

Permanent Supportive Housing **Recovery Plan**

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2022 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The City of Fort Worth allocated \$5,000,000.00 from the American Rescue Plan Act, Subtitle M (Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds) for the development of permanent supportive housing (PSH).

The City intends to combine these funds with other local and federal resources in order to create 165 units of PSH for those experiencing chronic homelessness. The City has awarded two projects which include SLFRF funding as of June 30, 2022. The City currently has an open Notification for Funding Availability for the remaining \$3.6 million in SLFRF funds for PSH and expects to award additional projects in October.

The City is using these funds for PSH in order to serve populations and communities hit hardest by the pandemic and by addressing disparities to promote equity.

Recently, the Department of Housing and Urban Development issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity for Continuums of Care to reduce unsheltered homelessness. One opportunity is to pair the capital funding available through HOME-ARP and SLFRF with these rental assistance funds in order to reduce unsheltered homelessness specifically while boosting the stock of very low income housing in the community.

Uses of Funds

The City of Fort Worth will use the \$5 million in ARPA funds to: (2.16 Long-Term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons)

- Leveraging other public and private funds – The City has been able to use the \$5 million of ARPA funds in combination with \$2.55 million in private philanthropic funds, \$2.55 million in Fort Worth Housing Finance Corporation Funds, \$1.3 million in City general funds, \$9 million in federal HOME-ARPA funds and \$1 million in federal HOME funds to create at least 165 units of PSH. Funding for 128 PSH has already been awarded.
- Reduce chronic homelessness – It is a longstanding goal of the City to support the federal goal of ending chronic homelessness. By building units specifically for PSH, the City addresses three housing barriers at once: the lack of physical units, the lack of landlords accepting vouchers/rental assistance and the difficulty of background criteria for applicants.
- Boost the stock of 0-30% AMI housing – The City is short approximately 22,000 units of

Promoting equitable outcomes

The funding is targeted to the chronically homeless population – those who are disabled and have been homeless longer than one year. This is a very disadvantaged population and includes an over-representation of African-Americans. One way to look at homelessness is the failure of other social systems. Because of systemic racism in other systems – for example criminal justice, housing and healthcare, historically underserved and marginalized groups are over-represented in the homeless population.

Community Engagement

Extensive community engagement through focus groups was the driving reason for selecting the use of these ARPA funds for PSH. It was identified as a need by various service providers, but also individuals with lived experience of homelessness. The local homeless system strives to be true to the adage “nothing about us, without us” and making sure those currently or formerly experiencing homelessness are at the decision-making table. Aside from the homeless community, there has been community engagement through public meetings and hearings in order to receive feedback from individual citizens.

Labor Practices

PSH projects which have local City funding have goals for local hiring through Section 3 requirements and also MWBE (Minority, Women, Business Development) goals set by the City. PSH projects that include federal HOME-ARP and HOME funding have wage requirements through Davis Bacon.

Use of Evidence

Projects will be monitored to ensure they produce the required units. After completion, monitoring and performance measures will be used. Monitoring will focus on ensuring eligible households (those meeting the definition of chronically homeless) occupy the units. Community performance measures for PSH projects include: length of time to being housed, increasing employment income, increasing non-employment income, increasing well-being, exits to permanent housing and returns to homelessness. These measures are tracked in GreenRiver, a local homeless reporting system that is public-facing. PSH is an evidence-based intervention for reducing chronic homelessness.

Performance Report

The key criteria to determining success will be the physical production of at least 165 units of PSH. The Neighborhood Services Department will be tracking that progress which will be publicly available. Once the projects are serving clients, both the City’s homelessness unit and Tarrant County Homeless Coalition, HUD lead agency, will be tracking outcomes and best practices for PSH.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project: OPG Clifton Riverside Partners

Funding amount: \$1,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.16 – Negative Economic Impacts – Long-Term Housing Security – Services for Unhoused Persons

Project Overview

- OPG Clifton Riverside Partners will create 8 units of PSH within a larger affordable housing project. The larger project will provide much needed affordable housing stock. The PSH units specifically will provide clients with long-term rental assistance through project-based vouchers and also long-term supportive services. The partners in the project are Overland Property Group and Across, LLC. The intended outcome is to house 8 chronically homeless households and provide support needed for them to maintain housing and increase their well-being.

Use of Evidence

- The goal is to provide 8 units of PSH and PSH is an evidence-based intervention as determined by numerous studies and support by HUD.
- \$1,000,000 is for evidence-based interventions

Performance Report

- a. Long-term Housing Security (EC 2.16)
 - Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed

Project: Journey Home Housing

Funding amount: \$421,999

Project Expenditure Category: 2.16 – Negative Economic Impacts – Long-Term Housing Security – Services for Unhoused Persons

Project Overview

- Journey Home Housing will create 72 units of PSH. The PSH units will provide clients with long-term rental assistance through rental assistance and also long-term supportive services. The partners in the project are Presbyterian Night Shelter, L2L Development Advisors LLC and Construction Advisory Specialists. The project is acquiring land to build 18 quadraplexes and a laundry room and a community area with office space for case managers. The intended outcome is to house 72 chronically homeless households and provide support needed for them to maintain housing and increase their well-being.

Use of Evidence

- The goal is to provide 72 units of PSH and PSH is an evidence-based intervention as determined by numerous studies and support by HUD.
- \$421,999 is for evidence-based interventions

Performance Report

- b. Long-term Housing Security (EC 2.16)
 - Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed

CDFI Friendly America Recovery Plan Performance Report

Executive Summary

The contract with CDFI Friendly America, LLC engages the consultant to provide consulting services in assessing the potential roles of Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) financing in the community, organizing potential CDFI Friendly strategies, developing an actionable CDFI Friendly business plan, and providing the City with consultative capacity-building support for the implementation of that business plan in collaboration with the Economic Development Department and the Department of Diversity & Inclusion.

Use of Funds – EC2.7, Household Assistance: Services for Un/Unbanked

The scope of work to be provided over a period of 18 months with a cost of \$3 million includes the following:

- Help the City of Fort Worth build its community's capacity by establishing an independent, permanent CDFI Friendly entity ("CDFI Friendly Fort Worth") with appropriate local board and staff to manage and execute the community's CDFI Friendly strategy;
- Perform research and make reports on past community development efforts in Fort Worth, local market conditions, significant market trends and/or opportunities, and other elements that might affect the community's decisions;
- Work with the City of Fort Worth and identified stakeholders to identify credit gaps that CDFI financing might fill and prioritize them to inform the CDFI Friendly business strategy; and
- Prepare—in collaboration with the City and identified stakeholders—a business plan that clarifies and illuminates key findings, assumptions, resource needs, market priorities, and projected outcomes of a CDFI Friendly strategy for Fort Worth.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

The goal of CDFI Friendly America is to inform and create a CDFI Friendly strategy to significantly increase CDFI financing in Fort Worth with a priority on financing for communities of color, people of color, and others that have long been denied full access to essential financing on reasonable and appropriate terms

Community Engagement

CDFI Friendly America will conduct at least 50 group, community meetings for the following primary purposes:

- Learning about potential credit gaps
- Teaching participants about the potential roles of CDFIs

CDFI Friendly America will conduct at least 100 individual meetings with key leaders across sectors. The purpose of these meetings is to assess and identify the following:

- Past and ongoing efforts related to community development finance

- Interest and willingness of financial and philanthropic institutions to provide financial support to the resulting CDFI Friendly Fort Worth Strategy
- Potential interest in participating in the working coalition or in other roles
- Ability to provide guidance on potential credit gaps

Project Overview

The CDFI Friendly America contract with the City to develop and implement CDFI Friendly Fort Worth specifies the work will be in four stages:

1. Outreach and Launch: November 1, 2021, to January 30, 2022
2. Educating and Organizing: February 1 to July 30, 2022
3. Business Planning: August – October 30, 2022
4. Ramp Up Implementation: November 2022 to April 2023

Performance Report

From inception in November 2021 through January 2022, CDFI Friendly America worked with the COFW on the Outreach and Launch stage, which culminated in a Launch event on January 26, 2022 in the COFW new City Hall. The goals of this stage are to introduce City and community leaders to CDFIs and the CDFI Friendly strategy, to encourage commitments from CDFIs to work in Fort Worth, and to solicit commitments from financial institutions and others to support CDFI Friendly Fort Worth.

