

Anne Arundel County, Maryland

Recovery Plan

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.

Notes on using this template

All States and territories, and metropolitan cities and counties with a population that exceeds 250,000 residents that are recipients of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) awards are required to produce a Recovery Plan Performance Report (the “Recovery Plan”). The Recovery Plan provides information on the recipient’s projects and how they plan to ensure program outcomes are achieved in an effective and equitable manner. It will include key performance indicators identified by the recipient and some mandatory indicators identified by Treasury. Each annual Recovery Plan must be posted on the public-facing website of the recipient by or on the same date that the recipient submits the report to Treasury.

The initial Recovery Plan will cover the period from the date of award to July 31, 2021 and must be submitted to Treasury by August 31, 2021. Thereafter, the Recovery Plan will cover a 12-month period and recipients will be required to submit the report to Treasury within 30 days after the end of the 12-month period (by July 31).

Annual Report	Period Covered	Due Date
1	Award Date – July 31, 2021	August 31, 2021
2	July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022	July 31, 2022
3	July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023	July 31, 2023
4	July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024	July 31, 2024
5	July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025	July 31, 2025
6	July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026	July 31, 2026
7	July 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026	March 31, 2027

Instructions:

This document is meant as a suggested template for applicable SLFRF recipients to assist them in submitting their Recovery Plan. Recipients should consult the SLFRF Guidance on Recipient Compliance and Reporting Responsibilities (Reporting Guidance) located at <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance.pdf> for detailed guidance on the submission of this report.

Treasury encourages Recipients to tailor this report to best meet their needs in terms of format and content. Treasury recommends the use of infographics, tables, charts, pictures, case studies, and other explanatory elements in describing their programs.

Text in italics represents the requirements from the Reporting Guidance and is meant to serve as a reference as recipients prepare their Recovery Plan. This instructions page and the *text in italics* should be removed before the final transmitted report is published and submitted to Treasury.

Additional information around Expenditure Categories is located in Appendix 1 of the Reporting Guidance.

For More Information

More information about the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund program and associated reporting requirements are located at www.treasury.gov/SLFRP .

Questions on reporting, eligible uses, or other general topics should be directed to SLFRP@treasury.gov.

Anne Arundel County, Maryland
2021 Recovery Plan

Table of Contents

General Overview 4

Executive Summary 4

Uses of Funds 5

Promoting Equitable Outcomes 6

Community Engagement 8

Labor Practices 9

Use of Evidence 9

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category 10

Project Inventory 11

Ineligible Activities: Tax Offset Provision 15

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.

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds present an opportunity for Anne Arundel County to emerge from the COVID pandemic and tackle critical issues facing county residents and businesses.

Anne Arundel County strives to use these fiscal recovery funds strategically for a strong and equitable recovery, with an emphasis on the following two principles.

- **CREATE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL** - Confront the causes of poverty, including wages, housing, transportation, childcare, education, and institutional racism.
- **PROMOTE HEALTH AND WELLNESS** - Prioritize government investment in programs and infrastructure that enhance public health and thereby improve quality of life.

The County has adopted a strategy for utilizing SLFRF funding, which can be viewed here: www.aacounty.org/departments/county-executive/fiscal-recovery-funds-guidance/index.html

The County has also engaged an independent accounting consultant to verify eligibility for all proposed funding proposals.

The County is soliciting funding proposals from county departments and agencies as well as from external organizations and stakeholders. In an effort to engage stakeholders outside of County Departments, the County created a community input survey to highlight the priorities of Anne Arundel County's constituents. The results of this survey are currently being analyzed and the County is now accepting project abstracts from community stakeholders through an online portal (www.aacounty.org/ProjectAbstractPortal). Project abstracts will be vetted for eligibility and non-duplication by the Budget Office, and evaluated by the Fiscal Recovery Funds Oversight Workgroup.

The Workgroup is comprised of senior Administration officials and representatives from key County departments and agencies, as well as an independent consultant to verify funding eligibility.

All approved requests will be tracked and accounted for using US Treasury protocols for State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. As of the current reporting date, July 31, 2021, only two funding requests have been officially approved, and no funds have yet been expended.

