AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)
CORONAVIRUS STATE & LOCAL FISCAL
RECOVERY FUNDS PROGRAM (SLFRF)

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Executive Summary

On December 18, 2020, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy designated Gloucester County and specifically Rowan College of South Jersey’s Gloucester (RCSJ) Campus to serve as one of six Mega Vaccination sites in the state. As regional venues, the mandates for each Mega Site was to provide vaccination for individuals from throughout the state and region and to attain and then maintain a minimum of 2,400 vaccinations per day, seven days a week.

In coordination with the New Jersey All Hazards Incident Management Team, the State Department of Health and the State Office of Emergency Management, Gloucester County Officials began immediately planning to establish and begin operating our county’s Mega Site following the official announcement by the Governor. Central to the county’s coordinated efforts were our County Administrator’s Office, our Emergency Response Department, which includes the county’s Office of Emergency Management, the Gloucester County Department of Health and our Public Works Department. Also essential to the task were personnel and other resources from the college (RCSJ).

As we neared our projected start date of January 5, 2021, for vaccinating the eligible members of the public, it was readily apparent that in order to appropriately staff and effectively manage the Mega Site, it was determined that between 230 and 250 individuals would be needed per day. In addition to the clinical personnel who would be administering the vaccines, the county needed to utilize county employees to fill the various positions that would enable an efficient through-put of the desired goal of 2,400 persons/day, seven days a week. The availability of these individuals needed to be reliable and scheduled in advance to ensure consistent and sufficient staffing. Fortunately, during the pandemic the County of Gloucester designated 95% of its staff as Essential Personnel and therefore, never closed county government one day.

Consequently, we solicited county employees from all departments and offices to function in roles as diverse as technology support, logistical supply and support, site registration and processing, vaccination assistance, site security, emergency medical services, and assistance to members of the public having disabilities and/or access and functional needs. Again, these were positions of responsibility, requiring specific skill sets and experience with public interaction and facilitation, for which volunteers (even if they were appropriately trained and available in adequate numbers) were simply not able to fill on a regular or reliable manner.

Furthermore, the unprecedented nature and duration of this disaster has relegated these employees to be assigned on what amounts to a permanent basis, while also being expected to attend to their normal responsibilities as a county employee, as again, our county never closed requiring staff to report for work at our Vaccination Site where they subsequently were at greater risk of being exposed to the virus given the number of individuals assembling each day at the facility.
Even the county’s emergency medical personnel, though serving at the vaccination site in roles similar to those they carry out as county employees, are doing so on a scheduled basis that requires the county to backfill their positions, as Gloucester County operates a countywide Emergency Medical Services program that serves (22) of our (24) municipalities under a contractual, shared services agreement.

As an indication of the level of effectiveness our county’s approach to the management and operation of our Regional Mega Vaccination Site has attained, we averaged approximately 5,000 vaccinations per day, with the highest per/day count being 7,461, and the county having reached 440,000 doses (vaccinations) as of August 5, 2021. These numbers would not be possible were it not for the utilization of dedicated county employees.

The Pandemic has challenged every level of government, necessitating innovative approaches to minimize loss of life and protect the health and safety of our residents. Our efforts began, in concert with the rest of New Jersey and our Nation, in March of 2020. The first nine months primarily involved unquestioned emergency protective measures which included communicating with the public about the risks the virus posed, obtaining and distributing personal protective equipment, and conducting widespread community testing. As noted above, though we continue to conduct COVID-19 testing in Gloucester County, beginning in January of this year our county resources have been and continue, in large measure, to be committed to our Mega Vaccination site.

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law and established the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF). Gloucester County was awarded $56,646,874.

Starting June 1, 2021 through June 19, 2021, the Mega Vaccination site located at the Rowan College of South Jersey was being dismantled in order for the college to be restored to its original condition prior to the testing and mega site and then transitioned to the county Clayton Facility. Due to the high volume of people and vehicles visiting the mega site seven days a week for months, the college facility had significant wear and tear. In doing so, there were many infrastructure projects and improvements that had to be made to both locations. The Clayton Facility had to be repurposed in order to replicate a mini mega site and testing facility to service up to 3,000 vaccinations/testing per day in anticipation of a need for boosters or any other health related pandemic (as noted in the infrastructure section below).

It has been with great pride and purpose that our employees and contracted workers served to help end this pandemic. We will never forget how they all stepped up to deliver the most efficient operation and we are confident that this efficiency and effort will continue in the coming months.

Chad M. Bruner
County Administrator
Plan Summary Totals

Public Health (EC-1): $27,720,000
Negative Economic Impact (EC-2): $3,250,000
Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC-3): $7,261,500
Premium Pay (EC-4): N/A
Water, sewer and broadband infrastructure (EC-5): $6,050,000
Revenue Replacement (EC-6): $6,371,842
Administrative (EC-7): $5,993,532

Total Award $56,646,874
USES OF FUNDS

PUBLIC HEALTH (EC - 1)

Payroll for Public Health and Safety Employees:
To cover eligible employees’ wages, salaries and covered benefits according to the Treasury’s Interim Final Rules.

Estimated Cost for this project is: - $5,000,000 (EC 1.9)

Stand Alone Climate Controlled Storage Shed
In order to meet Covid 19 operational or future needs, acquire or construct an adequate storage facility to house 2- mobile cargo sized vans, medical equipment and supplies as well as an area to conduct additional drive thru clinic operations shielding essential staff and residents served from extreme temperatures, elements and weather. (i.e.: Covid 19 testing, immunizations, etc).

Objectives:
Offer a climate controlled covered area for residents and staff to provide care and services to address Covid 19 public health needs, risks presented by new variants, and long term effects from the virus.

Maintain an onsite climate-controlled space to store medical supplies which need to be protected from extreme temperature fluctuations and precipitation.

Offer covered protection for purchased mobile vans to extend their useful life

Estimated Cost for this project is: $800,000 (EC 1.1, 1.2, 1.7)

Scientific Grade Double and Triple Refrigerator and Freezer
The goal is to acquire appropriate cold storage for Covid 19 and other required vaccines which help prevent the spread of communicable illnesses.

Objectives:
Safely and securely maintain vaccine refrigerator temperatures between 36 and 46 degrees Fahrenheit

Safely and securely maintain vaccine freezer temperatures between 5 and -58 degrees Fahrenheit

Best Practice:
A responsible practice to ensure viability of vaccine is to store medications properly and hold contents at accurate temperatures utilizing digital technology and adequate cold storage units.

Estimated Cost for this project is: $25,000 (EC 1.1, 1.7, 1.8, 1.12)
Vaccination Clinic Supplies and Equipment

Our goal is to vaccinate 70% or more of the population. All of the equipment and supplies is needed to be able to hold large and small vaccine clinics on site, in the home and out in the community.

Objectives:

Respond to an emergency in the event someone has an allergic reaction

Store and handle vaccine at appropriate temperatures to maintain viability

Utilization of appropriate equipment to maintain crowd control

Provision of adequate signage, tables and chairs to safely and comfortably vaccinate the community

Proper disposal of medical waste with licensed medical waste company

Enhancement of Public Health Data Systems to ensure connectivity with NJ Vaccine Scheduling System (NJVSS), NJ Immunization Information System (NJIIS), and Medicaid Electronic Medical Record System for vaccine registration and documentation

Track and account for necessary PPE and other related inventory

Best Practice:

A responsible practice to ensure viability of vaccine is to store medications properly and hold contents at accurate temperatures utilizing digital technology and adequate cold storage units.

Proper medical practice is to be certain appropriate PPE and safety procedures are utilized when using medical supplies/equipment and disposing of them after use.