As of February, CDFI Friendly America began the Educating and Organizing stage of the project while continuing outreach. The goals of educating and organizing are to help residents, CDFIs, banks, City officials, and community leaders learn to work together; make more leaders who work to improve the City of Fort Worth in all sorts of ways more aware of CDFIs; and to support the development of a more robust infrastructure for increasing opportunities for City residents and small business owners, especially People of Color, low income people and others who face barriers to achieving success. This stage culminated a month early with a public event on June 29, 2022 in Fort Worth that was attended by over 150 people: about 130 in person and 28 virtually.

To complete the Educate and Organize the CDFI Friendly America team engaged in the following activities from April 1 to June 20, 2022:

- Continued to meet and coordinate all activities with the city team for this project, Christina Brooks, Chief Equity Officer, Robert Sturns, Director, Department of Economic Development, Veronica Villegas, Manager, Municipal Equity Division, and Telemachus Evans, Revitalization Coordinator, Economic Development Department.
- CDFI Friendly staff made a total of five trips to Fort Worth to meet with stakeholders. In addition, Mark, Donna, Lance, Laura, Marva, and Bri all traveled to Fort Worth for the June 29th event. During these visits Mark met with the Fort Worth Black Chamber, Child Care Associates, Clearinghouse CDFI, and the Rainwater Foundation. On June 22, he made a presentation to City Council. Marva met and addressed an 80 person meeting at Southeast Fort Worth. In addition, they each met individually with other leaders and potential borrowers. Throughout the quarter CFA staff met online with potential funders and investors, CDFIs, and potential borrowers.

- Organized and met with the CDFI Friendly Fort Worth Steering Committee in April and May and interviewed potential Board Members in June. In the April and May Board meetings, the Steering Committee learned about how CDFI Friendly boards function, reviewed lending activity, and gathered a list of people to nominate to the CDFI Friendly Fort Worth Board. In June they conducted interviews with the candidates and announced the Board Members on June 29th.
- In this quarter, CDFI Friendly Fort Worth received 39 requests for loans through its web site and referred them to appropriate CDFIs. Total requested was \$10,500,000, with the most requests for small business or affordable housing.
- CDFI Financing increased a great deal in this quarter: CDFIs reported making 69 loans to date, including 19 consumer loans, 11 small business loans and 39 mortgages for a total of \$7.3 million in the City of Fort Worth. CDFIs have requested origination fees for \$544,355 in loans to date and in June submitted additional requests for almost \$1.6 million in five mortgages made between January 1 and July 30th in Fort Worth.
- CFA Staff met one on one with five CDFIs, and also held an online networking session for CDFIs and developers of affordable housing or commercial real estate.
- CFA staff met one on one with 20 potential borrowers who were requesting a total of over \$35 million in loans. We prioritized the larger transactions and worked to connect them with appropriate CDFIs.
- Continued to update the CDFI Friendly Fort Worth website as events unfolded. Updated the CDFI Friendly website with resources to help applicants be better prepared to apply for a CDFI loan. This includes lists of resources for consumers, entrepreneurs, and developers.
- Continued to build the social media presence for CDFI Friendly Fort Worth on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter, and published 30 posts.
- Received six mentions in the press.
- Identified the Texas A & M legal clinic and received their commitment to do the legal work to incorporate CDFI Friendly Fort Worth and apply for nonprofit status starting in August.
- Held the June 29th Event, titled "CDFI Friendly Fort Worth: What's Next?" at Tarrant County College. Speakers included Christina Brooks, Robert Sturns and Mark Pinsky with panels of community leaders and borrowers. Participants also discussed potential CDFI deals in small groups that included CDFI staff and bankers to learn how CDFIs review loan requests.
- Began the Business Planning effort for CDFI Friendly Fort Worth, completing a detailed outline that will be the basis of the next stage of this process.

The project is progressing one month ahead of schedule and gaining appropriate traction. Completion percentage: 39% (one month ahead of schedule)

Recovery Plan Performance Report

Executive Summary

The Center for Transforming Lives (CTL) intends to complete an adaptive reuse of a 1950's era structure, located at 2851 S. Riverside Drive. This facility is located within the 76119-zip code which has one of the highest poverty rates in Tarrant County, which is located in the qualified Census Tract Code 1038.00. The proposed redevelopment will restore both the building and the surrounding land to create a hub for services, such as early childhood education and economic opportunity. The City of Fort Worth and Tarrant County, have identified a need to partner on the establishment of this centralized campus to improve access to childcare, healthcare and workforce development among those populations that have been disproportionately impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and the resulting recession.

Use of Funds – EC1.12 Mental Health Services, EC2.11 Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care, EC2.29 Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Upon execution of the Agreement, the City will make available a payment in the amount of \$1,500,000.00 to CTL from the City's FY22 ARPA funds for expenses related to eligible uses associated with the construction of the core and building improvements of the campus. A second payment of \$1,500,000.00 from the City's FY23 ARPA funds for eligible expenses associated with the construction of the core and building improvements will be provided to CTL for a total amount of \$3,000,000.00. The proposed opening of the facility is estimated to be in the Fall of 2024.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

The facility will serve low to moderate income families in need of increased housing stability, affordable quality childcare, increased economic security and/or improved mental health. In order to address these issues, CTL will provide the following services at the facility:

- **Improved access to childcare:** The new facility will offer care for up to 120 children, including those who qualify for Head Start or Early Head Start as well as traditional childcare, with expansive natural playgrounds.
- **Improved access to quality behavioral healthcare:** CTL's behavioral health providers are licensed through Medicaid and CHIP and the new facility will offer state of the art therapeutic spaces for child therapy, as well as individual and group therapies.
- **Expanded workforce development opportunities:** CTL's new Economic Mobility Center, included within the facility, will offer free drop-in child care so that women may attend classes, interviews and coaching services without childcare as an access barrier.
- **Strengthen Fort Worth Businesses:** The Economic Mobility Center will also offer ample space for individual and group business coaching and education, along with incubator and accelerator services. In addition to these services, the space will facilitate meetings with mentors, provide areas for interviews with local employers and meeting spaces for small business development. Business growth will be encouraged through a Small Business Fund for entrepreneurs, which will be funded through CTL.

Evans & Rosedale Redevelopment Recovery Plan Performance Report

Executive Summary

The thirty-six properties (collectively, the Property) are located within the boundaries of the Historic Southside Neighborhood, the Evans and Rosedale Urban Village, Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number 4, and Census Tract 1231.001, which is a Qualified Census Tract. The Property was part of the December 2018 Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEI) in which the City of Fort Worth, the Fort Worth Housing Finance Corporation (HFC), and the Fort Worth Local Development Corporation (LDC) sought a Master Developer arrangement in and near the historic Evans & Rosedale Urban Village.

