



RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

**County of
Rockland
State and Local
Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

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Executive Summary

Rockland County effectively utilized its ARPA funds to drive economic recovery, strengthen infrastructure, and support local communities, with a focus on transparency, collaboration, and long-term impact. By prioritizing stakeholder engagement and community input, the County developed a strategic allocation plan that addressed both immediate pandemic related challenges and future resiliency needs.

Key to Rockland's success was its inclusive engagement process, which involved consultations with municipal leaders, small businesses, nonprofits, and residents through public forums, surveys, and targeted outreach. This collaborative approach ensured that funding decisions aligned with community priorities such as public health, housing stability, workforce development, and economic revitalization.

The County allocated ARPA funds to projects that revived local businesses, enhanced public health infrastructure, improved parks and recreational spaces, and invested in social services to protect vulnerable populations. By fostering partnerships with local organizations and municipalities, Rockland leveraged ARPA funding to create a multiplier effect, attracting additional opportunities to maximize impact.

Furthermore, Rockland emphasized accountability and transparency, providing regular public updates and progress reports. This commitment, built trust and community buy-in, ensuring residents understood how funds were being used to revive and rebuild the county.

Rockland's strategic and inclusive approach not only obligated 100% of its ARPA funds on time but also positioned the county for long-term growth and resiliency, turning a crisis response into a transformative opportunity for the entire community.

"There's not a single person who wasn't impacted in some way by the COVID-19 pandemic. From day one, we made it our mission to strategically invest every dollar of the \$63.18 million in American Rescue Plan funding to strengthen Rockland's recovery and resilience.

Through extensive community outreach, engagement with stakeholders, interdepartmental collaboration, and data-driven planning, we obligated every cent toward the areas that matter most — housing, open space preservation, support for small businesses and nonprofits, food security, climate mitigation, mental health resources, and youth programs.

These targeted investments are helping us not only rebuild what was lost, but create a stronger, healthier, and more equitable Rockland for years to come."

- County Executive Ed Day

Use of Funds

Rockland County, like many across New York State, experienced profound and far-reaching impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. The effects on the county were multifaceted- characterized by high infection rates, overwhelming strain on the healthcare system, economic disruptions, and significant social challenges. In the early stages of the pandemic, Rockland recorded some of the highest per capita infection and mortality rates in the state. These outbreaks placed extraordinary pressure on local healthcare infrastructure and resources.

Small businesses, in particular, were heavily impacted by lockdowns and public health restrictions. Many faced prolonged closures or limited operations, resulting in job losses and financial hardship for numerous residents.

The pandemic also intensified mental health challenges, driven by isolation, economic uncertainty, and widespread fear. Rockland saw a marked increase in anxiety, depression, and other mental health conditions. Substance use and related disorders also rose, often serving as coping mechanisms. Restrictions on social interaction and community events further disrupted social cohesion and individual well-being- particularly for vulnerable populations such as the elderly and those with preexisting conditions.

Rockland County's experience with COVID-19 highlights the pandemic's wide- ranging consequences on public health and community stability. It underscores the critical need for continued investment in public health infrastructure, economic recovery, and accessible mental health resources to address both the immediate and long -term effects of the crisis.

From the onset, Rockland adopted an equity- forward, social determinants of health lens- framing investments across cultural inclusion, access, environmental quality, and social cohesion. The approach, first articulated in the County's 2022 Recovery Plan, emphasized participatory meetings with stakeholders, humility, and community level buy-in as prerequisites for sustainable impact.

Through the ARPA Department, the County has continuously emphasized inclusive and collaborative engagement among various stakeholders within each community. This strategy involves local governments, community organizations, businesses, and residents working together to identify the priorities and develop solutions that address the diverse needs of the population. Observing the issues through the many lenses of our community and evaluating our solutions through the complexities of the many social determinants of health within our County, we created a **Whole Person, Whole Community, Whole County** approach to reviving and rebuilding Rockland. The spending plan spans many diverse expenditure categories that tie into the bigger picture. By fostering broad participation and leveraging local knowledge and resources, the Whole County approach aims to ensure that the allocation and implementation of SLFRF funds are equitable, transparent, and effective in promoting long-term recovery and resilience.

One of the most important models we identified to gain perspective through the many lenses of the social determinants of health that affected our residents, was the Socioecological Framework (pictured below). The framework acknowledges an individual's behaviors and choices are influenced by multiple interconnected factors, organizes these factors into different levels of

influence, identifies determinants of health and well-being that may have been overlooked, and allows for a better understanding of the interplay of various factors. The framework is particularly valuable in addressing health disparities and promoting healthy equity, addressing more complex issues that cannot be addressed adequately through individual interventions alone, emphasizes the intricate relationship between individuals and the natural environment, and provides an essential lens through which to view and address the various challenges our County faced during the pandemic. By using this model, the County created interventions that are more effectively targeted to specific populations and settings.



Use of Funds - Continued

Developing Opportunities:

1.  **Capacity Building and Sustainability:** ARPA funds offered the County an opportunity to invest in projects that contribute to a robust, resilient, and sustainable infrastructure and society, capable of withstanding future challenges and ensuring long-term success. The funds have been used to improve and enhance community resilience and support long-term economic growth, while also supporting and improving the County's capacity to transform its daily operations.
2.  **Health and Human Services:** The ARPA funding presents a lifeline for Rockland County's health and human services sector. The allocation of funds towards public health initiatives, mental health services, and healthcare infrastructure improvements enhance the County's ability to respond to future health emergencies and improve overall community well-being.
3.  **Housing:** Investing in affordable housing, communities can create a foundation for long-term economic, social, and environmental sustainability, improving the quality of life for countless individuals and families.
4.  **Infrastructure and Resilience:** ARPA funding offered an opportunity to invest in critical infrastructure projects that enhance the County's resilience to future challenges. This includes mitigating climate change risks, promoting sustainable development, building safer neighborhoods, and investing in community buy in and relationships.
5.  **Small Business Support:** ARPA funds plays a pivotal role in assisting small businesses and fostering entrepreneurial growth. Through grants, the funding helped local businesses recover from the economic impacts of the pandemic, adapt to changing market conditions, and drive innovation.

ARPA OBLIGATIONS

Essential Worker Housing:

Rentals
Home ownership
Predevelopment

HALO



Health

Hospital infrastructure
Outreach
Resilience
911 Diversion

YPP Program
HAAC- after school program
Vehicles for Sheriff-YPI program
C.A.R.E.S. program
Transformation



County Projects

Complete streets
Open Space
Climate Mitigation

Nonprofit
Food Security
Small Business
Restaurants

Community



Recovery Plan - INDIVIDUAL

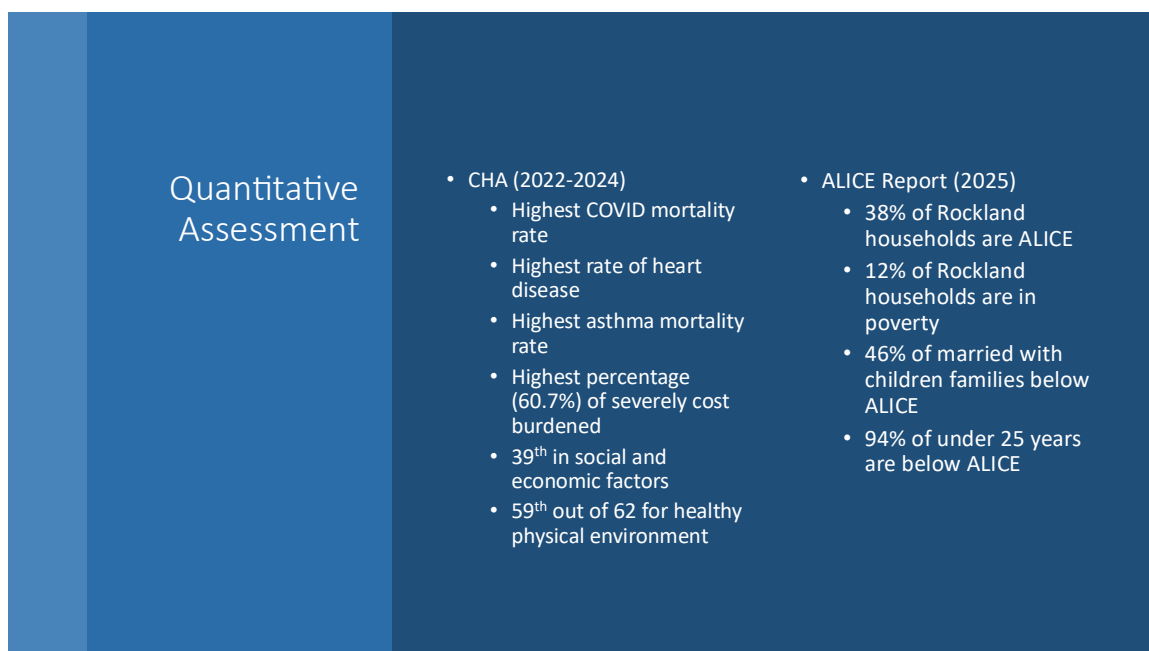
Data, Surveys, and Research

Expenditure Category: 7: Administrative and Other

The individual level of the socioecological framework focuses on personal factors- such as knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors, and skills- that influence how residents engage with programs and resources.

In Rockland County, this level was critical during the allocation period of ARPA funds, as investments were designed to directly improve the lives and well-being of individuals. For example, ARPA funding supported workforce development initiatives in youth, mental health services, and access to affordable housing, all of which empower residents with the tools, resources, and opportunities needed to recover and thrive post-pandemic.

To fully comprehend the individual component, Rockland utilized multiple data points, including the Community Health Assessment (CHA) and the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) Report. These sources provided a comprehensive understanding of the unique challenges faced by individuals, from health disparities and housing costs to infrastructure gaps and income constraints.



ALICE Household Survival Budget, Rockland County, New York, 2023								
Monthly Costs	Single Adult	One Adult, One Child	One Adult, One In Child Care	Two Adults	Two Adults Two Children	Two Adults, Two In Child Care	Single Adult 65+	Two Adults 65+
Housing	\$2,387	\$2,431	\$2,431	\$2,431	\$2,750	\$2,750	\$2,387	\$2,431
Child Care	\$0	\$586	\$1,562	\$0	\$1,172	\$3,229	\$0	\$0
Food	\$541	\$915	\$821	\$992	\$1,664	\$1,469	\$498	\$913
Transportation	\$201	\$402	\$201	\$402	\$804	\$402	\$201	\$402
Health Care	\$196	\$452	\$452	\$452	\$775	\$775	\$559	\$1,119
Technology	\$86	\$86	\$86	\$116	\$116	\$116	\$86	\$116
Miscellaneous	\$341	\$487	\$555	\$439	\$728	\$874	\$373	\$498
Taxes	\$736	\$812	\$1,000	\$800	\$1,097	\$1,501	\$825	\$1,230
Monthly Total	\$4,488	\$6,171	\$7,108	\$5,632	\$9,106	\$11,116	\$4,929	\$6,709
ANNUAL TOTAL	\$53,856	\$74,052	\$85,296	\$67,584	\$109,272	\$133,392	\$59,148	\$80,508
Hourly Wage	\$26.93	\$37.03	\$42.65	\$33.79	\$54.64	\$66.70	\$29.57	\$40.25

The ARPA approach was designed to address all layers of the socioecological framework to enhance the well-being of Rockland County residents. By aggregating key data sources, the ARPA Department identified a range of targeted initiatives to transform the county. With a clear understanding of the comorbidities and vulnerabilities within the built environment, and the heightened risk during the pandemic, the County strategically obligated all available ARPA funds. By addressing individual- level needs, Rockland is ensuring that ARPA dollars not only rebuild infrastructure and systems, but also create long-term benefits that enhance personal resilience, financial stability, and overall quality of life for every community member.



Recovery Plan - INTERPERSONAL

The interpersonal level focuses on the relationships and interactions individuals have with others in their immediate environments- such as family, peers, teachers, and community members- which significantly shape behavior, attitudes, and development. In assessing youth outcomes through this lens, Rockland utilized ARPA funds to examine how young people interact with key community figures, including law enforcement.

Findings from community feedback, youth engagement forums, and local data revealed a need to strengthen trust and understanding between youth and police. In response, ARPA funding was directed towards initiatives that foster meaningful, positive connections- such as joint mentorship programs, youth police- dialogues, and community- building events- designed to create safer, more cohesive neighborhoods and reduce long-term risk factors for both youth and public safety.

Through a CATWOE (Customer, Actor, Transformation, Worldview, Owner, Environment) analysis of the data, ARPA funding was allocated towards programs that not only assess the risk youth face, especially those from low to moderate income, but also encourage a stronger peer support group.

Customer	Disproportionately impacted youth in Rockland County, predominately in Spring Valley and Haverstraw
Actors	HAAC, YPP, C.A.R.E.S
Transformation	Stronger relationship between youth and police, stronger after school and summer youth programs to keep youth off the street
Worldview	Decrease in youth crime, increased relationship between youth and police, better youth outcomes in school and work
Owner	ARPA
Environment	Youth participation, financial sustainability, risk of duplication of funding

Community and Peer Relationships- Violence Prevention Interventions

Expenditure Category: 1: Public Health

Preventing and responding to Community Violence is paramount in ensuring a safe built environment. As referenced in the **Final Rule**, Community Violence is a public health challenge that was exacerbated by the pandemic and has had a disproportionate impact on low-income communities. Exposure to violence can create serious short-term and long-term harmful effects to health and development, and repeated exposure to violence may be connected to negative health outcomes. Addressing community violence as a public health issue may help prevent and even reduce additional harm to individuals, households, and communities.

Youth are most at risk for violence and gang involvement due to a combination of social, economic, psychological, and environmental factors. Youth from impoverished backgrounds often face limited access to education and recreation opportunities. These conditions can make gang involvement appear attractive as a means to achieve financial stability, social status, or a sense of belonging. Youth that come from a dysfunctional family environment, including neglect, abuse, and lack of parental supervision and support, can push them towards gangs. When youth experience peer influence to gain acceptance and avoid social isolation, or when they live in a neighborhood with higher levels of crime, violence, and gang activity, they are more likely to become involved in gangs and violent and dangerous activities.

Even prior to the pandemic, the Village of Spring Valley, and the Village of Haverstraw have dealt with the highest crime rate, especially with youth under the age of 18. The largest uptick both municipalities saw was from 2021-2022.

In 2020 the County of Rockland, led by our Department of Social Services, surveyed the community to identify trends believed to be the cause in the uptick in community violence. Respondents varied from young adults/parents to community members/government agencies that encompassed a wide range of our towns, villages, and municipalities. The survey asked a variety of questions to determine a sense of how this current focusing event has affected our communities and asked for solutions that many believed could help alleviate the issue. While aggregating the data, the County found a large majority stated that drugs, gangs, easy access to guns, poverty, lack of youth programming, lack of social cohesion, and an unsafe built environment were the predominant contributing factors towards the increase in community violence. Solutions believed to potentially eradicate this ever-growing concern would include a focus on cultural competence, community buy-in, and constructing a better, safer built environment.

In 2023, The ARPA Department surveyed the residents again and the following trends remained:

- **Concerns**
 - Glamourizing violence
 - Gangs/drugs
 - Easy access to guns
 - Cyberbullying
 - Poor relationship with Law Enforcement

- **Desires**
 - Safer Neighborhoods
 - Safer school environment
 - More police presence
 - Better relationship with law enforcement
- **Partnerships**
 - Law Enforcement
 - Community Organizations

Our method used public health frameworks and evidence-based practices to interrupt the spread of violence. The *Transformational Impacts Program* identified the root cause of violence in individuals, households, and communities with nationally recognized, evidence-based methodologies (Community Youth Mapping, CURE Violence Global Framework). Through a better understanding of the complex interplay between the many levels of the SEF, the equity focused initiative will mediate historic and present conflicts, transform thinking and behaviors of those at the highest risk, change the norms that support violent activity, provide de-escalation training, and provide consistent and accessible support to sustain the positive transformation. Through a multi-level stakeholder (Law Enforcement, Youth, Families, Schools, Community Based Organizations, Government Entities) assessment, the team will address and assist in healing generational and environmental trauma by providing a safe atmosphere and restore a sense of trust and pride for our communities for many generations to come. This program supports our overall strategy and goal to create a stronger, resilient, more sustainable County. The following programs have been implemented or expanded to support the efforts of the *Transformational Impacts Program*:

- **Expansion of the Youth Employment Program (YEP):** *Since the expansion of the YEP program to all youth in Rockland, our one-year assessment of the success of the program demonstrated that youth who are TANF qualified benefitted most from the year-round employment program. It was noted that youth that would not otherwise qualify for employment opportunities only benefited from the program in the summer months.

In 2023, after evaluation of the data, it was determined that the YEP program for youth that would not otherwise qualify for employment opportunities would no longer be paid for with ARPA funding. It was the intention of the ARPA Department to continue funding year-round employment opportunities for TANF qualified youth, but to the excitement of the Youth Bureau, NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance awarded funding for year-round employment. To avoid duplication of funds, ARPA funding is no longer being provided to the Youth Bureau for this program.

- **Expansion of Youth Academy and Youth Police Program (YPP) Program through the GREAT model:** Youth & Police Program or YPP, is a training program created by the Massachusetts-based North American Family Institute to enhance police officers and prosecutors understanding of the beliefs, values, and experiences of local youth, while ensuring that youth develop a genuine regard for the challenges that police officers face on the job.

YPP provides structured dialogue, team building and role-playing scenarios that allow all participants – youth, educators, police, and prosecutors – to tackle the real and hard issues of crime prevention and community policing. YPP is an opportunity for Rockland County’s police departments to increase their visibility in their communities and to bring about positive changes in their relationships with local at-risk youth.

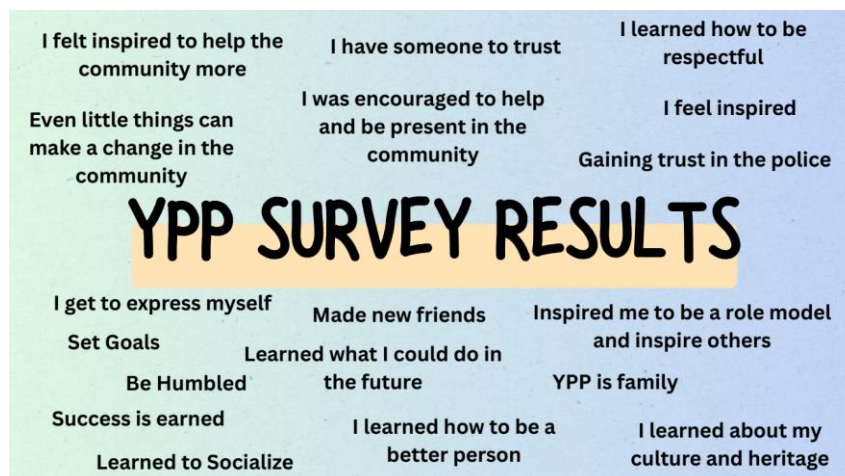
Throughout the Country, every YPP program is adapted to fit the specific needs of the community being served. The Village of Spring Valley’s Youth and Police Program’s objectives are:

- Discuss Social & Political issues and how these issues impact residents of all ages;
- Enhance officers’ community policing skills;
- Strengthen prosecutors’ knowledge of the community;
- Build long-term positive relationships between local police, prosecutors, and Rockland County’s at-risk youth;
- Create links to positive, pro-social community resources by having guest speakers come to classes;
- Create possibilities for mentorship;
- Facilitate ways for youth to learn about career paths in Public Safety

The YPP program is a six-day program that ends with a graduation gathering that includes food, fun and awards. But that is not the end. This program brings people together in a family-like atmosphere that continues to support each other after graduation by continuing communication via group chats along with other bonding activities such as:

- Organized sporting events
- Movies under the stars
- Dancing under the stars
- Special guest lecturers
- Community Projects
- Trips

The Spring Valley’s YPP has successfully brought youth and law enforcement together to participate in life skills training, build mutual respect, foster a better working relationship, and tear down the barriers that have led to lack of trust within communities, especially those most at risk.





Using the well respected and trusted officers of the YPP program, who act as interrupters within the community, the program is expanding to continue focusing on the GREAT model it is derived from. Summer sessions will be implemented to keep the most at-risk youth off the street. The sessions will include:

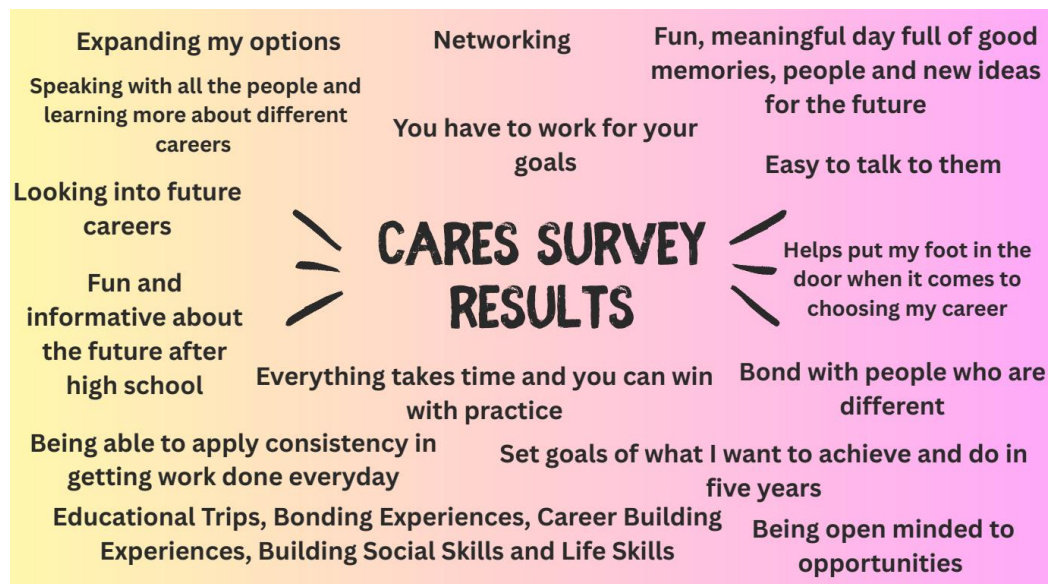
- Goal setting
 - Decision Making
 - Communication skills
 - Refusing skills
 - Dealing with peers
 - Family conflict
 - Mental Health
 - Self-image
 - Juvenile law and procedures
 - Cultural awareness and sensitivity
 - Career exploration
 - Self defense
- **C.A.R.E.S. Program:** In response to the success of the Spring Valley Youth Police Partnership (YPP) program, the Police Department expanded its outreach efforts to further strengthen relationships with local youth by introducing the C.A.R.E.S. (Collaborative and Restorative Engagement Services) program. This initiative builds on the foundation laid by YPP by providing additional opportunities for positive engagement, mentorship, and community-based support to youth offenders. Through C.A.R.E.S., officers work collaboratively with youth, schools, and community organizations to promote trust, understanding, and mutual respect- reinforcing the department's commitment to proactive, relationship- centered policing.

These opportunities with youth and officers aim to reduce recidivism, improve educational and vocational outcomes, enhance emotional and behavioral health, foster proactive community engagement, and develop constructive relationships with law enforcement

The program includes:

- Initial intake- assessment of each youth offender and pairing with appropriate officer
- Mentorship- session either weekly/bi-weekly, focusing on life skills development, career exploration, academic support, and self-esteem building
- Life experiences- enrichment programs such as job shadowing, college visits, or guided trips to cultural institutions
- Community Service- supervised community service projects such as neighborhood clean-ups, volunteering at shelters, and park restoration

Since its inception in 2025, 9 young people have committed to the program and the following have been identified:



- **HAAC Youth Program:** The HAAC Youth Enrichment Program plays a vital role in fostering educational achievement and community values among at-risk youth in Haverstraw. By providing a safe, supportive environment focused on academic support, leadership development, and cultural enrichments, the program empowers participants to make positive life choices and build strong sense of civic pride. Through mentorship, community service opportunities and skills-building workshops, youth are encouraged to see themselves as valuable contributors to their community. This proactive approach not only strengthens individual resilience but also serves as a strategic deterrent to gang recruitment and youth involvement in crime, ultimately contributing to a safer and more connected county.

Through targeted enrichment programs, youth in the program are exposed to a wide range of cultural and educational experiences that promote personal growth and community connection.

- Participants, who often do not venture out from their local village, engage in local cultural events- such the St. Patrick's Day parade and India Day parade- which foster appreciation for diversity and shared heritage.
- They are given the opportunity to explore hands-on trades like carpentry and mechanics, equipping them with practical skills for future employment
- Financial literacy classes teach critical life skills for managing money and building financial independence
- Creative workshops, photography, brick making, and theatre allow youth to express themselves artistically and develop confidence in their individuality.

Together, these experiences are designed to build resilience, expand opportunities, and reduce the likelihood of youth engaging in negative or criminal activity.

- **Partner with Sheriff Department for Gun Buy Back Program:** To facilitate reducing the number of guns in circulation, promote community safety and violence prevention, have a positive impact on public health, and garner trust between community and law enforcement, SLFRF funds was used to hold two gun buyback programs throughout the County.



The two most recent gun buyback events the Sheriff Department has hosted has resulted in over 214 guns being taken off the street. The guns have included, assault rifles, handguns, rifles, shotguns, and antique or non-working guns.



How many guns were removed from streets in two Rockland County buybacks?

Steve Lieberman
Rockland/Westchester Journal News

Rockland law enforcement removed 114 weapons from the streets during two buyback events in Haverstraw and Spring Valley.

The Rockland District Attorney's Office and Haverstraw police reported buying 94 assorted weapons, including handguns and rifles, on Saturday, June 7. The gun buys cost \$20,450.

The Rockland Sheriff's Office purchased 20 weapons on Thursday, June 5, in conjunction with the Spring Valley and Ramapo police departments, the District Attorney's Office, and other law enforcement agencies. Chief Ted Brovanski said the weapons purchases cost \$2,325.

District Attorney Thomas Walsh hailed the buyback held at Haverstraw Village Hall as a "great success." The Haverstraw haul on June 7 included 65 handguns, eight assault rifles, and 21 rifles or shotguns, authorities said.



- **YPP/Community Vans:** Transportation is a critical factor for at-risk youth to access community programs, offering numerous benefits that support their development and well-being. Ensuring that the YPI program, in partnership with the Rockland Sheriff Department, has adequate transportation options for their youth programs allow for the following:
 - **Program Participation-** reliable transportation ensures at risk youth can regularly attend community programs, which might otherwise be inaccessible due to distance or lack of public transportation.
 - **Equal Opportunities-** levels the playing field, providing all youth, regardless of their socio-economic background, equal access to valuable resources and support systems.
 - **Safety-** organized transportation services provide a safe means for at-risk youth to travel to and from programs, reducing their exposure to potentially unsafe environments or situations.
 - **Supervision-** adults running the program will be supervising and monitoring during transit.
 - **Consistent Attendance-** with transportation not a barrier, youth are more likely to attend programs consistently, allowing them to fully benefit from the activities and support offered.
 - **Program Retention-** reliable transportation helps retain youth in programs over time, fostering long term engagement and positive outcomes.
 - **Skill development-** access to programs via transportation enables youth to participate in educational, recreational, and vocational activities that develop their skills and competencies.
 - **Social Connections-** transportation facilitates attendance at community programs where youth can build positive relationships with peers and mentors, enhancing their social support networks.

Recovery Plan - COMMUNITY

The Community level focuses on the settings in which social relationships occur- such as neighborhoods, workplaces, and other institutions- and how the characteristics of these environments influence health, behavior, and opportunity. In Rockland, this level was especially critical in shaping key ARPA priorities, particularly the significant investments in affordable housing and the preservation of open space. Community-level data, along with input from residents and local stakeholders, revealed deep concerns about housing affordability, overcrowding, and the loss of green space- all factors that impact the quality of life and overall community well-being. By prioritizing funding toward balanced development, Rockland aimed to create healthier, more sustainable neighborhoods where residents have access to both stable housing and natural spaces that support physical and mental health. This approach reflects a long-term commitment to rebuilding a built environment that is equitable, resilient, and responsive to the needs of its people.

Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Expenditure Category: 2: Negative Economic Impacts

As we continued to rebuild and strengthen the County through investments in the built environment, we have taken major steps to create a robust and resilient affordable housing portfolio. Guided by data from the most recent APRA survey (June 2024), along with previous community assessments, affordable housing consistently emerged as the most pressing needs- particularly in terms of availability and safety for both impacted and disproportionately impacted communities. In response, we have developed and expanded opportunities throughout the County that reflect a multifaceted and equity-driven approach to affordability.



- **Housing Needs Assessment:** To better understand the current housing trends that are in Rockland and its impacts on our residents, the ARPA Department funded a Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) in 2023. Conducting the housing needs assessment was a crucial first step to understanding and addressing the housing challenges within all our communities. The data gathered from the assessment helped the ARPA Department identify the following:
 - Understanding needs- Current housing demands
 - Supply Analysis- Gaps between existing supply and the needs of the population.
 - Strategic Planning- Identify infrastructure needs and address disparities.
 - Stakeholder involvement- Develop transparency and trust within all communities.
 - Economic impact- Identify the Average Median Income (AMI) of our residents in all municipalities, the rent and housing cost burden.

The County's Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) findings included:

- Nearly 60% of homes in Rockland are single-family detached homes averaging \$700,000.
- The median household income in Rockland is \$100,000, qualifying for a \$260,000 mortgage.
- A housing deficit of 4200 units for those making under \$60,000.
- More than 40% of Rocklanders spend 30% or more of their household income on housing.

The ARPA Department identified the top two initiatives it would support to catapult the county into a new affordable housing plan.

