the intended use of ARPA funds to address the challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the public health emergency declaration.

| Section 602. Use of Funds   | Percent Allocated | Total                   |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------|
| (a) To respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality; d) to make necessary investment into water, sewer and broadband infrastructure. | 100%              | \$479,135,254.00        |
| Capital investment into Healthcare facility   | 63%               | \$300,000,000.00        |
| Capital investment into Mental Health facility  | 5%                | \$24,000,000.00         |
| Capital investment into DOH Community Centers   | 4%                | \$20,000,000.00         |
| Capital investment into Seaport facility  | 4%                | \$20,000,000.00         |
| Capital investment into Airport facility  | 3%                | \$15,000,000.00         |
| Travel Safe project   | 2%                | \$8,100,000.00          |
| ARPA Oversight Office Administration  | 1%                | \$3,754,000.00          |
| Repatriation/Quarantine program   | 2%                | \$10,000,000.00         |
| Capital investment into inter-island transportation   | 2%                | \$8,000,000.00          |
| Capital investment into Public buildings (Social Distancing,  | 3%                | \$12,000,000.00         |
| Non-profit Organizations (Hope House, NGO's, etc.)  | 1%                | \$5,000,000.00          |
| Affordable Home loan program  | 2%                | \$8,000,000.00          |
| Small Businesses loan program   | 2%                | \$10,000,000.00         |
| ASG Vaccination Program   | 1%                | \$5,000,000.00          |
| Upgrade of communication infrastructure (towers,  | 2%                | 10,000,000.00           |
| Available funds for repairs to water distribution system  | 4%                | 20,000,000.00           |
| remaining ARPA funds  |                   | \$281,254.00            |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>   | <b>100%</b>       | <b>\$479,135,254.00</b> |

*a. Public Health (EC 1)*

American Samoa's limited public healthcare system has been a challenge long before the threat of COVID-19 pandemic to provide adequate health care services for the people of American Samoa. Our reliance on a single medical facility, LBJ Hospital with its 124 medical beds and only 10 ICU beds was a significant factor to closing our borders since March 2020 as the first line of defense as the COVID-19 spread across the globe. Our limited services and capacity to handle an outbreak with our current public healthcare services capabilities. Utilizing the ARPA funds to strengthen our capacity to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and future healthcare emergencies is the top priority for the use of ARPA funds

Improving medical services to the outer islands and outer villages is critical part of our plans to strengthen our response capabilities should COVID-19 reach our shores. The improvements in our community health centers planned will allow the outer islands and villagers better access to healthcare services and better prepare the territory to address issues should the COVID-19 arrive on our shores.

Lastly, a tragic consequence of our border closure saw a significant increase in teen and young adult suicides during 2020. The rise in criminal cases involving illegal methamphetamines and other illegal drugs during the border closure highlighted a desperate need to address this growing problem in American Samoa. Improving our mental health services in American Samoa is an important component in the overall health and wellness of the territory and is sorely lacking presently.

*b. Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2)*

All economic activity in American Samoa begins at the only commercial port and only Airport to serve international flights. American Samoa receives 100% of its medical supplies and medicines, food items, general merchandise, building supplies, equipment and mail through these ports. Disruptions in clearing fishing vessels or cargo ships cost businesses money every minute they are delayed. Many of these cargo vessels carrying perishable goods have been on the water for two weeks and goods have been on the vessel for three weeks before they arrive in the territory. As a result of the public health emergency declaration and the protocols imposed to mitigate the possible introduction of the COVID-19 virus, our businesses experienced significant delays in their shipments. As supply chain issues arose in the United States, they were also felt in American Samoa.

Updating, upgrading and/or replacing the current Port facilities will allow commerce to continue with minimal interruptions and delays and still be able to adhere to mitigation protocols established by the public health emergency declarations.

*c. Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC 3)*

American Samoa ARPA Plan is designed to address territory-wide challenges as a result of the public health emergency declaration and the mitigation protocols to keep American Samoa COVID-19 free. First, American Samoa's healthcare system is publicly funded and operated with one hospital and community centers used by the entire population. Private healthcare services are extremely limited in American Samoa so any capital investment into improving our public healthcare system benefits the entire territory.

Use of ARPA funds for non-profit organizations, home loan program and small business loans will provide various communities within the Territory an opportunity to seek relief and utilize the ARPA funds to address their difficulties as a result of the public health emergency declaration.

*d. Premium Pay (EC 4)*

The American Samoa ARPA Recovery Plan has not nor does it currently intend to expend any SLFRF funds in this category.

*e. Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure (EC 5)*

The American Samoa ARPA Recovery Plan includes SLFRF funds for water distribution infrastructure projects to improve and reduce water loss due to aging pipe system. SLFRF funds will also be used to improve upload and download speed across the territory to include the Manu'a islands and Aunu'u and the outer villages. Having adequate connectivity and bandwidth is critical to allowing our children to continue their education during a pandemic shutdown and allow for commerce and needed government services to operate.

*f. Revenue Replacement EC 6)*

The American Samoa ARPA Recovery Plan has not nor does it intend to expend any SLFRF funds in this category.