Between early 2019 and September, 2021, HFC, LDC, and City staff have negotiated a term sheet with Hoque. Hoque is proposing a two-phased redevelopment that will result in a total of at least \$70 million worth of investment; approximately 292 multifamily units, 20 townhomes, and 28 live-work units, with at least 20% of the total units being affordable; a cultural square; parks, and other public spaces.

Use of Funds – EC 2.15, Long Term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

The redevelopment requires the purchase of the 30 properties from the HFC at a price of \$3,595,977.13 and the five properties from the LDC for \$235,950.00 and allocates funding to pay for the one parcel owned by the City and valued at \$112,000. As authorized by Texas Local Government Code Section 272.001(g), the Property, which has a combined fair market value of \$4,245,553.42, would be sold to Hoque for monetary consideration of \$1 each for the purpose of developing low- to moderate-income housing.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

To effectuate and maintain the public purpose of affordable housing, the Property will be subject to a lien through a Deed of Trust to Secure Performance, ensuring the required affordable housing is offered at the Property for a period of at least 15 years. If the affordable housing requirements are not met, Hoque would be required to repay the full fair market value of the Property out of its own separate funds.

Community Engagement

Eight proposals were received through the RFEI and reviewed through an extensive staff and stakeholder evaluation process. The selection criteria established included:

- 1) Vision with respect to the history of the area
- 2) Quality of design
- 3) The economic impact on the City
- 4) Qualifications and experience of the development team
- 5) Financial capacity of the development team
- 6) Community engagement
- 7) Alignment with the City of Fort Worth's comprehensive plan and strategic economic development plans.

Hoque Global Properties, LLC("Hoque") was selected as the development team that was most closely aligned with the selection criteria. After significant community engagement and feedback, staff for the HFC, the City, and the LDC recommend that Hoque be selected to redevelop the area.

Project Overview

Hoque Global Properties LLC and Related Affiliates is in contract with the City to develop certain properties owned by the City of Fort Worth, Fort Worth Housing Finance Corporation, and Fort Worth Local Development Corporation located in the Evans & Rosedale Urban Village (a Qualified Census Tract area). The mixed-use development will include commercial, retail, and residential units, as well as a parking structure and enhancements to the plaza and other public spaces.

Performance Report

On October 19 2021, the City Council approved M&C 21-0810, which authorized the sale of 36 properties to Hoque Global, LLC for the purpose of construction of affordable housing and other structures necessary to support the required affordable units within the development. The affordability requirements will be secured by loan documents and one or more liens against the property. Currently we have development agreements in place and hope to close on the property and break ground before the end of the year as staff continues to work with the developer on development facilitation and design.

City of Fort Worth Neighborhood Services Department American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Performance Report

Executive Summary

Neighborhood Services Department plans to use ARPA funds to address the disproportionate economic impacts of the coronavirus crisis on the hardest hit communities, populations, and households. This includes allocating funds to community partners to support this effort, particularly focused on housing and human services projects. Several agencies submitted proposals for affordable housing and human services projects totaling \$31.4 million. City staff reviewed the proposals and allocated funding to the following seven projects:

- Child Care Associates – Renovation for Early Learning Center in Riverside: Gwendolyn C. Gragg Child Development Center \$2,000,000.00
- Fort Worth Area Habitat for Humanity – Purchase of fourteen (14) detached platted lots for the development of 26 or more affordable townhomes \$1,500,000.00
- Child Care Associates – Building a new Early Learning Center at the future/proposed Stop Six Hub \$5,000,000.00

Funds for Tranche 1 have been allocated and approved by M&C. The two projects (Child Care Associates – Gragg Center; Fort Worth Area Habitat for Humanity) are currently in the process of contract development in conjunction with Neighborhood Services Department staff and City Attorney's Office staff. The Child Care Associates – Gragg Center project M&C is scheduled to be approved by City Council in August 2022; contract execution will take place after approval. The Fort Worth Area Habitat for Humanity project is nearing contract completion and is expected to be completed by August 2022. M&C 22-045 was approved by City Council on June 28, authorizing the use of \$1.5M ARPA funds. Funds for Tranche 2 have not yet been received.

Use of Funds

The overall use of funds aligns with the following expenditure category: EC2 – Negative Economic Impacts (2.11 Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care; 2.15 Long-Term Housing Security: Affordable Housing)

2.11 – The renovation for the Gwendolyn C. Gragg Child Development Center includes the addition of three classrooms bringing the total to eight classrooms and expanded services for infants and toddlers.

2.11 – The building of a new Early Learning Center at the future/proposed Stop Six Hub to expand access to infant, toddler and three-year old services in Stop Six. The ARPA investment will draw \$9.2M in quality learning services from Child Care Associates at no charge to low-income families in Stop Six over ten (10) years.

2.15 – The purchase of the fourteen detached platted lots south of John Peter Smith Hospital will include the replatting and development of land to build 26 or more affordable townhomes, which will be sold to low-to moderate-income households in Fort Worth.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

All of the selected projects are anticipated to provide services and support to historically underserved, marginalized groups. This includes primarily low or very low individuals and families, which have been impacted greatly by the pandemic. Also, funding will serve both children with safe and affordable childcare. One of the three projects will serve the Stop Six community as a part of the transformation plan underway in partnership with Fort Worth Housing Solutions which is a part of its Choice Neighborhood Initiative grant. The Fort Worth Area Habitat for Humanity will serve a severely distressed community in south Fort Worth.

Project demographics are as follows:

Address	Zip Code	Census Tract	Area Median Income	Comments
2400 E. 1 st St..	76111	1232.00	\$53,951.00	This location is not in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT) Area, but the clientele served are low-to-moderate income families.
1703 Galveston Avenue	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
1709 Galveston Avenue	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
1715 Galveston Avenue	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
1716 Galveston Avenue	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
1719 Galveston Avenue	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
1720 Galveston Avenue	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
1720 S. Main St.	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
1724 S. Main St.	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
1701 St. Louis Avenue	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
5100 Avenue G	76105	1036.01	\$17,630.00	Located in a QCT

Community Engagement

Community engagement is an ongoing part of the process for all projects. This includes receiving public comments prior to allocation as well as ongoing transparency as contracts are executed and projects are undertaken. Notices of allocations have been posted through Public Notice, meeting agendas, and minutes to engage the community in the proposed use and final allocations of funds.

Labor Practices

In compliance with other federal regulations, notice of projects will be posted as well as any available job opportunities. Contracts are still being prepared and will include language regarding hiring practices, wages, etc.

Use of Evidence

Each activity will be evaluated based on the individual program goals and increased service levels. Child care evidence will be demonstrated through the increased number of children receiving affordable, safe child care. Affordable housing evidence will be demonstrated through the housing assistance provided to persons able to purchase a home at an affordable cost, which is 30% or less of the household income. Infrastructure evidence will be demonstrated through completion and the full housing completion for each phase. This will be documented with the awareness that these

projects funded through ARPA funds are only a portion of the overall impact. Funds have been allocated, but not yet expended, as follows:

EC3.6 - \$7,000,000.00

EC3.10 - \$1,500,00.00

UNTHSC TechStars Recovery Plan Performance Report

Executive Summary

Current medical literature data reveals that more than half of people hospitalized with COVID- 19 still experience diminished lung function and mobility problems four months after being discharged. Studies have shown that a significant proportion of survivors of COVID- 19 experienced respiratory or functional musculoskeletal impairment lasting greater than four months after hospital discharge.

This new population of survivors with lasting mobility issues will put an increasing demand on existing physical therapy caregivers resulting in a need for new physical therapies. The negative economic impacts of the COVID- 19 pandemic have caused hundreds of thousands of businesses to close, placed many more at risk of closing, and significantly impeded the advancement of new technologies due to economic instability.