Estimated Cost for this project is: - $200,000 (EC 1.1, 1.2, 1.6, 1.8, 1.12)

Capital Investments to Public Facilities

Gloucester County Mega Site, (RCSJ) Roadway & Parking Lot Repairs and Upgrades

The planned work involves the milling, paving & striping of the roadways and parking areas utilized at RCSJ during the Mega Site operations. The paving will restore & repair the damage and changes made to the roadways, parking areas and pedestrian facilities created by the site usage. The Gloucester County Mega Site served over 430,000 people during it operations at RCSJ. The planned repairs will return it to a good condition for the college fall semester.
Gloucester County Mega Site, (RCSJ) Salina Road Roundabout Entrance

This project will provide for an additional entrance and roadway connection to the RCSJ Campus. This site was utilized as the Gloucester County Mega Site, for vaccinations as well as the first drive through Covid 19 testing site in Gloucester County 2020. The site provided much needed Covid 19 testing and vaccinations to residents of Gloucester County as well as all of NJ. This site will be utilized in the future should similar testing and vaccinations be required for future outbreaks. The planned improvements will provide enhanced access to the facility and allow for an improved level of operations and service to the public.

Upgrades to Clayton Pole Barn

An additional Covid vaccination / testing site has been established at the Gloucester County Clayton Complex. The outfitting of the new Clayton Facility required upgrades to a 80’x 160’ pole barn. These upgrades included portable toilets rentals, air conditioning, electrical service upgrade, site drainage work, milling and paving. This work has allowed the Clayton Pole Barn to operate as a vaccination & testing site serving the residents of Gloucester and other counties.

Construction 80’x130 Pole Barn Gloucester County Clayton Complex

This project will include the construction of an approximate 80’x130’ pole barn, which will be utilized for the storage of Covid related supplies, medical supplies, PPE, equipment needed for storage vaccines & testing site. The building will include heat, AC, back-up generator & sprinklers.

Gloucester County Swedesboro Yard Public Works Building Upgrades & Heating Installation

This project will include the installation heating unit and other building upgrades to the pole barn at the Gloucester County Swedesboro Yard. This location has been utilized as a Covid 19 testing site and will be utilized as a Covid 19 vaccination site in the future. Additionally, it will be utilized to store Covid 19 related supplies and materials.

Purchase of Two (2) Portable Toilet Trailers

This purchase is for (2) two Alpha V Portable Toilet Trailers. These units are being purchased for use at the Gloucester County Covid 19 Vaccination Site, located in Clayton NJ. The units will also be utilized by the Gloucester County Health Department, Office of Emergency Management and other County Departments for Gloucester County’s Covid Response – Vaccination & Testing outreach program. This program responds to Gloucester County’s most vulnerable populations by provided vaccination & testing at remote locations.

Gloucester County Veteran Administration Building Generator Installation

This project will include the purchase and installation of a backup generator for the Gloucester County Veterans Administration building. The Veterans Administrations provides Covid 19 response and medical services to veterans in Gloucester and other counties.

Gloucester County Social Services Building Generator Installation

This project will include the purchase and installation of a backup generator for the Gloucester County Social Services Building. Gloucester County Social Services provides Covid 19 assistance to the County’s most vulnerable populations.
Relocation of County Morgue @ Inspira Mullica Hill Campus

Relocate and upgrade required morgue and cold storage facilities for use by our regional Gloucester – Camden – Salem County Medical Examiner’s Office to address any increased volume and capacity needed to receive, process and house any Covid-19 cases (or other public health related concerns).

**Estimated Cost for these projects: - $10,000,000 (EC 1 Public Health: 1.7)**

Clinical Services

Enhancement of Public Health Data Systems by obtaining an electronic medical record system with appropriate hardware to improve tracking and monitoring of patients served. The addition of exam chair(s)/ area(s) will permit an increase in capacity/ the numbers of people served.

Objectives:

EMR will enhance the clinical services provided to individuals in need to allow electronic appointment scheduling, electronic medical records, appointment reminders, educational fact sheets and related information.

Added exam table will allow a safer and more comfortable setting to test, vaccinate, conduct wellness checks to those in need (i.e. underinsured, no insurance, etc.)

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $250,000 (EC 1.1, 1.2, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 1.12)**

Portacount Fit Tester

Goal is to offer direct support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors, by providing public health staff, healthcare employees and first responders with necessary fit testing to be equipped with appropriate protective equipment (i.e. N95)

Objective:

Protect public health staff, healthcare employees and first responders from communicable respiratory illness. Conduct fit testing utilizing the acquired Portacount Fit Tester to identify proper PPE needs for essential staff protection and use.

Track and account for testing provided in electronic medical record database.

Evidence Based Practice:

To assure the health & safety of essential staff (i.e: nurses; paramedics; first responders; law enforcement; etc), this equipment will assure appropriate PPE is identified and appropriately fitted for use.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $25,000 (EC 1.1, 1.5, 1.7)**
Field communication & emergency response/support vehicle & the installation of (4) console positions

The emergency response department would utilize this vehicle to support emergency field responses to include assistance to other county agencies and our municipalities. The covid-19 pandemic has shown the utility of having such a configured vehicle to support public/community outreach activities such as covid testing and mobile vaccination efforts, for those residents who are mobility challenged, as well as our underserved populations. The (4) radio consoles in the field comm. vehicle which would replicate the full functionality of the consoles in our communications centers.

Project/Purchase replaces a 25+ year old vehicle that is routinely used to support (municipal) community activities, both emergent and planned. It's functionality allows County Government (Public Safety/Emergency Response) to be fully operational when in the field, enabling on-scene coordination and collaboration with community representatives and residents.

Support Public Health/Covid-19 Mitigation Efforts and Community Outreach Activities and Public communication efforts

Documentation of the instances where the Vehicle is deployed, the purpose of the deployment, and into which community it was utilized.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $1,750,000 (EC 1.1, 1.2, 1.12)**

Expansion (build-out) of our primary EOC

Continuity of government & covid-19 mitigation & containment: the covid-19 pandemic has demonstrated the county’s need for additional work space for certain emergency related functional response activities which have shown to be critically important but necessitating dedicated space in lieu of using existing work areas in our activated emergency operations center: vaccination hotline call takers; contact tracing investigators; specialized training delivery (We are proposing a 2691 square foot addition to our building in Clayton).

The expansion of the county’s Primary Emergency Operations Center was shown to be a necessity during our response to the Pandemic. Multiple and simultaneous operations related to both our response and mitigation activities challenged county government due to lack of sufficient work space.

Most notable was the need to establish a call center for both scheduling for COVID Testing and assisting state/county residents with scheduling their vaccinations. Construction of additional work space adjoining our EOC would facilitate the county’s ability to effectively manage large scale events, to the benefit of both our county and municipal public safety partners and by extension our residents.

Support Public Health/Covid-19 Mitigation Efforts and Public communication efforts

Each documented activation of our Emergency Operations Center requires certain representative entities to have a presence depending on the circumstances. Each activation necessitates the development of Incident Action Plans and Situation Reports. Given the complexity of emergencies/disasters such as the Pandemic, the ability to conduct multiple incident
management activities and document the response and recovery actions taken will coincidentally reflect the services and assistance we provide our local (municipal) communities, to include the public safety agencies and the residents.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $1,250,000 (EC 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.7, 1.8)**

**Dispatch Position Licenses for our Alternate Communications Center in Clarksboro**

(Public Safety Communications Systems enhancement): Increase the compliment of Radio Licenses to (160) so that the Communications Center in Clarksboro has the same number of channels as our Primary Comms. Center in Clayton.

The value and importance of having comparable communications capabilities at our two Communications Centers is in accordance with Continuity of Government/Operations standards. The Pandemic demonstrated the need for this level of capability, as it was necessary to separate our Public Safety Telecommunicators to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 Virus among these essential employees. Effective and reliable communications is of critical importance, particularly during times of emergency.