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Treasury  | \$622,446,242 |
| ARP State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds – Counties                                  | \$10,783,915  |
| ARP State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds – Non-Entitlement Units of Local Government | \$5,071,819   |
| ARP State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds – Territories                               | \$479,135,254 |
| ARP Coronavirus Capital Project Fund (CCPF)   | \$14,285,714  |
| Coronavirus Relief Fund - U.S. Territory Or Possession                                | \$35,173,620  |
| Emergency Rental Assistance Program   | \$9,682,886   |
| Emergency Rental Assistance Program 2   | \$8,346,647   |
| Homeowner Assistance Fund   | \$3,732,211   |
| State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) 2021                                   | \$56,234,176  |

### **Promoting equitable outcomes**

*In this section, describe efforts to date and intended outcomes to promote equity. Each annual report to follow must provide an update, using qualitative and quantitative data, on how the recipients’ approach achieved or promoted equitable outcomes or progressed against equity goals during the performance period.*

*Describe efforts to promote equitable outcomes, including how programs were designed with equity in mind. Include how your jurisdiction will consider and measure equity at the various stages of the program, including:*

- a. Goals: Are there particular historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups that you intend to serve?*
- b. Awareness: How equal and practical is the ability for residents or businesses to become aware of the services funded by the SLFRF?*
- c. Access and Distribution: Are there differences in levels of access to benefits and services across groups? Are there administrative requirements that result in disparities in ability to complete applications or meet eligibility criteria?*
- d. Outcomes: Are intended outcomes focused on closing gaps, reaching universal levels of service, or disaggregating progress by race, ethnicity, and other equity dimensions where relevant for the policy objective?*

*Describe how your jurisdiction’s planned or current use of funds prioritizes economic and racial equity as a goal, names specific targets intended to produce meaningful equity results at scale, and articulates the strategies to achieve those targets. Explain how your jurisdiction’s overall equity strategy translates into the specific services or programs offered by your jurisdiction in the following Expenditure Categories:*

- a. Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2): assistance to households, small businesses, and non-profits to address impacts of the pandemic, which have been most severe among low-income populations. This includes assistance with food, housing, and other needs; employment programs for people with barriers to employment who faced negative economic impacts from the pandemic (such as residents of low-income neighborhoods, minorities, disconnected youth, the unemployed, formerly incarcerated people, veterans, and people with disabilities); and other strategies that provide disadvantaged groups with access to education, jobs, and opportunity.*
- b. Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC 3): services to address health disparities and the social determinants of health, build stronger neighborhoods and communities (e.g., affordable housing), address educational disparities (e.g., evidence-based tutoring, community schools, and academic, social-emotional, and mental health supports for high poverty schools), and promote healthy childhood environments (e.g., home visiting, child care).*

*Describe your jurisdiction’s efforts to date and intended outcomes to promote equity using qualitative and quantitative data on how the jurisdiction’s approach achieved or promoted equitable outcomes or progressed against equity goals. Describe any constraints or challenges that impacted project success in terms of increasing equity.*

*Describe the geographic and demographic distribution of funding, including whether it is targeted toward traditionally marginalized communities.*

*See Section C(3) on pages 24 and 25 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

## **Community Engagement**

*Describe how your jurisdiction’s planned or current use of funds incorporates written, oral, and other forms of input that capture diverse feedback from constituents,*

*community-based organizations, and the communities themselves. Where relevant, this description must include how funds will build the capacity of community organizations to serve people with significant barriers to services, including people of color, people with low incomes, limited English proficiency populations, and other traditionally underserved groups.*

*See Section C(4) on page 25 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

The American Samoa ARP Oversight Office has been tasked with the public outreach to gather feedback on the American Samoa ARPA Recovery Plan's identified priorities and category allocation.

Guidance from Territorial Leaders emphasized exploring projects and programs that addressed the challenges facing the territory as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the public health emergency declaration. To seek projects that allow this once in century funding to meet our present needs and prepares American Samoa for the next pandemic. Incorporating feedback from a wide range of territorial stakeholders was key in developing the American Samoa ARPA Recovery Plan.

The initial general public feedback began before the creation of the AS ARPA Oversight Office. As information became available, input was collected through individual interactions with members in the business community and private sector. There was also direct correspondence between the Executive and Legislative leaders regarding critical needs within the community and the possibility of ARPA funds as the funding source.

The administration created the American Samoa ARPA Oversight Office to administer the ARPA/SLFRF funds and to ensure compliance with all statutory and administrative requirements including public outreach and reporting.

Briefings are scheduled with the House of Representatives and Senate to present the initial American Samoa ARPA Recovery Plan for their input and feedback.

There have been numerous interactions with members of the business community and private sector seeking to understand how the SLFRF funds could be used to address eligible projects facing the business community. This includes presentations to the American Samoa Chamber of Commerce to gather their input and insight. The AS ARPA Oversight Office has also hosted ARPA/SLFRF informational sessions for the general public to comment and provide feedback.

An ARPA Oversight Office web page was created to post relevant information on ARPA/SLFRF funds on the American Samoa Government Website.