UNTHSC and its partners are providing business development coaching, mentorship, and business design for a post-pandemic economy for companies that are developing new treatments and technology for musculoskeletal conditions through the establishment of a business accelerator program

The accelerator program is run by TechStars, which has a long history of growing and funding innovative companies. This program, named the TechStars Future of Human Movement Accelerator, will facilitate the creation of a startup accelerator program for up to ten (10) startup businesses. The goals of this program are the following:

- Address the need for business development support for entities that have had product and technology development delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Advance products, treatments, and technologies that will address disparities in the delivery of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation (PTR) services that were exacerbated by the pandemic.

Use of Funds - EC2.32, Business Incubator and Start-up or Expansion Assistance

In order to implement these efforts, Tarrant County proposed an engagement in an interlocal agreement with UNTHSC to support the establishment of a three-year program for the Accelerator. Under the proposal, the City of Fort Worth is providing \$2,400,000.00 as match funding for the initiative

The Accelerator Services Program will facilitate the creation of a startup accelerator program for startup businesses. Each participant will relocate to Fort Worth and participate in an intense, immersive, 3-month mentorship-driven accelerator program and will work to mature their company and technology in their respective medical field pertaining to musculoskeletal treatment.

Each Class will contain up to 10 participants. It is anticipated that three classes will be provided, with approximately one class per year. At the end of each class, the participants will present their progress to the technology and entrepreneurial community and will showcase the team's progress during an event.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

The City of Fort Worth, Tarrant County, and the University of North Texas Health Science Center (UNTHSC) have identified a need to partner in the establishment of an Accelerator Services Program to address the disparities caused by the pandemic in physical therapy services by developing businesses that deliver new therapies and technologies to better the health outcomes for all residents of Tarrant County.

Project Overview

Each Participant will locate to Fort Worth and participate in an intense, immersive, 3-month mentorship-driven accelerator program and will work to mature their company and technology in the PTR medical field. Physical therapy and rehabilitation are and will continue to be a key component of addressing the impact of “long COVID,” particularly for those patients who are required to be confined to a bed for extended periods of time. At the end of each class, the participants will present their progress during a demonstration event to showcase their startups to the investor and entrepreneurial community. TechStars will continue to work with class participants after program completion through an initial IPO and provide lifetime portfolio management through their alumni network.

Performance

The project to build the world’s first early-stage accelerator for physical therapy companies in Fort Worth was officially signed on November 22, 2021. Representatives from the University of North Texas Health Science Center (UNTHSC), Goff Capital and Techstars joined a kickoff call on December 7, 2021.

Techstars began their process to recruit and hire a Managing Director (MD) for the program. That process wrapped up in mid-January and the MD will start on February 1. We are very happy with their choice for that position that will be made public on February 1.

Work was also completed on the official announcement of the program that included drafting of a press release, an op/ed for local media and a communications strategy. Additional media appearances will hopefully be scheduled for the new MD and others associated with the program. We anticipate that the official announcement of the partnership between the city, county, UNTHSC and Goff Capital will be announced on February 1.

The application window for the first class closed on May 11. Applications received are broken down as follows:

- Total Applications Received: 67
- Total women-owned applications received: 30
- Total foreign-owned applications/immigrant founded: 39
- Total identified as being a part of the LGBTQ+ community: 4

The selection process began and the Managing Director of the Program had several extensive vetting calls with all companies that submitted applications. He narrowed the process down to the top 20 that he thought were the best fit for the program. On June 21-22, Techstars hosted a selection committee to narrow the field down to the top ten, who would ultimately be offered admission to the program. The

selection committee consisted of representatives from HSC, Techstars, the Neurological Recovery Center in Fort Worth and the Director of the Tampa Bay Wave accelerator program.

As of the end of the reporting period, nine companies have verbally accepted the Techstars offer and have entered their due diligence phase of the program. Techstars is still waiting to hear back from one of the companies.

Techstars also hired Jordan Warnement who officially started on April 28. Her title is Program Manager and she reports directly to the Managing Director, Trey Bowles.

The Techstars team is actively recruiting mentors for the program and is looking for a space to house the first class. The program officially begins on September 13.

Fort Worth Convention and Visitors Bureau, Visit Fort Worth **Recovery Plan**

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds 2022 Report

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

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

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Visit Fort Worth will put ARPA funds to work rebuilding our visitor economy, which supports jobs and local business.

Tourism has been named a priority industry by federal ARPA guidelines because the industry was among the hardest hit by the pandemic. In 2020, the Vendor responded to the pandemic by laying off 20% of its staff, reducing spending and shuttering visitor centers.

Over the next three years ARPA funds will replace about half of the \$10.44 million Visit Fort Worth lost during the tourism downturn. Specifically, \$6 million over three years or 57% of that total loss of projected revenue.

Uses of Funds - overview of intended use under (EC2).

Visit Fort Worth has a three-point plan for the effective use of ARPA funds:

- Support recovery of conventions by attracting meetings and helping customers connect with local businesses and services.
 - \$3 million over three years
 - Project concepts
 - National marketing campaign to promote Convention Center expansion, including targeted promotions and events, corporate outreach, video, trade show exhibits
 - Site visits and familiarization trips for new convention customers, especially those who do not fit into the current facility
 - Pre-promotion of conventions to support attendance, such as marketing campaigns around conventions before they come to Fort Worth
- Leverage our momentum with sports tourism by securing and hosting events that attract fans and media coverage.
 - \$1.75 million over three years
 - Project concepts
 - Site visits and familiarization trips for sports events rights holders, including 2022 hosting of Sports ETA conference
 - DFW-wide advertising to drive ticket sales for sports events, demonstrating local support
 - Start-up salary for sports events coordinator position, which will be funded by operating budget long-term as hotel tax collections recover to pre-covid levels
- Promote leisure tourism, especially highlighting our incredible attractions and experiences around the arts, western heritage, and nightlife.
 - \$1.25 million over three years
 - Project concepts
 - Splashy national advertising to promote new attractions such as Stockyards, Downtown, Cultural District, Dickies Arena and landmark museum exhibits such as Kimbell Art Museum's 2022 "Language of Beauty in African Art"

- Promotional roadshow in key Texas markets
- Sponsorship for difference-making festivals and events that raise Fort Worth's profile (e.g., Opal's Walk, Fortress Fest)

Promoting equitable outcomes

Stimulate the economic activity for all tourism related businesses in the city, for example: hotels, restaurants, museums, etc..., which will provide employment opportunities for citizens across the city.

Community Engagement - overview how community involvement is included.

- Broad based Marketing will include most areas of the city, highlighting what each part has to offer to attract tourism and economic impact to those areas.
- Sponsorships for community activities to include: Opal's Walk, Fortress Fest, and others that highlight the diverse culture of Fort Worth, its history and residents, will be funded to contribute to the quality of life for residents and to attract visitors.

Use of Evidence - overview of how is the project being evaluated

- Marketing activities will be evaluated by evaluating reach, views, and/or engagement
- Sales activities will be evaluated by lead generation, definite room night bookings and/or number of events booked.