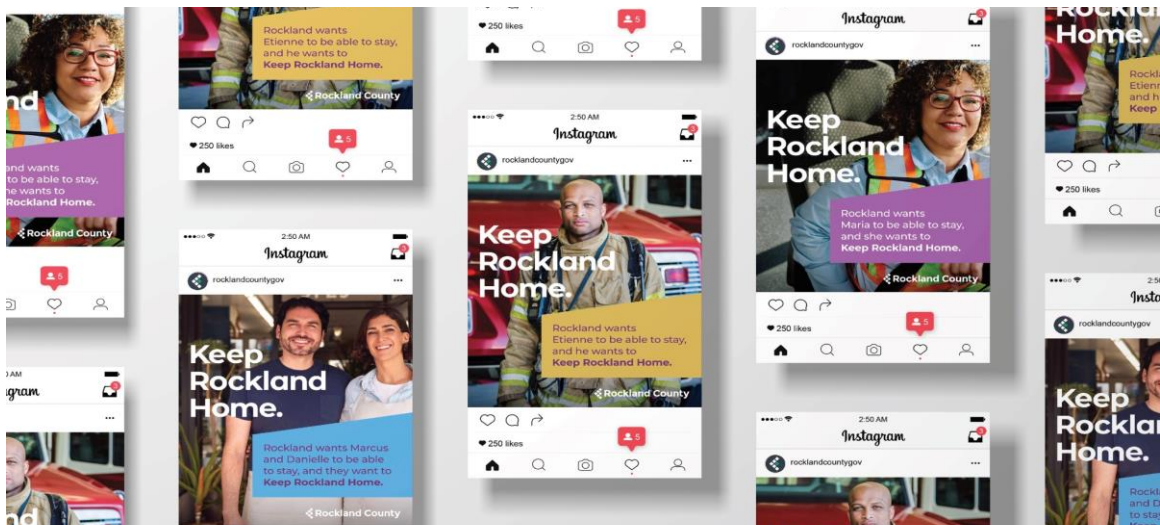
- **Affordable Passive Housing:** the ARPA Department developed a wide range of opportunities for affordable housing, that included preservation, land acquisition, predevelopment, and sustainability opportunities.
 - **HALO fund-** Rockland's HALO (Housing Affordability Location Opportunity) Fund represents a major investment in long-term housing security and equity. Designed to address the growing demand for affordable and accessible housing, the HALO fund will bring new opportunities to a wide range of residents- working families, seniors, and individuals at risk of home instability. By strategically leveraging current resources, the Fund not only supports the development and preservation of affordable units but also establishes a framework for future funding. This ensures continued progress toward our goal of expanding housing availability and meeting the evolving needs of Rockland's residents.
 - All \$13.5 million was obligated and expended to address a range of housing-related challenges:
 - Construction financing
 - Acquisition financing
 - Predevelopment financing
 - Property stabilization
 - **Preservation of Affordable Housing Units-** Funds were used to gap fill on construction loans to secure all affordable units remain and families are not

displaced. Improvements to properties will also ensure buildings are up to code and infrastructure is safe.

- **Preservation of Affordable Housing Units, Predevelopment Activity, and Land Acquisition-** Rockland has taken a comprehensive and forward- thinking approach to addressing the full spectrum of affordable housing needs through a strategic use of ARPA funds. These investments have supported the preservation of existing affordable units by making them permanently affordable, ensuring long-term stability for current and future residents.
 - Recognizing the critical need for homeownership opportunities, the County acquired property and initiated the construction of new affordable homeownership units- marking the first time in over three decades that such development has taken place in Rockland.
 - In addition, the County has advanced the redevelopment of key sites to support both rental and ownership options, increasing housing availability across income levels. This multifaceted strategy has resulted in a robust and resilient affordable housing portfolio that addresses preservation, new development, infrastructure improvements, and long-term affordability, positioning Rockland to continue meeting the evolving housing needs of its diverse population.
- **Marketing and Education Campaign:** To support the success and accessibility of Rockland County's affordable housing initiatives, a portion of funding was dedicated to a comprehensive marketing and education campaign. This effort is designed to raise awareness among residents about the range of affordable housing opportunities now available, including rental and homeownership options. This campaign also serves to clarify eligibility requirements, guide residents through the application process, and dispel common misconceptions about affordable housing. By using a combination of multilingual outreach, digital platforms, community events, and partnerships with local organizations, the County aims to ensure that all residents- particularly those in impacted and underserved communities- are informed and empowered to access safe, stable, and affordable housing.



- This campaign is a vital tool in connecting residents to resources and maximizing the impact of the County’s broader housing investment.



10 Rockland County Housing Affordability – Draft Campaign Design

Arch Street Communications

Promoting Community Health & Safety

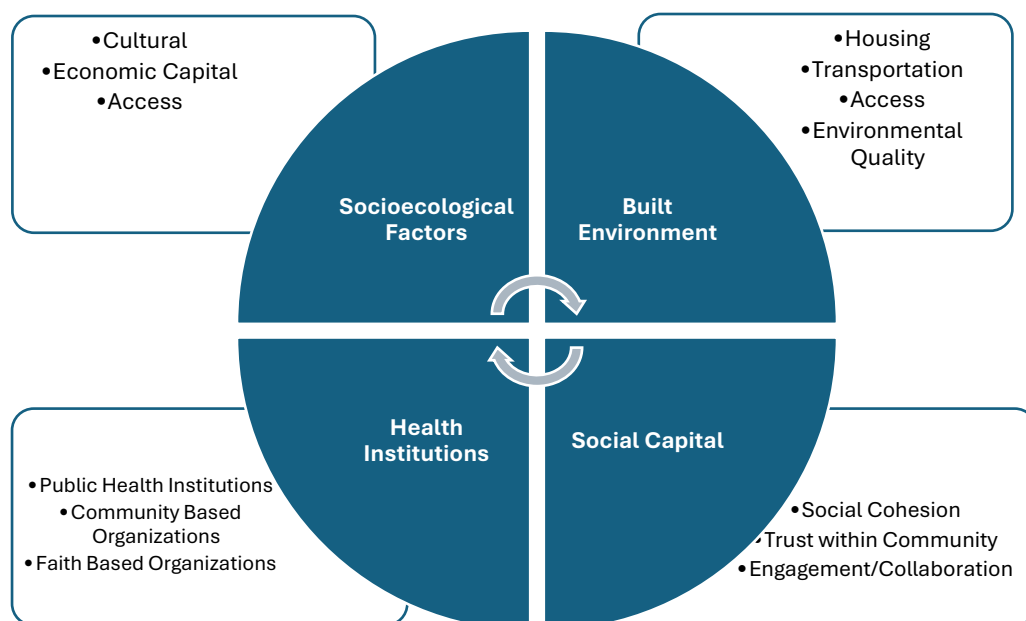
Expenditure Category: 2: Negative Economic Impacts

Neighborhoods are key determinants to health. When understanding how to improve better health outcomes, especially at a community level, the built environment and its social characteristics can shape opportunities for barriers or promotion to overall health, especially in disproportionately impacted communities. When identifying interventions, they should be community oriented, allowing for buy-in from the residents themselves. Through creation of a more empowered and resilient community, the interventions will be more sustainable via community “ownership.”



The ARPA expenditure is a County- wide, all-encompassing project to improve the built environment. Defined by CDC as all the physical parts of where we live and work (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, open spaces, and infrastructure), the built environment influences an individual and community's public health. According to the **Final Rule**:

*“Treasury recognizes the connection between neighborhood-built environment and physical health outcomes, including risk factors that may have contributed to disproportionate COVID-19 health impacts in low-income communities. The **Final Rule** also recognizes that the public health impacts of the pandemic are broader than just the COVID-19 disease itself and include substantial impacts on mental health and public safety challenges like rates of violent crime, which are correlated with a neighborhood's-built environment and features. As such, neighborhood features that promote improved health and safety outcomes respond to the preexisting disparities that contributed to COVID-19's disproportionate impacts on low-income communities.”*



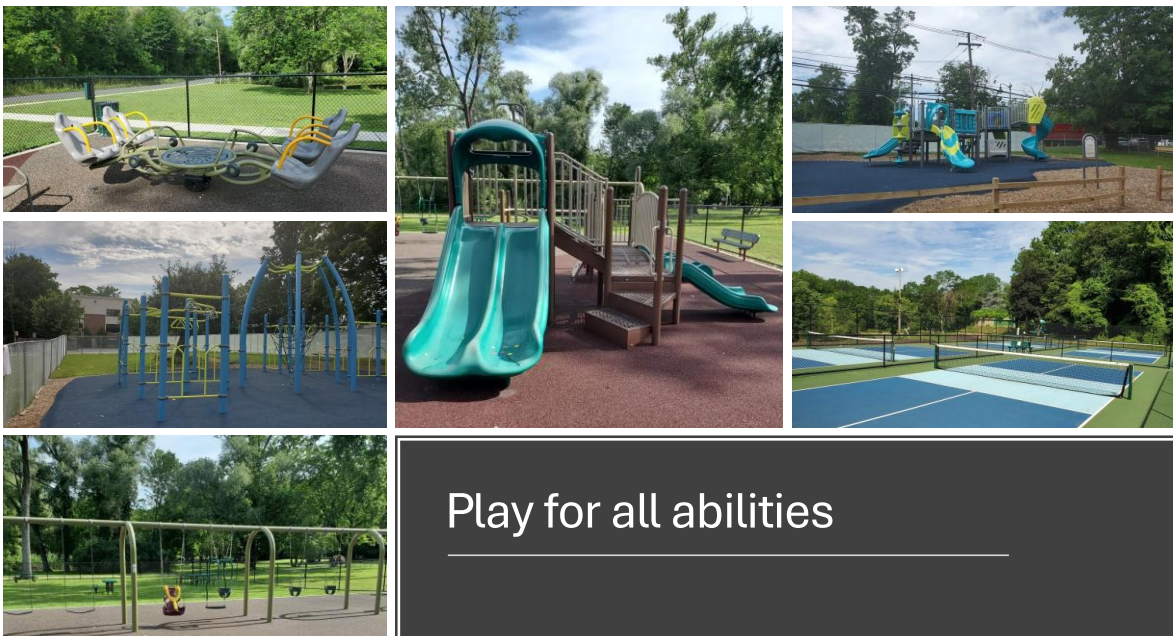
Through Treasury's outlined expenditure category: Negative Economic Impact and through a THRIVE model method (pictured above), the ARPA department is proposing a whole county, whole community approach through the following projects:

- **Rockland County Urban Green Spaces:** Investing in parks and playgrounds is a vital component of building sustainable, connected communities in Rockland. These spaces are more than just recreational- they play a crucial role in promoting social interaction, reducing isolation, and providing youth with safe, engaging environments that support health development. Access to parks and playgrounds encourages physical activity, which has been proven to reduce the risk of childhood obesity and related comorbidities such as diabetes, asthma, and cardiovascular issues. For youth especially, these spaces offer positive alternatives to sedentary behavior and screen time, while also creating

opportunities for unstructured play, socialization, and community bonding. By expanding and enhancing these public spaces, Rockland is investing in both the physical and social health of its residents, helping to build stronger, healthier, and more resilient neighborhoods. Throughout the process the County engaged in:

- Multi sector collaboration (e.g., County Departments, Municipalities, Not for Profits)
- Educational programs year round
- Historical Tours of Rockland- link the entire county to its roots and to itself
- Outdoor activity promotion- physical activity, STEM programs
- New art and themes to each space, more representation
- Safe walking and biking throughout the County of Rockland

Through these funds, 37 parks/playgrounds have been awarded totaling **\$6,649,329.02**. All parks/playgrounds offer equitable access, free admission, and promote healthy outcomes for all County Residents.



Play for all abilities

- **Land Preservation Plan:** Preserving open space has been a cornerstone of Rockland's commitment to sustainable development. As the County works to meet growing housing and infrastructure demands, protecting open space has been essential in maintaining environmental balance and safeguarding the character of our communities. These undeveloped areas serve as natural buffers against overdevelopment, helping to reduce flooding, support biodiversity, and mitigate the environmental consequences of rapid growth. Beyond ecological benefits, open space contributes to residents' quality of life- offering scenic areas for passive recreation, mental restoration, and a deeper connection to nature. By prioritizing the preservation of open space, Rockland is ensuring that future development is thoughtfully planned, environmentally responsible, and aligned with long-term community resilience.

- **Rockland Resilient Path:** To promote healthy activities, increase accessibility and support equitable development across the County, Rockland has advanced the Rockland Riverway Trail project from initial feasibility to the engineering, environmental review, and design phase. This transformative effort will create and connect a fully accessible walking and biking path that spans from the southernmost part of Rockland (Palisades, NY) to the northernmost point (Stony Point, NY), passing through many towns and villages- including several disproportionately impacted communities. The path is designed to be handicapped accessible, where allowable, and will catalyze improvements to the physical environment and social determinants of health. With the project now in final planning stages, Rockland is positioning the path to be shovel-ready- ensuring swift implementation once construction funding is secured.

The Rockland Resilient Riverway Trail is intended to integrate communities from all over Rockland, invite visitors to learn of the cultural and historical stories of our County, provide additional modes of transportation, highlight environmental sustainability, and assist in improving economic development and supporting our small businesses.

Currently, the second phase of the Riverway Trail is underway and includes:

- Surveying
- Environmental assessment
- Community engagement
- Stakeholder engagement






Rockland Riverway Trail Community Meetings

JULY 24 **JULY 31**
Virtual over Zoom In-person at the Palisades Center Mall

SIGN UP TODAY ►

Rockland Riverway Trail Walking Tours

JULY 9, 16, 17 & 23, 2025

SIGN UP TODAY!

Assistance to Small Businesses

Expenditure Category: 1: Public Health and 2: Negative Economic Impacts

Small businesses help stimulate the local economy and play a crucial role in supporting the U.S. economic recovery. The COVID-19 pandemic has severely impacted many small businesses nationwide. Small businesses have experienced and continue to experience an undesirable outlook as the result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The County of Rockland utilized SLFRF funds to develop the grant opportunities below to assist our small businesses in their financial recovery:

- Reviving Rockland Restaurants Grant Program:** The **Reviving Rockland Restaurants Grant Program** was established to combat the negative economic and employment impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, restaurants were one of the first establishments to be shut down and the last to be open at full capacity. Results from our survey of restaurants identified that the outdoor dining option was what enabled them to stay afloat during one of their most fiscally difficult times, while keeping their entire staff, even with limited capacity. With the extreme popularity of outdoor dining options and increased capacity opportunities, the County recognized the need to keep the momentum going by creating a grant to help alleviate the additional costs of associated outdoor dining expenses. Individual grants, to reimburse past expenses or fund future expenses related to outdoor dining, have been awarded to select applicants who meet the eligibility requirements. Applicants must describe how the COVID-19 Pandemic negatively affected their business and how the eligible items helped or will help resolve the problem. They must include information about how outdoor dining sustained or helped to sustain their business, how outdoor dining helped their staff maintain employment, what percentage of their staff lives in the County of Rockland, how much their staff is paid (excluding tips), and if health benefits are available through their business for staff and their families.
 - Eligible entities were Rockland based businesses that are not permanently closed, have the capacity for outdoor dining, and include businesses where the public or patrons assemble for the primary purpose of being served food or drink including, Restaurants, Food stands, food trucks, Bars, saloons, lounges, taverns, Bakeries, Delis, Cafes, Breweries, Wineries and/or microbreweries, Other similar places of business in which the public or patrons assemble for the primary purpose of being served food or drink.
 - The **Reviving Rockland Restaurants Grant Program** provided funding for Rockland County restaurants by reimbursing qualified restaurant expenses that were or will be used for outdoor dining to aid in the prevention of the spread of COVID-19. This equipment includes, but is not limited to tents, heat lamps or other electric heating equipment, additional tables and chairs for outdoor dining, market umbrellas, plexiglass shields, tarps, patio fencing, other items related to outdoor dining, such as construction of outdoor seating and cleaning materials may be considered.

The **Reviving Rockland Restaurants** Grant Program served 26 restaurants and distributed a total of \$459,270.16 in support.

- Small Business Rescue Reimbursement Grant Program:** The ARPA Department administered the **Rockland Small Business Rescue Grant Program** to combat the negative economic and employment impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Individual grants to reimburse past expenses will be awarded to select applicants who meet the eligibility requirements (outlined below). All Applicants were required to describe how the COVID-19 Pandemic negatively affected their business and how the eligible items helped alleviate the financial hardships experienced during the pandemic. They provided

information about how this funding could help them offset revenue loss, maintain their staff employment, and (if applicable) a list of increased costs.

- Eligible businesses are Rockland County based privately owned micro-businesses, small businesses, enterprises, or sole proprietorships, that offer fee-based goods or services and have fewer than 500 employees and annual revenues up to \$1 million.
- Businesses include but are not limited to Indoor Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation, Pet Grooming, Boarding, and Walking, Restaurants, Eateries, Food Stands and Food Trucks, Bars, Bakeries, Cafes, Breweries/Wineries Catering, Delis, etc., Bookstore/Stationary, Housekeeping, Fitness Centers, Florists, General Retail, Salons/Spas, Bicycle shops, Other Consumer Service Firms (i.e., Architectural, Design, Marketing). Eligible business expenses include but are not limited to Commercial/Retail Rent (up to 6 months), Safety Investments (Including PPE and Cleaning Supplies), Software Fees, Marketing Fees (advertising and promotion), Credit Card Processing Fees (up to \$5,000.00), Supplies (operational items not inventory).

The **Small Business Rescue Reimbursement** grant served 39 small businesses and distributed a total of \$1,350,385.89 in support.

Assistance to Nonprofit Organizations

Expenditure Category: 1: Public Health and 2: Negative Economic Impacts

Nonprofits play a fundamental role in creating more equitable and thriving communities. Throughout the lifecycle of the ARPA expenditures, not-for-profit participation will be integrated through grant opportunities. In addition to adding funding opportunities throughout the proposed expenditure categories listed, a few individual grant opportunities will be developed:

- **Food Security Grant Program:** This grant was established to reimburse Rockland Based organizations that distributed food to communities in the County of Rockland that have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Individual grants to reimburse past expenses were awarded to select applicants who met the eligibility requirements below. All Applicants described how the COVID-19 Pandemic negatively affected the organization and how the eligible items helped resolve the problem. They were required to include information about the statistics of the percentage increase of the need for food, how the need fell in communities with socioeconomic disadvantages and a quantifiable increase in need.

Eligible entities were Rockland County Based organizations that were not permanently closed. These entities included but were not limited to Food Pantries, Food Banks, Community-based organizations, Faith-based organizations, Non-profit organizations. Reimbursing qualified expenses incurred from March 3, 2021, to the date of contract, that were used to assist communities and individuals in the County of Rockland experiencing food insecurities due to COVID-19. Eligible expenses include, but are not limited to barriers/partitions, cleaning supplies, food distribution space/pantry rental, vehicle rental.

The **Food Security Grant Program** closed for new applications on February 1, 2023, and served a total of 4 Nonprofit organizations with a distribution of \$81,240.80 in support.

- **T.O.U.C.H Grant:** In response to the growing need for food security, Rockland reopened the food security grant and allocated funding to support TOUCH (Together Our Unity Can Heal) with a \$25,000 grant. Recognizing TOUCH's critical role as a centralized food distribution hub, the funding helped strengthen their capacity to store, manage, and direct food to smaller community- based pantries across the county. This investment ensured a more stable and coordinated emergency food network, allowing local pantries to meet the ongoing demand from families and individuals facing food insecurity. By targeting resources toward a proven and trusted partner, the County maximized the impact of its ARPA dollars and reinforced its commitment to addressing food insecurity in a sustainable and equitable way.



- **Nonprofit Rescue Reimbursement Grant Program:** Developed to combat the negative economic and staffing impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Individual grants, to reimburse past expenses or fund future expenses will be awarded to select applicants who meet the eligibility requirements. All Applicants were required to describe how the COVID-19 Pandemic negatively affected their organization and how the eligible items helped alleviate the financial hardships experienced during the pandemic. They must include information about how this funding could help them offset revenue loss, maintain their staff, and (if applicable) a list of increased costs.

Eligible Not-Profits must be Rockland based. Eligible expenses include but are not limited to Rent (up to 6 months), Safety Investments (Including PPE and Cleaning Supplies), Software Fees, Increased Costs for Supplies (operational items, not inventory).

The Nonprofit Rescue Reimbursement Grant Program officially opened on April 1, 2023, and closed on September 30th, 2023. In that time, 14 organizations were funded and \$463,193.13 was expended to provide critical support.

Recovery Plan - ORGANIZATIONAL

The organizational level focuses on the influence of formal organizations and institutions where people work, learn, and engage in various activities. These settings play a critical role in shaping individual behaviors and outcomes by establishing norms, policies, and practices. Rockland utilized this framework and data-driven insights to strategically allocate ARPA funds, ensuring organizations were equipped to address public health challenges and support recovery efforts. The County obligated funds to entities that created supportive environments, implemented health-promoting policies, and expanded access to essential services. This intentional approach underscored the County's commitment to using organizational systems to promote health, resilience, and equity across the community.

Public Health Projects

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE Bags)

Expenditure Category: 1: Public Health

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, it was emphasized that basic hygiene practices were one of the most simple and effective ways to prevent the spread of the disease. Providing individuals who were disproportionately impacted with the tools to maintain basic hygiene may help them from contracting or spreading the disease known as COVID-19 and its variants.

- The County of Rockland used SLFRF funding to purchase and distribute Personal Protective Equipment to various individuals and community organizations between March 3, 2021, and December 31, 2021, throughout all of Rockland County.
- Hygiene Packs were also distributed during the Point in Time count in January 2023 when volunteers and not-for-profit organizations across the County went out to count the homeless/unhoused population throughout the County. 100 Hygiene Packages, complete with soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, tissues, and hand sanitizer were prepared and distributed county-wide.

Public Health Capacity in our Hospitals

Expenditure Category: 1: Public Health

Good Samaritan Hospital, located in the Town of Ramapo, provides all residents in Rockland and resides in a Low and Moderate-Income Community. Good Samaritan's patient population includes significant numbers of medically vulnerable demographic groups, including elderly adults, residents living below the Federal Poverty Level, people with a disability, foreign-born residents, and households where English is not the dominant language spoken.

During the Pandemic, there was a State declared disaster emergency as well as a shortage of PPE. NYS Governor Executive Order 202.10 issued all Elective surgeries to be cancelled, and existing bed capacity was increased 50% to care for COVID-19 patients. Rockland County had the fastest growing number of cases and the highest per capital rate of infection in NYS, and among the highest in the country. In addition, New York State directives were in place to ensure that hospitals sustain a 15% available capacity to be able to handle a surge. Rockland County was significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic which has recorded over 121,176 confirmed cases of COVID-

19, and 988 deaths related to the virus since the onset in March of 2020. The impact on the healthcare system in Rockland County was significant.

The demand for hospital beds, medical equipment, and personnel surged as the number of COVID-19 cases increased. Hospitals and medical facilities faced shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE), such as masks, gloves, and ventilators. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Good Samaritan Hospital and the Bon Secours Charity Health System has performed over 131,000 COVID-19 tests with over 21,000 resulting positive with large patient populations centering around Spring Valley, Monsey, Suffern, New City, and Nanuet in Rockland County.

Overall, the COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact on the healthcare system in Rockland County and healthcare providers worked tirelessly to respond to the challenges posed by the pandemic.

- **Reimbursement for Equipment Not Covered by FEMA:** Good Samaritan Hospital is reputable for providing exquisite patient care and support to the diverse population of Rockland County. The equipment requested was/is needed to treat and monitor patients with COVID-19 patients. Unfortunately, FEMA did not cover the full cost of these vital pieces of equipment, leaving Good Samaritan Hospital an additional expense during a vulnerable time.

\$364,318.39 was utilized to provide reimbursement to Good Samaritan Hospital for the equipment used to treat and monitor COVID-19 patients.

- **Electronic Medical Record Network Implementation:** Throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic, Good Samaritan Hospital has remained dedicated to equitably serving the county with an emphasis on operational readiness to support the needs and treatments of the community in a safe and efficient manner. Since the onset of the pandemic, Good Samaritan Hospital treated over 3,000 COVID positive patients, with 523 readmitted due to COVID-19 reinfection and recorded 821 patients with long- haul COVID-19 conditions. Throughout the pandemic, every floor of the hospital was inundated with patients due to the demand for beds or the need for more specialized treatment. To facilitate increasing provider communication and collaboration, the new EMR network would help prevent patients from delayed treatment, transfer to specialized floors, and faster triage of symptoms and complications. The EMR network will revolutionize the delivery of healthcare to the patients, significantly enhancing provider to provider communication, clinical patient outcomes, operational staff efficiency, and data-driven decision-making across the entire health network. The EMR system will allow access to the patient's chart and the care they are receiving to include laboratory testing, radiology examinations, and medication changes. This system will be linked to sister hospitals in case patients need to be transferred, allowing for a streamlined patient collaboration. Since the installation of the new system, Good Samaritan Hospital has recorded improvements in the following areas:

- Improved provider and clinical staff coordination
- Enhanced patient care and safety

- Streamlined clinical workflows
 - Interoperability and Data Exchange
 - Data-Driven insights
 - Increased cost-efficiency
 - Compliance and Security
- **Cardiac Catheterization Lab:** Cardiac Catheterization Lab- Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic GSH has discharged 3,417 patients who were admitted due to COVID-19 infections. Based upon this distinct patient data, GSH estimates that 2,335 of these patients are at greater risk for cardiovascular issues. Long-term COVID-19, also known as post-acute sequelae of SARS-CoV-2 (PASC), can cause various persistent health problems, including significant cardiovascular complications. These complications can range from myocarditis (heart inflammation) to heart failure and arrhythmias. Additionally, the pandemic has disproportionately impacted communities with lower socio-economic levels and has led to greater disparities in levels of health equity for at-risk and vulnerable patient populations. In particular, the communities of Spring Valley, Monsey, and Suffern had the largest volume of patients with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 with over 4,606 confirmed cases between the onset in March 2020 and March 2023. The GSH Catheterization Lab has been designed to support the potential surge in patients in need of cardiac procedures to decrease the adverse impacts that COVID-19 is causing and ultimately improve their overall health and long-term wellbeing.

As noted in the Community Health Assessment, cardiovascular disease is the highest leading cause of death in Rockland residents. Not only will the Cardiac Catheterization Lab play a crucial role in supporting and managing long-term COVID-19 patients by expanding access to care to increase early detection rates for cardiac abnormalities and improving patient outcomes with minimally invasive procedures to restore heart function and overall quality of life but support all our residents at higher risk of cardiovascular issues due to higher comorbidity rates.

The Cardiac Catheterization Lab will provide advanced treatment planning which will help providers and patients make more informed treatment decisions and care plan updates based on a more accurate cardiac diagnosis.

Mental Health

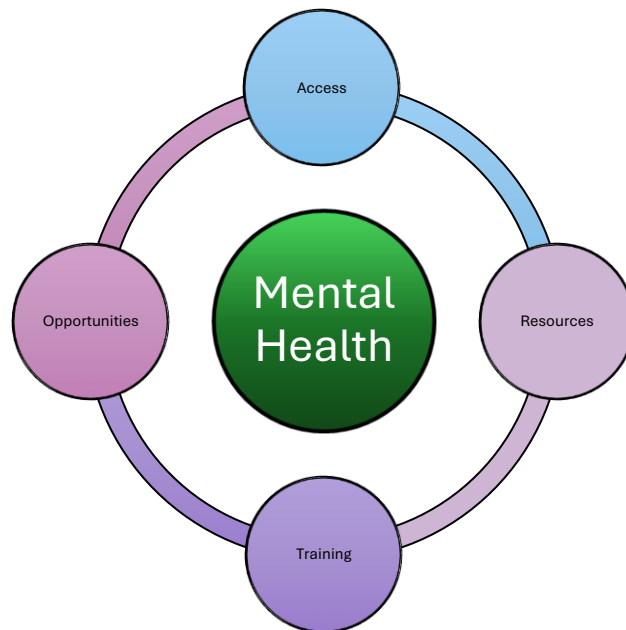
Expenditure Category: 1: Public Health

The pandemic had a significant and widespread impact on mental health. Through ARPA surveys, and as noted in the 2022-2024 CHA, the impacts on Rockland residents remain. Data collected has shown that Rocklanders are still affected with increased anxiety and depression, increase in substance use, loneliness and social isolation, increased suicidality, burnout, and disparities in mental health.

While the national 988 line has increased accessibility to mental health interventions, there is still a gap in who is called out for the acute crisis response. Linking the 988 and 911 systems can create a more integrated and effective response to mental health crises. A more robust 911 platform that focuses on mental health calls can facilitate supporting mental health through

shared training for dispatchers, coordinate response protocols, integrated technology systems, joint crisis response teams, cross- agency communication, stronger public awareness, resource mapping and better follow up support.

The county believes that improved internal efforts will foster stronger community partnerships and better evaluation and improvement of systems. By linking 911 and 988, communities can create a more cohesive and responsive system for addressing mental health crises, ensuring that individuals receive the right kind of help at the right time.



- **Restructuring Rockland’s Resources- 911 Diversion Program:** A 911 Diversion program is an essential initiative aimed at diverting certain emergency calls away from traditional law enforcement or emergency response services to more appropriate and specialized resources. Several important key factors to consider:
 - **Resource allocation:** Emergency services, such as police and ambulance, are often stretched thin and have limited resources. By implementing a diversion program, less critical calls can be redirected to appropriate agencies for services, ensuring that emergency responders can focus on situations that truly require immediate attention.
 - **Faster response times:** With non-emergency calls being redirected to appropriate agencies, first responders can respond more quickly to genuine emergencies.
 - **Enhanced Community Safety:** The diversion program allows for a more tailored response to different types of incidents. By involving social workers, mental health professionals, or other specialized teams, the program can address underlying issues that may contribute to non-emergency calls, such as mental health crises or substance abuse problems. By addressing these root causes, the program can help prevent future emergency situations and enhance overall community safety.

- **De-escalation and Conflict Resolution:** Emergency responders, especially law enforcement, may not always have the necessary training to handle certain non-emergency situations effectively. By diverting such calls to professionals with expertise in conflict resolution and de-escalation techniques, potential confrontations can be minimized, leading to better outcomes for everyone involved.
- **Improved Public perception:** Utilizing a diversion program shows that the community and local authorities are committed to finding effective and compassionate solutions to the diverse needs of their residents. This can lead to improved public trust in law enforcement, fostering a better working environment.

The 911 diversion program is crucial for optimizing emergency response, addressing underlying mental and behavioral health issues, improving community safety, and promoting a more efficient and compassionate approach to handling diverse situations that arise within a community. It reflects a proactive effort to meet the needs of the public while ensuring that emergency services can focus on situations where their expertise is most required. SLFRF funding will be utilized to implement a new digital platform for better mental health first response and training for all staff members.