Capital investments in public facilities to meet pandemic operational needs
A consequence of the COVID-19 Pandemic was the need to utilize our two Communications Centers in order to minimize the virus spread among our Public Safety Telecommunicators (Dispatchers). Any instance where we need to utilize both Comms. Centers will be documented, enabling the county to represent the reason for doing so, and the range of activities carried out as well as how those activities directly benefitted our communities.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $350,000 (EC 1.8)**

**Enhance the existing communications hardware of our 700 MHZ system to increase service reliability**

(Public Safety Communications Systems enhancement): install microwave dishes on existing radio towers to improve signal strength/reliability for certain areas in Gloucester County & for those municipalities in Atlantic County for which we provide public safety dispatching services.

Improving emergency communications reliability and operational capability directly relates to the quality of county government's essential services to our public safety agencies and the residents of the communities provided services by those agencies.

Capital investments in public facilities to meet pandemic operational needs
Our CAD System allows for the production of information specific to the quantity, nature/type and responding agency for each call for service. Those records can be used to assess the effectiveness of these expenditures.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $700,000 (EC 1.8)**
Permanently mounted solar systems on our mobile generators

Continuity of Government: Solar Panels would enable “off-grid” operations, eliminating the shore line hook up for battery tenders. The solar systems would keep a constant load and maintain cycle on the batteries, thus prolonging the life of our batteries in the units.

In order to ensure the provision of critical governmental services (Continuity of Government) for our residents during incidents of electric utility disruption, we maintain a fleet of portable generators. This project is meant to allow for the elimination of shore line electrical charging of the generator batteries by using Solar Panels to maintain the constant charging load on the batteries thereby extending their serviceable life.

Rebuilding public sector capacity

A cost-effective means of ensuring critical infrastructure remains operational thereby enabling government services to our populations continue despite electric utility disruptions.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $5,000 (EC 1.7)**

Air Purification Systems (Active Pure & Surface Pro by CETRIX Technologies)

Continuity of government: in order to reduce and eventually eliminate the need to disinfect our dispatch centers and other critical facilities we would purchase and install air purifiers in the following essential areas of operations: our two Communications Centers, and our primary & alternate Emergency Operations Centers (16 units @ $800.00 per unit)

Our Communications and Emergency Operation Centers are critical facilities that need to be accessible and operational in the midst of emergency operations, as they function as the county's central points of contact, information sharing and event management activities. The COVID-19 Pandemic demonstrated the need for these facilities to be routinely disinfected to mitigate the spread of the virus and allow the essential personnel staffing them to report to work and maintain the services provided to our communities and residents. These expenditures would result in significant cost savings while providing an efficient means for cleaning (disinfecting) the air.

Ventilation improvements in key settings like healthcare facilities/critical infrastructure

The straightforward, measurable benefit to installing air purifiers in our Communications Centers and Emergency Operations Centers is the ability to demonstrate that the county remains operationally capable of providing emergency services to our county and municipal public safety agencies/organizations and therefore, to our residential populations, as the risk of the essential personnel who staff these facilities from contracting illness due to inadequate cleansing of the air in these close environments.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $15,000 (EC 1.5, 1.7)**
Smartconnect on the Gloucester County Radio System

Fixed Network Equipment installed using 7.18 or 2020.1 System release and having 5 years of connectivity back to our Data Center (assumes single core and No DSR). Enables Cell Phone users to connect to our Radio Network via the FirstNet Network.

Implementation of this technology allows for Emergency Responders/Public Safety personnel to utilize their cell phones to communicate with the county’s communications center and transfer information in a variety of data formats.

Enhancement of Public Safety Communications capabilities

All cellular calls into our county’s centralized communications center are recorded, allowing for review and reporting of those calls.

Estimated Cost for this project is: - $400,000 (EC 1.7)

Power Stretcher-Auto-Load- Ambulance Fleet

Acquisition of this equipment will increase efficiency of our EMS Service Providers in the field, while reducing the frequency of personal injury. Furthermore, the safety of the patients being cared for by our EMS Personnel will be enhanced. Equipment will also increase physical distance of EMS patient to EMS provider, lowering potential for direct and airborne disease transmission. Lowering the potential for provider injury and/or infection retains more EMS providers available for service assignment and response, maintaining responsible staffing levels to assure timely response to 9-1-1 calls for service. Nationwide the number of available EMTs and paramedics is not able to keep pace with the demand, often resulting in “short staffing” and a reduction in the number of units able to respond.

Support Public Health/Covid-19 Mitigation Efforts and Community Outreach Activities

Statistics available from the Patient Contact records can be referenced to evaluate the effectiveness of these patient lift systems, along with the quantitative data associated with their deployment over a given period of time. EMS provider injury rates can be compared to prior years (where equipment was not available for utilization).

Estimated Cost for this project is: - $2,950,000 (EC 1.7, 1.8, 1.12)
Replacement of (4) GCEMS ambulances and related equipment

Replacement of current ambulances within the GCEMS fleet will enhance fleet reliability, increasing the likelihood of a timely response to 9-1-1 requests for EMS service. Higher mileage/problematic ambulances will be moved out of primary service and utilized as a reserve.

Support Public Health/Covid-19 Mitigation Efforts and Community Outreach Activities

Enhancing our County-wide EMS capabilities and services directly correspond with creating more effective and efficient responses to community-based health emergencies. The ability to document and report on the number of EMS Calls for Service and the information related to the nature and location of the call allows for informative reporting on the derived community benefits.

Estimated Cost for this project is: - $1,250,000 (EC 1.7, 1.8, 1.12)

Upgrade EMS Stations throughout the County & Storage Bays

Proposed locations will decrease response times throughout the area, specifically including areas of potential future development in the area municipalities. Current locations require crew exit the station into the rear parking lot, travel around the building and enter a busy thorofare, adjacent to a traffic light. The resulting delay is at times 3 to 4 minutes from dispatch to entry to the highway.

Support Public Health/Covid-19 Mitigation Efforts and Community Outreach Activities & Capital investments in public facilities to meet pandemic operational needs

This Project's intent is to construct a dedicated facility that houses and operates a County run EMS service which will be able to respond to health emergencies in a large geographic area. As such, multiple communities will benefit, as the demographics for the area serviced is rapidly expanding. Documented response cases will serve as a measurement of the return on investment. Additionally, the new and renewed facilities can be utilized as community vaccination sites, particularly for those individuals without ready access to transportation, should future vaccination outreach activities be needed.

Estimated Cost for this project is: - $900,000 (EC 1.7, 1.8, 1.12)

Expansion of GCEMS Academy training capacity

To continue to train future prehospital providers for Pandemic related, as well as routine, GCEMS basic life support responses, the capacity of the training academy will require expansion to provide concurrent training opportunities for multiple training courses. Strict (as identified in NJAC 8:41) student to instructor ratios as well as an extremely limited number of available and certified EMT instructors mandates the addition of additional training opportunities, rather than increasing the current class size. This expansion will include patient simulator mannequins, high fidelity simulation equipment, support technology and associated EMS response equipment to provide for additional training courses. Utilization of high-fidelity simulation provides for a more realistic patient interaction for the EMS student as well as minimized the potential for disease transmission.
between students as the simulation equipment is easily and quickly disinfected between student uses.

