

STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS 2022 REPORT

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Knox County is committed to creating opportunities for every resident to thrive in an engaged and vibrant community and focuses on three top priorities in support of this commitment:



Iobs

Attract and keep good-paying jobs for a growing workforce.

Ensure that all businesses feel supported by and connected to County government.

Embrace regionalism and work with our neighbors to stimulate economic development.



Education

Promote literacy through the continued development of Read City USA.

Endorse high-quality educational opportunities and advance alternative pathways for all students.

Maintain an open channel of communication between the Mayor's Office, the Board of Education, and Knox County Schools.



Recreation

Support the expansion of outdoor tourism assets.

Advance positive change in access to services, population health, and quality of life.

Encourage diverse and meaningful civic engagement.

Knox County continues to experience the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic that other communities across the country are still facing. Funding provided through the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) Program has supported recovery efforts and the County's unwavering commitment to providing opportunities for all residents to live in a diverse and engaged community focused on economic stability, health, and quality of life.







USES OF FUNDS

The County has allocated SLFRF funds to support a strong and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic downturn through funding projects in the public health, negative economic impacts, services to disproportionately impacted communities, water and sewer infrastructure, and revenue replacement categories.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The County has begun undertaking a variety of projects that directly respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. In partnership with the City of Knoxville, capital funds were disbursed for the purchase of a building that is being converted into a psychiatric urgent care facility, where it is expected that 70 to 80% of patients receiving services will be uninsured or covered by TennCare. Capital dollars have been dedicated to to fund additional capacity for a Mobile Meals kitchen providing low-income seniors and at-risk youth with over 500,000 meals annually. Additional capital dollars are currently being spent to ensure judicial services are available and effectively administered for county residents. Over the course of the pandemic, mental health issues and substance misuse disorders have increased substantially. As socioeconomic disadvantages are known contributors to poor mental health and substance misuse, the County is funding nonprofits providing treatment, at no cost, to over 2,500 residents.

NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS

In response to the negative economic impacts brought on by the pandemic, the County will fund projects that support the hard-hit industries of tourism and arts and culture. SLFRF dollars are being distributed in the form of grants to aid in their pandemic recovery to nonprofit agencies, entities working within the arts and culture industry, as well as capital funds for Zoo Knoxville. A principle focus for these funds is to administer grants to nonprofits working to further the administration's goal of creating opportunities for every resident. Organizations serving historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups were prioritized for funding.

SERVICES TO DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITIES

Socioeconomically disadvantaged communities have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. The County is appropriating SLFRF grants to support programs and projects benefitting low-income children, seniors, and households throughout the county. These efforts enhance current programs undertaken through the Treasury's Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Funds. The County is managing the joint City of Knoxville/Knox County ERA program and has, to date, provided approximately \$40 million in direct rent and utility assistance to eligible renter households. Additional housing stability programs have been funded and are provided in partnership with numerous nonprofit agencies. These programs focus on community engagement, ensuring stable housing, eviction prevention, and the provision of legal services.







Projects funded through the County's SLFRF Program include art and cultural education programs for low-income children; capital funds for an affordable housing subdivision developed by Knoxville Habitat for Humanity; and programs provided by Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee to help seniors maintain independent living and access critical health services.

WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE

The County will utilize SLFRF dollars for both stormwater projects managed internally, and water and sewer infrastructure projects undertaken by local utility providers. Funding provided through the SLFRF Program will increase capacity in wastewater and stormwater systems, reduce the need for septic tanks, and increase the availability of clean drinking water to rural areas of the county.

REVENUE REPLACEMENT

The County saw significant revenue losses due to the pandemic, and the SLFRF Program is aiding in the mitigation of these loses through the provision of essential government services that otherwise may not be feasible. Projects funded through revenue replacement dollars include: the construction of a new facility for Knox County Engineering and Public Works; stormwater improvement projects; operating expenses for critical judicial services; improvements to county parks and greenways; and support for fire and rescue agencies serving county residents.





PROMOTING EQUITABLE OUTCOMES

GOALS: SERVING HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED, MARGINALIZED, OR ADVERSELY AFFECTED GROUPS

As previously noted, the County's highest priority is creating opportunities for everyone living in the county to thrive in an engaged and vibrant community. The goal of the County is to use funds provided through the SLFRF Program in support of programs aligned with this priority. Knox County, outside the incorporated limits of the City of Knoxville, has 282,710 residents and a median household income of \$57,470 Additional demographic information is included below:

DEMOGRAPHIC CATEGORY	Knox County
Persons under 18 Years	20.90%
Persons 65 Years and Over	16.20%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.40%
Asian	2.40%
Black or African American	8.90%
Hispanic or Latina	4.60%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.10%
Two or More Races	2.30%
White (not Hispanic or Latino)	82.00%
Language Other than English Spoken at Home	5.80%
High School Graduate or Higher	91.70%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	37.60%
Veterans	29,791
Persons with a Disability (under the age of 65)	8.10%
Persons in Poverty	13.40%

^{*2019} American Community Survey - https://api.census.gov/data/2019/acs/acs1/subject

As part of the response to the growing need for support in the public health sector, the County is dedicating SLFRF funding towards serving community members seeking treatment for substance misuse and mental health services for children experiencing trauma. All facets of these programs will increase the availability of critical services that are currently struggling to meet the heightened demand brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Furthermore, the use of SLFRF Program grants to support the provision of these services will ensure the cost of care is not passed on to the program participants and provides residents access to critical services, regardless of their ability to pay. Similar to other jurisdictions in the country, Knox County also saw an increase in food insecurity during the early stages of the pandemic and the need for







nutritional assistance has persisted. Funding for a local mobile meals program will provide facility upgrades, allowing the subrecipient to increase meal preparation capacity for homebound clients that are medically vulnerable and at a heightened risk for contracting COVID-19.

