



State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Recovery Plan Performance Report

Denton County, Texas

Annual Report #2: July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

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UNDER THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE AMERICAN RESCUE
PLAN ACT



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Executive Summary

On March 11, 2021, President Joe Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) into law. Within the Act, the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program was created to assist State, territorial, local, and Tribal governments in responding to the economic and public health impacts of COVID-19, to help contain the spread throughout communities and businesses across the country, and to promote a strong, equitable economic recovery.

To help meet the needs of governments in addressing the impacts of the pandemic, the U.S. Treasury has provided broad spending categories, which are outlined further in this report. Within these categories, recipients are given the flexibility to decide how best to use the funds.

The American Rescue Plan Act requires all recipients with a population greater than 250,000 to create and submit an annual Recovery Plan Performance Report. The Recovery Plan Performance Report provides the public and Treasury with information on the projects that recipients are undertaking with program funding and how they are planning to ensure program outcomes are achieved in an effective, efficient, and equitable manner. The Recovery Plan Performance Report will grow each year as the county increases its spending, projects, and reporting. A new annual report will be created each year and posted on Denton County's website for public viewing at www.dentoncounty.gov. This specific report covers the period from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024.

Denton County has received a total of \$172,329,559 in SLFRF funds. Half of the funds were received on May 19, 2021, and the remaining half on June 29, 2022. The Denton County Commissioners Court is devoted to ensuring funds are spent on eligible expenses and in the most effective, efficient, and equitable manner possible. Denton County is constantly evaluating potential eligible uses of SLFRF funds in a collaborative approach with other municipalities, nonprofit groups, internal departments, and others to determine which projects best serve the Denton County community in an effort to enable economic recovery.

Denton County's use of SLFRF funds during the past 12 months include increasing communication coverage for first responders and emergency management staff by purchasing and installing a trunked radios system; combating negative economic impacts by providing food programs accessible to households in need; renovating HVAC systems in public buildings to update air filtration to combat the spread of COVID-19 and other harmful airborne pathogens; improving the effectiveness of Denton County's public service operations via purchase of a new ERP and cybersecurity systems; building healthy communities by purchasing and preserving green space in a rapidly growing suburban area; providing payroll for the public sector workforce spending the majority of their time responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency; and a detention officer retention program in order to maintain required staffing levels in county jails.

Denton County's intended uses of SLFRF funds include the construction of a new multi-

jurisdictional, multi-discipline, all-hazards Emergency Operations Center. This new facility will serve all of Denton County, but as disasters tend to impact those that are unserved or underserved and individuals with low income more, this facility will be of great importance moving further into the future. Denton County is also currently working to improve our technology resources through improved citizen engagement via our websites, virtual meeting capabilities, and resources. Some of these improvements include upgrading our Internet access from a countywide 1Gbps x 1Gbps network connection to a much-improved 10Gbps x 10Gbps connection. While upgrading the required connection and hardware, we intend to add a redundant path of connectivity to improve reliability and access to our hosted and cloud resources for all our users and contracted agencies. Denton County is also working with area food pantries and two food banks serving the region to develop a countywide distribution hub to better ensure nutritional food is available to households in need for the foreseeable future.

The most challenging part of ARPA spending for Denton County this reporting period was determining how best to utilize the funds to provide long-term solutions for ongoing issues affecting our negatively economically impacted communities.

Uses of Funds

Every intended and approved use of Denton County's SLFRF funds helps support the economic recovery of the community as a whole and equally improve the lives of those directly and indirectly affected by the COVID-19 virus.

When potential projects are introduced for discussion, Denton County's first objective is to verify the eligibility of the project's necessary expenditures according to the Treasury's SLFRF "Final Rule" guidance. Denton County has a team of internal staff members, including the County Auditor, Community Relations and County Administration, who perform in-depth research in order to determine which category a potential project would fall under for required Treasury reporting.

In the section below, you will find examples of some of Denton County's largest projects within each expenditure category. A complete inventory of all projects, with funding amounts, can be found later in this report under the **Project Inventory** section.

Program key expenditure categories are as follows:

a. **Public Health (EC 1)**

COVID-19 Testing, Contact Tracing, and Vaccination (EC 1.3): To ensure the public health demands of the pandemic are met, COVID-19 contact tracing has been a priority for our community since the beginning of COVID. SLFRF funds have been used to hire temporary staff to assist Denton County Public Health and Safety personnel establish contact tracing at key locations in the community to serve all impacted and disproportionately impacted populations, to include the general public and low-or-moderate income level households. We will continue to focus on this area in order to ensure the safety of our community.

Use of Evidence:

Denton County Public Health COVID-19

Information Page: <https://gis-covid19-dentoncounty.hub.arcgis.com/>

Prevention in Congregate Settings (EC 1.4): Several projects funded by SLFRF and purposed for public health needs in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in congregate settings are focused on improving air filtration in high traffic areas of public facilities. The goal of these projects was to protect all impacted and disproportionately impacted populations, to include the general public and low-or-moderate income level households who utilize county public facilities.

HVAC Renovations at County Courthouses and Public Buildings: The Public Facilities department has utilized SLFRF funding to enhance the Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems within public buildings. This project consists of replacing and/or upgrading air handling systems within congregate areas including the Denton County Courts Building, the Courthouse-on-the-Square, the Southwest Courthouse, and the Copeland Building to mitigate against the spread of COVID-19 and other airborne viruses. These upgrades, which include the installation of MERV 13 and UVGI filtration, will help reduce infection spread amongst staff and citizens while ensuring the courts will remain open to effectively deliver county services.

Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (EC 1.7): In order to protect the safety and provide security to the Denton County community, improvements in communication and security of technology resources were necessary uses of SLFRF. These improvements will increase the efficacy of county services by expanding communication capabilities and increasing public access to county resources while securing access to those systems.

The Following paragraphs will provide further detail related to specific projects within the expense category.

Cyber Security Improvements – Network Segmentation: The Department of Technology Services is requesting the purchase of Illumio Zero Trust Segmentation Platform to increase the County's cybersecurity posture and isolate cyberattacks across any cloud, data center, or endpoint. Illumio is a security product that secures computing platforms and will allow the County to separate computer systems by department, software function, and risk. This product will give visibility on how applications and users utilize their computers to complete daily functions and build a map of how the systems should be separated or segmented for better security. Once mapped out, policies that act as digital fences are applied to segment departments and workflows. Illumio is comprised of two components, Core and Endpoint Software. Core allows a central location for all data collection and policies for management and design. Endpoint Software enforces policies designed in Core.

Trunked Radio System: This project will involve the purchase and construction of two radio towers, site equipment and maintenance for the Denton County P25 Regional Radio Network from Motorola Solutions, Inc. Funds utilized will serve all residents of Denton County through increased communication coverage for

first responders including Law Enforcement, Firefighters, Emergency Medical Services, and Emergency Management personnel. In addition, ancillary users of the system include Public Health workers administering vaccines, conducting testing, and serving communities through other programs that are authorized by ARPA.

