

Larimer County, Colorado
Recovery Plan

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2021 Report

Notes on using this template

All States and territories, and metropolitan cities and counties with a population that exceeds 250,000 residents that are recipients of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) awards are required to produce a Recovery Plan Performance Report (the “Recovery Plan”). The Recovery Plan provides information on the recipient’s projects and how they plan to ensure program outcomes are achieved in an effective and equitable manner. It will include key performance indicators identified by the recipient and some mandatory indicators identified by Treasury. Each annual Recovery Plan must be posted on the public-facing website of the recipient by or on the same date that the recipient submits the report to Treasury.

The initial Recovery Plan will cover the period from the date of award to July 31, 2021 and must be submitted to Treasury by August 31, 2021. Thereafter, the Recovery Plan will cover a 12-month period and recipients will be required to submit the report to Treasury within 30 days after the end of the 12-month period (by July 31).

Annual Report	Period Covered	Due Date
1	Award Date – July 31, 2021	August 31, 2021
2	July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022	July 31, 2022
3	July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023	July 31, 2023
4	July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024	July 31, 2024
5	July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025	July 31, 2025
6	July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026	July 31, 2026
7	July 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026	March 31, 2027

Instructions:

This document is meant as a suggested template for applicable SLFRF recipients to assist them in submitting their Recovery Plan. Recipients should consult the SLFRF Guidance on Recipient Compliance and Reporting Responsibilities (Reporting Guidance) located at <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance.pdf> for detailed guidance on the submission of this report.

Treasury encourages Recipients to tailor this report to best meet their needs in terms of format and content. Treasury recommends the use of infographics, tables, charts, pictures, case studies, and other explanatory elements in describing their programs.

Text in italics represents the requirements from the Reporting Guidance and is meant to serve as a reference as recipients prepare their Recovery Plan. This instructions page and the *text in italics* should be removed before the final transmitted report is published and submitted to Treasury.

Additional information around Expenditure Categories is located in Appendix 1 of the Reporting Guidance.

For More Information

More information about the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund program and associated reporting requirements are located at www.treasury.gov/SLFRP .

Questions on reporting, eligible uses, or other general topics should be directed to SLFRP@treasury.gov.

Larimer County
2021 Recovery Plan

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

In this section, provide a high-level overview of the jurisdiction's intended and actual uses of funding including, but not limited to: the jurisdiction's plan for use of funds to promote a response to the pandemic and economic recovery, key outcome goals, progress to date on those outcomes, and any noteworthy challenges or opportunities identified during the reporting period. See Section C(1) on page 24 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

Larimer County is in the initial stages of community engagement and public participation that will lead to a long-term strategy and plan for use of the funds.

A key concept in our public outreach effort is a commitment to use Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) to address root causes social vulnerabilities, health outcomes, and economic disparities in our community. Once we have received more feedback and community ideas the Larimer County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) will establish a framework, strategy, and projects for using the funds granted to Larimer County.

As of August 31, the County has held several meetings with municipal partners and community stakeholders, such as non-profit groups. At present, the County intends to finalize public outreach initiatives near the end of October 2021.

In addition to the long-term plan for use of the FRF, the BOCC has allocated funds to address 'immediate, external community needs' in three broad categories: Public Health, Economic Impacts, Infrastructure; plus, a fourth allocation for direct County impacts within those three categories. The BOCC has allocated \$500,000 to each category. The hope is that this approach will provide flexibility and the opportunity for the community to weigh in on larger/more long-term projects that will allow Larimer County to rebuild a stronger, more equitable economy for its residents.

One significant challenge faced by the County is the sheer volume of resources allocated to our community. This includes:

- Direct allocations to the County and its eight municipalities (which total approximately \$123M),
- Other ARPA grant programs
- ARPA allocations to existing federal programs that Larimer County provides on behalf of the State of Colorado
- The State of Colorado's own COVID-related stimulus bill.

The County is dedicated to ensuring that these funds are used in the most effective way possible while taking great care to avoid duplication of effort.