The American Samoa Government has a unique organizational government structure that includes traditional and cultural leaders, which provides a unique perspective on

village life. The Office of Samoan Affairs headed by the Secretary of Samoan Affairs and its District Governors leadership structure allows for information dissemination in a culturally unique way.

The ARPA Oversight Office has conducted individual meetings with semi-autonomous Authorities of government which includes our utilities for their valuable input.

The ARPA Oversight Office has connected with numerous non-profit and non-governmental organizations regarding the potential uses of the ARPA/SLFRF funds. Together, a wide cross-section of the population and key stakeholders have been involved in the creation of the American Samoa ARPA Recovery Plan. Based off this collection of feedback, priorities and recommendations, the American Samoa ARPA Recovery Plan was created to meet the immediate needs of the territory as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the public health emergency declaration.

The American Samoa ARPA Recovery Plan includes allocation of funding to meet the diverse needs of all the residents of American Samoa. Capital investment into a new medical facility on the main island of Tutuila that serves 90%+ of the local population will dramatically improve access to healthcare and the quality of treatment available in the territory. Too often, families must endure loved ones leaving the territory to seek medical treatment unavailable in the territory creating financial and emotional harm for the patient and families. American Samoa depends on its single acute medical hospital, improving these services are of critical importance.

## **Labor Practices**

*Describe workforce practices on any infrastructure projects being pursued (EC 5). How are projects using strong labor standards to promote effective and efficient delivery of high-quality infrastructure projects while also supporting the economic recovery through strong employment opportunities for workers? For example, report whether any of the following practices are being utilized: project labor agreements, community benefits agreements, prevailing wage requirements, and local hiring.*

*See Section C(5) on page 25 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

## **Labor Practices**

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*See Section C(5) on page 25 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

American Samoa has required clauses in procurement contracts that address implementing strong labor standards as well as supporting economic recovery. These are well-established and will be included in all contracts for infrastructure projects using ARPA funds. The American Samoa Government, American Samoa Power Authority, and American Samoa Telecommunications Authority will be required to include these provisions, which ensures that no matter which agency is leading the project, the requirements will be consistent.

Below are the required contract provisions:

| <b>CLAUSE</b>                                | <b>REQUIRED BY AMERICAN SAMOA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE</b> | <b>APPLIES TO</b>   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>EQUAL OPPORTUNITY</b>                     | 10.0250(d)(3), 10.0260(c)                             | All Contracts in excess of \$10,000   |
| DAVIS BACON ACT                              | 10.0250(d)(5)   | Construction contracts that exceed \$2,000 and when required by federal grant program legislation                               |
| CONTRACT WORK HOURS AND SAFETY STANDARDS ACT | 10.0250(D)(6); 10.0260(D)                             | Construction contracts in excess of \$2,000 or contracts in excess of \$2,500 which involve employment of mechanics or laborers |
| CLEAN AIR AND WATER                          | 10.0250(d)(7); 10.0260(f)                             | All contracts over \$100,000 (unless requirement has been waived by EPA)  |

In addition to the above required clauses, ASG Procurement Rules give preference to local bidders in construction projects. For contracts valued at \$50,000 or less, only local bidders are allowed to participate. For those greater than \$50,000, local bidders are given specified add-on percentages. This local preference leads to a greater number of local employees and overall income that is much needed in the Territory. This policy has a direct effect on local stimulation of the economy.

## **Use of Evidence**

*Identify whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions and/or if projects are being evaluated through rigorous program evaluations that are designed to build evidence. Specifically, in this section, recipients should describe their overall approach for using evidence and evaluation, including how a Learning Agenda (either narrowly focused on SLFRF or broadly focused on the recipient's broader policy agenda) could support their overarching evaluation efforts in order to create an evidence-building strategy for their jurisdiction. However, detailed evidence information for each project should be included in the Project Inventory (see details in the Project Inventory section below).*

*See Section C(6) on page 26 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

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*See Section C(6) on page 26 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

The American Samoa Government has established an Oversight Office responsible for administering and managing the ARPA funds as well as vetting the eligible projects. Part of the responsibilities of the Office is to evaluate the eligibility and need for each project.

The process for evaluation/vetting begins with the lead government agency or organization submitting a project proposal that must include specific information about the necessity of the project. The Oversight Office staff is then responsible for reviewing the proposal and obtaining more information from both the lead department as well as other agencies to get a complete picture of how the project qualifies and fills a required need. For programs like behavioral health and other public health outreach endeavors, data showing current resources, identified targeted groups, and other information showing the need created/exacerbated by the pandemic are required to evaluate the projects.

A Learning Agenda would be helpful in focusing attention on areas of need so that the funds are most effectively used. Currently, ASG has not been using a Learning Agenda. The development of one would help keep the attention on the areas of most need and assist in formulating the programs accordingly. However, unlike many other jurisdictions, American Samoa’s needs can be extremely fundamental. For example, after decades of limited resources, the only hospital serving 52,000 residents will need to expand to sufficiently address factors that make the population more susceptible to poor outcomes with regard to COVID-19. In short, the only way to address this is to expand healthcare capacity by investing in new facilities that will increase the capacity from 124 beds to a number far greater. The knowledge of this necessity has long been apparent and captured in data over the years, so the necessity of a tool like a Learning Agenda for a project like this is far less significant.