With only 64.3% of Knox County residents owning their own home, increasing opportunities for homeownership is a goal of the County. Through HUD's Community Development Block Grant, the County previously awarded funding to assist with the development of a single-family community dedicated specifically to low- and moderate-income households. SLFRF dollars will provide additional assistance for this project that expands the supply of homes in a rural part of the county that has minimal affordable housing options. Residents who may otherwise be excluded from homeownership due to the current housing market, will have the opportunity to purchase a home and further the goal of growing our community in an inclusionary manner.

The County has also dedicated SLFRF funding to assist utility providers with capital improvements for water and sewer lines in areas currently not connected to these public services. A portion of these infrastructure projects will make fire protection more readily available to residents and minimize water costs through the installation of new meters providing leak notifications. Such projects increase home values and further the building of generational wealth, particularly in rural parts where the use of septic systems is still common.

AWARENESS: HOW DO RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES BECOME AWARE OF PROGRAMS?

The County issued a Request for Funding in early 2022 for nonprofits through a public and competitive process; wherein a public meeting was held for interested agencies. This competitive application offered funding through federal and local dollars, highlighting the County's focus on underserved communities as well as the response to the public health crisis. The County is committed to demonstrating the impact the SLFRF Program has in ameliorating the impact of COVID-19 on residents and businesses in an informative and digestible format that is readily available to the public. Successful nonprofit entities that were awarded grants provided information to the County on how they publicize their programs and ensure access is available equally to all residents. Additionally, Knox County's Recovery Plan and other related SLFRF Program documents is publicly available at

https://www.knoxcounty.org/communitydevelopment/.

ACCESS: ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS RESULTING IN DISPARITIES

Organizations that were awarded SLFRF grants were local businesses and nonprofits that faced financial hardship due to COVID-19, and were given equal access to funding through the public application process. The eligibility criteria aligned with those typical of other federally funded initiatives, and the County will not request additional requirements ensuring funds are accessible, regardless of an organization's experience with federal dollars. Entities will continue to receive technical assistance to support the success of their services to the community and requirements to







request funding will not be cumbersome for entities that may be fully or partially volunteer driven. Subrecipients are likewise required to simplify their application process for county residents seeking services provided through the SLFRF Program.

OUTCOMES: FOCUSED ON CLOSING GAPS, UNIVERSAL LEVELS OF SERVICE, OR DISAGGREGATING PROGRESS BY RACE, ETHNICITY, AND OTHER EQUITY MEASURES.

For each project selected for funding by the County, the positive impact on residents and businesses is identified and tracked throughout the term of the program. Disaggregated identifying information will be collected, where feasible. Data collected via subrecipient reporting will be used to measure the efficacy of programs in promoting equity and identifying whether any procedural changes should be made so that marginalized and underserved communities have equal access to services. Grants awarded in the negative economic impacts expenditure category were awarded to small businesses in the arts and tourism industry and nonprofit agencies that serve historically marginalized and underserved populations.

NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS

The County dedicated over \$7 million in SLFRF grants to support small businesses, the tourism industry, and local nonprofits negatively impacted by the pandemic. These grants were prioritized for nonprofit agencies that have faced financial hardships and/or an increased demand for services. The County currently partners with nonprofits that serve diverse populations facing myriad challenges that likely have been exacerbated due to the pandemic. Consideration of equitable access for residents in need of assistance will be part of the funding determination process and residents receiving services through SLFRF-funded programs will not be charged.

HOUSING STABILITY AND SUPPORT

High housing costs result in reduced economic opportunities and access to prosperity, especially among lower-income households. The 2022 State of Housing Report issued by Knoxville Area Association of Realtors found that in the final quarter of 2021, the monthly mortgage payment for the average home in Knoxville cost more than 27% than it did in 2020¹. As housing costs outpace gains in income, there is an ever-increasing need for affordable housing options. The County has dedicated funding to support the development of housing for low- to moderateincome residents provided to Knoxville Habitat for Humanity. Habitat's Ellen's Glen subdivision will provide new homes and a 0% interest mortgage for 35 first-time homebuyers. This community expands opportunities for residents to build generational wealth who may otherwise find purchasing a home in the current housing market an unobtainable goal.

¹ https://growthzonesitesprod.azureedge.net/wp-content/uploads/sites/2860/2022/04/2022-State-of-Housing-Report-final-.pdf







USE OF QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE DATA

The County currently distributes more than \$45 million in grants to nonprofit entities serving vulnerable communities through Knox County General Fund dollars, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funding, and the Treasury's Emergency Rental Assistance funding. These entities report demographic information of service recipients as well as qualitative data on the impact of grant funding on program participants. Similar measures will be taken in the management of subrecipient awards provided through the SLFRF Program, including the determination of outcomes that track quantitatively and qualitatively how marginalized and underserved residents are impacted by SLFRF grants. The County does not anticipate any challenges to programmatic success related to increasing equity as this metric will be continuously monitored and evaluated to ensure programs are effectively meeting their intended outcomes.

GEOGRAPHIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The County has awarded SLFRF grants to organizations predominately serving constituents living outside the City of Knoxville's incorporated limits as the City received its own allocation and plans to provide similar services to residents. In determining the funds awarded to subrecipients, specific identification of the impact the dollars will have in regard to the socioeconomic status of county residents, that may be traditionally underserved, will be factored into the decision making on funding. Where possible, subrecipients will report disaggregated data on the individuals and families served and the County will provide data on the positive impacts reported by service recipients in its reports to the Treasury as well as the community.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Knox County continues to engage with community members and stakeholders regarding the SLFRF Program. Information has been disseminated through the County's legislative body and representatives of the County Mayor's office. Both stakeholders and community members have shared their thoughts and opinions with County officials and several projects have been funded based on this input. As part of the public process, Knox County issued a Request for Funding application and offered technical assistance workshops open to the public regarding the prioritization and distribution of funds. Input provided at public meetings focused on community development, stormwater management, fire and rescue, homelessness initiatives, and utility services have all been considered in the development of Knox County's Recovery Plan. To promote accessibility and transparency relevant SLFRF Program documents are continuously available at https://www.knoxcounty.org/communitydevelopment/.





LABOR PRACTICES

The County will ensure that all infrastructure projects operated by external funding recipients with budgets in excess of \$10 million funded through the SLFRF Program, adhere to Treasury's requirements. Subrecipients will be required to obtain certifications from all contractors indicating that they will pay at or above the prevailing wages per the Davis-Bacon Act. Subrecipients completing infrastructure projects are previous recipients of federal funding and familiar with the requirements of Davis Bacon. For projects receiving SLFRF funds that are braided with other federal grants requiring Davis Bacon adherence, the County will utilize existing monitoring and tracking mechanisms to ensure conformity with all stipulations of the Davis Bacon Act, Fair Labor Standards Act, the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, and the Copeland Act.

USE OF EVIDENCE

The County's SLFRF Program will partially fund subrecipients that implement evidence-based interventions and/or use rigorous program evaluations. All projects funded through the public health and negative economic impacts categories will necessitate subrecipients outlining how their services incorporate data-driven strategies based on documented empirical evidence of effectiveness. Subrecipients undertaking projects without an evidence-based component will be required to submit information on their evaluation process to the County for approval prior to the receipt of funds. This evaluation process approval request must include: the design methodology of the evaluation; key questions being evaluated; timeframe for completion of the evaluation; and whether the study adequately provides for the disaggregation of outcomes by demographics.

Subrecipients will collect both quantitative and qualitative data throughout the duration of their programs and will report to the County details on how the funding has impacted the clients they serve. Disaggregated demographic information will be a component of the quantitative data submitted by subrecipients to the County, where feasible. This information will be analyzed as to how the funding is impacting historically underserved and marginalized members of the community and where future funding may be needed. The County will provide subrecipients access to contract support, as needed, for technical assistance to develop a program evaluation that sufficiently determines efficacy specific to the services provided through their programs.





TABLE OF EXPENSES BY EXPENDITURE CATEGORY

CODE	CATEGORY	CUMULATIVE EXPENDITURES TO DATE	AMOUNT SPENT SINCE LAST RECOVERY PLAN		
PUBLIC	HEALTH EXPENDITURE CATEGORY				
1.6	Medical Services	\$893,108.73	\$893,108.73		
1.12	Mental Health Services	\$0	\$0		
1.13	Substance Use Services	\$0	\$0		
NEGAT	IVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS EXPENDITURE CATEGORY				
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs	\$0	\$0		
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, & Utility Aid	\$0	\$0		
2.10	Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers	\$0	\$0		
2.15	Long-Term Housing Security: Affordable Housing	\$0	\$0		
2.18	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	\$0	\$0		
2.25	Addressing Educational Disparities: Academic, Social, & Emotional Services	\$0	\$0		
2.34	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations	\$0	\$0		
2.35	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality	\$1,348,962.16	\$1,348,962.16		
2.36	Aid to Other Impacted Industries	\$0	\$0		
2.37	Economic Impact Assistance: Other	\$0	\$0		
Infrastructure Expenditure Category					
5.3	Clean Water: Decentralized Wastewater	\$0	\$0		
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater	\$0	\$0		
5.11	Drinking Water: Transmission & Distribution	\$0	\$0		
REVENUE REPLACEMENT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY					
6.1	Provision of Government Services	\$1,806,999.91	\$1,806,999.91		
Administrative and Other Expenditure Category					
7.1	Administrative Expenses	\$35,563.63	\$35,563.63		







PROJECT INVENTORY

PUBLIC HEALTH PROJECTS

MEDICAL EXPENSES

PRIMARY HEALTH AND DENTAL CARE

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1030649

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$100,000 PROJECT CATEGORY: 1.6

The County awarded the Free Medical Clinic of America \$100,000 in SLFRF dollars to expand access to free primary health care services and dental care for the working uninsured and underinsured. These comprehensive services include urgent care, chronic disease management, disease prevention education, health screenings, minor surgical procedures and dental exams; among other services. Across the country many individuals lost their employment or had their hours reduced during the pandemic; which had a direct impact on access to healthcare due to a loss of health insurance. A minimum of 200 individuals who are uninsured or underinsured will benefit from these services per year.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

URGENT CARE PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020640

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$893.108.73

PROJECT CATEGORY: 1.12

In June of 2022 the County and City of Knoxville jointly procured a formerly shuttered medical facility to repurpose it through their respective SLFRF programs. This facility will be specifically designed to assess, triage, treat, hold, and connect adults with urgent psychiatric needs to the best resources for their condition in the community. Replicating successful treatment models from other states such as Arizona and Oklahoma, this location will move these critical services outside hospital emergency departments. It will be a free-standing psychiatric urgent care facility with the ability to receive self-referrals as well as ambulance, police, and family accompanied patients with psychiatric conditions. The "front of house" is being developed as an urgent care clinic providing traditional medical care as well as medical clearance for patients prior to transport to a psychiatric hospital. The "back of house" will include a full array of crisis services including assessment and observation; holding, until a placement becomes available; triage for regional psychiatric bed admissions; mobile crisis; crisis stabilization units; and nontraditional outpatient access (evenings/weekends). It is estimated that 70-80% of patients assisted will be uninsured and/or covered under TennCare (Medicaid).







