

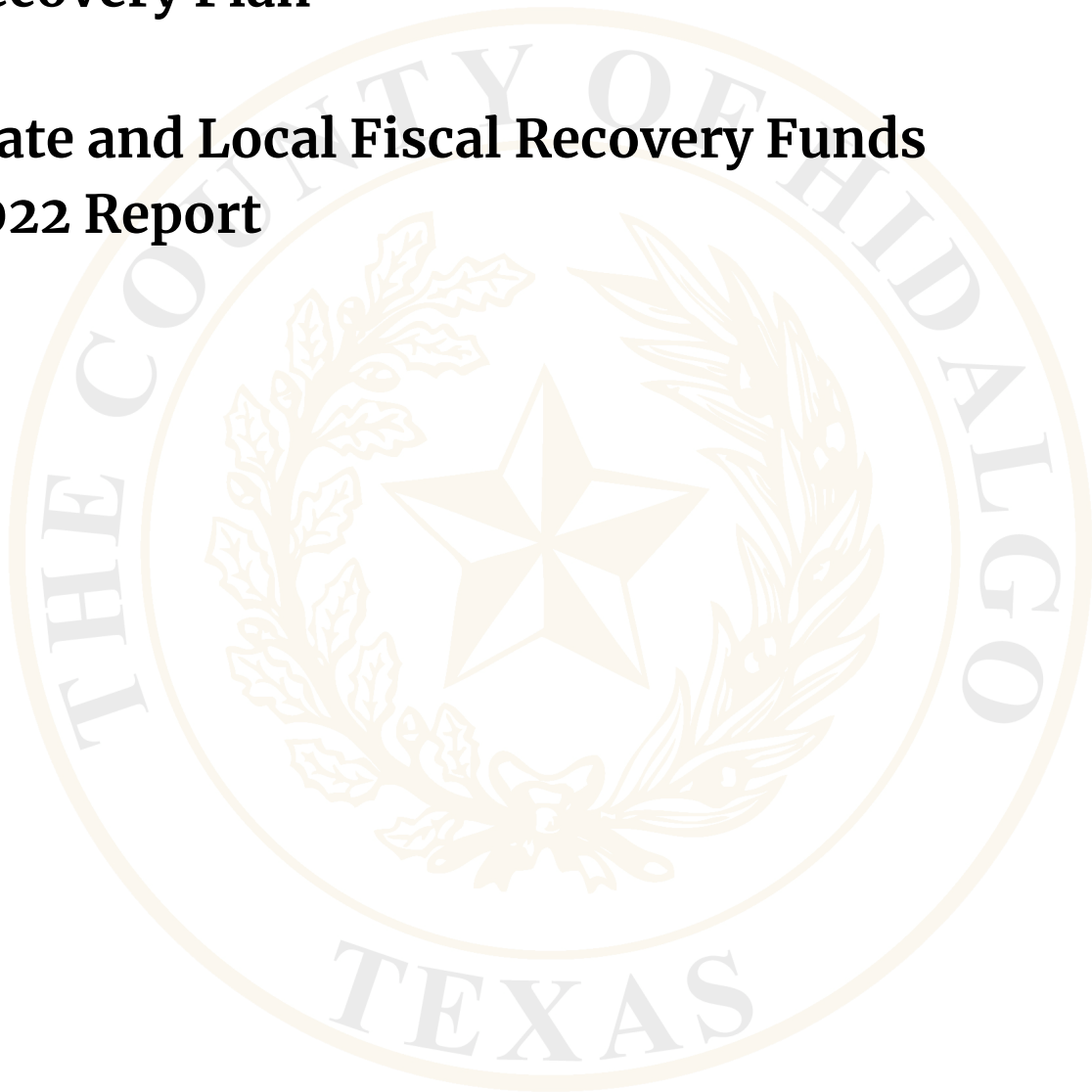


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# **Hidalgo County Recovery Plan**

## **State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds 2022 Report**





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## **General Overview**

### **Executive Summary**

After receiving the first installment of its Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) program allocation, Hidalgo County began its strategic development plan to expeditiously respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The program, 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 (ARPA) Program has strategically operated to expend funds in compliance with the CSLFRF 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.

Last year, the County launched efforts to improve its public health system and invest in its community through 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 are nearing the end of their respective preliminary phases.



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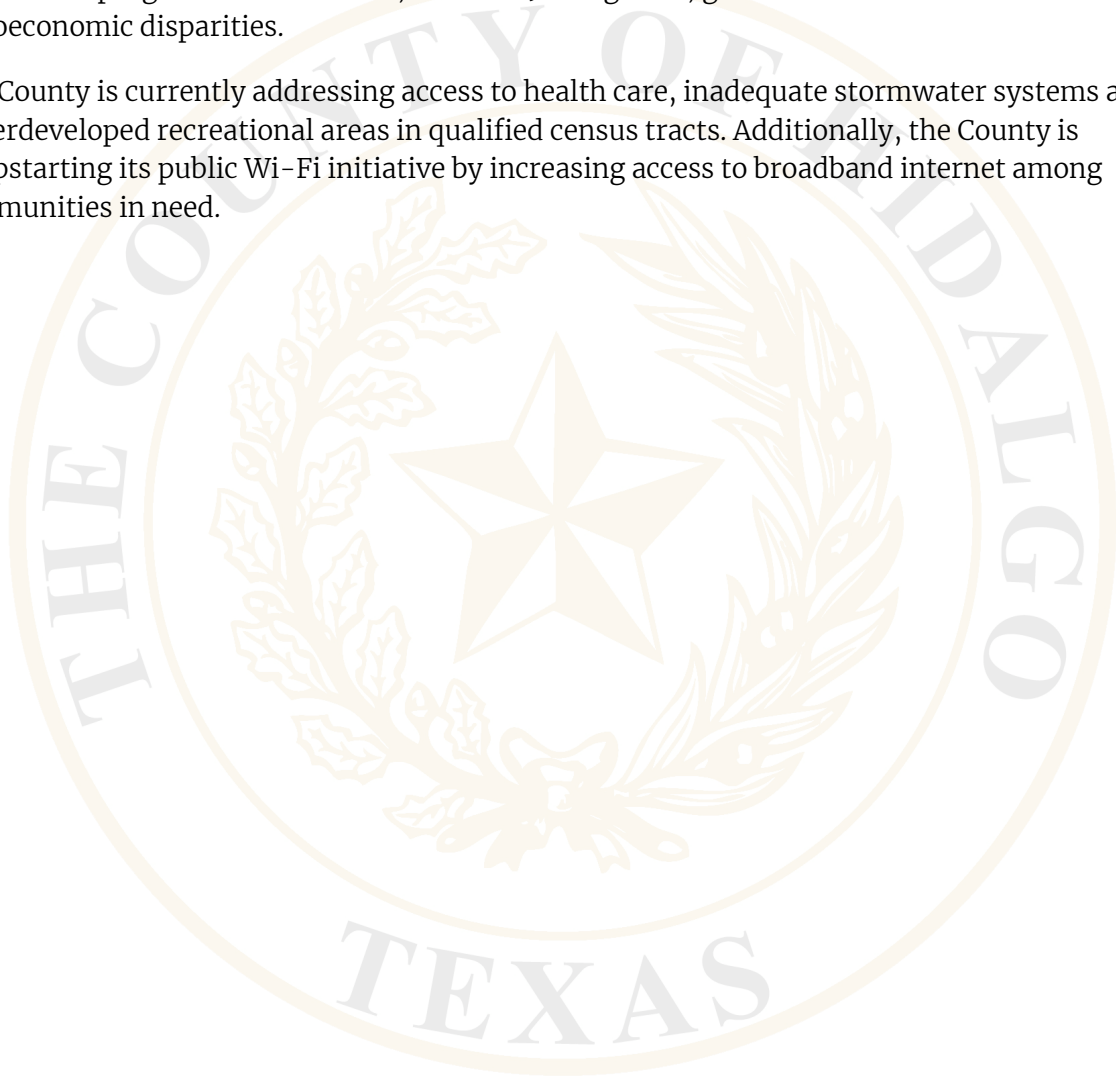
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### Uses of Funds

In November 2020, the Hidalgo County ARPA Program presented the preliminary allocation plan to Commissioners Court (AI-43461) to delineate the County's plan to expend funds received from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) program to Hidalgo County constituents. The preliminary allocation plan outlined four distinct focuses for the CSLFRF program: Public health, COVID-19 mitigation, government services and socioeconomic disparities.

The County is currently addressing access to health care, inadequate stormwater systems and underdeveloped recreational areas in qualified census tracts. Additionally, the County is jumpstarting its public Wi-Fi initiative by increasing access to broadband internet among communities in need.





***Public Health (Expenditure Category 1)***

In 2021, 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. Currently, the County is no longer utilizing a mobile unit for COVID-19 operations. The County is continuing to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, especially in jails by transferring inmates to other facilities in order to alleviate overcrowding. Recently, the County has reinforced COVID-19 prevention efforts in the Hidalgo County Adult Detention Center by hiring five additional medical assistants. The medical assistants provide crucial medical services to inmates in the event of a COVID-19 infection or other illness. Moreover, the County has retrofitted the new Hidalgo County Courthouse with COVID-19 prevention equipment and enhancements, including antimicrobial heating, ventilation along with cooling systems and hands-free functionalities in restrooms and congregate areas.

Last year, the County outlined measures to increase access to health care in indigent communities, including improvements to Hidalgo County Health Department clinics and assistance to nonprofit clinics. The County Health Department clinics that are receiving assistance via the CSLFRF program are the Hidalgo Clinic and Mission (Schuerbach) Clinic. Both projects remain in preliminary development. The County is also still in the preliminary stages of reopening a defunct clinic located in Precinct 3. Beyond improvements to clinics, funds will also be granted to nursing schools for instructor retention incentives in order to increase the number of graduating nurses in Hidalgo County.

The County is also enhancing its emergency response capabilities by investing in emergency response equipment to administer services during peak operating periods, such as COVID-19 case surges. The ability to timely and aptly respond to emergencies is an essential aspect of government services. Additionally, Hidalgo County has acquired a vehicle outfitted with pre-hospital medical equipment intended for medical services to homebound individuals, the elderly and populations with disabilities. Services will primarily focus on communities that have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Finally, the County is also obtaining a patching system to improve communication response efforts and collaboration with radio communication among County emergency responders.