American Samoa does seek out the most information and data it can find to support its evaluation efforts. Obtaining this data is critical to the mission of the Oversight Office, which is ensuring that funds are used in accordance with the Act and fill the needs made worse by the pandemic.

### **Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category**

*In this section, list the amount of funds used in each Expenditure Category. The table should include cumulative expenses to date within each category, and the additional amount spent within each category since the last annual Recovery Plan.*

*Jurisdictions may modify the table as needed by deleting unused rows where they have not expended any funds or by adding columns to more clearly characterize their program expenditures over time.*

*For the initial Recovery Plan, the amounts listed for "Cumulative expenditures to date" and "Amount spent since last Recovery Plan" will be equal.*

| <b>Category</b> |   | <b>Proposed Allocation to date (\$)</b> | <b>Amount spent since last Recovery Plan</b> |
|-----------------|---|---|--|
| 1               | Expenditure Category: Public Health   |   |  |
| 1.1             | COVID-19 Vaccination  | \$5,000,000.00                          | \$0  |
| 1.2             | COVID-19 Testing  |   |  |
| 1.3             | COVID-19 Contact Tracing  |   |  |
| 1.4             | Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.) | \$5,000,000.00                          | \$0  |
| 1.5             | Personal Protective Equipment   |   |  |

| Category |   | Proposed Allocation to date (\$) | Amount spent since last Recovery Plan |
|----------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1.6      | Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)  |                                  |                                       |
| 1.7      | Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency | \$300,000,000.00                 | \$0                                   |
| 1.8      | Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)                     | \$10,000,000.00                  | \$0                                   |
| 1.9      | Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19                           |                                  |                                       |
| 1.10     | Mental Health Services  | \$24,000,000.00                  | \$0                                   |
| 1.11     | Substance Use Services  |                                  |                                       |
| 1.12     | Other Public Health Services  | \$20,000,000.00                  | \$0                                   |
| 2        | Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts   |                                  |                                       |
| 2.1      | Household Assistance: Food Programs   |                                  |                                       |
| 2.2      | Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid   | \$18,029,533.00                  | \$0                                   |
| 2.3      | Household Assistance: Cash Transfers  |                                  |                                       |
| 2.4      | Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs  |                                  |                                       |
| 2.5      | Household Assistance: Eviction Prevention   |                                  |                                       |
| 2.6      | Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers  |                                  |                                       |
| 2.7      | Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)         |                                  |                                       |
| 2.8      | Contributions to UI Trust Funds*  |                                  |                                       |
| 2.9      | Small Business Economic Assistance (General)  | \$56,234,176.00                  | \$0                                   |
| 2.10     | Aid to nonprofit organizations  |                                  |                                       |
| 2.11     | Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality  | \$10,000,000.00                  | \$0                                   |
| 2.12     | Aid to Other Impacted Industries  |                                  |                                       |
| 2.13     | Other Economic Support  | \$35,000,000.00                  | \$0                                   |
| 2.14     | Rehiring Public Sector Staff  |                                  |                                       |
| 3        | Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities   |                                  |                                       |
| 3.1      | Education Assistance: Early Learning  |                                  |                                       |

| Category |   | Proposed Allocation to date (\$) | Amount spent since last Recovery Plan |
|----------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 3.2      | Education Assistance: Aid to High-Poverty Districts   |                                  |                                       |
| 3.3      | Education Assistance: Academic Services   |                                  |                                       |
| 3.4      | Education Assistance: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services                                   |                                  |                                       |
| 3.5      | Education Assistance: Other   |                                  |                                       |
| 3.6      | Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care  |                                  |                                       |
| 3.7      | Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting   |                                  |                                       |
| 3.8      | Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System |                                  |                                       |
| 3.9.     | Healthy Childhood Environments: Other   |                                  |                                       |
| 3.10     | Housing Support: Affordable Housing   | \$10,000,000.00                  | \$0                                   |
| 3.11     | Housing Support: Services for Unhoused persons  |                                  |                                       |
| 3.12     | Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance   | \$3,732,211.00                   | \$0                                   |
| 3.13     | Social Determinants of Health: Other  |                                  |                                       |
| 3.14     | Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators                        |                                  |                                       |
| 3.15     | Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation   |                                  |                                       |
| 3.16     | Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions                                       |                                  |                                       |
| 4        | Expenditure Category: Premium Pay   |                                  |                                       |
| 4.1      | Public Sector Employees   |                                  |                                       |
| 4.2      | Private Sector: Grants to other employers   |                                  |                                       |
| 5        | Expenditure Category: Infrastructure  |                                  |                                       |
| 5.1      | Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment   |                                  |                                       |
| 5.2      | Clean Water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance   |                                  |                                       |
| 5.3      | Clean Water: Decentralized wastewater   |                                  |                                       |
| 5.4      | Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows   |                                  |                                       |
| 5.5      | Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure   |                                  |                                       |
| 5.6      | Clean Water: Stormwater   |                                  |                                       |
| 5.7      | Clean Water: Energy conservation  |                                  |                                       |
| 5.8      | Clean Water: Water conservation   |                                  |                                       |
| 5.9      | Clean Water: Nonpoint source  |                                  |                                       |