Fiber Project (Intended Use of SLFRF Funds): Upgrades to our external Internet will improve response time in accessing network resources externally through agency partners and staff through our VPN connections but will drastically improve public access to resources. This project includes 16 segments to expand the fiber between disconnected facilities and complete the ring to allow backup communications in event of a cut. Installation of fiber will directly service Denton County facilities by increasing public access to resources including Public Health systems and increasing the ability to process and retrieve court records remotely allowing for better reduction of court backlogs. In addition, dark fiber and empty conduits will allow for the ability to provide trunk lines for other providers to better serve remote areas.

Mental Health Services (EC 1.12):

Mental Health Navigator Program: The COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting loss of life, mandatory isolation, and negative economic impacts exacerbated adverse psychological conditions for many individuals within the Denton County community. To provide a resource for those in need, Denton County created a Mental Health Navigator program. SLFRF was utilized for software, phones, computer equipment, and payroll for two full time employees spending 100% of their time performing Mental Health Navigator tasks. Mental Health Navigators will work in the Public Health Department and perform short-term case management and system navigation work for individuals who need assistance accessing mental health services. These positions are desperately needed in order to address the increase in mental health issues in our County.

Other COVID-19 Public Health Services (EC 1.14): Understanding the public health needs of the Denton County community is a top priority for county administration. Utilizing SLFRF to provide support to much needed public health services and to keep citizens informed of potential public health risks is a current and planned use of these funds.

Clinic Funding for Women, Infants, & Children (WIC) program: Denton County Women, Infants, & Children (WIC) program is a Special Supplemental Nutrition Program, with Denton County serving as the Parent Agency for Local Agency #35. Denton County WIC includes three unique clinic sites located in Denton, Lewisville, and Carrollton. The Carrollton WIC clinic was required to relocate in September 2023 due to an unforeseen notice of non-renewal for the 3044 Old Denton Road property. The Carrollton location was previously funded by the state through WIC funding, but funding was diverted to help pay for the increased cost of personnel. Denton County WIC executed a commercial lease with CARM, LCC for a term of 37 months, effective August 1, 2023.

COVID-19 Response – Social Media Broadcasting: Employing social media as a communication tool to inform citizens of COVID-19 health concerns and recommendations is one more method of employing SLFRF funds that serves all impacted and disproportionately impacted populations, to include the public and low-or-moderate income level households. Social media management also allows changes to county government operations, as well as federal and state orders related to COVID-19 to be passed throughout the community quickly.

Use of Evidence:

During the COVID-19 pandemic, social media platforms became prominent in communicating with the general public about pandemic-related information. Facebook ads in English and Spanish were posted to enhance reach to all residents, including underserved populations, to ensure knowledge of COVID-related public safety measures, food programs, rental assistance programs, and other information. To better manage multiple social media platforms, a management system known as Hootsuite was purchased to allow for information to be scheduled across multiple systems. The program also provided a social listening tool to identify potential issues related to the information regarding all COVID-19 programs. Analytics also identified the reach of posts and paid ads to ensure information was reaching a broad Denton County audience.

Denton County Emergency Operations Center (Intended Use of SLFRF Funds): The current Denton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) located at 9060 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX was deemed “Structurally Deficient” in 2014 by Eikon Consultant Group. All staff were relocated into flex space within other county facilities.

Denton County has experienced widespread COVID-19 outbreaks affecting a population of 906,422 according to the 2020 census. COVID-19 is a pandemic with global implications. As of March 11, 2022, Denton County has experienced over 177,558 cases of COVID-19 since the beginning of the disaster, more than 1,275 cases have resulted in fatalities (according to CDC reports). The fact that we did not have a capable Emergency Operations Center that could be stood up meant that staff had to adapt to functioning under emergency conditions by utilizing just-in-time space, mobile facilities, and virtual meeting spaces. The lack of an EOC exacerbated the issue by not having the ability to bring the proper partners to the table within a common area. In addition, the vehicle equipment bays proposed in design plans for a new EOC could have been used for COVID-19 testing and vaccination efforts during inclement weather.

Denton County Emergency Management staff are currently utilizing temporary space in our Morse Street Facility, which is not capable of sustaining operations in a disaster that would affect infrastructure, such as a tornado, ice-storm, prolonged flooding, or other incidents affecting electrical, water, and communication infrastructure. Common spaces, such as the single conference

room, must be shared which prohibits staff and partners from functioning in a Joint Emergency Operations Center. An EOC brings together highly trained experts to respond faster, make better decisions, and manage resources most effectively. An EOC provides real-time, coordinated response to natural or man-made disasters, disease outbreaks, and other emergencies. The following illustrates the reason a new facility is a worthwhile investment:

The Morse Street Facility was never designed to be a hardened facility or serve as an Emergency Operations Center, but rather a retail call center with a small product warehouse for shipping of goods.

The Morse Street Facility is unable to be cost-effectively retro-fitted to serve as an Emergency Operations Center and current staff would have to be relocated into a confined space that would exacerbate the spread of COVID-19 and its variants throughout an area of essential employees.

The ability to retrofit the Morse Street Facility that was constructed in 1986 while maintaining the continuity of operations for staff and other occupants of the building would be equally as expensive to new construction of a purpose-built facility.

Additionally, the Denton County Emergency Operations Center could be built with an attached or detached warehouse. This warehouse facility would act as a storage and staging area for emergency response supplies, including COVID-19 supplies (face masks, surgical gowns, gloves, hand sanitizer, and other supplies). The new Emergency Operations Center facility will also support multiple department functions which add staffing capabilities to the Emergency Operations Center. Some of this staff includes:

- Emergency Management Department - Seven (7) Full-Time Staff
- Sheriff's Office Communications – Four (4) Full-Time Radio Systems Staff; Thirty-one (31) Dispatch & 9-4-4 Call Takers
- Office Administration - Four (4) Full-Time Staff
- Public Health Bioterrorism and Environmental Health – Seventeen (17) Full-Time Staff

Explanation of why a capital expenditure is appropriate:

Construction of an Emergency Operations Center must be a requested capital expenditure due to exceeding the rules of 2 CFR 200.439 - Equipment and other capital expenditures.

Denton County does not currently have a facility that would meet the operational needs of an Emergency Operations Center nor is able to remodel an existing facility to meet those needs. In the event a current owned facility could be remodeled, that construction would still be a capital expenditure.

Comparison of the proposed capital expenditure against alternative capital expenditure:

An Emergency Operations Center is a purpose-built facility that requires extensive planning and detailed construction methods. While the shell of the building could be compared to other alternative capital expenditures, the interior construction, planned use spaces, and specialized equipment would prevent a comparison except with similarly designed Emergency Operations Centers. The repair of the existing Emergency Operations Center was estimated at \$460,000 in 2014. However, that repair would reclassify the facility from structurally deficient to in need of replacement. The COVID pandemic along with explosive residential and commercial construction in the Dallas- Fort Worth area has shown the need for the construction of a new facility and the COVID pandemic has further shown the need to begin designing a facility that would consider the ability to function in a pandemic.

b. Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2)

Household Assistance – Food Programs (EC 2.1): The COVID-19 pandemic increased food insecurity by reducing incomes and disrupting food supply chains. Denton County has implemented three different food programs, two with United Way of Denton County and one with Denton Creek Farm, in order to provide healthy, nutritious food to the disproportionately impacted populations and to low-or-moderate income level households.

Feeding Denton County: The Feeding Denton County program originated during weekly meetings with area non-profit organizations and key community stakeholders after a need for healthier, nutritious food was identified in Denton County. Demand at neighboring major food banks increased significantly and supply was impacted to the point that local food banks within Denton County were receiving fewer nutritional supplies.

