

HIDALGO COUNTY

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds



2025 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT



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General Overview



Executive Summary

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) program. The program is intended to support state, territorial, local and Tribal governments in their efforts to address the economic and public health impacts of COVID-19 on our communities, residents and businesses.

In response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the County of Hidalgo applied for its allocation of the SLFRF program and was granted a total of \$212,973,405.00. The County of Hidalgo received half of the allotted funds in June 2021. The second tranche was received in June 2022.

The Hidalgo County Department of Budget and Management established its American Rescue Plan Act Program in September 2021. The program performs comprehensive reviews of guidance provided by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, prepares materials in response to requests for program information and executes required reports. Additionally, the Hidalgo County ARPA Section is responsible for project analysis, planning, development and implementation.

Hidalgo County's American Rescue Plan Act Program functions as the core of the County's SLFRF program management and works to enable COVID-19 mitigation tactics and economic recovery efforts. The Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Program is committed to maintaining accountability and transparency as it addresses the health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

In accordance with the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Guidance, the Hidalgo County 2023 Recovery Plan Performance Report has been developed to inform the public and U.S. Treasury of Hidalgo County's SLFRF projects. All current and past Project and Expenditure Reports and Recovery Plan Performance Reports are available via the website.

Hidalgo County Recovery Plan Performance Reports detail the scope of current and past SLFRF projects, expand upon the County's efforts to engage the community and underscores the importance of abiding by guidance provided by the U.S. Treasury in order to ensure an efficient, equitable and effective recovery from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

The State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program allocation allowed Hidalgo County to begin its strategic development plan to expeditiously respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The SLFRF, which supports state and local governments' response to COVID-19 and its effects, has allowed the County to take a dedicated and intentional approach to addressing the COVID-19 public health emergency's disproportionate impacts on County residents. Simultaneously, federal funds have also granted the opportunity to respond to the long-standing socioeconomic disparities among underserved communities.

Since its inception, the Department of Budget and Management American Rescue Plan Act



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(ARPA) Program has strategically operated to expend funds in compliance with the SLFRF Final Rule and Compliance and Reporting Guidance. The program is currently overseeing the expenditure of funds and ensuring that projects are executed in a manner that is equitable, efficient and effective.

In 2021, the County of Hidalgo launched efforts for economic recovery by prioritizing public health services, healthcare initiatives, public safety measures, recreational development and improvements to stormwater systems. Public health measures continue to be the focal point of the County's COVID-19 recovery. Meanwhile, projects aimed at addressing recreational spaces in Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs) and stormwater systems promote healthy lifestyles, public safety and an improved quality of life in the community that is sustainable and benefits all.

Hidalgo County has two primary goals; to provide assistance to its residents and to provide support for the community, particularly the disadvantaged population who have suffered the most through the pandemic residing in Qualified Census Tract (QCT) or Low to Moderate Income areas.

Hidalgo County is committed to service and intent on ensuring that the American Rescue Plan funds accelerate recovery and build a stronger foundation for the future as evidenced by our Vision and Mission statements as well as our values.

Vision: Hidalgo County will provide efficient government services for long lasting investments, rebuild reserves to enhance financial stability and lead our community toward success.

Mission: To serve our constituents by building a strong and healthy community through continuous engagement, assistance and access and/or distribution of services to adversely affected groups in Hidalgo County.

Values: Integrity, Excellence, Equity, Innovation, Transparency

- Integrity: Demonstrate honesty, trustworthiness and sincerity at all times
- Excellence: Provide exceptional service and surpassing expectations
- Equity: Provide fair, impartial assistance to individuals who are served by the County
- Innovation: Strive for better ways to serve constituents, employees and the County as a whole
- Transparency: Account for all facts and information to ensuring equitable decision-making

These statements have been and will continue to be the driving force that contribute to strategy development, the safeguard of families, and helping us build community resilience.



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Uses of Funds

As previously stated, Hidalgo County’s approach in supporting a strong and equitable recovery is to focus efforts and offer assistance to communities that have been impacted the most by the pandemic. Research into the Social Determinants of Health indicates areas of priority that require assistance because they have an impact on a person’s health, well-being, and quality of life and impact social, physical, and economic conditions. Hidalgo County aims to focus its resources and efforts on programs and services that will be accessible and influence health and economic outcomes. Eligible uses of funds integrated with the specific needs of Hidalgo County and its constituents will allow the County to better support and serve the community for a resilient future. To provide efficient government services for long lasting investments and leverage health equity, the areas below have been prioritized.

Priorities	Outcomes
 Health Care Access and Quality	• Mitigate the spread of COVID-19 • Improve access to health programs and services • Invest in Health Facilities Infrastructure • Reduce food insecurity • Increase healthcare and emergency services capacity
 Neighborhood and Built Environment	• Improve recreation areas and spaces • Assist nonprofits • Provide housing support • Promote Job training • Provide mental health services
 Infrastructure	• Improve water and sewer systems • Provide access to broadband
 County Operations	• Monitor federal compliance for ARPA • Ensure continuation and enhancement of programs and services • Support and retain public sector workforce • Improve technology infrastructure • Maintain general administrative services



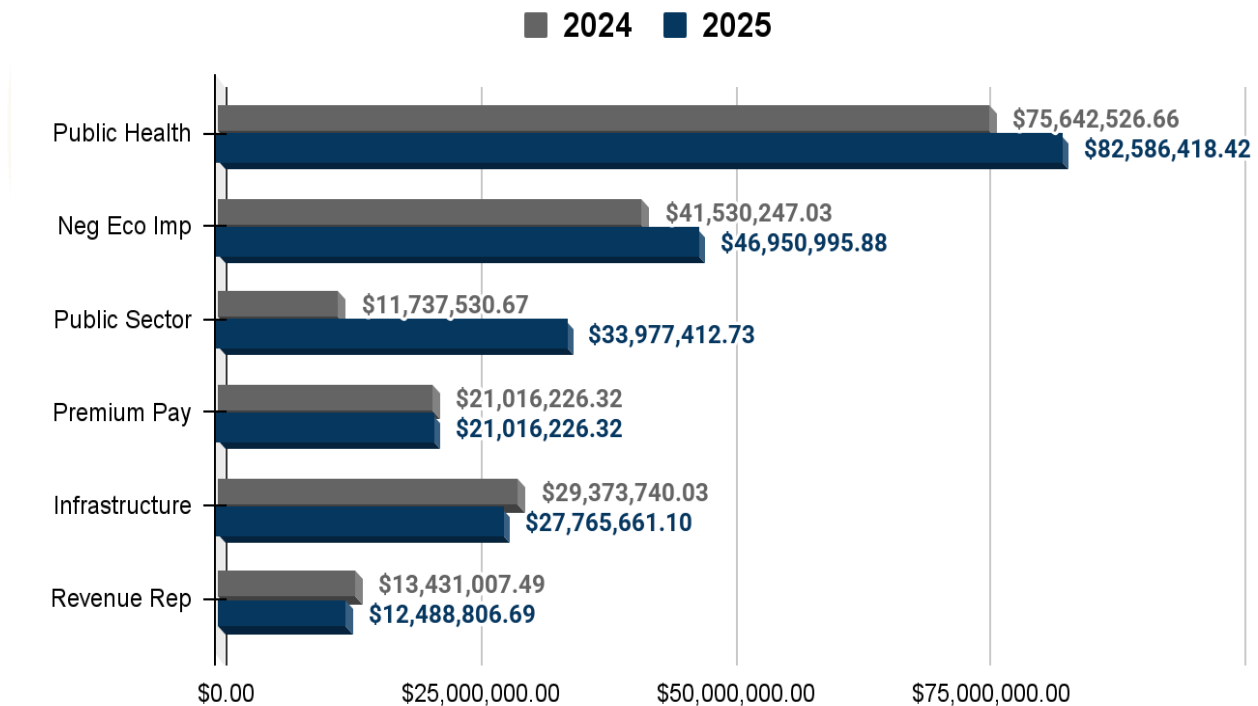
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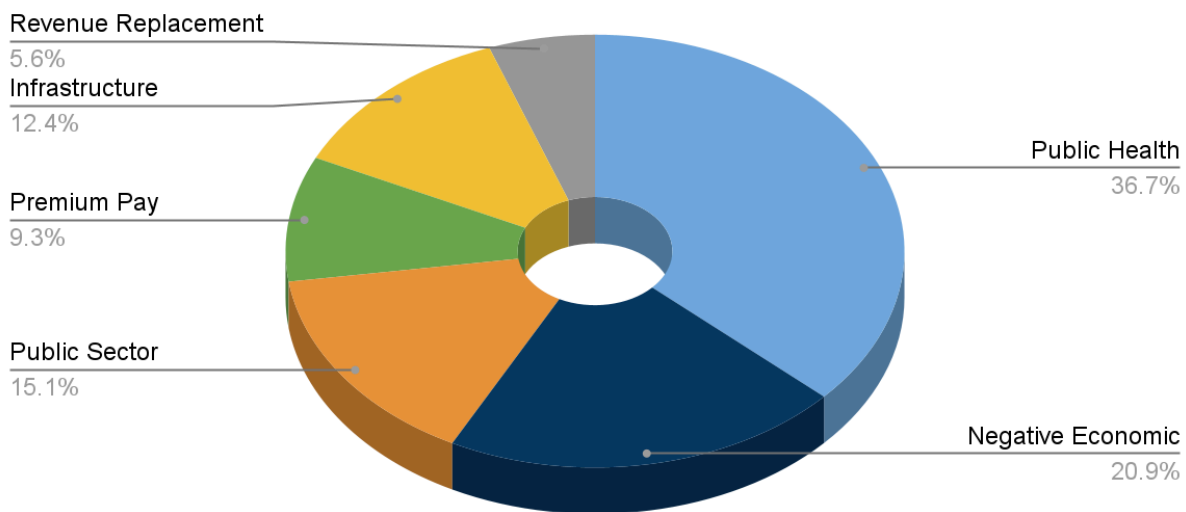
Our Commissioners Court understands that recovery efforts are imperative for the community and has implemented both immediate relief and long-term projects. Outcomes are focused on closing gaps in disproportionately impacted communities. Addressing these priorities, will encourage and promote economic stability in Hidalgo County as these investments support long-term growth and opportunity. Clearly, projects tap into more than one category making a greater impact on results. As seen in the charts below, Hidalgo County is vested, first and foremost, in the health of its residents and in ensuring that investments are in the interest of community resilience with approximately 60% of funding geared toward public health and negative economic impacts.

ARPA Revised Amounts





2025 ARPA Percentage by Category



1. Public Health

Hidalgo County began a comprehensive response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts on the public health system. Efforts included investing in health care access in indigent communities, addressing congregate settings in County workspaces and jails, and strengthening the County's response to COVID-19 to ensure that its residents received and continue to receive high quality care to improve community health and well-being.

In 2021, Hidalgo County focused on immediate relief by providing services for all constituents to ensure public safety and reduce health impacts, including announcements, vaccinations and other provisions necessary to reduce the spread of the disease and save lives. Additionally, equipment to improve and enhance broadband infrastructures for distance learning, work, and for emergency response were also implemented.

In 2022, Hidalgo County focused on the same mitigation efforts to continue providing vaccinations. In planning for the future, projects that would prepare the county for response and recovery now and in the future were assessed and included public facilities and health clinics retrofitting to modernize and improve service delivery, investing in nursing programs to increase the number of



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nurses, new construction of clinics in qualified census tract areas for closer access and treatment, and emergency preparedness projects such as emergency response resources and first responder training in preparation for and in response to the current and future public health emergencies.

Now in recovery, 2023 projects are focused on the lingering effects of the pandemic while still continuing mitigation efforts. The County expanded projects for improvements to clinics, assisted with resources for the County's new biosafety lab to promote community safety, provided mental health assistance relief to the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, and expanded investments in nursing and respiratory health to increase the number of both graduating nurses and respiratory therapists.

Hidalgo County plans to continue addressing health inequities and create more sustainable communities. Projects with the eligibility categories below are a priority and align with the Health Care Access and Quality outcomes.

- Vaccination Efforts (1.1): vaccination clinics, temporary vaccination healthcare staffing, expanded medical records healthcare staffing, hardware and software, temporary site rental, mobile sprinter vans, personal protective equipment
- Testing Efforts (1.2, 1.5): supplies and equipment
- Congregate Settings Mitigation Efforts (1.4)
- Public facilities social distancing measures
- Vaccination Campaigns, Technology improvements, Emergency Management Resources (1.7, 1.8)
- Mental Health Services (1.12)
- Clinic Improvements/new construction, increase nursing healthcare capacity (nursing), first responder training, cybersecurity, biosafety efforts (1.14)

In 2024, Hidalgo County sought to finalize its efforts aimed toward public health by ensuring the obligation of funds on current projects; thereby affirming their completion and long-term sustainability.

By implementing and finalizing public health projects in response to COVID-19, Hidalgo County aims to restore, recover and remain resilient in the years to come.

2. Negative Economic Impacts

The COVID-19 public health emergency has collectively impaired the psyches of Americans. Pandemic-related stress exacerbated behavioral health difficulties, depression, anxiety and substance use to name a few. Furthermore, families were affected by resource depletion, job loss and food insecurity, specifically in our disproportionately impacted communities. To begin reversing these effects and build a stronger community, Hidalgo County focused on the drawn out



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effects of the pandemic by providing direct assistance and collaborating with nonprofit organizations (NPO), investing in outdoor recreation spaces and areas, and community resource centers and recreational facilities.

In 2021, immediate relief was aimed at providing services centered around meeting basic needs for all constituents, specifically our most vulnerable populations. We provided direct assistance to the Food Bank of the RGV for meal deliveries and to a struggling emergency service provider as EMS services were a highly needed and life-saving service, particularly in unincorporated areas of the County. Additionally, a clinic located in the center of a qualified census tract area was assisted to provide primary care, mental health and other services necessary to address both primary care and mental health. Hidalgo County also implemented its own community centered projects revolving around healthy recreation and play including park improvements, trails, and recreational facilities that include modern, more inclusive equipment. These efforts were aimed at fulfilling safety, psychological, and behavioral needs that contribute to healthy, happy, and successful lives.

In 2022, Hidalgo County continued its nonprofit collaborations for primary care and mental health, incorporated therapy training to reach more individuals and added other NPOs that provided student-centered projects to provide learning support and a fine arts curriculum as research has shown that skills development aids in academic achievement, which may have been impeded due to school closures. Two local school districts also implemented mental youth camps to provide mental health support from pandemic related stressors as well as the fears and anxieties of going back to school. One nonprofit is tasked with providing housing support services/repairs to prevent poor quality housing in qualified census tracts. The connection between one's home and health has been a longstanding matter and may magnify illness. To combat unemployment, the County is in the process of developing a community resource center that will provide workforce assistance, educational services, child care, access to assistance and referral services and collaborations with local organizations to address the diverse employability needs of our marginalized population. That is why the aforementioned programming is critical to overall health recovery as individuals are afforded the opportunity to develop workforce readiness, social, emotional, and coping skills to alleviate life's challenges and have an impact on overall health and well-being.

In 2023, support for primary care and mental health are still ongoing. The addition of walking trails in qualified census tracts and low-to-moderate income areas aims to provide opportunities for health and well-being activities to these communities. To provide a safe and nourishing environment, assistance to a nonprofit recreational facility for repairs and improvements was provided to allow for the continuation of services to youth in the areas of learning, homework, and social skills development. Also, the expansion of recreational facilities and trails in low to moderate income areas were included to increase community participation and youth development.



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In 2024, Hidalgo County is continuing its effort to address the drawn out effects of the pandemic by providing nonprofit assistance for facility repairs and improvements so that nonprofits are able to continue providing services in the areas of domestic violence, child abuse, and a food pantry that provides warm meals to over 800 individuals weekly to disproportionately impacted populations. Additionally, Hidalgo County is continuing with park and trail projects and a wellness and community center. These projects are all aimed at providing needs-based services and provide mental, physical, and behavioral relief.

In 2025, Hidalgo County added Veteran support to the non-profit program to ensure there is no interruption in services for our veterans and affordable housing to provide access to safe, decent and stable housing to our most vulnerable population.

Hidalgo County plans to continue addressing health inequities and create more sustainable communities. Projects with the eligibility categories below are a priority and align with the Neighborhood and Built Environment outcomes.

- Workforce Assistance - Community Resource Center (2.10)
- Housing Support and Affordable Housing - (2.18, 2.15)
- Parks, Trails, Recreation Facilities (2.22)
- Mental Health Relief (2.26)
- Nonprofit assistance (2.29, 2.34)
- Nonprofit assistance - food, primary care, mental health, learning strategies (2.34)

To foster a resilient and equitable economic recovery, Hidalgo County is addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on vulnerable populations by addressing issues related to poverty, homelessness, mental health and neighborhood development. Measures taken to assist those who suffered the worst of the pandemic align with the County's goal of promoting equity among communities while enhancing the quality of life and fostering community growth. Hidalgo County will continue investing in projects that promote healthier living environments particularly, those that have been impacted and have experienced negative economic impacts.

3. Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

Most local governments were presented with substantial challenges brought upon by the COVID-19 pandemic as the traditional face-to-face service and other critical systems were disrupted by stay at home ordinances. Hidalgo County, too, was negatively impacted by such closures. Intent on guiding the community out of the COVID-19 crisis, the County placed emphasis on being accessible and resourceful. Embracing change and adjusting to the challenges was the only solution to remain connected with the public and to restore public health and safety. Communication became key. Projects designed to build internal capacity and improve technology infrastructure became critical



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in the continuation of services. Additionally, to maintain human capital and boost morale, Hidalgo County prioritized and implemented projects to support government employment assuring essential service delivery.

In 2021, Hidalgo County enhanced Wi-Fi and telephone connectivity in a public facility providing employees and constituents with increased efficiency and facilitation of government processes. Continued planning and research took place, keeping both community and employee health and safety in mind.

In 2022, the County recruited public health personnel for the outbreak response and other essential medical services for the adult detention facility. An overtime project for public health employees was also initiated in response to the public outcry for testing and vaccinations. The health and human services department purchased software and hardware for records maintenance and enlisted staff dedicated to data entry records digitization. Equally important was the addition of a Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator to assist in planning and implementing pandemic safety operations and preparing for future emergencies. To make digital content more available to everyone, a web accessibility application was implemented with assistive features such as text-to-speech, reading and translation support to reduce barriers between the digital content and our diverse community. Technology played a key part in the transformation of County operations. Human resources and public safety management software was acquired to streamline operations. To minimize the risk of unauthorized access, cybersecurity was upgraded to safeguard sensitive information and maintain continuous operations in tandem with the Google Workspace which made it easier for remote and collaborative work. Compensating employees and modernizing technology were strategies geared at worker retention, internal and external uninterrupted services, facilitating public safety, and establishing systems that could operate both in crisis and conventional settings. Our goals were to alleviate anxieties, sustain operations and productivity, and disseminate key information for effective service delivery.

In 2023, in addition to continuing the aforementioned projects, Hidalgo County sought to expand effective service delivery by upgrading outdated hardware and software countywide to streamline operations. Furthermore, to mitigate academic, social, mental and fiscal needs, community navigators were recruited to identify barriers, research programs and services, and support public health. Hidalgo County initiated a broadband feasibility study to detail access in the jurisdiction, specifically in unincorporated, underserved or unserved areas to expand broadband capability. This programming is designed to meet the needs of both the County and its constituents, maximizing efficiency and resources.

In 2024, Hidalgo County will continue with prior programming and research compensation strategies for public safety personnel as they continue to serve disproportionately impacted communities with the longstanding effects of COVID-19.



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In 2025, Hidalgo County continues supporting payroll for law enforcement as they continue to respond to situations exacerbated by the pandemic including but not limited to domestic violence and mental health incidents. By building relationships with the community, law enforcement will improve community safety. The continuation of technology resources to streamline data processing, efficiency and productivity in daily activities will assist the County to timely meet resident demands.

Hidalgo County plans to continue addressing the negative economic impacts on public sector capacity to create more sustainable communities. Projects with the eligibility categories below are a priority and align with county operations.

- Technology improvements (3.1, 3.5)
- Payroll, Overtime (3.4)

The pandemic showed us that gaps in government infrastructure not only weakened our ability to provide essential services but also our economy. It is important to invest in resources and the workforce that keeps our economy going. Public sector recovery is vital to the community.

4. Premium Pay

In 2021, Hidalgo County authorized premium pay programs to compensate essential employees who performed in person duties which heightened risks of COVID-19. This included regular full-time, regular part-time, temporary full-time, and temporary part-time employees who were hired on or before August 1, 2021.