PEDIATRIC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020643

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$625,000 Project Category: 1.12

The County awarded an SLFRF grant to Childhelp Tennessee for their evidence-based pediatric behavioral health interventions. This program offers a community-based approach to helping children who have suffered complex trauma through physical abuse, sexual abuse, mental abuse, or neglect. Services embed Trauma Informed Care, an organization structure and treatment framework, when engaging with pediatric patients with more severe mental health needs. Currently, Childhelp is the only center in Knox County that solely focuses on trauma informed care and is available at no cost. Funding will expand the reach of these services to assist children in an age-appropriate manner. Childhelp has seen an increase in the number of therapy sessions due to the mental health crisis brought on by the pandemic. Funding will provide a minimum of 70 children with approximately 1,500 therapy sessions annually.

SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES

SUBSTANCE MISUSE TREATMENT SERVICES

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1030650

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$1,225,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 1.13

The County has dedicated SLFRF dollars to assist multiple agencies providing substance misuse programs. All projects under this subcategory will utilize evidence-based interventions and will report on the impacts of the SLFRF Program's support.

Metro Drug Coalition (MDC) is a nonprofit entity that connects individuals and families to social and community resources. Their services utilize prevention education, harm reduction programs, and recovery support services for anyone desiring to maintain or seek a life free from substance misuse. A SLFRF grant will support the second phase of construction of the new recovery community center, The Gateway; which is based off a national evidence-based model. Approximately 25,000 people will receive treatment services annually at the facility.

The Mend House is a nonprofit offering sober living communities for men. SLFRF funds will expand services to meet the growing needs of uninsured residents. Program participants will gain access to diverse programs such as job readiness training, financial literacy, and relapse prevention. A minimum of 75 individuals will reside at the facility on an annual basis.

Renew Clinic is receiving SFLRF funding to provide scholarships for their 12-week substance misuse treatment program. Services consist of out-patient individual and group therapy sessions. The funding will support a minimum of 20 individuals with the costs for participation in the treatment program, mitigating the financial burden and expanding access to recovery-based support services.







The E.M. Jellinek Center offers long-term residential treatment and inpatient treatment for adult men seeking substance misuse support. Services include various levels of interventions based upon the needs of the individual; with a minimum of 100 individuals utilizing their facility annually. A SLFRF grant will support access for individuals without the financial means to access residential substance misuse treatment.

NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS PROJECTS

HOUSEHOLD ASSISTANCE

FOOD PROGRAMS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1030673

Funding Amount: \$650,000 PROJECT CATEGORY: 2.1

The Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee provides over 520,000 hot meals and 174,620 meal components annually to low-income senior residents and at-risk youth throughout Knox County. Need for food assistance increased dramatically during the pandemic, and has not abated since its onset. Seniors are at higher risk of negative outcomes due to the COVID-19 virus and resulted in a higher demand for the services provided through the Mobile Meals Program. The program also delivers snacks to after-school programs at Boys and Girls Clubs throughout the county. The SLFRF grant will expand the footprint of the meal preparation and packaging space to increase the volume of food produced. Four vehicles will also be purchased with the funds to increase the delivery capacity, and replace two aging ones. This program is jointly being supported with the City of Knoxville's CDBG-CV funding that will relieve the increased construction costs that have taken place since the onset of the pandemic.

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee is receiving a SLFRF grant for their Food Sourcing Program, increasing the number of meals provided to food-insecure households. Requests for food assistance have continued to remain high due to the ongoing impacts of the pandemic and inflation, with an average of 60,000 meals being distributed last year solely in the county. Annually a minimum of 10,000 Knox County households will receive food assistance through this program.

RENT, MORTGAGE, AND UTILITY AID

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1030670

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$100,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 2.2

Bridge Refugee Services is the sole refugee resettlement agency in East Tennessee, and offers ongoing support to this population beyond their immediate relocation to Knox County. A SLFRF grant has been awarded to Bridge to assist extremely low-income households with securing







permanent housing. Direct financial assistance will stabilize households at-risk of eviction through rental assistance, with a minimum of 11 families receiving financial support annually. Households selected to receive assistance through these services are not eligible for the Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance, and would otherwise not be able to secure or maintain permanent housing without this funding.

ASSISTANCE TO UNEMPLOYED OR UNDEREMPLOYED WORKERS

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1030656

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$250,000 PROJECT CATEGORY: 2.10

C.O.N.N.E.C.T. Ministries launched its CONNECTWORKS4U Program in September 2020; enrolling unemployed and underemployed individuals in a paid training program with wraparound services included. Since its inception, the program connects trainees with employers in manufacturing and other industries, and offers support for continuing education. The organization anticipates annual graduation from the program by 50 individuals and will report on the number of participants who remain gainfully employed 90 days after being hired.