A program to supplement food pantry offerings with fresh fruits and vegetables in individual 25-pound boxes on a weekly basis to the underserved population was developed to address the need. After contacting area food suppliers, the county identified and contracted with a local entity, Denton Creek Farm, to acquire produce from local and regional growers, pack boxes and deliver them as needed.

To ensure equitable distribution, outreach to area churches and smaller non-profit food pantries was conducted. A total of 21 recipients were identified, including three located within Qualified Census Tracts in southeast Denton and Old Town Lewisville as well as in food deserts along the western and northern portions of Denton County. Several churches and non-profit organizations set up pick-up systems in parking lots to provide food boxes in predominantly Black and Latino neighborhoods. Traditional recipients of items from food pantries were notified of availability of food boxes to serve the unemployed and underemployed residents in Denton County.

Information about rental and workforce assistance has been provided to food

box recipients in English and Spanish. Communication about the food box and other food programs have been provided via social media in English, Spanish, and Burmese – the predominant three languages in Denton County.

Use of Evidence:

Key Performance Measures include graphing the requests on a weekly basis to determine when and where need was most evident. Bi-weekly meetings continue to address ongoing issues, ensure ongoing communications between food pantries, and to identify potential increases in demand and distribution of food boxes. Statistics measuring year-over-year demand as well as pre-COVID demand to current demand are shared and discussed to measure overall need across the county.

Protein and Food Grants: Denton County corroborated with the United Way of Denton County to work with area food pantries in addressing protein, milk and other food supply needs due to increased demand and lack of supplies. In creating a grant program, non-profits applied for funds to purchase specific foods such as turkey, chicken, ground meat, cheese and milk to supplement pantries experiencing a 300 to 400 percent increase in need from pre- and post-COVID-19 demand. Grants were submitted and reviewed by UWDC and Denton County, following Treasury guidelines in providing food to the underserved as well as families with 80 percent Area Median Income (AMI) or below. Non-profit food pantry recipients distributed the food to individuals, using the same methods utilized in distributing other food pantry products.

Use of Evidence:

Grant recipients documented individuals who received food to ensure equitable distribution to underserved and unemployed residents with 80 percent AMI or below. Bi-weekly meetings with the non-profit grant recipients identified areas of need such as increased demands for milk for families with children or increased need for meat during summers and holidays. Information about the availability of additional foods was also relayed through the grant recipients to the underserved and unserved populations.

Household Assistance: Rent Mortgage and Utility Aid (EC 2.3):

ERA 2 Administration Assistance: Due to the administration requirements needed to process ERA2 applications, additional full-time employees were funded using SLFRF. These employees were hired by United Way of Denton who is Denton County's subrecipient administering the county's ERA programs. This project is necessary to ensure the ERA2 applications are thoroughly reviewed for household eligibility and to increase the efficacy and efficiency of the approval process, so households are awarded timely in order to avoid housing instability and/or homelessness.

Strong Healthy Communities – Neighborhood Features that Promote Health

and Safety (EC 2.22): With the onset of COVID and the consequential isolation and social distancing required to combat the pandemic, it became evident that to ensure the mental, physical, and emotional health of a community, open green spaces to visit and enjoy are a necessity to maintain well-being. Scenic outside areas promote health and well-being by allowing community members a safe place to enjoy the outdoors.

Copper Canyon Park Purchase: Denton County utilized SLFRF funds to purchase a 60-acre working adult and youth camp located near the Town of Copper Canyon. This purchase will ensure a large area of green space capable of supporting multiple public opportunities including historical preservation, interpretive learning activities, physical fitness, and the traditional “camp” activities available to youth and adults. It is Denton County’s intention to offer specialized camp opportunities to our underserved communities including those with physical and mental challenges. The camp will support public meeting space through small conference areas shortly after purchase and multiple opportunities for volunteers, non-governmental organizations, and others to participate and utilize the camp. The location of the camp places it within a rapidly growing suburban area that is currently transitioning from a rural farm agricultural area to dense living space.

c. Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity (EC 3)

Public Sector Workforce - Payroll and Benefits (EC 3.1): The expenses within this category consist of salary and benefits associated with various employees who are primarily dedicated to responding to COVID-19. Below is a list of departments, along with some of the job duties performed during the reporting period.

Public Health Department (Mental Health Navigators): Mental health issues have increased significantly during the pandemic. The pandemic has caused millions of new cases of major depressive disorders and anxiety disorders. The rapid growth of Denton County’s population has also caused an increase in the need for mental health services. Denton County Public Health department created the Mental Health Navigator program in response to the increased need for mental health support. These navigators perform short-term case management while assisting individuals in finding and access mental health services.

Emergency Management: In addition to the Public Health Department contributions, the Emergency Management Department has also provided essential work during the county's response activities to the COVID-19 virus. As with public health, there are a select few Emergency Management personnel spending the majority of their time performing COVID response duties. Such duties include but are not limited to: Implementing strategies and protocols that prepare for future waves of COVID; creating and providing COVID-19 updates and guidance to municipal Emergency Management Coordinators, School Districts, Fire Departments, and Police Departments who are assisting in

providing support for public health operations, such as weather monitoring for outdoor vaccination sites, PPE inventory management, and assisting with vaccination clinics; and attending public health meetings regarding communicable disease response.

Grant Audit Staff: As time progressed since the inception of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, the implementation of COVID-related policies, and issuance of Federal and State COVID-19 grants, it became evident that administration of these funds would require employment of public sector staff to spend 100% of their time managing, auditing, reporting, and providing general compliance oversight for these grant funds. A select team of Denton County Internal Auditors have been tasked solely to perform these administration duties. Such duties include but are not limited to: Auditing and enforcing compliance of CARES, ERA, & SLFRF expenditures; performing subrecipient monitoring for CARES, ERA, & SLFRF grant programs; creating and submitting Treasury required reports and related documents; performing research and making recommendations to Denton County Administration personnel regarding eligible uses of grant funds; and providing evidence of Denton County's accounting and policy compliance during the Single Audit Process.

ERP Implementation Support Staff: Denton County's current Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system is nearing obsolescence. To improve operational function and provide the best service possible, it was necessary to upgrade this system. The project was approved, and the implementation of this new ERP system will be funded with SLFRF. To ensure implementation is finished on time, 3 new positions were created in the Information Technology department to assist with this process. These staff members partner with ERP implementation vendors to create feasible project timelines and workflows, create and administer meetings with Denton County departments, create test configurations and implementation plans, create end user training for county departments, and assist department team leads with organization of legacy data to import into the new system.

Public Sector Workforce – Other (EC 3.3): The resulting economic climate following the pandemic created a demand for jobs which are well compensating and offer the safety and security of working remotely from home. This leaves little demand for the county's more hazardous career fields such as law enforcement and prison security, creating a void in public sector capacity to protect and serve the Denton County community.

Detention Officer Employee Retention Program: It has always been a challenge to attract and retain Detention Officers in the County Jail. The COVID pandemic only exacerbated this issue. In order to maintain sufficient staffing levels to meet jail standards, the Sheriff's Office had to require Detention Officers and other staff to work mandatory overtime. Due to this requirement, most of these employees have been unable to take off and use their vacation time. Per county policy, employees lose vacation hours over 160 at the end of the calendar year. Therefore, Commissioners Court approved paying vacation hours over 160,

including accruals through the end of the calendar year, to Detention Officer I's, Detention Officer II's and Jail Sergeants.