Furthermore, the County is planning to extend CSLFRF to provide a future emergency management facility with the necessary equipment, means and retrofits to operate under emergency situations. Hidalgo County is funding a deputy emergency management coordinator position to provide and implement emergency preparedness, coordinate training programs and emergency operations that will prepare the county for best outcomes during emergency situations and an overtime program, which remunerates employees who are directly responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

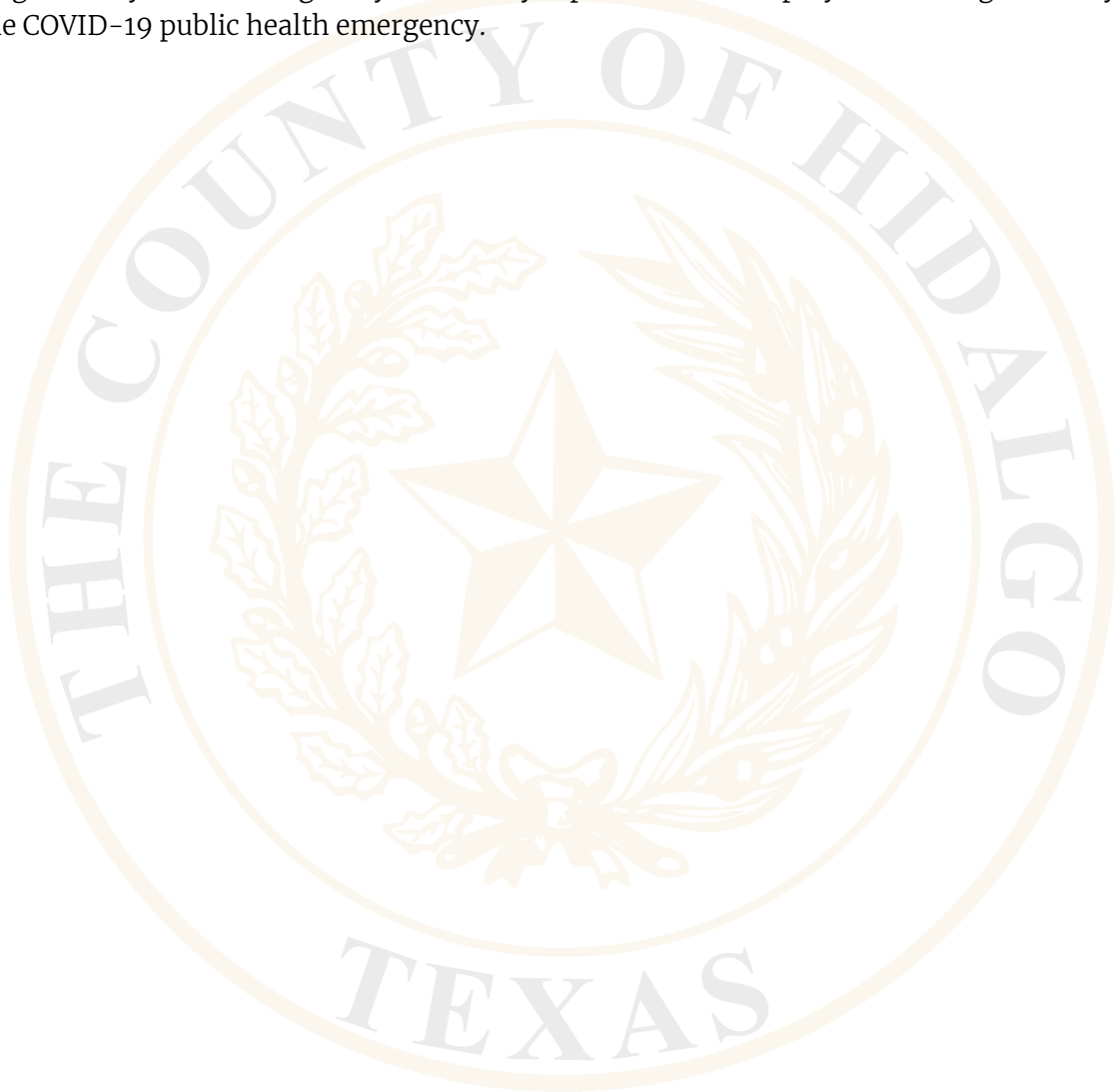


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The Hidalgo County Health Department has undertaken an initiative to electronically store COVID-19-related documentation, such as vaccination and testing records. The County procured software to assist in this initiative and employed a team to scan and enter the documents into the new system. The Health Department has adapted to COVID-19 era precautions by acquiring software to enhance cybersecurity for employees working remotely. Hidalgo County is enhancing its cybersecurity capabilities for employees working remotely due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.





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#### ***Negative Economic Impacts (Expenditure Category 2)***

The COVID-19 public health emergency severely damaged Hidalgo County's local economy and disproportionately impacted populations. In order to foster a resilient and equitable economic recovery, Hidalgo County is addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on vulnerable populations. Measures taken to assist those who suffered the worst of the pandemic align with the County's goal of promoting equity among communities.

The County assisted a struggling emergency services (EMS) provider by contributing a portion of its CSLFRF allocation. Although the EMS provider experienced the negative economic impacts of the pandemic, it continued to service County residents. The assistance provided to the EMS provider will allow it to continue to provide lifesaving services to residents, especially those living in unincorporated areas of Hidalgo County.

In response to the collective grief endured by students in Hidalgo County schools due to COVID-19, the County is partnering with school districts to create programs that promote wellness and mindfulness among low-income and disadvantaged students.

In addition to providing mental health services to the County's youth, the County is also promoting wellness among children by assisting two nonprofit organizations. The assistance will allow the nonprofits to continue providing educational and behavioral health services to children in Qualified Census Tracts. Investments in the behavioral health and education of the County's youth are critical in their emotional and physical development.

Families across the County have endured the indiscriminate and harsh negative economic impacts of the pandemic. The County plans to provide small repairs and rehabilitation housing assistance to a nonprofit organization that services low-income individuals and families experiencing homelessness in *colonias*, residential areas along the Texas-Mexico border that may lack basic living necessities such as, potable water, septic or sewer systems, electricity, paved roads or safe and sanitary housing. Individuals and families in *colonias* are in need of support, and the program will bring much needed improvements to homes in unincorporated areas of the County.





***Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (Expenditure Category 3)***

The COVID-19 public health emergency has collectively impaired the psyches of Americans. Pandemic-related stress has exacerbated behavioral health difficulties, depression, anxiety and substance use. In response, parks along with hike and bike trails have become platforms for exercise and mental relief. The County is utilizing funds to enhance and/or improve amenities that will promote healthier living environments by allowing accessibility to safe and socially distanced recreational areas in disproportionately impacted communities to improve the mental and physical well-being of residents.

Various parks in disproportionately impacted areas within Precinct 3 continue to be identified. Meanwhile, J.R. "Milo" Ponce Park, located in Precinct 4, is nearing the end of its preliminary development stage. The park will replace existing playground amenities with modern, more inclusive equipment for children aged 2 to 12 years and measures will be taken to improve accessibility. The County rescinded the action to improve and fund Precinct 4's Pueblo de Palmas Park due to other funds being allocated and appropriated to this project.

Substantial developments will be made to Lopezville Park in Precinct 2. The proposed improvements include soccer fields, inclusive playscapes, basketball courts, tennis courts, walking trails and a fishing pond, all of which will improve social determinants of health in, near and around the park.

Moreover, significant investments will be made in hike and bike trails located within Precincts 1 and 2. The developments made in the trails are a part of the County's goal of improving the mental health of the County by addressing social determinants of health in disproportionately impacted communities. The ARPA Program's goal is to reimagine public spaces and create access for constituents to discover hidden gems within Hidalgo County. Precinct 2 trails will be extended to connect to trails in the Cities of Hidalgo, McAllen and Mission. Meanwhile, a new trail will be developed in the Mid-Valley area of Precinct 1. The Precinct 1 trail will travel through the Cities of Alamo, Donna, Mercedes, Pharr and Weslaco.

Hidalgo County intends to construct a community resource center alongside a health clinic. The community resource center will improve the well-being of disproportionately impacted communities through educational services, child care and access to assistance and support services to meet the needs of the constituents.

To specifically address the disproportionate impacts of the pandemic, the County will create two positions. The first position will assess the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic which will allow the County to deliver more intentional and targeted services to constituents. The second position, Community Navigator, is designed to reduce barriers that underrepresented and underserved individuals face in accessing programs. The navigator will



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locate and access COVID-19-related community resources, develop relationships that promote community inclusion and equip persons with disabilities with the necessary means to navigate the ongoing public health emergency.





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#### ***Premium Pay (Expenditure Category 4)***

In 2021, Hidalgo County authorized premium pay programs for County, Community Service Agency and Drainage District 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 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 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.

All three programs are complete for the year 2021.

In 2022, Hidalgo County authorized a second set of premium pay programs for County, Community Service Agency, Head Start and Hidalgo County Drainage District regular full-time, regular part-time, temporary full-time and temporary part-time employees who were hired in person on or before June 1, 2022.





### ***Infrastructure (Expenditure Category 5)***

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 fecal matter. All in all, the streets, avenues and main roads of Hidalgo County are affected by the collapsed drains. The flooding caused by inadequate stormwater systems damages homes, harms constituents, destroys property, spreads disease and erodes roads. To address the health and equity in the County, the ARPA Program is launching a dedicated effort to provide efficient stormwater management.

The County plans to address health inequities by investing in wastewater and stormwater infrastructure in the following areas:

- Precinct 1 Mercedes Gate Structure
- Precinct 1 Inline Check Valves
- Precinct 1 Delta Region
- Precinct 2 Stormwater System Management
- Precinct 3 Tierra Dorada Boulevard
- Precinct 3 Glasscock Road Miles 4 to 5
- Precinct 3 Farm to Market Road 2221
- Precinct 3 Harvest Time Road
- Precinct 3 Jessica Drive and Ashley Way to Goodwin Road
- Precinct 3 Tierra Linda Boulevard Drain
- Precinct 4 Tex-Mex Road
- Precinct 4 Terry Road
- Precinct 4 Mile 17 Road
- Precinct 4 Encore Ranches (Northeast corner of Curry and 83rd Street)
- Precinct 4 Mile 17 & 83rd Street
- Precinct 4 Rio Grande Care Road
- Precinct 4 Colonia Tejana (Southside of S.H. 107 and North of Tex Mex Rd. between S. 83rd St. and S. 87th St)
- Precinct 4 Bentsen Road
- Precinct 4 North Main Drain III
  - Phase 1
  - Phase 2
- Precinct 4 Hoehn Road and Southeast Monte Cristo Road



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Hidalgo County will continue its Wi-Fi accessibility initiative via the ARPA Program. In response to the increased need for stable Wi-Fi access due to challenges brought by the COVID-19 public health emergency, the Hidalgo County ARPA Program has made dedicated efforts to increase Wi-Fi accessibility through last-mile projects and replacing and/or restoring County Wi-Fi poles.