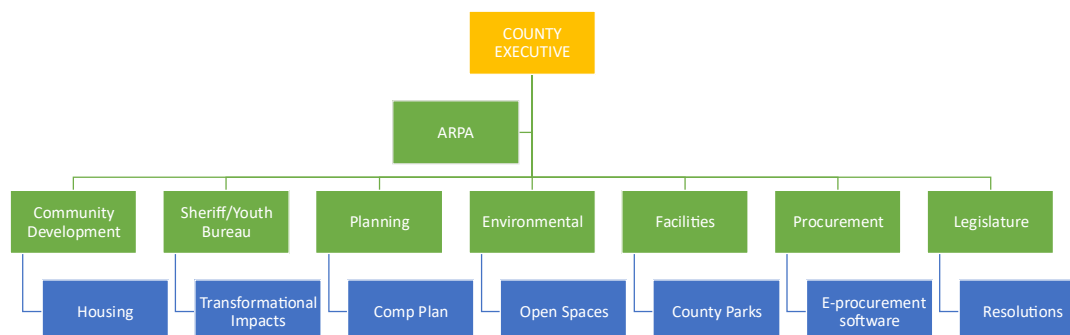
Climate Mitigation

Mitigation activities to lessen or avert the threat of a natural disaster and its potential physical or negative economic impacts, including structure elevation, mitigation reconstruction, dry flood proofing, structural retrofitting, non-structure retrofitting, wind retrofit, and infrastructure retrofit are specifically emphasized in the [Interim Final Rule](#). Treasury has explained that mitigation activities may be stand-alone projects that reduce or eliminate the potential impacts of the threat of natural disaster and may also be incorporated into repair or reconstruction projects that address the impacts of a natural disaster.

- **Stony Point Lowlands Park:** The park suffered significant flooding during July 9th, 2023, a storm event due to an overflow of the Cedar Pond Brook bank. The stormwater and stream overbank flood conveyed debris/sediment, washed away a portion of the park, damaged equipment, destroyed fencing, washed away mulch in the play area, and displaced families in surrounding homes.

The location of the park leaves the grounds vulnerable to potential additional damage in future storm events. The installation of rock walls/berms along the Cedar Brook stream and hardening of the infrastructure in and around the park would provide the protection needed to avoid future flooding and destruction.

Departmental Partnerships



The policy level demonstrates systemic change can influence large populations. By addressing issues at a policy level, the ARPA initiatives will have a broad impact, altering the social and physical environments in ways that promote well-being and health.

Through inter-departmental partnerships, silos are broken down and new standardized practices and initiatives become the norm, ensuring effective strategies to reach common goals and objectives for a better county. The ARPA funding has allowed for a multifaceted, intergovernmental approach to reviving and rebuilding Rockland.

The policy level is crucial for broader systemic factors that influence behavior and well-being, ensuring sustainable, equitable, and widespread improvements in public health and social outcomes. This level emphasizes the significant impact that governmental and institutional policies have on shaping the environment in which individuals live and make decisions. This level demonstrates the effective implementation of policies that promote public health, social justice, environmental sustainability, and economic stability.

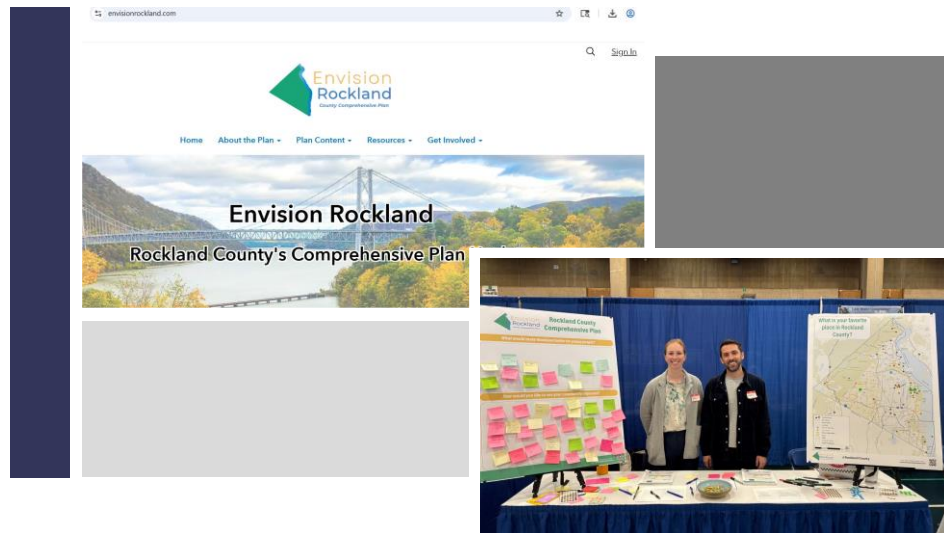
Administrative/Studies

Expenditure Category: 7: Administrative and Other

Administration is paramount for the continued evaluation of the proposed projects/programs to ensure the objective to maintain an emphasis on equity, community engagement, and compliance exceeds expectations. The ARPA Department will also collaborate with various intra-County departments to initiate additional County-wide need assessments and feasibility studies based on community feedback. The qualitative and quantitative data from these assessments and studies will provide evidence and support to bridge the current and historical gaps throughout the County of Rockland.

Studies and Software

- **County of Rockland Comprehensive Plan:** Rockland County is taking an important step in guiding its future with the decision to undertake an update to its Comprehensive Plan. Since the previous plan was adopted in 2011, there have been significant changes in development trends, demographics, policies, and procedures. The updated Comprehensive Plan seeks to use both traditional and innovative (technology-based) solutions to guide an inclusive process that will amplify community engagement and participation in the Plan update, to ensure community priorities are integral to the Plan's vision, goals, and strategies. This update presents an opportunity to recruit new voices and influencers as well as learn from leaders that share historical and institutional knowledge. The update will set goals and objectives for the next generation of Rockland County residents and should create a vision for the County and guide future development and investments.



- **AmpliFund:** For efficient tracking and reporting by the ARPA Department, a Grant Management System Software (AmpliFund) was procured. Throughout the tenure of the ARPA Department, the AmpliFund software has been used to create grant opportunities, submit vouchers, monitor subrecipients, and create reports for SLFRF requirements.
- **Regional eSourcing Software:** This software will benefit the County of Rockland's ARPA Department as well as many additional departments in the mission to Revive and Rebuild Rockland. Expanding the eSourcing Procurement software from solely County-wide to Regional creates a Regional online marketplace for all local governments and non-profits to access contracts awarded by five counties. A central repository for such information will save participants time, enforce accountability, and provide a unified structure for the procurement process. These highlights will contribute to fair, innovative, and cost-efficient procurement solutions.

Project Inventory – Overview

As previously noted, from the onset, Rockland adopted an equity- forward, social determinants of health lens-framing investments across cultural inclusion, access, environmental quality, and social cohesion.

Through this lens, the ARPA Department created a **Whole Person, Whole Community, Whole County** approach to reviving and rebuilding Rockland. The spending plan spans many diverse expenditure categories that tie into the bigger picture. By fostering broad participation and leveraging local knowledge and resources, the Whole County approach aims to ensure that the allocation and implementation of SLFRF funds are equitable, transparent, and effective in promoting long-term recovery and resilience.

Using the Socioecological Framework (*mentioned in the **Use of Funds** section of this report*), the County created interventions that are more effectively targeted to specific populations and settings. The framework is particularly valuable in addressing health disparities and promoting healthy equity, addressing more complex issues that cannot be addressed adequately through individual interventions alone, emphasizes the intricate relationship between individuals and the natural environment, and provides an essential lens through which to view and address the various challenges our County faced during the pandemic.

Each grant and program opportunity developed by the County of Rockland's ARPA Department has defined metrics and objectives. Through regularly scheduled collaborative meetings, quarterly reporting, annual reporting, and continuous tracking of the grants in our Grant Management Portal, the success of these opportunities is closely monitored.

The **Food Security, Reviving Rockland Restaurant, Small Business Rescue Reimbursement**, and **Nonprofit Recovery** grant programs were all monitored in real-time. The metrics and objectives were outlined within the individual grant applications. Each application was carefully reviewed to determine if the beneficiary was eligible for the award. If the application was eligible, a detailed list of reimbursement items was created and attached to a contract that was signed by the beneficiary and County Representatives. The contract served to emphasize the award is a one-time reimbursement and any regulatory requirements.

The **Food Security Grant Program** was open for a year with an unfortunately, minimal response. It was determined that there was an unintended consequence in having such a specific focus on this grant opportunity. Many of the Food Pantries had received or were receiving funding for the eligible items outlined in the grant. This posed a high risk in the potential of duplication of funds. This risk lead the ARPA Department to sequester feedback from the Food Pantries and other Nonprofit organizations. Their responses were received through a 2022 Nonprofit Survey as well as in-person/virtual meetings. It was determined that the lens of the program must be expanded to include expenses that no longer or never had funding opportunities. With the responses and the needs of the Nonprofit organizations at hand, the **Food Security Grant Program** was closed, and the **Nonprofit Recovery Grant Program** was opened. As summarized below in the **Project Inventory** section, the **Nonprofit Recovery Grant Program** was more successful than the **Food Security Grant Program** and 14 Nonprofit organizations received assistance.

In addition to the previously mentioned grant programs, the ARPA Department also offered the **Urban Green Space Grant Program** (formerly known as the *Rockland Resilient Recreation Grant Program*). This program was so successful that the \$5 million in funds that was allocated for this opportunity were increased to \$6,649,329.02 to meet the demand of the funds requested. The response to this program demonstrated the dire need to create, repair, or enhance Urban Green Spaces throughout the County. Similar to the other grant programs, the metrics and objectives are outlined within the individual grant applications. However, the metrics and objectives are outlined by the applicant and approved (after discussion if necessary) by the ARPA Department.

To ensure compliance with Federal Requirements, the ARPA Department requires all Subrecipients of the **Urban Green Space Grant** to attend (free) **Uniform Guidance** training, provides Pre and Post Contract letters, and Project Checklists. The Logic Models and Checklists assist greatly in maintaining a streamlined monitoring process in accordance with 2 CFR 200.331 – 2 CFR 200.333. The ARPA Department also understands that the Federal Requirements differ from the State and County requirements that our Subrecipients are familiar with. In the interest of providing inclusivity and transparency, the ARPA Department welcomes an open line of communication to ensure all projects are compliant and on track.

As part of the monitoring process, the ARPA Department reviews all quotes, solicitation documents, and decisions made by the Subrecipients to confirm compliance requirements have been met. Both scheduled and non-scheduled site-visits also occur to determine that the project objectives and metrics are met.

In conjunction with the **Urban Green Space Grant Program**, the County of Rockland utilized SLFRF funds for the projects listed below to develop, enhance, or repair frequently visited areas that promote outdoor recreation:

- Kennedy Dells Lighting Projects - Phase 1 & 2
- Demarest Kill/Dutch Garden Walking Path Projects - Phase 1& 2
- Cropsey Farm Community Rejuvenation Projects- Phase 1 & 2
- Lake Suzanne Pedestrian Walkway Project
- Stony Point Lowlands Hills Park Climate Mitigation Efforts
- Rockland Riverway Trail - Design and Engineering Services
- County Sidewalks Project

In 2024, the County of Rockland's Community and Affordable Housing Needs Assessment, was completed by Patterns for Progress. The recommendations presented in the **Community and Affordable Housing Needs Assessment** outlined numerous initiatives that would propel the County to a new level of reasonable and proportional solutions for the existing affordable housing crisis. As a result of the HNA, the ARPA Department contributed SLFRF funds to the following Affordable Housing initiatives:

- Housing Action Loan Opportunity HALO
- Land Acquisition - Eberling Property
- Spring Valley Housing Development Fund Corporation
- Affordable Housing - 30 West Street - Westhab
- Land Acquisition - Schriever Lane Property

- Pre-Development - Schriever Lane Affordable Housing
- Town of Ramapo - Cultural Arts Affordable Housing Initiative
- Hickory House - Affordable Housing

Concurrently, to ensure an improved literacy around safe, affordable housing is developed, and residents become aware of the new opportunities, a marketing and education campaign was launched to reach all residents.

Through the development of new housing opportunities, the County will evaluate and promote the following:

- Healthier population, healthier outcomes, and healthier economy
- Improved infrastructure
- Improved perception of affordable housing
- Increased opportunities for younger adults, seniors
- Increased collaboration and participation at a multi sector level

Balancing land preservation with the need for affordable housing is critical for sustainable and overall societal wellbeing. Understanding the delicate relationship encompasses environmental, economic, and social aspects. The county, ranking 59th in built environment, must take a critical step in ensuring that open space is preserved to create environmental sustainability that protects its ecosystems and biodiversity, regulates climate change, protects lands that include watersheds that are vital for clean drinking water and wetlands that filter pollutants and regulate water cycles, help prevent soil erosion and maintain soil fertility, provide passive recreation, and preserve protected lands. Providing funds for open space opportunities, while also investing in affordable housing development enhances opportunities for social equity, sustainable development, health and wellbeing, community cohesion, smart growth, and resilience. To assist in this balance, SLFRF funds were used to acquire the following properties for the preservation of open space:

- 101 Old Route 304
- 71 S Mountain Road
- 63 S Mountain Road
- 2 Old Stone Road

The subsequent **Project Inventory** sections provide more details on the statuses, expenses, highlights, and performances of the projects noted above and more.

Project Inventory – Completed Projects

Project: PH - 001 Personal Protective Equipment

Funding Amount: \$20,378.89

Project Expenditure Category: 1-Public Health – 1.5 Personal Protective Equipment

Project Overview

The County of Rockland used SLFRF funding to purchase and distribute Personal Protective Equipment to various individuals and community organizations between March 3, 2021, and December 31, 2021, throughout all of Rockland County.

Goal

- To provide PPE to communities that were directly impacted by the COVID-19 virus in Rockland varied from seniors, low to moderate income households, multi-generational households, the homeless, and the sick and homebound.

Use of Evidence

- Through our partnerships with our local not for profits, faith-based organizations, food pantries, community centers, and other county departments, we were successful in reaching a higher percentage of community members.
- We set up giveaway events, partnering with our local Department of Health during their vaccination pods, had drive-thru events with our OFA, dropped off PPE packages to senior housing complexes, held events at our local community centers, and delivered PPE to soup kitchens for the homeless population.
- Serves Disproportionately Impacted Low-income Households and populations, impacted low- or moderate-income Households and populations, Disproportionally Impacted Nonprofits operating in Qualified Census Tracts

Performance Report

- As we distributed our PPE, throughout all of 2021, specifically in the QCT, we saw more community engagement/support, as well as reduction in COVID cases. Our proactive approach provided much needed solace to individuals and families who could not afford PPE.

Project: 1.5 HP - Hygiene Packs

Funding Amount: \$248.90

Project Expenditure Category: 1-Public Health – 1.5 Personal Protective Equipment

Project Overview

The Point-In-Time is an annual, nation-wide survey that occurs on a single evening in January. The survey is community lead to count the number of sheltered and unsheltered persons who are experiencing homelessness. The ARPA Department was contacted by the Haverstraw Community Center (the Center) who is a stakeholder in the County of Rockland's Point-In-Time survey. The Center opens their gymnasium to those who are experiencing homelessness to offer food, clothing, medical, and social services at no cost to the individual and their children. Adjacent to the Center, there are trailers that provide the opportunity for grooming and bathing. Hygiene Packages, complete with soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, tissues, and hand sanitizer were prepared and distributed to those in need at the county-wide event.

Goal

- To support the Center with the increased demand in assisting this disproportionately impacted community with their hygiene needs.

Use of Evidence

- Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, it was emphasized that basic hygiene practices were one of the most simple and effective ways to prevent the spread of the disease. Providing these individuals with the tools to maintain basic hygiene may help them from contracting or spreading the disease known as COVID-19 and its variants.
- Through our partnerships with our local not for profits, faith-based organizations, food pantries, community centers, and other county departments, we were successful in reaching a higher percentage of community members.
- Serves Disproportionately Impacted Low-income Households and populations, impacted low- or moderate-income Households and populations, Disproportionally Impacted Nonprofits operating in Qualified Censes Tracts

Performance Report

- 100 Hygiene Packages, complete with soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, tissues, and hand sanitizer were prepared and distributed to those in need at the county-wide event.

Project: 1.7 GSH Reimbursement - GSH Equipment Expenses Not Covered by FEMA

Funding Amount: \$364,318.39

Project Expenditure Category: 1-Public Health – 1.7-Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)

Project Overview

Good Samaritan Hospital which is part of the Bon Secours Charity Health System (BSCHS) and the Westchester Medical Center network, is located in Suffern, NY within Rockland County and supports a total population of 338,329 as of 2020 census data with additional patients traveling to GSH for higher acuity levels of care from neighboring Orange County, NY as well as from Bergen County, NJ. This project supports the treatment of patients with COVID-19 by increasing the medical staff's abilities to continuously monitor patient's vitals and other key aspects of their care while admitted to GSH's critical care unit (CCU), special care unit (SCU), cardiovascular intensive care unit (CVICU), and 4 North unit. In addition, this project supports protecting patients and staff from the community spread of COVID-19 by significantly decreasing the amount of time necessary for medical staff to be physically in the patient's room to review vital values and monitor their patients. All equipment components installed at GSH and submitted for this project are an entirely new submission and not part of any other project submitted by the BSCHS.

During the Pandemic, there was a State declared disaster emergency as well as a shortage of PPE. NYS Governor Executive Order 202.10 issued all Elective surgeries to be cancelled, and existing bed capacity was increased 50% to care for COVID-19 patients. Rockland County had the fastest growing number of cases and the highest per capital rate of infection in NYS, and among the highest in the country. In addition, New York State directives were in place to ensure that hospitals sustain a 15% available capacity to be able to handle a surge.

The Bon Secours Charity Health System leadership team determined that expanding the telemetry capacity at Good Samaritan Hospital (GSH) one of BSCHS's hospitals, was of vital need to support both needs of higher acuity patients and to protect the workforce to ensure that the organization is doing all it can to mitigate the community transmission of the disease and limit the potential for severe adverse outcomes. Furnishing those beds with patient monitoring equipment was necessary to support the needs of higher acuity patients that COVID -19 infections brought to the hospital, where continuous monitoring allowed for the early identification of patient status changes and therefore the mitigation of worsening disease. Continuous monitoring of vital signs such as: heart rate and rhythm, respiratory rate and oxygenation rate (pulse oximetry) were vital in our ability to support patients to better outcomes. COVID-19 is an infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Patients that require hospitalization for the treatment of the virus are most vulnerable to the respiratory and cardiac effects of COVID -19. Because of the rapid decline that can be experienced, and which often leads to death, it was necessary to provide patient monitoring (telemetry) to increase the hospitals capacity for rapid diagnosis of decline.

- Link: <https://www.goodsamhosp.org/covid19-comprehensive-care>

Goal

- Throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic, Good Samaritan Hospital remained dedicated to equitably serving Rockland County with an emphasis on providing exquisite patient care and support. The equipment requested was/is needed to treat and monitor patients with COVID-19 patients. Unfortunately, FEMA did not cover the full cost of these vital pieces of equipment, leaving Good Samaritan Hospital an additional expense during a vulnerable time.
- With the expansion of telemetry monitoring in the 4North unit staff was able to increase the number of patients being actively monitored this allowed the continuous display of important vital signs of heart rate and pulse oximeter as well as continuous cardiac waveforms monitoring that allowed for early detection of abnormal rhythms. This allowed for timely recognition of worsening patient status and reduced time spent in patient rooms and additionally protected their staff.

Use of Evidence

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) supports the use of patient monitoring equipment in the treatment of patients with COVID-19. A published letter from Chief Scientist Denise M. Hinton to Ms. Sunny Yi, she states that the use of IntelliVue Patient Monitors is effective for remotely monitoring the physiological parameters of patients in hospitals and reduces the risks of exposure for community transmission of COVID-19 amongst health care workers. Further, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH), and the Office of Product Evaluation and Quality (OPEQ), state in their guidance for industry and FDA staff in June 2020, that:

“The leveraging of current non-invasive patient monitoring technology will help eliminate unnecessary patient contact and ease the burden on hospitals, other health care facilities, and health care professionals that are experiencing increased demand due to the COVID-19 pandemic as it relates to diagnosis and treatment of patients with COVID-19”

- Additionally, in the journal article “Validating and implementing cardiac telemetry for continuous QTc monitoring: A novel approach to increase healthcare personnel safety during the COVID-19 pandemic” written by Nicholas Kasis M.D. in the Journal of Electrocardiology; the author’s findings support implementing patient monitoring systems as an effective means of treating patients with COVID-19 as well as protecting staff from the community transmission of COVID-19. The author’s findings state that:

“Using a novel “no-touch” telemetry-based approach to QTc monitoring, our primary findings are twofold: 1) telemetry-based QTc measurements are highly accurate relative to gold-standard 12-lead ECG, and precise among three trained independent operators competent in measuring cardiac intervals; 2) initially validated in a general hospitalized population, this method can be successfully implemented in the clinical setting as demonstrated by its utilization in COVID-19 patients who experienced a significant increase in QTc after treatment with

hydroxychloroquine or azithromycin. Our results lend credence to telemetry as a valid clinical tool for QTc monitoring in place of standard 12-lead ECG, thereby minimizing direct patient contact and mitigating infectious risk among healthcare personnel and patients alike.”

- Serves Disproportionately Impacted Low-income Households and Populations, Impacted Nonprofits that experienced a negative impact, and Disproportionally Impacted Nonprofits operating in Qualified Census Tracts

Performance Report

- To date BSCHS has discharged 3,424 COVID-19 patients home and back to their families because of the close monitoring they received.
- The remote monitoring allowed for the attainment of key vital sign measures without requiring additional time at the COVID-19 patient’s bedside therefore allowing our nursing staff to safely care for a group of patients and limited their exposure of infectious patients and thus protecting the staff.
- The 4North unit, a 7-bed medical surgical unit, was identified as the second of two inpatient units at GSH to install telemetry equipment to provide the level of monitoring needed to appropriately monitor and care for the increase in acuity of COVID -19 patients treated.
- This unit was not previously equipped with this patient monitoring equipment and the critical need arose for this level of monitoring as the COVID pandemic continued. The telemetry capability was installed on the unit, which allows for the remote monitoring of all 7 patient beds, with a centralized bank of monitors located at an isolated nursing station within the Unit.

Project: 1.7 GHS EMRN - GSH - Electronic Medical Record Network Implementation

Funding Amount: \$2,000,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 1-Public Health – 1.7-Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)

Project Overview

Good Samaritan Hospital (GSH) in Suffern, NY requested assistance to support the implementation of a network wide electronic medical record (EMR) system that will improve provider communication, care coordination, access to care, care team engagement, and transitions of care for follow-up appointments.

Rockland County, NY, was significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic which has recorded over 121,176 confirmed cases of COVID-19, and 988 deaths related to the virus since the onset in March of 2020. The impact on the healthcare system in Rockland County was significant. The demand for hospital beds, medical equipment, and personnel surged as the number of COVID-19 cases increased. Hospitals and medical facilities faced shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE), such as masks and gloves, and ventilators amongst other vital and lifesaving medical supplies.

Healthcare providers in Rockland County, NY, have been working tirelessly to respond to the challenges posed by the pandemic. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, GSH and the BSCHS has performed over 131,000 COVID-19 tests with over 21 thousand resulting positive with large patient populations centering around Spring Valley, Monsey, Suffern, New City, and Nanuet in Rockland County.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March of 2020, Good Samaritan Hospital (GSH) has discharged a total of 3,424 patients admitted due to COVID-19. Out of that patient population 523 patients were readmitted due to COVID-19 or their subsequent COVID-19 symptoms. Based upon hospital diagnosis codes and ambulatory encounter data, the health system is continuing to support 821 patients with confirmed long-haul COVID-19 conditions. By increasing provider to provider communication and collaboration, the network EMR implantation will help prevent long haul symptoms from negatively impacting Rockland County's communities and patient populations.

To ensure efficient and timely healthcare, GSH implemented a network wide electronic medical record (EMR) system that will improve provider communication, care coordination, access to care, care team engagement, and transitions of care for follow-up appointments. The new Cerner based EMR system will improve patient outcomes for those that are admitted due to COVID-19 by allowing providers to communicate and collaborate in real time within the facility as well as across the Bon Secours Charity Health System (BSCHS) and the Westchester Medical Center (WMC) Health network to support patients that are being transferred for higher acuity and specialty of care. The new EMR system will allow providers to connect with hospitalist staff and

attending physicians to support patients with greater efficiency to improve collaboration and reduce redundant screenings and avoidable testing.

By adopting this state-of-the-art technology, GSH is working to revolutionize the delivery of healthcare for their patient populations and significantly enhance provider to provider communication, clinical patient outcomes, operational staff efficiency, and data-driven decision-making across their health network. The EMR system will allow access for all care team members regardless of physical location, to provide immediate and real time access to the patient's chart and the care they are receiving to include, laboratory testing, radiology examinations, and medication changes. This includes patients being transferred from lower acuity facilities to higher acuity facilities with more advanced care and specialized care teams where communication and collaboration is key for patients with advanced illnesses and conditions. Since 2021, 1693 patients have been transferred from the three BSCHS acute care facilities consisting of Good Samaritan Hospital (GSH) in Suffern, NY, Bon Secours Community Hospital (BSCH) in Port Jervis, NY, and St. Anthony's Community Hospital (SACH) in Warwick, NY, to Westchester Medical Center (WMC) for advanced care and treatment, with over 700 transfers coming from GSH alone.

The EMR system would additionally improve provider communication and collaboration for patients attributed to the Bon Secours Medical Group for primary and specialty care who seek treatment in emergency departments, outpatient surgery centers, and inpatient rehabilitation units throughout the facilities of the WMC Health network. Since the start of 2021, there has been 1,213 distinct admissions to WMC for BSMG patients with another 137 encounters for BSMG patients held for observation status. Additionally, during the same period, there were 833 distinct emergency department encounters at WMC and Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital for BSMG patients with another 874 distinct encounters for outpatient surgeries. As patients need higher acuity or more specialized care to treat and manage their conditions, the ability for providers to communicate and collaborate on their care and treatment plans can be optimized with a comprehensive networked EMR system.

The former fragmented electronic health record system posed numerous challenges for GSH staff members and the patient populations to include delayed access to critical medical information, compromised patient safety, inefficiencies in clinical workflows, and inhibited data exchange between healthcare providers. Consequently, this hinders the ability to provide seamless, coordinated, and patient-centered care in a timely manner.

- Link: <https://www.goodsamhosp.org/covid19-comprehensive-care>

Goal

- GSH is dedicated to creating a healthier community and patient population by utilizing comprehensive technology-based systems to drive clinical opportunities and enhancing patient support systems. Through the implementation of the EMR system, GSH will be able to improve outcomes for patients being treated for COVID-19 and improve the overall health and wellness of Rockland County and our surrounding communities.
- The Cerner EMR system is vital for the long-term support of patients with acute and chronic conditions to better manage their symptoms and increase care coordination throughout

the health system by allowing them access to the right services for support regardless of location or provider affiliation.

Use of Evidence

- The transition to the new Cerner EMR system creates an interconnected network to bridge the BSCHS with the WMC Health network that no other EMR system would be capable of providing. With 10 acute care facilities, 3 post-acute care facilities, and two large medical groups located in the immediate lower Hudson valley service area, provider communication and collaboration are vital to supporting patient populations regardless of where they are receiving treatment. The network includes acute and post-acute care facilities in 6 counties, consisting of Westchester, Orange, Rockland, Ulster, Dutchess, and Delaware Counties, as well as supporting patients from neighboring communities and states to include Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and into Connecticut.
- Additionally, the health network supports patients across this entire region as well as into New York City through ambulatory services provided by the Bon Secours Medical Group and Advanced Physician Services. This network of acute, post-acute, and ambulatory services is highly dependent on leveraging modern information technology structures to deliver high quality patient care. By integrating the Cerner EMR system, providers across the network, regardless of their physical location, can communicate and collaborate with one another to improve care coordination and enhance patient outcomes. This system promotes interoperability and establishes a single source for medical record information that would not be possible with facility specific EMR systems that limit data sharing, visibility, and provider communication.
- Serves Disproportionately Impacted Low-income Households and Populations, Impacted Nonprofits that experienced a negative impact, and Disproportionally Impacted Nonprofits operating in Qualified Census Tracts

Performance Report

- Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March of 2020, GSH has discharged a total of 3,424 patients admitted due to COVID-19.
- Out of that patient population 523 patients were readmitted due to COVID-19 or their subsequent COVID-19 symptoms.
- Based upon hospital diagnosis codes and ambulatory encounter data, the health system is continuing to support 821 patients with confirmed long-haul COVID-19 conditions.
- By increasing provider to provider communication and collaboration, the network EMR implantation will help prevent long haul symptoms from negatively impacting Rockland County's communities and patient populations.
- The project kicked off in October 2021 during height of the COVID-19 pandemic with the overall intent to improve communication throughout their Network and provide seamless care to the communities they serve.
- The implementation of the Cerner EMR system presents an innovative and transformative solution to address the healthcare network's challenges effectively. Cerner's comprehensive and interoperable EMR platform is designed to streamline workflows,

improve communication among healthcare professionals, and provide real-time access to accurate patient data. The key benefits for admitted patients include:

- 1) **Provider and Clinical Staff Coordination:** The new Cerner EMR system will allow care team members to review pertinent clinical information to include radiology imaging and pulmonary testing in a more expedient and collaborative manner to minimize delays in providing care to patients awaiting test results. One EMR in the Network will support ease of communication of critical information as our patients flow throughout our network for care.
- 2) **Enhanced Patient Care and Safety:** The Cerner EMR system empowers clinicians with up-to-date patient information, including medical history, test results, and treatment plans. This accessibility ensures informed decision-making, reduces medical errors, and ultimately enhances patient safety and care quality.
- 3) **Streamlined Clinical Workflows:** Cerner's user-friendly interface and workflow optimization tools simplify and standardize clinical processes. By eliminating redundant tasks and automating routine operations, healthcare providers can focus more on patient care, leading to increased productivity and reduced administrative burden.
- 4) **Interoperability and Data Exchange:** The Cerner EMR system seamlessly integrates with various healthcare systems and enables efficient data exchange between providers, laboratories, and pharmacies. This fosters a collaborative healthcare environment, promoting better care communication, patient coordination, and smoother transitions of care.
- 5) **Data-Driven Insights:** With robust analytics and reporting capabilities, the Cerner EMR system empowers healthcare administrators to derive valuable insights from vast datasets. Data-driven decision-making enhances resource allocation, identifies areas for improvement, and facilitates evidence-based practices, ultimately improving the health network's overall performance.
- 6) **Increased Cost-Efficiency:** The implementation of the Cerner EMR system will lead to long-term cost savings by reducing duplicative screenings, streamlining processes, minimizing redundant tests, and avoiding medical errors. These cost efficiencies enable the health network to allocate resources more effectively, expanding its capacity to serve a broader population.
- 7) **Compliance and Security:** Cerner is compliant with various healthcare standards and regulations, including HIPAA and HITECH. This ensures the security and confidentiality of patient data, safeguarding against potential breaches and ensuring strict adherence to privacy laws.