Effective Service Delivery (EC 3.4): The COVID-19 public health emergency revealed some deficiencies in the county's ability to respond during a disaster event. SLFRF allowed the county to afford updates to systems to better equip a disaster response. Denton County was also not immune to the negative economic impacts caused by the pandemic. As a result, projects to replace or update outdated equipment was put on hold or canceled due to insufficient funds. However, SLFRF has allowed for the implementation of those projects eligible under the program.

Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System Implementation Project: Due to nearing obsolescence of Denton County's existing ERP system and the new working conditions resulting from the pandemic, Commissioners Court issued RFP #22-2690 in January 2023 and awarded the RFP for ERP Software and Implementation Services to Collaborative Solutions, LLC in January 2024. Collaborative Solutions (a Cognizant company) and Workday have partnered to provide a cloud-based solution that will provide the County with powerful resources that will elevate County operations in a way we have not experienced previously. This new ERP system will provide the tools to effectively deliver public services and execute government programs. The improvements to technology infrastructure will allow operations to adapt to other public health or disaster emergencies by allowing for remote collaboration and data sharing.

Software to Assist with Effective Delivery of County Services: Denton County purchased System Management Software to allow the Magistrate's Office to uniformly communicate and manage cases and address backlogs resulting from the pandemic. This software will allow offices to share and store data necessary for efficient criminal processes. The Magistration software and the Indigent Defense software are two distinct applications that can operate independently. However, they are designed to work together to address all aspects of defendant magistration, bail, and appointment of indigent counsel, when appropriate. The software will also assist the County in complying with Senate Bill 6 enacted by the 87th Texas Legislature by reducing time constraints and information requirements.

Dental Equipment for Public Health: As a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, consequential negative economic impacts, and resulting budget constraints, Denton County utilized SLFRF to purchase dental equipment to replace outdated equipment for our Public Health Dental Clinic. The Public Health Department purchased three A- dec 511 Dental Chairs and a Desktop Impression Scanner to replace the existing outdated equipment to improve daily operations. The scanner will help the department create a new program for indigent care dental needs in providing prosthetics (dentures and partial dentures). This equipment will help ensure the effective service delivery of public health operations to the Denton County community.

d. Revenue Replacement (EC 6)

Denton County has elected to utilize the standard \$10 million revenue loss allowance eligible to be used for general government services. The Commissioners Court will consider projects under this expenditure category soon.

Other Federal Recovery Funds

In addition to receiving funding provided through the SLFRF, Denton County received Emergency Rental Assistance funds under the Consolidated Appropriations Act (ERA 1) and under the American Rescue Plan Act (ERA 2). Denton County received \$23,069,57 from the CAA and \$7,301,550 from ARPA. These funds are to help households who are unable to pay their rent and/or utility/home energy bills due to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, we are still using ARPA Emergency Rental Assistance 2 funds after using up most of the ERA 1 funds under the Consolidated Appropriations Act.

ERA funds have supported households at 30 percent AMI and below (67.9%) with 25.3% for households at 30-50 percent AMI, 4.6% for 50-60 percent AMI, and 2.4% for households at 61-80 percent. Black households participated at just under five times above the respective county population; for Hispanic and Asian households, we are seeing slightly under the respective county population.

To date, most of the ERA 2 funds have supported households at 30 percent AMI and below (58.6%) with 26.6% for households at 30-50 percent AMI, 8.3% for 60 percent AMI, and 6.5% for households at 61-80 percent AMI. Black households are participating five times above respective county population; for Hispanic and Asian households, we are seeing slightly under the respective county population.

In order to increase awareness of the ERA program, we created flyers in English and Spanish and inserted them in 3,000 food boxes that were delivered to local food pantries. In addition, a Facebook ad with the same information in both languages was created. Both of these methods reached a number of individuals throughout Denton County. Communication efforts continued with ERA 2 to ensure residents impacted during the COVID-19 pandemic were aware and could apply for assistance as needed.

Our Denton County Public Health Department also applied for and received four COVID- related grants funded through the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to help reduce health disparities. Below is a list of those grants and the funding amount.

- Immunization Grant (Former Vacc. Capacity) - \$749,729
- Health Disparities Grant - \$500,000
- Workforce Expansion Grant - \$400,000
- COVID Epidemiology Grant - \$912,699

We no longer offer only COVID-19 vaccination clinics, per the State requirements. However, the Vaccine Capacity grant team did take COVID-19 vaccines to nine

community vaccination clinics. At the off-site and in-office clinics, DCPH has vaccinated a total of 248 adults (19 years and older) who are uninsured, whose insurance does not cover the COVID-19 vaccine, or whose insurance requires an out-of-pocket cost for the vaccine. DCPH clinics have also vaccinated a total of 420 children who qualify for the Vaccines For Children (VFC) program.

Denton County Public Health does not promote or advertise COVID vaccinations alone. In accordance with Rider 40, DCPH lists COVID vaccines as an offering alongside other Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended vaccines in educational materials. COVID vaccinations are not singled out from other vaccines or listed alone in educational materials.

Denton County also received funding from the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. We received our first tranche payment of \$63,167.14 on December 12, 2022. We should receive our second tranche in the same amount in the near future, for a total of \$126,334.28.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

Equity has always been a value of Denton County. Denton County continues to distribute SLFRF funds in a fair and equitable manner with a focus on serving impacted communities. We have been serving those most affected by the pandemic in our vaccinations, testing, contact tracing, food programs and homeless project where we coordinated with nonprofits and other community organizations to ensure our efforts were reaching those in need across all populations within the county. We will continue to focus our efforts in this manner going forward while utilizing SLFRF funds.

Contact Tracing/Investigations:

During the reporting period, Denton County Public Health staff and contractors worked to ensure that community members received timely communication of quarantine and isolation information to help reduce the spread of the virus.

Food Programs:

Denton County corroborated with nonprofits across the county to ensure equitable distribution of food products, including protein grants and 25lb. boxes of fresh fruits and vegetables, were available to those most in need. Through social media outreach in multiple languages to ensuring diverse organizations were involved in the food distribution, every effort was made to ensure equitable outcomes among all Denton County residents in need of assistance to feed their families.

Community Engagement

Denton County always welcomes feedback from constituents and community-based organizations regarding projects funded with State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. Community engagement will be an ongoing process. The American Rescue Plan Act was first presented by our County Administrator during a weekly Commissioners Court

meeting on August 10, 2021. This presentation included an overview of the Act, including eligible uses as well as possible county projects. This presentation was broadcasted live and is available for viewing at the following link: <https://www.dentoncounty.gov/1344/Agendas-Minutes-and-Videos>. The Commissioners Court always devotes a portion of their weekly meeting agenda to accept public comment. Constituents are welcome to attend these meetings and provide feedback and/or comment on past, present, and future use of SLFRF Funds. Court members and support staff strongly consider any public comments regarding the use of said funds.