Socially Equal Energy Efficient Development (SEEED) operates an ongoing Career Readiness Program that combines job training and community engagement through workforce development courses. Participants gain hands-on training in the construction sector as well as sales; and enrollment is reserved for youth ages 18 through 24. Additional training in financial literacy and preparation for secondary education is incorporated into the curriculum. The organization will offer full scholarships to a minimum of 40 youth per year with the support of the SLFRF grant.

HOUSING STABILITY & SUPPORT

LONG-TERM HOUSING SECURITY: AFFORDABLE HOUSING

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020647

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$1,000,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 2.15

The County awarded a SLFRF grant to assist Knoxville Habitat for Humanity with the creation of 35 newly constructed affordable housing units. The County has previously awarded HUD Community Development Block Grant dollars in the amount of \$338,000 for infrastructure improvements in support of the project. The development of affordable housing is a high priority for funding by the County, and this grant will assist low- and moderate-income residents build generational wealth through home ownership in a vibrant community. Habitat is including underground utilities and garages for every homeowner that will live in the Ellen's Glen Subdivision.







OTHER HOUSING ASSISTANCE

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1030671

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$1,175,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 2.18

Two SLFRF grants were allocated to Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee (CAC) for services that promote a safer living environment and improved health outcomes for seniors. The Project HEART Program in partnership with the University of Tennessee School of Nursing, will complete a home safety assessment to screen for environmental and behavioral risks for falls, with a minimum of 60 households with family members aged 60 years or older benefitting from these assessments per year. CAC's Senior Health Intervention programming will provide case management to connect seniors with medical services, with an anticipated 200 individuals gaining access to dental, hearing, and vision care per year. An additional component of this service will mitigate elder abuse, with an expected 60 seniors receiving referrals to services annually. Both programs will use evidence-based interventions, and funding will support the increased demand for senior services that promote continued independent living.

Cokesbury United Methodist Church operates a community center known as Fig Tree that furnishes housing stability services to individuals experiencing homelessness or are at-risk of homelessness, and are the sole service provider for this population that is located outside the limits of the City of Knoxville. As seen throughout the nation, the number of homeless individuals has increased dramatically during the pandemic; while service providers are often overextended and resources limited. Fig Tree offers an array of assistance, including a food pantry, a day center, financial coaching, workforce development support, and connection with permanent housing, among other services. The County's SLFRF grant will expand services by adding more employees that will offer case management, with a minimum of 750 individuals accessing the center's services annually, and a minimum of 30 households securing permanent housing.

The McNabb Center is constructing transitional housing units for families fleeing domestic violence located in unincorporated Knox County. Currently the nonprofit operates an emergency shelter for families, and this additional housing will continue support services that go beyond the capacity of the emergency shelter. The County previously dedicated Community Development Block Grant COVID-19 (CDBG-CV) dollars to this project, and these funds will support expanding the number of units built from 8 to 12; with a minimum of 12 families benefitting from this housing within a year of its completion.

YWCA Knoxville and the Tennessee Valley operates the Jenny Boyd Keys of Hope Women's Program provides short-term housing for high-risk women who would otherwise be homeless, in addition to workforce development training and job placement. Women who participate in this program oftentimes have histories of domestic violence, substance misuse, incarceration, mental







health problems; as well as high rates of Adverse Childhood Experiences. Through the SLFRF award, a minimum of 125 women will participate in financial literacy, workforce training, and other housing stability courses offered by the YWCA. An additional 40 participants will successfully secure permanent housing and remain stably housed for 12 months.

Volunteer Ministry Center (VMC) operates a low-barrier, housing-focused overnight shelter called The Foyer; incorporating the Housing First approach into their services. Unhoused individuals residing at the shelter have access to case management geared towards securing permanent housing and additional resources to remain stably housed. Through the SLFRF grant, a minimum of 120 individuals will utilize The Foyer annually.

All housing stability services will utilize evidence-based interventions and/or program evaluations. The County is committed to the success of these programs, and will offer technical assistance as-needed, per the "Use of Evidence" section of this report.

ADDRESSING EDUCATIONAL DISPARITIES

ACADEMIC, SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL SERVICES PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1030655

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$800,000 PROJECT CATEGORY: 2.25

The County has committed SLFRF dollars to provide grants to nonprofit's operating education programs specifically targeting students in underserved communities; aiding children to regain ground lost during the pandemic. All subrecipients are implementing evidence-based curriculum and are reporting on the aggregated demographic data of the children and youth benefitting from these programs, including the impacted and disproportionately impacted communities

participating in these services. The goal of these grants is to reduce the negative consequences of

learning loss due to at-home learning and the lingering impacts of the pandemic.

The Arts and Culture Alliance facilitated a competitive process soliciting Requests for Funding for educative programming. Access to arts and culture has been shown to improve low-income communities and improve the lifelong outcomes for children. Solicitations will be accepted in 2022 and 2023; and funding will be contingent on the agency's capacity to teach classes to students enrolled in Title I schools.

A SLFRF grant was awarded to the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley for the facilitation of their Core Programming that will engage an anticipated 2,000 at-risk youth per year. The organization hosts after-school and summer programming that promote continued educational development, with components of social and emotional growth interwoven into activities. This funding will offer full scholarships to a minimum 100 youth for their enrollment







fees. Furthermore, an estimated 600 program participants will connect with college and employment preparation services offered at their centers.

Canvas Can Do Miracles offers no-cost art therapy classes for at-risk youth with the goal of improving their emotional and mental health through a community-lead program. The majority of participants come from low- and moderate-income households, and were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. An expected 100 youth will engage in the curriculum annually.