Project: 2.29 SB - Small Business Rescue Reimbursement Grant Program

Funding Amount: \$1,350,385.89

Project Expenditure Category: 2 – Negative Economic Impact – 2.29 Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship (Small Business Rescue Reimbursement Grant Program)

Project Overview

Small businesses are the backbone of the U.S. economy, 99% of all businesses in the U.S. are small businesses. A 2019 report found there were 2.2 million small businesses in New York State, employing 4.1 million employees – 50.2% of the New York State workforce.

Small businesses help stimulate the local economy and play a crucial role in supporting the U.S. economic recovery. The COVID-19 pandemic has severely impacted many small businesses nationwide. Small businesses have experienced and continue to experience an undesirable outlook as the result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since March 2020, many small businesses have suffered from periods of closure and revenue loss. A March 2021 report by the New York State Comptroller found that 4 out of 5 small businesses in New York continue to report negative economic impacts caused by the pandemic. Additionally, an October 2021 report from the Comptroller found that only 1 in 5 small businesses have reported a return to “normal operations.”

The County of Rockland has established the \$2 million Small Businesses Rescue Reimbursement Grant Program, with ARPA funds, to accelerate economic recovery by providing Rockland County small businesses with reimbursement funds for eligible expenses incurred during, and related to, the COVID-19 pandemic. Individual reimbursement grants, ranging from \$5,000.00 - \$50,000.00 will be awarded to select applicants who meet the eligibility requirements.

- Link: <https://rocklandgov.com/departments/county-executive/reviving-and-rebuilding-rockland/grants/#sbrr> - This grant is now closed and will no longer accept new applications.

Goal

- The Rockland Small Businesses Rescue Reimbursement Grant Program aims to provide funding for Rockland County small businesses and micro-enterprises, who can demonstrate revenue declines or unexpected operating cost deficits after March 3, 2021, up to the contracted date, to offset increased expenses or revenue loss caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Use of Evidence

- As of Q3 2021, Rockland County Small Business employment numbers have still not yet reached pre-pandemic levels. With the rising costs for real estate and operational materials, it is our hope that the grants to Small Businesses will mitigate financial hardship, restore normal operations, and safely return Rockland based, low/mod income employees back to the workforce, ensuring financial stability in their home.
- Serves Impacted Small Businesses that experienced a negative impact, and Disproportionally Impacted Small Businesses operating in Qualified Census Tracts

- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$1,350,385.89.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data.

Performance Report

- This grant assisted 39 Small Businesses.
- The aggregate of the grant awards is \$1,350,385.89.
- This grant opportunity is closed, and all beneficiaries have been awarded.

Project: 2.34 FS - Food Security Grant Program

Funding Amount: \$81,240.80

Project Expenditure Category: 2 – Negative Economic Impact – 2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

Project Overview

According to a new nationally representative survey of more than 2,000 U.S. adults by Consumer Reports, about 1 in 5 American grocery shoppers (19 percent) have used a food pantry, food bank, or community food distribution at some point since the pandemic began. What is more, about half of them said they didn't use these food programs in the year leading up to the COVID-19 outbreak in the U.S. Therefore, with the prevalence of the COVID-19 outbreak, many community organizations have been using their own funds in meeting the food demands in marginalized communities.

The County of Rockland has established the Food Security Grant Program to reimburse Rockland Based organizations that distributed food to communities in the County of Rockland that have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Individual grants to reimburse past expenses ranging from \$5,000.00 - \$25,000.00, will be awarded to select applicants who meet the eligibility requirements below.

Eligible entities are Rockland County Based organizations that are not permanently closed, assist in distributing food to communities and individuals in the County of Rockland who experience food insecurities:

- Food Pantries
 - Food Banks
 - Community-based organizations
 - Faith-based organizations
 - Non-profit organizations
- Link: <https://rocklandgov.com/departments/county-executive/reviving-and-rebuilding-rockland/grants/#fsgp> – This grant is now closed and will no longer accept new applications.

Goal

- To provide reimbursement assistance to Rockland-based Food Pantries, Food Banks, Community-based/Faith-based/Non-profit organizations for qualified expenses incurred to assist with an increased need for food distribution due to the pandemic and promote a safe return for their clients. Through this program, these organizations would be given a sustainable opportunity to continue to assist communities and individuals in Rockland experiencing food insecurities while maintaining an emphasis on safety.

Use of Evidence

- Through meta-analysis, quantitative and qualitative assessment, and ongoing community outreach, the ARPA department identified the exponential increase of individuals who

suffered from food insecurity due to the COVID-19 pandemic i.e., being laid off, being quarantined, hospitalization, etc. Adding to the already exacerbated need for food, Nonprofits reevaluated their operational structure and increased their scope of work to accommodate the increased food need of their local communities.

- Serves Disproportionately Impacted Low-income Households and Populations, Impacted Nonprofits that experienced a negative impact, and Disproportionally Impacted Nonprofits operating in Qualified Census Tracts
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$81,240.80.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data.

Performance Report

- This grant assisted 4 Nonprofit organizations.
- The aggregate of the grant awards is \$81,240.80.
- This grant opportunity is closed, and all beneficiaries have been awarded.

Project: 2.34 NFPRR – Nonprofit Recovery Reimbursement Grant Program

Funding Amount: \$463,193.13

Project Expenditure Category: 2 – Negative Economic Impact – 2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

Project Overview

The County of Rockland has established a Nonprofit Recovery Reimbursement Grant program with ARPA funds, to mitigate financial hardships caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, by providing Rockland County nonprofits with reimbursement funds for eligible expenses incurred since January 1, 2022.

Nonprofit Recovery Reimbursement Grant Program is available to eligible, Rockland County based Nonprofit Organizations with 501(c)(3) status who can demonstrate a negative economic impact, to apply for individual grants, to reimburse for eligible expenses, to offset increased expenses or revenue loss caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible organizations must be an established nonprofit organization based in the County of Rockland since January 1, 2020, that has been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eligible expenses for reimbursement include but are not limited to:

- Rent
- Utilities (Electric/Gas Service, Water, Garbage)
- Internet
- Software

Individual reimbursement grants, ranging from \$5,000 - \$50,000 will be awarded to select applicants who meet the eligibility requirements and will be awarded on a rolling basis. The application submission period will close on September 15, 2023.

- Link: <https://www.gotomygrants.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/6a584f9b-bbda-4ad5-aabf-200772d7a95a> - This grant is no longer accepting new applications.

Goal

- Nonprofit Organizations were met with an unfathomable obstacle in assisting impacted and disproportionately impacted communities with an array of safety restrictions enforced and funding limitations. Many Nonprofits are still striving to return to their pre-pandemic financial status. This grant is to provide reimbursement assistance to those Nonprofits who experienced a negative economic impact due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Use of Evidence

- Through meta-analysis, quantitative and qualitative assessment, and ongoing community outreach, the ARPA department identified the exponential increase of individuals who suffered from food insecurity due to the COVID-19 pandemic i.e., being laid off, being quarantined, hospitalization, etc. Adding to the already exacerbated need for food,

Nonprofits reevaluated their operational structure and increased their scope of work to accommodate the increased food need of their local communities.

- ARPA's 2022 Nonprofit Survey Results. The ARPA Department surveyed the Nonprofit Organizations. Those who provided feedback indicated that the Organization experienced a negative economic impact due to COVID-19. Based on the response and comparison of requested expenses to that which is eligible in the **Final Rule**, it was determined that reimbursement for costs such as rent, utilities, and software would assist the Organization with their financial recovery.
- Serves Disproportionately Impacted Low-income Households and Populations, Impacted Nonprofits that experienced a negative impact, and Disproportionally Impacted Nonprofits operating in Qualified Census Tracts
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$463,193.13.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data.

Performance Report

- This grant assisted 14 Nonprofit.
- The aggregate of the grant awards is \$463,193.13.
- This grant opportunity is closed, and all beneficiaries have been awarded.

Project: 1.11 TI - Transformational Impacts - Youth Employment Program

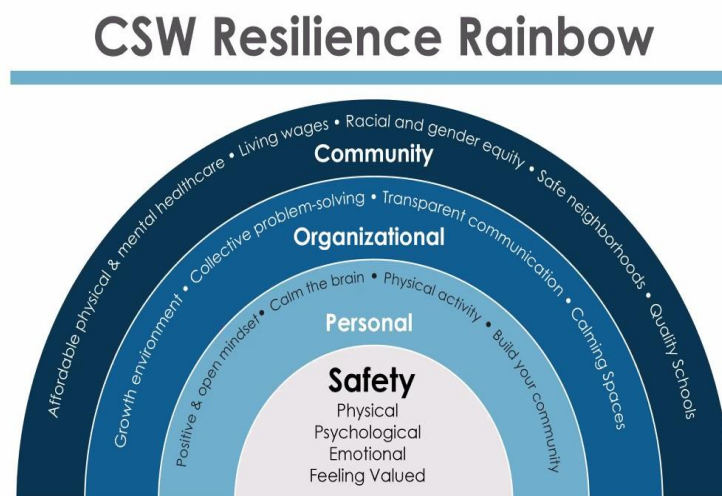
Funding Amount: \$389,772.57

Project Expenditure Category: 1 – Public Health – 1.11-Community Violence Interventions

Project Overview

Exposure to Community Violence can be considered an adverse childhood experience (ACE). Studies have shown that Youth with an increased number of ACEs often experience issues with work performance later in life.

The Corporation for a Skilled Workforce (CSW) Resilience Rainbow (pictured below) “illustrates three levels of resilience-building: individual, organizational, and community-based. In all three spheres, each of us has opportunities and obligations in helping each other to build resilience. The pot of gold at the center of this rainbow is safety. Physical, psychological, emotional safety and feeling valued are the foundation for our resiliency” - Vickie Choitz is the Director of Trauma and Resilience at Work.



Lack of Youth employment trainings and opportunities during a critical period of development becomes a barrier to education, important resources, and equitable economic outcomes. Providing trauma informed and trauma responsive support for young people who experience ACEs is imperative to building resilience.

Since 1994, the Rockland County Youth Bureau has administered the Youth Employment Program (YEP) a workforce preparation initiative that provides employment training and job placement to eligible youth. The program's purpose is to help youth aged 14-24 gain invaluable life skills so that they can be professionally prepared and advanced for life's hurdles. The Youth Bureau operates on the principles of positive youth development. This framework focuses on strengths and positive outcomes, youth voice, and engagement, strategies that involve youth, long-term commitment, community involvement, and collaboration.

Eligible youth submit the YEP application and are then contacted for an interview with program staff. During the interview process, youth are assessed for job readiness. Youth deemed

ready for employment are placed directly with one of our employers. Young people requiring job training are invited to participate in our T.E.E.N Works program and other job readiness training workshops.

The Youth Bureau also relies on our community partners and employers to create positive developmental relationships with our young people. Developmental relationships are created by expressing care, challenging growth, providing support, sharing power, and expanding possibilities for young people.

Traditionally, The County's YEP was funded through the *New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance* through the *Department of Social Services'* SYEP (Summer Youth Employment) opportunity and was offered from May 1 – September 30 for young people (aged 14-24) who met TANF qualifications.

Based on years of feedback and experience, the Youth Bureau determined that the YEP participants would benefit from year-round employment opportunities. At the time of this determination, the Youth Bureau did not have the funds within their budget to expand the YEP to a year-round program.

From October 1, 2022, to May 1, 2023, ARPA Funds were used to pay for the salaries of the YEP participants who were employed by County Departments. Starting with County Departments was the appropriate way to begin the deployment of the pilot expansion as it allowed the Youth Bureau the opportunity to prepare financial logistics, recruit additional employers and YEP applicants, and ensure their administrative staff had the tools necessary for a potential influx of YEP participants.

- **Link:** <https://www.rocklandcountyny.gov/departments/youth-bureau/youth-employment-programs>

Goal

- Providing an opportunity for year-round Youth Employment would help to prevent inequities in public health outcomes by reducing exposure to community violence and promoting safe environments in communities, especially those disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Through an MOU, ARPA and the Youth Bureau agreed to pilot the expansion of the YEP from seasonal to year-round. These funds could also be used to enhance the equity of the YEP by offering the opportunity to young people that do not meet the TANF qualifications that are imposed by the State.

Use of Evidence

- A 2022 publication by the U.S Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration states: “*“Community violence interventions” encompass a broad array of employment, economic, and social programs, including elements such as community outreach and mentorship, violence interruption and crisis management, group violence*

intervention, hospital-based violence intervention, school-based programs, and individualized wraparound services – in addition to job training and skills building.

- i. Employment and training services targeted to adults, dislocated workers, and youth, as well as programs designed for formerly incarcerated individuals and those at-risk of committing or being a victim of violence, support more than the individual participants; over the long term they also support communities in addressing the gun violence epidemic affecting the country. They do this by addressing factors underpinning social determinants of violence, including inefficient labor markets and/or poor access to jobs, education, housing, and health care; poverty-related scarcity of resources such as healthy food, safe outdoor spaces, and educational experiences; and systemic issues such as racism and discrimination.*
 - ii. Participation in youth employment programs can reduce involvement in violence by up to 45%.*
 - iii. Critical among employment services are career exploration and counseling services, work experiences including summer employment and pre-apprenticeships, mentoring, and the provision of supportive services. Research shows these services to be particularly effective in reducing violent activity involvement when delivered during “out-of-school” time (i.e., non-school hours)”.*
- Serves Disproportionately Impacted Low-income Households and Populations, Impacted Nonprofits that experienced a negative impact, and Disproportionally Impacted Nonprofits operating in Qualified Census Tracts
 - Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$389,772.57
 - Please see **Use of Evidence** for additional evidence-based data.

Performance Report

- \$389,772.57 in ARPA Funds were used to reimburse the Youth Bureau for the youth payroll expenses from January 1, 2024, to April 30, 2024.
- This reimbursement opportunity is closed.

Project: 1.11 – CGBB – Community Gun Buy Backs

Funding Amount: \$15,635.20

Project Expenditure Category: 1 – Public Health – 1.11-Community Violence Interventions

Project Overview

U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy issued a landmark Surgeon General’s Advisory on Firearm Violence, declaring firearm violence in America to be a public health crisis, and issuing an advisory (<https://www.hhs.gov/surgeongeneral/priorities/firearm-violence/index.html>) outlining the devastating and far-reaching consequences that firearm violence poses to the health and well-being of the country.

Rockland County Sheriff Louis Falco publicly advised that "removing illegally owned guns from the streets makes the public safer". Sheriff Falco also stated “Senseless gun violence continues to plague our county, state, and the entire nation, any firearms that we can remove from our streets can potentially prevent them from being used in criminal and other violent acts that negatively impact our communities."

In 2024, Rockland County had several headlines in the newspapers involving crimes with firearms. Tragically, two of these headlines were cases of murder/suicide. The other headlines ranged from victims being injured via firearms to lives lost by firearms. To date, there have been Forty-five (45) arrests made for firearm possession and Twenty-one (21) reported shooting/shots fired incidents in 2024.

To facilitate reducing the number of guns in circulation, promote community safety and violence prevention, have a positive impact on public health, and garner trust between community and law enforcement, the County of Rockland's Sheriff Department implemented the Gun Buy Back Program.

The two most recent gun buyback events the Sheriff Department has hosted has resulted in over 100 guns being taken off the street. The guns have included, assault rifles, handguns, rifles, shotguns, and antique or non-working guns. Firearms must be transported unloaded and in the trunk of a vehicle.

Guns are turned in anonymously, no identification is required, and no questions asked. Payments for surrendered guns will be made by pre-paid gift cards under the following payment schedule:

- Assault Rifles: \$250.00
- Handguns: \$150.00
- Rifles or Shotguns: \$75.00
- Non-Working or Antique Guns: \$25.00

Goal

- To facilitate reducing the number of guns in circulation, promote community safety and violence prevention, have a positive impact on public health, and garner trust between community and law enforcement, SLFRF funds were used to hold two gun buyback programs throughout the County of Rockland.

Use of Evidence

- The Gun Buy Back program's mission is to reduce the number of guns in circulation and decrease the number of gun-related crimes in the County. As noted in the Final Rule, the COVID-19 Pandemic exacerbated pre-existing issues pertaining to community violence. According to the NYS DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES' County Crime Rates Reports, the County of Rockland experienced an increase in Violent Crimes with Firearm from 2020 to 2021 during the height of the Pandemic.
- Two Gun Buy Back programs were previously held with over 100 guns surrendered.
- Gun Buy Backs have been held across the state as part of an attempted law enforcement crackdown on gun-involved violence and crime, authorities have said.
- Gun violence is purportedly dropping across New York so far in 2025, according to Gov. Kathy Hochul's Office and the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, known as DCJS.
- Following record-low shootings reported in 2024, shootings declined 9% and victims of gun violence decreased 15% from January 1, 2025, through April 30, compared to the same period last year, according to DCJS.
- According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, the murder rate in New York declined by 8% from 2023 to 2024. Mortality data shows that New York has the second-lowest homicide rate of the top 15 most populous states and the lowest homicide rate of the top 10 states.
- Serves Impacted General Public, Disproportionately Impacted Low-income Households and Populations, Impacted Nonprofits that experienced a negative impact, and Disproportionally Impacted Nonprofits operating in Qualified Census Tracts
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$15,635.20.

Performance Report

- 114 weapons were removed from the streets during two buyback events in Haverstraw and Spring Valley.
- The Rockland Sheriff's Office reported 20 weapons surrendered on Thursday, June 5, in conjunction with the Spring Valley and Ramapo police departments, the District Attorney's Office, and other law enforcement agencies.
- On Saturday, June 7, 2025, the Rockland District Attorney's Office and Haverstraw police reported the surrender of 94 assorted weapons, including 65 handguns, eight assault rifles, and 21 rifles or shotguns. District Attorney Thomas Walsh declared the buyback a "great success."

Project: 2.22 SUP - Rockland Riverway Trail - Feasibility Study

Funding amount: \$216,966.00

Project Expenditure Category: 2 – Negative Economic Impact – 2.22 Strong Health Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

Project Overview

A Feasibility Study for the Rockland Riverway Trail has been completed. The Feasibility Study is the first phase of a County- wide, all-encompassing project to improve the built environment. Defined by the CDC as all the physical parts of where we love and work (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, open spaces, and infrastructure), the built environment influences a person's level of physical activity).

The proposed project will attach a walking and bicycling path, which is also handicapped accessible, for persons walking, bicycling or in wheelchairs from the southernmost portion of Rockland County (Piermont, NY) to the northern most portion of Rockland County (Stony Point, NY), along or near the Hudson River whenever possible.

The study determined that the Rockland Riverway Trail is feasible and will have significant positive impacts on the promotion of healthy activities, education, and will expand accessibility within the County. The Rockland Riverway Trail will also assist in improving our economic development and supporting our small businesses.

As stated in the **Final Rule**: *“The final rule includes enumerated eligible uses in disproportionately impacted communities for developing neighborhood features that promote improved health and safety outcomes, such as parks, green spaces, recreational facilities, sidewalks, pedestrian safety features like crosswalks, projects that increase access to healthy foods, streetlights, neighborhood cleanup, and other projects to revitalize public spaces”.*

Goal

- To evaluate the existing infrastructure and identify low activity areas to determine potential Social Determinants of Health and stressing a Crime Prevention through Environmental Design, SLFRF funds were used for a feasibility study to ensure safety and accessibility for all.
- As summarized in the Feasibility Study *“The objectives of the trail were established early in the process as follows:*
 - *Support the health and quality of life for Rockland County residents by maximizing access to recreation, the outdoors and active transportation.*
 - *Explore opportunities to enhance connectivity between Rockland County communities and the surrounding counties within the Hudson Valley.*
 - *Become an engine for the County's economic development and tourism.*
 - *Enhance the public realm by highlighting stories of local history and culture, as well as environmental sustainability”.*
 - The deliverable of the Feasibility Study was to determine if and how these objectives could be obtained.

Use of Evidence

- Through retrospective meta-analysis, quantitative and qualitative assessment, and ongoing community outreach, the ARPA department identified the need for accessible, well-maintained, and safe open spaces. The addition of new and upgrades to existing open spaces expands the opportunity for outdoor recreation while promoting health and safety in our neighborhoods.
- The Study itself is its own evidence-based report.
- Serves Disproportionally Impacted Low Income Households and populations, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, and Impacted General Public
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$216,966.00
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data.

Performance Report

- The study is now complete.
- As concluded in the Feasibility Study *“The work undertaken for this study has shown clearly that the Rockland Riverway Trail is feasible. This conclusion is based on the following main arguments:*
 1. *Strong interest by the community for the trail*
 2. *High demand for this type of infrastructure investment*
 3. *Significant economic and health benefits*
 4. *Large segments of the Trail that already exist, and are ready to be upgraded*

Even though the study has identified issues and obstacles in terms of community concerns, design challenges in relation to the interactions with the local roadway system, magnitude of the investment and funding requirements, the length and structure of this project does allow for a gradual implementation that is aligned with the available funding and resolution of local impediments. The phasing of this project will demonstrate the real benefits and will alleviate some of the local concerns related to the negative expectations of the trail. It will allow the trail design to grow and adjust to the needs and demands that arise in the future, rather than being based on current perceptions. The potential to enhance the existing trail segments in terms of their resiliency, storm water management and maintenance provisions will be a great benefit to those agencies that today struggle with these obligations.”

Project: RR 004 - Community and Affordable Housing Needs Assessment

Funding amount: \$120,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 6.1-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Located just 30 miles north of New York City, Rockland County is a vibrant and historically significant community within the Hudson Valley. Rockland is made up of 5 towns and 18 villages, each with its own planning and land use approval standards. The County's most recent population estimate is 339,227 residents. Rockland County is known for top-notch public schools, and a high quality of life.

Treasury has determined that affordable housing initiatives are paramount to build a more equitable and sustainable future for all. Conducting a housing assessment is a fundamental step towards creating inclusive, sustainable communities. Furthermore, it is emphasized that all initiatives should be data driven, underscoring the necessity of conducting a thorough housing assessment before embarking on any affordable housing projects. By investing time and resources in this critical phase, it lays the foundation for the successful development of future affordable housing projects. The Assessment highlights understanding local needs, optimizing resource allocation, mitigating risk, promoting sustainability, and engaging stakeholders. The recommendations presented in the ***Community and Affordable Housing Needs Assessment*** outline numerous initiatives that would propel the County to a new level of reasonable and proportional solutions for the existing affordable housing crisis.

Goals

- The Consultant will be responsible for collecting data to conduct the Rockland County Community and Affordable Housing needs assessment for the Rockland County Community Development Division. The firm will be required to complete the following tasks and submit reports, as per a schedule agreed upon by the RCCD.
- Reports were submitted to the County of Rockland Community Development Representative in an agreed upon timeframe. Reports contained a minimum of the below information outlined:
 - **Report #1:** An Inventory and Analysis of the County's existing housing stock, both at an aggregated County total and by each municipality, with the most current data, by:
 - a. Tenure (rental/ownership)
 - b. Affordability
 - i. Available for up to 30% AMI; 50% AMI; 60% AMI, 80% AMI, 100% AMI
 - ii. ETPA buildings/units
 - iii. Housing Choice Voucher allocations
 - iv. Public Housing Authority units
 - v. Workforce Housing
 - c. Units with Periods of Affordability that will be ending through December 31, 2032

- d. Designated Special Needs units (e.g. Section 202 units, elderly/handicapped)
 - e. Foreclosures
 - f. Sales and Rent trends since 2012 including pricing and vacancy/availability
 - g. Residential Building Permits issued
 - h. Financing sources used (LIHTC, HHAP, 202, etc.)
 - i. Developers – non-profit and for-profit that have developed units
- **Report # 2:** An analysis of the County’s households, both at an aggregated County total and by each municipality, with the most current data by:
 - a. Affordability
 - i. Earning up to 30% AMI; 50% AMI; 80% AMI, 100% AMI
 - ii. Homeless families and individuals
 - iii. Households receiving Rental Assistance
 - iv. Households residing in subsidized housing
 - v. Households residing in supportive housing
 - vi. Percentage of renters paying more than 50% of their income toward their housing costs
 - vii. Percentage of homeowners paying more than 50% of their income toward their housing costs
 - viii. Households commuting-in to and out of Rockland County
 - b. Seniors – Aged 55+
 - c. Disabled persons
- **Report # 3:** Analysis of the “gap” of existing housing opportunities with the housing need.
- **Report # 4:** Analysis of the particular needs of priority groups (unmet housing and service needs, gaps in service, etc.) identified for HOME-ARP funding, including evaluation of the size and demographic composition of the qualifying populations listed below:
 - a. Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5
 - b. At risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5
 - c. Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD
 - d. Other Populations where providing supportive services or assistance under section 212(a) of NAHA (42 U.S.C. 12742(a)) would prevent the family’s homelessness or would serve those at greatest risk of housing instability. HUD defines these populations as individuals and households who do not qualify under any of the populations listed above.
- **Report # 5:** Best practice recommendations for Rockland to consider helping meet existing housing needs, and suggestions on the best uses for its HUD funding generally, and HOME-ARP funding specifically.

- **Meetings:** The consultant must be available for up to six (6) meetings with the County Staff and shall include the cost of these meeting in the fees. The first meeting will be immediately after the contract is executed to review data sources to be used and data to be provided by County departments. The proposal must also contain plans for extensive public meetings or focus groups with the County's stakeholders (towns/villages, not-for-profits, school districts, and community-based organizations) and community engagement as part of their work.

The firm must consult with the following organizations:

- a. Continuum of Care (COC) serving the County's geographic area.
- b. Homeless service providers.
- c. Domestic violence service providers.
- d. Public housing agency(ies) (PHA) serving the County's geographic area.
(must include all PHAs (including statewide or regional PHAs) serving the County)
- e. Public agencies that address the needs of qualifying populations.
- f. Public or private organizations that address civil rights and fair housing.
- g. Public or private organizations that address the needs of persons with disabilities.

Use of Evidence

- In addition to the County's Housing Needs Assessment, Patterns for Progress completes an annual Out of Reach (OOR) report that examines the affordability of rental housing throughout the nine counties they serve in the Hudson Valley. Rockland is among those Counties. According to their 2023 OOR summary *"the report is largely based on data published annually by the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC), which compares fair market rents (FMR) with average renter wages. This year's report continues to underscore an irrefutable truth: even with long work hours or multiple jobs, most renters in our region struggle to pay for rent and modest living costs. Over the past five years, rents across our region have increased by anywhere between 25-45%. With inflation hitting a 40-year peak in 2022, the basic costs of living – food, transportation, healthcare, and more – are also out of reach"*.
- The Assessment itself its own evidence-based report.
- Serves Disproportionally Impacted Low Income Households and populations, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, and Impacted General Public
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$120,000.00
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data.

Performance Report

- The County of Rockland, through its Office of Community Development issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) in a continuing effort to get a current picture of the community and affordable housing needs within Rockland County.

- Patterns for Progress was selected as the consultant for this project.
- Through their research, Patterns for Progress identified the following summary of needs:
 - Affordable homeownership opportunities, especially for historically disadvantaged communities.
 - Increased housing options affordable to very-low, low-moderate, and middle-income households.
 - Senior housing with a focus on condominiums and multigenerational communities.
 - Honor existing social networks and consider proximity to community access when planning new housing developments.
 - Accessible and affordable housing for residents with physical and cognitive disabilities.
 - Supportive services and supportive housing for individuals with mental health needs.
 - Homeless, Transitional, and Emergency housing
 - Increased production of multifamily housing.
 - Housing Stability and Safety promoted by Uniform Code Enforcement coupled with Anti-displacement strategies.
 - Well planned housing for the growing Hasidic and Latino communities.
 - Affordable housing and protections for foreign-born residents.
 - Maintenance funding for Public Housing.
 - Education around tenant and landlord rights and responsibilities.

Project: 1.8 RRR - Reviving Rockland Restaurant Grant Program

Funding Amount: \$459,270.16

Project Expenditure Category: 1-Public Health – 1.8 COVID-19 Assistance to Small Businesses

Project Overview

Restaurants in particular have experienced and continue to experience an undesirable outlook as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many restaurants may have faced periods of closure, reduced capacity, and saw declining revenues as customers were unable to dine-in. These closures also had significant negative impacts on restaurant employment and the economy.

The County of Rockland has established the Reviving Rockland Restaurants Grant Program to combat the negative economic impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. As restaurants began to reopen in June 2020, they were limited to only 25% capacity indoors, further exacerbating the economic stress of recovering from the financial hardships imposed by the pandemic. In an effort to safely recoup the additional customer capacity base and bring them back to safe operations, outdoor dining became a staple for our restaurants. The addition of outdoor dining brought back Rockland-based employees, comforted loyal patrons to return, and kept restaurants from closing. Unfortunately, in order to operate outdoor dining, additional expenses were incurred, perpetuating the economic strain to remain open. The Reviving Rockland Restaurant Grant Program will aid our restaurants to offset increased outdoor expenses and maintain sustainable outdoor dining opportunities. Individual grants to reimburse past expenses or fund future expenses ranging from \$5,000.00 - \$25,000.00 will be awarded to select applicants who meet the eligibility requirements below and will continue until the total grant amount is expended.

Eligible entities are Rockland-based businesses that are not permanently closed, have the capacity for outdoor dining, and include businesses where the public or patrons assemble for the primary purpose of being served food or drink, including but not limited to:

- Restaurants
- Food stands/food trucks
- Bars, saloons, lounges, taverns
- Bakeries
- Delis
- Cafes
- Breweries, wineries, and/or microbreweries
- Other similar places of business in which the public or patrons assemble for the primary purpose of being served food or drink

- Link: <https://rocklandgov.com/departments/county-executive/reviving-and-rebuilding-rockland/grants/#RRRGP> – This grant opportunity is no longer accepting new applications.