Denton County began hosting virtual weekly COVID-19 meetings in 2020 with local municipalities, school districts, chambers of commerce, nonprofit groups and other legislative agencies. These calls served as a channel of information related to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects on those within our community. During these meetings, our Public Health Director would provide statistics and information on COVID cases, deaths, testing, and vaccinations as well as CDC recommendations. Our Community Relations Director would provide pertinent information regarding ongoing food, emergency rental assistance, grants and other programs designed to assist community members affected by and during the COVID pandemic. Once the American Rescue Plan was passed, information on this topic was incorporated into the weekly meetings.

Denton County also began hosting monthly Mayors Meetings with municipalities in early 2022 as a collaborative effort to discuss issues pertinent to local governments. During a meeting on February 23, 2022, the National Association of Counties (NACo) presented to the group on the American Rescue Plan, which included eligible uses and Q&As. These meetings allow for communication among groups so we can determine the best use of ARPA funds as well as to avoid duplication of effort.

Denton County has hosted several meetings to collaborate with non-profits to address community needs as demand began increasing, particularly among senior residents. Our Community Relations Director collaborated with United Way of Denton County during a meeting on July 13, 2023, which will generate a database of senior services to help address escalating needs.

Our Community Relations Director meets monthly with food pantry directors and two area food banks serving Denton County to collaborate on addressing needs, both short-term and long-term. The ongoing meetings serve as a vital communications tool in addressing food insecurity.

In regard to public health services, Denton County's Public Health Department directly contacted individuals testing positive for COVID-19 to complete a case investigation and provide public health guidance regarding isolation. DCPH also provided information specific to quarantine guidance for contacts with confirmed COVID-19 cases. Through case investigations, DCPH conducted continuous quality improvement efforts to streamline internal processes, maintain data quality, and enhance access to relevant, timely, and accurate COVID-19 information. DCPH maintained active social media accounts, a general public health email, and a call center to engage with the community. DCPH leadership provided a weekly presentation to the local governing

entities, attended local community group meetings, engaged with local independent school districts, and collaborated with civic organizations.

With the support of the grant funds, during the funding period, DCPH utilized the CDC Social Vulnerability Index (SVI); data regarding populations disproportionately affected by COVID-19; and vaccination coverage rates to:

- Engage the community in development of vaccination and preparedness response education and outreach materials.
- Heighten access to vaccination and address vaccine hesitancy and misinformation within target communities.
- Build sustainable partnerships with trusted leaders, community members, and organizations to impact health equity and increase access to free and accessible vaccinations.
- Implement public health workforce development in culturally and linguistically appropriate services.

Labor Practices

Denton County has utilized SLFRF funds to employ Contractor Compliance and Monitoring, Inc. to ensure compliance with recommended labor standards established by the U.S Treasury. In accordance with Davis-Bacon Act of 1931, Contractor Compliance and Monitoring Inc. will provide federal wage compliance and monitoring services for all SLFRF capital expenditure projects requiring contracted labor. Contractor Compliance Monitoring, Inc. conducts interviews, reviews timecards, and analyzes qualifications & experience to ensure all contracted workers are paid the prevailing wage for the Denton County area and required working conditions are maintained.

Use of Evidence

*See preceding “*Use of Evidence*” sub-sections associated to specific projects noted above under the **Uses of Funds** section*

Performance Report

*See “Performance Report” narratives associated to each project listed in the succeeding **Project Inventory** section*



Project Inventory

HVAC Renovations

Project ID: HVACHReno



Funding Amount

\$8,082,223

Expenditure
Category

**1.4 Prevention In
Congregate Settings**

Project Overview

- The Public Facilities department has utilized SLFRF funding to enhance the Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems within public buildings. This project consists of replacing and/or upgrading air handling systems within congregate areas including the Denton County Courts Building, the Courthouse-on-the-Square, the Southwest Courthouse, and the Copeland Building to mitigate against the spread of COVID-19 and other airborne viruses. These upgrades, which include the installation of MERV 13 and UVGI filtration, will help reduce infection spread amongst staff and citizens while ensuring the courts will remain open to effectively deliver county services.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicator for the HVAC Renovation projects will be the reduced risk of spreading COVID-19 and contracting other airborne pathogens because of the improvements to the air filtration systems of Denton County public buildings.

Denton County Trunked Radio System

Project ID: DentCountTrunkdRadioSyst



Funding Amount

\$6,692,671

Expenditure
Category

**1.7 Other COVID 19 Public
Health Expenses**

Project Overview

- This project involves the purchase and construction of two radio towers, site equipment and maintenance for the Denton County P25 Regional Radio Network from Motorola Solutions, Inc. Funds utilized will serve all residents of Denton County through increased communication coverage for first responders including Law Enforcement, Firefighters, Emergency Medical Services, and Emergency Management personnel. In addition, ancillary users of the system include Public Health workers administering vaccines, conducting testing, and serving communities through other programs that are authorized by ARPA.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicator for this project will be the increased speed and efficiency which this new communications system allows Denton County Emergency Management and first responders to respond to emergency situations.

Feeding Denton County – Denton Creek Farm

Project ID: FeedFeedDentCountDntCrkFrm



Funding Amount

\$4,753,316

Expenditure
Category

**2.1 Household Assistance:
Food Programs**

Project Overview

- Feeding Denton County - Denton County is contracting with Denton Creek Farm to provide up to 3,500 25 lb. boxes of fresh fruits and vegetables distributed to 21 non-profit organizations, including food pantries and churches, to feed individuals in need of food for families affected during the COVID-19 pandemic. One box per household is provided, with 3,100 to 3,400 households receiving a box each week. The program was designed to address a lack of fresh produce available to low-income households within Denton County to provide nutrition for all ages/demographics within families at 80 percent Area Media Income or below. The program sources produce from area farmers first, then regional and national as needed, to provide a variety of at least 13 different fruits and vegetables with boxes tailored to meet dietary needs to suit different demographics.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicator for the Feeding Denton County project is measured according to the number of produce boxes distributed each week. During this period, Feeding Denton County has distributed approximately 125,455 (25lbs each) produce boxes to Denton County families. That equates to 3,136,375 pounds of produce distributed to hungry households in the Denton County community.

Enterprise Resource Planning System Implementation and Subscription Project

Project ID: DentContERImpPrjct



Funding Amount
\$3,777,409

Expenditure
Category

**3.4 Public Sector Capacity:
Effective Service Delivery**

Project Overview

- Due to nearing obsolescence of Denton County's existing ERP system and the new working conditions resulting from the pandemic, Commissioners Court issued RFP #22-2690 in January 2023 and awarded the RFP for ERP Software and Implementation Services to Collaborative Solutions, LLC in January 2024. Collaborative Solutions (a Cognizant company) and Workday have partnered to provide a cloud-based solution that will provide the County with powerful resources that will elevate County operations in a way we have not experienced previously. This new ERP system will provide the tools to effectively deliver public services and execute government programs. The improvements to technology infrastructure will allow operations to adapt to other public health or disaster emergencies by allowing for remote collaboration and data sharing.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicator for the Denton County ERP project will be the increased capacity and capability of the Enterprise Resource planning system to assist Denton County employees to effectively provide services the community.