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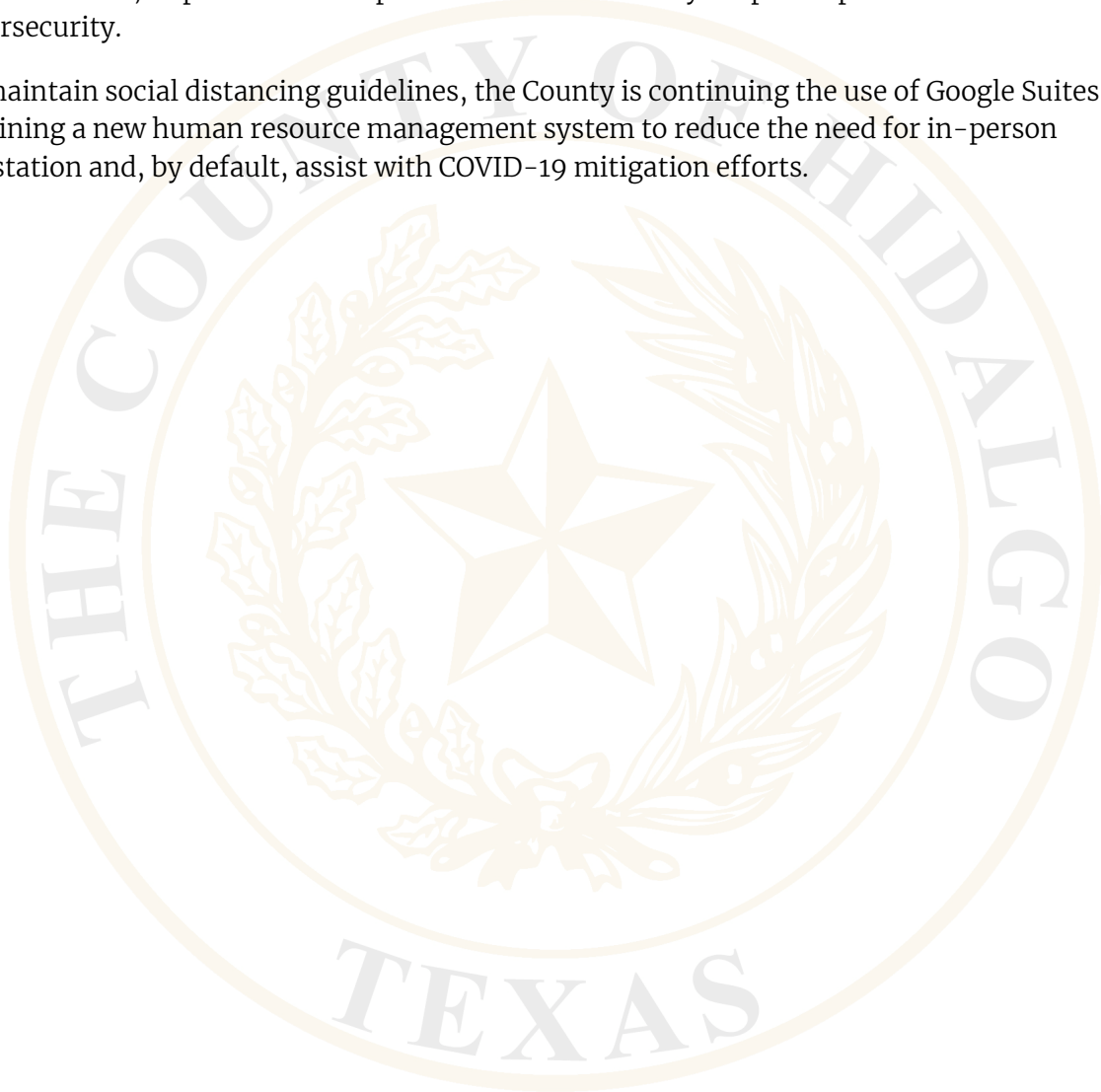
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### ***Provision of Government Services (Expenditure Category 6)***

In order to facilitate and expedite government services, Hidalgo County invested in retrofits for County equipment and facilities. The County also ensured that essential government services and emergency operations continued through the ongoing public health emergency, including debris removal, improvements to public Wi-Fi accessibility via pole replacements and County cybersecurity.

To maintain social distancing guidelines, the County is continuing the use of Google Suites and obtaining a new human resource management system to reduce the need for in-person attestation and, by default, assist with COVID-19 mitigation efforts.





## **Promoting Equitable Outcomes**

### **Goals**

Hidalgo County's recovery efforts are developed to provide access, opportunity and outreach to all. Key principles that are taken into consideration are race, class, age, and gender. All the aforementioned factors have played a role in the experiences of impacted and disproportionately impacted communities. The majority, Latino population, located in disproportionately impacted areas had their historical inequities exacerbated.

In accordance with the federal government's Executive Order 13985, which focuses on advancing equity to underserved communities, Hidalgo County has taken a dedicated approach toward the equitable use of CSLFRF. The Hidalgo County ARPA Program is devoted to addressing socioeconomic inequities across all races and classes. Efforts are not focused on providing the same services among all constituents; rather, projects will yield resources and opportunities to leverage outcomes experienced by groups that do not experience the same socioeconomic disparities, such as lack of access to recreational spaces, broadband internet and serviceable stormwater management systems.

In sum, equity goals outlined by the Hidalgo County ARPA Program serve to bridge long-standing gaps in government services. Hidalgo County established an equity framework to facilitate its goal of promoting equity.

In response, equity focused initiatives that provide mental health services, COVID-19-related care and general health care are set to be based in Qualified Census Tracts. Households in Qualified Census Tracts are designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as areas in which must have 50% of its households with incomes below 60% of the area median gross income. The County's direct assistance to underserved populations addresses equity by increasing accessibility to basic government services.

### **Awareness**

Hidalgo County has launched a centralized and systemic communications effort for all CSLFRF projects. To gain perspective on community needs, several outreach strategies are in place for data collection. First, our website contains an intake survey where respondents may provide qualitative data; the survey has also been disseminated via social media. The survey is open to individuals, households, small businesses, non profit organizations and other entities. Second, the County has also engaged with local radio and television stations to reach individuals that may not have internet access. Lastly, our residents may access our contact information (Email and phone) on our website to inquire on program services and eligibility.



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#### ***Access and Distribution***

Populations in Hidalgo County face significant barriers in accessing government services and communication. According to the U.S. Census Bureau almost 30% of the population does not have access to broadband internet, and the federal government's Education & Labor Committee reports a 50% literacy rate. As projects reach milestones, the Hidalgo County ARPA Program has circulated information on the County's social media channels and website. The ARPA Program also has an email listing in which subscribers receive CSLFRF news electronically. Information is communicated in English and Spanish and accommodations are available upon request. As previously stated, constituents may contact the Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Program via Email or phone to inquire on program services and eligibility.

#### ***Outcome***

The County intends to bridge gaps in government services by centralizing projects in areas of greatest need and prioritizing services that optimize support and resources. Stormwater system improvement projects are at the forefront of the County's initiatives to alleviate the effects of stormwater and improve public health outcomes. Equity will be measured at different points based on completed projects and the social determinants of health. Currently, no projects have been completed.





## **Community Engagement**

Hidalgo County is devoted to engaging the community in its effort to recover from the COVID-19 public health emergency and its negative impacts. Last year, 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 and is continuing to allow submissions.

At this time, survey respondents rate 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 plans to implement projects that respond to the aforementioned socioeconomic inadequacies. The forthcoming projects not only address socioeconomic disparities, but also promote equitable outcomes among residents.

Hidalgo County is investing in capital expenditures in three County clinics to increase access to public health care: the El Paraiso and Mission Clinics in Precinct 3 and the Hidalgo Clinic in Precinct 2. The improvements to the clinics will promote equitability and increase residents' access to vital health services amid the COVID-19 public health emergency. In addition, the County is also providing assistance to nonprofit clinics that aid indigent populations.

Wi-Fi and broadband access have become vital to working and learning amid the COVID-19 public health emergency. In response to the County's lack of serviceable broadband internet connection, the ARPA Program is preparing a slew of projects that directly increase broadband access in areas that need it most. Projects include replacements of County Wi-Fi service poles and efforts to improve Wi-Fi in last mile areas.

Moreover, constituents reached out to County Precinct Commissioners for assistance with stormwater initiatives due to the county's problematic flooding history. Approximately 60% of CSLFRF funding will be utilized to improve social determinants in order to improve health outcomes.

By leveraging inadequacies in health, broadband and stormwater infrastructure, Hidalgo County residents will access resources and opportunities to encourage neighborhood socialization, improve economic health by increasing property values and increased community quality of life.



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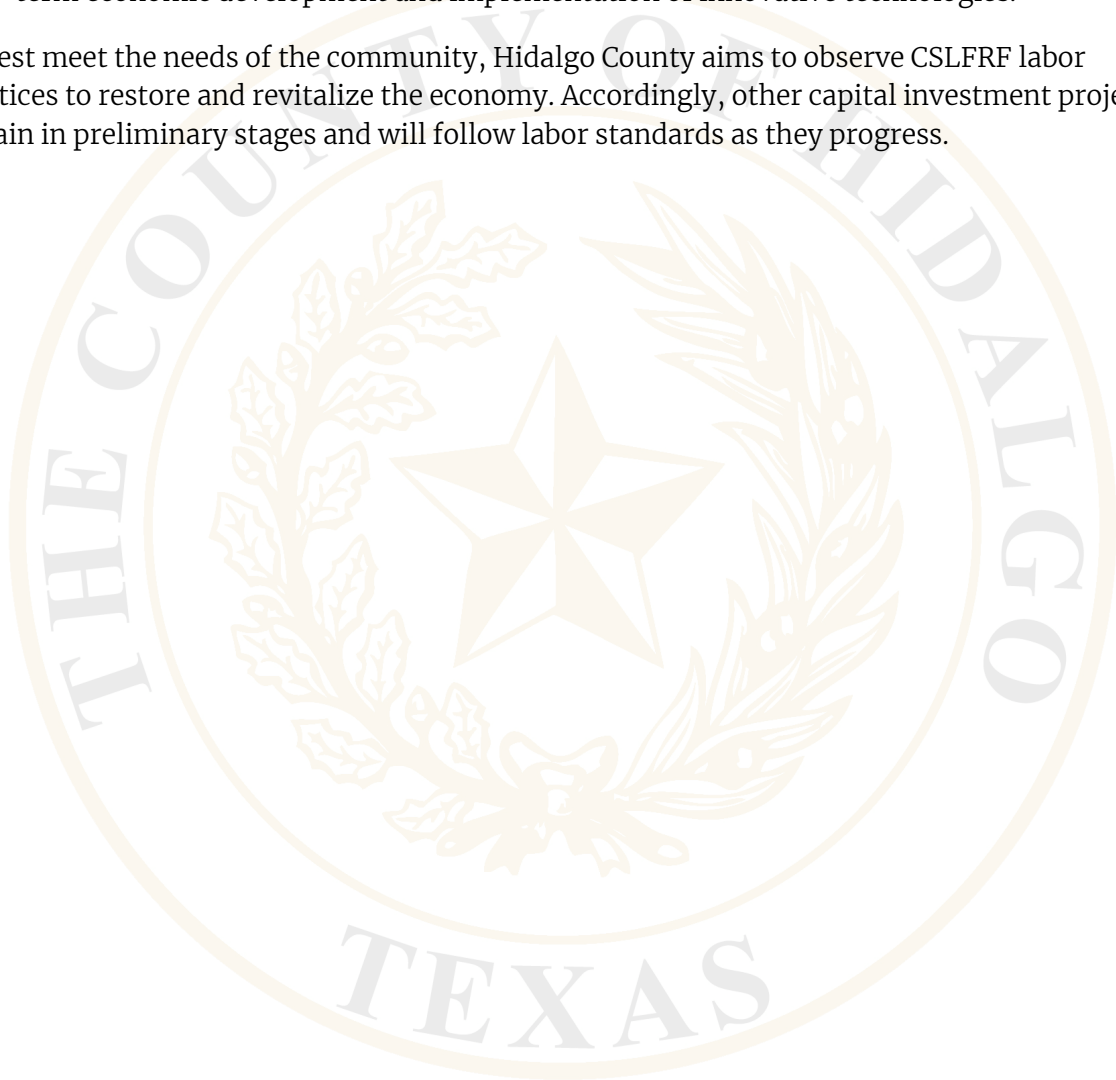
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### Labor Practices