Uses of Funds

Describe in further detail your jurisdiction's intended and actual uses of the funds, such as how your jurisdiction's approach would help support a strong and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn. Describe any strategies employed to maximize programmatic impact and effective, efficient, and equitable outcomes. Given the broad eligible uses of funds and the specific needs of the jurisdiction, explain how the funds would support the communities, populations, or individuals in your jurisdiction. Address how you are promoting each of the following Expenditure Categories, to the extent they apply:

- a. *Public Health (EC 1)*
- b. *Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2)*
- c. *Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC 3)*
- d. *Premium Pay (EC 4)*
- e. *Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure (EC 5)*
- f. *Revenue Replacement EC 6)*

Where appropriate, include information on your jurisdiction's use (or planned use) of other federal recovery funds including other programs under the American Rescue Plan such as Emergency Rental Assistance, Housing Assistance, and so forth, to provide broader context on the overall approach for pandemic recovery.

See Section C(2) on page 24 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

At present the County is engaged in a public participation process that will help prioritize long-term projects within these categories that will maximize programmatic impact and effective, efficient, and equitable outcomes.

The County has allocated \$500,000 to address short-term community needs related to Public Health; Negative Economic Impacts; Water, Sewer and Broadband Infrastructure.

For the first Interim Report, as of July 31, the County has utilized FRF funds for the following:

EC 1 - Larimer County continues to face significant health impacts related to COVID-19 primarily in public safety and public health functions. The County will utilize FRF funds to reimburse payroll costs for:

- The Larimer County Jail, which is operated by the Office of the Sheriff. These impacts include testing and monitoring of symptomatic inmates, screening of all individuals booked into the jail, and implementing policies and procedures relating to quarantining and isolation of symptomatic inmates.
- Office of the Coroner. This office's operations have been significantly impacted by COVID-19 due to the precautions that must be taken in investigating all deaths due to either confirmed or unknown COVID-19 status.
- County Health Department for staff working primarily on vaccination events, testing, contract tracing, outbreak investigations and response, epidemiology, etc .
- Criminal Justice Services (CJS) staff who work in congregate correctional facilities that continue to have day-to-day operations dedicated to COVID, including providing COVID tests for new and in-custody offenders, checking symptom survey report every day,

ensuring mask compliance for offenders, room management for zoom classes/ treatment/ therapy, quarantine and cohort management.

Larimer County has also utilized \$56,702 since March 3, 2021 for its Information Technology Department to implement a Contact Information and Case Management (CICM) project for the Health Department. This system has allowed Health Department employees who have been activated for COVID response to focus their efforts on the valuable activities of contact tracing, notifications, and communication with the public.

The County is also using FRF funds for vicarious trauma training for CJS staff whose work lives have been significantly impacted by COVID-19.

EC 5 – The County will undertake a water/wastewater system feasibility study for the unincorporated community of Red Feather Lakes. This project concept has been approved, but no obligations or expenditures have thus far been made.

EC 6 – The County has calculated that the eligible reduction in revenue from the 2019 base year is \$831,312. Larimer County has not yet determined how these funds will be utilized.

Emergency Rent Assistance Program (ERAP) Summary, as of July 31, 2021

Larimer County created an Emergency Rent Assistance Program (ERAP) upon receiving HR 133 – The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 federal Emergency Rental Assistance funding April 1, 2021. The ERAP is serving all of Larimer County and its eligible residents – in all the incorporated and unincorporated communities. The Larimer County community can learn about the ERAP program on our website, www.larimer.org/erap.

Larimer County applied for ERAP funds in January 11, 2021. We were notified of the CARES Act funding award in early March 2021. Larimer County was awarded \$10,740,667.90. Larimer County has not held an active role in housing stability prior to this award. Our community is home to several dozen nonprofits and housing authorities who provide critical housing stability such as housing vouchers, homelessness services, case management, housing navigation, affordable housing developments, permanent supportive housing units, and more.

As our county population grows, and our housing market becomes more and more unattainable for some of our community, the County government is seeing its role expand. The CARES Act funding is providing much needed funds to begin the steps to create roles and responsibilities within housing stability work.