The purpose of the programs was to provide pay to eligible employees who have been, and continue to be, relied on to maintain the operations of essential, critical infrastructure sectors, including those who are crucial to protecting the health and wellbeing of their communities. Employees teleworking from a residence are not eligible to receive Premium Pay. Premium Pay was awarded at a rate of \$13.00 per hour in addition to regular wages. Regular part-time and temporary-part time employees received 50% of the \$13.00 per hour pay rate once approved hours are met. Hidalgo County, Community Service Agency and Drainage District participated in this project and are complete for the year 2021.

In 2022, Hidalgo County authorized a second round of premium pay programs with the same guidelines but different tiers for the following entities: Hidalgo County, Community Service Agency, Head Start, Hidalgo County Drainage District and the Community Supervision and Corrections Department for regular full-time, regular part-time, temporary full-time, and temporary part-time employees who were hired on or before July 29, 2022. All five projects are complete.

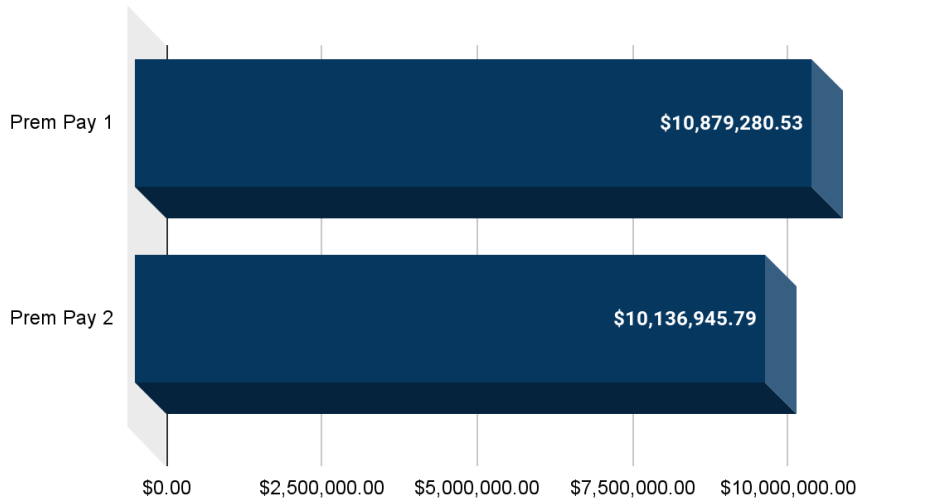


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Premium Pay Totals



2021 Premium Pay tiers were as outlined below for full-time eligible employees.

\$3,500.00 earning up to \$40,000.00

\$3,000.00 earning between \$40,001.00-\$60,000.00

\$2,500.00 earning over \$60,000.00

2022 Premium Pay tiers were as outlined below for full-time eligible employees.

\$2,500.00 earning up to \$40,000.00

\$2,000.00 earning between \$40,001.00-\$60,000.00

\$1,500.00 earning over \$60,000.00

This project was a critical component in compensating frontline employees for the services performed as it provided support to a critical workforce that helped to keep the County operational and serviceable.

5. Infrastructure

The U.S. Treasury's CSLFRF final rule allows state and local governments to expend funds to enhance existing storm and wastewater infrastructure in order to recognize and address areas of critical need. Hidalgo County has an array of areas with limited or no access to clean water or viable stormwater systems. The aforementioned areas are often susceptible to flooding during rainy seasons. Most notably, low-income and minority communities often encounter considerable water inequities, such as increased lead exposure and risk of infection from exposure to debris and



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contaminants. All in all, the streets, avenues and main roads of Hidalgo County are affected. To address environmental, social and economic factors, Hidalgo County is dedicated to improving stormwater management.

Currently, twenty two stormwater systems located in low-to-moderate income areas have been identified and one drinking water project. Fifteen stormwater projects have been completed and the rest are underway.

In response to the increased need for stable Wi-Fi access due to challenges brought by the COVID-19 public health emergency, Hidalgo County implemented several broadband projects to enhance Wi-Fi access and reach as the pandemic made technology a necessary provision. Hidalgo County's goal is to provide fair, impartial assistance to the constituents who require reliable high-speed internet access for work and learning.

To continue addressing health disparities and provide services for long lasting investments, Hidalgo County will continue its efforts in wastewater, stormwater and broadband infrastructure projects.

6. Revenue Replacement

The COVID-19 health emergency impacted Hidalgo County's ability to provide essential governmental services and support to its community members. As a result, the county prioritized projects that would minimize health risks, improve community access to broadband services, maintain County administrative services, and support public sector workforce initiatives.

Recipients had the option to elect a Standard Allowance or calculate revenue loss according to the outlined formula. As per US Treasury Final Rule, the law specifically limits funds to cover revenue losses that both are "due to the COVID-19 public health emergency" and could impact "the provision of government services." For these reasons, Hidalgo County elected to calculate its revenue loss allowance.

In 2021, as the COVID-19 pandemic was heightened, Hidalgo County adapted operations to mitigate the spread with debris management. Relief was aimed at reducing environmental contaminants that may exacerbate existing health disparities, thus Hidalgo County initiated a debris removal project to "clean-up" affected areas to protect human health and minimize environmental impacts by maintaining clean and safe public spaces. In addition, the Countywide Roadway Assessment project has also provided and improved safety conditions for community members. This project allowed the County to provide an accurate inventory of roads for effective maintenance and capitalization of roadways. To maintain services to constituents,

Hidalgo County implemented projects to address the increased need for remote learning and workplace telecommuting. Public Wi-Fi Pole Replacement and other equipment maintenance



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provided much needed support to Hidalgo County residents by increasing connectivity and assisting citizens with distance learning and teleworking. The County was able to comply with COVID-19 health and safety guidelines in county buildings by retrofitting spaces with newer equipment, systems, technologies and safety features. This allowed the County to mitigate COVID-19 by creating safe working environments and implementing crucial social distancing measures. This programming was aimed at assuring that Hidalgo County residents had access to safe environments and tools to combat the pandemic.

Throughout 2022, Hidalgo County continued its efforts towards completion of these projects and took a deep dive into internal county operations to identify areas of need in service delivery of day-to-day operations. A provision in the Final Rule allows recipients experiencing budget shortfalls to use SLFRF funds to avoid cuts to government services and enables local governments to continue to provide valuable services and ensures that fiscal austerity measures do not hamper the broader economic recovery. Areas were identified for 2023.

For 2023, Hidalgo County expanded its project inventory with efforts geared toward community and County level needs. Environmental remediation, emergency response deployment in unincorporated areas, and communication were areas of focus to continue to provide valuable services, including waste management, emergency response (ambulance, fire, vehicle) services, and mail outs. Retrofits and other provisions for additional county buildings were also completed to provide safe environments. In response to a shortage of law enforcement personnel, an overtime project was initiated both to compensate personnel and assure public safety. These areas continue to be a priority for recovery from the pandemic to mitigate COVID-19, and it is the intention of Hidalgo County to remain fully operational.

In 2024, Hidalgo County sustains its efforts towards execution and completion of these projects. Continuous research of the needs of the community and local operations will help bridge gaps in community disparities and governmental services.

In 2025, Hidalgo County is focusing on completing the three remaining projects.

By prioritizing services that optimize support and resources, Hidalgo County addressed the provision of government services as they relate to critical infrastructure to strengthen and maintain a resilient system for overall well-being.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

Because Hidalgo County has many areas in Qualified Census Tracts (QCT) or Low-to-Moderate Income Areas (LMI), it was imperative that the County take measures to repair existing

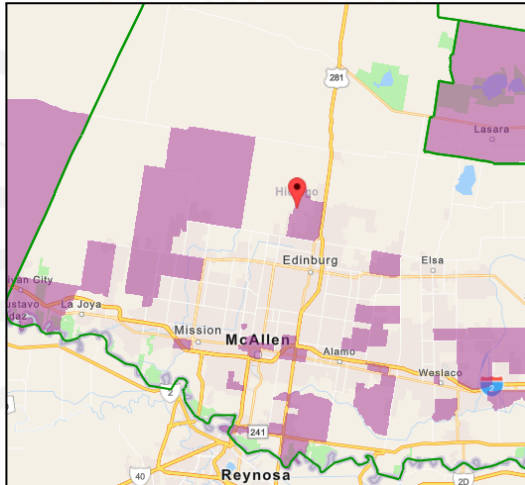


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inadequacies and prevent future ones as well. Households in QCTs are designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as areas that have 50% of its households with incomes below 60% of the area median gross income. These residents face significant barriers and often lack access to essential supplies and services that would allow them to overcome the obstacles and hardships that the COVID-19 pandemic brought to the community. To address unfair disparities, Hidalgo County has taken an ambitious, whole-of-government approach to racial equity and support for underserved communities. Below are the QCT and LMI maps for Hidalgo County, respectively.



LMISD by Place: Sebastian CDP	
GEOID	4866512
NAME	Sebastian CDP
PLACE_TYPE	Census-designated Places
STATE	48
STUSAB	TX
LOW	1,125.00
LOWMOD	1,330.00
LMMI	1,440.00
LOWMODUNIV	1,675.00
LOWMOD_PCT	79.40
UCLOWMOD	
UCLOWMOD_P	0.00

Creating opportunities for communities that are historically underserved, benefits everyone. The County recognizes that certain individuals within the community may face different barriers and continuously seeks to address such disparities to ensure residents have fair access to governmental services and resources during the COVID-19 pandemic and thereafter. The goals and targets below serve to bridge long-standing gaps and strengthen both community and economy.



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Expand public health services to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic and address public health disparities, including mental health	• Health clinic improvement projects • Mass vaccination clinics • Nonprofit collaborations to address food insecurity, mental health and veteran support • Development of healthcare workers
Address socioeconomic disparities with recreational spaces, serviceable stormwater, and broadband infrastructure	• Development of recreational parks and trails • Promote mental health awareness programs • Improvements to local stormwater and sewer systems • Equal access to broadband services
Close gaps in government services	• Countywide building improvement projects • Maintain Hidalgo County administrative services • Retention and support of public sector personnel • Improvement and maintenance of technology infrastructure

The County focused on a systemic approach in its recovery efforts that would provide access, opportunity, and outreach to all its constituents, especially those residing in disproportionately impacted communities. Projects were identified and implemented by employing QCT and LMI mapping to target historically disadvantaged or marginalized populations. To prioritize long-term equity within the community, the County has implemented immediate relief and long-term measures to address crisis management and stabilization. As such, equity focused initiatives that provide access to primary care, mental health support, resources, and creating “neighborhood built environments” based in QCT and LMI areas to leverage inequities. This direct assistance to underserved populations increases accessibility to essential services.

To alert the community about the services provided by the SLFRF, Hidalgo County utilized centralized and systemic communication efforts. Partnerships with local news outlets, a media campaign consisting of television and radio ads, informational leaflets, and social media outlets to relay real-time data on COVID-19, vaccination efforts, primary and mental health care and services, and resources available. A web inclusive application (assistive features) was also initiated to make information available for a diverse population.



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Still, many residents faced significant barriers in accessing information. According to the U.S. Census Bureau 20% of the local population does not have access to broadband internet, in addition, the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy reports a 54% literacy rate in Hidalgo County with the Rio Grande Valley having one of the lowest literacy scores in the country. Because the County has a high hispanic and latino population, these low rates primarily stem from the high percentage of non-English speakers. For this reason, it is important for the County to employ diverse ways of information distribution. The traditional modes of communication, email and phone remained steadfast.

Various recovery projects have helped to address the negative economic, health, and social impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused. Hidalgo County's goals towards equitable outcomes have helped to address the ongoing challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic and its lasting impacts on the local community and economy. The equity goals outlined by the Hidalgo County ARPA Program continue to bridge gaps in healthcare, build capacity within the County, and ensure the most vulnerable population is protected.

Community Engagement

Hidalgo County is committed to achieving sustainable outcomes by actively working with and listening to public input to better understand community needs. This diverse input provides valuable insights, local knowledge, and personal experiences that can inform and shape viable solutions. Through various strategies and approaches, Hidalgo County collected and analyzed and synthesized data to prioritize and guide efforts in addressing community needs.

The key goal is to achieve equitable and impactful participation while gaining a more comprehensive understanding of the issues at hand. Aside from the traditional phone call, the County utilized various outreach methods including social media, surveys, and consultations.



In 2021, the County immediately utilized social media to educate and inform the community on immediate relief efforts including mass vaccination sites, stay at home ordinances, resources and



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supplies, tracking the effects of COVID-19, and initiated an online survey to quickly generate time-sensitive data and provide support to those in need. An ARPA Email address is available.

In 2022, the County launched a survey (English and Spanish) to gather public opinion on the impacts of COVID-19 in Hidalgo County. With a predominantly 92.5% Hispanic population and a 33.5% poverty level, the County received a variety of responses. Survey respondents rated limited health care access and limited access to broadband internet as the greatest disparities exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to address concerns expressed by the community, the County began to implement projects that responded to the aforementioned socioeconomic inadequacies. These projects not only address these socioeconomic disparities, but also promote equitable outcomes among residents.

Moreover, constituents have been and continue to reach out to their County Precinct Commissioners relaying precinct specific concerns and the negative economic impacts the pandemic has posed on health, wastewater concerns, public areas and facilities, lack of mental health support and resources, and livelihood. This communication is ongoing with individuals, nonprofit organizations and businesses.

Overall, community engagement affords opportunities for learning and growth. Collective perspectives lead to more effective and tailored approaches and investments in the community's well-being. This ongoing collaboration provides current and relevant information regarding evolving needs and allows for adaptability and responsiveness to changing needs and priorities. Hidalgo County residents will have access to resources and opportunities to build resilience and enhance their quality of life.

Labor Practices

Hidalgo County is committed to ensuring that all federal and state labor guidelines and regulations are followed by the County and its subrecipients. It is vital to our economy that labor practices be followed to safeguard both employers and employees. Furthermore, following the procurement process guarantees cost savings and maximizes resources. The inclusion of contract provisions in the County's competitive bid documents contributes to environmental and social responsibility and supports economic recovery by maintaining transparency, accountability, impartiality and fairness.

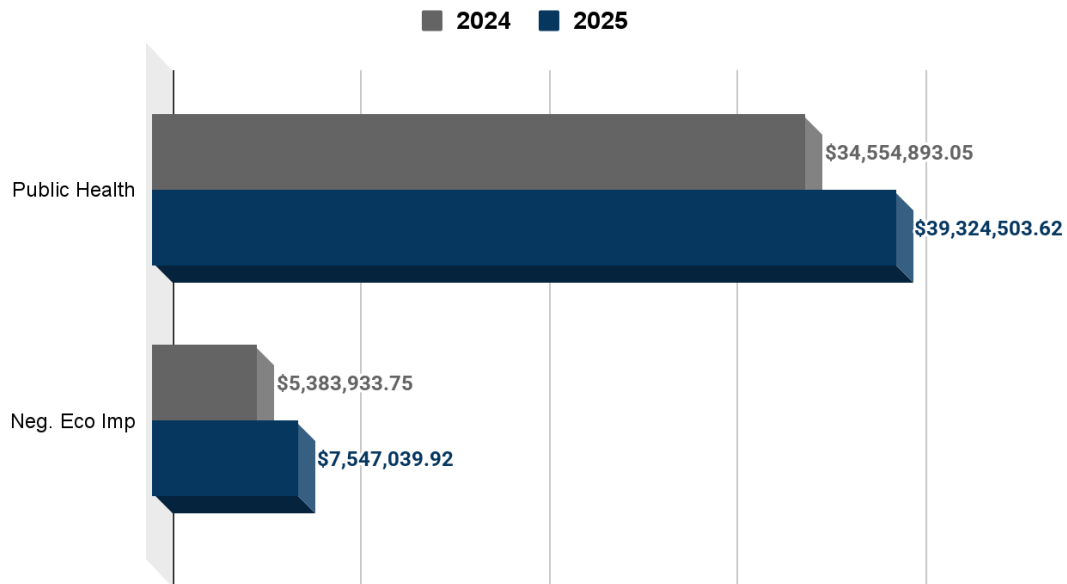


Use of Evidence

Hidalgo County incorporated evidence-based interventions with the highest ratings in its recovery efforts. This practice helped to make informed decisions to promote positive outcomes and growth whilst discouraging ineffective practices. The approach was to quickly incorporate prevention and protection efforts proven to be highly successful to facilitate swift and effective long-term recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Evidence based efforts in the areas of public health and negative economic impacts will promote positive recovery, enhance well-being, and cultivate actions that can improve health and safety.

Thus far, funds have been allocated to nine evidence-based projects totaling \$46,871,543.54. Evidence-based models are in the areas of congregate settings, mental health, employment supports, housing assistance and educational disparities.

Evidence-Based Approaches



Hidalgo County understands that evidence based models have higher success rates and directly impact outcomes. To that end, these protective interventions will produce optimal outcomes by reducing health disparities, maximizing time and resources, and targeting root causes.



Performance Report

To mitigate the budgetary impact of COVID-19, Hidalgo County is working to assure the efficient and appropriate use of federal funds made available by the US Treasury. As such, key performance indicators (KPI) will be utilized to measure the progression of projects. Project implementation, operation and completion are managed at the project level.

The strategies below are followed to track progress and status over time to identify challenges, influence future planning, and provide support toward project realization. It is important to note that clarification of expectations, deadlines and desired outcomes are emphasized. If needed, agreements with subrecipients are modified to accommodate unanticipated roadblocks. With our eye on the KPIs, our goal is to resolve potential issues, accomplish tasks in a timely manner and abide within the budgetary appropriations.

1. County Projects – weekly and bi-weekly meetings
2. Subrecipients – pre, mid, post award and as needed meetings with key personnel to review guidelines and adhere to subaward compliance

Key Performance Indicators:

The data demonstrates the number of projects identified as a need to mitigate COVID-19 but also as a need to accommodate growth. Ensuring that we have many systems in place that contribute to the community's overall health which includes protection against disease and illness and community connections. The County is working toward completion of these projects.

Public Health	Implement systems that address the virus and prepare the County for current and future public health emergencies				
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Project					
No. of COVID-19 Vaccines Administered	416,356	96,670	26,912	12,857	7,438
No. of Health Clinics – Retrofits	-	-	3	2	2
No. of Health Clinics – New Constructions	2	1	1	-	
No. of Stormwater Improvements	4	18	1	-	-



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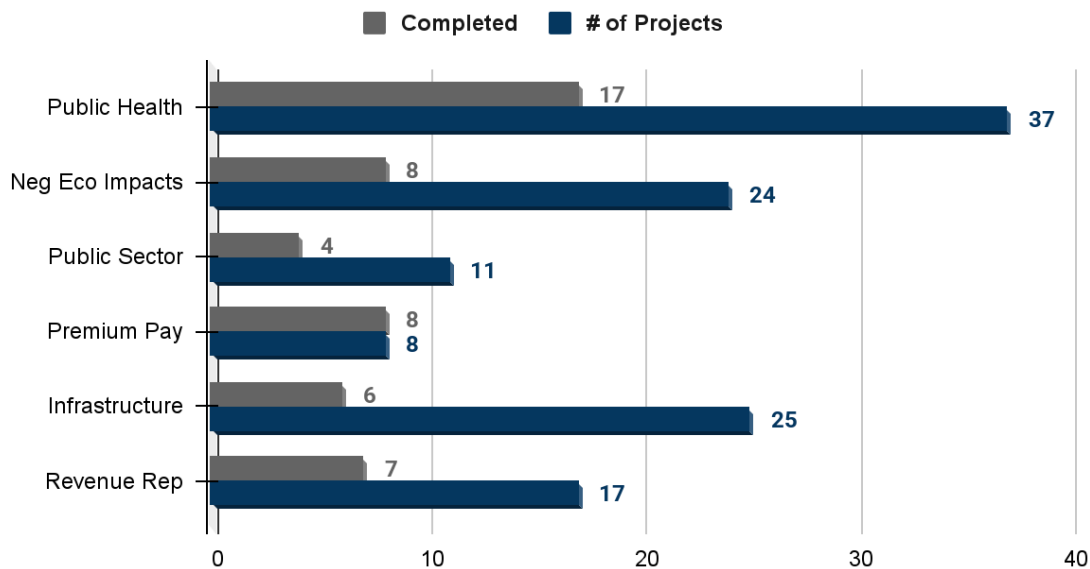
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Negative Economic Impacts	Implement systems that address the long-standing impacts of COVID-19 and prepare the County for current and future public health emergencies			
	2021	2022	2023	2024
No. of Nonprofit Organization Assistance	1	4	-	3
No. of New Trails	2	-	1	-
No. of Parks - Retrofits	2	-	-	2
No. of Community Development Centers	1	1	1	1

Hidalgo County is working toward achieving the aforementioned KPIs and is actively engaged in the process of reviewing the status of project fulfillment. Collaborating, reviewing priorities, researching and implementing viable methods to commit resource allocation are routine practices in the name of prosperity. The illustration below demonstrates our position with projects and a full list of our project inventory follows.