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

Project Inventory

In this section, jurisdictions should provide a description of each project undertaken. See Section C(8) on page 27 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

Project [Identification Number]: SXSW - VFW 001

Funding amount: \$799,972

Project Expenditure Category: 2.35, Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Project overview

- *This project is focused on increasing awareness among a large, diverse population, nationally and internationally, to Fort Worth as a tourism destination. This 3-day event will showcase food, music, film, fashion, and the Stockyards in an effort to drive additional economic impact to Fort Worth through tourism.*
- <https://www.fortworth.com/sxsw-2022>

Use of Evidence

- *The goal of this project is to increase awareness of Fort Worth as a tourism destination through exposure to the city's offerings. The measurements will include social media reach, media exposure through TV\Radio\Newspapers\Magazines and surveys of attendees about future intent to travel to Fort Worth.*

Additional Projects

Project [Identification Number]: Yellowstone\1883 - VFW 003

Funding amount: \$25,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.35, Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Project overview

- *This project is funding/sponsoring an exhibit at the Cowgirl Hall of Fame featuring the television series 1883 time period clothing pieces. Visitors to the National Cowgirl Museum & Hall of Fame will get up close with props, costumes and photography from the record-breaking Paramount+ series 1883 when a new exhibit opens February 11, 2022. 1883: The Journey West was created by the museum in partnership with 101 Studios, Visit Fort Worth and the Fort Worth Film Commission.*

Use of Evidence

- *The goal of this project is to increase the awareness and attraction to Fort Worth as a premier travel destination by highlighting the history and cultural offerings the city has to showcase.*

Project [Identification Number]: The Senior\Film - VFW 007

Funding amount: \$35,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.35, Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Project overview

- *This project is for a film grant that had production in the city. The Senior, a sports related movie starring Michael Chiklis, filmed in the city of Fort Worth and provided economic impact through employment of creative industry residents, as well as spending at local hotels and restaurants.*

Use of Evidence

- *The goal of this project is to increase film and television production in the city as well as increase the awareness of Fort Worth as a tourism destination through film and television exposure.*

Project [Identification Number]: Data Analyst - VFW 005

Funding amount: \$31,930

Project Expenditure Category: 2.35, Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Project overview

- *This project is funding an employee whose primary function is partnering with our group convention sales team to identify and book groups and conventions for Fort Worth. Their responsibilities include maintaining our CRM system, reviewing new leads and opportunities, helping to identify the “optimal” group customers for both the convention center and the partner hotels.*

Use of Evidence

- *The goal of this project is to analyze data which will lead to the booking of groups and conventions that help maximize the revenues for both the convention center and the hotels.*

Project [Identification Number]: Sports Marketing Manager - VFW 006

Funding amount: \$46,096

Project Expenditure Category: 2.35, Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Project overview

- *This project is funding an employee whose primary function is market and promote Sports events and activities in Fort Worth in an effort to increase tourism for the City of Fort Worth.*

Use of Evidence

- *The goal of this project is to increase awareness of sports related events both inside and outside of Fort Worth to increase economic impact by improving Sports Tourism to Fort Worth and improve the quality of life for residents.*

Performance Report

- *No performance reports are available at this time due to the recent activities of SXSW have not been fully realized and the 2 positions have only been in place for less than 3 months. Data and performance updates will be provided in the next quarterly report.*

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

City of Fort Worth – Revenue Recovery Recovery Plan

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2022 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The City of Fort Worth (COFW) has identified priority projects to be funded by the Revenue Recovery Provision provided by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Several capital improvement projects in the Public Events Department deferred and suspended due to the loss of Hotel Occupancy Tax revenues as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic have been reinstated. The City will also use ARPA dollars to provide necessary funding for a variety of infrastructure projects to enhance services provided to citizens and the community.

Uses of Funds

Public Events Capital Restore - \$4,560,000

- After the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March, 2020, as part of the effort to ensure that the Culture and Tourism funds could meet operating expenses and debt service obligations, in FY2020 and thereafter until the economic recovery began, selected capital improvements at the Will Rogers Memorial Center (WRMC) and Fort Worth Convention Center (FWCC) were suspended or deferred on August 25, 2020 when the formal actions necessary to revise appropriations and eliminate the planned budgeted transfer in the amount of \$3,570,294.00 from the HOT 2% Fund to the Public Events Capital Fund. All HOT 2% tax revenue collected in FY2020 was instead used to meet debt obligations for the fiscal year.
- Because HOT collections continued to lag for the first half of FY2021, again there were no capital transfers in FY2021 for the Public Events Capital Fund from the HOT 2% Fund for capital improvements. These projects are considered priority projects necessary for safety and required repairs or improvements to these facilities hosting conventions, trade shows and long-standing public events such as the Fort Worth Stock Show. In turn, investment in these projects will assist in reviving the tourism economy for the City of Fort Worth.
- The following ten projects were impacted and are being reinstated:
 - Richardson Bass (Sound) System Upgrade
 - Amon Carter EH Door Replacement
 - WRMC Sprinklers Cattle Barn #4
 - WRMC Justin Garage Ventilation
 - WRMC Security Cameras
 - WRMC Replace Auditorium Curtains
 - FWCC Star Tower Façade
 - WRMC Electrical Upgrades
 - WRMC Emergency Generator Enhancement
 - WRMC Auditorium Roof Replacement

Fort Worth Convention Center Expansion - \$52,000,000

- The Fort Worth Convention Center started life as the Tarrant County Convention Center, constructed in 1966 and officially opened in 1968. In 1997 the City purchased the convention

center from the County, and it was renamed the Fort Worth Convention Center. A 2014 “market and financial feasibility study” recommended renovation and expansion of the Fort Worth Convention Center in order to better compete and serve multiple events. This study was updated in 2019, and based on these recommendations, in January of 2020 a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a project management firm was published in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and emailed to local and national project management firms. Interviews were held in March of 2020 as the COVID-19 crisis escalated. These interviews showed three teams highly qualified and capable of providing the required staffing and expertise. Before a selection was formally recommended, it became clear that COVID-19 would affect the tourism and convention industry and the project funding and schedule.

- Due to the reduction in Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue directly related to the pandemic, as described in the Public Events Capital Restore project, the project management selection process was suspended until July 2021. ARPA funding will allow Phase 3A of the project to move forward with the relocation of the kitchens, demolishment of the east annex, and the realignment of an adjoining street to allow future development of a hotel.
- The project is currently in the design phase

Will Rogers Memorial Coliseum Mural Plaques - \$300,000

- On October 19, 2021, Fort Worth City Council approved ARPA Funding for a permanent, large-scale, exterior interpretation plan for two (2) 200-foot-long, narrative tile murals integrated into buildings listed on the National Registry of Historic Places at the Will Rogers Memorial Center (WRMC) to support social sustainability, inclusion, and economic resilience through tourism in response to the COVID 19 pandemic. The interpretation project invites dialogue and the sharing of different perspectives and cultural histories, making the WRMC more welcoming to the entire community and visitors from all over the world.
- The murals were created in 1936 to celebrate the Texas Centennial and illustrate the historic and cultural relationships that played important roles in the development of the state; however, there are informational plaques. Each of the twelve (12) vignettes portrays historical information in a colorful, simplistic, romanticized fashion, including a scene depicting African American field workers. Without context, the scene was misinterpreted as portraying slaves and publicly denounced. In a fluid and transitioning socio-political climate, the controversy underscored the deep-rooted systemic inequities affecting Fort Worth and cities across the nation further revealed during the pandemic.
- At the request of the Mayor’s Office, the Fort Worth Art Commission, with the support of local NAACP leadership, held a series of public meetings. The City’s Historic Preservation Officer presented context about the historic buildings and murals and addressed the controversy by pointing out details that place the scene decades after slavery ended.
- On November 21, 2019, at a public hearing, African American community leaders voiced that rather than remove or alter the murals, the City of Fort Worth should embrace them as a teaching tool to inspire the younger generation and develop a robust approach that puts the murals into historical context.
- The resulting interpretation plan features a series of large bronze in-ground plaques that replicate each scene, in silhouette, and features historical information. Installed in the plaza in front of each mural, visitors can read the information and experience each scene individually or sequentially. The plan also includes multi-language digital and printed materials and temporary signage. The project will highlight historic contributions of marginalized groups that played a role in the development of the region.
- The project intends to include positive, factual information about all cultural groups represented on the murals. Cultural focus groups will review draft text and provide input. Following revisions, public information meetings and hearings will allow residents to understand project goals, become engaged, and provide further feedback. Cultural focus groups will review draft text and

provide input. Following revisions, public information meetings and hearings will allow residents to understand project goals, become engaged, and provide further feedback.