| Category |   | Proposed Allocation to date (\$) | Amount spent since last Recovery Plan |
|----------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 5.10     | Drinking water: Treatment                                       |                                  |                                       |
| 5.11     | Drinking water: Transmission & distribution                     | \$20,000,000.00                  | \$0                                   |
| 5.12     | Drinking water: Transmission & distribution: lead remediation   |                                  |                                       |
| 5.13     | Drinking water: Source  |                                  |                                       |
| 5.14     | Drinking water: Storage   |                                  |                                       |
| 5.15     | Drinking water: Other water infrastructure                      |                                  |                                       |
| 5.16     | Broadband: "Last Mile" projects                                 |                                  |                                       |
| 5.17     | Broadband: Other projects                                       | \$10,000,000.00                  | \$0                                   |
| 6        | Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement                       |                                  |                                       |
| 6.1      | Provision of Government Services                                |                                  |                                       |
| 7        | Administrative and Other  | \$3,754,000.00                   | \$0                                   |
| 7.1      | Administrative Expenses   |                                  |                                       |
| 7.2      | Evaluation and data analysis                                    |                                  |                                       |
| 7.3      | Transfers to Other Units of Government                          |                                  |                                       |
| 7.4      | Transfers to Nonentitlement Units (States and Territories only) |                                  |                                       |

*See Section C(7) on page 27 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

### Project Inventory

*In this section, jurisdictions should provide a description of each project undertaken. See Section C(8) on page 27 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information. Below is an example of how to present the information noted in the Reporting Guidance, which incorporates project details as well as evidence and performance measure information outlined in the relevant sections above. This information should be replicated for all of the jurisdiction's projects.*

#### **Example Project**

Project [Identification Number]: [Project Name]

Funding amount: [Funding amount]

Project Expenditure Category: [Category number, Category Name]

#### Project overview

- *A description of the project that includes an overview of the main activities of the project, the approximate timeline, primary delivery mechanisms and partners, if applicable, and intended outcomes.*
- *Link to the website of the project if available*
- *How project contributes to addressing climate change (for infrastructure projects under EC 5)*

Use of Evidence

- *Briefly describe the goals of the project, and whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions, the evidence base for the interventions, and/or if projects are being evaluated through rigorous program evaluations that are designed to build evidence. If a recipient is conducting a program evaluation in lieu of reporting the amount of spending on evidence-based interventions, they must describe the evaluation design (see Reporting Guidance for additional details that should be included).*
- *Identify the dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions for each project in the Public Health (EC 1), Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2), and Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC 3) Expenditure Categories.*

**ARPA Project Name: American Samoa Vaccination Program (ASVP)**

**ARPA FUND AMOUNT:\$5,000,000.00**

|            |                             |
|------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>1.1</b> | <b>COVID-19 Vaccination</b> |
|------------|-----------------------------|

**Department of Health, Office of Samoan Affairs, Department of Treasury & Office of the Governor**

**Timeline for implementation: 0-6 months**

**Overview**

American Samoa is approaching phase two of its plans to reopen our borders. Our health experts and medical professionals agree that protection for our most vulnerable population and the general welfare of all residents is best achieved by reaching 80% vaccination for the territory’s total population.

The ASVP will include funding the \$100 per dose vaccination incentive plan will help American Samoa reach its targeted goal of 80% vaccination territory-wide. It is estimated that American Samoa is 20,000 shots from achieving 100% vaccination of the eligible population.

The Vaccination campaign will utilize the village leadership under the Secretary of Samoan Affairs and the Office of Samoan Affairs to deliver important COVID-19 facts and benefits of vaccinations by going door to door to reach villagers and their families. This will be critical in achieving our territorial vaccination goal. Village Pulenu’u’s

(village mayors) will collect data on the number of houses and villagers visited to track effectiveness of the covid information campaign.

**ARPA Project Name: American Samoa Repatriation Program (ASRP)**

**ARPA FUND AMOUNT:\$10,000,000.00**

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| 1.8 | Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine) |
|-----|---|

**Department of Health, Department of Homeland Security, Medicaid Office & Office of the Governor**

**Timeline for implementation: 0-1 year**

**Overview**

American Samoa closed its borders as its first line of defense against the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since February 2021 the American Samoa Government began its repatriation program to safely bring home stranded residents and permit much needed business, medical and military personnel to travel to the territory.

The SLFRF funds will be utilized to continue this program effective after March 3, 2021. The repatriation program will support our efforts to continue the last phase of the plan and to make preparations to prepare American Samoa to reopen its borders. The repatriation program will fund quarantine, enforcement, medical, transportation, testing and monitoring and other related expenses to adhere to our established mitigation and prevention protocols to keep COVID-19 virus outside of the territory.