The Hidalgo County Drainage District No. 1 proactively manages the Hidalgo County Master Drainage System and allows for the efficient exportation of stormwater, to protect life and property for Hidalgo County residents, businesses and surrounding jurisdictions. It is befitting that they assist the county with the significant majority of stormwater projects to enhance long-term economic development and implementation of innovative technologies.

To best meet the needs of the community, Hidalgo County aims to observe CSLFRF labor practices to restore and revitalize the economy. Accordingly, other capital investment projects remain in preliminary stages and will follow labor standards as they progress.





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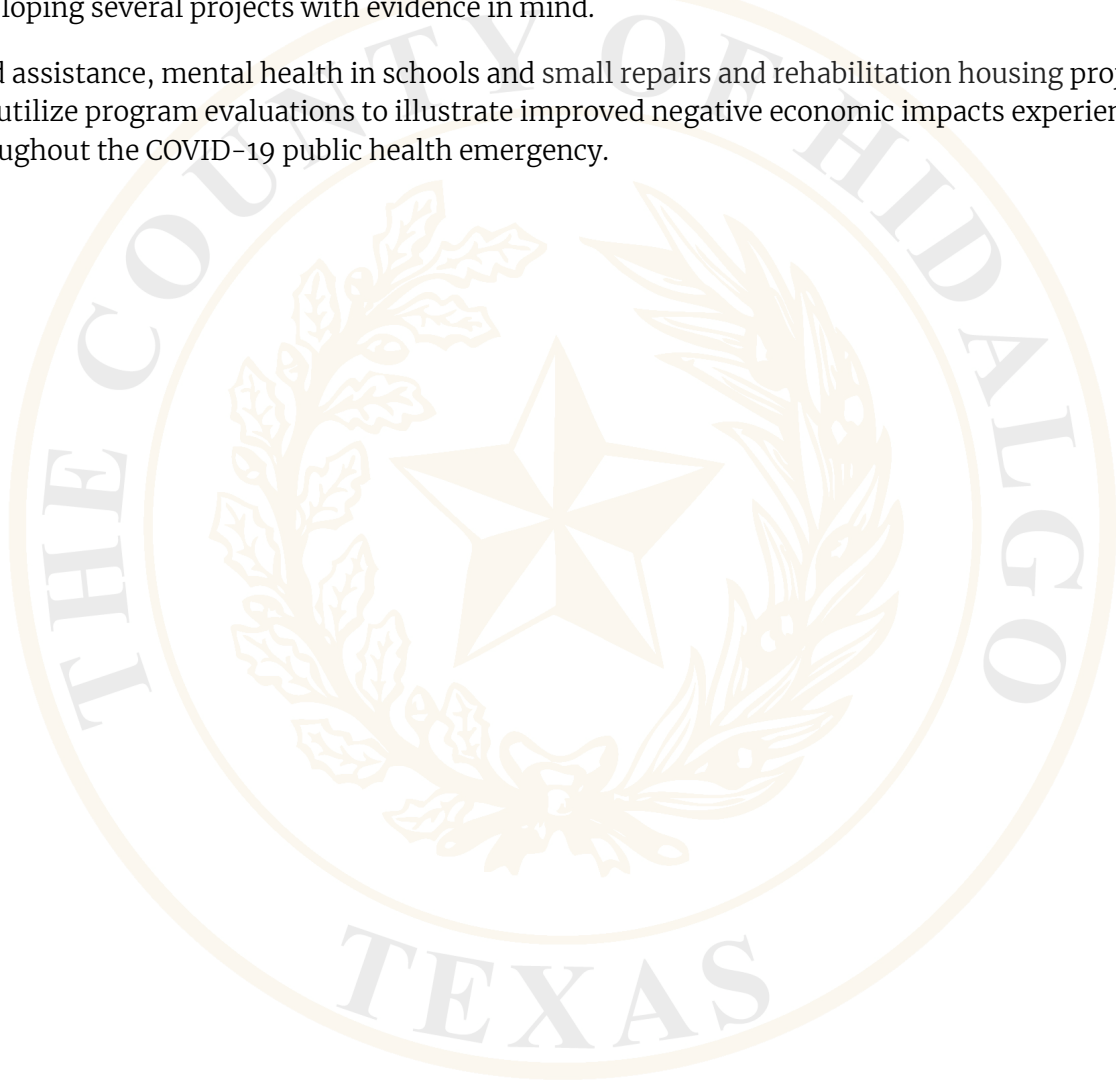
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### Use of Evidence

As Hidalgo County begins to implement projects to mitigate COVID -19 effects on individuals, households, communities, small business, non-profits and impacted industries, use of evidence will be incorporated in the projects with no additional use of funds being utilized to produce data. In its effort to deliver equitable, effective and evidence-based projects, Hidalgo County is developing several projects with evidence in mind.

Food assistance, mental health in schools and small repairs and rehabilitation housing projects will utilize program evaluations to illustrate improved negative economic impacts experienced throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency.

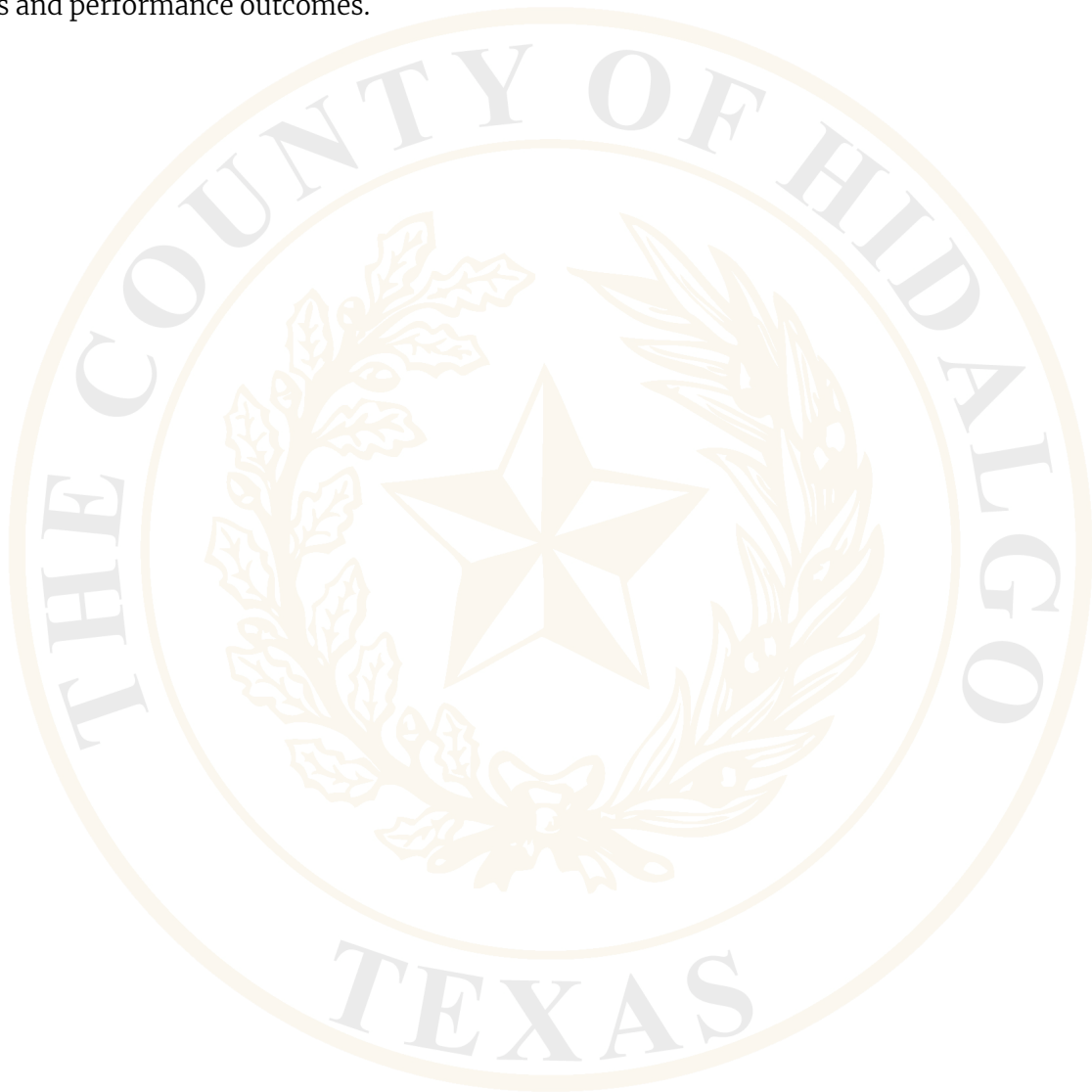






## **Performance Report**

As Performance data is linked to project implementation, operation and completion, such milestones have not been reached. As projects are completed, data gathering and analysis will be conducted. Measurement results will be provided to reflect key performance indicators, goals and performance outcomes.