COPPER CANYON PROPERTY PURCHASE

Project ID: CopperCanyonPropPurch



Funding Amount

\$1,282,022

Expenditure

Category

2.22 Strong and Healthy
Communities-Neighborhood Feature
that Promote health and safety

Project Overview

- Denton County purchased a 60-acre working adult and youth camp located near the Town of Copper Canyon. This purchase will ensure a large area of green space capable of supporting multiple public opportunities including historical preservation, interpretive learning activities, physical fitness, and the traditional “camp” activities available to youth and adults. It is Denton County’s intention to offer specialized camp opportunities to our underserved communities including those with physical and mental challenges. The camp will support public meeting space through small conference areas and multiple opportunities for volunteers, non-governmental organizations, and others to participate and utilize the camp. The location of the camp places it within a rapidly growing suburban area that is currently transitioning from a rural farm agricultural area to dense living space.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicators for this project include the public benefit of a preserved Green Space to enjoy healthy and safe outdoor activities, the number of community members that visit the park, and the opportunities made available due to the development of this area.

DTS Cybersecurity Improvements and Network Segmentation

Project ID: DTSCybSecNetSeg



Funding Amount
\$1,051,462

Expenditure
Category

**1.7 Other COVID 19 Public
Health Expenses**

Project Overview

- The Department of Technology Services is requesting the purchase of Illumio Zero Trust Segmentation Platform to increase the County's cybersecurity posture and isolate cyberattacks across any cloud, data center, or endpoint. Illumio is a security product that secures computing platforms and will allow the County to separate computer systems by department, software function, and risk. This product will give visibility on how applications and users utilize their computers to complete daily functions and build a map of how the systems should be separated or segmented for better security. Once mapped out, policies that act as digital fences are applied to segment departments and workflows. Illumio is comprised of two components, Core and Endpoint Software. Core allows a central location for all data collection and policies for management and design. Endpoint Software enforces policies designed in Core.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicators for this project will be the improvements to the security and efficiency of Denton County technology systems that network segmentation will provide.

ICA for Dark Fiber Connection

Project ID: DrkFibCon



Funding Amount
\$343,750

Expenditure
Category

**7.2 Transfers to Other
Units of Government**

Project Overview

- Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between Denton County, Texas, and the City of Corinth, Texas, in the amount of \$258,383.91; and the Town of Hickory Creek, Texas, in the amount of 53,825.22; and the Town of Shady Shores, Texas, in the amount of \$31,540.89, for the purpose of allowing Denton County two connection points for dark fiber connectivity. The County will pay a total of \$343,750.03 to the Lake Cities for a minimum of four strands of dark fiber at two locations within their network. These strands will allow a Denton County route through the Lake Cities network as the County deems necessary in the future and would enable direct connectivity to services such as Lake Cities Fire Stations, City and Town Police Departments, and other future County facilities within the Lake Cities area.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicator for the Dark Fiber Connection project will be the increased response time of first responders to emergency situations facilitated by these new dark fiber connections.

WIC Clinic Funding

Project ID: WicClinicFund



Funding Amount
\$289,487

Expenditure
Category

**1.14 Other COVID 19
Public Health Services**

Project Overview

- Denton County Women, Infants, & Children (WIC) program is a Special Supplemental Nutrition Program, with Denton County serving as the Parent Agency for Local Agency #35. Denton County WIC includes three unique clinic sites located in Denton, Lewisville, and Carrollton. The Carrollton WIC clinic was required to relocate in September 2023 due to an unforeseen notice of non-renewal for the 3044 Old Denton Road property. The Carrollton location was previously funded by the state through WIC funding, but funding was diverted to help pay for the increased cost of personnel. Denton County WIC executed a commercial lease with CARM, LCC for a term of 37 months, effective August 1, 2023.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicator for the WIC Clinic funding project will be the continued capability of the program to serve the community due to the facility costs being funded using SLFRF.

COVID Response Support – Public Safety Payroll

Project ID: PubSafePayroll



Funding Amount
\$253,044

Expenditure
Category

**3.1 Public Sector Workforce:
Payroll**

Project Overview

- In addition to the Public Health Department contributions, the Emergency Management Department has also provided essential work during the county's response activities to the COVID-19 virus. As with public health, there are a select few Emergency Management personnel spending the majority of their time performing COVID response duties. Such duties include but are not limited to: Implementing strategies and protocols that prepare for future waves of COVID; creating and providing COVID-19 updates and guidance to municipal Emergency Management Coordinators, School Districts, Fire Departments, and Police Departments who are assisting in providing support for public health operations, such as weather monitoring for outdoor vaccination sites, PPE inventory management, and assisting with vaccination clinics; and attending public health meetings regarding communicable disease response.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicator for this project is the tax benefit to the public. Budgeted payroll costs are ordinarily funded by tax revenue collected from the community. Funding \$253,044 of eligible payroll costs using SLFRF funds translates to a direct tax savings to the public during these hard economic times of the COVID-19 health emergency.

COVID RESPONSE SUPPORT-GRANT AUDITOR PAYROLL

Project ID: GrantAudPayroll



Funding Amount
\$235,044

Expenditure
Category

**3.1 Public Sector Workforce:
Payroll**

Project Overview

- As time progressed since the inception of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, the implementation of COVID-related policies, and issuance of Federal & State COVID-19 grants, it became evident that administration of these funds would require employment of public sector staff to spend 100% of their time managing, auditing, reporting, and providing general compliance oversight for these grant funds. A select team of Denton County Internal Auditors has been tasked solely to perform these administration duties. Such duties include but are not limited to: Auditing and enforcing compliance of CARES, ERA, & SLFRF expenditures; performing Subrecipient monitoring for CARES, ERA, & SLFRF grant programs; creating and submitting Treasury required reports and related documents; performing research and making recommendations to Denton County Administration personnel regarding eligible uses of grant funds; and providing evidence of Denton County's accounting & policy compliance during the Single Audit Process.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicator for this project is the tax benefit to the public. Budgeted payroll costs are ordinarily funded by tax revenue collected from the community. Funding \$235,044 of eligible payroll costs using SLFRF funds translates to a direct tax savings to the public during these hard economic times of the COVID-19 health emergency.

PAYROLL FOR COVID RESPONSE STAFF – MENTAL HEALTH NAVIGATOR PAYROLL

Project ID: MentHealthNavPayroll



Funding Amount
\$234,755

Expenditure
Category

3.1 Public Sector Workforce:
Payroll

Project Overview

- The COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting loss of life, mandatory isolation, and negative economic impacts exacerbated adverse psychological conditions for many individuals within the Denton County community. To provide a resource for those in need, Denton County Public Health created a Mental Health Navigator program. SLFRF was utilized for software, phones, computer equipment, and payroll for two full time employees spending 100% of their time performing Mental Health Navigator tasks. Mental Health Navigators will work in the Public Health Department and perform short-term case management and system navigation work for individuals who need assistance accessing mental health services. These positions are desperately needed in order to address the increase in mental health issues in our County.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicator for this project is the tax benefit to the public. Budgeted payroll costs are ordinarily funded by tax revenue collected from the community. Funding \$234,755 of eligible payroll costs using SLFRF funds translates to a direct tax savings to the public during these hard economic times of the COVID-19 health emergency.