2024 Project Progress and Status



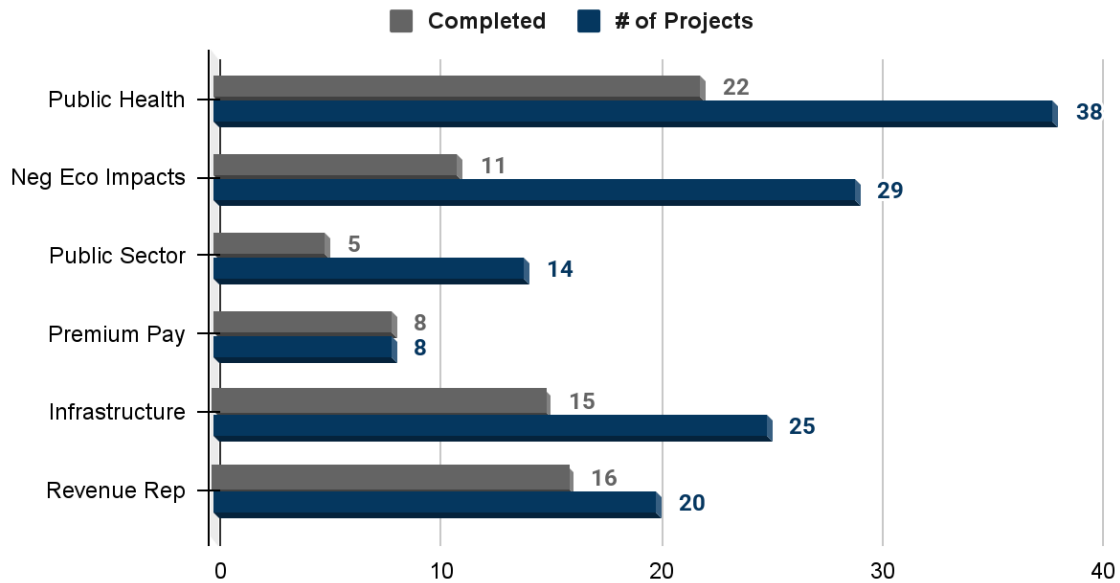


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2025 Project Progress and Status





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Project Inventory

Public Health

ARPA-21-110-005	COVID-19 Infusion Therapy Communication Project
Funding Amount	\$932.00 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.7: Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)^
Project Description	The COVID-19 Infusion Therapy Communication Project consists of the creation and printing of informational leaflets related to COVID-19 treatment. The leaflets have been printed for proper distribution to test sites to inform the community about the necessary resources and information regarding the COVID-19 public health emergency. The leaflets' purpose is to disseminate preliminary information about Monoclonal Antibody Infusion Treatment for individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19. The leaflet also showcases regional infusion centers that are located in Hidalgo County.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-21-110-006	High Water Rescue Vehicle
Funding Amount	\$195,290.90 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.7 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)^
Project Description	Hidalgo County has a need for increased logistical equipment to support the public health emergency response. The high water rescue vehicle, which is housed at the Office of Emergency Management Warehouse, will support Hidalgo County emergency management services by assisting first



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responders during high water rescues and emergency transportation situations including but not limited to evacuations, distribution of supplies, especially in inaccessible areas throughout the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency and future disasters.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-200-010

Adobe Sign for Enterprise - Digital Signature

Funding Amount

\$41,875.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.7: Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)^

Project Description

Adobe Sign for Enterprise - Digital Signature will allow Hidalgo County departments to digitally sign official documents, agreements and contracts in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The Adobe Digital Signature service eliminates the need for staff to potentially put themselves at risk of contracting COVID-19 by physically delivering County documents, agreements and contracts that need signatures from other County employees, departments, offices or elected officials.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-110-012

Radio Communication Project

Funding Amount

\$146,070.50 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.7 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses^

Project Description

The Radio Communication Project will address and improve radio communication equipment, as the dissemination of accurate information plays a critical role in executing COVID-19 mitigation tactics. The Radio Communication Project will consist of a purchase of 6 mobile radios and 12 portable radios. Additionally, the purpose of the purchase is to place several



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radios in the COVID-19 Mobile Command Unit, Mobile Support (Box Trucks), COVID-19 Rapid Response Communication Unit, and a COVID-19 Rapid Response Medical Unit to include the High Water Rescue Vehicle. The equipment will be used to assist in COVID-19 response and mitigation efforts. The project would allow various agencies and County departments to remain in constant communication with each other during responses, such as operations with hospital surges, mass vaccination clinics, and food and supply distributions.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-110-016

Juware WebEOC Product Enhancement

Funding Amount

\$14,500.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.7: Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)^

Project Description

In order to efficiently and adequately respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the Hidalgo County Office of Emergency Management will utilize Juware WebEOC to streamline communication and response efforts related to the COVID-19 pandemic and other potential public health emergencies. Juware WebEOC is an emergency management software that shares data and workflows among agencies and employees. Data collected through the software is also able to be exported to other programs. The Emergency Management Department seeks to use the software to facilitate the dissemination of information between Hidalgo County and its jurisdictions. The shared information ranges from COVID-19 hospital statuses and personnel requests that are sent to the State of Texas to daily COVID-19 testing of immigrants. Juware WebEOC allows for communication with constituents and other County departments through a public facing form.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-340-019

El Paraiso Health Clinic Improvement Project

Funding Amount

\$4,880,680.19



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Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.14: Other Public Health Services^
Project Description	Hidalgo County Health & Human Services, along with the various County Departments and COVID healthcare partners are actively assessing (Testing), intervening (vaccinating), and providing prevention education. The COVID virus has proven to be especially hardy as evident by its ever enhancing mutations. The need for expanding and upgrading our current clinical facilities to assure the access to intervention, vaccinations, and advance healthcare referral for a County of over a 1.2 million residents and an unaccounted immigrant population is critical. The purpose of El Paraiso Health Clinic Improvement Project is to expand health care capacity and meet community pandemic-related needs. Operational needs can be met through renovations and/or new construction including but not limited to professional services, furniture, fixtures and equipment, personnel and other provisions and services. Furthermore, efforts to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic through this clinic include, but are not limited to, vaccination programs, medical care, testing, and support for vulnerable populations to access medical or public health services. El Paraiso Health Clinic plans to provide the residents of Hidalgo County access to resources that improve health outcomes during and after the public health emergency. El Paraiso Health Clinic, located at 1901 N. Los Ebanos Rd., Alton, TX, 78573, is in a Qualified Census Tract area and will provide quality services to an underserved community.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-21-110-027

Public Affairs COVID-19 Media Campaign

Funding Amount	\$364,727.75 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.7: Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)^
Project Description	The COVID-19 Media Campaign will consist of a TV and radio



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ad buy to address ongoing COVID-19 concerns, particularly mental health issues, by educating the public on measures taken so far by the County to mitigate the spread of the virus. More than 20 months into the pandemic, the evidence of long-term malaise related to COVID-19, including mental health and economic issues such as mortgage or rental needs caused by the pandemic have become more evident. The COVID-19 Media Campaign intends to address some mental health concerns by giving the public a report card of what Hidalgo County has done so far to address the pandemic. The idea is to convey the sense that health officials are gaining the upper hand as it relates to mitigating the spread of the virus, as well as the treatment. The expectation is to assuage real mental health concerns that suggest the COVID-19 pandemic will never end. The campaign will also seek to disseminate information regarding the ongoing effort to diminish the virus and its effects by educating the public on questions of vaccinations and who is eligible for treatment, including the state-run infusion center.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-125-033

Hidalgo County Courthouse Pandemic Preparedness Retrofit Project

Funding Amount

\$3,407,633.57

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.14: Other Public Health Services^

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Courthouse Preparedness Retrofit Project would provide facility retrofits that include physical plant changes, which will provide needed protections to constituents and essential workers to avoid the contraction of COVID-19 and its potential health impacts would continue. The Hidalgo County Courthouse retrofits are needed in order to continue providing services to the community throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency. The project will consist of enhancement to current systems with upgrades pertaining mostly to HVAC equipment which will neutralize microbial contaminants that impede efficiency and plumbing fixtures.

Use of Evidence

N/A



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ARPA-21-110-034	Assistance to South Texas College Nursing Program
Funding Amount	\$688,111.11 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.14: Other Public Health Services^
Project Description	The Assistance to South Texas College Nursing Program intends to respond to the public health emergency by providing South Texas College produce healthcare professionals. The ongoing pandemic has shown healthcare professionals, especially nurses, continue to be in high demand due to shortages in faculty members at local nursing programs. The project aims to utilize State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to assist in obtaining supplemental faculty positions and expanding class sizes.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-22-200-043	Cybersecurity Detection and Response
Funding Amount	\$1,760,781.25 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.14: Other Public Health Services^
Project Description	The Cybersecurity Detection and Response project will provide monitoring, detection and response tools, services and other necessary provisions to the Information Technology Department to reduce the possibility of a successful cyber attack. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, governments set restrictions in response to the coronavirus pandemic that have encouraged employees to work from home and stay at home. Due to the rise in remote workers, there has been an increase in vulnerabilities and compromised accounts. The project will increase the detection and response with alerts of malicious or questionable activity on the data infrastructure as well as provide an analysis of the environment for any addressable vulnerabilities. Through this project, the County of Hidalgo will be able to provide a



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cyber-safe remote-work environment, which has become crucial and essential to continue the county efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-340-052

Hidalgo County COVID-19 Testing Efforts

Funding Amount

\$764,350.46 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.2: COVID-19 Testing^

Project Description

The COVID-19 Testing Efforts will permit the County of Hidalgo to continue its testing efforts for its residents, primarily for the disadvantaged and most vulnerable Hidalgo County community members. This project will include necessary provisions and essential supplies including but not limited to personnel, equipment and other services to aid with the demand for increased testing and contact tracing. This will allow Hidalgo County to accurately track COVID-19 cases, utilize testing rates and results for COVID-19 communication with county's residents in terms of COVID-19 protocols, and slow the spread of COVID-19 within its community.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-110-053

Assistance to Valley Grande Institute Nursing Program

Funding Amount

\$234,209.26 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.14: Other Public Health Services^

Project Description

The Assistance to Valley Grande Institute Nursing Program intends to respond to the public health crisis by investing in the Valley Grande Institute Nursing program which produces healthcare professionals. The ongoing pandemic has shown healthcare professionals, especially nurses, continue to be in high demand due to shortages in faculty members at local nursing programs. The project aims to utilize ARPA Relief Funds to assist in obtaining supplemental faculty positions and



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expand class sizes. This investment will also assist in providing the necessary resources for training future nurses and assistance in COVID-19 vaccination efforts.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-340-055

Hidalgo County COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts Project

Funding Amount

\$3,119,163.74

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.1: COVID-19 Vaccination^

Project Description

The COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts project will permit the County of Hidalgo to continue its vaccination initiatives for its residents, primarily for the disadvantaged and most vulnerable Hidalgo County community members. The project will include necessary provisions and essential supplies including but not limited to, syringes, medication, medical supplies, employing personnel, vaccination campaigns, and other services, which are crucial when administering the COVID-19 vaccine and implementing systems and procedures to facilitate documentation maintenance and recording during and after the public health emergency. The project will allow the County of Hidalgo to continue its efforts in the mitigation of COVID-19.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-340-056

Hidalgo County Personal Protection Equipment

Funding Amount

\$654,304.25 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.5: Personal Protective Equipment^

Project Description

Hidalgo County will continue its initiative of mitigating the spread of COVID-19 by providing personal protective equipment (PPE) to support Hidalgo County's vaccination and testing efforts. PPE is critical in safeguarding the health of individuals in congregate and open-air settings. Additionally, the use of



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PPE will allow Hidalgo County to continue its efforts in following necessary COVID-19 protocols. According to the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Interim Final Rule, acquisitions or distribution of medical and protective supplies, including sanitizing products and personal equipment are considered an eligible public health expenditure.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-280-061

Hidalgo County Prevention of Inmate Overcrowding Efforts

Funding Amount

\$31,150,383.53

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.4: Prevention in Congregate Settings^*

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Prevention Inmate Overcrowding Efforts project serves to address and offer alternative solutions to the COVID-19 public health emergency in correctional facilities. The overcrowding of the Hidalgo County jail is in part due to the extensive backlog of criminal jury trials and court cases that has developed and persists as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency. Although mitigation measures have been implemented, overcrowding persists. Therefore, the County of Hidalgo will utilize leasing as an alternative method to avoid and improve congregate settings in correctional facilities by transferring/ relocating inmates to other facilities to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and its new variants.

Use of Evidence

<https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts/overcrowded-time-why-prisons-are-so-crowded-and-what-can-be-done#:~:text=Overcrowding%20has%20caused%20medical%20problems,to%20reduce%20the%20prison%20population.>
<https://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2021/08/crowding-in-prisons-increases-inmates-risk-for-covid-19-infections/#:~:text=A%20new%20study%20by%20researchers,protect%20incarcerated%20men%20and%20women.>

ARPA-22-110-073

First Responder Emergency Vehicle

Funding Amount

\$58,177.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health



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Expenditure Category	1.14 Other Public Health Services^
Project Description	The First Responder Emergency Vehicle will support Hidalgo County's vaccination and testing efforts while aiding the overwhelmed emergency response services. An Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) will be operating the vehicle equipped with life-saving medical equipment used in a prehospital setting, at the vaccination and testing sites. Additionally, the First Responder Emergency Vehicle will be used to provide the same services to the homebound, elderly, or disabled population. The services previously described will be provided primarily for the disadvantaged and most vulnerable Hidalgo County community members. This project will allow the County of Hidalgo to effectively address the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency and any future public health emergencies.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-22-110-078	Emergency Management Facility
Funding Amount	\$6,700,000.00
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.14 Other Public Health Services^
Project Description	In the last two years, COVID-19 has greatly impacted the nation and, in particular, regions of low socioeconomic status. Currently, 26.9% of Hidalgo County's population lives below the poverty line, and the pandemic's impact on the county's public health is evident. The rise in COVID-19 cases has increased COVID-19 related emergency response services. An Emergency Management Facility will provide crucial benefits to underserved populations in Hidalgo County. Furthermore, this facility will provide a centralized location to manage ongoing emergency operations and will bring together experts to coordinate emergency operations, including, but not limited to, resources, information, crisis, and emergency risk communication to strengthen the county's ability to detect and effectively respond to the ongoing and future public health emergencies.



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Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-340-088

Hidalgo County Hidalgo Health Clinic Improvement Project

Funding Amount

\$2,929,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.7: Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses(including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)^

Project Description

The purpose of the Hidalgo County Health Clinic Improvement Project is to expand healthcare capacity and meet the public health emergency and its negative economic impacts with COVID 19 and continued risks. The Hidalgo County Health Clinic will provide critical services to Hidalgo County residents which include but are not limited to vaccinations, testing, preventative care and referrals, as needed, to underserved and disproportionately impacted populations for healthcare relief and to improve health outcomes. The Hidalgo County Health Clinic will be located at 702 E. Ramon Ayala Dr., Hidalgo, TX, 78557. Included is one time improvements to the facility and development and construction of an adjacent structure as part of the pandemic preparedness package will be authorized by City for procurement by County, as tenant of the property in question, and is deemed necessary by the parties to respond to the ongoing COVID 19 public health emergency. These provisions will provide a safe and sustainable building and enable employees to continue performing essential services for the residents of Hidalgo County to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and other communicable/infectious diseases.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-110-090

Communication Interoperability

Funding Amount

\$64,591.58



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Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.7: Other COVID 19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)^
Project Description	Expand EOC Interoperability communication capabilities during Pandemic related responses. The purpose of this project is to connect public-safety radio systems to non public-safety radios using an interoperability patching system. This system will leverage the use of low cost radios to communicate with the higher cost public safety radio. In order to make the systems connect with each other, there is a need to purchase data card services to install in one radio system to connect with the other to make the system operable. Project will be administered through the Office of Emergency Management for county-wide use as applicable. The Expected Timeline for project completion will be 3 to 6 months, based on any supply line issues for equipment. Treasury enumerates Improvements to or construction of emergency operations centers and acquisition of emergency response equipment (e.g., emergency response radio systems) and Costs of establishing public health data systems, including technology infrastructure. The system will assist in COVID-19 response and mitigation efforts by facilitating timely information exchange in the Operations Exchange Center vital in coordinating response efforts to vaccination, testing and distribution locations related to public health measures and the ongoing COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-22-110-113

City of Mercedes Paramedic Initiative

Funding Amount	\$45,352.42 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.14: Other Public Health Services^
Project Description	This initiative will provide funds to the City of Mercedes to initiate a paramedic training program in Hidalgo County. This program has been developed in conjunction with every municipally operated emergency medical service in Hidalgo



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County, including the City of Mercedes, the City of Mission, the City of Palmview, the City of Pharr, the City of Weslaco, and the City of Alton. The municipalities collectively agreed that the City of Mercedes is best suited to serve as the operations center for this initiative. The project will assist in the tuition and training materials for the paramedic candidates and other costs associated with the training. Hidalgo County OEM has already partnered with the Texas A&M University System, the Texas Workforce Commission and the City of Mercedes to provide the paramedic project.

This project also provides an economic and regional benefit opportunity as it creates emergency medicine jobs for our community and increases the supply of trained individuals. This project provides modern education techniques and opportunities for advancement. This program includes training for County and City personnel to reach licensed paramedic statuses and serve our communities as trained paramedic first responders. Licensed paramedics are critical in providing quality emergency medical services to our residents and businesses in different emergencies. The use of this project in conjunction with our other current projects will be critical in order to reduce the effects of Covid-19 and increase our emergency medical response capabilities to our community.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-110-125

Tow Vehicle Initiative

Funding Amount

\$81,419.58 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.7: Other COVID 19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)^

Project Description

Hidalgo County has a need for increased logistical equipment to support the public health emergency response. The tow vehicle, which will be housed at the Emergency Operations Center, will increase response capabilities by providing efficient transportation when distributing equipment, supplies and resources during operations including but not limited to mobile emergency vaccinations, testing clinics, and emergency points of distributions to the public. This vehicle will also transport cargo and equipment trailers that are critical to the response and logistical needs to the coronavirus pandemic. By increasing



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our response and logistics capabilities, we will be able to mitigate the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic to our community. The vehicle will be housed and maintained at the Emergency Management Warehouse located at 7517 N Expressway 281 in Edinburg, Texas.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-110-126

Emergency Response Ambulance Initiative

Funding Amount

\$887,097.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.7: Other COVID 19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)^

Project Description

Pursuant to Section 381.004 (b) of the Texas Local Government Code, Hidalgo County established the Hidalgo County Emergency Services Program which was approved by the Commissioner's Court as Agenda Item 88792 on December 13, 2022. The Hidalgo County Emergency Services Program shall be focused on providing services and assisting residents and businesses in Hidalgo County.

Hidalgo County has been experiencing a shortage in medical emergency response personnel and equipment. Consequently, emergency medical service providers and agencies are experiencing difficulty in responding to the overwhelming 911 emergency assistance requests. To support the increasing medical emergencies, Hidalgo County will initiate the Emergency Response Ambulance Initiative by purchasing 3 ambulances to be used as a collaboration within our community. This initiative will increase medical emergency response capabilities to properly and strategically respond to our vulnerable population. Ambulances will be housed at strategic locations in Hidalgo County and utilized in the direct response to the Covid-19 Pandemic Public Health Emergency. The use of this project in conjunction with our other current projects will be critical in order to reduce the effects of Covid-19 and increase our emergency medical response capabilities to our community.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-23-110-318

Quick Response Emergency Units



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Funding Amount	\$426,218.31
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.7: Other COVID 19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)^
Project Description	Hidalgo County is experiencing increased medical emergencies due to the Covid-19 Pandemic Public Health Emergency. Concurrently, shortages with medical response personnel and equipment are also occurring, and emergency medical service providers are unable to provide optimal services to certain communities. The purchase and implementation of 5 Quick Response Emergency Units, equipped to provide EMS first-response services, will directly respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic Public Health Emergency. Emergency Management Coordinators (EMCs) will be assigned to the Quick Response Emergency Units thereby responding to medical emergencies, performing lifesaving treatments and providing assistive services prior to and in conjunction with an ambulance's arrival to a scene. The Units will be housed at strategic locations in Hidalgo County to provide quick response times for medical emergencies. The use of this project in conjunction with our other current projects will be critical in order to reduce the effects of Covid-19 and increase our emergency medical response capabilities to our community.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-23-110-320	Basic Life Support Emergency Medical Equipment & Supplies
Funding Amount	\$49,102.43 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.7: Other COVID 19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)^
Project Description	Pursuant to Section 381.004 (b) of the Texas Local Government Code, Hidalgo County established the Hidalgo County Emergency Services Program which was approved by the Commissioner's Court as Agenda Item 88792 on December 13, 2022. The Hidalgo County Emergency Services Program shall



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be focused on providing services and assisting residents and businesses in Hidalgo County.