Support Public Health/Covid-19 Mitigation Efforts and Community Outreach Activities

The training and ongoing training will ensure a sufficient number of responders are available and adequately trained to respond to public health emergencies and requests for service. Providers would also be trained in COVID testing and vaccination as well as infection control/prevention practices and appropriate utilization of personal protective equipment.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $350,000 (EC 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 1.7, 1.8, 1.12)**

**Medical Ambulance Bus**

A “purpose built” (non-conversion), climate controlled Medical Ambulance Bus (MAB) would provide increased response capabilities and permit the vehicle to also be utilized as a mobile COVID testing and vaccination center. Should COVID return, the MAB would be utilized to evacuate/transfer congregate living residents as needed to other residential care facilitates, greatly reducing the number of single patient ambulances that would otherwise be required. MABs have the capability of transporting 20 non-ambulatory patients, 32 ambulatory patients, 15 wheelchairs, or a combination thereof.

Support Public Health/Covid-19 Mitigation Efforts and Community Outreach Activities

Direct response to and mitigation of pandemic related public health activities to our most vulnerable residents.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $900,000 (EC 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.7, 1.8, 1.12)**

**Replacement of the Public Outreach automated external defibrillators**

Public COVID testing and vaccination sites, by their very nature, draw large number of attendees, many with significant comorbidities, such as elderly residents. The replacement and addition of public access automated external defibrillators provide individuals staffing the testing and vaccination sites the immediate ability to respond and intervene patients in cardiac arrest, prior to the response of the closest EMS unit.

Support Public Health/Covid-19 Mitigation Efforts and Community Outreach Activities

Directly increases the readiness to respond to high acuity medical emergencies occurring at public testing or vaccination sites.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $100,000 (EC 1.1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.8, 1.12)**
Remodeling of existing pole barn
(currently being used to house GC HAZ MAT & County logistical supplies)

Remodeling/updating of an existing structure to repurpose same into climate controlled dedicated training space (class rooms, simulation laboratory and support offices) as well as to provide secure storage space for caching of personal protective equipment for use by public health providers, first responders, healthcare providers, etc... within the County of Gloucester. The previously identified training activities (COVID testing and vaccination as well as infection control/prevention practices and appropriate utilization of personal protective equipment) would be provided in this facility.

Support Public Health/Covid-19 Mitigation Efforts and Community Outreach Activities

The training and ongoing training will ensure a sufficient number of responders are available and adequately trained to respond to public health emergencies and requests for service.

Estimated Cost for this project is: - $500,000 (EC 1.1, 1.2, 1.5, 1.7, 1.8, 1.12)

TOTAL Public Health $27,720,000
NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS (EC - 2)

Economic Development Recovery Narrative

Through an extensive process started in January 2021, Gloucester County brought together a group of 75 business leaders, education partners, government officials and community stakeholders to begin working on an Economic Recovery Plan with the charge of building economic resiliency, enhancing access to education and training, attracting new business and creating unsustainable employment opportunities. Through this process common themes emerged from the committees formed relating to transportation, access to technology, development of centralized hubs for community resources, industry attraction and job retention, and enhanced communication with our business community and residents. The Gloucester County Board of Commissioners and Gloucester County Department of Economic Development have synthesized the complete list of committee recommendations into the following action-oriented recommendations. Implementation of these recommendations has the potential to support not only Gloucester County’s economic recovery, but pave the way for greater inclusion, access, and equity within our communities, which will provide a means to create economic opportunity for all residents in our region for decades to come.

Emerging Industry Training and Workforce Development

With a focus on the workforce of the future, Gloucester County is looking to enhance training and education for new and expanding industries, especially offshore wind, advanced manufacturing, cannabis and film. By aligning workforce and technical education programs at the Gloucester County Institute of Technology, the Gloucester County Workforce Development Board, Rowan College of South Jersey and Rowan University with industry employment opportunities. Recently, Rowan College of South Jersey has partnered with the Gloucester County Workforce Development Board to apply for the NJEDA Wind Turbine Technician Training Challenge. The offshore wind industry offers exciting opportunities for workers and/or students of all skill levels to train and secure high-growth, high-wage jobs in this emerging energy sector that will also spur economic growth in New Jersey.

By providing industry standard training, the proposed project will align with New Jersey Governor Murphy’s talent development plan through clear and inclusive industry recognized post-secondary credential programs that support career pathways from credit-bearing certification to an Associate degree and Bachelor’s degree. Since Rowan College of South Jersey is strategically positioned to develop and deliver the training program that will prepare individuals for offshore wind turbine technician roles, the proposed wind turbine technician training will be conducted on the RCSJ Gloucester campus or Rowan Universities West Campus. Both locations are accessible from two interstates and within close proximity to international airports.
Offshore wind power development aided by this project will boost employment opportunities for students and economic development in southern New Jersey. Many individuals seeking offshore wind jobs will need certifications to qualify for employment and to prepare for the rigors of this unique workplace. Recruitment efforts will be focused on women, minorities, and individuals currently on TANF, in addition to non-traditional adult students and in those living in distressed communities. Costs allocated for success of these training programs will be used for recruitment, promotions, and community outreach efforts, as well as, training, equipment, fit out of physical space, rent, and scholarship opportunities for a diverse population.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $600,000 (EC 2.7)**

**Project Search**

Another economic recovery goal in Gloucester County is to enhance training, education, and employment opportunities for our neurodiverse population by leveraging our training partnership with Workforce Development Board and Rowan College of South Jersey. For this reason, Gloucester County would like to develop a program called Project SEARCH. This program is a transition-to-work program for students with disabilities, that takes place entirely within a host business so that participants experience total workplace immersion and learn relevant, transferable, and marketable skills geared towards their individualized employment goal. The host business benefits from hosting Project SEARCH by showing that the business embraces diversity and equal opportunities for all. Provides role models and mentors for students with disabilities and provides a morale boost to the departments in which the interns train. Project SEARCH also creates more awareness in the county for workforce opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Gloucester County is proposing to pilot this program in 2022 with a student program that would service 5 – 10 students and expand to an adult program in 2023 with 5-10 students and 5 – 10 adult participants. The students will be recruited from the Adult Center for Transition (ACT). The adult population will be recruited from the Gloucester County American Job Center through DVRS and other partnership agencies in Gloucester County. As part of the screening process, participants will be interviewed by a special committee of community stakeholders. To expand the job opportunities for these students and adults, Jefferson Health NJ, Washington Township Campus has committed to partner with us as a host business. In addition to providing internships through Project SEARCH Jefferson has also committed to offering students and adults full time employment opportunities after the internships are successfully completed, building sustainable career pathway in the healthcare industry for the participants of the Project SEARCH Gloucester County.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $250,000 (EC 2.7)**
**Innovation Stations**

Develop business Information Hubs called “Innovation Stations” for small business, startups and the workforce to access resources and opportunities, while also supporting the growth of an entrepreneurial ecosystem and providing access to technology and technical instruction for business and job seeker. The Innovations Stations will include, among other things, a resource listing and interactive business plan navigator hosted on an online platform. The physical locations have been identified in county or municipality owned properties, that have access to public transportation, broadband services, and are equipped with the necessary technology for public use. The Gloucester County Economic Recovery plan identified issues such as accessing public transportation that inhibit access to higher education and sustainable employment. These innovation stations can be used by the community to identify opportunities for alternative career pathway, address the digital, and create incentivize entrepreneurship, especially among women and minority-owned businesses. The “Innovation Stations” will help address access to technology issues with in the community. The office space or work space available within the “Innovation Stations” will be prioritized for women and minority entrepreneurs. The locations of the stations will be within or adjacent to economically distressed areas to support community empowerment, encourage strong labor practices and supporting the growth of an entrepreneurial ecosystem in our distressed community. The first step in developing the “Innovation Stations” is to do community needs assessment. Based on that assessment, the county will determine the locations for the “Innovation Stations” that are strategically positioned to serve communities and individual with significant barriers. The needs assessment is estimated to cost approximately $45,000.00 to develop the plan and business model for Gloucester County’s “Innovation Stations”. The additional $200,000.00 in years 2022 and 2023 will support for operational cost including the hiring for individuals with disabilities for work experiences and on the job training opportunities within the “Innovation Stations”.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $450,000 (EC 2.9)**