**Project Inventory**

**Public Health**

<b>ARPA-22-340-054</b>	<b>Vaccination Healthcare Staffing Services</b>
Funding Amount	\$371, 987.83
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.1: COVID-19 Vaccination
Project Description	The Vaccination Healthcare Staffing Services project will create temporary healthcare jobs in order to aid in the County of Hidalgo's vaccination efforts. The services will provide Hidalgo County with the necessary human capital to conduct vaccinations countywide. Temporary staff will administer the services to allow Hidalgo County to continue its mission of mitigating the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.
Use of Evidence	N/A

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<b>ARPA-22-340-055</b>	<b>Hidalgo County COVID-19 Vaccination Supplies</b>
Funding Amount	\$1,500,000.00
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.1: COVID-19 Vaccination
Project Description	The COVID-19 Vaccination Supplies project will provide the necessary provisions for the County of Hidalgo to continue its vaccination efforts. Essential supplies include, but are not limited to, syringes, medication, and medical supplies which are crucial when administering the COVID-19 vaccine. According to the Coronavirus State and



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Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Interim Final Rule, expenses related to COVID-19 vaccination programs and sites, are eligible expenditures in the response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The project will allow Hidalgo County to continue its efforts in the mitigation of COVID-19.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-22-340-052**

**Hidalgo County COVID-19 Testing Efforts**

Funding Amount

\$2,000,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.2: COVID-19 Testing

Project Description

The provision of COVID-19 Testing Efforts will supply the County of Hidalgo with the necessary resources to continue COVID-19 testing. COVID-19 tests will be administered to Hidalgo County residents, including disproportionately impacted community members, to aid in the mitigation of COVID-19. The increased testing rate will allow Hidalgo County to efficiently track COVID-19 cases, update safety protocols, and mitigate the spread of the virus within the County.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-21-340-060**

**WILLSCOT Building Rental**

Funding Amount

\$14,118.18

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.4: Prevention in Congregate Settings

Project Description

The WILLSCOT building is being leased and utilized as a working space for COVID-19



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related operations. The working space provides employees a safe environment to operate and practice social distancing. Furthermore, this building is essential in Hidalgo County’s efforts to aid its underserved community. With a safe and efficient operation space Hidalgo County can continue its efforts in the mitigation of COVID-19.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-21-280-061**

**Hidalgo County Prevention of Inmate Overcrowding Efforts**

Funding Amount

\$16,000,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.4: Prevention in Congregate Settings

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Prevention of 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 has been exacerbated due to the shutdown of the judicial courts by the State of Texas due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, the County of Hidalgo has improved congregate settings in correctional facilities by transferring inmates to other facilities in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-22-340-056**

**Hidalgo County Personal Protection Equipment**

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health



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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 protection (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 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

<b>ARPA-21-340-019</b>	<b>El Paraiso Health Clinic Improvement Project</b>
Funding Amount	\$3,000,000.00
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.7: Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities That Respond to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency
Project Description	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 to the existing El Paraiso Health Clinic. 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





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Clinic plans to provide the residents of Hidalgo County access to resources that improve health outcomes. El Paraiso Health Clinic, located at 1901 N. Los Ebanos Rd., Alton, TX, 78573, is in a Qualified Census Tract area to provide services to an underserved community.

Use of Evidence

N/A

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**ARPA-21-340-020**

**Mission Health Clinic Improvement Project**

Funding Amount

\$3,000,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.7: Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities That Respond to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Project Description

The purpose of the Schuerbach Health Clinic Improvement Project is to expand health care capacity and meet community pandemic-related needs. Operational needs can be met through renovations to the existing Schuerbach Health Clinic. Furthermore, efforts to mitigate COVID-19 include COVID-19 vaccination programs, medical care, testing, and support for vulnerable populations to access medical or public health services. The Schuerbach Health Clinic will provide services, including but not limited to family planning, immunization, and wellness health. The Schuerbach Health Clinic, located at 211 S. Schuerbach Rd, Mission, Texas, 78572, will provide services to Hidalgo County residents, including the residents that have been impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Use of Evidence

N/A

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**ARPA-21-125-033**

**Hidalgo County Courthouse Pandemic Preparedness Retrofit Project**

Funding Amount

\$3,565,310.00

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.7: Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities That Respond to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

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

**ARPA-21-340-041**

**Netsmart Expansion Modules**

Funding Amount

\$166,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

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

Project Description

The Netsmart Expansion Modules includes two services, Tuberculosis and Well Child



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Form Services, that will be utilized by the Hidalgo County Health Department. The tuberculosis program will enhance documentation of screening, testing, contact tracing, and treatment of tuberculosis, which will aid in Hidalgo County tuberculosis and COVID-19 response efforts. Whereas, the well child form services will enhance the documentation of services being provided to children within the clinic including, but are not limited to COVID-19 screening, testing, and vaccine administration to help aid Hidalgo County in their COVID-19 response efforts.

Use of Evidence

N/A

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**ARPA-21-110-005**

**COVID-19 Infusion Therapy Communication Project**

Funding Amount

\$1,434.00

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.8: 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 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.





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Use of Evidence N/A

**ARPA-21-200-010**

**Adobe Sign for Enterprise - Digital Signature**

Funding Amount

\$41,890.00

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.8: 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-21-110-027**

**COVID-19 Media Campaign**

Funding Amount

\$334,445.00

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.8: 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 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



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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-21-110-016**

**Juvarre WebEOC Product Enhancement**

Funding Amount

\$14,500.00

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.8: 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 Juvarre WebEOC to streamline communication and response efforts related to the COVID-19 pandemic and other potential public health emergencies. Juvarre WebEOC is an emergency management



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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. Juvare WebEOC allows for communication with constituents and other County departments through a public facing form.

Use of Evidence

N/A

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**ARPA-21-110-012**

**Radio Communication Project**

Funding Amount

\$146,070.50

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

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

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 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



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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

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#### **ARPA-21-110-034**

#### **Assistance to South Texas College Nursing Program**

Funding Amount

\$2,000,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.12: Other Public Health Services

Project Description

The Assistance to South Texas College Nursing Program intends to respond to the public health crisis by investing in the South Texas College 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 expand class sizes. This investment will also assist in providing the necessary resources for training future nurses. Furthermore, the program has as an objective to assist local institutions in recruitment and retention of faculty and students. Assistance to South Texas College will allow the County of Hidalgo to address the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency and any future public health emergencies more effectively.

Use of Evidence

N/A

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**ARPA-21-110-032**

**Assistance to Valley Grande Institute**

Funding Amount

\$400,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.12: 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 expand class sizes. This investment will also assist in providing the necessary resources for training future nurses and assistance in COVID-19 vaccination efforts. Furthermore, this project is in alignment with the Healthcare Professionals program, which has as an objective to assist local institutions in recruitment and retention of faculty and students. Assistance to Valley Grande Institute will allow the County of Hidalgo to address the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency and any future public health emergencies more effectively.

Use of Evidence

N/A

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**ARPA-22-340-066**

**Electronic Medical Records System**

Funding Amount

\$472,038.08

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health





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Expenditure Category

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

Project Description

The Netsmart Electronic Medical Records System is a software utilized by the Hidalgo County Health Department, which provides enhanced reporting and client management capabilities for the county's COVID-19 vaccinations, testing, and other related medical activities. Through this project, the County will be able to continue to utilize various modules of the Electronic Medical Records System, including but not limited to CareConnect Immunization Connector, CareConnect Direct Secure Messaging, CareConnect Lab Orders (outbound), CareConnect Lab Results, CareConnect Inbox, Diagnosis Content on Demand, myInsight SaaS Named User, OrderConnect Non-Prescriber, OrderConnect Base Fee, OrderConnect Full Suite, ScheduleConnect, Ultimedex, and CareConnect HIE Connector (CCD Transactions). According to the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) Final Rule, investments in software, databases, and other information technology resources that support responses to the COVID-19 public health emergency are considered an enhancement of public health data systems. The EMR System is considered an enhancement of public health data systems, and it is an eligible expense under COVID-19 public health response and mitigation tactics under the CSLFRF Interim Final Rule and remains eligible under the Final Rule.

Use of Evidence

N/A



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**ARPA-22-200-043**

**Cyber Security Detection and Response**

Funding Amount

\$1,091,418.00

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.14: Other Public Health Services

Project Description

The Cybersecurity Detection and Response project would provide, as an annual license, monitoring services—Rapid7 InsightIDR + InsightVM + Detection and Response Service to the Information Technology Department, specifically the Cybersecurity team, as a Security Event Incident Management (S.E.I.M.) system to analyze the data infrastructure in the event of security breaches. 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 aforementioned software 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 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

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**ARPA-22-110-073**

**First Responder Emergency Vehicle**

Funding Amount

\$146,308.40



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Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.12 Other Public Health Services
Project Description	<p>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. According to the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Final Rule, expenses including mobile vaccination or testing programs, or on-site vaccination or testing services for homebound individuals, those in group homes, or similar settings, are considered eligible expenditures in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.</p>
Use of Evidence	N/A

<b>ARPA-22-110-078</b>	<b>Emergency Management Facility</b>
Funding Amount	\$6,700,000.00
Expenditure Category Group	1: Public Health
Expenditure Category	1.7 Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to





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#### Project Description

the COVID-19 public health emergency

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.

The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) Final Rule allows for the construction or improvements to public facilities that respond directly to COVID-19. Based on the Final Rule, construction and improvements to an Emergency Management Facility and Emergency Operations Center are eligible expenditures when the project is related and reasonably proportional to the public health impact of the pandemic. Therefore, the Coronavirus CSLFRF Final Rule allows for the construction of facilities to respond to the ongoing public health emergency and any future public health emergencies more effectively.