Hidalgo County is experiencing increased medical emergencies due to the Covid-19 Pandemic Public Health Emergency. Concurrently, shortages with medical response personnel and equipment are also occurring, and emergency medical service providers are unable to provide optimal services to certain communities. The purchase, acquisition and implementation of Basic Life Support (BLS) Emergency Medical Equipment and Supplies to equip the Quick Response Emergency Units, will allow personnel to provide EMS first-response services and will directly respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic Public Health Emergency. Emergency Management Coordinators (EMCs) will be assigned to the Quick Response Emergency Units thereby responding to medical emergencies, performing lifesaving treatments and providing assistive services prior to and in conjunction with an ambulance's arrival to a scene. The medically-equipped units will be housed at strategic locations in Hidalgo County to provide quick response times for medical emergencies. The use of this project in conjunction with our other current projects will be critical in order to reduce the effects of Covid-19 and increase our emergency medical response capabilities to our community.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-23-110-322

Hidalgo County El Milagro Clinic

Funding Amount

\$203,326.35 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.4: Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, Child care facilities, etc.)*^

Project Description

El Milagro Clinic of Hidalgo County is located at 901 E. Vermont Ave. in McAllen, Tx 78503. It is a nonprofit organization that provides general medical health services to the community. Its staff provides non-emergency primary care. The clinic accepts medicaid, Medicare and offers financial assistance for eligible patients. Walk-ins are welcome. Patients can also have access to behavioral health care.

The clinic's ventilation system is in great need of repair and/or replacement. The building is owned by Hidalgo County but is



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not integrated with the services it provides. Replacing the ventilation system will avoid the building from falling into a state of total disrepair.

This one time improvements to the HVAC system/s and automated doors/security controls as part of a pandemic preparedness package will be authorized for procurement by County as an owner of the property in question, and is deemed necessary by the parties in response to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency.

Use of Evidence

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/ventilation.html#:~:text=Improving%20Air%20Cleanliness&text=Up%20grade%20central%20HVAC%20filter%20efficiency,air%20delivery%20options%20are%20limited.&text=Inspect%20HVAC%20systems.>

ARPA-23-340-325

Hidalgo County Edinburg Health Center Improvements Project

Funding Amount

\$149,870.84

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.14: Other Public Health Services^

Project Description

The purpose of the Hidalgo County Health Center Improvements Project is to expand health care capacity and meet community pandemic-related needs. Operational needs can be met through renovations to the existing building. Furthermore, efforts to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic through this clinic include, but are not limited to, vaccination programs, medical care, testing, and support for vulnerable populations to access medical or public health services. The clinic will continue providing the residents of Hidalgo County access to resources that improve health outcomes. Hidalgo County Health Center, located at 3105 E. Richardson Rd., Edinburg, TX, 78539.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-23-340-326

Hidalgo County Weslaco Health Center Improvements Project

Funding Amount

\$87,992.13 Completed



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Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.14: Other Public Health Services^
Project Description	The purpose of the Hidalgo County Health Unit Improvements Project is to expand health care capacity and meet community pandemic-related needs. Operational needs can be met through renovations to the existing building. Furthermore, efforts to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic through this clinic include, but are not limited to, vaccination programs, medical care, testing, and support for vulnerable populations to access medical or public health services. The clinic will continue providing the residents of Hidalgo County access to resources that improve health outcomes. Hidalgo County Health Unit, located at 1901 Bridge Ave., Weslaco, TX, 78596.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-23-124-327	Assistance to the UTRGV School of Medicine- Integrated Behavioral Healthcare with Pediatrics and Psychiatry
Funding Amount	\$174,120.09 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.12: Mental Health Services*^
Project Description	Hidalgo County has seen an increase in the request for mental health care support. The impact of the pandemic has left residents facing serious behavioral health challenges. The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) School of Medicine has been providing these essential services via the John Austin Peña Clinic located at 3341 E. Richardson Rd., Edinburg, TX. Personnel treat primarily youth with mental health issues, addiction and illnesses such as diabetes. UT Health RGV aims to promote and sustain mental, emotional and physical health for children to become empowered responsible citizens in our communities. Hidalgo County will provide financial support to continue the operation of these vital community services and provide a safe, nurturing, and supportive response to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency.



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Use of Evidence

<https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/nejmp2008017>
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2212420920313479>

ARPA-23-340-330

La Mansion Health Clinic Improvement Project

Funding Amount

\$3,970,805.46

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.14: Other Public Health Services^

Project Description

Hidalgo County Health & Human Services, along with the various County Departments and COVID healthcare partners are actively assessing (Testing), intervening (vaccinating), and providing prevention education. The COVID virus has proven to be especially resilient as evident by its ever enhancing mutations. The need for expanding and upgrading our current clinical facilities to assure the access to intervention, vaccinations, and advance healthcare referral for a County of over a 1.2 million residents and an unaccounted immigrant population is critical. The purpose of La Mansion Health Clinic Project is to expand health care capacity and meet community pandemic-related needs. Operational needs can be met through renovations and/or new construction to include furniture, fixtures and equipment. Furthermore, efforts to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic through this clinic include, but are not limited to, vaccination programs, medical care, testing, and support for vulnerable populations to access medical or public health services. La Mansion Health Clinic plans to provide the residents of Hidalgo County access to resources that improve health outcomes during and after the public health emergency. The La Mansion Health Clinic will be located at the corner of Paula and Moorefield Roads, 2218 Moorefield Rd, Mission, TX, 78572, and will provide quality services to an underserved community.

Use of Evidence

N/A



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ARPA-23-340-331	Hidalgo County Bio Safety Lab Efforts
Funding Amount	\$2,507,227.39
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.14: Other Public Health Services^
Project Description	Hidalgo County has been on a continuous response mode for the COVID pandemic since March 2020. Due to the pandemic, Hidalgo County Health and Human Service Dept has been assessing and implementing appropriate COVID-19 mitigation and prevention measures. To address the public health response, Hidalgo County will engage in a broad range of services and programming needed to contain COVID-19 including but not limited to Bio Safety Lab contractual and professional services for testing, certification and performance verifications, design, Bio Safety personnel, Bio Safety Lab supplies and equipment, inspections for accreditation and other provisions and services to identify protective measures for Hidalgo County residents.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-23-330-344	Hidalgo County Juvenile Mental Health Facility
Funding Amount	\$8,000,000.00
Expenditure Category Group	1:Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.12: Mental Health Services*^
Project Description	The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic affected youth detention facilities and juveniles by significantly reducing their mental health services which caused limitations and access to counselors and treatment programs. Mental health support has been unavailable to most as there is no facility that can assist juveniles with mental health support programs in Hidalgo County. Instead, juveniles are transported to other counties in Texas for rehabilitative services. To remedy and to meet the mental health needs that have been exacerbated by the pandemic, Hidalgo County aims to establish a local juvenile mental health facility by retrofitting, renovating, and



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expanding, the county owned, Judge E. Mario Ramirez, Jr. Juvenile Center's Boot Camp Facility located at 1711 N. Bridge Ave., Weslaco, TX 78599.

This retrofit project consists of improvements to the facility to be in compliance with health guidelines and building code for a residential facility. To comply with health, safety and residential facility guidelines, the current building requires additional renovations which include but are not limited to furniture, fixtures and equipment, any other necessary expenses to ensure health and safety, and an expansion to include more adequate space for the residential treatment facility. These provisions will improve the facility's functionality to better meet the needs of the juveniles as well as the staff who will operate the programs which are essential for mental health and rehabilitation.

Use of Evidence

<https://www.cebc4cw.org/program/trust-based-relational-intervention-tbri-caregiver-training/>

ARPA-23-121-348

Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Administrative Offices Indoor Air Quality Equipment

Funding Amount

\$174,566.70 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.4: Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, Child care facilities, etc.)*^

Project Description

The COVID-19 pandemic has posed unprecedented challenges for public health. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the virus that causes COVID-19 is always changing, and protection from COVID-19 vaccines declines over time. 1 The COVID-19 pandemic has made it important to keep workplaces safe as viruses, like COVID-19, can easily spread in enclosed indoor spaces with poor ventilation. Although vaccination may be the best protection against hospitalization, other joint mitigation strategies are recommended for both home and work. One recommendation is the use of a portable air cleaner. Using a portable high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) cleaner can improve filtration with an existing Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC). To reduce the risk of COVID-19 spreading, Hidalgo County Precinct 1 aims to provide Indoor Air Quality Equipment to improve ventilation in its administrative buildings which include but is not limited to Commissioner Precinct 1



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Offices, Justice of the Peace Offices, Constable Offices, and the Tax Office. By taking this course of action, Hidalgo County Precinct 1 is ensuring that offices are safer for everyone, employees and visitors, especially those who may need more support.

Use of Evidence

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/news-updates/2022/12/08/clean-indoor-air-benefits-everyone/>
https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-03/508-clean-airbuildings_factsheet_v5_508.pdf

ARPA-24-110-349	Assistance to South Texas College Nursing and Allied Health Healthcare Professionals Program
Funding Amount	\$1,618,324.72 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.14: Other Public Health Services^
Project Description	Longstanding concerns over nursing and allied health professional shortages existed prior to the pandemic, but COVID-19 further exacerbated the need for qualified nurses and respiratory therapists. According to the 2023 Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies, it is projected that by the year 2032, Texas will have a deficit of nearly 60,000 registered nurses. 1 The Rio Grande Valley (RGV) region, in particular, is an area that has historically faced healthcare workforce shortages and has been designated as a medically underserved area, making the situation even more critical. This disparity highlights the need for more locally trained healthcare workers to serve in our region. To that end, South Texas College is committed to increasing the number of nursing and respiratory therapists by increasing STC's capacity of qualified faculty to better serve more students and respond to the region's growing need for healthcare professionals. South Texas College, in collaboration with the County of Hidalgo, will implement the South Texas College Healthcare Professionals Program to ensure that residents have access to timely, high-quality primary health care services thereby improving quality of life by increasing faculty and student enrollment in the areas of nursing and respiratory therapy.



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Use of Evidence	N/A
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ARPA-24-340-351

Hidalgo County Edinburg Pulmonary Health Center Improvements Project

Funding Amount	\$69,998.04
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Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
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Expenditure Category	1.14: Other Public Health Services^
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Project Description	The purpose of the Hidalgo County Edinburg Pulmonary Health Center Improvements Project is to expand health care capacity and meet community pandemic-related needs. Operational needs can be met through renovations to the existing building. Furthermore, efforts to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic through this clinic include, but are not limited to, vaccination programs, medical care, testing, and support for vulnerable populations to access medical or public health services. The Hidalgo County Edinburg Pulmonary Health Center is located at 1304 S. 25th Ave., Edinburg, TX, 78539. Improvements will include but are not limited to outdoor mitigation structures and door access systems to protect physical assets and ensure safety. These provisions will provide a safe and sustainable environment and enable employees to continue performing essential services for the residents of Hidalgo County to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, TB and other communicable/infectious diseases.
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Use of Evidence	N/A
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ARPA-24-340-352

McAllen Health Center Improvements Project

Funding Amount	\$2,378,053.72
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Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
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Expenditure Category	1.14: Other Public Health Services^
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Project Description

The purpose of the Hidalgo County McAllen Health Center Improvements Project is to expand health care capacity and meet community pandemic-related needs. Operational needs can be met through renovations to the existing building. Furthermore, efforts to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic through this clinic include, but are not limited to, vaccination programs, medical care, testing, and support for vulnerable populations to access medical or public health services. The Hidalgo County McAllen Health Center, 300 East Hackberry Ave., McAllen, TX, 78501, is located in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT) area. Improvements will include, but are not limited to interior renovation and rehabilitation, professional services and other provisions necessary and suitable to meet operational needs. These provisions will provide a safe and sustainable building and enable employees to continue performing essential services for the residents of Hidalgo County to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and other communicable/infectious diseases.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-24-110-355

City of Mission: Paramedic Initiative

Funding Amount

\$73,247.50

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1:14 Other Public Health Services^

Project Description

Pursuant to Section 381.004 (b) of the Texas Local Government Code, Hidalgo County established the Hidalgo County Emergency Services Program which was approved by the Commissioner's Court as Agenda Item 88792 on December 13, 2022. The Hidalgo County Emergency Services Program shall be focused on providing services and assisting residents and businesses in Hidalgo County.

In the last two years, COVID-19 has greatly impacted the nation and, in particular, regions of low socioeconomic status. Currently, 26.9% of Hidalgo County's population lives below the poverty line, and the pandemic's impact on the county's public health is evident. The need for additional first responders has become apparent with the ongoing public health emergency. The rising COVID-19 cases have resulted in a rise in paramedic services and have taken a toll on emergency response services.



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With an increase in COVID-19 cases, a 2019 study showed a job outlook of a 6% increase for EMTs and Paramedics. A recent 2020 study showed a job outlook of 11%. This increase demonstrates the rise in demand for EMTs and Paramedics due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Providing a first responder training program will be an investment in the underserved Hidalgo County population and will produce more first responders. The need for first responders is dire, and the training program will ensure underserved residents who have been impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency continue to receive critical lifesaving services.

This initiative will provide funds to the City of Mission to initiate a paramedic training program in Hidalgo County. This program has been developed in conjunction with every municipally operated emergency medical service in Hidalgo County, including but not limited to the City of Mercedes, the City of Mission, the City of Palmview, the City of Pharr, the City of Weslaco, and the City of Alton. The municipalities collectively agreed that the City of Mission is best suited to serve as the operations center for this initiative. The project will assist in the tuition and training materials for the paramedic candidates and other costs associated with the training. Hidalgo County OEM has already partnered with the City of Mission and Texas EMS School to provide the paramedic project. This project also provides an economic and regional benefit opportunity as it creates emergency medicine jobs for our community and increases the supply of trained individuals. This project provides modern education techniques and opportunities for advancement.

This program includes training for County and City personnel to reach licensed paramedic statuses and serve our communities as trained paramedic first responders. Licensed paramedics are critical in providing quality emergency medical services to our residents and businesses in different emergencies. The use of this project in conjunction with our other current projects will be critical in order to reduce the effects of Covid-19 and increase our emergency medical response capabilities to our community. This new paramedic training program not only provides an opportunity, but also is an investment into our residents in Hidalgo County. Newly trained paramedics in this program will be able to serve different cities and rural communities in Hidalgo County who may have difficulty accessing medical care and treatment. It is our duty as local government to continue to enhance opportunities and serve the community to improve the quality of life and medical care for residents. Hidalgo County is excited to experience the benefits of this project along with



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other projects and plans to continue these projects in the future

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-24-115-356

Emergency Remote Operations Centers

Funding Amount

\$4,494,174.65

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.14: Other Public Health Services^

Project Description

The US Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that rural communities may have characteristics that can make recovering from a disaster difficult as they do not have the capacity and resources to support recovery activities. It is important to remember that some communities have experienced substantial and pervasive historical inequities, which can pose challenges. For our most vulnerable populations to receive immediate and direct support, Hidalgo County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is in need of two emergency remote operations facilities in Eastern and Western Hidalgo County to mitigate the challenges of COVID-19 and its negative economic impacts, specifically in these rural and unincorporated areas in the community within Precincts 1 and 3. The development of two new locations, especially for those who are unable to travel, would ease the burden of access for emergency services so that individuals and families are able to access direct services closer to home and when they need them to speed up economic and social recovery and allow the community to resume normalcy. The location in Western Hidalgo County, 8066 N Los Ebanos Rd, Alton, TX, 78573, is in a qualified census tract area (QCT), and the Eastern Hidalgo County location, 708 East Edinburg Ave., Elsa, TX, 78543, is situated in a low to moderate area. These facilities will permit staff to remain in a safe environment during an emergency response and recovery and ensure the continuity of operations and government in major disasters or emergencies by protecting the health and resilience of families and communities in these marginalized areas in response to the negative effects of COVID-19. Personnel costs will also be included to ensure center development, implementation and operation.

Use of Evidence

N/A



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ARPA-24-110-375	Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Interoperable Communication Equipment
Funding Amount	\$20,739.00 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.7: Other COVID 19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)^
Project Description	The need for robust communication systems in emergency management cannot be overstated. COVID-19 holds important lessons for preparing for and responding to future public health emergencies. First responders must be able to communicate during day to day incidents and large scale emergencies Recent events, such as severe flooding and wildfires have highlighted the challenges in multi-agency coordination. For this reason, Hidalgo County EOC will invest in interoperability equipment. This system enhancement will address these challenges by: 1) enabling the integration of radio and other communication technologies to create a unified communication platform; 2) allowing multiple agencies to patch into the system simultaneously, thereby enhancing collaborative efforts during emergency operations; and 3) improving response times and operational efficiency during critical incidents. The system also facilitates real-time data sharing and communication linkage among first responders, including police, fire, and emergency medical services, ensuring a coordinated and timely response during emergencies. Enhancing our EOC's capabilities with interoperability equipment gateways will significantly bolster our region's emergency response infrastructure to insure our frontline continues to protect and serve the community effectively due to the long-term effects of COVID-19 and other disasters.
Use of Evidence	N/A



Negative Economic Impacts

ARPA-21-122-018	Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Boys & Girls Club Community Development Project
Funding Amount	\$5,000,000.00
Expenditure Category Group	2: Negative Economic Impacts
Expenditure Category	2.22: Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety^
Project Description	The Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Boys and Girls Club Community Development Project intends to use ARPA funds for the new construction of the Boys & Girls Club facility, which will be strategically located in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT) area to service Hidalgo County's most negatively impacted communities. The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) Final Rule recognizes the new construction of early parks, green spaces, recreational facilities, sidewalks, pedestrian safety features like crosswalks, street lights, neighborhood cleanup and other projects to revitalize public spaces as eligible capital expenditures to assist disproportionately impacted communities. The new Boys & Girls Club recreational facility will be providing new, expanded, and enhanced, child care and after school enrichment programs, which increase access to healthy food, tutoring, career preparation programs, safe recreational spaces, and support for students social, emotional, and mental health needs in a disproportionately impacted community.
Use of Evidence	N/A
ARPA-21-110-022	RGV Food Bank Contribution
Funding Amount	\$100,000.00 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	2: Negative Economic Impacts
Expenditure Category	2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)^
Project Description	Food insecurity in Hidalgo County has drastically increased due



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to the ongoing pandemic and the negative impacts it has created. Much of this insecurity, due to the food shortages, exists in the Colonias, which are usually located within 150 miles from the Texas-Mexico border. For the past two years, COVID-19 has greatly impacted the nation, especially regions of low socioeconomic status. Nonprofits, which provide vital services to communities, have faced economic and financial challenges due to the pandemic. Food banks continue to respond to increased demand due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Hidalgo County will provide ARPA funds to assist the RGV Food Bank with additional expenses incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The ARPA funds will help support the RGV Food Bank and ensure there is an abundance of resources to meet the growing demand for food assistance.

Use of Evidence

<https://www.hungerfreeamerica.org/en-us/ending-hunger-through-strategic-volunteerism>

ARPA-21-123-023

Hidalgo County Precinct 3 Parks Improvements

Funding Amount

\$2,925,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.22 Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety^

Project Description

The COVID-19 pandemic has made it clear that parks are crucial to a community's quality of life. People turned to parks for fresh air, exercise and solace from pandemic-related stressors. The Hidalgo County Precinct 3 Park Improvements Project will include the following parks: Katarina North Park, Katarina South Park, Abram Park, Los Ebanos Park, Los Ebanos Pavilion, and Veterans Memorial Pavilion. This project will improve the accessibility and function of Precinct 3 parks to constituents living in and around Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs) and Low to Moderate Income Areas (LMI), as they will be designed to benefit the health and well-being of residents and promote improved health outcomes. This project aims to create safe spaces that will promote health and safety outcomes for its residents by providing healthy play, wellness, and recreation areas to help mitigate the ongoing effects of COVID-19. The project includes but is not limited to professional services, park equipment, amenities, safety features, supplies, materials, and other necessary provisions.