**Small Business Recovery Assistance**

The County would like leverage American Recovery Acts funds to provide grant funds or forgivable loan products for small businesses with a primary focus on women and minority-owned businesses. Gloucester County already has an existing small business revolving loan fund and administers a grant program through CDBG for existing businesses. These additional funds would be targeted towards startup companies and entrepreneurs and could be utilized by the businesses that would be tenants in the “Innovations Stations” described above, as well as home-based business that are technology focused and startup companies located in distressed municipalities to help obtain physical space, especially on mainstreets in our Gloucester County Communities. The budget is approximately one million to provide approximately 100 grants up to 10,000 per business. The program will be application based, and for ease of use the application will be hosted and submitted on an online portal that the county has already procured.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $1,000,000 (EC 2.9)**
Support for Tourism and Hospitality Industry

Most sectors of tourism have been greatly harmed by the COVID-19 pandemic in Gloucester County and throughout the State of New Jersey. A recent report provided by the New Jersey Department of Travel and Tourism found tourism spending down 27.1% in Gloucester County. Because of the loss of revenue in several sectors, from restaurants to lodging, transportation, retail and recreation, tax receipts to the county also decreased by 17.4% and the direct employment impact to the County decreased by 25.3%. With tourism one of the largest economic drivers for the state, it is an important time to drive the message that Gloucester County is open and ready to welcome back not only visitors, but residents to this vital industry. We are going to use the funds to make people aware of the robust tourism attractions that are located in Gloucester County through a Targeted Digital Marketing Campaign along with: 1) Video on Demand; broadcast television commercials; sponsored social media campaign; social media influencer/live social media spots; google ad words campaign; and video highlight interviews/spots. Gloucester County saw reduction of 25.3 percent of employment in 2020 which equates to 1432 jobs due to the pandemic and with a robust media campaign and increased visitation rates we expect to regain 50 percent of the jobs that were lost due to the pandemic.

Estimated Cost for this project is: - $350,000 (EC 2.11)

Economic Recovery “Navigator” Pilot Program

Gloucester County would like to develop an Economic Recovery “Navigator” Pilot program created to leverage the New Jersey Economic Development Authority’s Economic Recovery Incentive packages, by attracting high quality jobs and industries to Gloucester County. This program will leverage NJEDA incentives for new business development, as well as help existing businesses navigate through county, state, and federal financing packages to grow or expand their current footprint. Job creation is a key element to determine the success of this pilot program, in accordance, one of the main focus of the “Navigator” will be attracting prospective companies to Gloucester County in industries with high paying jobs, in addition to navigating the New Jersey Economic Recovery Act of 2020 incentives through close coordination with the NJEDA and the Gloucester County Department of Economic Development. The county has already identified 164 targeted properties located in distressed municipalities that would qualify for New Jersey Economic Recovery Act of 2020 incentives and have the potential, if developed, to create jobs for our underserved populations. With the creation of the Economic Recovery “Navigator” Pilot Program we are looking to serve an average of 200 existing businesses per year with expansion efforts and create or retain approximately 300 new jobs per year.

Estimated Cost for this project is: - $300,000 (EC 2.13)
**Shovel Ready Sites Inventory and Marketing Strategy**

In addition to our distressed sites inventory the county would also like to create a “shovel-ready” properties inventory and marketing plan, paying special attention to locations near/around Rowan University’s West Campus, Greenfields and Brownfields properties. This would entail intensive research, analysis, and acquisition data for 25 priority sites selected. In addition to the property listing, a marketing strategy would need to be developed to promote the “shovel ready sites” to developers, businesses looking to relocate to NJ, and site selector nationally and internationally. Marketing should include digital, social media and print components. An Economic Impact study for the full list of sites should also be developed in collaboration with the Department of Economic Development and NJEDA, focusing on sites that would qualify the NJ Economic Recovery Act NJ EDA incentives programs for commercial, industrial and mixed-use projects. The goal is to attract new high paying jobs in emerging industries such as Wind, Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare Innovation, and Alternative Energy to Gloucester County.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $300,000 (EC 2.13)**

**TOTAL Negative Economic Impacts $3,250,000**
SERVICES TO DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITIES
(EC - 3)

Human Services Recovery Narrative

Gloucester County experienced 620 COVID related deaths as of this writing. The social and emotional impact of COVID on our most vulnerable citizens has been tremendous. Families have been impacted due to the shutdown, jobs were lost, child care and school closings. Families that had children with developmental, intellectual disabilities had additional stress in navigating the system to ensure their loved one continued to receive vital services. Residents expressed negative feelings over isolations and less human contact; along with the self-doubts/reluctances to use technology or having access to it.

As Gloucester County starts to rebound and restrictions/mandates are lifted, we look to re-emerge and ease residents back to normalcy, the spending plan below will focus on a variety of mental health services, specified training for law enforcement, substance use disorder and recovery programs along with re-establishing family connections/engagements and supports. Countywide programming will generate supports and provide a stronger network of services drawing from all areas of the county to help residents get through this public health emergency. We will be using the most recent Gloucester County Needs Assessment, Municipal Alliance Plan, Comprehensive State/Community Partnership/Family court Plan, Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiatives Plan, Comprehensive Drug & Alcohol Plan, Community Development Block Grant Consolidated Plan and Southern NJ Continuum of Care Applications as well as best practice models and evidence-based programming to design, distribute, implement and monitor projects.

Programs for Individuals and Family members in Recovery

Youth Impacted by Addiction Coalition gather members to assist in targeting children subjected to a loved one’s substance use. The services they provide care for children 3 to 17 years of age impacted by a loved one’s substance abuse. Outpatient counseling, short term stabilization services, support groups and professional workshops are available. Presentations can be arranged for agencies on such topics as Grief in relation to an Overdose and Impact on Child when living with a loved one with a Substance Use Disorder.

Gloucester County will seek a qualified, licensed and experienced agency following all state and county purchasing procedures, statues and/or laws. Funding will include staffing, materials and other supports.

Estimated cost for this project is: $100,000 (EC 1.11 & 3.4)
**Recovery Supports/Community Events**

In partnership with Living Proof Recovery Center at Rowan College of South Jersey, Gloucester County seeks to expand the Community Peer Recovery Program. This center will be a place where individuals can access peer support, information about substance abuse disorder treatment, recovery support services and information about other community resources in a supportive substance-free environment. Services would include but limited to: Social events, wellness classes, nutrition, creative arts, smoking cessation and relaxation/mediation.

Gloucester County will partner with various agencies to bring programs/events to participants through an open and transparent process.

Current trends indicate a gap of services for individuals with low income that are not eligible for services through other grant funded programs to receive suboxone. Cost for this service are prohibitive to those on a fixed or low-income budget. This Medicated Assisted Treatment (MAT) is part of a national best practice model to assist individuals in the battle against addiction. Gloucester County seeks to assist 30 consumers a year who cannot afford to pay for suboxone. According to SAMSHA, research indicates that without MAT individuals have a 10% success rate in obtaining recovery. With MAT this increases to 75% or better in maintaining recovery.

**Estimated cost for this project is: $200,000 (EC1.11 & 3.2)**

**Recovery Library**

The Recovery Library is Pat Deegan’s on-demand online collection of inspiration and tools to support recovery and wellness, with thousands of multimedia resources. It provides individuals, practitioners, and peer supporters with self-serve training on the CommonGround Approach. There are thousands of resources, which can be used by and/or with individuals so they can make informed treatment decisions, manage their disorders, and make progress toward self-care. Gloucester County is seeking to upgrade the subscription which will include course offerings, allows individuals and providers to track progress, and orientation webinars. As county residents emerge from the pandemic we are anticipating a higher demand easily accessible information and guidance.