- In addition to identifying design and implementation teams that meet the City's business equity goals, the project team and stakeholders are exploring ways to extend programming through municipal, educational, and cultural organization partnerships. It is anticipated that other organizations will use the plaques as a tool for introductory information and develop additional resources supporting the plaques main goals. Both the design and project implementation phases are focusing on local hiring and project labor agreements.

Future City Hall - \$6,400,000

- Use of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding will be focused on the purchase of information technology, security technology, and audio/video (AV) equipment to provide facility security and to improve service to Fort Worth residents in their development, permitting, and related needs
 - Building ITS design, procurement, installation, and commissioning
 - Building Security related technology design, procurement, installation, testing, and commissioning
 - Building Audio Visual and video conferencing design of unified solution, procurement, installation, testing, and commissioning
- In conjunction with the ARPA funding, Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) funding in the amount of \$8,500,000 would be expended for information technology and AV equipment and supporting infrastructure to facilitate cablecasting meetings and other events from the new City Hall and Council Chambers
 - Design, procurement, installation, testing, and commissioning of IT systems enabling public, educational, and governmental cablecast and broadcast programming
 - Design, procurement, installation, testing, and commissioning of Audio Visual and Production Control systems enabling public, educational, and governmental cablecast and broadcast programming
 - Design, procurement, installation, testing, and commissioning of infrastructure critical to cablecast and broadcast production for enabling public, educational, and governmental broadcast programming
 - Enabling and support of closed-circuit broadcast within the council chambers, overflow areas, and remainder of Future City Hall building

Neighborhood Redevelopment Infrastructure - \$1,600,000

- Infrastructure support for the four-phase Stop Six Choice Neighborhood Implementation Program will include the design and construction work associated with underground power lines and the elimination of power poles for four phases of the transformation plan. This includes Cowan Place, a senior living multifamily housing development, Hughes House, a mixed-use housing development, and two yet to be named phases.
- The selected project is anticipated to provide services and support to historically underserved, marginalized groups in Qualified Census Tract 1013.02. This includes primarily low or very low-income individuals and families, which have been impacted greatly by the pandemic.
- Funding will serve children and the elderly with safe and affordable childcare and housing for seniors. The focus in both supporting infrastructure and housing development is to address the increasing unmet need of affordable housing. Five of the seven projects will serve the Stop Six community as a part of the transformation plan underway in partnership with Fort Worth Housing Solutions as a part of its Choice Neighborhood Initiative grant

- Community engagement is an ongoing part of the process for all projects. This includes receiving public comments prior to allocation as well as ongoing transparency as contracts are executed and projects are undertaken. Notices of allocations have been posted through Public Notice, meeting agendas, and minutes to engage the community in the proposed use and final allocations of funds
- In compliance with other federal regulations, notice of projects will be posted as well as any available job opportunities. Contracts are still being prepared and will include language regarding hiring practices, wages, etc.
- Infrastructure evidence will be demonstrated through completion and the full housing completion for each phase. This will be documented with the awareness that these projects funded through ARPA funds are only a portion of the overall impact

ITS Infrastructure Program - \$3,675,000

- To increase the resiliency, capabilities, and delivery efficiency of City of Fort Worth (City) technology services as those items relate to infrastructure and data protection initiatives as follows:
 - Implement more secure and advanced version of Office Suite
 - Work to eliminate single points of failure from a geography
 - Enhance business continuity and disaster recovery capability
 - Data Identification/Classification and Management tool
 - Support City workforce mobility and resiliency efforts by accelerating migration from desktops to laptops
 - Enhance diverse vendor support working to eliminate single points of failure
 - Services to assist with migration of the Accela application to the cloud
 - Ongoing development of ITIL processes in support of ITSM tickets and Automation
 - Enhance and secure the Public Safety network

ITS Cybersecurity Program - \$3,595,000

- To increase the resiliency, capabilities, and delivery efficiency of City of Fort Worth (City) services as those items relate to information & cybersecurity as follows: Identify and improve organizational processes designed to identify, contain, and remove threats against City assets, based on comparisons with best practice industry standards
- Improve organizational processes and enable technology that supports those improved processes
 - Examples: Hunting for Threats, Securing City Mobile Phones, Social Engineering, Phishing, Denial of Service
- Create data backups that cannot be changed or modified, providing an extra layer of protection from ransomware demands
- Hire external security firms to assess the City security posture (process, technology, effectiveness) and make recommendations for improvements
- Engage external resources to mitigate critical items and provide operational knowledge to City employees
- Implement capability to define a standard configuration on all network devices and maintain compliance
- Improve the Public Safety CAD network and implement advanced management capabilities
- Enable advanced security capabilities between the City and financial institutions
- Mitigate ongoing security findings using external resources as staff augmentation
- Improve the ability to patch City assets (servers, laptops, networks, mobile phones) and enforce compliance to security standards
- Ensure that only City approved devices can gain access to City network

- Implement technology to allow advanced management of passwords used within City infrastructure

Promoting equitable outcomes: N/A - EC 6.1

Community Engagement: N/A - EC 6.1

Labor Practices: N/A - EC 6.1

Use of Evidence: N/A - EC 6.1

Performance Report: N/A - EC 6.1

City of Fort Worth, Texas
Vaccination, Testing and Emergency
Operations
Recovery Plan

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

July 31, 2022 Report

City of Fort Worth, Texas

2022 Recovery Plan

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The American Rescue Plan Act funding allows for staffing and resources needed to support COVID-19 testing and vaccination operations and emergency response activities. Staffing expenses are funded to continue various operations such as: vaccination sites, testing sites, and similar health and safety response elements that may arise. In August 2021, another surge of COVID-19 viral infections impacted the Fort Worth community. Hospitals and other healthcare community partners began reporting resource needs and challenges in meeting the community needs for medical care. In September 2021, third doses (boosters) for the COVID-19 vaccines became increasingly available with expanded eligibility planned in the coming months. At the City of Fort Worth, we continue to offer a collaborative effort to meet emergency response needs that are beyond the capacity of our traditional healthcare network. Funding provides for necessary expenses for the continued emergency response operational needs previously funded by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. These needs may include: personnel time; personal protective equipment; communications and outreach campaigns; testing materials; testing site support materials; vaccination site support materials; treatment center materials; and general operating supplies.

Uses of Funds

The City of Fort Worth has been operating testing and vaccination operations since early on in the COVID-19 pandemic. American Rescue Plan Act funding continues to allow the City to provide broad community support in the area of Public Health through pandemic response coordination efforts utilizing the Joint Emergency Operations Center to provide neighborhood based campaigns. Testing and vaccination resources are provided using a broad range of delivery methods, including walk-in and drive-through operations, roving and pop-up sites, mobile clinics, collaborative events and homebound vaccination appointments.

Promoting equitable outcomes

Equity is achieved through targeted efforts to provide information and services to areas of low-income/low vaccination rates through a variety of efforts, listed below:

Canvassing Operations:

- 20,000+ flyers Spanish/English flyers distributed to low-income, low-vaccine rate communities
- Continuing canvassing operations with bilingual (English and Spanish) information sheets from October 2021 until March 2022 in various zip codes within Fort Worth's city limits where vaccination rates were lower to inform of and encourage COVID-19 vaccinations. Canvassing efforts directly targeted individual homes as well as local, small, businesses in an effort to spread information via word of mouth.
- Targeting of neighborhoods that have lower vaccination rates and have less community opportunities for vaccines in their community such as the Northside, Diamond Hill, North Tri-Ethnic, Handley-Meadowbrook, and Stop-Six communities in Fort Worth, TX.