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Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-124-029

Hidalgo County Precinct 4 J.R. “Milo” Ponce Park Improvements Project

Funding Amount

\$363,614.67 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.22 Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety^

Project Description

Hidalgo County Precinct 4 is planning on making improvements to J.R. “Milo” Ponce Park located at Jr Milo Ponce Dr., Edinburg, TX 78542. The improvements will consist of the removal of existing playgrounds to be replaced with new inclusive playgrounds for children ages that range from 2 to 12 years of age. The project will improve the accessibility and function of the J.R. “Milo” Ponce Park to constituents living in, near and around Qualified Census Tract (QCT) areas. The improvements to the park have been designed to benefit the health and well-being of the most vulnerable populations, including residents that reside in QCT areas. Recreational spaces, such as the J.R. “Milo” Ponce Park, has always served a critical function in the mental health of individuals, particularly for low income communities. Additionally, the park will be expansive, allowing for safe enjoyment while maintaining social distance.

Improvements to the Hidalgo County Precinct 4 J.R. “Milo” Ponce Park will allow the residents living in, near, and around the QCT areas close to the Precinct 4 J.R. “Milo” Ponce Park to have access to outdoor recreational spaces, which has been proven to be an evidence-based intervention to improve the social, mental and emotional wellbeing of the population.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-110-032

Assistance to Hope Clinic

Funding Amount

\$1,120,000.00 Completed



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Expenditure Category Group	2: Negative Economic Impacts
Expenditure Category	2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)^
Project Description	Hidalgo County aims to assist the HOPE Family Health Center that is consistent with the Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Primary Medical Care and Behavioral Health Program's Goal to execute COVID-19 mitigation efforts by providing funding to nonprofit clinics that serve the vulnerable communities of Hidalgo County. HOPE Family Health, is a non-government and non-profit organization that provides no cost services to the uninsured, to continue its operation during the pandemic. The HOPE Family Health Center provides primary medical, counseling, integrated behavioral health, peer support services, case management and wellness programs and is serving constituents that live near, or around a qualified census tract area. HOPE Family Health Center will address the broader impacts of the pandemic on public health as research has documented that COVID19 has had the greatest psychological impact on the poorest and most vulnerable individuals including those already struggling with anxiety, depression, and for children.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-21-121-037	Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Hike & Bike Trail
Funding Amount	\$4,875,000.00
Expenditure Category Group	2:Negative Economic Impacts
Expenditure Category	2.22 Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety^
Project Description	Hidalgo County Precinct 1 is planning on developing a Hike & Bike Trail in their Mid-Valley area that will pass by the Cities of Mercedes, Weslaco, Donna, Alamo, and Pharr. The Precinct 1 Hike & Bike Trail is designed to build stronger neighborhoods and communities and address health disparities and the social determinants of health. Treasury's Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) Interim Final Rule recognizes parks, hike & bike trails and other recreational spaces as methods of creating stronger communities, addressing social



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determinants of health and confronting public health disparities.

The purpose of the Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Hike & Bike Trail is congruent with the overall objective of the Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Recreational Development Program, which is to improve the accessibility and function of recreational spaces to constituents living in, near and around Qualified Census Tract areas.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-125-039

MEDCARE EMS Assistance

Funding Amount

\$350,000.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.29: Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship^

Project Description

Throughout the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, emergency medical services providers have administered critical care to Hidalgo County residents, especially to vulnerable populations and community members of unincorporated areas of the County. Emergency service providers, such as MEDCARE EMS, have been severely impacted due to the negative economic effects of the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, and it impedes its ability to administer critical life-saving services.

Therefore, MEDCARE EMS Assistance project, plans to support MEDCARE EMS to continue to provide critical life-saving medical services to Hidalgo County residents who live in unincorporated areas of the County during and beyond the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-122-040

Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Recreational Trails Connectivity and Development Project

Funding Amount

\$8,942,392.57

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.22: Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features



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that Promote Health and Safety^

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Recreational Trail Connectivity and Development Project will extend the existing Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Regional Hike and Bike Trail, which currently provides connections to the City of McAllen, City of Pharr, and the City of San Juan. This project will expand these existing trails and connect them to the cities of McAllen, Hidalgo, and Mission. The Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Recreational Trail Connectivity and Development Project will service a larger portion of the Hidalgo County community and provide safe recreational spaces for constituents living in, near and around Qualified Census Tract (QCT) locations, and support people's physical, social, emotional, and mental health. Parks, hike & bike trails, and other recreational spaces, such as the existing Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Regional Hike and Bike Trail, have served a critical function in the mental health of individuals, addressing social determinants of health and confronting public health disparities, particularly for low-income communities. Additionally, the Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Recreational Trail Connectivity and Development Project will be expansive, allowing for safe enjoyment while maintaining social distance with the mission to build stronger neighborhoods and communities and address health disparities and the social determinants of health that the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency has exacerbated.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-122-068

Hidalgo County Precinct 2 ToGive International Community Development Project

Funding Amount

\$310,020.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)^

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Precinct 2 ToGive International Community Development Project aims to provide a grant to ToGive International, a nonprofit fine arts educational organization primarily located at 2500 Dicker Rd., Suite C Hidalgo, Texas 78557. This project will relive the negative impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency on the



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communities this organization serves. ToGive International has faced challenges due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, including increased demand for services and changing operational needs.

Fine arts curriculums are an essential component of human development, especially when students' emotional health is at risk. Students are motivated to become self-driven, empowered individuals capable of possessing the emotional intelligence necessary to make critical decisions by providing these services. By providing this assistance, ToGive International will continue serving hundreds of students that otherwise can't have the opportunity to continue enrolling in their programs, especially those living near and around Qualified Census Tracts (QCT).

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-122-069

Boys & Girls Club of Pharr - San Juan Project Learn

Funding Amount

\$457,800.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)^

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Boys & Girls Club of Pharr-San Juan Project Learn will utilize ARPA funds to provide new, expanded and enhanced child care and after school enrichment programs, which increase access to healthy food, tutoring, career preparation programs, safe recreational spaces, and support for students social, emotional, and mental health needs in a disproportionately impacted community through their recreational facility.

The funding will be distributed to the Boys & Girls Club of Pharr-San Juan's four current locations. The Boys and Girls Club of Pharr-San Juan has not stopped providing its services throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency to address the needs of residents, especially those residing in underserved communities. Pharr-San Juan's Boys & Girls Club has played a crucial role in minimizing mental and public health outcomes, food insecurity, public safety and the educational disparities exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Through this project, the Boys & Girls Club of Pharr-San Juan will be able to continue providing services that promote improved health and safety outcomes in disproportionately impacted communities, especially those living in, near, and



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around Qualified Census Tracts (QCT) areas.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-123-075

Hidalgo County Precinct 3 El Paraiso Community Resource Center

Funding Amount

\$5,578,106.17

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.10: Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)*^

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Precinct 3 El Paraiso Community Resource Center (CRC) intends to utilize ARPA Relief funds to construct a community resource center located in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT) area. The CRC's objective is to respond to the negative effects that the pandemic has exacerbated in terms of unemployed and underemployed community members. The Community Resource Center would provide learning opportunities, training and other related services (special lectures, guest speakers, career fairs, counseling, etc.) to all community members within the vicinity of the center. The programs are intended to improve the opportunities of the disadvantaged and most vulnerable Hidalgo County Community members during and after the COVID-19 public health emergency through assistance to unemployed workers including job training, rehiring efforts, and childcare assistance to assist in the reduction of the unemployment rate within the community.

Use of Evidence

<https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/adult-vocational-training>

ARPA-22-110-085

La Joya Independent School District Youth Wellness Camps

Funding Amount

\$97,304.63 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.26: Addressing Educational Disparities: Mental Health



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Services*^

Project Description

La Joya ISD has requested assistance with establishing a Pilot Wellness Camp for middle school students in grades 6-8, in response to the mental health disparities resulting from the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency. Moreover, the camp will utilize “Texas A&M AgriLife Mindful-Self Curriculum” which is geared toward mental and behavioral health. Each camp will last four hours, where 60 minutes will consist of the “Texas A&M AgriLife Mindful-Self curriculum.” The remaining time will be filled utilizing additional evidence-based curriculum which will promote overall mental wellness of the students. The County Judge’s office intends to partner with La Joya ISD School District to implement this public health service. La Joya ISD is eligible to offer up to twenty (20) Youth Camps. Based on participation levels of enrichment activities and curriculum completion rates of youth camp students of the “pilot program,” and subject to continued ARPA funding, the County of Hidalgo may establish a full program wherein all Hidalgo County School Districts that may have a campus(s) which meet Qualifying Census Tract (QCT) eligibility. According to the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Final Rule, “recipients may also provide services for special populations, for example, enhanced services in school to address increased rates of behavioral health challenges for youths.”

Use of Evidence

<https://www.mindfulleader.org/blog/55916-is-mbsr-evidence-based>
<https://www.apa.org/monitor/2012/07-08/ce-corner>
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5679245/>
<https://crimesolutions.ojp.gov/ratedpractices/39#1-0>

ARPA-22-110-086

Mission Consolidated School District Youth Wellness Camps

Funding Amount

\$36,629.12 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.26: Addressing Educational Disparities: Mental Health Services*^

Project Description

Mission CISD has requested assistance with establishing a Pilot Wellness Camp for middle school students in grades 6-8, in response to the mental health disparities resulting from the



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ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency. Moreover, the camp will utilize “Texas A&M AgriLife Mindful-Self Curriculum” which is geared toward mental and behavioral health. Each camp will last four hours, where 60 minutes will consist of the “Texas A&M AgriLife Mindful-Self curriculum.” The remaining time will be filled utilizing additional evidence-based curriculum which will promote overall mental wellness of the students. The County Judge’s office intends to partner with Mission CISD School District to implement this public health service. Mission CISD is eligible to offer up to twelve (12) Youth Camps. Based on participation levels of enrichment activities and curriculum completion rates of youth camp students of the “pilot program,” and subject to continued ARPA funding, the County of Hidalgo may establish a full program wherein all Hidalgo County School Districts that may have a campus(s) which meet Qualifying Census Tract (QCT) eligibility. According to the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Final Rule, “recipients may also provide services for special populations, for example, enhanced services in school to address increased rates of behavioral health challenges for youths.”

Use of Evidence

<https://www.mindfulleader.org/blog/55916-is-mbsr-evidence-based>
<https://www.apa.org/monitor/2012/07-08/ce-corner>
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5679245/>
<https://crimesolutions.ojp.gov/ratedpractices/39#1-0>

ARPA-22-122-098

Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Small Repairs and Rehabilitation Housing Project

Funding Amount

\$250,000.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.18: Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance*^

Project Description

The County of Hidalgo precinct 2 will partner with Proyecto Azteca Inc., located at the Corner of Business 83 and Cesar Chavez, San Juan, Texas 78589. Proyecto Azteca is a non-profit self-help construction company that serves low-income families in colonias and other rural areas in Hidalgo County. The Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Small Repairs and Rehabilitation Project will grant funds to Proyecto Azteca Inc., to implement a new program called “Small Repairs and



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Rehabilitation Housing Program.” The Small Repairs and Rehabilitation Housing Program will provide funds for minor repairs or rehabilitation of homes for income-eligible applicants. The program will seek to benefit all applicants deemed eligible and funding will carryover to other eligible applicant projects until funds have been extinguished.

Once the application process is complete, an inspection of the house and a determination as to the estimated cost to bring the home up to standard will be done. The evaluation will be completed by a certified home inspector and construction supervisor to determine the costs of repairs and rehabilitation. If the cost of repairs exceeds 100% of the total estimated improved value, a rehabilitation grant would not be eligible under this program, as only minor repairs to the most critical problem can be done. The designated project area is the area of Precinct 2 Hidalgo County, Texas. All assisted units under this program shall be provided in scattered site locations throughout the area of Precinct 2 and need to be in a Qualified Census Tract, QCT. The applicant must reside in Hidalgo County Precinct 2 for a minimum of one year prior to receiving assistance. The applicant must occupy the property as a principal residence, they must not sublease the property, and all property taxes must be current and no liens may exist on property.

Use of Evidence

<https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/housing-reparations>

ARPA-22-124-122

Assistance to Boys and Girls Club of Edinburg Rio Grande Valley Legacy Center

Funding Amount

\$450,000.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.34: Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)^

Project Description

Boys and Girls Club of Edinburg Rio Grande Valley Legacy Center, located at 702 Cullen St, Edinburg, TX, is a non-profit organization that provides services that promote and sustain mental, emotional and physical health for children to become responsible citizens and leaders. Such services empower youth to develop skills that will support and influence community



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development. Hidalgo County will provide financial assistance due to decreased revenues and contributions. This will ensure that vital community services continue and that a safe and nurturing environment is provided in response to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-23-123-328

Hidalgo County Precinct 3 5K Mansion Linear Park Trail

Funding Amount

\$2,886,284.72

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.22: Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety^

Project Description

The spread of COVID-19 resulted in widespread social distancing measures. Outdoor activities pose a lower risk of spread and provide opportunities for physical activity that may help improve overall well-being. The Hidalgo County Precinct 3 5K Mansion Linear Trail Project aims to build stronger communities through investing in neighborhood development by utilizing existing resources (Drainage District, Moorfield Road ROW, Mansion property) to construct a 5 kilometer trail. The trail will include exercise stations, rest stops and other features that encourage physical exercise as this is already a venue for walk/run races and events and passes next to three public schools which will provide easy access for school exercise programs or events. This trail will service a larger portion of the Hidalgo County community and provide safe recreational spaces for constituents living in, near and around Low and Moderate Income (LMI) locations, and support people's physical, social, emotional, and mental health. The project includes but is not limited to professional services, park equipment, amenities, safety features such as surveillance equipment to help monitor and deter crime, supplies, materials, and other necessary provisions.

Use of Evidence

N/A



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ARPA-23-122-329	Boys and Girls Club of McAllen, South Community Development Project
Funding Amount	\$1,000,000.00 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	2: Negative Economic Impacts
Expenditure Category	2.22: Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety^
Project Description	According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the COVID-19 public health emergency exacerbated the health and well-being inequities that previously existed within marginalized communities, including Hispanics and those living in poverty. In fact, research continues to support that minority communities have a higher propensity of being negatively impacted by the pandemic especially in the following areas: income, education, and health. In 2021 Bonham Elementary, found south of the expressway, closed its doors and immediately displaced families from accessing critical resources schools often bring to neighborhoods. With transportation issues plaguing south McAllen, especially after the pandemic, proximity is an important factor when meeting the needs of our most vulnerable populations. With schools closing in the summer and holidays, many families are left with no option for quality and cost effective childcare during out of school time. Investing in infrastructure south of the expressway in McAllen gives families a safe alternative to leaving children at home while parents work- a response to the public health emergency, the aftereffects and negative economic impacts for the safety and well-being of children as well as a solution to workforce. The new Boys & Girls Club recreational facility will provide new, expanded, and enhanced, child care and after school enrichment programs, which increase access to healthy food, tutoring, career preparation programs, safe recreational spaces, and support for students social, emotional, and mental health needs in a disproportionately impacted community
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-24-122-350	Assistance to St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church
Funding Amount	\$230,750.00 Completed



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Expenditure Category Group	2: Negative Economic Impacts
Expenditure Category	2.34: Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)^
Project Description	Food insecurity is defined as the persistent concern about access to sufficient and affordable food at all times. Food insecurity causes stress in people. One of the most important reasons for people's stress is where and how to get enough food due to unemployment and low income during the COVID-19 epidemic. 1 From 2020-2022, food insecurity in Texas was above the 11.2% US average. The pandemic significantly changed food conditions. It exacerbated unemployment, interrupted the food supply chain and caused long lines at food banks. Hidalgo County, too, felt the demand and need for action to ensure that its most vulnerable residents, 30% of whom live in poverty, are provided with opportunities to access nutritional meals to support a healthy quality of life. St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church currently serves approximately 800 families weekly (Monday thru Friday, 11:00 a.m - 2:00 p.m.) and is located in a qualified census tract (900 S. 23rd St., McAllen, TX, 78501). To that end, Hidalgo County Precinct 2 aims to assist St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church with a food pantry facility, including necessary expenses for implementation and operation, in response to the ongoing effects of COVID-19 to ensure that vital food services continue.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-24-115-353	Assistance to Women Together Foundation, Inc.
Funding Amount	\$285,243.00 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	2: Negative Economic Impacts
Expenditure Category	2.34: Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)^
Project Description	During the COVID-19 pandemic, reports of domestic violence across the United States increased from 21% to 35%. Stay-at-home orders, designed to protect the public against the spread of COVID-19, along with heightened societal stressors as



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a result of the global pandemic, inadvertently increased rates of illicit drug and alcohol use, job loss, and isolation, resulting in increased stress and nonphysical (e.g., psychological, emotional, economic, technological) abuse that often escalated to physical violence. As per the Texas Department of Public Safety Crime in Texas Reports, Hidalgo County had approximately 8,600 incidents of family violence and abuse in 2021 alone. 2 The impacts of COVID-19 continued as reports in 2022 increased to approximately 8,800 incidents. Women Together, a non-profit organization, whose mission is to provide shelter and support services to victims of domestic violence and survivors of assault and their families, has had increased costs to continue to provide critical services and has experienced loss in revenues, donations and other financial assistance. Thus, Hidalgo County Precinct 2 aims to assist Women Together, located in a qualified census tract, 511 N. Cynthia St., McAllen, TX, 78501, due to decreased revenues to continue to provide critical services and provide adequate and proper housing to victims of family violence and their children in response to the negative economic impacts of COVID-19.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-24-121-354

Hidalgo County Precinct 1 City of Weslaco Judge Gilbert Garza Park Equipment

Funding Amount

\$150,000.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.22: Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety^

Project Description

The COVID-19 pandemic has made it clear that parks are crucial to a community's quality of life. People turned to parks for fresh air, exercise and solace from pandemic-related stressors. The Hidalgo County Precinct 1 City of Weslaco Judge Gilbert Garza Park Equipment project will create safe spaces that will promote health and safety outcomes for its residents by providing healthy play, wellness, and recreation areas to help mitigate the ongoing effects of COVID-19. The playground equipment for the Judge Gilbert Garza Park, 320 E. Mile 11 N. Rd, Weslaco, TX, 78596, will directly benefit an underserved community as it is located near a qualified census tract (QCT), 1.1 miles away, and is in a low-to-moderate area. The project includes but is not limited to park equipment, amenities,



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supplies, materials, and other necessary provisions to enable installation. These neighborhood features will respond “to the needs of disproportionately impacted communities by promoting healthier living environments.”

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-24-121-358

Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Wellness, Activity, and Community Center (WACC)

Funding Amount

\$7,037,485.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.22: Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety^

Project Description

The COVID-19 Pandemic has not only affected the populations worldwide due to the morbidity and mortality associated with COVID-19 but it has also acted as a physical, mental, and social contagion. Hidalgo County Precinct 1 residents, too, are faced with the same challenges as these disruptions have yet to be alleviated. The development of the Wellness, Activity, and Community Center (WACC), located at 1901 N. Bridge Ave., Weslaco, TX 78599 will aid in providing a safe space for all residents to actively participate in their health journey. This facility will be strategically located in a low to moderate income area. The recreation center will also provide learning, growing and developmental opportunities for residents to equip them with the proper instruments and support long-term health goals while fostering community engagement and cohesion. In addition, the center will offer a diverse range of programming tailored to individuals of all ages and abilities, including fitness classes, recreational activities, wellness workshops, and social events in collaboration with partners that include but are not limited to the Hidalgo County Health and Human Services, City of Weslaco, Hidalgo County Juvenile Justice Center and Weslaco ISD in response to the negative impacts of COVID-19. Personnel costs will also be included to ensure center implementation and operation.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-24-115-360

Assistance to Children’s Advocacy Center of Hidalgo County



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Funding Amount	\$350,000.00
Expenditure Category Group	2: Negative Economic Impacts
Expenditure Category	2.34: Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)^
Project Description	As quarantine and stay-at-home efforts were prolonged, a second, silent pandemic escalated. Evidence shows that rates of sexual misconduct increase during states of emergency, including natural disasters, active conflict and health crises. Even without the added burden of a global pandemic, only 23% of sexual assaults are reported to the police and victims are finding it difficult to access the resources they need. There is an urgent need for funding crisis centers to respond to survivors seeking assistance. During the COVID-19 pandemic, reports of sexual misconduct across the United States increased. As per the Texas Department of Public Safety Crime in Texas Reports, Hidalgo County had approximately 700 incidents in 2021. The impacts of COVID-19 continued as reports in 2022 increased to 752 incidents. The Children's Advocacy Center of Hidalgo County, a non-profit organization, whose purpose is to ensure that all available resources are utilized to make victims of child abuse feel safe, heard, and protected, has had increased costs to continue to provide critical victim support and intervention services and has experienced loss in revenues and other financial assistance. Thus, Hidalgo County aims to assist the Children's Advocacy Center of Hidalgo County, located at 525 W. Wisconsin Rd., Edinburg, TX, 78539, due to decreased revenues to continue to provide critical services and provide adequate space with safety measures such as ventilation to support victims of family violence and their children in response to the negative economic impacts of COVID-19.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-24-121-362	Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Sunrise Hill Park Improvements
Funding Amount	\$1,743,000.00
Expenditure Category Group	2: Negative Economic Impacts
Expenditure Category	2.22: Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety^



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Project Description

The COVID-19 pandemic has made it clear that parks are crucial to a community's quality of life. People turned to parks for fresh air, exercise and solace from pandemic-related stressors. The Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Sunrise Hill Park is in need of improvements. The project will directly benefit this underserved community as the park, located at 5230 Mile 11 N, Mercedes, TX, 78570, is in a qualified census tract area. The Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Sunrise Hill Park Improvements Project aims to create safe spaces that will promote health and safety outcomes for its residents by providing healthy play, wellness, and recreation areas to help mitigate the ongoing effects of COVID-19. The project includes but is not limited to professional services, park equipment, amenities, safety features, supplies, materials, and other necessary provisions.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-24-121-363

Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Sunset Park Improvements

Funding Amount

\$100,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.22: Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety^

Project Description

The COVID-19 pandemic has made it clear that parks are crucial to a community's quality of life. People turned to parks for fresh air, exercise and solace from pandemic-related stressors. The Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Sunrise Hill Park is in need of improvements. The project will directly benefit this underserved community as the park, located at Mile 1 ½ W, Mercedes, TX, 78570, is in a qualified census tract area. The Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Sunrise Hill Park Improvements Project aims to create safe spaces that will promote health and safety outcomes for its residents by providing healthy play, wellness, and recreation areas to help mitigate the ongoing effects of COVID-19. The project includes but is not limited to professional services, safety features, supplies, materials, and other necessary provisions.