#### Use of Evidence

N/A



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**ARPA-22-110-113**

**City of Mercedes Paramedic Initiative**

Funding Amount

\$26,450.00

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.14: Other Public Health Services^

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-21-110-032**

**Assistance to Hope Family Health Center**

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

1: Public Health

Expenditure Category

1.14: Other Public Health Services^

Project Description

The Assistance to Hope Family Health Center project is consistent with the Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Primary Medical



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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. The Hope Family Health Center will continue to provide services including, but not limited to, primary medical care, laboratory services, mental health counseling, psychotherapy, nutritional support, wellness classes, and COVID-19 vaccinations. Through this project, the HOPE Clinic will be able to continue to provide vital primary care services to disadvantaged communities and address the health disparities that the pandemic has made more evident.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-22-110-090**

**Communication Interoperability**

Funding Amount

\$62,993.91

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 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. 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



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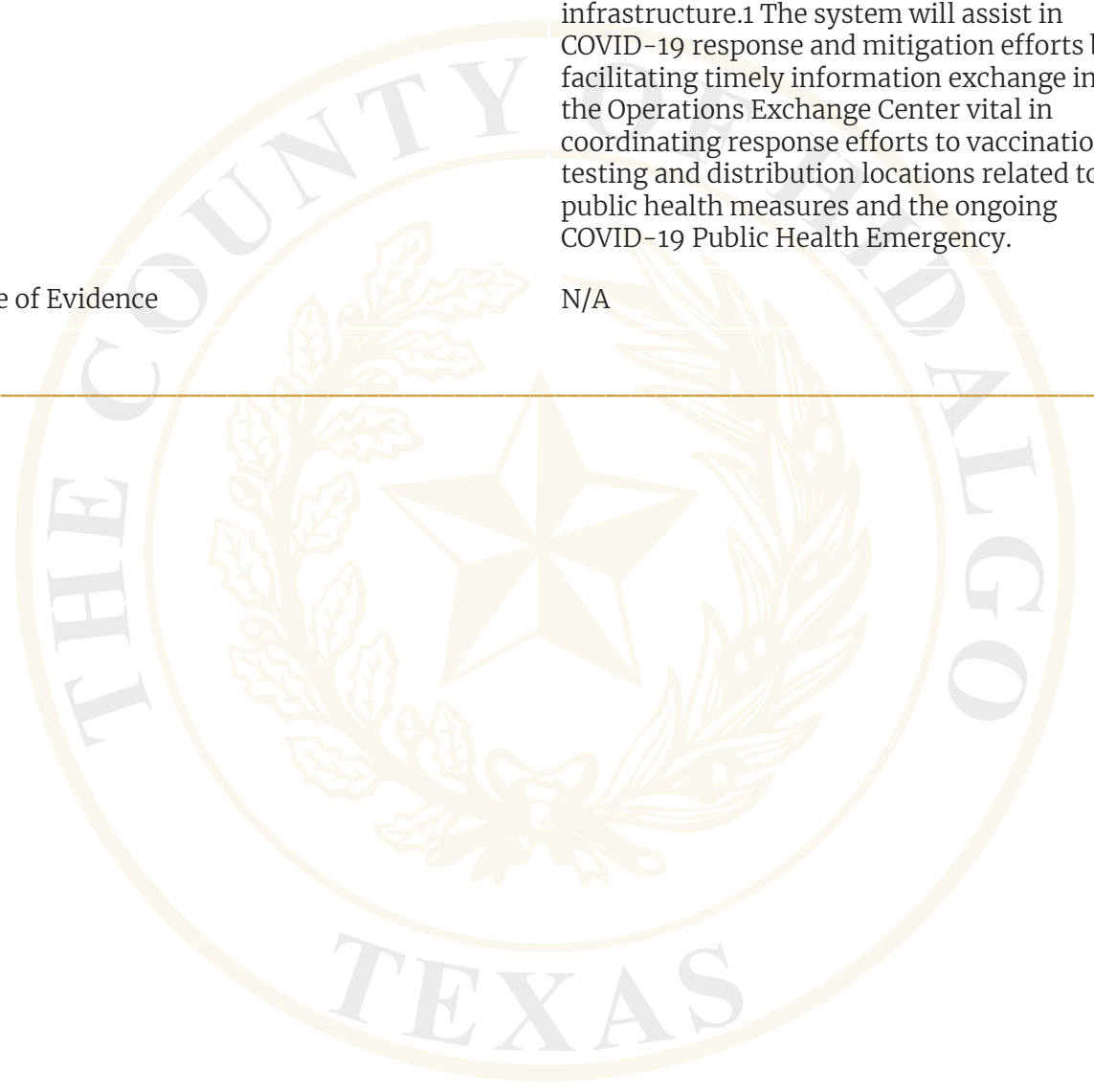
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emergency operations centers and acquisition of emergency response equipment (e.g., emergency response radio systems) and Costs of establishing public health data systems, including technology infrastructure.<sup>1</sup> The system will assist in COVID-19 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

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## Negative Economic Impacts

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### ARPA-21-110-022

### RGV Food Bank Contribution

Funding Amount

\$100,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.1: Household Assistance: Food Programs

Project Description

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. The County desires to designate ARPA funds to assist the RGV Food Bank for additional expenses incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. One objective is to provide the citizens of Hidalgo County access to food delivery services including, but not limited to, senior citizens and other vulnerable populations that have been impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency. Additionally, community factors, such as a debilitated support system, can directly impact and increase a family's likelihood of having food insecurity. Food banks are responding to the rise in food insecurity caused by the COVID-19 public health emergency. 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

The RGV Food Bank Contribution objective is to provide citizens of Hidalgo County access to food delivery services including, but not limited to, senior citizens and other vulnerable populations that have been impacted by the COVID-19 public health





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emergency. The RGV Food Bank provides food distribution services to disproportionately impacted regions in Hidalgo County, which will allow the County to address the rise in food insecurity, in particular in the Latino community.

**ARPA-21-125-039**

**MEDCARE EMS Assistance**

Funding Amount

\$375,000.00

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



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**ARPA-21-123-023**

**Hidalgo County Precinct 3 Parks  
Improvements**

Funding Amount

\$750,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Responding to Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

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

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Precinct 3 Parks Improvements Project will include the following parks: Katarina North Park, Katarina South Park, Abram Park and Pavilion, Los Ebanos Park & Pavilion, and Veterans Pavilion. Precinct 3 Park Improvements will assist in improving recreational parks and pavilions as it plays a critical role in protecting public health. This project will improve the accessibility and function of the Precinct 3 Park Improvements to constituents living in and around Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs), as they will be designed to benefit the health and wellbeing of QCT populations. Treasury's Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Interim Final Rule recognizes parks and other recreational spaces as methods of creating stronger communities, addressing social determinants of health and confronting public health disparities.

Improvements to the Hidalgo County Precinct 3 parks will allow the residents living in, near, and around the QCT areas close to the Precinct 3 parks 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.



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Use of Evidence x

**ARPA-21-121-037** **Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Hike & Bike Trail**

Funding Amount \$5,000,000.00

Expenditure Category Group 2: Responding to 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 and 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 determinants of health and confronting public health disparities.  
  
 The development of a hike and bike trail in Precinct 1 will allow the residents living in, near, and around the QCT areas 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 x

**ARPA-21-124-029** **Hidalgo County Precinct 4 J.R. “Milo” Ponce Park Improvements Project**



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Funding Amount	\$363,614.67
Expenditure Category Group	2: Responding to Negative Economic Impacts
Expenditure Category	2.22 Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety^
Project Description	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Use of Evidence	N/A

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**ARPA-22-110-085**

**La Joya Independent School District Youth Wellness Camps**

Funding Amount

\$100,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Responding to Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.26: Addressing Educational Disparities: Mental Health 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

Program Evaluation





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**ARPA-22-110-086**

**Mission Consolidated School District Youth Wellness Camps**

Funding Amount

\$60,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Responding to 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 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”.



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Use of Evidence

Program Evaluation

**ARPA-22-122-068**

**ToGive International Community Development Project**

Funding Amount

\$252,900.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Responding to 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 relieve the negative impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency on the 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



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**ARPA-22-122-069**

**Boys & Girls Club of Pharr - San Juan Project Learn**

Funding Amount

\$457,800.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Responding to 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 aims to provide a grant to the Boys & Girls Club of Pharr-San Juan's four current locations using ARPA Relief Funds. 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 health issues and the educational disparities exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency. The Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Boys & Girls Club of Pharr-San Juan Project Learn will help mitigate the negative impacts caused by the COVID-19 public health emergency on the Boys & Girls Club of Pharr-San Juan and help them develop a new program for their four locations called "Project Learn" which aims to reinforce the academic enrichment and school engagement of young people during the time they spend at the Boys & Girls Club. Through this project, the Boys & Girls Club of Pharr-San Juan will be able to continue providing evidence-based interventions for Hidalgo's communities, especially those living in, near, and around Qualified Census Tracts (QCT) areas.

Use of Evidence

N/A



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**ARPA-21-122-018**

**Boys & Girls Club Community Development Project**

Funding Amount

\$4,000,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Responding to Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

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

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Boys and Girls Club of Pharr 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 learning facilities, schools and other educational buildings or equipment as eligible capital expenditures to assist disproportionately impacted communities.

The new Boys & Girls Club facility will be located in a region where 90% of the population is Hispanic and one third of the residents are foreign born (US Census Bureau 2019). Approximately, 80% of the organization's existing population located within the QCT speak a language other than English at home.

The Boys and Girls Club of Pharr Community Development Project will improve the accessibility and function of the Boys and Girls Club to constituents living in QCT areas. The new San Juan facility will provide new, expanded, and enhanced early learning services, after school and enrichment programs, tutoring, career preparation



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programs, access to broadband, hot meals, safe recreational spaces, support for students' social, emotional, and mental health needs in a disproportionately impacted community, and mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-21-122-040**

**Precinct 2 Recreational Trails Connectivity and Development Project**

Funding Amount

\$9,600,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Responding to Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.22: Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features 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





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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-xx-xxx-xxx**

**Precinct 2 Small Repairs and Rehabilitation Housing Project**

Funding Amount

\$500,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Responding to Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

2.18: Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance\*^

Project Description

The Small Repairs and Rehabilitation Housing Program provides funds for small repairs or rehabilitation of homes for income eligible applicants. Upon inspection of the home and a determination as to the estimated cost to bring the home up to standard an evaluation will be made by a certified home inspector and the Construction Supervisor. If the cost of repairs exceeds \$20,000 or 50% of the total estimated improved value, whichever is less, then a rehabilitation grant cannot be provided and only small repairs of the most critical problem can be done. There will be



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limited funds available to do a complete reconstruction of the house on a first come first serve basis, again if funds are available. The designated project area is the area of Precinct 2 in 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,

Use of Evidence

X

**ARPA - xx - xxx - xxx**

**Precinct 2 Lopezville Park Improvements Project**

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Responding to Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

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

Project Description

Hidalgo County Precinct 2 is planning on making improvements to Lopezville Park located at 507 W. Minnesota Road, San Juan, Tx. 78589, this project will directly benefit underserved communities, and those living in, near and around QCT areas. The improvements will consist of the addition of inclusive playscapes, soccer fields, basketball courts, walking trails, and a fishing pond, making the Lopezville park a multi-purpose recreational space for all ages. The project will improve the accessibility and function of Lopezville 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. Additionally, the park will be



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expansive, allowing for safe enjoyment while maintaining social distance.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-22-123-075**

**El Paraiso Community Resource Center**

Funding Amount

\$2,000,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

2: Responding to Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category

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

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 provide access and informative educational programs to improve the well-being of the disadvantaged and most vulnerable Hidalgo County Community members during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) Final Rule recognizes the new construction of early learning facilities, schools, and other educational buildings or equipment as eligible capital expenditures to assist disproportionately impacted communities.

The Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Educational Opportunity and Readiness Program intends to address educational disparities and provide academic support to help mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency. As stated in the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) Interim Final Rule, educational services and practices would



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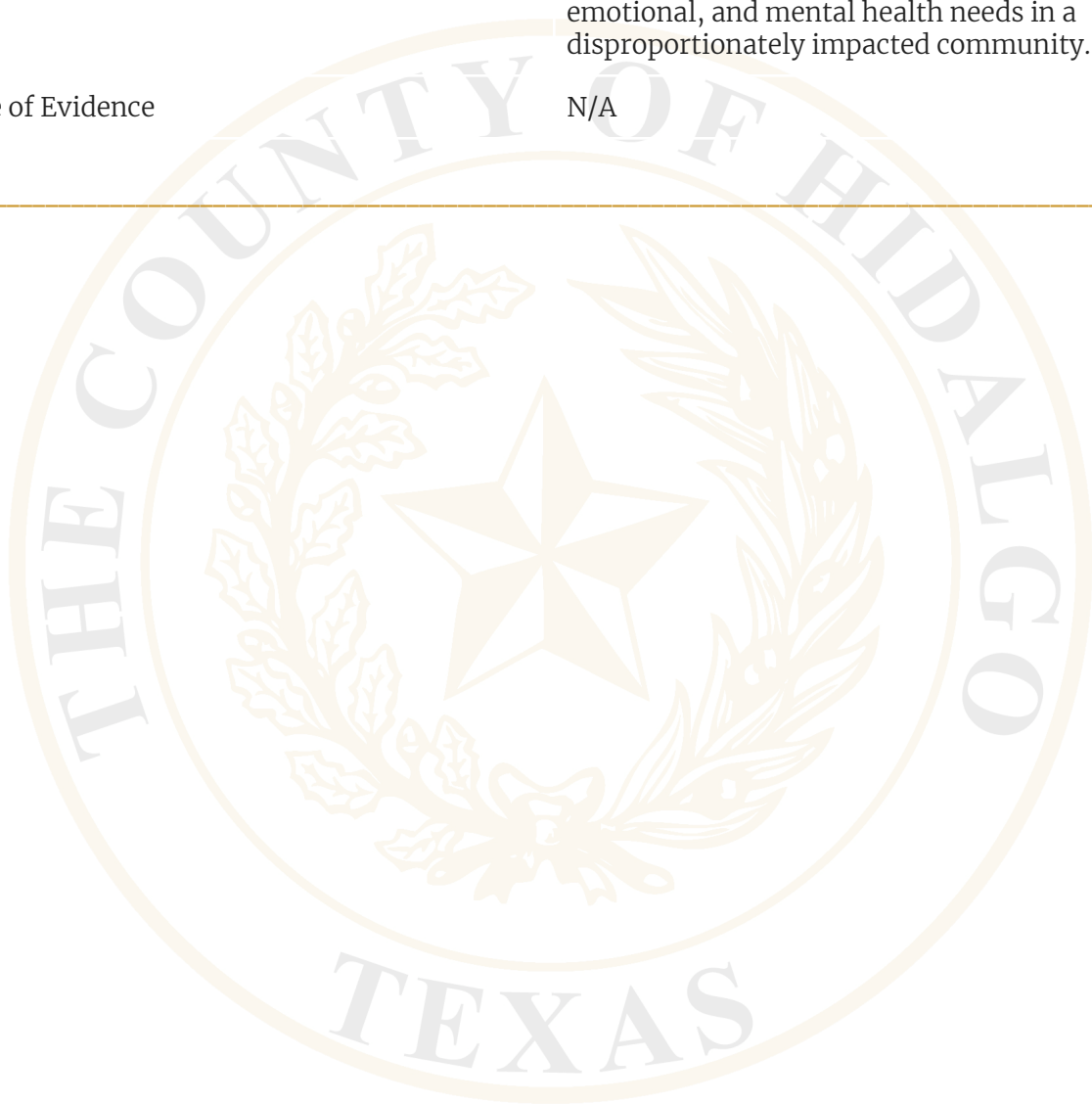
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address the academic needs of students, including early learning services, after school and enrichment programs, tutoring, career preparation programs, safe recreational spaces, and support for student social, emotional, and mental health needs in a disproportionately impacted community.

Use of Evidence

N/A

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**Public Sector Capacity**

**ARPA-22-340-080**

**Electronic Medical Record Training**

Funding Amount

\$73,873.48

Expenditure Category Group

3: 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, Hidalgo County will provide the Health Department with one (1) Registered Nurse III to assist in training the clinical staff on the utilization of the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system project. The Registered Nurse III will learn and provide training on the program for staff throughout Hidalgo County’s clinics. The EMR system will address the additional record keeping and documentation of all COVID-19 vaccination records. Overall, the project will allow the County of Hidalgo to address the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency and any future public health emergencies more effectively.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-22-340-067**

**COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Overtime Program**

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

3: Public Sector Capacity

Expenditure Category

3: 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





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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-xx-xxx-xxx**

**Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator II Position**

Funding Amount

\$63,333.94

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.



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Use of Evidence N/A

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**ARPA-22-110-106**

**Inclusive Accessibility Toolbar**

Funding Amount

\$8,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

3: 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 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



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## Premium Pay

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**ARPA-21-115-055**

**Hidalgo County Premium Pay Program**

Funding Amount

\$10,701,098.14

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 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

\$908,999.80



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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.
Use of Evidence	N/A

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<b>ARPA-21-115-059</b>	<b>Hidalgo County Community Service Agency Premium Pay Program</b>
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Funding Amount	\$152,260.99
Expenditure Category Group	4: Premium Pay
Expenditure Category	4: Public Sector Employees
Project Description	The Hidalgo County Community Service Agency Premium Pay Program authorizes



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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

\$8,265,199.30

Expenditure Category Group

4: Premium Pay

Expenditure Category

4: 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 August 1, 2021. The purpose of the program is to provide pay to eligible





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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-22-115-117**

**Hidalgo County Second Community Service Agency Second Premium Pay Program**

Funding Amount

\$139,283.80

Expenditure Category Group

4: Premium Pay

Expenditure Category

4: Public Sector Employees

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Community Service Agency 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 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



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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

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**ARPA-22-115-116**

**Hidalgo County Second Drainage District No. 1 Second Premium Pay Program**

Funding Amount

\$486,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

4: Premium Pay

Expenditure Category

4: Public Sector Employees

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Drainage District No. 1 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 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



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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-22-115-118**

**Hidalgo County Head Start Premium Pay Program**

Funding Amount

\$1,979,842.50

Expenditure Category Group

4: Premium Pay

Expenditure Category

4: 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 \$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



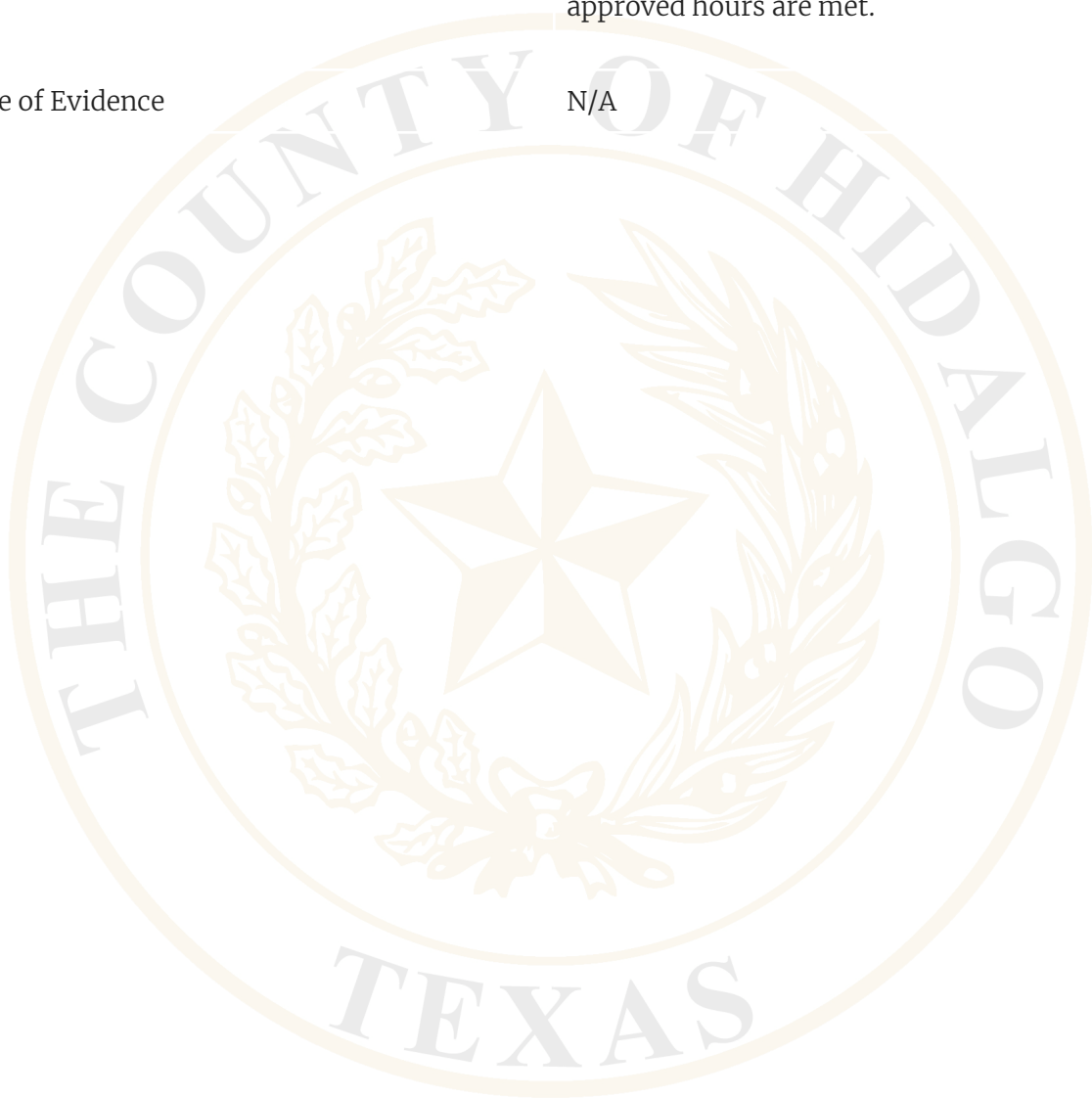
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between \$40,001.00-\$60,000.00, and \$2,500.00 for eligible employees earning over \$60,000.00. Regular part-time and temporary-part time employees will receive 50% of the \$13.00 per hour pay rate once approved hours are met.

Use of Evidence

N/A





## Infrastructure

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**ARPA-21-122-017**

**Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Stormwater Management Project**

Funding Amount

\$1,142,460.00

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 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

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**ARPA-22-122-109**

**Las Milpas Road Stormwater Management**

Funding Amount

\$2,284,727.92

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

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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 non-point sources of pollution and prove the resilience of infrastructure to severe weather events and protect water bodies from pollution.