**ARPA Project Name: American Samoa Safe Travels Website Design, Development and Deployment**

**ARPA FUND AMOUNT:\$8,100,000.00**

|     |                          |
|-----|--------------------------|
| 1.2 | COVID-19 Testing         |
| 1.3 | COVID-19 Contact Tracing |

**Department of Health, Medicaid Office, Department of Legal Affairs & Office of the Governor**

**Timeline for implementation: 0-3 months (3-year active contract)**

**Overview**

The Safe Travels website project is a critical component of the American Samoa Governments (ASG) plans to safely reopen its borders. The Safe Travels website will provide a single solution for the multiple ASG Departments tasked to safeguard the territory during the next phase of reopening its borders to collect and track travelers' pertinent information regarding vaccinations and COVID-19 test results. The Safe Travels website will be a multi-year contract to ensure American Samoa maintains the ability to track travelers into the territory. The Safe Travels program will allow for

vaccination data collection, contact tracing and single site for ease of use by travelers and government administration and oversight to ensure all safety protocols are followed.

**ARPA Project Name: American Samoa Capital improvement for new medical facility and quarantine facility**

**ARPA FUND AMOUNT:\$300,000,000.00**

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| 1.7 | Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency |
|-----|---|

**Departments: LBJ Hospital Authority, Department of Health, Medicaid Office & Office of the Governor**

**Timeline for implementation: 2-3 years**

**Overview**

The Border closure since the first Public Health Emergency Declaration in March 2020 has highlighted the deficiencies and lacking medical services available for the residents of American Samoa. Our limited capacity to adequately manage an outbreak of the COVID-19 virus would overwhelm our healthcare system exacerbating the existing limited services and treatment.

Our single acute medical facility with only 124 medical beds and 10 ICU beds is dangerously insufficient to address the medical needs of the territory should the COVID-19 virus pandemic reach our shores. Keeping our borders closed indefinitely is not the long-term solution and has created significant hardship for the local residents as many have been unable to meet their medical needs in the territory. Investing into a new medical facility and increasing our basic response capacity will provide American Samoa adequate response capabilities. Developing adequate quarantine facilities will allow American Samoa to reopen with the knowledge that the needed facilities to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and the public health emergency declaration protocols.

**ARPA Project Name: Mental Health service and facilities**

**ARPA Funds: \$24,000,000.00**

|      |                        |                        |
|------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1.10 | Mental Health Services | <b>\$24,000,000.00</b> |
|------|------------------------|------------------------|

**Department of Health, LBJ Hospital, Department of Human & Social Services, Medicaid Office**

**Timeline for implementation: 1-2 years**

**Overview**

Addressing the increased need for mental health services and treatment has been exacerbated during the public health emergency and border closure. To meet the needs for behavioral Health Care services and treatment exacerbated by the pandemic and respond to other public health impacts. These services include mental health treatment, substance misuse treatment, other behavioral health services, hotlines or

warmlines, crisis intervention, overdose prevention, infectious disease prevention, and services or outreach to promote access to physical or behavioral health primary care and preventative medicine.

**ARPA Project Name: Village Community Health Centers**

**ARPA Funds: \$20,000,000.00**

|             |                                     |                        |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>1.12</b> | <b>Other Public Health Services</b> | <b>\$20,000,000.00</b> |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|

**Department of Health, LBJ Hospital, Department of Human & Social Services, Medicaid Office**

**Timeline to implementation: 1-2 years**

**Overview,**

To improve access to basic healthcare services in the outer islands and outer villages. The investment in to the Department of Health Community Centers will allow for improved healthcare services in the Manu’a islands, Aunu’u island and the outer villages. Expanding these community centers services strengthens American Samoa’s overall healthcare system. Improving health community centers to facilitate mitigation and prevention efforts for COVID–19 vaccination programs; medical care; testing; contact tracing; support for isolation or quarantine and supports vulnerable populations to access medical or public health services.

**ARPA Project Name: Rental assistance and Homeowner assistance program**

**ARPA Funds: combined \$18,029,533.00**

|            |  |                        |
|------------|--|------------------------|
| <b>2.2</b> | <b>Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid</b> | <b>\$18,029,533.00</b> |
|------------|--|------------------------|

**Department of Commerce**

**Overview**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Project [Identification Number]</b> | ERA 1, ERA 2                                   |
| <b>Funding Amount</b>                  | ERA 1 - \$9, 682, 647<br>ERA 2 - \$8, 346, 647 |
| <b>Project Expenditure Category</b>    | Category 2 – Negative Economic Impacts         |

**Project Overview**

We expect to have the American Samoa Government (ASG) Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) rolled out by mid-September 2021.

The ASG Department of Commerce (DOC) serves as the coordinating agency for the ASG ERAP and within this reporting period has been able to hire an Assistant Director to oversee the financial aspects of this new grant program and an ERAP Coordinator to oversee application and distribution of ERAP funds to renters in the territory. DOC has plans to hire clerical staffing at a later time.

The ERAP Coordinator has been tasked with compiling a Policies & Procedures Manual for the local program. The manual will include all information currently being shared on the Treasury ERAP website and a detailed explanation of the application process and required documentation.