Use of Evidence

N/A



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ARPA-24-122-369	Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Assistance to Proyecto Azteca, Inc.
Funding Amount	\$300,000.00
Expenditure Category Group	2: Negative Economic Impacts
Expenditure Category	2.34: Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)^
Project Description	Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, the US was facing extreme housing challenges. 1 Housing insecurity or the lack of quality and affordable housing increased while federal investments in housing decreased which contributed to the current housing crisis. 2 To alleviate the strain on programming, service delivery and organization viability, many nonprofit organizations implemented cost-savings strategies including furloughs or reduced work hours. 3 Furthermore, many saw decreases in donations and in the ability to fundraise. Proyecto Azteca, a non-profit organization, located in a low to moderate income area and whose mission is to build stable and vibrant communities by providing quality affordable housing for low and very low-income families, faced these revenue challenges. Furthermore, despite its economic challenges, Proyecto Azteca, Inc., US-83 Bus, San Juan, TX, 78589, continued its operation and housing support services with limited funding. Hidalgo County aims to assist Proyecto Azteca, Inc., with personnel and operating expenses, to continue providing critical housing services in response to the ongoing and long-term effects of COVID-19 for the overall health of the community.
Use of Evidence	https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/strategies-and-solutions/what-works-for-health/strategies/housing-rehabilitation-loan-grant-programs

ARPA-24-122-371

Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Revitalize and Renew Home Replacement Program



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Funding Amount

\$ 210,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.18: Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance*^

Project Description

The pandemic has highlighted the longstanding crisis of unaffordable housing in the US. 1 Poor housing conditions have been linked with worse health outcomes and infectious disease spread. 2 Due to the negative economic impacts of COVID-19, marginalized populations in Hidalgo County have been unable to address substandard housing conditions. It is the intent of Hidalgo County Precinct 2 to partner with Proyecto Azteca Inc., a non-profit self-help construction company that serves low-income families in colonias and other rural areas in Hidalgo County to implement the Revitalize and Renew Home Replacement Program to mitigate housing, health and safety hazards to low income family dwellings. US Treasury allows interventions that support durable and sustainable home ownership and supports programs that fall under the HOME program. As such, the Homeowner Reconstruction Assistance (HRA) program is funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME Program or HOME). HRA funds organizations to provide services including the reconstruction of owner-occupied housing on the same site. 3 Accordingly, the Hidalgo County Urban County Program implements the Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program to assist low and moderate income homeowners to address the deterioration of substandard homes by rehabilitating them to conform to minimum property standards. 4 This collaboration between the County of Hidalgo Precinct 2 and Proyecto Azteca, Inc., to implement the Revitalize and Renew Home Replacement Program, will provide income eligible families critical housing services in response to the ongoing effects of COVID-19 and mitigate its adverse outcomes.

Use of Evidence

N/A



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ARPA-24-122-374

Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Assistance to Vermund G. Hansen Unit No. 101 The American Legion

Funding Amount

\$350,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.34: Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)^

Project Description

The psychological impact of COVID-19 on the general population and healthcare workers was profound; however, relatively less attention has been paid to veterans. Veterans experienced more mental health problems than civilians. The prevalence rates of alcohol use, anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, stress, loneliness, and suicide ideation significantly increased during the pandemic, ranging from 9.6% to 47.4%, 9.4% to 53.5%, 8.6% to 55.1%, 4.1% to 58.0%, 4.3% to 39.4%, 15.9% to 28.4%, and 7.8% to 22.0%, respectively. The main risk factors of negative consequences included pandemic-related stress, poor family relationships, lack of social support, financial problems, and preexisting mental disorders. Similarly, Hidalgo County Precinct 2 veterans have faced these same mental health challenges. Due to limited financial resources and fundraising opportunities, the Vermund G. Hansen Unit No. 101 The American Legion is requesting assistance with construction of a new veteran facility to provide a better atmosphere when providing needs-based services for veterans. The Vermund G. Hansen Unit No. 101 The American Legion, located in a qualified census tract and whose mission it is to provide vital services to veterans and the community, including education programs, health and mental support, and assistance with disability benefits. Hidalgo County Precinct 2 aims to assist the Vermund G. Hansen Unit No. 101 The American Legion, 417 S Cage Blvd., Pharr, TX, 78577, to provide a safe and nurturing environment for veterans to continue to receive adequate support to maintain mental well-being and access needs-based services to alleviate the negative effects of COVID-19.



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Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-24-122-376

Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Christian's Manor Affordable Housing Development Project

Funding Amount

\$1,375,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.15: Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing*^

Project Description

It is clear that the ongoing pandemic and resulting economic crisis are having a profound, long-term negative effect on the pre-existing affordable housing crisis facing low-income households. Many low-income renters and homeowners are struggling with lost employment and income and are behind on their housing payments. According to the 2023 Report to Congress Worst Case Housing Needs, "...the nation's supply of affordable rental housing is increasingly insufficient to meet the demands of Very Low Income (VLI) and Extremely Low Income (ELI) renter households." HUD uses a comprehensive measure to calculate rents based on affordability, availability, and adequacy and found that in 2021 there was a mismatch between ELI households and the number of affordable, available and adequate units. This also holds true in Hidalgo County, particularly for one parent households. For that reason, Hidalgo County Precinct 2 intends to collaborate with RGV Inclusive Inc, located at 308 Lauryn, San Juan, TX, 78589, a non-profit organization that helps single parents and their children by providing support services, resources and housing assistance, with the Christian's Manor Affordable Housing Development Project to mitigate housing insecurity and other public health issues. US Treasury has determined that the development of affordable housing to increase the supply of affordable and high-quality living units is responsive to the needs of impacted populations and presumes that any projects eligible for funding under National Trust Fund (HTF) are eligible uses of SLFRF funds. As such, the HTF is funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Texas



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Department of Housing and Community Affairs provides funds to finance, acquire, rehabilitate, and develop decent and safe affordable housing. This collaboration between the County of Hidalgo Precinct 2 and the RGV Inclusive Inc, to develop and implement the Christian's Manor Affordable Housing Development in a Low to Moderate Income Area, 3700 La Vista Ave., McAllen, TX, 78501, will provide income eligible families access to affordable housing units and other supplemental services. Along with affordable housing, located near a college, grocery stores and schools, RGV Inclusive Inc will incorporate the Two-generation (2Gen) Model Approach to connect families with needs-based services and programs to maximize positive outcomes. This unique project is responsive to the ongoing negative economic impacts of the pandemic.

Use of Evidence

<https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/strategies-and-solutions/what-works-for-health/strategies/housing-trust-funds>

ARPA-24-124-378

Hidalgo County Precinct 4 Assistance to American Legion, Freddy Gonzalez, Post 408

Funding Amount

\$77,366.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.34: Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)^

Project Description

The psychological impact of COVID-19 on the general population and healthcare workers was profound; however, relatively less attention has been paid to veterans. Veterans experienced more mental health problems than civilians. The prevalence rates of alcohol use, anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, stress, loneliness, and suicide ideation significantly increased during the pandemic, ranging from 9.6% to 47.4%, 9.4% to 53.5%, 8.6% to 55.1%, 4.1% to 58.0%, 4.3% to 39.4%, 15.9% to 28.4%, and 7.8% to 22.0%, respectively. The main risk factors of negative consequences included pandemic-related stress, poor family relationships, lack of social support, financial problems, and preexisting mental disorders. Similarly, Hidalgo County Precinct 4 veterans have faced these same mental health challenges. Due to limited financial



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resources and fundraising opportunities, the American Legion, Freddy Gonzalez, Post 408, is requesting assistance with interior and exterior building improvements including ventilation, roof repairs, and parking to provide a better atmosphere when providing needs-based services for veterans. The American Legion, Freddy Gonzalez, Post 408, whose mission it is to empower veterans by fostering a strong sense of belonging and community where veterans feel valued and connected, including PTSD Support, financial assistance, transitional resources, and overall veteran service seeks to extend the life of its facility. For these reasons Hidalgo County Precinct 4 aims to assist the American Legion, Freddy Gonzalez, Post 408, 2804 S. Business Hwy 281, Edinburg, TX, 78540, to provide a safe and nurturing environment for veterans to continue to receive adequate support to maintain mental well-being and access needs-based services to alleviate the negative effects of COVID-19.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

ARPA-21-200-013

Courthouse Wi-Fi Project and Telephone Connectivity System

Funding Amount

\$857,971.40 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

3: Public Sector Capacity

Expenditure Category

3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

Project Description

The Courthouse Wi-Fi and Telephone Connectivity System will ensure the safety of constituents and County employees by establishing reliable communication systems in the newly constructed Hidalgo County Courthouse to comply with COVID-19 health and safety guidelines. The procurement of the telephone and Wi-Fi systems is congruent with Hidalgo County's goal to provide effective delivery of services in light of change in technology, the public's expectations and the area's population and economy.



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Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-340-067

COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Overtime Program

Funding Amount

\$67,508.37 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

3: Public Health- Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

Expenditure Category

3.1 Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers

Project Description

The purpose of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Overtime Program is to compensate overtime hours directly related to addressing the COVID-19 public health emergency and its impacts. This program is for Hidalgo County FLSA-covered and FLSA non-covered employees who have been, and continue to be, relied on to maintain the operations of essential, critical infrastructure sectors, including those who are crucial to protecting the health and wellbeing of their communities during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-200-074

Ultimate Kronos Group - Human Resources Information System

Funding Amount

\$3,270,103.61

Expenditure Category Group

3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

Expenditure Category

3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

Project Description

The Ultimate Kronos Group - Human Resources Information System (UKG - HRIS) project will allow for the procurement and utilization of a comprehensive Human Resources Information System. The UKG-HRIS is a system that provides, among other features, integrated employee payroll services, time and attendance, and employee benefits. The purpose of this project is to upgrade the current time and attendance system and the benefits' software that is presently being used



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for employee benefits and integrate them into one system to facilitate the employee experience. The UKG-HRIS will drastically reduce the need for in-person attestation and, by default, assist with COVID-19 mitigation efforts by allowing online selections to minimize the need for congregate settings.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-280-077

Certified Medical Assistant Positions

Funding Amount

\$435,723.41 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

Expenditure Category

3.1: Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers

Project Description

Through this project, the County will provide the Hidalgo County Adult Detention Facility with five (5) medical assistant staff members to assist with the mitigation of COVID-19 throughout the public health emergency. The purpose of these positions is to support the existing staff, in rotating shifts, to better mitigate COVID-19 as there has been an increase in COVID-19 cases in the jail population. Additionally, the Certified Medical Assistant will also provide medical support to inmates in instances where there may be accidents, emergencies, observations, assisting with physician appointments, and examining the health status of new inmates, especially during the ongoing pandemic.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-200-083

Hidalgo County Gmail Service Project

Funding Amount

\$1,486,650.00

Expenditure Category Group

3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

Expenditure Category

3.4 Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Gmail Service Project will allow Hidalgo County employees access to Google Workspaces which plays a role in protecting county files, digitally sending and receiving



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emails, and signing official documents, in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Google Workspaces eliminates the need for staff to potentially be at risk of contracting the virus by eliminating the need to physically deliver County documents and agreements to departments, offices, or elected officials during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-110-099

Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator II Position

Funding Amount

\$375,872.19

Expenditure Category Group

3: Public Sector Capacity

Expenditure Category

3.1: Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public

Project Description

Through this project, the County will provide Hidalgo County with one Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator to assist with the mitigation of COVID-19 throughout the public health emergency. The purpose of this position is to support the existing staff, in rotating shifts, to better mitigate COVID-19 as there has been an increase in COVID-19 cases. Additionally, the Deputy will also assist the Emergency Coordinator on emergency preparedness issues, coordinate training programs and emergency operation drills, assist departments with their emergency and mitigation plans, grant applications and administration, and administer the submittal process for Federal and State reimbursement claims for the county's cost during emergency operations during the ongoing pandemic.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-110-106

Inclusive Accessibility Toolbar

Funding Amount

\$7,485.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

Expenditure Category

3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

Project Description

The Hidalgo County official website continues to be the primary location where COVID-19 information is posted for the



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public. An accessibility toolbar will allow all web users to access the information without barriers making our communication more accessible most especially for persons with disabilities. An accessibility toolbar may offer services such as screen reading functionality, multiple reading aids, customizable styling options, and an on-demand live translation feature with multiple languages including text-to-speech.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-200-124

Hidalgo County Tyler NewWorld Project

Funding Amount

\$3,902,015.75

Expenditure Category Group

3: Public Health- Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

Expenditure Category

3.5: Public Sector Capacity: Administrative Needs

Project Description

To increase response times and procedural efficiencies in our corrections and court systems during the ongoing public health emergency, Hidalgo County will acquire Tyler New World software. This project includes the installation of Tyler New World software on all computers for use by the Sheriff's Office. The software will be implemented within 12 to 18 months and hosted by Tyler Technologies. The CAD/RMS client software will need to be installed and configured on all connected computers including data conversion from the old system to the new environment. The Tyler software will directly integrate with the current court system as well as other law enforcement entities if needed. The Tyler New World software will increase integration with the court and RMS software platforms allowing for more streamlined data processing.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-23-110-321

Broadband Feasibility Study

Funding Amount

\$330,466.75 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

3: Public Health- Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

Expenditure Category

3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery



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Project Description

Because of the importance of internet accessibility in today's technologically-driven world, this project aims to fund a study that will detail the County's Internet accessibility throughout its jurisdiction. Hidalgo County will utilize study results to identify areas that meet the criteria for unincorporated, underserved or unserved, maximize resources, and expand broadband capability to these impacted areas to improve health and life outcomes during the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-23-115-339

Hidalgo County Technology Modernization

Funding Amount

\$5,931,801.11

Expenditure Category Group

3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

Expenditure Category

3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

Project Description

The rapidly escalating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic affected technology infrastructure by making it more difficult for government agencies to provide essential services and to execute the delivery of these services. To mitigate these effects, Hidalgo County will implement the Hidalgo County Technology Modernization Project for its departments countywide and aims to increase efficiency, productivity and safety. This project will include but is not limited to new technology application solutions, cybersecurity modernization, and other hardware and software upgrades. Better government systems will permit employees to continue performing essential services for the county and be responsive to the needs of the community.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-23-110-345

Economic Development Community Navigators

Funding Amount

\$357,651.07

Expenditure Category Group

3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity



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Expenditure Category

3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

Project Description

The final rule aims to promote and streamline the provision of assistance to individuals and communities in greatest need, particularly communities that have been historically underserved and have experienced disproportionate impacts of the COVID-19 crisis. For historically marginalized populations (those excluded from mainstream health, economic, and/or educational resources) all the general challenges encountered with the pandemic certainly apply, but there are additional barriers. The greatest is communication—getting information or access to available resources is typically more difficult for people with multiple barriers. Research has noted that Hispanics were disproportionately harmed by the economic fallout as a result of the effects of the COVID 19 virus; they accounted for 23 percent of the initial job loss. The coronavirus did not discriminate based on race, but without action, its economic fallout will continue to disproportionately affect residents of Hidalgo County which is predominately Hispanic. To that end, Hidalgo County will enlist personnel to serve as community navigators to promote and streamline the provision of programs and services that address or mitigate the impacts of COVID-19. Hidalgo County is committed to ensuring that the community receives the support needed to access community resources and relief programs due to the economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Hidalgo County Economic Development Community Navigators, Administrative Assistant IV and Eligibility Specialist III, will work closely under the supervision of the Director of Economic Development to develop programs, outreach and engagement resources that will positively impact marginalized populations. This will also include the addition of an Emergency Preparedness and Response Warehouse Specialist who will assist the County in managing equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies to mitigate the effects of COVID-19. Actively managing and caring for emergency response equipment will prolong the useful life and ensure optimum performance.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-24-110-364

Inclusive Accessibility Toolbar 2

Funding Amount

\$3,499.00

Expenditure Category Group

3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector



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Capacity

Expenditure Category

3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

Project Description

The Hidalgo County official website continues to be the primary location where COVID-19 information is posted for the public. An accessibility toolbar will allow all web users to access the information without barriers making our communication more accessible most especially for persons with disabilities. An accessibility toolbar may offer services such as screen reading functionality, multiple reading aids, customizable styling options, and an on-demand live translation feature with multiple languages including text-to-speech. This project will be extended until December 31, 2026.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-24-115-377

Hidalgo County Public Safety COVID-19 Response

Funding Amount

\$16,826,034.07

Expenditure Category Group

3: Public Health–Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

Expenditure Category

3.1: Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers

Project Description

Law enforcement agencies were faced with the challenge of maintaining operational levels of service while keeping officers, employees, and the community safe during COVID-19. Daily activities required in-person work and community interaction. Law enforcement, as first responders, continued to work at increased levels of exposure whilst implementing and enforcing COVID-19 safety measures, outreach services, assisting the health department, and responding to public safety needs to name a few. As COVID 19 has evolved, law enforcement has made significant changes in routine activities. The pandemic influenced law enforcement in three primary areas: 1) interventions to minimize and slow the spread of COVID-19; 2) nature of interactions; 3) responses to changes in crimes. To combat the virus, law enforcement has shifted operations to address healthcare and public health needs in addition to traditional security and public safety priorities. The same holds



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true for Hidalgo County. To uphold public safety, the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office continues to implement COVID-19 operational preparedness and prevention of disease transmission strategies to preserve the health, safety, and well-being of employees as first responders including but not limited to patrol and field operations as a result of the pandemic and in preparation for future health responses in real-time, including infectious diseases. Furthermore, Sheriff's Office employees continue to respond to situations exacerbated by the pandemic including domestic violence and mental health incidents utilizing strategies to build trust and positive relationships with the community thus improving community safety outcomes. For these reasons, Hidalgo County has determined that Sheriff's Office employees are continuously dedicated to responding to the long-term effects of COVID-19. As such, Hidalgo County aims to dedicate ARPA funds for payroll and benefits for Sheriff's Office employees as permitted in the Final Rule to restore and bolster public sector capacity and support the County's ability to deliver uninterrupted critical services with the continuous implementation of prevention and mitigation strategies. This project will retroactively reimburse the County beginning January 1, 2024.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-24-110-381

Emergency Preparedness and Response Warehouse Specialist

Funding Amount

\$124,631.00

Expenditure Category Group

3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

Expenditure Category

3.1: Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers

Project Description

Warehouse safety is a set of regulatory guidelines and industry best practices to help warehousing personnel to ensure a safe work environment and reinforce safe behavior. Impairments to fixed assets such as property, plant, and equipment (PP&E) are very costly. Managing an emergency management warehouse that houses personal protection equipment (PPE) and emergency response equipment is crucial. Personal Protective Equipment is crucial because it acts as a barrier to protect



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employees, such as first responders and constituents from the spread of infections by preventing exposure to blood, body fluids, and airborne pathogens, ultimately safeguarding the health of all involved or impacted. Additionally, damaged equipment cannot do its job effectively, potentially placing employees responding to emergencies at greater risk. Poorly managed equipment puts a community at risk. Properly caring for equipment necessary for personal protection or emergency response is important because it helps ensure the equipment is effective and safe. PPE is often the only barrier between employees and workplace hazards. Damaged PPE cannot protect employees properly, and may even put them at greater risk. To that end, Hidalgo County will employ an Emergency Preparedness and Response Warehouse Specialist to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic at the Emergency Management Warehouse. Actively managing and caring for emergency response equipment prolongs its lifespan and ensures optimum performance when needed. Regular maintenance, such as cleaning, inspection, and storage, can help all materials and equipment used in emergency preparedness and response last longer. For sustainable warehouse operations, the Warehouse Specialist will be located at the Emergency Management Warehouse from December 2024 to December 2026.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Premium Pay

ARPA-21-115-057

Hidalgo County Premium Pay Program

Funding Amount

\$10,054,426.76 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

4: Premium Pay

Expenditure Category

4.1 Public Sector Employees

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Premium Pay Program authorizes Premium Pay to regular full-time, regular part-time, temporary full-time, and temporary part-time employees who were hired in-person on or before August 1, 2021. The purpose of the program is to provide pay to eligible employees who



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have been, and continue to be, relied on to maintain the operations of essential, critical infrastructure sectors, including those who are crucial to protecting the health and wellbeing of their communities; employees teleworking from a residence are not eligible to receive Premium Pay. Premium Pay has been awarded at a rate of \$13.00 per hour in addition to regular wages. Premium Pay should not exceed the tiered amounts of \$3,500.00 for eligible employees earning up to \$40,000.00, \$3,000.00 for eligible employees earning between \$40,001.00 – \$60,000.00, and \$2,500.00 for eligible employees earning over \$60,000.00. Regular part-time and temporary-part time employees will receive 50% of the \$13.00 per hour pay rate once approved hours are met.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-115-058

Hidalgo County Drainage District No. 1 Premium Pay Program

Funding Amount

\$673,744.78 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

4: Premium Pay

Expenditure Category

4.1 Public Sector Employees

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Drainage District No. 1 Premium Pay Program authorizes Premium Pay to regular full-time, regular part-time, temporary full-time, and temporary part-time employees who were hired in-person on or before August 1, 2021. The purpose of the program is to provide pay to eligible employees who have been, and continue to be, relied on to maintain the operations of essential, critical infrastructure sectors, including those who are crucial to protecting the health and wellbeing of their communities; employees teleworking from a residence are not eligible to receive Premium Pay. Premium Pay has been awarded at a rate of \$13.00 per hour in addition to regular wages. Premium Pay should not exceed the tiered amounts of \$3,500.00 for eligible employees earning up to \$40,000.00, \$3,000.00 for eligible employees earning between \$40,001.00-\$60,000.00, and \$2,500.00 for eligible employees earning over \$60,000.00. Regular part-time and temporary-part time employees will receive 50% of the \$13.00 per hour pay rate once approved hours are met.