As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ document, in question 6.15, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible stormwater project. Efficient stormwater 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-21-121-046**

**Precinct 1 Delta Region Stormwater Project**

Funding Amount

\$12,000,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Delta Region Stormwater Project is a regional mitigation project that will provide flood control for the



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most populated areas of Hidalgo County and establish a process to reclaim the water for municipal and irrigation use. The Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Delta Region Stormwater Project is proposed to be constructed in three phases and includes an off-line stormwater detention reservoir and treatment facility. The stormwater project will consist of the following components; Later Diversion Weir Construction on FM 1925, Ditch Improvements along 10F2A and 10F1, Culvert Improvements along Ditch 10F, Detention Pond Construction totaling 40 acres along vacant farmland, and a new 2,000 linear foot stormwater conveyance. 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.

As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ document, in question 6.15, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible water or sewer project. 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence

N/A

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**ARPA-21-121-044**

**Precinct 1 Mercedes Gate Structure  
Stormwater Project**

Funding Amount

\$2,000,000.00



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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 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 a 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.

As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ document, in question 6.15, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible water or sewer project. 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence N/A

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**ARPA-21-121-045** **Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Inline Check Valves Stormwater Project**

Funding Amount \$1,000,000.00

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Expenditure Category Group	5: Infrastructure
Expenditure Category	5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater
Project Description	<p>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 stormwater 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.</p> <p>As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ document, in question 6.15, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible water or sewer project. 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.</p>
Use of Evidence	N/A

<b>ARPA-21-123-008</b>	<b>Precinct 3 Tierra Dorada Stormwater Project</b>
Funding Amount	\$127,862.00
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 in Tierra Dorada, in the City of Mission, between Schuerbach



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Road and Moorefield Road, which often face water inequities. The improvements will be bound by Schuerbach Road to the west, Inspiration Road to the east, and Tierra Dorada Subdivision to the north, and Mile 1. This project will address the inadequate stormwater systems that cause flooding, the spread of diseases, and eroded roads during the rainy season.

As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ document, in question 6.15, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to eligible water conservation or stormwater systems. Efficient stormwater systems 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-21-123-009**

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

Funding Amount

\$800,000.00

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





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affected by inadequate stormwater systems, which causes erosion to the roads and flooding.

As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ document, in question 6.15, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible stormwater project. Efficient stormwater 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence

N/A

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**ARPA-21-123-028**

**Precinct 3 Farm to Market Rd. 2221 Stormwater Infrastructure Improvement**

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.

The Interim Final Rule aligns types of eligible projects that are supported by Clean Water



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State Revolving Fund, in which stormwater projects can be an assistance to any public, private, or nonprofit entity for measures to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water. 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-22-123-103**

**Precinct 3 Tierra Linda Drain Stormwater Project**

Funding Amount

\$59,611.27

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

The Tierra Linda Drain Stormwater Project will manage and reduce stormwater for the project area. The project is bound by FM 492 to the west, Green Road to the east, Tierra Linda Subdivision to the north and HCID1 Main Canal to the south. The project consists of the regrading and reconstruction of the Tierra Linda Drain that will create additional volume in the system. Improvements will help manage stormwater during and after rain events.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-22-123-102**

**Precinct 3 Jessica Drive and Ashley Way to**



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**Goodwin Stormwater Project**

Funding Amount	\$1,755,500.00
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 from Jessica Drive and Ashley Way to Goodwin Drain. Inlets will be placed throughout the project limits along with roadside ditch grading to manage stormwater during and after rain events. The stormwater improvements will assist in addressing and improving stormwater infrastructure systems as the systems play a critical role in protecting public health.
Use of Evidence	N/A

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**ARPA-22-123-101**

**Precinct 3 Harvest Time Stormwater Project**

Funding Amount	\$1,353,000.00
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 Harvest Times at Bentsen Palm Dr. 3 1/2 Miles. The stormwater improvements will assist in addressing and improving stormwater infrastructure systems as the systems play a critical role in protecting public health. As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ #6.15, and reiterated in the Final Rule, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible stormwater infrastructure



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project. Efficient stormwater 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-22-124-094**

**Precinct 4 Bentsen Road Stormwater Project**

Funding Amount

\$474,505.50

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 1/4 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. As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ document, in question 6.15, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible stormwater project. Efficient stormwater 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo,



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particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-22-124-065**

**Precinct 4 Colonia Tejano Stormwater Project**

Funding Amount

\$1,145,059.60

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Precinct 4 Colonia Tejano 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. As per the Interim Final Rule, recipients are able to use ARPA relief funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible water or sewer project. 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-22-124-050**

**Precinct 4 Encore Ranches Stormwater Project**





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Funding Amount	\$360,272.39
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. As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ document, in question 6.15, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible water or sewer project. 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.
Use of Evidence	N/A

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**ARPA-22-124-051**

**Precinct 4 Mile 17 & 83rd Stormwater Project**

Funding Amount	\$910,534.39
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

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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. As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ document, in question 6.15, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible stormwater project. Efficient stormwater 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence

N/A

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**ARPA-22-124-049**

**Precinct 4 Mile 17 Rd Stormwater Project**

Funding Amount

\$700,989.10

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



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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.

As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ document, in question 6.15, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible water or sewer project. 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-22-124-095**

**Precinct 4 North Main Drain III Phase I Stormwater Project**

Funding Amount

\$4,919,387.77

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

The North Main Drain III Phase I Stormwater 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. As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ document, in question



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6.15, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible stormwater project. Efficient stormwater 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-22-124-095**

**Precinct 4 North Main Drain III Phase II Stormwater Project**

Funding Amount

\$4,678,304.26

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Description

The North Main Drain III Phase II Stormwater 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. As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ document, in question 6.15, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible stormwater project. Efficient stormwater services directly translate into a healthier community by providing clean water and avoiding potential environmental disasters. These basic needs are critical to the health



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and ability to work and learn of the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-22-124-064**

**Precinct 4 Rio Grande Care Road Stormwater Project**

Funding Amount

\$270,056.80

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. As per the Interim Final Rule, recipients are able to use ARPA relief funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible water or sewer project. 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence

N/A





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**ARPA-22-124-048**

**Precinct 4 Terry Road Stormwater Project**

Funding Amount

\$2,341,557.34

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. As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ document, in question 6.15, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible water or sewer project. 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-22-124-047**

**Precinct 4 Tex-Mex Rd Stormwater Project**

Funding Amount

\$667,655.00



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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 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. As per the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ document, in question 6.15, recipients are able to use ARPA funds for road repairs and upgrades directly related to an eligible water or sewer project. 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 the residents of the County of Hidalgo, particularly for the disadvantaged and low-income minorities.
Use of Evidence	N/A

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<b>ARPA-22-124-097</b>	<b>Precinct 4 Hoehn Road Stormwater Management project</b>
Funding Amount	\$458,135.85
Expenditure Category Group	5: Infrastructure
Expenditure Category	5.6: Clean Water: Stormwater
Project Description	The Hoehn Stormwater Management Project will manage and reduce stormwater for the

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project area. The project is located at the southeast corner of Monte Cristo Road and Hoehn Road. Project consists of a pipe network with inlets 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.

Use of Evidence

N/A

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**ARPA-22-110-092**

**Remote Wireless Broadband Initiative**

Funding Amount

\$120,953.75

Expenditure Category Group

5: Infrastructure

Expenditure Category

5.19: Broadband: “Last Mile” projects

Project Description

The project will consist of a Network Rapid Deployment Unit that can be deployed to 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.

Use of Evidence

N/A

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**Provision of Government Services**

<b>ARPA-21-115-003</b>	<b>Countywide Roadway Assessment Project</b>
Funding Amount	\$1,660,128.92
Expenditure Category Group	6: Revenue Replacement
Expenditure Category	6.1: Provision of Government Services
Project Description	The proposed project would consist of roadway inventory, 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

<b>ARPA-21-115-002</b>	<b>Hidalgo County Debris Removal Project</b>
Funding Amount	\$1,125,000.00
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



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**ARPA-22-200-074**

**Ultimate Kronos Group Human Resources Information System**

Funding Amount

\$2,701,517.50

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services

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, an integrated employee payroll services, scheduler and benefits. The purpose of this project is to create workforce management that is committed to facilitating 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

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**ARPA-21-110-006**

**High Water Rescue Vehicle**

Funding Amount

\$192,503.90

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The High Water Rescue Vehicle would be utilized to administer emergency services during flooding events throughout the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency and future disasters. The High Water Rescue Vehicle would facilitate the ability to rescue individuals stranded in their vehicles or assist families flooded out of their homes. The High





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Water Vehicle would also expedite the acquisition and distribution of supplies to families in need and facilitate the transport of medical personnel to areas that emergency services are unable to access.

Use of Evidence

N/A

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**ARPA-21-125-015**

**McColl Building Retrofits**

Funding Amount

\$591,652.62

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The McColl Building Retrofits project would consist of facility retrofits for the McColl Building located at 505 S. McColl Road, Edinburg, TX 78539 which requires additional facility retrofits in order to be in compliance with health and safety guidelines outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) due the COVID-19 public health emergency. 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

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**ARPA-21-200-013**

**Courthouse Wi-Fi and Telephone Connectivity System**

Funding Amount

\$480,749.05

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The Courthouse Wi-Fi and Telephone

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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.

Use of Evidence N/A

**ARPA-21-200-030**

**Public Wi-Fi Pole Replacement**

Funding Amount \$6,983.00

Expenditure Category Group 6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category 6.1: Provision of Government Services

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



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**ARPA-21-125-038**

**Precinct 3 Debris Removal**

Funding Amount

\$375,000.00

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

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**ARPA-21-200-011**

**World Radio Network Tower Lease Agreement**

Funding Amount

\$40,000.00

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services

Project Description

This project would consist of a five (5) year lease agreement between Hidalgo County and World Radio Network for the use of a Radio Tower to provide Wi-Fi connectivity as part of the Hidalgo County Public Wi-Fi initiative. The radio tower will assist with County functions and compliance with public health measures related to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency with establishing a Lease of Tower Agreement to mount equipment to provide Wi-Fi connectivity and assist the citizens with distance learning,



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including technology improvements, as well as improving telework capability.

Use of Evidence

N/A

**ARPA-22-200-083**

**Hidalgo County Gmail Service Project**

Funding Amount

\$1,255,120.00

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services

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 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-22-200-076**

**Hidalgo County Public Wi-Fi Pole Replacement**

Funding Amount

\$69,830.00

Expenditure Category Group

6: Revenue Replacement

Expenditure Category

6.1: Provision of Government Services

Project Description

The Hidalgo County Public Wi-Fi Pole Replacement project consists of restoring county-owned Wi-Fi poles by removing and replacing damaged poles throughout the County. The purpose of this project is to



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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 restorations 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 is not limited to maintaining a level of service that will meet applicable health-based standards and establish or improve broadband service to underserved populations that were impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Use of Evidence

N/A