TEMPORARY STAFF FOR COVID RESPONSE – CONTACT TRACING

Project ID: TempStaffContTrac



Funding Amount
\$215,813

Expenditure
Category

1.3 COVID-19 Contact
Tracing

Project Overview

- Denton County Public Health (DCPH) conducted case investigations for all positive COVID-19 lab results for Denton County residents. DCPH received laboratory reports from healthcare providers, the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS), and laboratories for individuals who tested positive for COVID-19. DCPH conducted phone-based interviews to validate demographic data, assess symptoms, identify contacts, and relay public health guidance. DCPH utilized SLFRF funding for COVID-19 contact tracing and case investigation staff, and IT support equipment. Case investigator personnel were hired through a partnership with a contract-staffing agency and funding was utilized for hourly pay of staff. Staffing levels were based on current COVID-19 case trends and the volume of incoming labs to ensure timely investigations and response.

Performance Report

- During the reporting period, DCPH staff and contractors worked to ensure that community members received timely communication of quarantine and isolation information to help reduce the spread of the virus. The DCPH Call Center responded to incoming calls to the COVID-19 Hotline and provided community members with information regarding public health recommendations, mitigating risk, and vaccinations.

COVID RESPONSE SUPPORT-ERP PROJECT PAYROLL

Project ID: ERPPayroll



Funding Amount
\$147,471

Expenditure
Category

**3.1 Public Sector
Workforce: Payroll**

Project Overview

- Denton County's current Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system is nearing obsolescence. To improve operational function and provide the best service possible, it was necessary to upgrade this system. The project was approved, and the implementation of this new ERP system will be funded with SLFRF. To ensure implementation is finished on time, 3 new positions were created in the Information Technology department to assist with this process. These staff members partner with ERP implementation vendors to create feasible project timelines and workflows, create and administer meetings with Denton County departments, create test configurations and implementation plans, create end user training for county departments, and assist department team leads with organization of legacy data to import into the new system.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicator for this project is the tax benefit to the public. Budgeted payroll costs are ordinarily funded by tax revenue collected from the community. Funding \$147,471 of eligible payroll costs using SLFRF funds translates to a direct tax savings to the public during these hard economic times of the COVID-19 health emergency.

DETENTION OFFICER EMPLOYEE RETENTION PROGRAM

Project ID: DetOffRetProg



Funding Amount
\$130,503

Expenditure
Category

**3.3 Public Sector
Workforce: Other**

Project Overview

- It has always been a challenge to attract and retain Detention Officers in the County Jail. The COVID pandemic only exacerbated this issue. In order to maintain sufficient staffing levels to meet jail standards, the Sheriff's Office had to require Detention Officers and other staff to work mandatory overtime. Due to this requirement, most of these employees have been unable to take off and use their vacation time. Per county policy, employees lose vacation hours over 160 at the end of the calendar year. Therefore, Commissioners Court approved paying vacation hours over 160, including accruals through the end of the calendar year, to Detention Officer I's, Detention Officer II's and Jail Sergeants.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicator for this project is the continuity of Denton County Jail operations by retaining the Detention Officers this project will benefit.

SOFTWARE TO ASSIST WITH EFFECTIVE DELIVERY OF COUNTY SERVICES

Project ID: SoftWareForEffectiveServ



Funding Amount
\$118,230

Expenditure
Category

**3.4 Public Sector Capacity:
Effective Service Delivery**

Project Overview

- System Management Software will allow the Magistrate's Office to uniformly communicate and manage cases and address backlogs resulting from the pandemic. This software will allow offices to share and store data necessary for efficient criminal processes. The Magistration software and the Indigent Defense software are two distinct applications that are capable of operating independently, however, they are designed to work together to address all aspects of defendant magistration, bail, and appointment of indigent counsel, when appropriate. The software will also assist the County in complying with Senate Bill 6 enacted by the 87th Texas Legislature by reducing time constraints and information requirements.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicator for this project is the increase in efficiency of magistrate operations that will enable the office to get back on schedule to process cases in a timely manner.

DENTON COUNTY PROTEIN GRANT-UNITED WAY

Project ID: ProteinGrantUntdWay



Funding Amount
\$99,910

Expenditure
Category

**2.1 Household Assistance:
Food Programs**

Project Overview

- Denton County corroborated with the United Way of Denton County to work with area food pantries in addressing protein, milk and other food supply needs due to increased demand and lack of supplies. In creating a grant program, non-profits applied for funds to purchase specific foods such as turkey, chicken, ground meat, cheese and milk to supplement pantries experiencing a 300 to 400 percent increase in need from pre-COVID-19 demand. Grants were submitted to 5 agencies. They were reviewed by UWDC and Denton County, following Treasury guidelines in providing food to the underserved as well as families with 80 percent AMI or below.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicators for this project are as follows: Working with 8-10 major food pantries, food was provided predominately to extremely low income (30 percent AMI) and very low income (50 percent AMI) families in north and south Denton County. At least 50-60 percent of recipients were Latino. An estimated 15 percent of recipients were new families receiving assistance (i.e., unduplicated by month).

ERA ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANCE

Project ID: ERAadminAssistance



Funding Amount
\$79,262

Expenditure
Category

**2.3 Household Assistance: Rent,
Mortgage and Utility Aid**

Project Overview

- Due to the administration requirements needed to process ERA2 applications, additional full-time employees were funded using SLFRF. These employees were hired by United Way of Denton, who is Denton County's subrecipient administering the county's ERA programs. This project is necessary to ensure the ERA2 applications are thoroughly reviewed for household eligibility; and to increase the efficacy and efficiency of the approval process so households are awarded timely in order to avoid housing instability and/or homelessness.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicator for this project is the 7,060 ERA2 applications submitted by at-risk households and the additional staff members who helped process the applications during the period of performance.

FEDERAL WAGE MONITORING FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS

Project ID: FedWagMontCapEx



Funding Amount
\$68,600

Expenditure
Category

**1.7 Other COVID 19
Public Health Expenses**

Project Overview

- Denton County has utilized SLFRF funds to employ Contractor Compliance and Monitoring, Inc. to ensure compliance with recommended labor standards established by the U.S Treasury. In accordance with Davis-Bacon Act of 1931, Contractor Compliance and Monitoring Inc. will provide federal wage compliance and monitoring services for all SLFRF capital expenditure projects requiring contracted labor. Contractor Compliance Monitoring, Inc. conducts interviews, reviews timecards, and analyzes qualifications & experience to ensure all contracted workers are paid the prevailing wage for the Denton County area and required working conditions are maintained.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicator for this project is the assured compliance with federal wage regulations and increased morale of the contracted workers knowing they are being paid fairly, as well as the increased quality of work completed by a content workforce.

SOFTWARE FOR MENTAL HEALTH NAVIGATOR PROJECT

Project ID: SoftWareMentHealthNav



Funding Amount
\$67,860

Expenditure
Category

1.12 Mental Health Services

Project Overview

- The COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting loss of life, mandatory isolation, and negative economic impacts exacerbated adverse psychological conditions for many individuals within the Denton County community. To provide a resource for those in need, Denton County created a Mental Health Navigator program. SLFRF was utilized to purchase necessary software to allow Navigators to send and exchange information between mental health navigators at Denton County Public Health and help seekers.

Performance Report

- There are a total of 440 mental health resources available in the directory. Total number of help seekers assisted since the beginning of the program in August 2023 is 176 people. The average number of help seekers assisted per month is 31. About 30% of help seekers are asking for mental health support for the first time.