COVID Testing Operations:

- Free Testing
- No Identification Required
- Neighborhood based campaigns – going to their local community centers or churches (areas where the community already gathers to provide easy access to testing)
- Increasing testing operations during surges to match community demand and reducing operations during a lull (testing mobile team would reduce sites/go offline and then reopen those in the areas of highest demand – such as the east Fort Worth community of Meadowbrook and the west Fort Worth community of Como)
- Placed focus on the city pre-purchasing tests in order to provide free access to Saliva-based PCR tests that can be self-administered to anyone regardless of financial ability. Provided without any identifying information required which encouraged people to get tested without fear of citizen status being disclosed. (location focus on Northside Fort Worth community, which is predominately Spanish speaking – ensured that Spanish signage was posted stating that it was free testing access)
 - **Testing Ops at TexRail (13,800+ tests provided)**
 - Operational 8/12/2021 and 8/30/2021 – 3/25/2022
 - Focus on providing free testing to the lower-income, Hispanic-prominent, Northside community. Self-administered COVID test that was available to all individuals – no ID or insurance required
 - **Testing Ops at the Fort Worth Stock Show:** Provided no cost COVID-19 rapid and PCR tests to attendees during the annual Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo from 1/12/2022 – 1/30/2022.
 - **Roving Sites (5,000+ tests provided):** Continued providing free PCR testing on a set weekly schedule at various public locations in seven of the eight city council districts to accommodate specific local testing demands from 10/1/2021 – 10/8/2021 and 12/28/2021 – 2/17/2022.
 - FWISD Scarborough-Handley Field (Council District 5)

- Como Community Center (Council District 3)
- Northside Service Center (Council District 7)
- La Gran Plaza (Council District 9)
- Beth Eden Baptist Church (Council District 8)
- Christ Church Assembly of God (Council District 6)
- Heritage Church of Christ (Council District 4)
- Tanger Outlets (Council District 7)
- **Pop-Up Sites:** Began providing free COVID-19 rapid and PCR testing at the following public community events and locations to target areas with higher testing demand, typically over weekends to accommodate those that could not make it to a primary testing site on a weekday. Events took place on 10/16/2022, 10/30/2021, 11/20/2022 and weekends between 2/11/2022 – 3/26/2022.
 - Luck Optical
 - Fort Worth Dia de los Muertos
 - North Tri-Ethnic Community Center
 - Martin Luther King Community Center
 - Riverside Community Center
 - Como Community Center
 - Andrew Doc Session Community Center
 - Handley Meadowbrook Community Center
- **Rapid Testing Ops (8,000 rapid tests provided):** Following the sharp spike in positive COVID cases resulting from holiday gatherings, we provided the following public libraries, one in each city council district, with 1,000 free pick-up and take-home rapid tests while supplies lasted from 2/10/2022 – 2/25/2022. To emphasize equal opportunity to all residents, each car was allowed 4 tests per day on a pick-up basis where the only information collected was non-identifying demographic information.
 - Northside Library (Council District 2)
 - Ridglea Library (Council District 3)
 - East Regional Library (Council District 4)
 - East Berry Library (Council District 5)
- **Community Rapid Testing (3,300+ rapid tests provided):** Worked with organizations to provide rapid testing for community-based events and/or conferences that were hosted in our community to help mitigate community spread. This includes providing rapid testing for Community Centers' afterschool programs for families and staff involved in the programs.
 - Women's Energy Network Conference
 - ArtsGoggle
 - Texas Library Association – TLA 2022 Annual Conference
 - Mayfest – *KnoWhat2Do* booth
 - United Fort Worth – Polytechnic Community Health Event
 - Fort Worth Sister Cities International – International Leadership Academy

Vaccination Operations:

- Free Vaccines
- No Identification Required
- Neighborhood based campaigns – going to their local community centers or churches (areas where the community already gathers to provide easy access to testing and vaccines)

- Mobile clinics with a weekly schedule – providing all vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna, & J&J) (2 different mobile teams)
- Weekly Homebound appointments throughout Tarrant County
- **Bob Bolen Public Safety Complex (5,000 vaccines provided)**
 - Operational 11/29/2021 – 2/18/2022
 - Provided no-cost vaccines in a location that was able to accommodate the lower-income neighborhood surround the city facility. The site frequently partnered with FWISD to provide vaccination opportunities for children in a safe environment. Also worked with individuals who were restricted by mobility issues or social anxiety to provide drive-up vaccines on-site.
- **Wilkerson-Greines Arena (4,500+ vaccines provided)**
 - Operational 9/21/2021 – 11/23/2021
 - Drive-through vaccine site serving southeast Fort Worth area in order to encourage vaccination among predominantly lower income, African American community. The November Tarrant Area Food Bank's Mega Mobile Market held at Wilkerson-Greines, intended on providing groceries for lower income families promoted free COVID-19 vaccinations at Wilkerson-Greines.
 - No ID or insurance required, with the intent of increasing the vaccinated population in the area free of charge and of hesitance from minority groups due to identification requirements.
 - Collaboration with Fort Worth ISD, focus on pediatric vaccines beginning November which served as one of the first opportunities for children to receive the COVID-19 vaccine with focused attention.
- **JPS Collaborative Event at First Street Mission Ministries (170+ vaccines provided)**
 - Operational 10/6/2021 – 3/23/2021 (Every Wednesday)
 - Serving the downtown metropolitan area of Fort Worth with focus on the homeless community in collaboration with JPS Health Network and First Street Mission Ministries. Sack lunches, clothing, mail and ID services provided by the Mission. Medical check-ups and health related concerns addressed by JPS. COVID-19 vaccinations provided by the City of Fort Worth.
 - Incentives such as Walmart gift cards, bus passes, and food truck vouchers provided by the Mission in order to encourage COVID-19 vaccinations among the homeless population.
- **Homebound (80+ vaccines provided)** – Continued remotely scheduling (over the phone) vaccination appointments and providing in-home vaccines from October 2021 until April 2022 to Tarrant County residents who could not travel to a vaccination site due to various conditions such as Autism, Immobility, Disability, Severe Anxiety and more. Meals on Wheels and Tarrant County Public Health also collaborated with us to extend the reach of homebound vaccine appointments.
- **Pop-Up Sites: (800+ vaccines provided at pop-up sites)** Community-based pop-up events that took place at different locations throughout the city. Frequently hosted by local churches, businesses, or other community-service focused organizations. Partnered with these organizations to provide vaccines in a location that their community is already familiar and comfortable in. They trust the individuals who are hosting the events and are more willing to consider getting a vaccine when we come to their community. Easy, walkable distance for the residents who may not have reliable modes of transportation.