Our plan for the program is to mirror the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) rental assistance programs where applicable. The Assistant Director has been tasked with developing our local accounts for ERA -1 and ERA -2 funding and to work directly with the ASG Department of Treasury to determine the best process for payments once the program is rolled out.

In this reporting period we have begun to develop our e-application process and the website is expected to go live in mid-August. We have planned to host workshops in different areas of the territory (Eastern, Central, and Western) to field questions and/or concerns before our website and e-application is shared with the public.

We are also working with the only utility company on island to determine the best practice moving forward in processing payments throughout the duration of the ERA program. As our program is still in the process of being rolled out, we have no further details at this time on other housing services or housing stability services. Below is the weblink to our local ERA program.

[https://doc.as/planning\\_grants/as-emergency-rental-assistance-program/](https://doc.as/planning_grants/as-emergency-rental-assistance-program/)

**ARPA Project Name: Non-profit & Adult care facilities program**

**ARPA Funds: \$5,000,000.00**

|      |   |                |
|------|---|----------------|
| 1.4  | Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.) | \$5,000,000.00 |
| 2.10 | Aid to nonprofit organizations  |                |

**AS ARPA Oversight Office**

**Timeline to implementation: 3 months to 18 months**

**Overview**

Providing SLFRF funding for non-profit organizations that have seen a significant drop in donations and contributions to fund their humanitarian work. To provide enhancement to the only long-term adult health care facility in the territory. These capital

improvements including home repairs, weatherization, or other needs for the lone alternate health care facility will allow for improved care and preparedness to respond the COVID-19 pandemic.

**ARPA Project Name: Homeowner assistance program**

**ARPA Funds: combined \$3,732,211.00**

|      |   |                |
|------|---|----------------|
| 3.12 | Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance | \$3,732,211.00 |
|------|---|----------------|

**Department of Commerce**

**Timeline to implementation: 3 months to 1 year**

**Overview**

To provide relief and assistance for Homeowners who have experienced hardship and loss of income as tenants experienced loss of income and wages.

**ARPA Project Name: Aid to small businesses**

**ARPA Funds: combined \$10,000,000.00**

|      |  |                 |
|------|--|-----------------|
| 2.11 | Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality | \$10,000,000.00 |
| 2.12 | Aid to Other Impacted Industries       |                 |

**Department of Commerce**

**Timeline to implementation: 3 months to 1 year**

**Overview**

To provide assistance for Small Businesses. Provide loans or grants for covering payroll, mortgages or rent, and other operating costs as a result of the public health emergency and measures taken to contain the spread of the virus.

To provide assistance to small businesses to adopt safer operating procedures, weather periods of closure, or mitigate financial hardship resulting from the COVID-19 public health emergency, including: AE Loans or grants to mitigate financial hardship such as declines in revenues or impacts of periods of business closure, for example by supporting payroll and benefits costs, costs to retain employees, mortgage, rent, or utilities costs, and other operating costs.

Prioritizing tourism, travel & hospitality sectors and other impacted industries.

**ARPA Project Name: Seaport and Airport economic program**

**ARPA Funds: combined \$35,000,000.00**

|      |                        |                 |
|------|------------------------|-----------------|
| 2.13 | Other Economic Support | \$35,000,000.00 |
|------|------------------------|-----------------|

**Port Authority**

**Timeline to implementation: 6 months to 18 months**

**Overview**

The negative impact of the public health emergency declaration and the mitigation protocols was exacerbated on the operation of the lone commercial seaport and airport that handles 100% of all cargo and good and passengers into the Territory. The mitigation protocols to clear incoming commercial vessels and fishing vessels resulted in numerous delays in making basic goods, medicines, building materials and grocery items to the residents of American Samoa.

To make enhancements to these facilities will reduce the negative economic impact to businesses and promote safe operations for the clearance and inspection of incoming goods.

Improving the airport layout to meet CDC guidelines for social distancing is critical to support reopening our borders and operating our only airport to receive commercial goods and travelers.

**ARPA Project Name: Affordable housing program**

|      |                                     |                 |
|------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 3.10 | Housing Support: Affordable Housing | \$10,000,000.00 |
|------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|

**Department of Commerce, ARPA Oversight Office, TBAS and DBAS**

**Timeline to implementation: 3 months to 1 year**

**Overview**

Building Stronger Communities through Investments in Housing and Neighborhoods. Providing assistance and access to Affordable housing development to increase supply of affordable and high-quality living units. Developing affordable home loan program to improve communities will strengthen the community against the harm as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**ARPA Project Name: Broadband infrastructure program**

**ARPA Funds: \$10,000,000.00**

|      |                           |                 |
|------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 5.17 | Broadband: Other projects | \$10,000,000.00 |
|------|---------------------------|-----------------|

**Telecommunication Sector**

**Timeline to implementation: 6 months to 18 months**

**Overview**

Developing and expanding the territory’s bandwidth capacity and connectivity are crucial components to responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and pour public health emergency declaration.