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)

Not Applicable to this reporting.

b. Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2)

Project NE-21-001: Emergency Food and Household Good Assistance-- Funds will be utilized to support the County's emergency food and household assistance network. A grant of this funding to Arundel Community Development Services will be subgranted to area food banks and non-for-profit partners in the county to fund the procurement of food, baby pantry items, personal hygiene items, and cleaning supplies, plus grants aimed at increasing capacity to store and distribute such items to local communities in high need areas.

c. Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC 3)

Project DI-21-001: Alternative Homeless Sheltering - Funds will be utilized to temporarily shelter both homeless residents and Covid-19 positive residents who are either homeless or unable to isolate in their residence. The sheltering provided serves both adults and families, provides 90 beds, and has an average daily occupancy of 60 persons. Funds support contracts with local hotels that provide the rooms, food services, and nursing services. Funds will also be used to help connect sheltered persons with case management and alternative permanent housing options.

d. Premium Pay (EC 4)

Not Applicable to this reporting.

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

Not applicable to this reporting.

f. Revenue Replacement EC 6)

Not Applicable to this reporting.

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.

Equity is foundational to the county's SLFRF strategy. The county's Director of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion is a member of the funding oversight workgroup. Furthermore, the county is exploring the creation of a stakeholder advisory group to engage a broader constituency. This group would have representatives from county commissions, civic organizations, and businesses.

For reference, below is the County's statement on Diversity Equity and Inclusion:

Anne Arundel County, Maryland, is committed to promoting equity, diversity and inclusion by addressing the legacy of policy inequities within our communities, government departments, services, programs and workplaces. The County strives to use an equity lens to ensure discrimination of any kind is not supported or promoted as a consequence of governmental initiatives and policies . Our goal is to make our county, "The Best Place—For All," by staffing a workforce that reflects the diversity of our residents, and promotes a workplace culture that embraces individual differences and by honoring the importance of equity within our business communities.

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?*

Anne Arundel County has thus far identified the area homeless as an underserved group, using statistical evidence. The County plans to continue to identify underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups using statistical data and public input.

b. Awareness: How equal and practical is the ability for residents or businesses to become aware of the services funded by the SLFRF?

Thus far, the County has used internet tools and relationships with area charities and non-for-profits for outreach to ensure residents are aware of SLFRF services. Awareness efforts will continue as more projects are identified and initiated.

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?

Anne Arundel County will consider this further and address it in future reports.

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?

Current approved projects are aimed at reducing hunger and addressing the need to house persons affected by Covid-19. Outcomes are desired that reduce the number of needed meals and household goods and to reduce the need to house those persons affected by Covid-19. Additional outcome goals will be identified for other projects in future reports.

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.

Anne Arundel County will address this in future reports.

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).

Anne Arundel County will address this in future reports.

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.

Anne Arundel County will address this in future reports.

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

Anne Arundel County will address this in future reports.

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.

Anne Arundel County conducted a community survey on potential uses for SLFRF funding that closed on July 27 after garnering more than 1,200 responses. The community responses will be used to guide strategy and policy decisions on how to best deploy funding to help county residents, communities and businesses. Community input will help align community priorities with the County Executive's strategy for a strong and equitable recovery through promoting health and wellness and implementing smart growth.

To ensure that 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, the County has adopted the following principle as a strategy for funding:

- CREATE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL - Confront the causes of poverty, including wages, housing, transportation, childcare, education, and institutional racism.

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.

Not applicable for this reporting time period. Anne Arundel County has no approved infrastructure projects as of July 31, 2021.

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.

Anne Arundel County seeks to direct funds in areas of obvious use fighting the Covid epidemic and where statistics and other evidence show that the funds can be spent in compliance with the requirements of SLFRF/ARPA as presented in the Treasury's Interim Final Rule to address needs permitted by the federal legislation.

All projects are submitted in writing on a standardized electronic form by an Anne Arundel County agency or a resident non-for-profit organization that operates within Anne Arundel County. This format requires information on how the project addresses a need in the County and encourages the use of data to evidence that need. It also requires the submitted to indicate which part of the Treasury's Preliminary Final Rule covers the proposed project.

All proposed projects are reviewed by an analyst in the County Budget Office for accuracy and completeness. The proposed projects are then reviewed by a contracted CPA firm that assesses the proposed project against the Treasury's Preliminary Final Rule and provides assurance to the County Budget Office that the proposal complies with the Rule, identifying the section of Preliminary Final Rule that permits the project. If the CPA firm cannot agree that the proposed project is permitted, then the proposed request is rejected.

Projects are then presented to a County oversight committee for approval. The oversight committee can ask questions or request additional information on the proposed project before the members vote. A majority of the members must vote to approve the project. Any proposed project that is voted down or fails to get a majority vote is rejected.

As of July 31, 2021, only two projects have been approved through this process. Funds have only been obligated for one of the projects. No funds have been expended.