- **Broadway Baptist Church** - Southside Fort Worth focus on Thursday's Agape Meals for the homeless in an effort to increase vaccination rates among the population.
- **Luck Optical** - Partnered with an eye care provider to administer free vaccines to attendees of a public community event.
- **Community Food Bank** - Serving lower income area at a high traffic community food bank with Amazon incentives for those fully vaccinated.
- **Cardinal CT** - Partnered with a glass manufacturer to provide vaccines, primarily boosters, to employees of the company.
- **Dia de los Muertos** - Provided vaccines for attendees of the annual Dia de los Muertos in Fort Worth parade and festival. Located In a predominately low-income, Hispanic area.
- **Brighter Outlook Inc** - Stop Six area with low income and lower vaccination rates. Working alongside Aetna Insurance, CVS, and medical teams providing free back to school exams for children, waving utility bills for residents of the community, and encouraging health checks and COVID-19 vaccines free of insurance and ID.
- **Lake Como Community of Hope** - vaccine event hosted for the residents of the Lake Como Community of Hope Apartments, most of which do not have modes of transportation that are required to get to tradition vaccination locations.
- **La Gran Plaza** - shopping center in the south/central Fort Worth area that is frequented by the residents in the surrounding neighborhoods. Viewed as a safe space for individuals to come to receive vaccines and the City of Fort Worth always made sure to have Spanish-speaking staff onsite for registration purposes and to make it over-all more convenient for individuals to receive their vaccines.

City of Fort Worth, Texas
Neighborhood WiFi Project
Recovery Plan

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

Report July 31, 2022

Executive Summary

The City of Fort Worth Neighborhood WiFi project will bring internet access to approximately 10,000 homes in five low-income neighborhoods in the community in order to improve citizens' ability to participate in remote learning and employment opportunities, improve public safety, increase community engagement, promote economic revitalization, provide supportive services to reduce poverty and create paths to self-sufficiency. This project was begun using CARES dollars, but due to unforeseen delays with staffing, design, and supply chain issues, it was approved to be completed using American Rescue Plan Act funding. The largest challenge facing the project however has been due to unsuccessful negotiations on contract with ONCOR for nodal placement. Therefore, the Fort Worth ISD has agreed to a partnership for nodal placement at schools within the neighborhoods being served in addition to City properties.

Uses of Funds

American Rescue Plan Funding will be used in the Negative Economic Impact Area 2.4 – Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs.

By partnering with the Fort Worth ISD, households in five low-income, disproportionately impacted communities in Fort Worth will be able to receive free internet services:

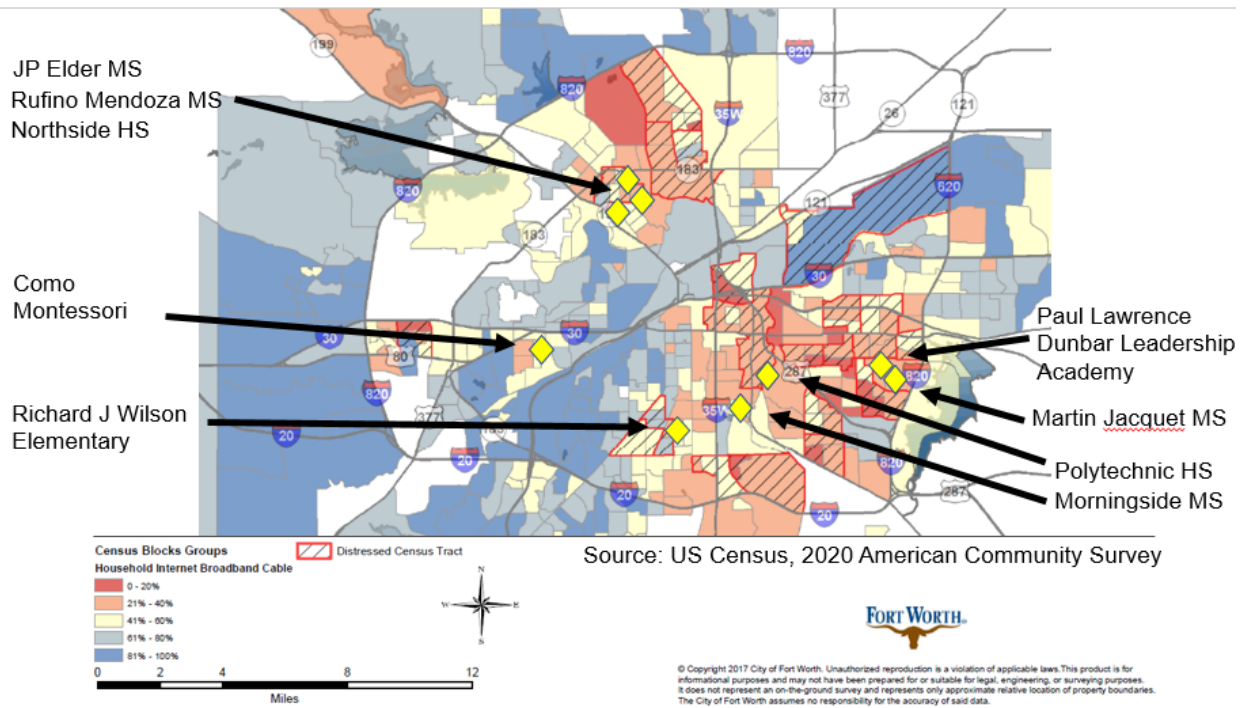
- Rosemont – Qualified Census Tract 1047.01
- Ash Crescent – Qualified Census Tract 1038.00
- Northside - Qualified Census Tract 1008.00
- Stop Six - Qualified Census Tract 1036.01
- Como - Qualified Census Tract 1025.00

Promoting equitable outcomes

- a. Goals: Support underserved and disproportionately impacted communities by providing free internet access to 10,000 homes in Qualified Census Tracts within the City of Fort Worth
- b. Awareness: Outreach program provides handouts and flyers in both English and Spanish, Web FAQ and partnerships with community organizations to educate residents in digital literacy training, access to the appropriate devices and technical support
- c. Access and Distribution: There are no differences in levels of access to benefits and services across groups. No application is necessary for internet access.
- d. Outcomes:
 - Close the gap between lack of internet access and neighborhood improvement programs
 - Support remote education, employment search, remote work, telemedicine and access to other community services

- Same quality of service as in libraries and community centers
- Bridge to more widely available wired broadband internet access

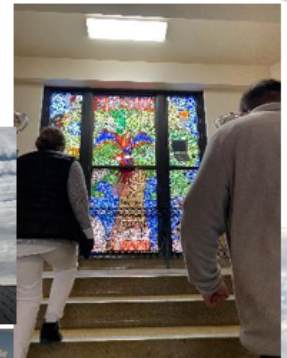
This program was designed with the City's lowest income residents as the focus of the deliverables. All neighborhoods are in qualified census tracts, and there is a high correlation between lack of internet access and neighborhood improvement programs.





Fort Worth ISD Partner Campuses

- Rosemont
 - Richard J. Wilson ES
- Como
 - Como Montessori
- Ash Crescent
 - Morningside MS
 - Polytechnic HS
- Northside
 - Rufino Mendoza ES
 - JP Elder MS
 - Northside HS
- Stop Six
 - Paul Laurence Dunbar Leadership Academy
 - Martin Jacquet MS



Accomplishments

- Equipment boxes (144)
- CFW pole installations (80)
- Radio broadcast equipment and circuits installed to CFW and FWISD locations
- Redesign of neighborhood deployment – removing planned ONCOR poles
- Originally designed CFW network is complete in all 5 neighborhoods

Ongoing and completed

- Redesign and deployment continues, new poles identified to be installed mid-August
- Neighborhood WiFi community launch event is scheduled for 8/16/2022 at Como Community center, with a follow on for communications plans for each served neighborhood.
- Parallel communication will be done by vendor Cisco for trade publications consumption.
- Team is trained on monitoring, now working through user acceptance of the service to CFW from the vendor implementation consultants
- Activated the City Call Center option for reporting issues with the service
- In RFP review for Broadband Strategic Partnership

- Formalizing ongoing relationship with FWISD for operationalizing the support of the service

Use of Evidence

Evidence will consist of the number of users of the network upon completion of the entire network