Improving upload and download speed is critical for educational and commercial purposes. The outer villages and outer islands are already susceptible to frequent

connectivity interruptions, improving internet capabilities through the local service providers will provide the connectivity foundation needed to effectively respond to the mitigation and prevention protocols.

**ARPA Project Name: Clean Water: transmission & Distribution program**

**ARPA Funds: \$20,000,000.00**

|      |   |                 |
|------|---|-----------------|
| 5.11 | Drinking water: Transmission & distribution | \$20,000,000.00 |
|------|---|-----------------|

**ASPA**

**Timeline to implementation: 6 months to 1 year**

**Overview**

To improve a failing water distribution system first commissioned over 50 years ago. It is estimated that the current water transmission piping system loses 60% due to leaks, deteriorating pipes and breakdown of the distribution system. American Samoa has been under a boil water notice for over ten years throughout most of the territory. SLFRF funding for this water infrastructure program will assist American Samoa to providing clean drink water.

**ARPA Project Name: ARPA Oversight Office Administration program**

**ARPA Funds: \$3,754,000.00**

|   |                          |                |
|---|--------------------------|----------------|
| 7 | Administrative and Other | \$3,754,000.00 |
|---|--------------------------|----------------|

**American Samoa ARPA Oversight Office**

**Timeline to implementation: 0-3 months (duration 4 fiscal years)**

**Overview**

The ARPA Oversight Office administrative program will support the effective and transparent use of ARPA funds in American Samoa. Having adequate review and oversight for these funds are fundamental to fiscal responsibility and accountability. The ARPA Oversight Office administration program will provide the leadership in the American Samoa Government guidance and advise as to determining eligibility of various programs and projects and to work with key community stakeholders to develop a territorial ARPA Recovery Plan that serves all the residents of American Samoa. The ARPA Oversight Office will also be responsible for all SLFRF compliance and reporting requirements.

Performance Report

- *For the Project Inventories in Section 8, include key performance indicators for your jurisdiction’s major SLFRF funded projects. Report key performance indicators for each project, or group projects with substantially similar goals and the same outcome measures. Jurisdictions may choose to include some indicators for each individual project as well as crosscutting indicators. Include*

*both output and outcome measures. See Section C(9) on page 27 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

- *In addition, you must include the mandatory performance indicators if your jurisdiction has projects in the relevant areas (this information may be included in each recipient's Recovery Plan as they determine most appropriate). Provide data disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, income, and other relevant factors, if possible. Data should be presented in a table and each annual report should include updated data for the performance period as well as prior period data.*
  - a. *Household Assistance (EC 2.2 & 2.5) and Housing Support (EC 3.10-3.12):*
    - *Number of people or households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation)*
    - *Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed*
  - b. *Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2):*
    - *Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs*
    - *Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs*
    - *Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs*
  - c. *Education Assistance (EC 3.1-3.5):*
    - *Number of students participating in evidence-based tutoring programs*
  - d. *Healthy Childhood Environments (EC 3.6-3.9):*
    - *Number of children served by childcare and early learning (pre-school/pre-K/ages 3- 5)*
    - *Number of families served by home visiting*

*See Section C(10) on page 27 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

## **OVERVIEW**

American Samoa is still in the mobilization phase of ARPA Oversight Office rollout plans. Currently, no data to report as required under section 8 for project inventories. Future reporting will include required data as outlined in the SLFRF Compliance and Reporting Guidelines. American Samoa does expect to see a significant positive impact to the total number of jobs created and the overall positive economic impact of the ARPA/SLFRF funds will provide for American Samoa as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the mitigation protocols under the public health emergency declaration.

[Ineligible Activities: Tax Offset Provision \(States and territories only\)](#)

*For the initial reporting year, States and territories will report the following items related to the Tax Offset Provision 31 CFR 35.8. Baseline revenue or revenue-increasing covered charges are not required at this time.*

| Item                                | Amount |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| a. Revenue-reducing Covered Changes | \$0    |

*See Section C(11) on page 28 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

*Additional guidance will be forthcoming for reporting requirements regarding the tax offset provision.*

For baseline revenue calculations, American Samoa used its audited financials from FY 2019. Total local revenues for FY2019 were at \$98,690,000. For FY 2021, ASG projects collecting \$110,000,000 in total tax revenue. Since this figure was above the baseline year, ASG will not be using funds for reduction in revenue expenditures.

In keeping with the calculations required by the Interim Final Rule and the Compliance and Reporting Guidelines put forth by the US Treasury, American Samoa offers the following calculations:

Counterfactual revenue:  $\$98,690,000[(1+.041)^{(23/12)}] = \$106,591,104.46$

For FY2021, ASG collected \$110,000,000 in total revenues, as noted above. Since this value exceeds the counterfactual revenue calculation, the resulting change is considered 0 per the Compliance guidance.

Generally, ASG has not experienced a reduction in the budget due to pandemic related reductions in revenue. In early 2021, tax revenues were decreased when the 2% Wage Tax was repealed, further reinforcing the decision to not pursue reductions in revenue spending to comply with ARPA.

Since revenues did not decline, American Samoa has no attendant cuts in the budget that could be attributed to the pandemic.