Goal

- To provide reimbursement assistance to restaurants who shifted their operation to include outdoor dining to increase capacity and promote safe return for their customers and employees, while also recovering financial profit loss. Through this program, restaurants would be given a sustainable opportunity to continue outdoor dining as a permanent option.

as well as buffer the financial burden of the winter months resulting in the closed use of outdoor spaces.

Use of Evidence

- In May 2020, US employment in restaurants was 37% lower than in May 2019, a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. 54% of NY restaurant operators said it was unlikely their restaurant will still be in business six months from now, if there are no additional relief packages from the federal government. This assistance also safely returns Rockland based, low/mod income employees back to the workforce, ensuring financial stability in their home.
- Serves Impacted Small Businesses that experienced a negative economic impact and Disproportionately Impacted Low-income Households and Populations
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$459,270.16
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- This grant has assisted 26 Restaurants.
- The aggregate of the grant awards is \$459,270.16
- This grant opportunity is closed, and all beneficiaries have been awarded.

Project: 2.34 FSE - Food Security Equipment Reimbursement Grant

Funding Amount: \$0.00 – “Cancelled”

Project Expenditure Category: 2 – Negative Economic Impact – 2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

Project Overview

The Food Security Equipment Reimbursement Grant aims to provide reimbursements of funds to organizations for pantry related equipment expenses that encourage capacity building by increasing and improving the services pantries provide to their communities. This capacity building will ultimately cultivate a more resilient network of food pantries, which can improve their ability to weather future public health emergencies.

Individual reimbursement grants of up to \$20,000.00 will be awarded to select organizations who meet the eligibility requirements. Awarded organizations may be reimbursed for funds used for eligible equipment expenses incurred beginning January 1, 2024, and until the application submission period closed on June 30, 2024.

Eligible expenses include equipment expenses related to the following pantry functions:

- Food storage, Food distribution, Pantry Related Software
- Link: <https://www.gotomygrants.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/e646d227-a407-47b4-95e2-21ea13ff6d5b> - This grant is closed and no longer accepting new applications.

Goal

- To provide reimbursement funds to organizations for pantry related equipment expenses that encourage capacity building by increasing and improving the services pantries provide to their communities.

Use of Evidence

- According to a November 2023 Rockland Communities Against Hunger study, there were approximately 77,000 individuals served by Rockland County food pantries in September 2023, which is up by 11.6% from 69,000 individuals served during the height of the COVID-19 negative economic impact of Covid-19 pandemic. In that same study, food pantries reported funding for equipment related to food pantry functions being one of the top needs of food pantries in Rockland County.
- Serves Disproportionately Impacted Low-income Households and populations, Impacted Nonprofits that experienced a negative economic impact, and Disproportionately Impacted Nonprofits operating in Qualified Census Tracts.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data.

Performance Report

- This grant opportunity is closed. No awards were granted.

Project: 6.1 RR – 001 - Land Acquisition - Eberling Property

Funding Amount: \$1,453,750.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 6.1-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The pandemic underscored the importance of safe, affordable housing and healthy neighborhood environments to public health and economic outcomes. In response to community engagement and surveys, the most requested use of ARPA Funds has been to secure affordable housing options for all Towns and Villages throughout the County.

Rockland County faced an unprecedented scenario in 2020 as the Coronavirus Pandemic swept across the nation and the state of New York disrupting economic activity. The Pandemic resulted in an increased demand for affordable housing.

The funding will be used for the appraisal and acquisition of 4 Acres of Land, on 36 New Hempstead Road, New City, NY. The property would be purchased on behalf of Rockland Housing Action Coalition, Inc. The Rockland Housing Action Coalition (RHAC), Inc. will be responsible for the development of no less than six (6) affordable housing units for homeownership on this property.

RHAC will complete a Phase I Environmental Study. They will also secure insurance for the property. In addition, RHAC will hire an engineer to subdivide the property into a minimum of 6 building lots. After the engineer completes the subdivision/site plan, RHAC and RHAC's engineer will attend a Town of Clarkstown Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting. At the meeting the TAC committee members will review the subdivision/site plan.

Goal

- The subject property would be acquired to promote affordable Essential Worker and Community Workforce housing. A percentage of this property would also be designated as open space to emphasis on positive health outcomes through urban green space opportunities. The acquisition would maintain an importance on the promotion of healthier populations, healthier outcomes, healthier economy, and improved infrastructure for the current and future residents.

Use of Evidence

- Under the ***Final Rule***, “Development, repair, and operation of affordable housing and services or programs to increase long-term housing security” is an enumerated eligible use to respond to impacts of the pandemic on households and communities. Treasury continues to strongly encourage the use of SLFRF for affordable housing and has updated this FAQ to promote clarity and administrability in the use of these funds. Affordable housing projects must be responsive and proportional to the harm identified. This standard may be met by affordable housing projects—which may involve large expenditures and capital investments—if the developments increase the supply of long-term affordable

housing for households that experienced associated pandemic impacts under the final rule. (Department of Treasury, Final Rule FAQ, 2024)

- The County of Rockland's **Community and Affordable Housing Needs Assessment**.
- Serves Disproportionally Impacted Low Income Households and populations, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, and Impacted General Public
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$1,453,750.00.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- The property was appraised on October 31, 2023. The cost of the appraisal was \$3,750.00
- The closing of the property was on April 25, 2024. The cost of the land was \$1,450,000.00
- The engineer is finalizing the site plan for Eberling Homes.
- The next step is to appear before the Clarkstown Technical Assistance Committee (TAC).

Project: RR 007 - Land Acquisition - 63 S Mountain Road

Funding amount: \$379,824.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement – 6.1-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The pandemic highlighted the importance of open spaces across the country. While many indoor recreation activities were restricted, residents throughout the country chose to spend their time in outdoor areas that remained accessible regardless of lockdown restrictions. Beyond the pandemic, open spaces have a variety of different health benefits that could mitigate the existing disparities in public health outcomes and improve social determinants of health. These benefits include improved air and water quality and increased physical activity. In conjunction with ARPA's Urban Green Space initiatives, it is imperative to preserve open space. The success of these equity-focused investments has the potential to build resilient communities and improve health quality throughout the county.

63 South Mountain Road, New City, NY 10956 was purchased for the preservation of open space.

As defined by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the built environment includes all the physical parts of where people live and work (e.g., neighborhoods, streets, open spaces, buildings, etc.). Research has shown that disparate health outcomes could be attributed to increased risk factors of the built environment (population density, spatial patterns, etc.), placing communities at an increased risk during the pandemic. Aside from the COVID-19 disease itself, the public health impacts of the pandemic include substantial impacts on mental health and public safety challenges, which are also correlated with the built environment.

Goals

- To preserve open space in the County of Rockland.

Performance Report

- 63 South Mountain Road, New City, NY 10956 was purchased for the preservation of open space on September 25, 2024.
- Project is complete.

Project: RR 008 - Land Acquisition - 71 S Mountain Road

Funding amount: \$500,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement – 6.1-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The pandemic highlighted the importance of open spaces across the country. While many indoor recreation activities were restricted, residents throughout the country chose to spend their time in outdoor areas that remained accessible regardless of lockdown restrictions. Beyond the pandemic, open spaces have a variety of different health benefits that could mitigate the existing disparities in public health outcomes and improve social determinants of health. These benefits include improved air and water quality and increased physical activity. In conjunction with ARPA's Urban Green Space initiatives, it is imperative to preserve open space. The success of these equity-focused investments has the potential to build resilient communities and improve health quality throughout the county.

71 South Mountain Road, New City, NY 10956 was purchased for the preservation of open space.

As defined by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the built environment includes all the physical parts of where people live and work (e.g., neighborhoods, streets, open spaces, buildings, etc.). Research has shown that disparate health outcomes could be attributed to increased risk factors of the built environment (population density, spatial patterns, etc.), placing communities at an increased risk during the pandemic. Aside from the COVID-19 disease itself, the public health impacts of the pandemic include substantial impacts on mental health and public safety challenges, which are also correlated with the built environment.

Goals

- To preserve open space in the County of Rockland.

Performance Report

- 71 South Mountain Road, New City, NY 10956 was purchased for the preservation of open space on November 25, 2024.
- Project is complete.

Project: RR 009 - Land Acquisition - 101 Old Route 304

Funding amount: \$1,769,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement – 6.1-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The pandemic highlighted the importance of open spaces across the country. While many indoor recreation activities were restricted, residents throughout the country chose to spend their time in outdoor areas that remained accessible regardless of lockdown restrictions. Beyond the pandemic, open spaces have a variety of different health benefits that could mitigate the existing disparities in public health outcomes and improve social determinants of health. These benefits include improved air and water quality and increased physical activity. In conjunction with ARPA's Urban Green Space initiatives, it is imperative to preserve open space. The success of these equity-focused investments has the potential to build resilient communities and improve health quality throughout the county.

The County purchased the land at 101 Old Route 304, New City, NY 10956 for the preservation of open space.

As defined by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the built environment includes all the physical parts of where people live and work (e.g., neighborhoods, streets, open spaces, buildings, etc.). Research has shown that disparate health outcomes could be attributed to increased risk factors of the built environment (population density, spatial patterns, etc.), placing communities at an increased risk during the pandemic. Aside from the COVID-19 disease itself, the public health impacts of the pandemic include substantial impacts on mental health, which are also correlated with the built environment.

Goals

- To preserve open space in the County of Rockland.

Performance Report

- 101 Old Route 304, New City, NY 10956 was purchased for the preservation of open space on October 31, 2024.
- Project is complete.

Project Inventory – Active Projects

Project: 2.22 RRROS - Rockland Resilient Recreation Grant Program

Funding amount: \$6,649,329.02

Project Expenditure Category: 2 – Negative Economic Impact – 2.22 Strong Health Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

Project Overview

The negative public health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have fallen most severely on economically disadvantaged communities, exacerbating pre-existing disparities in health outcomes. The built environment, and risk factors associated with them, play a key role in determining public health outcomes. As defined by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the built environment includes all the physical parts of where people live and work (e.g., neighborhoods, streets, open spaces, buildings, etc.). Research has shown that disparate health outcomes could be attributed to increased risk factors of the built environment (population density, spatial patterns, etc.), placing economically disadvantaged communities at an increased risk during the pandemic. Aside from the COVID-19 disease itself, the public health impacts of the pandemic include substantial impacts on mental health and public safety challenges, which are also correlated with the built environment.

The SLFRF program has recognized the connection between the built environment and public health outcomes and has acknowledged the need for investments in the built environment of economically disadvantaged communities. The **Final Rule** includes enumerated eligible uses in disproportionately impacted communities for developing neighborhood features, such as urban green spaces, that promote improved health and safety outcomes. These investments in urban green spaces, including parks, green spaces, and recreational facilities, will directly respond to the disproportionate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic by improving built environments and promoting equitable public health outcomes.

The County of Rockland has established the Rockland Resilient Recreation Grant Program, with ARPA funds, to reduce health inequities in the county by developing and enhancing public urban green spaces in communities that were disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Rockland Resilient Recreation Grant Program will foster coordination between municipalities and nonprofit organizations and maximize the potential of these equity-focused investments in public urban green spaces.

\$6,649,329.02 was available through the Rockland Resilient Recreation Grant Program, which will foster these equity-focused investments in impacted communities. Individual reimbursement grants, ranging from \$5,000 up to \$200,000, will be awarded to local governments to carry out projects that develop or enhance quality public urban green spaces that will be available to all Rockland County residents. The success of these equity-focused investments has the potential to reduce social inequities, expand economic opportunities, build resilient communities, and improve health quality throughout the county.

- Link: <https://rocklandgov.com/departments/county-executive/reviving-and-rebuilding-rockland/grants/#rrrp>

Goal

- Collaboration with municipalities and nonprofits is critical for this program's goal of developing or enhancing accessible public urban green spaces. This reimbursement grant will provide funding to municipalities and nonprofits to partner on projects of equity-focused investments in public urban green spaces to improve the built environment and foster equitable health outcomes for all residents of the county.

Use of Evidence

- Through retrospective meta-analysis, quantitative and qualitative assessment, and ongoing community outreach, the ARPA department identified the need for accessible, well-maintained, and safe open spaces. The addition of new and upgrades to existing open spaces expands the opportunity for outdoor recreation while promoting health and safety in our neighborhoods.
- Serves Disproportionally Impacted Low Income Households and populations, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, and Impacted General Public
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$6,649,329.02.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- This grant is closed to new applications.
- There are 37 approved open space projects throughout the County of Rockland.
 - Total Projects Complete: 16
 - Total Projects in Progress: 21
- The Projects in Progress are anticipated to be completed by Q4 2025 or in Q2 of 2026.

Project: 8 AF SP LHPCM - Stony Point Lowlands Hills Park Climate Mitigation Efforts

Funding Amount: \$259,800.00

Project Expenditure Category: 8-Natural Disasters – 8.12 - Mitigation

Project Overview

In 2020, 2021, and 2022, there were an average of 20 weather and climate disasters each year, compared to an average of 12.8 weather and climate disasters annually from 2010 to 2019. From 2020 to 2022 alone, these natural disasters resulted in devastating damages. The impacts of natural disasters range from loss of life and other consequences for health and safety to destruction of property and infrastructure and disruption of economic activity. The increasing prevalence of natural disasters and corresponding increased costs of responding to and recovering from natural disasters places additional burden on local towns.

Even when individuals and families in an impacted area are not displaced after a natural disaster, they may face significant costs to repair homes to become livable again. Furthermore, the damage caused by natural disasters can cause short-term earnings losses, as it may physically prevent individuals from working, whether due to housing displacement, physical barriers in accessing their place of employment or business, sustained damage to their place of employment or business, or injuries sustained as a result of the natural disaster. Natural disasters also can generate a significant volume of debris and damage buildings and infrastructure that provide critical or essential services to the general public, such as educational, utility, emergency, medical, and other services, creating strains on local governments and other responders.

The U.S. Department of Treasury's Interim Final Rule provides rigid eligible expenditure requirements. Mitigation activities to lessen or avert the threat of a natural disaster and its potential physical or negative economic impacts, including structure elevation, mitigation reconstruction, dry flood proofing, structural retrofitting, non-structure retrofitting, wind retrofit, and infrastructure retrofit are specifically emphasized in the Interim Final Rule. Treasury has explained that mitigation activities may be stand-alone projects that reduce or eliminate the potential impacts of the threat of natural disaster and may also be incorporated into repair or reconstruction projects that address the impacts of a natural disaster.

Lowlands Hills Park (also known as Charles Eccher Park) located at 40 Lowland Hill Road in the Town of Stony Point is a well-loved and frequently utilized park. The park is used regularly by numerous community groups and the public for events, family gatherings, fostering community engagement, enjoyment and appreciation of natural resources and a healthy, active lifestyle. The Park suffered significant flooding during the July 9, 2023, storm event due to an overflow of the Cedar Pond Brook bank. The stormwater and stream overbank flood conveyed debris/sediment, washed away a portion of the park, damaged equipment, destroyed fencing and washed away mulch in the play area.

The location of the park leaves the grounds vulnerable to potential additional damages in future storm events. Park flooding not only makes the park unavailable for use during and immediately after storm events, but for extended periods while clean-up, replacement and

restoration is underway. Enhancing the park's resilience by supporting the Town's Climate Mitigation and Storm Hardening efforts will create a more inviting and inclusive space ensuring long-term access to the park for all.

Goals

- Installation of a retaining wall will prevent future flooding of the Cedar Pond Brook, reduce stream bank erosion and sedimentation and allow for the park to continue providing service to the community without extended disruption.
- The scope of work includes the following tasks:
 - Installation of a retaining wall along the existing stream to prevent further overbank flooding
 - Removal of a fence damaged by flooding and other debris washed into the park
 - Restoration of areas damaged by significant flooding event which occurred in July of 2023, including athletic field space and a playground. The playground will meet all ADA requirements.
 - All disturbed areas will then be topsoiled and seeded.
 - The damaged fence will be replaced and lastly;
 - Mulch will be replaced around the playground area.

Use of Evidence

- On July 11, 2023 - Governor Kathy Hochul has requested federal aid in the cleanup of the Hudson Valley after Sunday's Storm. Many main roads are still closed as debris and destruction scatter the area. ... The extent of the destruction from the slow-moving storm, which pounded the area with up to 8 inches of rain, won't be known until residents and officials can begin surveying the damage. But officials said the storm had already wrought tens of millions of dollars in damage. ... Hochul issued a State of Emergency in response to the conditions throughout Orange County. On Monday, she expanded the State of Emergency to include Rockland County, as well as Clinton, Essex and Oswego counties upstate.
- Serves Disproportionally Impacted Low Income Households and populations, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, and Impacted General Public
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$259,800.00.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- The work for this project is now complete. Site inspections are currently underway.

Project: RR SUP 02 - Rockland Riverway Trail – Design and Engineering Services

Funding Amount: \$6,196,427.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 61-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

It was determined through a year-long Feasibility Study that such a trail is feasible (as described earlier in the *Project Inventory – Completed Projects* section under *Project 2.22: SUP - Rockland Riverway Trail - Feasibility Study*). The conclusion of the Feasibility Study highlighted next steps for the trail:

“The next steps for the Rockland Riverway Trail include a more detailed engineering and design phase that will bring this project to implementation. This design phase will include detailed engineering solutions to the segments (location, cross-section, materiality, etc.) and will include stormwater management practices for each segment. Environmental regulations will need to be addressed and the design of each segment must maximize the safety of all users.

The next engineering phase will also need to address wayfinding, a guidance system that will add significant value to the trail. Branding the trail as a true Rockland infrastructure element should be an important objective of the design and engineering phase. This includes placemaking and wayfinding efforts that prioritize typical Rockland County views and assets and bring the users to important historical sites in the County. The goal should be to use the Riverway Trail as a tool to make local and regional users aware of the extensive assets and hidden treasures in the County.”

The **Rockland Riverway Trail** (formerly known as *Rockland Resilient Path*) will also assist in improving our economic development and supporting our small businesses. As stated in the **Final Rule** “*The Final Rule includes enumerated eligible uses in disproportionately impacted communities for developing neighborhood features that promote improved health and safety outcomes, such as parks, green spaces, recreational facilities, sidewalks, pedestrian safety features like crosswalks, projects that increase access to healthy foods, streetlights, neighborhood cleanup, and other projects to revitalize public spaces*”.

Goals

- As summarized in the Feasibility Study “*The objectives of the trail were established early in the process as follows:*
 - *Support the health and quality of life for Rockland County residents by maximizing access to recreation, the outdoors and active transportation.*
 - *Explore opportunities to enhance connectivity between Rockland County communities and the surrounding counties within the Hudson Valley.*
 - *Become an engine for the County’s economic development and tourism.*
 - *Enhance the public realm by highlighting stories of local history and culture, as well as environmental sustainability”.*
- The deliverable of this Phase of the project is to have the design plans prepared.

Use of Evidence

- Through retrospective meta-analysis, quantitative and qualitative assessment, and ongoing community outreach, the ARPA department identified the need for accessible, well-maintained, and safe open spaces. The addition of new and upgrades to existing open spaces expands the opportunity for outdoor recreation while promoting health and safety in our neighborhoods.
- The Riverway Trail Feasibility Study is its own evidence-based report.
- Serves Disproportionally Impacted Low Income Households and populations, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, and Impacted General Public
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions:
\$6,196,427.00
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data.

Performance Report

- In 2024, preliminary internal meetings occurred, and 10% Plans were in progress.
- Looking ahead to 2025, Public meetings for Community Engagement will be planned and will be announced by Q3 2025.

Project: 1.11 TI 2 – Transformational Impacts Program HAAC Youth After School Enrichment Program

Funding Amount: \$325,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 1 – Public Health – 1.11 Community Violence Interventions

Project Overview

The SLFRF program has recognized the connection between community violence and public health outcomes and encourages communities to use SLFRF funds to address community violence in disproportionately impacted communities as a public health issue.

Preventing and responding to Community Violence is paramount in ensuring a safe built environment. Community Violence is a public health challenge that was exacerbated by the pandemic and has disproportionately impacted low-income communities. Exposure to violence can create serious short-term and long-term harmful effects to health and development, and repeated exposure to violence may be connected to negative health outcomes. Addressing community violence as a public health issue may help prevent and even reduce additional harm to individuals, households, and communities.

Haverstraw is a diverse community that was disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The community was impacted by a high infection and mortality rate throughout pandemic. In addition to the direct health impacts, pre-existing issues with community violence were exacerbated. The Haverstraw African American Connection (HAAC) is dedicated to serving people and making the community the best that it can be. Throughout the year they educate, support, strengthen and uplift the communities they serve through ongoing community service projects. Among many of their initiatives, HAAC offers a Youth Enrichment Program in the heart of Haverstraw.

Link: <https://www.thehaac.com/about-3>

Goal

- There has been a significant challenge to find a safe and supervised place for students to be enriched in their academics as well as physical and mental wellbeing after school hours. The program offers a safe place where children are supervised during the hours where they would potentially be without parental supervision and at-risk for behaviors detrimental to themselves and the community. The children are engaged in positive cultural activities, provided with educational support and meals.
- The After School Enrichment Program was initially developed by HAAC to respond to the needs of the youth and parents during the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic interrupted education and services while adding excess strain on parents, specifically in the low to moderate income communities. As parents and youth were thrust into a new daily routine, most were juggling providing for the families with multiple jobs and deciding on how to adequately care for their children while making ends meet. It is evident that this struggle remains the same in a post-pandemic world for many of the families served.

- Due to the success and dire need of the After School Enrichment Program, HAAC determined that it is paramount to continue these services throughout the summer months while school is no longer in session. The continuation of the program will ensure the safety of the youth participants and youth employees and reduce their exposure to community violence.

Use of Evidence

- Our method will use meta-analysis and evidence-based practices (Community Violence Interrupters) to interrupt the spread of violence by addressing community violence as a public health issue may help prevent and even reduce additional harm to individuals, households, and communities. It is our hope that addressing and healing generational and environmental trauma will help to provide a safe atmosphere and restore a sense of pride for our communities.
- Serves Disproportionately Impacted Low-income Households and Populations, Impacted Nonprofits that experienced a negative impact, and Disproportionally Impacted Nonprofits operating in Qualified Census Tracts
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$325,000.00.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data.

Performance Report

- The HAAC After School Enrichment Program serves approximately **40** young people aged 5-18 and their families.
- During the School year the program provides homework and school support.
- Both during the school year and beyond, they continued to explore cultural, spiritual, and musical enrichment, physical recreation, environmental awareness, and teach life skills. This is achieved through the following:
 - Music and Arts & Crafts Classes
 - Juneteenth Activities
 - Spelling and Mathematics
 - Socialization Skills
 - STEAM Activities
 - Gardening
 - Outings/Field Trips
- The Program also emphasizes the importance of civic duty. The program participants also participate in community service projects including:
 - Community clean ups/
 - Assisting local seniors
 - Backpack giveaways
 - Coat and Clothing giveaways
 - Thankful Thanksgiving
- The HAAC multi-purpose Resource Center on New Main Street in Haverstraw is also home to a window display museum. The young people assist in selecting a topic, researching, creating, and curating the displays. Displays are always impactful and educational, and very much enjoyed by the public who pass by the center.

Project: 1.11 TI 3 – Transformational Impacts Program - Spring Valley Youth Police Program

Funding Amount: \$710,897.63

Project Expenditure Category: 1 – Public Health – 1.11 Community Violence Interventions

Project Overview

Treasury recognizes the importance of comprehensive approaches to challenges like violence. The final rule includes an enumerated eligible use for community violence intervention programs in all communities, not just the disproportionately impacted communities eligible under the interim final rule. Given the increased rate of violence during the pandemic, Treasury has determined that this enumerated eligible use is responsive to the impacts of the pandemic in all communities.

The Youth & Police Program or YPP (formerly Youth & Police Initiative or YPI), is based on a training program created by the Massachusetts-based North American Family Institute to enhance police officers and prosecutors understanding of the beliefs, values, and experiences of local youth, while ensuring that youth develop a genuine regard for the challenges that police officers face on the job.

YPP provides structured dialogue, team building and role-playing scenarios that allow all participants – youth, educators, police and prosecutors – to tackle the real and hard issues of crime prevention and community policing. YPP is an opportunity for Rockland County’s police departments to increase their visibility in their communities and to bring about positive changes in their relationships with local at-risk youth. Every YPP program is adapted to fit the specific needs of the community being served.

The Village of Spring Valley’s Youth and Police Program objective:

- Discuss Social & Political issues and how these issues impact residents of all ages
- Enhance officers’ community policing skills
- Strengthen prosecutors’ knowledge of the community
- Build long-term positive relationships between local police, prosecutors, and Rockland County’s at-risk youth
- Create links to positive, pro-social community resources by having guest speakers come to classes
- Create possibilities for mentorship
- Facilitate ways for youth to learn about career paths in Public Safety

Through their contracted award with the County of Rockland’s ARPA Department, under the *Transformational Impacts* program, SVPD and YPP scaled up their program by collaborating with Collaborative and Restorative Engagement Services (C.A.R.E.S.) in their shared interest to reduce community violence, improve educational outcomes, and improve overall health and wellbeing, especially in our Youth. \$301,225.00 of their total award has been designated for the operational and programs costs for the C.A.R.E.S. program.

Through a pioneering approach that integrates structured mentorship, education, and community engagement C.A.R.E.S. is dedicated to fostering a supportive community through restorative practices and, meaningful engagement. Founded on principles of justice, empathy, and collaboration, we strive to bring transformative change to individuals and the community at large. As an innovative alternative to traditional probation methods, their vision is to collaboratively work with probation systems to reduce recidivism and support the youths' ongoing development as functioning members of the community. C.A.R.E.S. aims to build a solid foundation for a successful future, empowering these young individuals to thrive and contribute positively to their community.

The missions of both organizations perfectly align with the requirements and objectives of the *Transformational Impacts program*.

- Link: <https://villagespringvalley.org/youth-police-initiative/>
- Link: <https://www.caresprograms.com/>

Goal

YPP

- The YPP program is a six-day program that ends with a graduation gathering that includes food, fun and awards. The program does not end at graduation. This program brings people together in a family-like atmosphere that continues to support each other after graduation by continuing communication via group chats along with other bonding activities and events. It is their hope that addressing and healing generational and environmental trauma will help to provide a safe atmosphere and restore a sense of pride for the communities served through their program.
- From the start of the program and through post-graduation activities, the program identifies the root cause of violence in individuals, households, and communities, helps to mediate historic and present conflicts, transform thinking and behaviors of those at the highest risk, change the norms that support violent activity, and provide consistent and accessible support to sustain the positive transformation.

C.A.R.E.S.

Short-Term/Intermediate Goals

1. **Skill Development** - Participants' improvement in skills through pre- and post-program evaluations, focusing on:
 - Communication
 - Attitude
 - Confidence
 - Behavior
 - Civic Duty/Leadership
2. **Reduction in Recidivism Rates** – Reduce the number of repeat offenses by participants within a year of completing the program compared to their historical data before joining the program. Data Source: Local law enforcement and judicial records.

3. **Academic and Attendance Improvements** - Increase percentage of participants who improve their educational standing, measured by grades, school attendance, or completion of educational milestones (e.g., GED completion, high school graduation). This may be evidenced by report cards, teacher evaluations, and guidance counselor reports before and after program participation. Data Source: School reports and educational tracking systems.
4. **Behavioral and Emotional Adjustments** - Improvements in behavioral assessments and mental health evaluations conducted by psychologists or counselors. Data Source: Pre- and post-program psychological evaluations, assessing changes in participants' self-regulation, trust levels, and self-confidence.
5. **Community Engagement** - Increase level of active participation in community service projects and the number of community initiatives started by or involving participants. Data Source: Program activity logs and community feedback.
6. **Employment and Vocational Training Success** – Increase percentage of participants who obtain employment or enroll in vocational training programs within six months of completing C.A.R.E.S.. This metric will only apply to participants who are of legal working age in accordance with NYS Department of Labor law. Data Source: Employment records, self-reporting by participants, and follow-up surveys.

Long-Term Goals

1. **Systemic Collaboration** - Establishment and maintenance of partnerships with local educational, juvenile justice, and child welfare systems. Measured by the number of collaborative projects and shared initiatives launched annually.
2. **Positive Youth Development Outcomes** - Longitudinal studies tracking youth development outcomes such as academic achievement, employability, community connections, health behaviors, and resiliency. This can include follow-ups with participants 1-, 3-, and 5-years post-program.
3. **Long-Term Stability and Self-Sufficiency** - Stability in housing, continuous employment, and absence of social service interventions one-year post-program. Data Source: Follow-up interviews, social service records, and housing stability reports.
4. **Reduction in Community Violence** - Annual statistics on community violence incidents involving teens and young adults, comparing rates before and after the implementation of C.A.R.E.S. Surveys on community safety perceptions before and after program rollout.

Use of Evidence

- Our method will use meta-analysis and evidence-based practices (Community Violence Interrupters) to interrupt the spread of violence by addressing community violence as a public health issue may help prevent and even reduce additional harm to individuals, households, and communities. It is our hope that addressing and healing generational and environmental trauma will help to provide a safe atmosphere and restore a sense of pride for our communities.

- Serves Disproportionately Impacted Low-income Households and Populations, Impacted Nonprofits that experienced a negative impact, and Disproportionally Impacted Nonprofits operating in Qualified Census Tracts
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$710,897.63 (both YPP and C.A.R.E.S services).
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data.

Performance Report

YPP continues to be a transformative initiative for Rockland County youth. Their collaboration with C.A.R.E.S. will further enhance this initiative by expanding access, deepening impact, and investing in the community.

2024 YPP Highlights:

- In 2024, the program expanded both the quantity and variety of programming offered, reaching more youth than ever and delivering high-quality, hands-on learning opportunities that stretch beyond the classroom.
- Over **140** youths engaged across 2023, 2024, and 2025.
 - The 2024 calendar featured over 40 diverse activities, ranging from sports events and cultural outings to career exploration and community service. These experiences were intentionally curated to build life skills, expose youth to new career paths, and encourage responsible citizenship.
 - Sports & Cultural Exposure: Reinforced themes of teamwork, discipline, and cultural appreciation.
 - Life Skills & Health Education: Vaping awareness, marijuana education, mental health events, and culinary skills via "Look Who's Cooking" provided practical knowledge and tools for well-being.
 - College & Career Exploration: Trips to Binghamton University, the FBI, and multiple job fairs opened pathways for youth to explore future possibilities.
 - Community Service: Spring Valley clean-up, toy/clothing giveaways, and senior center visits reinforced empathy, service, and leadership.
 - Creative & Emotional Development: Vision Board Workshop and the Social Media & Mental Health session promoted reflection, digital responsibility, and goal-setting.