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Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-115-059

Hidalgo County Community Service Agency Premium Pay Program

Funding Amount

\$151,108.99 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

4: Premium Pay

Expenditure Category

4.1 Public Sector Employees

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Community Service Agency Premium Pay Program authorizes Premium Pay to regular full-time, regular part-time, temporary full-time, and temporary part-time employees who were hired in-person on or before August 1, 2021. The purpose of the program is to provide payments to eligible employees who have been, and continue to be, relied on to maintain the operations of essential, critical infrastructure sectors, including those who are crucial to protecting the health and wellbeing of their communities; employees teleworking from a residence are not eligible to receive Premium Pay. Premium Pay has been awarded at a rate of \$13.00 per hour in addition to regular wages. Premium Pay should not exceed the tiered amounts of \$3,500.00 for eligible employees earning up to \$40,000.00, \$3,000.00 for eligible employees earning between \$40,001.00-\$60,000.00, and \$2,500.00 for eligible employees earning over \$60,000.00. Regular part-time and temporary-part time employees will receive 50% of the \$13.00 per hour pay rate once approved hours are met.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-115-115

Hidalgo County Second Premium Pay Program

Funding Amount

\$7,867,733.10 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

4: Premium Pay

Expenditure Category

4.1 Public Sector Employees

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Second Premium Pay Program authorizes Premium Pay to regular full-time, regular part-time, temporary full-time, and temporary part-time employees who were hired



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in-person on or before July 29, 2022. The purpose of the program is to provide pay to eligible employees who have been, and continue to be, relied on to maintain the operations of essential, critical infrastructure sectors, including those who are crucial to protecting the health and wellbeing of their communities; employees teleworking from a residence are not eligible to receive Premium Pay. Premium Pay has been awarded at a rate of \$13.00 per hour in addition to regular wages or remuneration the worker otherwise receives and in an aggregate amount not to exceed the tiered amount below: \$2,500.00 for eligible employees earning up to \$40,000.00, \$2,000.00 for eligible employees earning between \$40,001.00–\$60,000.00, and \$1,500.00 for eligible employees earning over \$60,000.00. Regular Part-Time, Temporary Full-Time, and Temporary Part-Time Employees will be awarded Premium Pay at 50% of the amount shown above, depending on their earnings tier.

Use of Evidence	N/A
ARPA-22-115-116	Hidalgo County Drainage District No. 1 Second Premium Pay Program
Funding Amount	\$467,212.07 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	4: Premium Pay
Expenditure Category	4.1 Public Sector Employees
Project Description	The Hidalgo County Second Premium Pay Program authorizes Premium Pay to regular full-time, regular part-time, temporary full-time, and temporary part-time employees who were hired in-person on or before July 29, 2022. The purpose of the program is to provide pay to eligible employees who have been, and continue to be, relied on to maintain the operations of essential, critical infrastructure sectors, including those who are crucial to protecting the health and wellbeing of their communities; employees teleworking from a residence are not eligible to receive Premium Pay. Premium Pay has been awarded at a rate of \$13.00 per hour in addition to regular wages or remuneration the worker otherwise receives and in an aggregate amount not to exceed the tiered amount below: \$2,500.00 for eligible employees earning up to \$40,000.00, \$2,000.00 for eligible employees earning between \$40,001.00–\$60,000.00, and \$1,500.00 for



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eligible employees earning over \$60,000.00. Regular Part-Time, Temporary Full-Time, and Temporary Part-Time Employees will be awarded Premium Pay at 50% of the amount shown above, depending on their earnings tier.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-115-117

Hidalgo County Second Community Service Agency Second Premium Pay Program

Funding Amount

\$120,190.43 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

4: Premium Pay

Expenditure Category

4.1 Public Sector Employees

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Second Premium Pay Program authorizes Premium Pay to regular full-time, regular part-time, temporary full-time, and temporary part-time employees who were hired in-person on or before July 29, 2022. The purpose of the program is to provide pay to eligible employees who have been, and continue to be, relied on to maintain the operations of essential, critical infrastructure sectors, including those who are crucial to protecting the health and wellbeing of their communities; employees teleworking from a residence are not eligible to receive Premium Pay. Premium Pay has been awarded at a rate of \$13.00 per hour in addition to regular wages or remuneration the worker otherwise receives and in an aggregate amount not to exceed the tiered amount below: \$2,500.00 for eligible employees earning up to \$40,000.00, \$2,000.00 for eligible employees earning between \$40,001.00 – \$60,000.00, and \$1,500.00 for eligible employees earning over \$60,000.00. Regular Part-Time, Temporary Full-Time, and Temporary Part-Time Employees will be awarded Premium Pay at 50% of the amount shown above, depending on their earnings tier.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-115-118

Hidalgo County Head Start Premium Pay Program

Funding Amount

\$1,675,786.19 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

4: Premium Pay



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Expenditure Category

4.1 Public Sector Employees

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Second Premium Pay Program authorizes Premium Pay to regular full-time, regular part-time, temporary full-time, and temporary part-time employees who were hired in-person on or before July 29, 2022. The purpose of the program is to provide pay to eligible employees who have been, and continue to be, relied on to maintain the operations of essential, critical infrastructure sectors, including those who are crucial to protecting the health and wellbeing of their communities; employees teleworking from a residence are not eligible to receive Premium Pay. Premium Pay has been awarded at a rate of \$13.00 per hour in addition to regular wages or remuneration the worker otherwise receives and in an aggregate amount not to exceed the tiered amount below: \$2,500.00 for eligible employees earning up to \$40,000.00, \$2,000.00 for eligible employees earning between \$40,001.00-\$60,000.00, and \$1,500.00 for eligible employees earning over \$60,000.00. Regular Part-Time, Temporary Full-Time, and Temporary Part-Time Employees will be awarded Premium Pay at 50% of the amount shown above, depending on their earnings tier.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-115-128

**Community Supervision and Corrections Department
Second Premium Pay**

Funding Amount

\$6,024.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

4: Premium Pay

Expenditure Category

4.1 Public Sector Employees

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Head Start Premium Pay Program authorizes Premium Pay to regular full-time, regular part-time, temporary full-time, and temporary part-time employees who were hired in-person on or before August 1, 2021. The purpose of the program is to provide pay to eligible employees who have been, and continue to be, relied on to maintain the operations of essential, critical infrastructure sectors, including those who are crucial to protecting the health and wellbeing of their communities; employees teleworking from a residence are not eligible to receive Premium Pay. Premium Pay has been awarded at a rate of



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\$13.00 per hour in addition to wages or remuneration the worker otherwise receives and in an aggregate amount not to exceed the tiered amount below: Premium Pay should not exceed the tiered amounts of \$2,500.00 for eligible employees earning up to \$40,000.00, \$2,000.00 for eligible employees earning between \$40,001.00-\$60,000.00, and \$1,500.00 for eligible employees earning over \$60,000.00. Regular Part-Time, Temporary Full-Time, and Temporary Part-Time Employees will be awarded Premium Pay at 50% of the amount shown above, depending on their earnings tier.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Water, Sewer and Broadband Infrastructure

ARPA-21-123-009

Precinct 3 Glasscock Rd. Mile 4 to Mile 5 Stormwater Project

Funding Amount

\$800,000.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

The stormwater improvements will assist in addressing and improving stormwater infrastructure systems to Glasscock Road in the City of Alton. The improvements will be made along Glasscock Road, just south of Mile 5 to Mile 4 (Lark Ave), which will consist of a pipe network with inlet improvements. During the rainy season, Glasscock Road is affected by inadequate stormwater systems, which causes erosion to the roads and flooding.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-122-017

Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Stormwater Management Project

Funding Amount

\$226,298.25 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6 Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

"The Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Stormwater Management Project will help manage, reduce, and recapture rural



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stormwater. According to the final rule guidelines, investments in projects that improve stormwater infrastructure systems are eligible expenses using ARPA Relief Funds. The project will address issues that arise during the rainy season, in which the area is affected by flooding, the spread of waterborne diseases, and the erosion of the roads. The Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Stormwater Management Project will create efficient stormwater system services that directly translate into a healthier community by providing clean water and avoiding potential environmental disasters. These basic needs are critical to the health and ability to work of vulnerable communities."

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-123-028

Hidalgo County Precinct 3 Farm to Market Rd. 2221 (FM 2221) Stormwater Project

Funding Amount

\$1,805,293.23

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Precinct 3 FM2221 Stormwater Project, located between Jara Chinas Road and El Pinto Road, is in need of sewer repair and subsurface drainage water due to damages caused by inclement weather. The FM2221 Stormwater project will prevent the road from flooding and ensure that access to connected roads is safe. In this way, residents are able to transit to receive access to essential services, including access to health care services.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-121-044

Precinct 1 Mercedes Gate Structure Stormwater Project

Funding Amount

\$1,840,322.77

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Mercedes Gate Structure Stormwater Project will reduce stormwater for the area south



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of Business 83 and west of S. Capisallo Road. The Mercedes Gate Structure consists of regrading approximately 4,000 L.F of the ditch, adding an additional box culvert at 14th St., and adding a third outfall that consists of box culvert and gate structure that will cross under the USIBWC Levee and discharge into the USIBWC Floodway. Efficient sewage services directly translate into a healthier community by providing clean water and avoiding potential environmental disasters. These basic needs are critical to the health and ability to work and learn of low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-121-045

Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Inline Check Valves Stormwater Project

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Inline Check Valves Stormwater Project improvements will assist in addressing and improving the backflow for flooding problems in low-lying areas. Efficient sewage services directly translate into a healthier community by providing clean water and avoiding potential environmental disasters. These basic needs are critical to the health and ability to work and learn of low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-124-047

Hidalgo County Precinct 4 Tex-Mex Rd Stormwater Project

Funding Amount

\$439,483.40 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Precinct 4 Tex-Mex Rd Stormwater Project will manage and reduce stormwater for the project area. The project is located along Tex-Mex Road from Tower Road to the Schunior Drain. Project consists of a pipe network with inlets Improvements and roadside grading from Tower



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Road due east along Tex-Mex Road with an ultimate outfall into the Schunior Drain system. Inlets will be placed throughout the project limits along with roadside grading to manage stormwater during and after rain events.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-124-048

Hidalgo County Precinct 4 Terry Road Stormwater Project

Funding Amount

\$1,993,806.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Precinct 4 Terry Road Stormwater Project will manage and reduce stormwater for the project area. The project is located along Terry Road from Rogers Road to the North Branch Drain. Project consists of a pipe network with inlets improvements, roadside grading, swale grading, road crossings and ditch improvements of the North Branch Drain system which serves as the ultimate outfall for this project. Inlets will be placed throughout the project limits along with roadside grading, roadway crossings, swale gradings and drainage ditch widening to manage stormwater during and after rain events.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-124-049

Hidalgo County Precinct 4 Mile 17 Rd Stormwater Project

Funding Amount

\$593,838.39 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Precinct 4 Mile 17 Rd Stormwater Project will manage and reduce stormwater for the project area. The project is located along Mile 17 and Terry Road from Alamo Road to the North Branch Drain. Project consists of a pipe network with inlets improvements and roadside grading from Alamo Road due east along Mile 17 Road with an ultimate outfall into the North Branch Drain system. Inlets will be placed throughout the project limits along with roadside grading to manage stormwater during and after rain events.



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Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-124-050

Hidalgo County Precinct 4 Encore Ranches Stormwater Project

Funding Amount

\$278,262.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

The Encore Ranches Stormwater project will manage and reduce stormwater for the northeast corner of Curry and 83rd Road. Project consists of a pipe network with inlets improvements and swale grading with an ultimate outfall into the Tex-Mex/Schunior Drain system. Inlets will be placed throughout the project limits along with swale grading to manage stormwater during and after rain events.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-22-124-051

Hidalgo County Precinct 4 Mile 17 & 83rd Stormwater Project

Funding Amount

\$385,291.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

The Mile 17 and 83rd Stormwater project will manage and reduce stormwater for the project area. The project is located along Mile 17 and 83rd Road from Humphrey Road to the North Branch Drain and Schunior Drain. Project consists of a pipe network with inlets improvements and roadside grading from Mile 17 and 83rd with an ultimate outfall into the North Branch Drain and Schunior Drain system. The pipe network will also be proposed along San Francisco, Santa Elena and San Santiago Streets. Inlets will be placed throughout the project limits along with roadside grading to manage stormwater during and after rain events.

Use of Evidence

N/A



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ARPA-22-124-064	Hidalgo County Precinct 4 Rio Grande Care Road Stormwater Project
Funding Amount	\$197,504.95 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	5: Infrastructure
Expenditure Category	5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater
Project Description	Hidalgo County Precinct 4 Rio Grande Care Road Stormwater Project will manage and reduce stormwater for the project area by constructing a 2-ft deep swale/berm along with a pipe network and grate inlets just north of Monte Cristo Rd. and East of Rio Grande Care Rd. This project will intercept the stormwater that flows in an easterly direction and divert it north to the J-09-00 Drain Ditch. The project will also include the regrading of the roadside ditches along Rio Grande Care Rd. From Monte Cristo to the J-09-00 Drain Ditch to provide positive drainage.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-22-124-065	Hidalgo County Precinct 4 Colonia Tejana Stormwater Project
Funding Amount	\$645,719.00 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	5: Infrastructure
Expenditure Category	5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater
Project Description	The Hidalgo County Precinct 4 Colonia Tejana Stormwater Project will reduce stormwater for the 83rd to 87th St. subdivision. The project is located on the southside of SH 107 and North of Tex Mex Rd. between S. 83rd St. and S. 87th St. This project consists of a pipe network with inlets improvements and swale grading that will tie into an existing 60-in High-Performance Polypropylene (HPP) that runs along 87th St.
Use of Evidence	N/A



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ARPA-22-200-076	Hidalgo County Wi-Fi Project
Funding Amount	\$4,529,642.23
Expenditure Category Group	5. Infrastructure
Expenditure Category	5.21 Broadband: Other projects
Project Description	In response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the purpose of the Hidalgo County Wi-Fi Project is to increase connectivity to assist citizens with distance learning while seeking to improve technological improvements as well as telework capability. In an effort to comply with COVID-19 health and safety guidelines, this project will work with County functions to continue an established lease with the Radio Tower, leasing spaces to serve the community, replace damaged or weather wi-fi poles, provide technical support and by mounting equipment of Wi-Fi connectivity in order to effectively and efficiently assist citizens. This project will provide the minimum level of service which will include but not limit to, maintain a level of service that will meet applicable health-based standards and establish or improve broadband service to unserved or underserved populations that were impacted by COVID-19 public health emergency.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-22-110-092	Remote Wireless Broadband Initiative
Funding Amount	\$119,901.89 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	5: Infrastructure
Expenditure Category	5.19: Broadband: “Last Mile” projects
Project Description	This “Last Mile” initiative transfers data from middle mile infrastructure to community end-users. The project will consist of a Network Rapid Deployment Unit that can be positioned at remote locations to provide broadband connectivity. This initiative can provide short or long term public wireless access, and provide reliable mobile communications during emergency responses. Project will be administered through the Office of Emergency Management for county-wide use as applicable. The Expected timeline for project completion will be 6 to 12 months, based on any supply line issues for equipment.