COVID ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT

Grouped Administration Projects



Funding Amount
\$64,613

Expenditure
Category

**7.1 Administrative
Expenses**

Project Overview

- As a result of SLFRF projects undertaken to mitigate COVID-19 and the effects thereof, administrative needs were inevitable. Expenses incurred during the reporting period include the following: contracted 3rd party to issue a cost allocation plan for a calculated indirect cost rate to be applied to SLFRF projects ; cloud storage needed for SLFRF program documentation; computer equipment needed for Denton County COVID response staff; software licenses for programs needed for Denton County COVID response staff; and cell phone/mobile data services for Denton County Public Health and Public Safety-first responders dedicated to COVID-19 response.

Performance Report

- The incurrence of administrative expenses directly related to SLFRF projects undertaken by Denton County is evidence of efforts to recover from the negative economic and public health impacts of the pandemic.

DENTAL EQUIPMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

Project ID: DentEquipForPubHlth



Funding Amount
\$16,573

Expenditure
Category

**3.4 Public Sector Capacity:
Effective Service Delivery**

Project Overview

- As a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, consequential negative economic impacts, and resulting budget constraints, Denton County utilized SLFRF to purchase dental equipment to replace outdated equipment for the Public Health Dental Clinic. The Public Health Department purchased three A-dec 511 Dental Chairs and a Desktop Impression Scanner to replace the existing outdated equipment to improve daily operations. The scanner will help the department create a new program for indigent care dental needs in providing prosthetics (dentures and partial dentures). This equipment will help ensure the effective service delivery of public health operations to the Denton County community.

Performance Report

- The key performance indicator for this project is the improved ability of the Denton County Public Health Dental Clinic to effectively provide dental services to county citizens.

COVID RESPONSE-SOCIAL MEDIA BROADCASTING

Project ID: COVIDSocMedBroaCast



Funding Amount
\$4,238

Expenditure
Category

**1.14 Other COVID 19
Public Health Services**

Project Overview

- Understanding the needs of the community, Denton County is utilizing SLFRF funds to provide public health services related to COVID-19. Such services combat the spread of the virus by creating a community environment that is aware of potential risks and knowledgeable of how to avoid or lessen the danger of those risks. Employing social media as a communication tool to inform citizens of COVID-19 health concerns and recommendations is one more method of employing SLFRF funds that serves all impacted and disproportionately impacted populations, to include the general public and low-or-moderate income level households.

Performance Report

- The Denton County social media management project allows for direct and easy flow of communication to county citizens regarding changes to county operations and health concerns, as well as federal and state orders related to COVID-19. Analytics on performance of social media posts and ads allow the county to monitor reach to ensure thorough knowledge of ongoing programs.

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

Category		Cost for Reporting Period
1: PUBLIC HEALTH		
COVID-19 Mitigation & Prevention		
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination	
1.2	COVID-19 Testing	
1.3	COVID-19 Contact Tracing	\$215,813
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, Child Care Facilities, etc.)	\$8,120,823
1.5	Personal Protective Equipment	
1.6	Medical Expenses (Including Alternative Care Facilities)	
1.7	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (Including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)	\$7,814,133
1.8	COVID-19 Assistance to Small Businesses	
1.9	COVID-19 Assistance to Non-Profits	
1.10	COVID-19 Aid to Impacted Industries	
Community Violence Interventions		
1.11	Community Violence Interventions	
Behavioral Health		
1.12	Mental Health Services	\$67,860
1.13	Substance Use Services	
Other		
1.14	Other Public Health Services	\$293,724
2: Negative Economic Impacts		
Assistance to Households		
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs	\$4,853,226
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utilities	

Category		Cost for Reporting Period
2.3	Household Assistance: Cash Transfers	\$79,262
2.4	Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs	
2.5	Household Assistance: Paid Sick and Medical Leave	
2.6	Household Assistance: Health Insurance	
2.7	Household Assistance: Services for Un/Unbanked	
2.8	Household Assistance: Survivor's Benefits	
2.9	Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers	
2.10	Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g., job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)	
2.11	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care	
2.12	Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting	
2.13	Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System	
2.14	Healthy Childhood Environments: Early Learning	
2.15	Long-Term Housing Security: Affordable Housing	
2.16	Long-Term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons	
2.17	Housing Support: Housing Vouchers and Relocation Assistance for Disproportionately Impacted Communities	
2.18	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	
2.19	Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators	
2.20	Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation	
2.21	Medical Facilities for Disproportionately Impacted Communities	
2.22	Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety	\$1,282,022
2.23	Strong Healthy Communities: Demolition and Rehabilitation of Properties	
2.24	Addressing Education Disparities: Aid to High-Poverty Districts	

Category		Cost for Reporting Period
2.25	Addressing Educational Disparities: Academic, Social, and Emotional Services	
2.26	Addressing Educational Disparities: Mental Health Services	
2.27	Addressing Impacts of Lost Instructional Time	
2.28	Contributions to UI Trust Funds	
Assistance to Small Businesses		
2.29	Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship	
2.30	Technical Assistance, Counseling, or Business Planning	
2.31	Rehabilitation of Commercial Properties or Other Improvements	
2.32	Business Incubators and Start-Up or Expansion Assistance	
2.33	Enhanced Support to Microbusinesses	
Assistance to Nonprofits		
2.34	Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)	
Aid to Impacted Industries		
2.35	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality	
2.36	Aid to Other Impacted Industries	
Other		
2.37	Economic Impact Assistance: Other	
3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity		
General Provisions		
3.1	Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers	\$870,880
3.2	Public Sector Workforce: Rehiring Public Sector Staff	
3.3	Public Sector Workforce: Other	\$130,503
3.4	Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery	\$3,912,212
3.5	Public Sector Capacity: Administrative Needs	

Category		Cost for Reporting Period
4: Premium Pay		
4.1	Public Sector Employees	
4.2	Private Sector: Grants to Other Employees	
5: Infrastructure		
Water and Sewer		
5.1	Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment	
5.2	Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Collection and Conveyance	
5.3	Clean Water: Decentralized Wastewater	
5.4	Clean Water: Combined Sewer Overflows	
5.5	Clean Water: Other Sewer Infrastructure	
5.6	Clean Water: Storm water	
5.7	Clean Water: Energy Conservation	
5.8	Clean Water: Water Conservation	
5.9	Clean Water: Nonpoint Source	
5.10	Drinking Water: Treatment	
5.11	Drinking Water: Transmission & Distribution	
5.12	Drinking Water: Transmission & Distribution: Lead Remediation	
5.13	Drinking Water: Source	
5.14	Drinking Water: Storage	
5.15	Drinking Water: Other Water Infrastructure	
5.16	Water and Sewer: Private Wells	
5.17	Water and Sewer: IJJA Bureau of Reclamation Match	
5.18	Water and Sewer: Other	
Broadband		
5.19	Broadband: "Last Mile" Projects	
5.20	Broadband: IJJA Match	
5.21	Broadband: Other Projects	

Category		Costs for Reporting Period
6: Revenue Replacement		
6.1	Provision of Government Services	
6.2	Non-Federal Match for Other Federal Programs	
7: Administrative		
7.1	Administrative Expenses	\$24,613
7.2	Transfers to Other Units of Government	\$341,750