C.A.R.E.S

- In 2024, preliminary planning and budgeting meetings took place with YPP, and an MOU was established.
- C.A.R.E.S. had a very successful kickoff in Q2 of 2025. Training began on Sunday, April 6th. All 11 Mentors (Police Officers) and both Supervising Sergeants were in attendance, and the session went exceptionally well. The support and guidance from the sergeants, along with S.T.A.R. T.A.C Consultant's involvement, were instrumental in setting the tone. The Mentors asked insightful questions and demonstrated a strong understanding of the C.A.R.E.S. vision and goals.
- The Supervising Sergeants worked closely with the C.A.R.E.S. Program Administrator to thoughtfully pair Officers (Mentors) with five (5) youth Mentees. The Mentees also

completed “Getting to Know You” surveys that highlighted important, personal information and preferences.

- In April, the Program Administrator, Mentors, Mentees, and their parents met to discuss their vision and establish SMART goals.
- Throughout April and May, the Mentors met the Mentees and took them on various outings such as the gym, food truck festivals, vision making workshops, open mat wrestling, outdoor recreations, job fairs, bowling, community service events, and more. One Mentor even assisted his Mentee in a "Prom-posal".
- The C.A.R.E.S. Administrative Team met individually with each Mentee for a one-hour check-ins in May and June. These sessions are designed to gather feedback and assess the Mentee’s engagement in the program.
- In the beginning of June, the C.A.R.E.S. Administrative Team met individually with each Mentor for a one-hour check-in. These sessions are designed to gather feedback and input on ways they can continue to improve the program, while also providing a few important updates and clarifications to help streamline their operations.
- On June 9th, two of the Mentees were recognized during the Spring Valley High School Scholarship Ceremony, followed by prom on June 11th. These celebrations provided meaningful closure to the school year for the seniors, and C.A.R.E.S. was proud to support them throughout these important moments.
- One of the highlights of in June was the prom picture event, that was planned and facilitated by a Mentee and supported by his Mentor, and C.A.R.E.S. The Mentee took note that many of his peers do not have a backdrop that they are proud of for prom pictures. This young man is also a local volunteer fire fighter. He partnered with his fire department to offer his peers and their families the opportunity to take pictures in a safe location with a beautiful landscape. A Sergeant also shared his skills to film the event and captured these monumental moments for the mentees. It was a great success, with families and students expressing gratitude for the professional-quality keepsakes. This event demonstrates the Mentee’s understanding of his community needs and his desire to help better his community.
- At the end of June, the feedback from the Mentors and Mentees was compiled by the C.A.R.E.S. Administrative Team and presented to the Chief of Spring Valley Police Department who oversees both the YPP and C.A.R.E.S initiatives, and the ARPA Department.
- The officer Mentors have continued to build meaningful connections with their Mentees through purposeful outings focused on mentorship, community engagement, and future planning.

Project: RR 005 - Youth Transportation Vehicles for Transformational Impacts

Funding Amount: \$140,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6 – Revenue Replacement – 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Through the Transformational Impacts Program, and root cause analysis, it was determined that transportation has historically prevented disproportionately impacted Youth from participating in various opportunities. Adolescence is a pivotal time for opportunity and growth. Every young person should be able to experience this period of development and discovery without burden.

Unfortunately, many of these young people are frequently exposed to community violence in some way. The obstacle of transportation prevents these young people from accessing positive experiences and exacerbates inequities in public health outcomes. It is imperative to afford disproportionately impacted Youth opportunities to see the world beyond their built environment, promote safe communities, and foster relationships with local Law Enforcement.

The initiatives for the use of these vehicles will range from Youth Transportation to programs, educational opportunities, outings, and community events.

Goal

- To afford disproportionately impacted Youth opportunities to see the world beyond their built environment, promote safe communities, and foster relationships with local Law Enforcement.

Performance Report

- In 2024, a request for bid was completed. 502 vendors were notified of the solicitation and two vendors responded. Of the two responding vendors, Nielsen Ford of Morristown was the lowest and most responsible bidder. The County of Rockland has purchased from Nielsen on numerous occasions and found them extremely reliable as they supply law enforcement vehicles for not only Rockland County but NJ State Police and various NJ law Enforcement agencies. In accordance with Uniform Guidance and the sustainability requirements set forth by Treasury, these vehicles will be housed, maintained, and monitored by the Sheriff's Department.
- In Q1 2025, the vehicles were received. They are not used immediately as they had to be fully inspected and fitted for safety.
- As of Q2 2025, the vehicles were ready for use. They have not been used yet but it is anticipated that requests for use will begin in Q3 of 2025.

Project: 1.12 911DS - 9-1-1 Dispatch Software

Funding Amount: \$616,959.00

Project Expenditure Category: 1-Public Health - 1.12-Mental Health Services

Project Overview

The County of Rockland's Sheriff Communications Division procured an enhanced, effective, efficient, and comprehensive emergency medical dispatch system for its residents and visiting population. This includes people experiencing mental illness, behavioral crisis, or emotional disturbance. The Division seeks to ensure the safest and most effective outcome for resolving these types of incidents, including the safety of the victim(s), responder(s), and the general public.

The contract was awarded to Priority Dispatch for their Priority Dispatch software and maintenance. The dispatch system will provide expert system priority dispatch along with integrated two-way CAD (ProQA) software. Priority Dispatch will in concert with their Automated Quality Assurance Dispatch case review software (AQUA). One enhancement in particular is the implementation of the International Academy of Emergency Dispatch (IAED) call-processing program. The IAED would develop the option of "triaging down" certain behavioral health incidents, so that they can be handled (potentially) by more appropriate resources, such as 9-8-8 or the County's Behavioral Health Response Team (BHRT). IAED continues to implement a number of new programs that are specifically designed to facilitate the diversion of 9-1-1 calls to 9-8-8 or behavioral resources when safe and feasible.

At present, 60% of all New York counties are utilizing the system and have demonstrated improved results. It is imperative that the County align with IAED for this project, because the product allows for the collaboration of both mental health clinicians and emergency services leaders to determine the best practices for handling these calls. The County does not have access to the national data and subject experts that IAED brings to bear with their programs.

Additionally, with so many agencies in the United States using IAED for call processing, it is anticipated that the IAED product would allow us to better adapt to changes in the 9-8-8 program.

The State and Local Fiscal Recover Fund's Final Rule fully supports the implementation of such a system. *"Services that respond to these [behavioral health] impacts of the public health emergency may include services across the continuum of care, including both acute and chronic care, such as prevention, outpatient treatment, inpatient treatment, crisis care, diversion programs (e.g., from emergency departments or criminal justice system involvement), outreach to individuals not yet engaged in treatment, harm reduction, and supports for long-term recovery (e.g., peer support or recovery coaching, housing, transportation, employment services)."*

Goal

- Mental health symptoms and substance use increased during the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the Mid-Hudson Region Community Health Assessment 2022-2024 report, evidence shows that 64% of Rockland County respondents indicated that their mental health and substance use was highly impacted in the past year. This was ranked as the

most pressing item of the identified health issues in Rockland County for 2022. The dispatch system will provide expert system priority dispatch along with integrated two-way CAD (ProQA) software. Priority Dispatch will in concert with their Automated Quality Assurance Dispatch case review software (AQUA). This linkage to resources can provide increased wellness, stability and safety for individuals and the community.

Use of Evidence

- The ECC's (Emergency Communications Center) utilization of protocol-based call-talking systems has yielded positive outcomes. Early in its adoption, ECC Call Taker Jose demonstrated the effectiveness of the protocols when he successfully assisted a driver experiencing a stuck accelerator. Jose was able to provide step-by-step instructions using the protocol system, enabling the driver to navigate out of traffic and stop their vehicle safely. [...] The thoroughness of these protocols ensures the ECC is prepared to handle any emergency, including active shooter situations. By standardizing instructions and procedures, ECC call takers can ensure a consistent response which is critical for emergencies that generate multiple callers. The protocol system has also made the ECC's work more measurable. In collaboration with the Office of Performance Data and Analytics, the ECC is actively working to further enhance its operations by participating in the City's performance management process. Data is being leveraged to improve performance at an individual, team, and agency-wide level. (<https://sjemed.com/article/97367>)
- Serves Disproportionately Impacted Low-income Households and Populations, Impacted Households, General Public
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$616,959.00.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data.

Performance Report

2024 Completed Actions

- Kickoff meeting was held on 7/2/2024.
- Administrative training was completed 9/17/2024-9/26/2024. There were several productive discussions about how to make the program work best with Rockland's specific needs.
- The implementation teams met on 10/2/2024 to discuss next steps and will be meeting weekly henceforth for the duration of the project.
- 10/23/2024: Software install and configuration
- 10/24/2024-10/25/2024: Implementation meetings and stakeholder meetings
- 11/4/2024-12/20/2024: Software testing, refine local policy/procedure, educate field responders, work with local municipalities to finalize response matrices

2025 Completed Actions

- 1/6-2/14: Staff training, additional testing
- 2/11-2/12: final software checks
- 2/18-2/27: training for supervisors and administration
- 2/10-3/10: refresher/continuing training for staff
- 3/18: go-live with fire and EMS programs

- 3/19-5/6: refine any response configurations or other issues
- 3/25: begin quality assurance processes, start reviewing calls for quality and compliance (maintained long-term)
- 4/1: begin monthly continuing education series for staff (maintained long-term)

2025 Actions in Progress (with Start Dates)

- 4/15: Work on police portion begins
- 5/1-5/30: specialized staff training on two additional system modules for critical mental health/crisis scenarios: active shooter and suicidal caller/intent
- 5/28-5/29: training for administration on police portion
- 6/24-6/25: Implementation meetings and stakeholder meetings for police portion

Upcoming Actions in 2025 (dates are tentative)

- 7/1-8/30: implementation of police portion

All physical and electronic materials/assets have been received from the vendor. Regular meetings, at least weekly with the vendor and staff, occur and will continue to do so for several months at least, depending on progress.

Project: 2.34 TOUCH - TOUCH - Food Recovery Program Assistance

Funding Amount: \$25,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 2 – Negative Economic Impact – 2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

Project Overview

Together Out Unity Can Heal (TOUCH) takes the lead responsibility for the Rockland Coalition Against Hunger (RCAH) Food Recovery Program in terms of making formal agreements with the Regional Food Bank and numerous retail stores in Rockland County; including Costco, Stop & Shop, Target and several others. They also serve as a consultant to their partner agencies regarding training and scheduling their drivers; coordinating food pickups from local retail stores; arranging for timely drop offs of the recovered food to over 35 food pantries to ensure that the food is fresh when they distribute it; helping partner agencies to do accurate and timely reporting so all the Food Recovery Program Information can be collated and reported to Rockland County, the Regional Food Bank and other interested parties; and planning and strategically developing the Food Recovery Program so it can continue to meet the food security challenge in the Rockland community.

The Food Recovery Program operates through partnerships, as much as it does on fuel and a dedicated team of professional staff and exceptional volunteers. RCAH Partners include BRIDGES, Catholic Charities Community Services of Rockland, the Martin Luther King Multi-Purpose Center, Meals on Wheels of Rockland, Sloatsburg Food Pantry, and Westcop. Overall, they receive food donations from 21 local retail food stores and distribute 1.4 million pounds of food to over three dozen Rockland pantries annually. In addition to these RCAH operating partnerships, TOUCH highly values the support from Rockland County, the Regional Food Bank, Veolia, as well as volunteers from the Rockland Conservation and Service Corps and several other sources. Due to TOUCH's ability to access donated food at no cost from local supermarkets, they can provide food for over a million meals annually at a projected cost of less than 17 cents per meal, a remarkably effective use of public funds.

- Link: <https://touchny.org/>

Goal

- \$25,000.00 in ARPA funds will help to keep TOUCH's Food Security Program fully operational by providing reimbursement for the expenses associated with salary of a Program Consultant/Manager.
- The Program Consultant/Manager will help to support TOUCH's work as the lead consulting agency for the RCAH Food Recovery Program.
- Without additional funding, their capacity to manage this program and deliver food to local pantries will be reduced by a projected 800,000 pounds (enough for over 650,000 meals). Several local pantries have advised TOUCH that they could no longer function without the food from this program.

Use of Evidence

- [Rockland County, New York - Food Programs Struggle To Meet Rising Demands on Vimeo](#)
- Through meta-analysis, quantitative and qualitative assessment, and ongoing community outreach, the ARPA department identified the exponential increase of individuals who suffered from food insecurity due to the COVID-19 pandemic i.e., being laid off, being quarantined, hospitalization, etc. Adding to the already exacerbated need for food, Nonprofits reevaluated their operational structure and increased their scope of work to accommodate the increased food need of their local communities.
- Serves Disproportionately Impacted Low-income Households and Populations, Impacted Nonprofits that experienced a negative impact, and Disproportionally Impacted Nonprofits operating in Qualified Census Tracts
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$25,000.00.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data.

Performance Report

- The Program Consultant/Manager supports TOUCH's work as the lead consulting agency for the RCAH Food Recovery Program on at least a weekly basis.
- ARPA Funding for this initiative will be expended by Q3 of 2025.
- The efforts for this position will continue after ARPA Funding is fully expended.

Project: RR 006 - Affordable Housing Market Campaign

Funding Amount: \$686,938.96

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 6.1-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Treasury has determined that affordable housing initiatives are paramount to build a more equitable and sustainable future for all. Conducting a housing assessment (completed by in 2024) is a fundamental step towards creating inclusive, sustainable communities. Furthermore, it is emphasized that all initiatives should be data driven, underscoring the necessity of conducting a thorough housing assessment before embarking on any affordable housing projects. By investing time and resources in this critical phase, it lays the foundation for the successful development of future affordable housing projects.

The County of Rockland commissioned a countywide community and affordable housing needs assessment which was released in 2024. Based on the results of this study, the County has recognized the necessity for a comprehensive educational campaign on the need for housing within the county, including different types of solutions to the county's housing challenges.

The County seeks to educate its residents in a creative, effective, and positive manner about housing with a multi-month campaign that reaches diverse audiences throughout the county and across all racial/ethnic/age/socioeconomic demographics. The campaign seeks to educate residents on various methods that can be applied to meet the housing needs of their communities, to dispel myths about affordable housing, and to give residents a better overall understanding of the County's housing needs.

There is a need to establish a countywide message, brand and communications strategy that will convey information and this effort in a coordinated and understandable way, as well as engage residents in both the planning and execution process.

The County of Rockland Purchasing Division issued a solicitation to over one thousand (1,000) firms including over two hundred (200) MWBE firms. There were fourteen (14) responses to this solicitation. Arch Street Communications provided a detailed proposal and presentation with their technical scoring well above all proposers. Their response was detailed in meeting the needs of Rockland County and working with the cultural diversity of the County. The creative ideas presented both in the proposal and during the presentation show their understanding of the approach of humanizing the efforts of affordable housing.

After solicitation and careful consideration, Arch Street Communications was selected to complete the Affordable Housing Marketing Campaign initiative. Arch Street Communications has extensive experience in marketing campaigns and public engagement that will be an asset in promoting the need and benefits of Affordable Housing throughout the County of Rockland.

Goal

- To establish a countywide message, brand and communications strategy that will convey information and this effort in a coordinated and understandable way, as well as engage residents in both the planning and execution process.

Use of Evidence

- Under the **Final Rule**, *“Development, repair, and operation of affordable housing and services or programs to increase long-term housing security” is an enumerated eligible use to respond to impacts of the pandemic on households and communities. Treasury continues to strongly encourage the use of SLFRF for affordable housing and has updated this FAQ to promote clarity and administrability in the use of these funds. Affordable housing projects must be responsive and proportional to the harm identified. This standard may be met by affordable housing projects—which may involve large expenditures and capital investments—if the developments increase the supply of long-term affordable housing for households that experienced associated pandemic impacts under the final rule.* (Department of Treasury, Final Rule FAQ, 2024)
- The County of Rockland’s **Housing Needs Assessment**
- Serves Disproportionally Impacted Low Income Households and populations, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, and Impacted General Public
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$686,938.96.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- In 2024 and Q1 of 2025, preliminary internal meetings occurred to conduct and manage a focus group focused on internal stakeholders (County Departments) as the first step. This focus group will greatly assist in developing a campaign plan to more comprehensively understand the County's housing landscape and how housing impacts and relates to the work being done across County government.
- (Q2 2025) After focus meetings and surveys, the marketing team was able to determine a clear path for the campaign. Housing affordability is an investment in Rockland County’s future. Housing affordability is vital to a strong, connected Rockland County, where people of all income levels can live, work, and thrive. Expanding housing options helps Rockland secure and retain a talented workforce, provide communities with essential services, and ensure long-term resilience. From young families and seniors to essential workers, too many residents are being priced out of the communities they call home. The campaign is initiated with an awareness-building positioning and introduction of the idea of keeping Rockland home and continues with small stories about representative residents and workers in Rockland County to broaden public understanding of the cost to everyone of not providing affordable housing choices.
- The campaign will kick off on Social Media, in-person displays, and in community meetings.

Project: 6.1 SVHDFC - Spring Valley Housing Development Fund Corporation

Funding Amount: \$790,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 6.1-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The County of Rockland is a desirable area to live and work in the New York metropolitan region. The region's strategic position in relation to the major metro area of New York makes this a solid location for both commercial and residential development. Rockland County's transportation network and strategic location will provide the impetus for an overall pattern of growth over the long term.

Rockland County faced an unprecedented scenario in 2020 as the Coronavirus Pandemic swept across the nation and the state of New York disrupting economic activity. The Pandemic resulted in an increased demand for affordable housing. This reigns especially true within the County's densely and ever-growing populated areas.

The subject property is an existing, occupied three-story, plus basement walk-up, low-income affordable, cooperative located at 18-36 Columbus Avenue, Spring Valley, NY consisting of 54 one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments. The average of all units is 65% AMI. The building offers a community room, an on-site laundry room, and seventy-five parking spaces on grade for the shareholders. The Spring Valley HDFC is a conveniently located residential area within walking distance of the downtown area of Spring Valley. Public transportation is also located within walking distance of the cooperative and residents have access to restaurants, stores, health clinics, and municipal buildings which are all situated within half of a mile from the property.

This dwelling was constructed in 1961 and needs refurbishment as well as financial support. Assistance with Construction loan Gap-filling and renovative projects will greatly aide the Spring Valley Housing Development Fund Corporation to preserve the existing affordable cooperative.

Each of these projects maintains an importance on the promotion of healthier populations, healthier outcomes, healthier economy, and improved infrastructure for the current and future residents. These initiatives directly align to the Affordable Housing goals set forth in the United States Department of Treasury's Final Rule. ARPA Funds to provide assistance with Construction loan Gap-filling and reimbursement of funds for (eligible) expenses incurred with the renovative projects for the Spring Valley Housing Development Fund Corporation Columbus Avenue Project.

Goal

- The amount of \$740,000 is necessary to close the financing gap so the construction loan can be converted to a permanent loan.
- In addition, an estimated amount of \$50,000 is needed to fix the water issue in the basement apartments and parking area. Also, a portion of the funds may be used to mitigate water issues by landscaping the outside of the building.

- The aggregate of \$790,000.00 will help to keep the existing Affordable Housing units available to current residents and provide the upgrades needed to sustain the dwelling.

Use of Evidence

- Under the ***Final Rule***, “*Development, repair, and operation of affordable housing and services or programs to increase long-term housing security*” is an enumerated eligible use to respond to impacts of the pandemic on households and communities. Treasury continues to strongly encourage the use of SLFRF for affordable housing and has updated this FAQ to promote clarity and administrability in the use of these funds. Affordable housing projects must be responsive and proportional to the harm identified. This standard may be met by affordable housing projects—which may involve large expenditures and capital investments—if the developments increase the supply of long-term affordable housing for households that experienced associated pandemic impacts under the final rule. (Department of Treasury, Final Rule FAQ, 2024)
- The County of Rockland’s **Housing Needs Assessment**
- Serves Disproportionally Impacted Low Income Households and populations, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, and Impacted General Public
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$790,000.00.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- \$740,000.00 of the ARPA Funds awarded served as gap financing to ensure the Cooperative had sufficient funds to convert the construction loan to permanent financing. The Permanent Closing was on September 25, 2024.
- The remaining \$50,000.00 will be used to mitigate the flooding issues on the property. Inspections and designs for this portion of the project are underway.

Project: RR RLF - Housing Action Loan Opportunity HALO

Funding Amount: \$13,500,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 6.1-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The County of Rockland is a desirable area to live and work in the New York metropolitan region. Rockland County faced an unprecedented scenario in 2020 as the Coronavirus Pandemic swept across the nation and the state of New York disrupting economic activity. The Pandemic resulted in an increased demand for affordable housing. This reigns especially true within the County's densely and ever-growing populated areas. While it would be beneficial for the County of Rockland to continue to expand and offer more workforce opportunities, it is unfavorable to do so without the existence of affordable, attainable long-term and short-term housing.

Treasury has determined that SLFRF funds may be used to finance certain loans that finance affordable housing investments, as it is typical for state and local governments to finance such investments through loans. The establishment of a ***Housing Action Loan Opportunity (HALO)*** (formerly known as the Revolving Loan Fund) would play a pivotal role in addressing the housing crisis in Rockland. Managed by the Department of Community Development, the fund would be open to Nonprofit Agencies and Developers to apply for low-interest loans for affordable housing projects. Such projects include but are not limited to:

- Land Acquisition
- Housing Creation and Preservation
- Short Term Gap Financing
- Acquisition/rehabilitation of existing affordable rental or homeownership multifamily housing to secure long-term affordability (with compliance periods)
- Preservation/rehabilitation of existing affordable housing with expiring compliance periods

Funding decisions will be made on factors associated with best achieving the goals outlined in the to be developed Request for Application (RFA). The RFA will outline in detail all restrictions on the use of funds and the monitoring process.

The highlights outlined above will contribute to fair, equity-focused application process for Developers and Nonprofit agencies to receive funding for much needed affordable housing initiatives throughout the County of Rockland.

- Link:
<https://www.rocklandcountyny.gov/Home/Components/News/News/647/746?widgetId=2723>

Goal

- Provide financial support for the creation of affordable housing throughout Rockland County.

- Make projects within Rockland County more competitive for other funding sources.
- To provide support for the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation or development of affordable housing projects that may otherwise not be able to secure other funding.

Use of Evidence

- Under the **Final Rule**, *“Development, repair, and operation of affordable housing and services or programs to increase long-term housing security” is an enumerated eligible use to respond to impacts of the pandemic on households and communities. Treasury continues to strongly encourage the use of SLFRF for affordable housing and has updated this FAQ to promote clarity and administrability in the use of these funds. Affordable housing projects must be responsive and proportional to the harm identified. This standard may be met by affordable housing projects—which may involve large expenditures and capital investments—if the developments increase the supply of long-term affordable housing for households that experienced associated pandemic impacts under the final rule.* (Department of Treasury, Final Rule FAQ, 2024)
- The County of Rockland’s **Housing Needs Assessment**
- Serves Disproportionally Impacted Low Income Households and populations, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, and Impacted General Public
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$13,500,000.00.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- Six (6) applications were received reviewed. As of December 30, 2024, all funds for the loan program were obligated.
- Below is a list of awardees and the amounts received:
 - **Pennrose LLC** - \$3,000,000.00
 - To redevelop the former Haverstraw Chair Factory along the Hudson River to create 308 affordable units.
 - 64 units at 30% AMI or below
 - 93 units at 60% AMI or below
 - 78 units at 80% AMI or below
 - 9 units at 90% AMI or below
 - 43 units at 110% AMI or below
 - 17 units at 130% AMI or below
 - **SCOPE Housing Development** - \$2,500,000.00
 - To acquire and preserve an existing a 90-unit affordable rental development at 140 Route 9W for qualified low-income senior renters.
 - Haverstraw Place is home to more than 90 seniors who will be able to age in place, remaining in their broader community

- **Westhab** -\$3,000,000.00
 - In support of developing a vacant lot located at 30 West Street, Haverstraw for an 81-unit affordable rental project for qualified low-income renters at 60% AMI or below.

- **Nannawitt Commons Manager LLC**- \$5,000,000.00
 - To create new high quality, energy efficient, affordable 55+ senior rental housing units for local Rockland residents in the Town of Clarkstown.
 - Special purpose entity Nannawitt Commons LLC in support of the development of a 52-unit 100% affordable, senior, rental project for qualified low-income renters at or below 80% AMI in Clarkstown.

Project: RR RLF 1- HALO Consultant

Funding Amount: \$160,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 6.1-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

As described in Project RR RLF, \$13,500,000.00 of ARPA Funds were transferred to the Office of Community Development for the establishment of a Housing Action Loan Opportunity (HALO).

The HALO fund plays a pivotal role in addressing the housing crisis in Rockland. Managed by the Department of Community Development, the fund would be open to Nonprofit Agencies and Developers to apply for low-interest loans for affordable housing initiatives. Such initiatives include but are not limited to:

- Land Acquisition
- Housing Creation and Preservation
- Short Term Gap Financing
- Acquisition/rehabilitation of existing affordable rental or homeownership multifamily housing to secure long-term affordability (with compliance periods)
- Preservation/rehabilitation of existing affordable housing with expiring compliance periods

Funding decisions were made on factors associated with best achieving the goals outlined in the to be developed Request for Application (RFA). The RFA will outline in detail all restrictions on the use of funds and the monitoring process.

To ensure compliance and timely monitoring the Office of Community Development completed a solicitation for a consultant to assist in the management of the HALO Fund. After careful consideration, Forsyth was selected to assist the Office of Community Development in post contract monitoring and compliance.

Goal

- To ensure compliance and timely monitoring, the Office of Community Development Forsyth was selected to assist in the management of the HALO Fund.

Use of Evidence

- Under the **Final Rule**, *“Development, repair, and operation of affordable housing and services or programs to increase long-term housing security” is an enumerated eligible use to respond to impacts of the pandemic on households and communities. Treasury continues to strongly encourage the use of SLFRF for affordable housing and has updated this FAQ to promote clarity and administrability in the use of these funds. Affordable housing projects must be responsive and proportional to the harm identified. This standard may be met by affordable housing projects—which may involve large expenditures and capital investments—if the developments increase the supply of long-term affordable*

housing for households that experienced associated pandemic impacts under the final rule. (Department of Treasury, Final Rule FAQ, 2024)

- The County of Rockland's **Housing Needs Assessment**
- Serves Disproportionally Impacted Low Income Households and populations, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, and Impacted General Public
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$160,000.00.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- All HALO projects are in the very early stages of securing funding, designs, and TAC meetings.
- Forsyth began actively monitoring and providing updates to the Office of Community Development and the ARPA Department in 2025.

Project: RR ASBAA – Appraisal Services

Funding Amount: \$5,900.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 6.1-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

In conjunction with the HALO Fund project, Affordable Housing Initiatives, and the County Land Preservation Initiatives, \$5,900.00 in ARPA funds have been obligated for Land Appraisal Services.

Goal

- To assess properties to determine fair market value.

Performance Report

- As of Q2 2025, two appraisals for affordable housing initiatives were completed to ensure fair market value of the properties.

Project: RR 012 - Hickory House - Affordable Housing

Funding Amount: \$1,700,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 61-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Hickory House Tenants Corporation is a cooperative housing corporation, that was incorporated in the State of New York on February 7, 1972. The corporation owns the land and buildings at 248-260 Main Street, Spring Valley, New York. The property originally consisted of 198 studio, 1-, 2- and 3-bedroom units in seven buildings. However, Building A, consisting of 20 units, was severely damaged and was demolished in 2017. Currently, there are 178 units which are owned by the shareholders who reside at Hickory House.

In March 2024, the RHAC became the managing agent for the cooperative. Their goal, as a nonprofit agency, is to stabilize the cooperative by refinancing and paying off the existing predatory loan the previous property manager obtained. The loan has a current interest rate of 14.75%, originated in 2022 for a 1-year term and is on its third and final 6-month extension. The loan is due and payable December 31, 2024.

The Rockland Housing Action Coalition is working with the Community Preservation Corporation, a nonprofit lender dedicated to working in underserved communities, to refinance the existing loan. Their goal is to obtain a new loan at a low interest rate while simultaneously working with an architect, engineer and general contractor to get the necessary approvals/permits from the Village of Spring Valley to rebuild Building A.

Goal

- ARPA Funds will be used for expenses incurred to pay off the existing predatory loan and also to partially finance the reconstruction of Building A consisting of 21 units which will be sold to homebuyers earning up to 80% of the Rockland County Area Median Income. These initiatives directly align to the Affordable Housing goals set forth in the United States Department of Treasury's Final Rule.

Use of Evidence

- Under the **Final Rule**, *“Development, repair, and operation of affordable housing and services or programs to increase long-term housing security” is an enumerated eligible use to respond to impacts of the pandemic on households and communities. Treasury continues to strongly encourage the use of SLFRF for affordable housing and has updated this FAQ to promote clarity and administrability in the use of these funds. Affordable housing projects must be responsive and proportional to the harm identified. This standard may be met by affordable housing projects—which may involve large expenditures and capital investments—if the developments increase the supply of long-term affordable housing for households that experienced associated pandemic impacts under the final rule.* (Department of Treasury, Final Rule FAQ, 2024)

- The County of Rockland's ***Housing Needs Assessment***
- Serves Disproportionally Impacted Low Income Households and populations, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, and Impacted General Public
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$1,700,000.00.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- ARPA Funds were secured for this initiative on December 19, 2024.
- The mortgage satisfaction was received on January 24, 2025.
- The remaining funds will be used to reconstruct Building A. Design and planning for this reconstruction are in progress.

Project: RR 014 - Town of Ramapo - Cultural Arts Affordable Housing Initiative

Funding Amount: \$1,500,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 61-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The pandemic underscored the importance of safe, affordable housing and healthy neighborhood environments to public health and economic outcomes. In response to community engagement and surveys, the most requested use of ARPA Funds has been to secure affordable housing options for all Towns and Villages throughout the County. Rockland County faced an unprecedented scenario in 2020 as the Coronavirus Pandemic swept across the nation and the state of New York disrupting economic activity. The Pandemic resulted in an increased demand for affordable housing.