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Use of Evidence	N/A
ARPA-22-124-094	Hidalgo County Precinct 4 Bentsen Road Stormwater Project
Funding Amount	\$484,838.59 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	5: Infrastructure
Expenditure Category	5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater
Project Description	The Bentsen Road Stormwater Project will manage and reduce stormwater for the project area. The project is located approximately ¼ mile south of Highway 107 and will include roadside ditch widening along with a stormwater network with an ultimate outfall into HCDD1 West Main Drain II. Inlets will be placed throughout the project limits along with roadside ditch grading to manage stormwater during and after rain events. Bentsen Road Stormwater Project will provide improvement to the quality of life and reduce flooding in the area.
Use of Evidence	N/A
ARPA-22-124-095	Hidalgo County Precinct 4 North Main Drain III Phase I Stormwater Project
Funding Amount	\$1,891,887.71 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	5: Infrastructure
Expenditure Category	5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater
Project Description	The North Main Drain III Phase I Storm Water Project will manage and reduce stormwater for the project area. The project is located 1/4 east of McColl Road. The project commences at Mile 17 1/2 and ends approximately 2000 feet north of Monte Cristo Road. The project will widen the North Main Drain III to manage and reduce flooding in the area, and provide improvement to the quality of life.
Use of Evidence	N/A



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ARPA-22-124-096	Hidalgo County Precinct 4 North Main Drain III Phase II Stormwater Project
Funding Amount	\$3,343,398.12 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	5: Infrastructure
Expenditure Category	5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater
Project Description	The North Main Drain III Phase II Storm Water Project will manage and reduce stormwater for the project area. The project is located 1/4 East of Jackson Road. The project commences at approximately 2000 feet North of Monte Cristo Road and ends at approximately 6000 feet of Monte Cristo Road. The project will widen the North Main Drain III to manage and reduce flooding in the area, and provide improvement to the quality of life.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-22-124-097	Hidalgo County Precinct 4 Hoehn Stormwater Project
Funding Amount	\$714,519.89 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	5: Infrastructure
Expenditure Category	5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater
Project Description	The Hoehn Stormwater Project will manage and reduce stormwater for the project area. The project is located at the southeast corner of Monte Cristo Road and Hoehn Road. The project consists of a pipe network with inlet improvements and roadside ditch grading with an ultimate outfall into the J-08 Drain system. Inlets will be placed throughout the project limits along with roadside ditch grading to manage stormwater during and after rain events. The Hoehn Stormwater Project will provide improvement to quality of life and reduce flooding in the area.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-22-122-109	Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Las Milpas Road Stormwater Management Project
Funding Amount	\$2,599,166.50



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Expenditure Category Group	5: Infrastructure
Expenditure Category	5.6 Clean Water: Stormwater
Project Description	The Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Las Milpas Rd. Stormwater Project Management Project will enhance stormwater infrastructure to address any health disparities that may have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency. This project will take place on Las Milpas Rd. between 10th St and McColl Rd. to manage, reduce, and recapture rural stormwater. The expanding infrastructure to equip systems to effectively prevent flooding in areas with low foundation levels. This project will control nonpoint sources of pollution and prove the resilience of infrastructure to severe weather events and protect water bodies from pollution.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-22-123-134	Hidalgo County Precinct 3 Mayberry to Glasscock Road Stormwater Project
Funding Amount	\$1,165,432.46
Expenditure Category Group	5: Infrastructure
Expenditure Category	5.6 Clean Water: Stormwater
Project Description	The stormwater improvements will assist in addressing and improving stormwater infrastructure from Glasscock Rd. to Mayberry Rd. on Mile 7 1/2. The project will be in collaboration with the Drainage District, the City of Mcallen, and Hidalgo County Precinct 3. The project will address the inadequate stormwater systems that cause flooding, the spread of diseases, and eroded roads during the rainy season thereby increasing community quality of life.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-23-124-346	Hidalgo County Precinct 4 J-01 Stormwater Management Project
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Funding Amount	\$1,518,075.23
Expenditure Category Group	5: Infrastructure
Expenditure Category	5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater
Project Description	The J-01 Stormwater Management Project manages stormwater flows by providing additional stormwater capacity to the existing drainage system and creating a new drainage outfall to the North Main Drain II. The project intercepts stormwater from the Vista Bonita Drain located at N. Kenyon Rd and Ingle Road. The stormwater flow is carried within the ditch in an easterly then southerly direction, eventually outfalling into the North Main Drain II. This work not only includes ditch widening, but also a new ditch will be excavated and culvert crossings will be improved at Benito Ramirez Rd, Ramseyer Rd, and Davis Rd. The project will address the inadequate stormwater systems that cause flooding, the spread of diseases, and eroded roads during the rainy season thereby increasing community quality of life.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-24-110-361

Assistance to the City of Weslaco - Airport Stormwater Improvements

Funding Amount	\$750,000.00
Expenditure Category Group	5: Infrastructure
Expenditure Category	5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater
Project Description	The area located at 1909 Joe Stephens Ave., Weslaco, TX, 78599, was impacted by the 2018 flood specifically blocking access to Joe Stephens and Airport Drive which hindered emergency operations. The airport was the base for vaccines, medical resources, sanitizing supplies and transport for medical personnel during the COVID-19 public health emergency and continues to provide similar services. The City of Weslaco is requesting assistance to address stormwater deficiencies and improve stormwater infrastructure. This project will address the inadequate stormwater systems that cause flooding, the spread of diseases, and eroded roads during the rainy season



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thereby increasing community quality of life in response to the negative impacts of COVID-19.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-24-121-365

Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Assistance to the City of La Villa - Stormwater Improvements

Funding Amount

\$150,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

The City of La Villa is in the process of improvements to its Wastewater Treatment Plant, located at the intersection of FM 491 and Mile 17 North, La Villa, TX, 78562, and is requesting assistance with drying beds. Drying beds are an essential component in the wastewater treatment process, utilized for dewatering and mineralizing sludge. The design and operation of drying beds require careful consideration to achieve optimal performance and efficiency. Ensuring the proper functioning of these beds will also address health and safety concerns by mitigating environmental impacts. Hidalgo County Precinct 1 aims to assist the City of La Villa with stormwater improvements to increase capacity of the existing drainage system. The project will address the inadequate stormwater systems that cause flooding, the spread of diseases, and eroded roads during the rainy season thereby increasing community quality of life.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-24-121-367

Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Assistance to the City of Mercedes - Water Well Project

Funding Amount

\$150,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.13: Drinking Water: Source



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Project Description

The provision of safe water and functioning waste management play key roles in preventing and combating disease outbreaks such as COVID-19. Good water quality and pressure are needed for effective hygiene measures, lowering pathogen, microbes, harmful bacteria transmission, other household uses and to assist with fire suppression, specifically in rural, unserved areas. The City of Mercedes, 400 S. Ohio Ave, Mercedes, TX, 78570, located in a low-to-moderate income area, provides potable water services for a portion of Hidalgo County Precinct 1 residents. Due to prolonged drought conditions affecting the Rio Grande River and the wider region, the City of Mercedes is in the process of developing an alternative water source to mitigate water insecurity. This Water Well Project will not only assist the City of Mercedes but the Rio Grande Valley with providing a safe, reliable and sustainable water source. Hidalgo County Precinct 1 intends to assist the City of Mercedes to actualize this project to be located at 520 E. 2nd St, Mercedes, TX, 78570. This includes but is not limited to professional services and other provisions necessary for potable water. These provisions will provide long term sustainable levels of essential services, accounting for climate and other expected demands on the source of water, thereby increasing community quality of life for constituents, businesses and other consumers in the affected areas.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-24-121-368

Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Assistance to the City of Elsa - Stormwater Improvements

Funding Amount

\$142,979.49 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

Currently, the City of Elsa is in the process of addressing critical drainage issues with the existing drainage system at the entrance of North Fannin Street, which is located in a low to moderate income area. The City of Elsa is requesting assistance



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with stormwater management to repair infrastructure damage. This work not only includes valley gutter widening, but will also regrade and overlay the street area apron in order to ensure proper drainage is available to city residents. Hidalgo County Precinct 1 aims to assist the City of Elsa as this project will address the inadequate stormwater systems that cause flooding, the spread of diseases, and eroded roads during the rainy season thereby increasing community quality of life.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Revenue Replacement

ARPA-21-115-002

Hidalgo County Debris Removal Project

Funding Amount

\$604,839.68 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Debris Removal project will allocate ARPA Relief Funds for debris removal expenditures as it is necessary to maintain clean, safe, and sanitary roadways and public spaces. Through this project, the County of Hidalgo will lawfully dispose of large volumes of disaster-generated debris from a large area in a timely and cost-effective manner. The services include assembling, directing, and managing a workforce that can successfully complete the debris removal and disposal operations according to all applicable rules and regulations.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-115-003

Countywide Roadway Assessment Project

Funding Amount

\$1,660,128.92 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The proposed project would consist of roadway inventory,



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roadway maintenance, and capitalization study. In addition, a roadway assessment report is needed to be in compliance with GASB reporting standards.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-125-015

McColl Building Retrofits

Funding Amount

\$1,047,276.76

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The McColl Building Retrofits project consists of facility improvements to the Hidalgo County Administration Building to be in compliance with health guidelines throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency. This will include both interior and exterior modifications included but not limited to additions for social distancing and exterior improvements to lock out moisture and corrosive chemicals and help with insulation. Features such as these will provide a safe and sustainable building and will enable employees to continue performing essential services.

To comply with COVID-19 health and safety guidelines, the recent acquisition of the McColl Building located at 505 S. McColl Road, Edinburg, TX 78539, requires additional renovations to be in compliance with health and safety guidelines outlined by the CDC and ARPA requirements. Retrofits include, but are not limited to, adequate space to adhere to social distancing guidelines to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

As per the State and local Fiscal Recovery Funds Interim Final Rule, Government services can include, but are not limited to, maintenance or pay-go funding building.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-200-030

Public Wi-Fi Pole Replacement

Funding Amount

\$6,983.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services



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Project Description

This project would consist of a Wi-Fi pole replacement for Precinct 2. The purpose of this project is to increase connectivity to assist citizens with distance learning while seeking to improve technological improvements as well as telework capability. In an effort to comply with COVID-19 health and safety guidelines, the pole replacement will work with County functions and mount equipment of Wi-Fi connectivity in order to effectively and efficiently assist citizens. This project will provide the minimum level of service which will include but not limit to, maintain a level of service that will meet applicable health-based standards and establish or improve broadband service to unserved or underserved populations that were impacted by COVID-19 public health emergency.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-21-125-038

Precinct 3 Debris Removal

Funding Amount

\$253,550.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The Precinct 3 Debris Removal project will allocate funds to purchase equipment necessary for debris removal. The equipment that will be purchased are a grapple vehicle and three waste containers. The project will consist of debris clean-up efforts to maintain clean and sanitary roadways and public spaces. Precinct 3 debris removal expenditures are consistent with Hidalgo County's intended purpose of developing and maintaining clean roadways.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-23-125-332

Facilities Management Building Retrofit Project

Funding Amount

\$1,305,014.63

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement



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Expenditure Category	6.1 Provision of Government Services
Project Description	The facilities management retrofit project consists of improvements to the new location for the Hidalgo County Facilities Management Building to be in compliance with the health guidelines throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency. This will include, but is not limited to, interior and exterior improvements, furniture, fixtures and equipment and other necessary expenses to ensure employee health and safety in the workplace. These provisions will provide a safe and sustainable building and will enable employees to continue performing essential services related to maintenance infrastructure of all county-owned buildings. To comply with the COVID-19 health and safety guidelines, the recent acquisition of the Hidalgo County Facilities Management Building, located at 1920 Industrial Drive, Edinburg, TX, 78542, requires additional renovations to be in compliance with health and safety guidelines outlined by the CDC and ARPA requirements. Retrofits include, but are not limited to, adequate space to adhere to social distancing guidelines to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-23-280-333	Hidalgo County Adult Detention Facility Overtime Project
Funding Amount	\$415,385.40 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	6: Revenue Replacement
Expenditure Category	6.1 Provision of Government Services
Project Description	The Hidalgo County Adult Detention Facility Overtime Project will allocate ARPA Relief Funds to compensate for overtime hours directly related to maintaining a fully operational Hidalgo County Adult Detention Facility. Throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency, personnel shortages at the detention center have placed a strain on employees, therefore, in order to remain in compliance with Texas Jail Standards, overtime pay will be available to the following positions: Detention Officer, Sr. Detention Office (Corporal), and Detention Sergeant. The goal is to alleviate shift assignment burdens and



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retain employees as they continue to provide essential services during the public health emergency.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-23-125-334

Hidalgo County Property Insurance Coverage

Funding Amount

\$613,905.20 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1 Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Property Insurance Coverage Project will include various county owned buildings that have been acquired and/or improved through retrofitting, renovation, and other improvements. This provision will protect critical infrastructure in the event of unforeseen circumstances and serve as a financial safeguard for property damages, losses and replacements in accordance with risk management. The acquisition of property insurance is in alignment with the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §200.310 - Insurance Coverage will provide the equivalent insurance coverage for real property and equipment acquired or imported with Federal Funds as provided to property owned by the non-Federal entity.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-23-115-335

Assistance for Hidalgo County Fire Response Services

Funding Amount

\$252,682.00 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1 Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The Assistance for Hidalgo County Fire Response Services project will allocate ARPA Relief Funds for fire call related expenditures incurred from surrounding cities as Hidalgo County does not operate a fire station and requires the assistance from the bordering cities to answer calls for the period of receipt of alarm to return to station. Through this project, the cities will provide the necessary services to maintain quick response to emergency, rescue, false alarms and fires throughout Hidalgo County and continue to provide



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assistance to the residents and ensure the safety of the community.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-23-115-336

Assistance for Hidalgo County Repairs and Maintenance Services

Funding Amount

\$497,060.05 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1 Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The Assistance for Hidalgo County Repairs and Maintenance Services project will allocate ARPA Relief Funds for the repairs and maintenance expenditures of law enforcement equipment which are crucial in maintaining code standards for utilization. These provisions will provide safe and sustainable repairs and maintenance which will enable employees to continue performing essential services to continue the response capabilities to our community.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-23-115-337

Assistance for Hidalgo County Solid Waste Disposal Services

Funding Amount

\$464,056.29 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1 Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The Assistance for Hidalgo County Solid Waste Disposal project will allocate ARPA Relief Funds for solid waste collection and disposal transfer expenditures to the Edinburg Landfill as it is necessary to maintain clean, safe, and sanitary spaces. Through this project, Hidalgo County will lawfully dispose of large volumes of solid waste from the Hidalgo County Collection Stations, which are located countywide, to the Edinburg Landfill. The service includes the purchase of containers and the transportation of solid waste disposal operations according to all applicable rules and regulations.

Use of Evidence

N/A



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ARPA-23-115-338	Assistance for Hidalgo County Fuel Related Services
Funding Amount	\$790,904.69 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	6: Revenue Replacement
Expenditure Category	6.1 Provision of Government Services
Project Description	The Assistance for Hidalgo County Fuel Related Services project will allocate ARPA Relief Funds for countywide fuel related expenditures. This project will allow for supplying and managing all necessary fuel– gasoline/diesel for the countywide vehicles to continue day-to-day operations which will enable employees to continue performing essential services and response capabilities to our community.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-23-115-340	Assistance for Hidalgo County Ambulance Response Services
Funding Amount	\$2,301,814.03 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	6: Revenue Replacement
Expenditure Category	6.1: Provision of Government Services
Project Description	The escalating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic affected and increased the demand for ambulance response services in Hidalgo County, specifically in unincorporated areas and the adult detention facility, which have made it difficult to provide emergency medical services. In response, affected Hidalgo County precincts and the adult detention facility have made first response emergency medical providers available in unincorporated areas and the adult detention facility to ensure the effective delivery of emergency health care services. To continue providing these critical services, Hidalgo County will implement the Assistance for Hidalgo County Ambulance Response Services project which will include the provision of ambulance response and related-services in Hidalgo County to serve its most vulnerable residents in unincorporated areas, the adult detention facility and other areas as needed to ensure access to emergency medical services.



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Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-23-115-341

Hidalgo County Public Facilities Survey and Maintenance Services

Funding Amount

\$216,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic affected public facilities, services and safety, making it essential to create and implement mitigation and prevention tactics to limit the spread of COVID-19. Prioritizing health and safety, Hidalgo County took immediate action to ensure that county-owned buildings and facilities were surveyed and that potential problem areas were addressed to meet the diverse needs of both residents and employees. To continue these efforts, Hidalgo County will implement the Hidalgo County Public Facilities Survey and Maintenance Services project, which includes but is not limited to assessment and maintenance services for buildings, recreational facilities, parks, equipment and other necessary provisions to improve the serviceability of infrastructure. These provisions will provide safe and sustainable buildings and facilities which will enable employees to continue performing essential services for Hidalgo County residents.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-23-115-342

Hidalgo County Mail Services

Funding Amount

\$248,373.94 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The rapidly escalating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic affected local government making it more difficult for government agencies to provide essential services and to execute the delivery of these services. Mail services were not an exception. To mitigate these effects, Hidalgo County will implement the Hidalgo County Mail Services Project for the Hidalgo County District Clerk Office and the Hidalgo County Tax Office in order to continue mail communications with



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Hidalgo County residents. This project will include but is not limited to mail outs and other mail-related services that will promote an efficient use of mailstream to continue conducting business and communication with employees and constituents alike. Effective government systems will permit employees to continue performing essential services for the county and be responsive to the needs of the community.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-23-115-343

Hidalgo County Juvenile Detention Center Retrofits

Funding Amount

\$737,065.20 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic affected air quality and ventilation conditions as well as other health and safety systems, escalating the importance of creating and implementing mitigation and prevention tactics to limit its spread, especially in congregate settings. The Hidalgo County Juvenile Detention Center, located at 1001 North Doolittle PO Box 267, Edinburg, TX, 78540, is in need of COVID-19 retrofits to enhance current facility systems that will improve building performance for the occupants, employees and families. To mitigate the effects of COVID-19, Hidalgo County will implement the Hidalgo County Juvenile Detention Center Retrofits Project, to address COVID-19 health and safety concerns which include but are not limited to inspection, testing and enhancement of current Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems and equipment, video surveillance systems, and other facility-related provisions to improve air quality and day-to-day operations permitting the continuation of essential services for the county and be responsive to the needs of the occupants, families and employees.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-23-115-347

Hidalgo County Substance Abuse Treatment Facility (SATF) Retrofit Project

Funding Amount

\$735,094.33 Completed



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Expenditure Category Group	6: Revenue Replacement
Expenditure Category	6.1: Provision of Government Services
Project Description	The Hidalgo County Substance Abuse Treatment Facility Retrofit project consists of modifications and improvements to be in compliance with the health guidelines throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency. This will include, but is not limited to, interior and exterior improvements, furniture, fixtures and equipment and other necessary expenses to ensure employee, public, and resident health and safety in the facility. Amid COVID-19, these provisions will provide a safe and sustainable building and will enable employees to guide and develop residents throughout the necessary treatment programs. To comply with the COVID-19 health and safety guidelines, the Hidalgo County Substance Abuse Treatment Facility, located at 1000 N M Rd, Edinburg, TX, 78542, requires additional renovations to be in compliance with health and safety guidelines outlined by the CDC and ARPA requirements. Retrofits include, but are not limited to, adequate space to adhere to social distancing guidelines to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.
Use of Evidence	N/A

ARPA-24-110-370

Hidalgo County Emergency Services Preparedness Equipment

Funding Amount	\$26,802.00 Completed
Expenditure Category Group	6: Revenue Replacement
Expenditure Category	6.1: Provision of Government Services
Project Description	Pursuant to Section 381.004 (b) of the Texas Local Government Code, Hidalgo County established the Hidalgo County Emergency Services Program which was approved by the Commissioner's Court as Agenda Item 88792 on December 13, 2022. The Hidalgo County Emergency Services Program shall be focused on providing services and assisting residents and businesses in Hidalgo County.



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Hidalgo County has been on a continuous response mode for the COVID-19 pandemic since March 2020. Although it may seem that the worst of the COVID-19 crisis has passed, it is imperative for preventative measures to be taken in order to be prepared for future global disasters. The COVID-19 pandemic has proven how its effects overwhelmed the capacity of the healthcare system. In those situations, both communication and transportation were disrupted. When it becomes necessary to mobilize emergency resources to disaster sites because rescue work is in progress and the health and safety of the community are threatened, specific procedures must be followed in order to prevent further spread of deadly, contagious diseases such as COVID-19. The provision and management of mass decedents proved difficult as hospital morgues reached full capacity. Therefore, it is important that action be taken in order to ensure the County is properly equipped for the safe, respectful storage and handling of decedents. Hidalgo County intends to meet surge capacity by ensuring adequate emergency preparedness equipment is at hand to meet increased numbers of sick and injured and implement core public health activities due to continuous and substantial utilization. The acquisition of emergency preparedness equipment such as refrigerated units and other necessary provisions will assist in fatality management and will provide the County with measures to address vital community based surge capacity. Such equipment will supplement the public health and the health care facility response.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-24-115-373

Hidalgo County El Milagro Clinic II

Funding Amount

\$75,698.83

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The Hidalgo County El Milagro Clinic II project consists of modifications and improvements to be in compliance with the health guidelines throughout the COVID-19 public health



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emergency for this county owned building. This includes but is not limited to foundation repairs and other necessary expenses to address foundation leveling and prevent further structural issues and insure employee, public, and resident health and safety in the facilities. Amid COVID-19, these provisions will provide a safe and sustainable building for continuity of primary care services to Hidalgo County residents. El Milagro Clinic is located at 901 Vermont Ave E, McAllen, TX, 78503.

To comply with the COVID-19 health and safety guidelines, this Hidalgo County building requires additional renovations to be in compliance with health and safety guidelines outlined by the CDC and ARPA requirements to mitigate COVID-19.

Use of Evidence

N/A

ARPA-24-115-380

Hidalgo County Supplies and Equipment

Funding Amount

\$235,171.74 Completed

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The rapidly escalating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic affected local government making it more difficult for government agencies to provide essential services and to execute the delivery of these services. Elections and Payroll were not an exception. To mitigate these effects, Hidalgo County will implement the Hidalgo County Supplies and Equipment Project for the Hidalgo County Elections and Treasurer's Offices to continue providing services for Hidalgo County residents and employees. This project will include but is not limited to supplies and equipment necessary to implement the elections process, payroll and other related services that will align with digital voting equipment and provide an efficient and effective method to continue conducting operations with employees and constituents alike. Effective government systems will permit employees to continue performing essential services for the county and be responsive to the needs of the community.

Use of Evidence

N/A



Hidalgo County • Department of Budget & Management

American Rescue Plan Act 2025

Administrative

ARPA-22-115-079	American Rescue Plan Act: Administrative Costs
Funding Amount	\$3,432,830.97
Expenditure Category Group	7: Administrative
Expenditure Category	7.1 Administrative Expenses
Project Description	The American Rescue Plan Act: Administrative Costs project is intended to provide resources, tools, supplies, and grant distribution (salaries) to employees solely working on the COVID-19 public health emergency. These resources are intended for the use of the Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Division to complete day-to-day tasks, project management, planning, development, implementation of programs, compliance with program policies and procedures, statutes, and rules in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
Use of Evidence	N/A