**Estimated cost for this project is: $25,000 (EC1.10 & 3.4)**
Behavioral Health Services for impacted County Departments

Gloucester County has been impacted by COVID-19 having almost 30,000 positive cases and over 600 deaths. Those working on the front line have been under immense stress and pressure these past 18 months.

Gloucester County is seeking a part-time licensed counselor to provide on-site counseling to direct line staff who express need for services, post COVID-19. Counselor will have a caseload of 10 employees and small groups if needed for psychoeducation or group counseling. Fee for service rate of $80.00 per individual sessions and group sessions. Target audience is Health Department & EMS staff, County Nursing Home staff, Office of Emergency Management Staff, Onsite Mega Clinic staff. Projecting 1,550 sessions over the course of the project.

Estimated cost for this project is: $125,000 (EC 1.9)

Substance Use Disorder Outreach

Gloucester County is seeking to expand their Deterra Bag outreach program. Deterra system is a safe medication disposal pouch or container that can be used at home or in a clinical setting. It is used to destroy and properly dispose of unused, unwanted and expired medications without negatively impacting the environment. It is another option to reducing drug abuse and helps in the immediate prevention when someone is looking to properly dispose of medications.

Outreach will include presentations/distribution of Deterra Bags at Senior Citizen Club meetings, Community Days, various association meetings such as Chamber of Commerce, Real Estate Association meetings, Mayors Association, etc.

Estimated cost for this project is: $6,500 (EC 1.11 & 3.4)

Transportation for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Adult Center for Transition (ACT) located on the campus of Rowan College of South Jersey provides students with life-enhancing tailored to the learning and behavior requirements of individuals with special needs. Within the ACT program, students will have the opportunity to participate in a focused work-based learning experiences, job shadowing, internships, pre-apprenticeships, and apprenticeship programs. Additionally, in association with Rowan College of South Jersey and the College’s premier partner, Rowan University, other opportunities to transfer into college credit classes will also be explored.

Gloucester County is seeking a qualified transportation agency to provide transportation to and from the ACT Program to the participants home following all state and county purchasing procedure, statues and/or laws. Funding includes drivers for two routes, promotion, administration and social supports.

Estimated cost for this project is: $680,000 (EC 1.12, 3.3, &3.4)
Behavioral Health Services Components

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is a national model. It is a course that teaches an individual how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. The training gives the individual the skills needed to reach out and provide initial help and support to someone who may be developing a mental health substance use problem or experiencing a crisis.

MHFA has many specialized courses to meet the need of the audience it is being presented to.

Gloucester County Government has a workforce of 1,378 employees. Employees will benefit from general knowledge about how to identify signs and symptoms of mental illness and how to access help for others, including the residents we serve. Funding would be used to contract with a qualified licensed professional/agency that would be able to instruct the following:

- Certification cost to teach youth MHFA
- Certification cost to teach adult MHFA
- MHFA Course Offering to County Employees including supplies
- Course could be offered virtually or in-person

The agency selected will be procured through State and County Purchasing Procedures/statues/laws.

Estimated cost for this project is: $225,000 (EC 1.10 & EC 3.4)

Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for law enforcement and telecommunication specialists Coordinator

CIT-NJ is a county-based collaboration of law enforcement professionals and mental health professionals who are committed to developing a local system of services that is responsive to individuals with mental health illness, family members and the police officers. The CIT-NJ model strives to provide law enforcement officers and mental health professionals with knowledge and skills that allow them to respond to the individual in a psychiatric crisis in a manner that minimizes the potential for injury. In addition, the CIT-NJ model can be instrumental in helping to divert the individual with serious mental illness from criminal justice system to appropriate mental health treatment.

Gloucester County has 24 municipal police departments, Sheriff’s Department and Prosecutor’s Office to recruit from to form a specialized unit of officers trained in de-escalation tactics when confronted with individuals experiencing behavioral health issues.

This funding would be used to contract through a competitive contract using state and county procurement process to a qualified mental health agency, who staffs programs that interface with law enforcement in the field to assist residents experiencing a mental health crisis. The agency would responsible for coordinating the 40-hour CIT Courses as well as quarterly meetings. Funding can be used for program trainers and course materials. Oversight would be through GC Division of Human & Disability Services.

Estimated cost for this project is: $30,000 (EC 1.12 & EC 3.13)
CIT Dispatch/Telecommunications Specific Training

Gloucester County Communications Center is a countywide dispatch services for all 24 municipalities, Sheriff’s Department and Prosecutor’s Office for Police, Fire and EMS. They answer over 500 911 calls and over 900 non-emergency calls a day. Gloucester County has 128 FTE/PTE PSTS which includes supervisors. Training would include how a PST would request for a specifically trained CIT Officer within the municipality. It would greatly assist dispatching the correct officer to the scene increasing the probability of a positive outcome and de-escalation of the situation.

**Estimated cost for this project is: $25,000 (EC1.12 & EC 3.13)**

Law Enforcement/Psychiatric Screeners Team

Gloucester County’s Office of Mental Health Services continues to work closely with local law enforcement providing numerous trainings for officers to learn de-escalation methods when encountering/interacting with an individual that is experiencing a mental health crisis. Gloucester County is seeking to provide two full time Masters Level or Bachelor Level with 5+ years of experience, NJ Certified psychiatric screener located on site at specified Gloucester County Police Department(s) to respond with local trained Crisis Intervention Officer(s) (CIT), or other officers if CIT officer is not available, to calls for community members experiencing a psychiatric emergency.

This funding would be used to contract through a competitive contract using state and county procurement process to a qualified mental health agency, who staffs programs that interface with law enforcement in the field to assist residents experiencing a mental health crisis. Funding includes salary for two FTE Screeners with laptops and Supervision.

Municipal Police Departments will be selected through review of the number of Emergency Screening calls/dispatch, types of calls and collaboration/partnership of municipal leadership and police department.

**Projected cost for this project is: $2,000,000 (EC 1.1 & EC 3.4)**

Mental Health Instructor

Gloucester County has an unemployment rate of 6.5%, it is anticipated that individuals seeking training, career change information and basic skills training, there will be approximately 14,000 residents pursuing assistance in obtaining a job.

Gloucester County is seeking an individual with a graduate level professional with a degree in psychology, counseling, or social work. They will develop and teach curriculum for individuals re-entering the workforce post COVID-19. Curriculum to address unique stressors, and anxieties surrounding the return to work in person. The target audience is American Job Center/One Stop Consumers.

**The projected cost of this project is: $25,000 (EC 1.1 & EC 3.4)**
Stigma Free Campaign

Gloucester County is a Stigma Free County encouraging residents to seek mental health services and support them in their journey. We know that stigma is the primary reason individuals do not seek help when they experience symptoms of mental illness. Stigma hurts everyone living with mental health illness, along with their families, friends, colleagues and the communities in which they live. It's a primary barrier to the achievement of wellness and recovery as well as full social integration and appears as distrust, fear, stereotyping, and discrimination.

Individuals who have had COVID are now experiencing that same type of shaming, being isolated and shunned.

Gloucester County seeks to continue and expand upon the current Sigma Free campaign by recognizing and supporting agencies, businesses, municipalities, police departments, or schools who wish to provide an environment supporting all health needs, including mental health. Examples include: Community Days, Stigma Free Banners & Flags, Youth Mental Health First Aid for School Counselors, or supportive materials for Traumatic Loss Coalition volunteers, especially for those grief counselors who seeing individuals that have lost a loved one due to COVID (over 600 deaths as of 7/14/2021).