Freedom Village of Hope operates the East Tennessee Freedom Schools, a six-week summer literacy, enrichment, and empowerment program. With the support of the SLFRF grant, a minimum of 120 children from first through eighth grades will complete the summer curriculum annually. An additional 40 parents and guardians will participate in educational workshops that enhance support of their children's social, emotional, and academic development.

Additional funding for Metro Drug Coalition's substance misuse prevention and education programs will support schoolchildren. MDC uses evidence-based preventative education materials and offer classes in schools across the county. A minimum of 4,000 school-aged children per year will complete the classes.

The County awarded SLFRF funding to the Shanri-La Therapeutic Academy of Riding (STAR) for their Changing STRIDES Program; which engages at-risk youth from low- and moderateincome families in social and emotional life skill development. Using evidence-based therapeutic instruction, students' interaction with horses foster positive relationships while teaching anger management and appropriate communication. At-home instruction early in the pandemic prohibited students' hands-on engagement with services like those offered by STAR; and the organization promotes accessibility by not charging for participation in the program. This program will be available to a minimum of 75 at-risk youth per year.

Susannah's House provides childcare and preschool for children ages one through five using trauma-informed and age-appropriate therapeutic interventions. Programming is offered while parents are participating in recovery services in their Mothers in Recovery Program. The majority of the children enrolled in Susannah's Kids programming were exposed to harmful substances prenatally or were exposed to trauma as a result of familial substance use disorder. Since the onset of the pandemic the country has experienced significant increases in substance misuse, and childcare that incorporates social and emotional support for young children are limited in Knox County. Through this program a minimum of 30 children will receive traumainformed care annually.





AID TO IMPACTED NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

NONPROFIT GRANTS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1030651

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$285,000.00

PROJECT CATEGORY: 2.34

The County awarded one-time SLFRF grants to nonprofit entities that saw a significant negative economic impact as a result of the pandemic. These entities experienced a dramatic decrease in revenue as a direct result of the pandemic, and would otherwise have to reduce or eliminate services without this support. Three nonprofits were selected for this emergency financial assistance that will promote continued operations and access to services across Knox County.

AID TO TOURISM, TRAVEL, OR HOSPITALITY

ZOO KNOXVILLE CAPITAL FUNDING

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020650

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$4,000,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 2.35

The County dedicated SLFRF funding to Zoo Knoxville for capital improvements that will promote tourism and drive economic growth across the county. As one of the premier tourist destinations in the region, Zoo Knoxville was heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Annually the zoo receives an average of 550,000 visitors, with 50% traveling from a 50-mile radius outside the county. Some of the projects that were delayed due to a revenue shortfall are being completed using SLFRF funds including: the otter habitat that opened in 2021; improved signage; and an aviary habitat that is being rehabilitated.

AID TO OTHER IMPACTED INDUSTRIES

ARTS & CULTURE GRANTS PROGRAM

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020652

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$1,200,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 2.36

The County committed SLFRF funds to aid entities within the arts and culture industry that was impacted by significant revenue losses during the pandemic. In 2019, arts and culture organizations within the County created: \$12 million in jobs; \$29 million in direct spending for local businesses; and \$30 million in tourism business. During the pandemic, these organizations experienced a net loss of over \$13,000,000. Providing grants within the industry will accelerate the recovery of the arts and culture sector, directly benefitting individuals in this sector who saw a loss or reduction in employment during the pandemic. There will be two opportunities for impacted entities to apply for funding, a process which will be overseen by the Arts & Cultural Alliance in 2022 and 2023.







ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSISTANCE

EDUCATION AND HOUSEHOLD ASSISTANCE PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1030657

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$400,000 PROJECT CATEGORY: 2.37

Knox County received solicitations for grant funding from multiple nonprofits that serve community members disproportionately impacted since COVID-19 struck in early 2020. Nonprofit agencies that serve historically underserved populations awarded SLFRF grants for services dedicated towards educational and household assistance.

Centro Hispano de East Tennessee is a Latinx-led nonprofit that offers education-focused services to Latino community members, including monolingual Spanish speakers. Centro facilitates an evidence-based, culturally appropriate parent education course targeted on children's social, emotional, and academic development. A minimum of 30 parents will complete the course annually. The SLFRF grant will go towards English as a Second Language (ESL) programming which supports underemployed adults through workforce development. An anticipated 100 individuals will complete the evidence-based curriculum that enhances their skills, preparing participants to seek higher paying employment opportunities.

Volunteer Ministries Center additionally operates portable hygiene services that is transported to various locations. This boosts accessibility for unhoused community members, some of whom are employed but unable to afford housing. Along with access to showers, visitors can engage with opportunities that open a pathway towards stable housing. It is anticipated that unhoused individuals will visit the mobile hygiene services 900 times annually; and offering

United Way of Greater Knoxville will be launching its Automotive Free Clinic in 2023 that will offer low- and no-cost automotive repairs. Public transportation is not accessible to most residents outside of the Knoxville city limits, and many households rely on their personal vehicles to get to work. This initiative will be mobile and available at numerous sites throughout the county. With the continued economic impacts of the pandemic, low-income households are experiencing greater financial instability, and the breakdown of a vehicle can lead to unemployment and homelessness. An anticipated 75 low-income individuals will be able to remain employed through the automotive repair assistance offered by the organization.





WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

The County will utilize SLFRF dollars for stormwater projects managed internally as well as eligible water and sewer infrastructure projects undertaken by local utility providers. These projects will align with eligible uses under the Environmental Protection Agency's Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Funds. The EPA has stated that as a result of climate change, "precipitation variability will increase in many areas". SLFRF-funded projects will address this issue through an increased capacity in wastewater and stormwater systems. Funding through these projects afford utility providers the opportunity to increase monitoring of current conditions and the ability to detect deterioration in physical assets and determine when adjustments are necessary. Additionally, projects will serve to increase the availability of clean drinking water to rural areas and provide the additional infrastructure needed to construct affordable housing needed within Knox County.

CLEAN WATER: DECENTRALIZED WASTEWATER

KNOXVILLE UTILITIES BOARD WASTEWATER PROJECTS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623.13

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$10,000,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 5.3

The County will utilize SLFRF funds for wastewater projects undertaken by the Knoxville Utilities Board. Detailed project-level reporting will be included in future Project and Expenditure reports.

FIRST UTILITY DISTRICT WASTEWATER PROJECTS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623.14

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$8,000,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 5.3

The County will utilize SLFRF funds for wastewater projects undertaken by First Utility District. Detailed project-level reporting will be included in future Project and Expenditure reports.

KNOX CHAPMAN UTILITY DISTRICT WASTEWATER PROJECTS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623.15

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$2,037,500

PROJECT CATEGORY: 5.3

The County will utilize SLFRF funds for wastewater projects undertaken by Knox Chapman Utility District. Detailed project-level reporting will be included in future Project and Expenditure reports.







WEST KNOX UTILITY DISTRICT WASTEWATER PROJECTS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623.16

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$8,000,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 5.3

The County will utilize SLFRF funds for wastewater projects undertaken by West Knox Utility District. Detailed project-level reporting will be included in future Project and Expenditure reports.

CLEAN WATER: STORMWATER

KNOX COUNTY STORMWATER PROJECT

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020694

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$4,000,000.00

PROJECT CATEGORY: 5.6

The County will utilize SLFRF funds for a stormwater project carried out by the Knox County Engineering and Publics Works Department. Detailed project-level reporting will be included in future Project and Expenditure reports.

Drinking Water: Transmission & Distribution

HALLSDALE-POWELL UTILITY DISTRICT WATER TRANSMISSION PROJECTS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623.18

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$8,000,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 5.11

The County will utilize SLFR funds to provide assistance for water transmission projects undertaken by Hallsdale-Powell Utility District. Detailed project-level reporting will be included in future Project and Expenditure reports.

NORTH EAST KNOX UTILITY DISTRICT WATER TRANSMISSION PROJECTS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623.19

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$2,300,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 5.11

The County will utilize SLFRF funds for water transmission projects undertaken by North East Knox Utility District. Detailed project-level reporting will be included in future Project and Expenditure reports.







LUTTRELL-BLAINE UTILITY DISTRICT WATER TRANSMISSION PROJECTS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623.20

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$1,500,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 5.11

The County will utilize SLFR funds for water transmission projects undertaken by Luttrell-Blaine Utility District. Detailed project-level reporting will be included in future Project and Expenditure reports.

KNOX CHAPMAN UTILITY DISTRICT WASTEWATER PROJECTS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623.21

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$2,037,500

PROJECT CATEGORY: 5.11

The County will utilize SLFRF funds for water transmission projects undertaken by Knox Chapman Utility District. Detailed project-level reporting will be included in future Project and Expenditure reports.

REVENUE REPLACEMENT PROJECTS

KNOX COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT SOFTWARE UPGRADE

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$1,400,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 6.1

The County has dedicated SLFRF dollars to address a backlog in court cases, created by the COVID-19 pandemic, through a capital project to upgrade software for the Knox County Criminal Court. Local court systems experienced significant revenue losses during the pandemic, affecting the County's ability to fund critical software upgrades needed to ensure equal access to justice for all residents. This facilitates the County's ability to effectively administer services and expedite resolutions for the approximate 3,000 cases handled by the court in the course of a normal year. Additionally, the project will provide enhanced online capabilities to reduce the amount of in-person contact required for constituents to access information relevant to criminal court proceedings.

KNOX COUNTY COURT SYSTEM OPERATING EXPENSES

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$2,683,713.50

PROJECT CATEGORY: 6.1

The County will utilize SLFRF funds for operating expenses incurred in the provision of judicial services to benefit the residents of Knox County. Both the Civil Sessions and Circuit Courts experienced significant revenue loses during the COVID-19 pandemic and these funds will ensure operations remain effective and facilitate the clearing of cases delayed by the pandemic.







KNOX COUNTY STORMWATER PROJECTS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$2,318,683.50

PROJECT CATEGORY: 6.1

The County will utilize SLFRF funds for a variety of stormwater improvement projects. Funds will be utilized to: repair or replace concrete box culverts as noted as a critical need in the 2018 stormwater infrastructure inventory; stream restoration at Plumb Creek Park to protect at-risk sanitary sewer infrastructure; reconnection of an isolated wetland and restoration of Mill Run Stream; expansion of Roy Arthur Stormwater Park; culvert repairs; expansion of flood storage and public greenspace at Cedar Bluff and Dutchtown Road; and floodplain mapping and additional projects for Beaver Creek. These projects will ensure clean drinking water and access to green spaces and wetlands are available to all county residents.

KNOX COUNTY ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$13,000,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 6.1

The County will utilize SLFRF funds to construct a new engineering and public works facility on West Baxter Avenue. The new building will consolidate multiple stand-alone facilities and provide a streamlined one-stop location for constituents to access services provided by the various departments that fall under Knox County Engineering and Public Works.