Project NE-21-001: Emergency Food and Household Good Assistance was approved due to statistical evidence on hunger in Anne Arundel County and requests for aid from area non-for-profits that provide food and basic household essentials. \$6,045,000 has been allocated to this project, but no funds have yet been obligated through contracts or expended.

Project DI-21-001: Alternative Homeless Sheltering was approved due to statistical evidence provided by the Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services on the needs to house homeless and disadvantaged persons impacted by Covid-19. \$1,587,222 has been allocated to this project, \$1,508,011 has been obligated through contracts and purchase orders as of July 31,2021, and no funds have been expended through July 31, 2021.

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.

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health	\$0.00	\$0.00
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts	\$0.00	\$0.00
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities	\$0.00	\$0.00
4	Expenditure Category: Premium Pay	\$0.00	\$0.00
5	Expenditure Category: Infrastructure	\$0.00	\$0.00
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement	\$0.00	\$0.00
7	Administrative and Other	\$0.00	\$0.00

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

Through July 31, 2021, Anne Arundel County expended no funds. Through that date, the County collected public input and information on proposed uses of the funds and developing project proposals. \$1,508,011 of funding was encumbered for one project, as detailed in the next section, but remained unspent on July 31, 2021.

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.

Project NE-21-001: Emergency Food and Household Good Assistance

Funding amount: \$6,045,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.1 Household Assistance: Food Programs

Project Overview

Funds will be utilized to support the County's emergency food and household assistance network. A grant of this funding to Arundel Community Development Services will be subgranted to area food banks and non-for-profit partners in the county to fund the procurement of food, baby pantry items, personal hygiene items, and cleaning supplies, plus grants aimed at increasing capacity to store and distribute such items to local communities in high need areas.

The Arundel Community Development Services website is <https://www.acdsinc.org/>

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).*

The broad goal of this project is to assist the poor and vulnerable populations in Anne Arundel County, who have been disproportionately impacted by negative economic impacts from the Covid epidemic and now struggle to fulfill basic household needs. Statistical evidence shows that during the 12 months from July 2020 to June 2021, 36,505 households were served at County food pantries in Anne Arundel County, by the Anne Arundel County Food Bank. 9,949 individuals were assisted with basic household needs per data provided by local non-profit assistance partners. The goal is to continue to fill these needs until they return to pre-pandemic levels.

- *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.*

The anticipated dollar amounts provided through this project is \$5,650,000 in direct food and basic needs assistance through the Anne Arundel County Food Bank, Maryland Food Bank, and other non-for-profit food and assistance organizations. \$395,000 will cover administrative and support costs.

Project DI-21-001: Alternative Homeless Sheltering

Funding amount: \$1,587,222

Project Expenditure Category: 3.11 Housing Support: Services for Unhoused Persons

Project overview

Funds will be utilized to temporarily shelter both homeless residents and Covid-19 positive residents who are either homeless or unable to isolate in their residence. The sheltering provided serves both adults and families, provides 90 beds, and has an average daily occupancy of 60 persons. Funds support contracts with local hotels that provide the rooms, food services, and nursing services. Funds will also be used to help connect sheltered persons with case management and alternative permanent housing options.

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).

Covid-19 disproportionately impacted homeless populations. For the year of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, the local Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services provided weekly housing to an average of 77 persons under a Covid housing program. A total of 146 Covid-19 positive persons in that program were housed under quarantine over that same time period. This project has the goal of continuing that effort in order to protect these vulnerable individuals as the local homeless population continues to recover from the Covid-19 epidemic.

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.

Project NE-21-001: Emergency Food and Household Good Assistance

Project Expenditure Category: 2.1 Household Assistance: Food Programs

Project Performance Indicators:

As already reported above, during the 12 months from July 2020 to June 2021, 36,505 households were served at county food pantries in Anne Arundel County, by the Anne Arundel County Food Bank. 9,949 individuals were assisted with basic household needs per data provided by local non-profit assistance partners. Anne Arundel County will track these indicators during the project in hopes of seeing a reduction in households served meals and individuals assisted with basic household needs as the funds are utilized. Additionally, other similar indicators may be established with the non-for-profit aid grants that receive subgrants of this funding in order to track the impact of the aid provided by their individual efforts.

Project DI-21-001: Alternative Homeless Sheltering

Project Expenditure Category: 3.11 Housing Support: Services for Unhoused Persons

Project Performance indicators:

For the year of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, the local Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services provided weekly housing to an average of 77 persons under a Covid housing program. Anne Arundel County will track these indicators during the project in hopes of seeing a reduction in housed individuals as the funds are utilized.

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	\$

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.

Not applicable to Anne Arundel County as we are not a State or Territory of the United States.