**Estimated cost for this project is: $150,000 (EC 1.1 & EC 3.4)**

Adverse Childhood Experiences & Trauma-Informed Care Training

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are stressful or traumatic events that occur before the age of 18 and can lead to lifelong physical, mental and emotional damage. ACEs includes experiences such as divorce and witnessing parental violence. Adverse community events such as poverty and systemic racism can further compound the effects of ACEs.

Gloucester County seeks to work cooperatively and collaboratively with NJ Actions4ACEs to bring programs and education to law enforcement officers and teachers/educators with the goal of informing both groups about what ACEs are and what steps can be taken to address them and lessen their impact. These funds would begin to develop programs that are identified as gaps and needs within the county. With the focus on our low income, hard to serve communities. Complementing and building upon already established programming.

**Estimated cost for this project is: $50,000 (EC 1.12 & EC 3.9)**
Substance Use Disorder Components

Over the past 5 years, Gloucester County has had a total of 687 Overdose Deaths, with a high of 144 deaths in 2018. In 2020, there were 129 deaths. During that same time there were 3,761 Naloxone (Narcan) Administrations. It is believed that the decrease in deaths from 2018-2020 was due to Narcan deployment, even though First Responder administrations did not increase during this period. It was the in-home, private use of Narcan. Gloucester County has a much higher percentage of its overdoses occur on private property than neighboring counties; 75-80% in Gloucester County, NJ compared to 15-20% in Camden County, NJ, further showing the need for Narcan training and distribution to the general public. There is data indicating a rise of overdoses again (17%) since the start of COVID-19.

In 2019, there were 269 residents that were trained and received a Narcan Kit. In 2020, classes were offered up to until April, there were 111 Gloucester County residents that attended the training and received Narcan. These sessions were held once a month.

Gloucester County is seeking to expand current Narcan program & purchase additional Narcan Kits including resource guide & pouch. Hire a licensed & qualified trainer and facility costs. Classes/training would be twice a month with a maximum of 25 pupils per class.

Estimated cost for this project is: $25,000 (EC 1.11 & EC 3.5)

Programs for Individuals and Family members in Recovery

Youth Impacted by Addiction Coalition gather members to assist in targeting children subjected to a loved one’s substance use. The services they provide care for children 3 to 17 years of age impacted by a loved one’s substance abuse. Outpatient counseling, short term stabilization services, support groups and professional workshops are available. Presentations can be arranged for agencies on such topics as Grief in relation to an Overdose and Impact on Child when living with a loved one with a Substance Use Disorder.

Gloucester County will seek a qualified, licensed and experienced agency following all state and county purchasing procedures, statues and/or laws. Funding will include staffing, materials and other supports.

Estimated cost for this project is: $100,000 (EC 1.11 & EC 3.5)

Recreation Components to the Countywide Substance Abuse Program

Gloucester County Municipal Alliance Program is a collaboration involving 23 municipalities for the express purpose of community prevention education regarding alcoholism and drug abuse. This community-based network of anti-drug coalitions provides prevention services to their community. These local stakeholders attend community events, training opportunities and assemblies/workshops for students and teachers.

Gloucester County is seeking to allocate funding based on a formula to all 23 Municipal Alliances to provide evidenced programs, positive alternatives for family engagement, reconnection, improve family interaction and assist in self-esteem building.

Estimated cost for this project is: $500,000 (EC 1.11 & EC 3.5)
Countywide Inclusive Program partnering with Rowan College of South Jersey

According recent census, 13% of Gloucester County’s population has some type of disability. Current needs assessments have indicated a gap in recreational services for those individuals with special needs. Gloucester County seeks to partner with Rowan College of South, Special Olympics of New Jersey, Unified Sports Programs and other recreational opportunities. By providing a variety of sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities gives the athletes life skills, confidence and grow as individuals. It also breaks down the barriers and celebrates differences in a positive setting. Funding for this program will cover any potential fees and transportation for all participants.

Estimated cost for this project is: $250,000 (EC 1.12 & EC 3.9)

Accessibility/Mobility Aids to the parks

Gloucester County has over 180,000 visitors per year at the 4 major parks in the county. Individuals and Families with disabilities often do not participate in events or limit their time out of the house due to lack of accessibility to appropriately equipped bathrooms or even charging stations for individuals that use electric wheelchairs/scooters.

Electric Wheelchairs have been around since 1950’s with the average wheelchair user spends about 10 hours in his or her wheelchair daily. Most power wheelchairs can travel over 10 miles before the battery becomes exhausted under ideal conditions. Installing outdoor charging stations along the walking trails throughout the county park system will allow for more family engagement/reconnections. This interaction will assist in eliminating the isolation felt during the pandemic.

Modifying the handicapped bathrooms to include appropriate equipment so those that are confined to a wheelchair have more accessibility/opportunities to participate in family activities at the parks.

Estimated cost for this project is: $45,000 (EC 1.12 & EC 3.9)
Transportation Components

Pureland East/West Community Shuttle provides vital transportation services connecting those that are transportation dependent to both work opportunities and essential community supports such as libraries, medical appointments. The shuttle services Williamstown, Glassboro, Mullica Hill, Swedesboro and Logan Township which have large pockets of low-income households. It also includes connections to 11 NJ Transit routes with free ride transfers. The Shuttle also links to the Internal circulator within Pureland Industrial Park (largest industrial park on the east coast) providing access to major employers including Amazon and UPS, among over 100 other business located within the complex.

The Shuttle provides a link to the adjacent Commodore Business Park Complex which has no public transportation access/resources with an internal circulator within that facility.

In 2019, over 50,000 passengers rode the community shuttle.

Gloucester County seeks to retain these routes by awarding funds to a qualified agency following all state and county purchasing procedure, statues and/or laws. Funding includes drivers, promotion, administration and social supports. By maintaining the shuttle, we are able to provide job opportunities for those that do not have transportation and provide direct access to essential businesses and services, from groceries to healthcare for those that depend on public transportation for daily needs/services/activities.

Estimated cost for this project is: $1,800,000 (EC 2.13 & 3.9)

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

In planning to increase/address inclusion and diversity, within Gloucester County, there are a few things that have to be considered as a starting point. These are developing a strategic plan to ensure those that seek knowledge have access to local/regional resources available and a valuable method of evaluating any policies and procedures, produced by the plan, to ensure they accomplish the anticipated goal. Gloucester County is seeking to collaborate with Rowan University’s Division of Diversion, Equity and Inclusion, to create trainings/workshop opportunities for elected officials and other administrative key stakeholders. The purpose would be to gain additional knowledge and methodologies in its work towards building stronger diverse and inclusive. Training/workshops would bring forth a curriculum of deep knowledge in cultures, history, ideas, social structures, institutions, and politics, which scratches the surface. These are concepts that Rowan University’s College of Humanities and Social Sciences, which encompasses the Division of Diversion, Equity and Inclusion, has been exploring for generations and it is our goal to tap in some of their knowledge and history. Success in any collaboration would create trainings/workshops/summits opportunities that can be scheduled at the convenience of all involved.
In collaborating with the above-mentioned opportunities, seeking to sponsor/promote annual diversity/inclusion events throughout the county which could include art expression guest presentations, drama, music and dance as a great way of supporting diversity and strengthening intercultural relations and understanding. Potential programming could include creating a mosaic/art project that would express cultural diversity and celebrate important accomplishments of minority groups in our area. Art expression sends a strong but peaceful message that is welcoming to those who live, visit and pass through our area.