The Town of Ramapo will be responsible for the development of no less than 36 affordable housing units on this property. The proposed Affordable Housing Initiative will revitalize the currently abandoned Cultural Arts Center in Spring Valley, NY, into a state-of-the-art apartment complex to address the increasing need for affordable housing within the County of Rockland. The proposed project will consist of one-, two-, and three-bedroom apartments that will be divided into 21 units at 30% AMI, 13 units at 60% AMI, and 2 units at 80% AMI. It will also consist of a community center and working space for nonprofits to foster better relationships with residents and community organizations.

These initiatives directly align to the Affordable Housing goals set forth in the United States Department of Treasury's Final Rule.

Goals

- The amount of \$1,500,000.00 will be used towards predevelopment costs for the affordable development to be located in the Town of Ramapo.

Use of Evidence

- Under the **Final Rule**, *“Development, repair, and operation of affordable housing and services or programs to increase long-term housing security” is an enumerated eligible use to respond to impacts of the pandemic on households and communities. Treasury continues to strongly encourage the use of SLFRF for affordable housing and has updated this FAQ to promote clarity and administrability in the use of these funds. Affordable housing projects must be responsive and proportional to the harm identified. This standard may be met by affordable housing projects—which may involve large expenditures and capital investments—if the developments increase the supply of long-term affordable housing for households that experienced associated pandemic impacts under the final rule.* (Department of Treasury, Final Rule FAQ, 2024)
- The County of Rockland's **Housing Needs Assessment**
- Serves Disproportionally Impacted Low Income Households and populations, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, and Impacted General Public

- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$1,500,000.00.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- The Predevelopment activities began in 2024.
- Additional funding sources have been identified.
- The project is currently in the initial stages of development with preliminary approval received from the CPC for development costs.
- It is currently being reviewed and approved by the Town of Ramapo Council and RLDC.
- Once approved it will be deferred to the Village of Spring Valley Planning and Zoning boards.

Project: RR 003 - 30 West Street – Haverstraw, NY – Affordable Housing by Westhab

Funding Amount: \$1,800,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 61-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The proposed Affordable Housing Initiative at 30 West is a new, 100% affordable multifamily development to be located in the Village of Haverstraw. The site of the proposed initiative is currently a municipal parking lot for community use, and the Village of Haverstraw has committed to enter a 99-year ground lease with Westhab to facilitate the development. The initiative will have a total of 81 units of affordable housing which will be priced at levels that are affordable to very low- and low-income tenants.

Within the 81 units, 23 will be reserved for households at or below 30% of Rockland County's Area Median Income (AMI), and between 15 and 20 of the 30% AMI units will be reserved as supportive housing units to serve formerly homeless individuals and families, individuals with mental health, and/or individuals with substance use disorders, among others.

Rents will be targeted to professionals such as teachers, healthcare workers, retail clerks, service professionals, and tradespeople, among others. These individuals and families are vital members of the Village's workforce and are foundational to Haverstraw's economy. These initiatives directly align to the Affordable Housing goals set forth in the United States Department of Treasury's Final Rule.

Goals

- The amount of \$1,800,000.00 will be used towards pre-development costs for the 100% affordable, multifamily development to be located in the Village of Haverstraw.

Use of Evidence

- Under the ***Final Rule***, “*Development, repair, and operation of affordable housing and services or programs to increase long-term housing security*” is an enumerated eligible use to respond to impacts of the pandemic on households and communities. Treasury continues to strongly encourage the use of SLFRF for affordable housing and has updated this FAQ to promote clarity and administrability in the use of these funds. Affordable housing projects must be responsive and proportional to the harm identified. This standard may be met by affordable housing projects—which may involve large expenditures and capital investments—if the developments increase the supply of long-term affordable housing for households that experienced associated pandemic impacts under the final rule. (Department of Treasury, Final Rule FAQ, 2024)
- The County of Rockland's ***Housing Needs Assessment***
- Serves Disproportionally Impacted Low Income Households and populations, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, and Impacted General Public

- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$1,800,000.00.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- The Predevelopment activities began in 2024.
- All funding sources have been identified.
- Westhab is working with HCR and our various financing sources to draft loan and grant documents and provide the required due diligence for closing.
- They are also working with the Rockland County IDA, Village of Haverstraw, Town of Haverstraw, North Rockland Central School District, and County of Rockland to finalize a PILOT agreement.
- All Planning and Zoning approvals have been received.
- They have identified our general contractor and are beginning the process of bidding out the subcontracts to finalize our construction contract amount.
- Scheduled is on track to close in November 2025 and start construction immediately thereafter.

Project: RR 002 - Land Acquisition of 55 Schriever Lane – New City for Affordable Housing

Funding Amount: \$6,502,450.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 61-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The subject property would be acquired to promote affordable Essential Worker and Community Workforce housing. A percentage of this property would also be designated as open space to emphasis on positive health outcomes through urban green space opportunities. The acquisition would maintain an importance on the promotion of healthier populations, healthier outcomes, healthier economy, and improved infrastructure for the current and future residents. These initiatives directly align to the Affordable Housing goals set forth in the United States Department of Treasury's **Final Rule**.

14.185 Acres of Land, on 55 Schriever Lane, New City, NY would be purchased on behalf of Rockland Housing Action Coalition, Inc. The Rockland Housing Action Coalition (RHAC), Inc. will be responsible for the development of no less than 17 affordable housing units for homeownership on this property.

RHAC will complete a Phase I Environmental Study. They will also secure insurance for the property. After the engineer completes the subdivision/site plan, RHAC and RHAC's engineer will attend a Town of Clarkstown Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting. At the meeting the TAC committee members will review the subdivision/site plan.

Goals

- \$6,500,000.00 will be used to acquire the property at 55 Schriever Lane, New City, NY for the development of no less than 17 affordable housing units for homeownership.

Use of Evidence

- Under the **Final Rule**, *“Development, repair, and operation of affordable housing and services or programs to increase long-term housing security” is an enumerated eligible use to respond to impacts of the pandemic on households and communities. Treasury continues to strongly encourage the use of SLFRF for affordable housing and has updated this FAQ to promote clarity and administrability in the use of these funds. Affordable housing projects must be responsive and proportional to the harm identified. This standard may be met by affordable housing projects—which may involve large expenditures and capital investments—if the developments increase the supply of long-term affordable housing for households that experienced associated pandemic impacts under the final rule.* (Department of Treasury, Final Rule FAQ, 2024)
- The County of Rockland's **Housing Needs Assessment**
- Serves Disproportionally Impacted Low Income Households and populations, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, and Impacted General Public

Performance Report

- The property has not yet been acquired.
- Technical Advisory Meetings (TAC) have occurred with the Town of Clarkstown.
- Community outreach meetings have occurred.

Project: RR 011 - Pre-Development - Schriever Lane Affordable Housing

Funding Amount: \$1,300,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 61-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The pandemic underscored the importance of safe, affordable housing and healthy neighborhood environments to public health and economic outcomes. In response to community engagement and surveys, the most requested use of ARPA Funds has been to secure affordable housing options for all Towns and Villages throughout the County. Rockland County faced an unprecedented scenario in 2020 as the Coronavirus Pandemic swept across the nation and the state of New York disrupting economic activity. The Pandemic resulted in an increased demand for affordable housing.

ARPA funding will be used for the Affordable Housing Predevelopment Costs at 55 Schriever Land, New City, NY. The Rockland Housing Action Coalition (RHAC), Inc. will be responsible for the development of no less than 17 affordable housing units for homeownership of up to 80% AMI on this property.

The affordable housing initiative for this location will promote affordable Essential Worker and Community Workforce housing. A percentage of this property would also be designated as open space to emphasis on positive health outcomes through urban green space opportunities. The acquisition would maintain an importance on the promotion of healthier populations, healthier outcomes, healthier economy, and improved infrastructure for the current and future residents. These initiatives directly align to the Affordable Housing goals set forth in the United States Department of Treasury's Final Rule.

Goals

- \$1,300,000.00 will be used towards predevelopment costs at 55 Schriever Lane, New City, NY for the development of no less than 17 affordable housing units for homeownership.

Use of Evidence

- Under the ***Final Rule***, “*Development, repair, and operation of affordable housing and services or programs to increase long-term housing security*” is an enumerated eligible use to respond to impacts of the pandemic on households and communities. Treasury continues to strongly encourage the use of SLFRF for affordable housing and has updated this FAQ to promote clarity and administrability in the use of these funds. Affordable housing projects must be responsive and proportional to the harm identified. This standard

may be met by affordable housing projects—which may involve large expenditures and capital investments—if the developments increase the supply of long-term affordable housing for households that experienced associated pandemic impacts under the final rule. (Department of Treasury, Final Rule FAQ, 2024)

- The County of Rockland’s **Housing Needs Assessment**
- Serves Disproportionally Impacted Low Income Households and populations, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, and Impacted General Public

Performance Report

- The property has not yet been acquired.
- Technical Advisory Meetings (TAC) have occurred with the Town of Clarkstown.
- Community outreach meetings have occurred.

Project: RR 010 - Land Acquisition - 2 Old Stone Road

Funding Amount: \$1,350,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 61-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The pandemic highlighted the importance of open spaces across the country. While many indoor recreation activities were restricted, residents throughout the country chose to spend their time in outdoor areas that remained accessible regardless of lockdown restrictions. Beyond the pandemic, open spaces have a variety of different health benefits that could mitigate the existing disparities in public health outcomes and improve social determinants of health. These benefits include improved air and water quality and increased physical activity. In conjunction with ARPA's Urban Green Space initiatives, it is imperative to preserve open space. The success of these equity-focused investments has the potential to build resilient communities and improve health quality throughout the county.

2 Old Stone Road, Valley Cottage, NY 10980, was purchased for the preservation of open space. As defined by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the built environment includes all the physical parts of where people live and work (e.g., neighborhoods, streets, open spaces, buildings, etc.). Research has shown that disparate health outcomes could be attributed to increased risk factors of the built environment (population density, spatial patterns, etc.), placing communities at an increased risk during the pandemic. Aside from the COVID-19 disease itself, the public health impacts of the pandemic include substantial impacts on mental health and public safety challenges, which are also correlated with the built environment.

Goals

- To preserve open space in the County of Rockland.

Performance Report

- 2 Old Stone Road, Valley Cottage, NY 10980, is contracted to be purchased for the preservation of open space. The closing of this property has not yet occurred.

Project: RR- GSH CCLCS - Good Samaritan Hospital Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory Construction Support

Funding Amount: \$1,200,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 6.1-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic GSH has discharged 3,417 patients who were admitted due to COVID-19 infections. Based upon this distinct patient data, GSH estimates that 2,335 of these patients are at greater risk for cardiovascular issues.

With the support and assistance from the County of Rockland, GSH aims to support patients with long haul COVID-19 symptoms and those with cardiac conditions receive specialized diagnostics and treatments to bolster our ability to respond effectively to the increasing number of patients with long haul COVID-19 symptoms. The GSH Cardiac Catheterization laboratory will focus primarily on diagnosing and treating cardiovascular conditions, particularly those related to heart and blood vessels. While long-haul COVID-19 symptoms primarily affect multiple systems in the body rather than just the cardiovascular system, there are certain ways in which the GSH Catheterization Laboratory will support patients experiencing such symptoms:

- **Evaluation of Cardiac Symptoms:** Long-haul COVID-19 can lead to various cardiac symptoms such as chest pain, palpitations, shortness of breath, and arrhythmias. Patients experiencing these symptoms may undergo diagnostic procedures in the GSH Catheterization Laboratory such as coronary angiography to assess the condition of their coronary arteries and rule out any cardiac involvement.
- **Assessment of Cardiac Damage:** Patients with long-haul COVID-19 may develop cardiac complications such as myocarditis or cardiomyopathy. Cardiac imaging techniques like cardiac catheterization with ventriculography or intravascular ultrasound can help in assessing the extent of cardiac damage and guiding appropriate treatment.
- **Management of Acute Cardiac Events:** Long-haul COVID-19 patients may be at increased risk of acute cardiovascular events such as heart attacks or pulmonary embolisms. The GSH Catheterization Laboratory will be equipped to provide emergent interventions such as percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or thrombectomy to restore blood flow and minimize tissue damage.
- **Monitoring of Cardiac Function:** Long-term monitoring of cardiac function may be necessary for patients with persistent symptoms or complications related to COVID-19. This can include serial cardiac catheterizations or other imaging modalities to track changes in cardiac structure and function over time.

Long-term COVID-19, also known as post-acute sequelae of SARS-CoV-2 (PASC), can cause various persistent health problems, including significant cardiovascular complications. These complications can range from myocarditis (heart inflammation) to heart failure and arrhythmias. The GSH Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory will utilize support from the County of Rockland to expand the Laboratory's operating hours to accommodate the increasing demand for

cardiac evaluations for patients with long term COVID-19. Additionally, the support from the County of Rockland will be utilized to invest in new technologies and diagnostic tools for more precise assessments while increasing service trainings for Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory staff and providers to ensure they are trained in all aspects of care delivery related to the Laboratory's procedures and stay up to date with the latest standards of care

Goal

- As patients with long haul COVID-19 continue to rise, the demand for highly specialized and advanced systems for diagnosing and treatment patients will increase and place a significant strain on Good Samaritan Hospital's resources. With specialized cardiac catheterization laboratory capacity, GSH will be able to manage any new influx of cases and support patients in need of higher-level acuity services.
- The GSH Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory plays a crucial role in supporting and managing long-term COVID-19 patients by expanding access to care to increase early detection rates for cardiac abnormalities and improving patient outcomes with minimally invasive procedures to restore heart function and overall quality of life. The GSH Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory will provide advanced treatment planning which will help providers and patients make more informed treatment decisions and care plan updates based on a more accurate cardiac diagnosis.

Use of Evidence

- *"Incident myocarditis persisting 28-60 days post Covid-19 affected approximately one in eight (13%) patients, which is lower than reports from previous studies (27%-60%). The etiology of myocarditis was predominately SARS-CoV-2 infection and, less commonly, myocardial ischemia due to coronary artery disease. The clinical significance of myocarditis complicated Covid-19 is highlighted by associations with pulmonary fibrosis diagnosed during follow-up". (A Multisystem, Cardio-Renal Investigation of Post-Covid-19 Illness, Nature Medicine – Various Authors, 2022)*
- Serves Disproportionally Impacted Low Income Households and populations, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, and Impacted General Public
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$1,200,000.00
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- Throughout 2024 and Q1 2025, the construction, equipment installation, programming, and configuration took place.
- The Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory was opened on May 19, 2025.
- In Q2, a total of 34 patients were seen in the lab for specialty cardiology care.

Project: 7.1 eSCMS - eSourcing and Contract Management System

Funding Amount: \$75,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 3 – Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity – 3.4 – Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

Project Overview

The Regional eSourcing, Contract Management and eMarketplace Procurement software ("eSourcing and Contract Management System") will benefit various County departments in the mission to revive and rebuild Rockland. Expanding the eSourcing Procurement software from solely County-wide to Regional creates a Regional online marketplace for all Local Governments and Nonprofit Organizations to access contracts awarded by four counties. A central repository for such information will save participants time, enforce compliance to competitive bidding statutes, amplify outreach to Minority and Women Owned Businesses, and provide a unified structure for the procurement process.

The software helps to lower barriers to the competitive bidding process, enhance outreach for small, MWBE, and service disable veteran businesses, and assist businesses in developing their online sales capability through the marketplace by eliminating the current subscription fee that vendors must pay to receive automatic emails for bidding opportunities. It also creates a central repository that will save all participants time and provide a unified structure for the procurement process.

Goal

- Lowering barriers to the competitive bidding process to create a more extensive and equity-focused bid process for local businesses who were all negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Better and more equitable access to the competitive bidding process can assist businesses with more award opportunities to alleviate financial hardships caused by the pandemic.

Performance Report

- The regional e-sourcing and marketplace project has been fully implemented. The counties of Chemung, Rockland and Ulster are utilizing the new e-Sourcing platform and have awarded numerous cooperative contracts which include, Public Safety Radio Communications Equipment, Audio & Visual Equipment and Supplies, Promotional Products, Office Supplies, Janitorial Supplies. In addition, the following cooperative bids are in process: Online Marketplace, Tires & Tubes, Computer Software & Hardware and Medium & Heavy Duty Truck Parts.
- The Contract Lifecycle Management functionality of the project has been fully implemented by Chemung and Rockland Counties. Ulster is still in the process. Rockland is managing over 400 active contracts in the CLM system.
- The Empire Procure Connect Marketplace is live and implemented. Over 600+ local government buyers in New York have registered to use the EPC Marketplace.
- You can visit our informational website at www.empireprocureconnect.info for more information and a list of contracts currently in the marketplace. www.empireprocureconnect.com is the actual live site of the marketplace.

Project: 6.1 RR CoRCP - County of Rockland Comprehensive Plan

Funding Amount: \$1,071,025.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 61-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

According to the **Final Rule**: “Treasury recognizes the connection between neighborhood-built environment and physical health outcomes, including risk factors that may have contributed to disproportionate COVID–19 health impacts in low-income communities. The Final Rule also recognizes that the public health impacts of the pandemic are broader than just the COVID–19 disease itself and include substantial impacts on mental health and public safety challenges like rates of violent crime, which are correlated with a neighborhood’s-built environment and features. As such, neighborhood features that promote improved health and safety outcomes respond to the preexisting disparities that contributed to COVID–19’s disproportionate impacts on low-income communities.”

Allocating funding towards the **County of Rockland Comprehensive Plan** is a strategic investment that can yield long-term assets for local communities. It will serve as a blueprint for sustainable development, guiding land use, transportation, housing, and environmental conservation. It will ensure that recovery efforts are not only sustainable but forward thinking; laying the groundwork for enhanced resiliency, economic recovery, and growth, improved public health, equity and inclusion, and efficient use of resources.

After careful consideration and solicitation, Buckhurst Fish & Jacquemart Inc. (BFJ), has been selected for award as the firm to complete the County of Rockland Comprehensive Plan. BFJ’s technical report, community engagement plan, and extensive experience in the County of Rockland were clearly demonstrated they are more than capable of achieving the goals set forth in the RFP.

BJH Advisors LLC, has been selected for award as the Project Manager of the County of Rockland Comprehensive Plan. This Project Manager will play a crucial role in alleviating the stressors of the Planning Department in ensuring coordination and integration, planning and scheduling, risk management, resource management, quality assurance, stakeholder communication, problem solving, budget management, and documentation and reporting. As the County of Rockland builds its ten (10) year Comprehensive Plan, the Project Manager will safeguard a well-planned, efficiently executed, and successfully completed project, meeting its objectives within the rigid constraints of time, budget and quality.

Goals

- Build a ten (10) year Comprehensive Plan for the County of Rockland.
- The plan will serve as a blueprint for sustainable development, guiding land use, transportation, housing, and environmental conservation.
- It will ensure that recovery efforts are not only sustainable but forward thinking; laying the groundwork for enhanced resiliency, economic recovery, and growth, improved public health, equity and inclusion, and efficient use of resources.

Use of Evidence

- The creation of the County Comprehensive Plan is its own evidence-based report.
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$216,966.00

Performance Report

- Preliminary internal meetings have occurred.
- Community Engagement meetings began in Q2 2025.
- The period between March 1 and April 15, 2025 marked a key transition in the Rockland County Comprehensive Plan process, moving from foundational project planning and data collection toward existing conditions assessment and initial public engagement. Major accomplishments included the launch of the Envision Rockland website, the successful hosting of the first community Working Group (formerly the CAC) meeting, and continued progress on buildout analysis and population projections methodology.
- The first Working Group meeting on March 19th was well-attended, with strong participation from committee members and the public. Feedback from this session helped inform next steps in community engagement planning, including strategies for reaching underrepresented groups through pop-up events and multilingual communications.
- Other milestones include the completion of specialty base maps for public workshops, the circulation of a draft public workshop questionnaire, and the confirmation of several venue locations for town public workshops in May and June.

Project: 222-CWPP1 - Cropsey Farm Community Rejuvenation Project - Phase 1

Funding Amount: \$156,900.00

Project Expenditure Category: 2 – Negative Economic Impacts – 2.22 – Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

Project Overview

Cropsey Farm is a County Park that provides open farm space in its natural environment. The Farm has a crushed stone dirt entrance, open field parking, barn, farm office house, residential farmer's house, agricultural hoop houses and outdoor produce refrigeration equipment. The property is surrounded by residential homes with trees separating properties. The County has an agreement with the Rockland Farm Alliance to manage and operate the farm and related agricultural farming services. The Rockland Farm Alliance facilitates local sustainable agriculture and educational programs on Rockland County farming and history of Cropsey Farm. Cropsey Farm dates back to 1796 when the property was originally purchased.

According to the Final Rule: "Treasury recognizes the connection between neighborhood-built environment and physical health outcomes, including risk factors that may have contributed to disproportionate COVID-19 health impacts in low-income communities. The Final Rule also recognizes that the public health impacts of the pandemic are broader than just the COVID-19 disease itself and include substantial impacts on mental health and public safety challenges like rates of violent crime, which are correlated with a neighborhood's-built environment and features. As such, neighborhood features that promote improved health and safety outcomes respond to the preexisting disparities that contributed to COVID-19's disproportionate impacts on low-income communities."

In conjunction with ARPA's Urban Green Space initiatives, it is imperative to invest in open space opportunities. The success of these equity-focused investments has the potential to reduce social inequities, expand economic opportunities, build resilient communities, and improve health quality throughout the county.

After careful consideration and solicitation, M.G. McLaren Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C., was selected for the design, plans, and specifications (Phase 1) for the Cropsey Farm Community Rejuvenation project. M.G. McLaren Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C. was selected based on their extensive experience and qualifications to design the walking path in accordance with the RFP requirements.

Goals

- Throughout this pandemic, classrooms were faced with social distancing and creating a new, safe space for students. With the limitations early on from the pandemic in school settings, Cropsey Farm became an opportunity to learn outside the classroom and a new breath for agricultural education.
- The rejuvenation project would provide our residents, the school districts, and other local not for profits the opportunity to explore more of the farm, while making improvements to

provide ADA compliance, handicap accessibility, additional signage and wayfinding, historic markers, and an accessible bathroom.

Use of Evidence

- Through retrospective meta-analysis, quantitative and qualitative assessment, and ongoing community outreach, the ARPA department identified the need for accessible, well-maintained, and safe open spaces. The addition of new and upgrades to existing open spaces expands the opportunity for outdoor recreation while promoting health and safety in our neighborhoods.
- Serves Impacted Other Households or populations that experienced a negative economic impact, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$156,900.00
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- In 2024, preliminary internal meetings and discussions with the residential neighborhood that surrounds the farm occurred.
- As of Q1 2025, Phase 1 of this project was near completion. Due to the elements of the winter months, some deliverables of the project had to be postponed until warmer weather arrived.
- Design and renderings are still in progress; slight modifications were made to the initial design plan to include Community Feedback in Q2 2025.

Project: 222-CWPP2 - Cropsey Farm Community Rejuvenation Project - Phase 2

Funding Amount: \$585,914.00

Project Expenditure Category: 2 – Negative Economic Impacts – 2.22 – Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

Project Overview

As noted in Project 2.22 – CWPP1, in conjunction with ARPA’s Urban Green Space initiatives, it is imperative to invest in open space opportunities. The success of these equity-focused investments has the potential to reduce social inequities, expand economic opportunities, build resilient communities, and improve health quality throughout the county. Throughout this pandemic, classrooms were faced with social distancing and creating a new, safe space for students. With the limitations early on from the pandemic in school settings, Cropsey Farm became an opportunity to learn outside the classroom and a new breath for agricultural education.

The Cropsey Farm Community Rejuvenation Project will enhance additional educational programming, solely within the farm, to promote engagement, innovation and knowledge to students and educators. The addition of a Handicapped Accessible ramp, Wayfinding/Signage, a Community Garden, and an accessible bathroom will increase access to educational resources and promote local food systems. Investments in such activities will provide outdoor recreation,

sustainable open space, support one of Rockland's remaining working farms, improve the built environment, reduce social determinants of health, and foster equitable health outcomes for all residents of Rockland.

When understanding how to improve better health outcomes, especially at a community level, the built environment and its social characteristics can shape opportunities for barriers or promotion to overall health, especially in disproportionately impacted communities. When identifying interventions, they should be community oriented, allowing for buy-in from the residents themselves.

The voices of the community navigated the direction of this project. Residents voiced the need for a greater impact on towards the appreciation of the built environment. Such appreciation could be achieved through agricultural educational initiatives including but not limited to horticultural opportunities for children, water preservation, food and nutrition programs, etc.

Goal

- Throughout this pandemic, classrooms were faced with social distancing and creating a new, safe space for students. With the limitations early on from the pandemic in school settings, Cropsey Farm became an opportunity to learn outside the classroom and a new breath for agricultural education.
- The rejuvenation project would provide our residents, the school districts, and other local not for profits the opportunity to explore more of the farm, while making improvements to provide ADA compliance, handicap accessibility, additional signage and wayfinding, historic markers, and an accessible bathroom.

Use of Evidence

- Defined by the CDC as all the physical parts of where we live and work (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, open spaces, and infrastructure), the built environment influences an individual and community's public health. After significant community engagement, it was evident that there is a unique opportunity to bring the Farm, Community, Nonprofit Organizations, and the public together. This initiative seamlessly aligns with the THRIVE Model Method to improve the built environment and foster stronger relationships to achieve a more powerful community impact.
- Through retrospective meta-analysis, quantitative and qualitative assessment, and ongoing community outreach, the ARPA department identified the need for accessible, well-maintained, and safe open spaces. The addition of new and upgrades to existing open spaces expands the opportunity for outdoor recreation while promoting health and safety in our neighborhoods.
- Serves Impacted Other Households or populations that experienced a negative economic impact, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$585,914.00.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- During the design phase, the project scope shifted as a result of the feedback provided through extensive community outreach.
- McLaren completed surveying (no SEQRA required) and a SWIP at the Cropsey Farm property, and initiated Community Engagement during the design phase. At this time, residents provided invaluable feedback and their concerns were addressed.
- Phase 2 is anticipated to kick off in Q3 2025.

Project: 2.22 – DKDGWPP1 - Demarest Kill/ Dutch Garden Walking Path - Phase 1

Budgeted Funding Amount: \$204,350.00

Project Expenditure Category: 2 – Negative Economic Impacts – 2.22 – Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

Project Overview

Demarest Kill and Dutch Garden Parks are County properties that provides environmental open space in its natural environment. The two County Parks preserve open space for community enjoyment. Each park has its own unique physical appearance, distanced from one another and boarder the Demarest Kill Stream.

The Demarest Kill Park is open wooded space which the Demarest Kill stream flows into a small pond and into the Demarest Kill water tributary. The Dutch Garden Park is a floral planting garden park that has indigenous plantings common to Rockland County that was built in the 1930's. The County sees creating a connection between the two parks will build open space opportunities for the community to enjoy.

According to the Final Rule: “Treasury recognizes the connection between neighborhood-built environment and physical health outcomes, including risk factors that may have contributed to disproportionate COVID-19 health impacts in low-income communities. The Final Rule also recognizes that the public health impacts of the pandemic are broader than just the COVID-19 disease itself and include substantial impacts on mental health and public safety challenges like rates of violent crime, which are correlated with a neighborhood's-built environment and features. As such, neighborhood features that promote improved health and safety outcomes respond to the preexisting disparities that contributed to COVID-19's disproportionate impacts on low-income communities.”

In conjunction with ARPA's Urban Green Space initiatives, it is imperative to invest in open space opportunities. The success of these equity-focused investments has the potential to reduce social inequities, expand economic opportunities, build resilient communities, and improve health quality throughout the county.

After careful consideration and solicitation, LaBella Associates D.P.C. was selected for the design, plans, and specifications (Phase 1) for the Demarest Kill/ Dutch Garden Walking Path project. LaBella D.P.C. was selected based on their extensive experience and qualifications to design the walking path in accordance with the RFP requirements.

Goals

- Throughout the pandemic and beyond, Rockland County has seen a significant increase in bike riding, walking, and running from residents as well as community members from surrounding areas in the Hudson Valley, but it was not always accessible to our own residents. The addition of new open spaces expands the opportunity for outdoor recreation while promoting health and safety in our neighborhoods.

- This walking path is also located by the County Court House and the County Jail. It offers a healthy respite opportunity for those visiting these facilities.

Use of Evidence

- Through retrospective meta-analysis, quantitative and qualitative assessment, and ongoing community outreach, the ARPA department identified the need for accessible, well-maintained, and safe open spaces. The addition of new and upgrades to existing open spaces expands the opportunity for outdoor recreation while promoting health and safety in our neighborhoods.
- Serves Impacted Other Households or populations that experienced a negative economic impact, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, Disproportionately Impacted Low Income Households and populations.
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$204,350.00.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- Phase 1 of this project kicked off in 2024 and was near completion in Q1 2025. Due to the elements of the winter months, some deliverables of the project had to be postponed until warmer weather arrived.
- As of Q2 this portion of the project was complete and used towards the construction of the project.

Project: 2.22 – DKDGWPP2 - Demarest Kill/ Dutch Garden Walking Path - Phase 2

Budget Funding Amount: \$ 946,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 2 – Negative Economic Impacts – 2.22 – Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

Project Overview

As noted in Project 2.22 – DKDGWPP1, in conjunction with ARPA’s Urban Green Space initiatives, it is imperative to invest in open space opportunities. The success of these equity-focused investments has the potential to reduce social inequities, expand economic opportunities, build resilient communities, and improve health quality throughout the county. Throughout this pandemic, Rockland County has seen a significant increase in bike riding, walking, and running from residents as well as community members from surrounding areas in the Hudson Valley, but it was not always accessible to our own residents.

Now that Phase 1 of this project has been completed, an RFP was issued for Phase 2, the construction of this project. After careful consideration and solicitation, Doyle Contracting, Inc. was selected for the construction of the Demarest Kill/ Dutch Garden Walking Path project. Doyle Contracting, Inc. was selected based on their extensive experience and qualifications to construct the walking path in accordance with the RFP requirements.

Goals

- Throughout the pandemic and beyond, Rockland County has seen a significant increase in bike riding, walking, and running from residents as well as community members from surrounding areas in the Hudson Valley, but it was not always accessible to our own residents. The addition of new open spaces expands the opportunity for outdoor recreation while promoting health and safety in our neighborhoods.
- This walking path is also located by the County Court House and the County Jail. It offers a healthy respite opportunity for those visiting these facilities.