KNOX COUNTY IT SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE AND LICENSING

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$250,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 6.1

The County has dedicated SLFRF dollars towards upgrades to the County's software and renew licensing that will maintain daily government operations.

KNOX COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT SEPTIC SYSTEM REPAIR PROGRAM

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$100,000 PROJECT CATEGORY: 6.1

The County will utilize SLFRF funds to support operations of the Health Department's Septic System Repair Program that is available to residents without the economic means to address needed repairs to their septic systems. The Health Department issues permits and manages a minor repair program dedicated towards the maintenance of faulty septic systems in the county.







KNOX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE PROJECTS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$2,000,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 6.1

The County will utilize SLFRF funds for projects that support fire and rescue services provided to the residents of Knox County by three fire departments and one rescue squad: Karns Fire Department; Knox County Rescue; Rural Metro Fire Department; and Seymour Volunteer Fire Department. In January 2021, the Knox County Commission established the Knox County Fire and Technical Rescue Committee to serve as an advisory group to both the Commission and Knox County Mayor. This eleven-member committee made up of representatives from the fire and rescue agencies, legislative and executive branches of the County, and leadership of other emergency service organizations will oversee the process for the use and allocation of the approved SLFRF funds.

KNOX COUNTY SUMMERPLACE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$2,500,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 6.1

The County is investing SLFRF dollars into the relocation of services to the Summerplace facility that will offer a central location for key government offices, including those of the Knox County Schools, the Knox County Probation Office, and the Knox County Merit Office.

KNOX COUNTY ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$6,772,281.27

PROJECT CATEGORY: 6.1

The County will utilize SLFRF funds to assist with the completion of the Schaad Road extension project. When completed, Schaad Road will be a five-lane ring road connecting Interstate 40/75 at Lovell Road in west Knox County to Interstate 75 at Callahan Road in north Knox County. Once completed, this project will facilitate development and economic growth in an area of northwest Knox County historically served by a deficient two-lane road.







KNOX COUNTY PARKS AND GREENWAY IMPROVEMENTS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$1,750,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 6.1

The County will utilize SLFRF funds for projects to improve parks and greenways in an effort to expand recreation opportunities for county residents. One proposed project is the development of a campground at Melton Hill Park providing constituents a local place to camp as well as additional revenue for the County generated by a new tourism destination. As reported in the 2021 North American Annual Camping Report, camping has grown exponentially across all demographics since 2014. Kampgrounds of America Inc. reported the number of people camping, at least three times per year, has increased by 121% over last year. Final project allocations have yet to be determined and the County may include funding for additional park and greenway projects in the future.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER EXPENDITURES

KNOX COUNTY MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1020623.28

FUNDING AMOUNT: \$2,000,000

PROJECT CATEGORY: 7.1

The County will utilize SLFR funds for administrative costs incurred to support the effective and efficient administration of the SLFRF Program and ensure compliance with the terms and conditions set forth by the U.S. Department of the Treasury. The program will be administered by Knox County's finance and community development departments. These departments both have substantial experience managing a variety of federally funded programs including the: Federal Emergency Management Agency; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and U.S. Department of the Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance.

Administrative costs may include personnel time and expenses for program administration, the purchase or creation of a software platform for program management, and contract support to assist nonprofit agencies in the design and conduct of a rigorous program evaluation.





PERFORMANCE INDICATORS & PROGRAMMATIC DATA

	CATEGORY	OUTPUT MEASURES	OUTCOME MEASURES			
Public Health Expenditure Category						
1.6	Medical Services	Availability/ Accessibility	Percentage increase in availability and accessibility of services for constituents			
1.12	Mental Health Services	Availability/ Accessibility	Percentage increase in availability and accessibility of services for constituents			
1.13	Substance Use Services	Number Served	Percentage of program participants requiring in-patient treatment within the following year			
Negative Economic Impacts Expenditure Category						
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs	Number Served	Percentage of program participants exhibiting measurable positive outcomes			
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, & Utility Aid	Number Served	Percentage of program participants exhibiting measurable positive outcomes			
2.10	Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers	Number Served	Percentage of program participants exhibiting measurable positive outcomes			
2.15	Long-Term Housing Security: Affordable Housing	Housing Units	Number of units constructed and occupied by low- to moderate income households			
2.18	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	Number Served	Percentage of program participants exhibiting measurable positive outcomes			
2.25	Addressing Educational Disparities: Academic, Social, & Emotional Services	Number Served	Percentage of program participants exhibiting measurable positive outcomes			
2.34	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations	Revenue	Percentage increase in revenue year over year			
2.35	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality	Revenue	Percentage increase in revenue year over year			
2.36	Aid to Other Impacted Industries	Revenue	Percentage increase in revenue year over year			
2.37	Economic Impact Assistance: Other	Number Served	Percentage of program participants exhibiting measurable positive outcomes			
Infrastructure Expenditure Category						
5.5	Clean Water: Decentralized	Capacity	Percentage increase in stormwater and/or sewer system capacity			
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater	Capacity	Percentage increase in stormwater and/or sewer system capacity			
5.11	Drinking Water: Transmission & Distribution	Availability/ Accessibility	Percentage increase in availability and accessibility of services for constituents			

^{*}Outside the public health and negative economic impacts categories included above, at this time, the County does not plan to utilize SLFRF funds for any of the other projects requiring data reporting as listed in the U.S. Department of the Treasury Final Rule.