Highlighting Martin Luther King/ days of service activities, Recognizing Juneteenth & Black History Month, LBGTQ/Pride, Asian Pacific Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, through programming, workshops or other services

**Estimated cost for this project is: $200,000 (EC 3.1 & 3.2)**

### Purchase of 2 Mobile Clinic Vans with Letter & Decals

Our goal is to purchase 2- mobile clinic cargo sized vans with an awning to mobilize public health department services within our community. This will permit those with a transportation hardship the ability to access services needed. Examples of services provided will include, but are not limited to: Immunizations, Health screenings, Harm reduction, Lead screenings and Education as well as additional public health related education and outreach. The mobile clinic vans will serve as a public health outreach vehicle and include interior seating and exam areas for nurses and patients, storage cabinets for medical supplies with surface areas that can easily be cleaned/disinfected. Van wrap or decal for the exterior will be included to identify and promote our services.

**Objectives:**

Provide community outreach services weekly focusing on municipalities with low immunization rates and transportation hardships

Maintain accountability by obtaining price quotes, documenting vehicle purchased, date of purchase, date of delivery and total cost.

Maintain spreadsheet reflective of date of events, location, number of participants served and services rendered

All information will be documented / highlighted in the Recovery plan performance report

**Evidence Based Practice:**

Mobile health clinics have proven to be effective in reaching hard to reach populations and rural communities.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $400,000 (EC 1.1, 1.2, 1.12 and 3.13, 3.14)**
**Lead Remediation**

An increase in childhood elevated lead blood levels is evident as many children were not being tested as a direct result of the pandemic and its effect upon service availability.

The goal is to provide equity focused services by addressing health disparities throughout our communities specifically, assist low income families with lead remediation needs when lead contamination causes childhood elevated blood lead levels

**Objectives:**

Prevent brain damage from elevated lead levels in children by providing funding to families in need which will allow for the appropriate removal of lead paint and other lead hazards in the home.

**Evidence Based Practice:**

Primary prevention—the removal of lead hazards from the environment a child has been exposed to—is the most effective way to reduce and/or ensure that children do not experience the harmful effects of lead exposure.

**Estimated Cost for this project is: - $300,000 (EC 1.12 and 3.5, 3.7, 3.9, 3.15)**

**TOTAL Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities $7,261,500**
INFRASTRUCTURE (EC- 5)

Countywide Storm Sewer Pipe Lining and Restoration and Pump Station Project
This project includes the repair / replacements and pipe lining of storm sewer lines along County Roadways Countywide. This will repair and upgrade the County’s sewer drainage facilities helping to prevent roadway flooding.

The Levee Pump Station Project consists of the construction of two pumps stations in Greenwich Township, Gloucester County. Currently, the Delaware is separated from the Repaupo Creek and White Sluice Race floodplains by a levee. Tides gates control the discharge of these waterways into the Delaware River. The Pump stations will be placed on the levee and will provide flooding relief during storm events and high tides when the gates are closed. This will assist with flooding issues countywide.

Estimated Cost for this project is: - $2,500,000 (EC 5.6)

Information Technology VxRail project
The VxRail project for the County’s primary data center (Clayton) and DR site Clarksboro. This project will refresh the aging hardware in both sites and provide IT with the tools to better manage and maintain the County’s critical servers. Currently critical updates and patches that help to fend off cyber-attacks must be scheduled after hours or non-peak times. This often leaves us with the decision to forgo updating and accept the risk of not immediately patching servers or to disrupt County business. With the VxRail system we can perform updates as soon as they are available with no disruption to the end user. Most cyber-attack compromises turn out to be from unpatched systems. So, having systems that are kept up to date can make all the difference. Other benefits of the VxRail software are that it offers a “single pane of glass” and is very user friendly. This provides us with one spot to maintain and identify system issues. Rather than having to check in multiple locations across different platforms. And being user friendly it will also allow us to distribute the workload across more IT staff. Having more staff with the knowledge to maintain critical systems will only make our systems stronger and services more reliable especially during a pandemic.

The VxRail system will also position us for future growth with VDI (Virtual Desktops). Having VDI in place will increase the productivity of our users. Giving them a better “work from anywhere” experience. Which can be extremely beneficial in emergency and disaster situations. Allowing us to provide more reliable services to the public.

Unified IP Phone System

Nearly every public facing service offered or managed by the County of Gloucester relies on the phone system in one way or another. Even while many services strive to become more connected and more digitally available, the phone is still the preferred means of communication for most public services, and even for those services which have migrated to be fully online, the phone must still be available as a backup point of contact for the public who use those services. There is simply no substitute for the efficiency of person-to-person communication via a phone call and this will likely continue to be true for the foreseeable future. As such it is imperative to keep and maintain the current phone capabilities of the county while also having the ability for agile
expansion and to respond to the ever-changing needs of the county. The county’s current phone system is outdated and unsupported by the manufacturer, it lacks certain key features available on most modern phone systems and runs the risk of failing given its age and lack of support. Migrating now to a modern Voice over IP (VOIP) system mitigates the risks posed by the current system while also ensuring the ongoing availability of public facing services regardless of the challenges posed by the future. During the pandemic, we established call centers for residents to call with assistance with all pandemic related questions. The staff assisted with the senior population who were unable to get an appointment either for testing or vaccination.

This project encompasses all facets of installing a new multisite unified IP Phone System to replace the existing multisite phone system. The new system will be extended to all Gloucester County sites (current system is at all main sites but not available at smaller satellite offices). The project estimate includes all hardware, design, installation, product engineering, troubleshooting and includes estimated costs for potential ancillary components including all related and connected services, all required cabling, and any potential enhancements required to be made to existing electrical, structural, or underlying network infrastructure components.

Gloucester County maintains a county-wide Wide Area Network (WAN) for 38 sites including administrative locations and EMS stations. The network supports all administrative functions for County Employees including public safety through the County’s 911 Emergency Response Center (ERC) as well as multiple Health Departments, Sheriffs’ offices, Fire/EMS stations. The Gloucester County ERC also acts as a dispatch for 24 Police Departments, to include Hazmat, SWAT, and Corrections agencies.

The interconnecting network is implemented via Dynamic Multipoint Virtual Private Networks (DMVPN) with its central site being located at 1200 N Delsea Dr, Clayton, NJ known as the Clayton Complex.

The Cisco brand routers enable the encryption that allows NCIC/FBI/CJIS traffic to be safely transported to the various police departments and are vital pieces of the connectivity.

Currently most if not all of the 24 routers at the various police departments are past end-of-life and need to be replaced to continue manufacturer support and ensure continued operation in support of public safety.

Estimated Cost for these projects: - $3,550,000 (EC 5.16, 5.17)

TOTAL Infrastructure $6,050,000
REVENUE REPLACEMENT (EC - 6)

Treasury’s Interim Final Rule gives recipients broad latitude to use funds for the provision of government services to the extent of reduction in revenue. While calculation of lost revenue begins with the recipient’s revenue in the last full fiscal year prior to the COVID-19 public health emergency and includes the 12-month period ending December 31, 2020, use of funds for government services must be forward looking for costs incurred by the recipient after March 3, 2021.

Revenue loss calculation amounts to $3,471,842 for 2020 based on 2019 & 2020 Audited Revenues. The county intends to use these funds for resurface and other roadway improvements or projects deemed necessary.

Estimated Revenue Loss of 2021: $1,500,000
Estimated Revenue Loss for 2022: $1,400,000
Total Revenue loss to be allocated to roadway and other miscellaneous projects

Estimated Revenue Loss: - $6,371,842 (EC 6)

**TOTAL Revenue Replacement $6,371,842**

OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS (EC -7)

Administering the SLFRF program

To cover costs for administering the SLFRF program, including costs for consultants to support effective management and oversight, compliance with legal, regulatory and other requirements. The need to increase vehicles, special transit vans/box trucks to move PPE throughout the county, and trucks for emergency clean up, and any other items deemed necessary.

Estimated Cost for this project is: - $5,993,532 (EC 7.1 and 1.2)

**TOTAL Other Administrative Costs $5,993,532**