Use of Evidence

- Through retrospective meta-analysis, quantitative and qualitative assessment, and ongoing community outreach, the ARPA department identified the need for accessible, well-maintained, and safe open spaces. The addition of new and upgrades to existing open spaces expands the opportunity for outdoor recreation while promoting health and safety in our neighborhoods.
- Serves Impacted Other Households or populations that experienced a negative economic impact, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations, Disproportionately Impacted Low Income Households and populations.
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$946,000.00
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- Due to the winter weather, progress slowed down in Q1 of 2025.
- As of Q2 2025, this project is nearly complete. Final installations and inspections will take place in Q3 of 2025.

Project: 2.22 – KDLPP 1- Kennedy Dells Lighting Project - Phase 1

Budget Funding Amount: \$87,070.50

Project Expenditure Category: 2 – Negative Economic Impacts – 2.22 – Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

Project Overview

The Kennedy Dells Park is a County Park that provides open space in its natural environment. The park has a developed entrance, park buildings, roadway, parking and bathroom services. Adjacent to the entrance and parking area are three soccer fields for recreational use. These fields are leased to the Clarkstown Soccer Club for their exclusive use. The entrance, park buildings, roadway, parking and soccer fields are not illuminated. Park visitation and sports activities are only conducted during dawn to dusk hours. The County desires to illuminate these areas so that evening recreational park activities can be conducted.

According to the Final Rule: “Treasury recognizes the connection between neighborhood-built environment and physical health outcomes, including risk factors that may have contributed to disproportionate COVID–19 health impacts in low-income communities. The Final Rule also recognizes that the public health impacts of the pandemic are broader than just the COVID–19 disease itself and include substantial impacts on mental health and public safety challenges like rates of violent crime, which are correlated with a neighborhood’s-built environment and features. As such, neighborhood features that promote improved health and safety outcomes respond to the preexisting disparities that contributed to COVID–19’s disproportionate impacts on low-income communities.”

In conjunction with ARPA’s Urban Green Space initiatives, it is imperative to invest in open space opportunities. The success of these equity-focused investments has the potential to reduce social inequities, expand economic opportunities, build resilient communities, and improve health quality throughout the county.

After careful consideration and solicitation, L.K. McLean Associates Engineering & Surveying D.P.C. was selected for the design, plans, and specifications (Phase 1) for the Kennedy Dells Lighting project. L.K. McLean Associates Engineering & Surveying D.P.C. was selected based on their extensive experience and qualifications to design the lighting needed in accordance with the RFP requirements.

Goals

- Safety is paramount. This project focuses on ensuring the existing outdoor recreation space is equipped with proper lighting. This space is backed by a heavily wooded area and often utilized by children. When the sun begins to set, it is imperative to have this space well lit. Investing in this project has the potential to improve health quality throughout the County.
- Throughout the pandemic and beyond, Rockland County has seen a significant increase in bike riding, walking, and running from residents as well as community members from surrounding areas in the Hudson Valley, but it was not always accessible to our own residents. Enhancing the safety of this existing open space expands the opportunity for outdoor recreation while promoting health and safety in our neighborhoods.

Use of Evidence

- Through retrospective meta-analysis, quantitative and qualitative assessment, and ongoing community outreach, the ARPA department identified the need for accessible, well-maintained, and safe open spaces. The addition of new and upgrades to existing open spaces expands the opportunity for outdoor recreation while promoting health and safety in our neighborhoods.
- Serves Impacted Other Households or populations that experienced a negative economic impact, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$87,070.50.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- Phase 1 of this project kicked off in 2024 and was near completion in Q1 2025. Due to the elements of the winter months, some deliverables of the project had to be postponed until warmer weather arrived.
- As of Q2 this portion of the project was complete and used towards the installation of the project.

Project: 2.22 – KDLPP 2- Kennedy Dells Lighting Project - Phase 2

Budget Funding Amount: \$569,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 2 – Negative Economic Impacts – 2.22 – Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

Project Overview

As noted in Project 2.22 – KDLPP1, in conjunction with ARPA’s Urban Green Space initiatives, it is imperative to invest in open space opportunities. The success of these equity-focused investments has the potential to reduce social inequities, expand economic opportunities, build resilient communities, and improve health quality throughout the county. Throughout this pandemic, Rockland County has seen a significant increase in bike riding, walking, and running from residents as well as community members from surrounding areas in the Hudson Valley, but it was not always accessible to our own residents.

Now that Phase 1 of this project is nearing completion, an RFP was issued for Phase 2, the construction of this project. After careful consideration and solicitation, Fanshawe, Inc d.b.a. Rockland Electric was selected for the construction of the Kennedy Dells Lighting Project. Rockland Electric was selected based on their extensive experience and qualifications to construct the walking path in accordance with the RFP requirements.

Goals

- Safety is paramount. This project focuses on ensuring the existing outdoor recreation space is equipped with proper lighting. This space is backed by a heavily wooded area and often utilized by children. When the sun begins to set, it is imperative to have this space well lit. Investing in this project has the potential to improve health quality throughout the County.
- Throughout the pandemic and beyond, Rockland County has seen a significant increase in bike riding, walking, and running from residents as well as community members from

surrounding areas in the Hudson Valley, but it was not always accessible to our own residents. Enhancing the safety of this existing open space expands the opportunity for outdoor recreation while promoting health and safety in our neighborhoods.

Use of Evidence

- Through retrospective meta-analysis, quantitative and qualitative assessment, and ongoing community outreach, the ARPA department identified the need for accessible, well-maintained, and safe open spaces. The addition of new and upgrades to existing open spaces expands the opportunity for outdoor recreation while promoting health and safety in our neighborhoods.
- Serves Impacted Other Households or populations that experienced a negative economic impact, Impacted Low- or moderate-income Households and populations
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$569,000.00
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- Due to the winter weather, progress slowed down in Q1 of 2025.
- As of Q2 2025, this project is nearly complete. Final installations and inspections will take place in Q3 of 2025.

Project: 2.22 – 222 – LSPWP - Lake Suzanne Pedestrian Walkway Project

Budget Funding Amount: \$1,749,186.90

Project Expenditure Category: 2 – Negative Economic Impacts – 2.22 – Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

Project Overview

According to the Final Rule: “Treasury recognizes the connection between neighborhood-built environment and physical health outcomes, including risk factors that may have contributed to disproportionate COVID-19 health impacts in low-income communities. The Final Rule also recognizes that the public health impacts of the pandemic are broader than just the COVID-19 disease itself and include substantial impacts on mental health and public safety challenges like rates of violent crime, which are correlated with a neighborhood’s-built environment and features. As such, neighborhood features that promote improved health and safety outcomes respond to the preexisting disparities that contributed to COVID-19’s disproportionate impacts on low-income communities.”

The Lake Suzanne Pedestrian Walkway Project is in Monsey, NY, one of Rockland’s most densely populated communities that was tremendously impacted during the COVID-19 pandemic. Monsey has a large youth and senior population, and this path will encourage physical activity, reducing comorbidity risks that were exacerbated during the pandemic. This project will also encourage more sustainable living, reducing environmental impacts and improve water quality and preservation to the local eco system.

In conjunction with ARPA’s Urban Green Space initiatives, it is imperative to invest in open space opportunities. The success of these equity-focused investments has the potential to reduce social inequities, expand economic opportunities, build resilient communities, and improve health quality throughout the county.

After careful consideration and solicitation, ADP Group Inc., was selected for the construction of the Lake Suzanne Walking Path project. ADP Group Inc. was selected based on their extensive experience and qualifications to design the walking path in accordance with the RFP requirements.

Goals

- The Walkway would offer significant benefits to the community and the built environment, particularly in improving public health, creating new outdoor spaces for more walkability, and fostering more community connectivity.
- Throughout the pandemic and beyond, Rockland County has seen a significant increase in bike riding, walking, and running from residents as well as community members from surrounding areas in the Hudson Valley, but it was not always accessible to our own residents. Enhancing the safety of this existing open space expands the opportunity for outdoor recreation while promoting health and safety in our neighborhoods.

Use of Evidence

- Through retrospective meta-analysis, quantitative and qualitative assessment, and ongoing community outreach, the ARPA department identified the need for accessible, well-maintained, and safe open spaces. The addition of new and upgrades to existing open spaces expands the opportunity for outdoor recreation while promoting health and safety in our neighborhoods.
- Serves Disproportionately Impacted Low Income Households and populations
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$1,749,202.00. Note: \$166.90 was used to advertise the solicitation of the bid for this project and is separate from the contract awarded to the ADP Group.
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- The design and planning for this project were completed in 2024.
- Light progress was made in Q1 2025 as the project could not be worked on during the winter months.
- The project is actively underway in Q2 2025. With an influx in rainy weather, some delays have been experienced but progress is steady.

Project: 6.1 CSP 01 - County Sidewalks Project

Funding Amount: \$1,000,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement - 61-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, it became very clear that residents were finding respite outdoors and have continued to use biking and walking as a mode of transportation. Understanding the need to improve the built environment, the county put forth a resolution, Complete Street- Countywide Sidewalk Project to be overseen by the Highway Department. This multi-year, multi-phase project will identify all the most widely used walking areas and improve the sidewalks for all abilities.

According to the Final Rule: “Treasury recognizes the connection between neighborhood-built environment and physical health outcomes, including risk factors that may have contributed to disproportionate COVID–19 health impacts in low-income communities. The Final Rule also recognizes that the public health impacts of the pandemic are broader than just the COVID–19 disease itself and include substantial impacts on mental health and public safety challenges like rates of violent crime, which are correlated with a neighborhood’s-built environment and features. As such, neighborhood features that promote improved health and safety outcomes respond to the preexisting disparities that contributed to COVID–19’s disproportionate impacts on low-income communities.”

The ARPA Department committed \$1,000,000.00 to the installation and inspection of sidewalks for the Highway Departments Complete Streets- Countywide Sidewalk Project in one of our most densely populated and disproportionately impacted communities in the Town of Ramapo. With the delivery of new sidewalks, inspection and compliance are critical to ensure all safety measures have been taken and evaluated for resident use.

After careful consideration and solicitation, Greenman-Pedersen, Inc (GPI), was selected for the inspector for all sidewalk projects within the Complete Street- Countywide Sidewalk Project.

The award to Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. (GPI) will provide professional inspection services, ensuring all compliance with all applicable design specifications, safety standards, and regulatory requirements. The inspection firm will facilitate efficient and timely construction processes by monitoring and verifying the quality of work performed by contractors and promote accountability and transparency through regular reporting.

Goal

- The built environment is critical to the health, safety, and wellbeing of the residents of Rockland. The Complete Streets- Countywide Sidewalk Project connects various communities to a multimodal opportunity, linking them to homes, schools, businesses, medical care, government resources, and public transit, creating a cohesive network for pedestrian movement. Sidewalks in communities provides a wealth of benefits to the built

environment. They encourage walking, and other forms of physical activity, reducing comorbidity rates in individuals and improving overall public health, help reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality, foster a sense of social connectivity, and attract economic growth.

Use of Evidence

- *“A Complete Street is a roadway planned and designed to consider the safe, convenient access and mobility of all roadway users of all ages and abilities. This includes pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation riders, and motorists; it includes children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Complete Street roadway design features include sidewalks, lane striping, bicycle lanes, paved shoulders suitable for use by bicyclists, signage, crosswalks, pedestrian control signals, bus pull-outs, curb cuts, raised crosswalks, ramps and traffic calming measures. Strengthening NYSDOT’s Complete Streets efforts requires both internal evaluation and ideas from everyone who uses and relies upon the transportation system - individuals, organizations and even entire communities.”*
<https://www.dot.ny.gov/programs/completestreets>
- The addition of new and upgrades to existing open spaces expands the opportunity for outdoor recreation while promoting health and safety in our neighborhoods.
- Total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$1,000,000.00
- Please see **Use of Evidence** Section for additional evidence-based data

Performance Report

- Light progress was made in Q1 2025 as the project could not be worked on during the winter months.
- As of Q2, half of the project is complete. The other half is actively underway in Q2 2025. With an influx in rainy weather, some delays have been experienced but progress is steady.

Use of Evidence

As the County continued to gather data from community engagement and multi departmental collaboration, the use of funds for all projects are based on both qualitative and quantitative data analysis. These sources of data have been developed and assessed via a Learning Agenda, logic model, and the use of SMART goals, allowing the County to identify gaps, organize proper methods of evidence and evaluation, build capacity, and develop trainings, foster collaboration, and evidence-based sharing, and reinforce organizational change. The County has reviewed both internal and possible external sources in our approach for using evidence and evaluation that will support the overarching efforts to create an evidence-based strategy for more sustainable interventions.

For every current and completed expenditure, The County of Rockland has considered multiple evidence-based practices and research has been conducted prior to establishing a project in the Comprehensive Plan for the use of SLFRF funds. Once all data and statistics are obtained, the ARPA Department Logic Models, SWOT, CATWOE, and balancing and reinforcing feedback loops are completed to ensure there are no unintended consequences and any risk of duplication of funds.

The Links have been used for each opportunity/project that requires use of evidence. Please note that the PPE Bag, Hygiene Packs, and GSH Reimbursement of Equipment not Covered by FEMA projects do not have a list of evidence-based links as these projects were in direct response to the prevention and treatment of COVID-19.

Evidence Resources by Expenditure Category:

Note: Due to the similar nature of some projects, the Evidence Resources are shared.

1.8 COVID-19 Assistance to Small Businesses (Reviving Rockland Restaurant Grant)

1. *Customer demand for outdoor dining rose due to the Delta variant*. NRA. (n.d.). Retrieved December 5, 2021, from <https://restaurant.org/education-and-resources/resource-library/customer-demand-for-outdoor-dining-rose-due-to-the-delta-variant/>
2. *National statistics*. NRA. (n.d.). Retrieved December 17, 2021, from <https://restaurant.org/research-and-media/research/industry-statistics/national-statistics/>
3. *Food delivery app revenue and Usage Statistics (2021)*. Business of Apps. (2021, November 4). Retrieved December 3, 2021, from <https://www.businessofapps.com/data/food-delivery-app-market/>
4. Perri, J. (2021, November 15). *Which company is winning the restaurant Food Delivery War?* Bloomberg Second Measure. Retrieved December 20, 2021, from https://secondmeasure.com/datapoints/food-delivery-services-grubhub-uber-eats-doordash-postmates/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=press&utm_campaign=press_request
5. Durbin, D.-A., & Press, T. A. (2021, April 20). *Food delivery will thrive even after COVID restrictions ease, drawing out tensions between delivery apps and restaurants*. Fortune.

- Retrieved December 20, 2021, from <https://fortune.com/2021/04/20/restaurants-food-delivery-apps-fees-commission-doordash-uber-eats-grubhub/>
6. Eats, U. (2020, July 21). *Food for thought: Listening to and learning from restaurants*. Uber Newsroom. Retrieved December 20, 2021, from <https://www.uber.com/newsroom/food-for-thought-listening-and-learning-from-restaurants/>
 7. New York State National Restaurant Association. (2021, December 9). New York's Restaurants Faring Far Worse than National Average.
 8. *Remote Food Orders are now restaurants' primary source of revenue*. Convenience Store News. (2021, December 14). Retrieved December 20, 2021, from <https://www.csnews.com/remote-food-orders-are-now-restaurants-primary-source-revenue>
 9. *Facts. Why Tipping Works*. (n.d.). Retrieved December 20, 2021, from <https://whytippingworks.com/facts/>
 10. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. (2021, December 9). *How closing restaurants and hotels spills over to total employment*. Saint Louis Fed Eagle. Retrieved December 20, 2021, from <https://www.stlouisfed.org/on-the-economy/2020/april/closing-restaurants-hotels-spills-total-employment#>
 11. *Protect our restaurants*. Protect Our Restaurants. (n.d.). Retrieved December 20, 2021, from <https://www.protectourrestaurants.com/>
 12. Yang, Y., Liu, H., & Chen, X. (n.d.). *Covid-19 and restaurant demand: Early effects of the pandemic and stay-at-home orders*. International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management. Retrieved December 20, 2021, from <https://www.emerald.com/insight/content/doi/10.1108/IJCHM-06-2020-0504/full/html>
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 14. Lusk, K. (2021, Mar 31). City dwellers gained more access to public spaces during the pandemic – can they keep it? *The Conversation : Environment + Energy* Retrieved from <https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/city-dwellers-gained-more-access-public-spaces/docview/2507336519/se-2>
 15. Cutting-Jones, H. (2021, Apr 19). From haute cuisine to hot dogs: How dining out has evolved over 200 years – and is innovating further in the pandemic. *The Conversation U.S.* Retrieved from <https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/haute-cuisine-hot-dogs-how-dining-out-has-evolved/docview/2514836739/se-2>
 16. Lippert, J. F., Furnari, M. B., & Kriebel, C. W. (2021). The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on occupational stress in restaurant work: A qualitative study. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 18(19), 10378. doi:<http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/ijerph181910378>
 17. Ding, L., & Jiang, C. (2021). Restaurant proactive philanthropic activities and customer loyalty: A scenario-based study during the COVID-19 pandemic period. *International Hospitality Review*, 35(2), 260-279. doi:<http://dx.doi.org/10.1108/IHR-08-2020-0045>
 18. *New York COVID-19 Restaurant Impact Snapshot*. New York State Restaurant Association. (n.d.).

https://www.nysra.org/uploads/1/2/1/3/121352550/ny_survey_covid_impact_press_release.pdf

19. *Survey shows New York's restaurant industry still crushed ...* New York State Restaurant Association
https://www.nysra.org/uploads/1/2/1/3/121352550/ny_survey_covid_impact_press_release.pdf
20. *Local Restaurant Owners, State Restaurant Association Urge Gov't to Replenish 'Restaurant Revitalization Fund' as Outdoor Dining Season Ends.* New York State Restaurant Association. (n.d.).
https://www.nysra.org/uploads/1/2/1/3/121352550/ny_survey_covid_impact_press_release.pdf
21. *State Restaurant Association Survey: No Expectation of Return to Normalcy Any Time Soon Among Restaurant Operators.* New York State Restaurant Association
https://www.nysra.org/uploads/1/2/1/3/121352550/ny_survey_covid_impact_press_release.pdf
22. Hanners, K. A., & Redden, S. M. (2021). Communicating values to cultivate sustainable occupational identity: How restaurant workers resist service work stigma. *Sustainability*, 13(15), 8587. doi:<http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/su13158587>

1.11 Community Violence Services (Transformational Impacts - Youth Employment Program)

1. [NYC's Youth Summer Jobs Program and the Rate of Criminal Activity](#)
2. [The Effects of Summer Jobs on Youth Violence](#)
3. [How can summer jobs reduce crime among youth?](#)
4. [Summer jobs lower violent-crime rate for urban teens](#)
5. [How youth summer jobs can help drive down crime and launch careers](#)
6. [Crime and Summer Youth Employment Programs](#)
7. [Summer Jobs Reduce Violence Among Youth Facing Barriers to Opportunity in the United States](#)
8. [Summer jobs reduce violence among disadvantaged youth](#)
9. [When Scale and Replication Work: Learning from Summer Youth Employment Experiments](#)
10. [Adult and Youth Workforce Development Programs' Role in Supporting Community Violence Interventions](#)
11. [How Do Summer Youth Employment Programs Improve Criminal Justice Outcomes, and for Whom?](#)
12. [Crime-Fighting Lessons from Summer Youth Employment Programs](#)
13. [Young workers hit hard by the COVID-19 economy](#)
14. [WORKING FOR A BETTER FUTURE: How expanding employment opportunities for D.C's youth creates public safety benefits for all residents.](#)
15. [COVID-19 Wreaks Havoc on Youth Employment](#)

1.11 Community Violence Services (Transformational Impacts Program HAAC Youth After School Enrichment Program, Transformational Impacts Program - Spring Valley Youth Police Program/C.A.R.E.S., Community Gun Buy Back)

1. 2022 NYS Office of Children and Family Services – Rockland – Juvenile Justice Detention Stat Sheet

2. <https://villagespringvalley.org/village-departments/police-department/youth-police-initiative/>
3. <https://www.nafi.com/innovations/youth-and-police-initiative/>
4. Cure Violence Global <https://cvg.org/>
5. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RgDWrnV_vFA&t=9s
6. <https://www.vera.org/community-violence-intervention-programs-explained>
7. <https://www.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/neighborhood-health/anti-violence.page>
8. <https://www.rand.org/research/gun-policy/analysis/essays/gun-buyback-programs.html>
9. Guns and homicide in the home. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/8371731/>
10. <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/library/publications/effects-law-enforcement-mentoring-youth-scoping-review>)
11. <https://www.dutchessny.gov/CMSPrint/Dutchess-County-Honors-Youth-and-Police-Initiative-Graduates.htm>
12. <https://www.sungazette.com/news/top-news/2024/05/kickin-it-with-cops-officers-compete-alongside-students-in-friendly-kickball-game/>
13. <https://www.wdbj7.com/2023/06/20/danville-police-departments-youth-police-academy-shows-kids-ropes-builds-relationships/>
14. <https://globalsportmatters.com/health/2023/04/12/youth-sports-programs-more-important-than-ever-kids-mental-health/>
15. <https://thecampanile.org/21254/sports/different-countries-place-cultural-emphasis-on-specific-sports/>
16. <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2024-04-joy-sports-boost.html#:~:text=%22Both%20subjective%20and%20objective%20measures,long%20term%20benefits%20for%20individuals>
17. <https://thediscoverer.columbus.edu.co/showcase/rhythms-reshaping-youth-culture-the-power-of-music/>
18. https://www.aacap.org/AACAP/Families_and_Youth/Facts_for_Families/FFF-Guide/The-Influence-Of-Music-And-Music-Videos-040.aspx

1.12-Mental Health Services (9-1-1 Dispatch Software)

1. <https://sjemed.com/article/97367>
2. <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2022/06/08/denver-non-police-star-teams-reduced-crime-study/10001341002/>
3. <https://www.foxcarolina.com/2023/08/22/new-anderson-dispatch-system-cuts-down-mistakes/>
4. <https://www.wifr.com/2024/06/11/rockford-fire-department-adopts-monumental-911-technology/>
5. <https://www.tfah.org/story/sustained-increased-funding-needed-for-988-suicide-crisis-lifeline/>
6. <https://policylab.chop.edu/blog/check-988-one-year-after-launch>
7. <https://www.psychiatry.org/news-room/apa-blogs/more-research-needed-on-988-crisis-line>
8. <https://www.naco.org/news/counties-applaud-action-improve-9-8-8-suicide-and-crisis-lifeline>

9. <https://spectrumnews1.com/ca/la-west/health-and-medicine/2024/03/21/fcc-will-introduce-rule-that-recognizes-cell-phone-location-for-988-calls>

2.22 Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health & Safety (Rockland Resilience Recreation Grant, Kennedy Dells Lighting Project - Phase 1 & 2, Demarest Kill/Dutch Garden Walking Path – Phase 1 & 2, Cropsey Farm Community Rejuvenation Project - Phase 1& 2)

1. Nature Conservancy
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4. Attitudes towards urban green during the COVID-19 pandemic via Twitter. May 2022. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0264275122001469>
5. Climate Solutions Double as Health Interventions
6. Green Spaces and Mortality: A systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Cohort Studies, 2019
7. Spending at least 120 minutes a week in nature is associated with good health and wellbeing. Junes 2019. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-019-44097-3>
8. Resiliency and Equity in a Time of Crisis: Investing in Public Urban Green Space is Now More Important Than Ever in the U.S.
9. <https://www.lohud.com/story/news/local/rockland/2023/11/27/rockland-ny-disperses-millions-in-federal-dollars-for-parks-open-space/71597929007/>
10. <https://rocklandreport.com/discover-the-beauty-of-rockland-county-parks-this-summer-by-rockland-county-executive-ed-day/>

2.22 Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health & Safety (Rockland Riverway Trail – Feasibility Study, Rockland Riverway Trail - Design and Engineering Services)

1. *Economic impact: U.S. Bicycle Route System*. Adventure Cycling Association. (n.d.). Retrieved December 21, 2021, from <https://www.adventurecycling.org/advocacy/building-bike-tourism/economic-impact/>
2. *Tourism - NYBC supports bike-based tourism in New York State*. New York Bicycling Coalition. (n.d.). Retrieved December 21, 2021, from <https://nybc.net/tourism>
3. *The Economic Impact of the Erie Canalway Trail*. Parks & Trails New York. (2014, July).
4. *2020 Annual Report*. Parks and Trails New York. (2021, April).
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6. Bob Batz, J. (2021, December 16). *Study: Great allegheny passage is 'an economic highway' that generated \$121 million in 2019*. Gazette. Retrieved from <https://www.post->

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7. Rails-to-trails conservancy releases latest research on net economic impact of trails in wisconsin during ceremony for 2019 rail-trail champion award: Former RTC president keith laughlin recognized as steward of rail-trail movement and route of the badger trail network visionary, a project that can maximize the \$1.5 billion annual economic impact of wisconsin's trails. (2019, Dec 03). *PR Newswire* Retrieved from <https://www.proquest.com/wire-feeds/rails-trails-conservancy-releases-latest-research/docview/2321265408/se-2?accountid=34614>
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2.29 Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship (Small Business Rescue Reimbursement Grant Program)

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2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted) (Food Security Grant Program, TOUCH - Food Recovery Program Assistance)

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2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted) (Nonprofit Recovery Reimbursement Grant Program)

1. [The new world of philanthropy: How changing financial behavior, public policies, and COVID-19 affect nonprofit fundraising and marketing](#)
2. [THE VOICE OF CHARITIES FACING COVID-19 WORLDWIDE](#)
3. [NFF's 2022 State of the Nonprofit Sector Survey](#)
4. [CNE's 2021 Nonprofit Needs Survey](#)
5. Rockland County ARPA Department Survey
6. <https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2022/overall/new-york/county/rockland>
7. <https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/new-york/rockland-county#food-nutrition>
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Housing Initiatives (Community and Affordable Housing Needs Assessment, Spring Valley Housing Development Fund Corporation, Land Acquisition - Eberling Property, Housing Action Loan Opportunity HALO, HALO Consultant, Affordable Housing - 30 West Street – Westhab, Affordable Housing Marketing Campaign, Hickory House, 55 Schriever Land Acquisition & Predevelopment, Cultural Arts)

1. <https://www.pattern-for-progress.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/2023-Out-of-Reach.pdf>
2. (<https://www.naco.org/event/arpa-and-beyond-county-perspectives-using-federal-funds-address-affordable-housing-challenges>)
3. LA THRIVES and Los Angeles Regional Open Space and Affordable Housing, 2019
4. Salud America, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2019
5. US Department of Treasury, How-to-Guide, 2024

6. County of Rockland *Community and Affordable Housing Needs Assessment*
7. Rockland County ARPA Department Survey
8. Feedback from the County of Rockland's 2023, 2024, 2025 Housing Forums
9. <https://datausa.io/profile/geo/rockland-county-ny>
10. <https://www.lohud.com/story/news/local/rockland/2025/04/29/rockland-county-ny-faces-urgent-lack-of-affordable-housing-starter-homes-rentals/83246918007/>
11. <https://rocklandnews.com/affordable-housing-in-rockland-2025/>
12. <https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/new-york/rockland-county#housing>
13. <https://rcbizjournal.com/2024/03/26/ed-days-state-of-the-county-address-touts-new-investment-acknowledges-housing-crisis/>

Climate Mitigation (Stony Point – Lowlands Hills Park – Climate Mitigation Efforts)

Stony Point Flooding Events:

1. **Major Flooding Event – July 2023**
 - July 9, 2023 – Massive Rainstorm hits Stony Point.
 - [Stony Point neighborhood flooded during torrential storms Sunday](#)
 - [Checking road conditions in Stony Point](#)
 - [Major rainfall impacts life in Hudson Valley](#)
 - July 10, 2023 – Governor Hochul added Rockland County to the previously declared State of Emergency.
 - [Governor Hochul declares State of Emergency](#)
 - [Flood-damaged roads continue to cause problems for drivers in Rockland, Westchester counties](#)
 - [Stony Point cleans up from heavy storm damage](#)
 - [Stony Point Supervisor Jim Monaghan talks about NY flood](#)
 - [Hudson Valley Flooded: Day, Lawler Tour Stony Point Damage](#)
 - [State Police announce road closures in the area of the Palisades Parkway, Stony Point, Highland Falls, and West Point](#)
 - July 11, 2023 – Recovery efforts continue, and Rockland County Executive provides updates.
 - [County Update On Storm Damage](#)
 - [Rockland County EMTs saved more than a dozen people during Sunday's flash flooding](#)
 - [Stony Point swamped: flash flooding causes road closure and property damage across Northern Rockland](#)
 - July 12, 2023 – Several roads open that were damaged from the storm, and recovery efforts continue. Many roads though are still closed.
 - [Rockland County reopens several roads after Sunday's devastating storms: Check the list](#)
 - [1 dead, thousands impacted by flooding in Orange, Rockland counties](#)
 - [Update On Historic Rainfall, Devastating Flooding In New York](#)

- July 14, 2023 – More rain expected as Stony Point is still recovering from previous storm
 - [Flooding concerns as storms hit already flooded suburbs in Orange, Rockland counties](#)
- July 15, 2023 – Route 9W fully reopens after being closed in portion of Stony Point on 07/09/23.
 - [Update: Bear Mountain Bridge Open to All Traffic](#)
- 17, 2023 – Palisades Interstate Parkway fully reopens after being closed north of Exit 14 on 07/09/23.
 - [Roads closed by flooding reopen across the Hudson Valley](#)
 - [Governor Hochul Updates New Yorkers](#)
- 2. Winter Storm/Coastal Flooding – December 2022
 - December 22, 2022 – [Hochul Declares State of Emergency](#)
- 3. Tropical Storm Ida – September 2021
 - September 1, 2021 - [Hochul Declares State of Emergency](#)
 - September 2, 2021 - [Hochul requests the President declare a State of Emergency for New York State](#)
 - September 3, 2021 - [Storm Ida: How Much Rain Did You Get? A Look At Totals From Throughout Hudson Valley](#)
 - [Storm Ida: How Much Rain Did You Get? A Look At Totals From Throughout Hudson Valley – Stony Point with 5.9 inches](#)
- 4. Tropical Storm Henri – August 2021
 - August 21, 2021 - [Governor Cuomo Declares a State Disaster Emergency – Tropical Storm Henri](#)
 - August 22, 2021 - [Henri dumps rain, causes flooding in New York. How much to expect in each region](#)
- 5. Tropical Storm Elsa – July 2021