<https://www.larimer.org/about-larimer-county/vital-statistic-census-information/larimer-county-housing-living-statistics>

- Number of Households: 139,000
- Median Household Income: \$71,091
- Median Property Value (2018): \$398,300
- Median Home Sale Price (2021): \$475,000
- Renters (2018): 36%

In order to distribute 90 percent of the ERAP funds to eligible households, **we partnered with Neighbor to Neighbor (www.n2n.org)**, a forty-year old nonprofit in Fort Collins and Loveland which serves 5,000 individuals each year with renter and affordable housing programs, homeownership programs, and efforts to prevent and end homelessness. Larimer County and Neighbor to Neighbor (N2N) signed an MOU on March 11, 2021.

Larimer County hired a new, limited-term position to be the liaison between N2N and the Treasury Department, and to research other county housing stability programs. This person has spent 15 years in the County working in large community initiatives and engagement projects. She is the primary contact for the ERAP funds and submits reports to the Treasury and follows Treasury guidelines for compliance.

ERAP funding prioritization was developed with leadership from N2N and Larimer County. Knowing we had limited dollars, and demand estimated at ten times the amount awarded (as our area was hit hard by COVID-19 closures and layoffs), the leaders decided to prioritize qualifying households with incomes 50 percent or less of the area median income. The second priority is for those with an imminent threat of eviction. The community can learn more about eligibility and how to apply for ERAP funds at www.larimer.org/erap.

We income qualify borrowers by collecting their tax return, monthly paystubs, or benefit award letters for government assistance (SNAP, TANF, LEAP, etc.). In the case that they provide a benefit award letter, they are “categorically eligible.” The reasoning is that another government agency already looked at the household income and deemed that they were below 80% AMI, so we use their approval to qualify for the County ERAP as well.

Larimer County ERAP Accomplishments

During the first six months of 2021, Larimer County applied for ERA Program funds, and was awarded \$10,740,667.90 to implement a County-wide emergency rent and utility assistance program using the Treasury Department’s specific applicant eligibility and the State of Colorado’s Neighborly application portal. The County signed an MOU with Neighbor to Neighbor (N2N), a well-respected and high performing nonprofit who has been helping our community with rent assistance and home ownership for forty years. Between April and July 2021, Neighbor to Neighbor awarded 1,323 households with \$5,981,052.63 in combined rent and utility assistance.

During the next calendar quarter, we will be evaluating the applicant backlog to identify how much more funding is needed and how the American Recovery Act ERA Program dollars might be tapped to expand housing stability efforts across our County (Larimer County was awarded approximately \$11.7M in ERAP 2 funds).

Promoting equitable outcomes

In this section, describe efforts to date and intended outcomes to promote equity. Each annual report to follow must provide an update, using qualitative and quantitative data, on how the recipients’ approach achieved or promoted equitable outcomes or progressed against equity goals during the performance period.

Describe efforts to promote equitable outcomes, including how programs were designed with equity in mind. Include how your jurisdiction will consider and measure equity at the various stages of the program, including:

- a. Goals: Are there particular historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups that you intend to serve?*
- b. Awareness: How equal and practical is the ability for residents or businesses to become aware of the services funded by the SLFRF?*
- c. Access and Distribution: Are there differences in levels of access to benefits and services across groups? Are there administrative requirements that result in disparities in ability to complete applications or meet eligibility criteria?*
- d. Outcomes: Are intended outcomes focused on closing gaps, reaching universal levels of service, or disaggregating progress by race, ethnicity, and other equity dimensions where relevant for the policy objective?*

Describe how your jurisdiction's planned or current use of funds prioritizes economic and racial equity as a goal, names specific targets intended to produce meaningful equity results at scale, and articulates the strategies to achieve those targets. Explain how your jurisdiction's overall equity strategy translates into the specific services or programs offered by your jurisdiction in the following Expenditure Categories:

- a. Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2): assistance to households, small businesses, and non-profits to address impacts of the pandemic, which have been most severe among low-income populations. This includes assistance with food, housing, and other needs; employment programs for people with barriers to employment who faced negative economic impacts from the pandemic (such as residents of low-income neighborhoods, minorities, disconnected youth, the unemployed, formerly incarcerated people, veterans, and people with disabilities); and other strategies that provide disadvantaged groups with access to education, jobs, and opportunity.*
- b. Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC 3): services to address health disparities and the social determinants of health, build stronger neighborhoods and communities (e.g., affordable housing), address educational disparities (e.g., evidence-based tutoring, community schools, and academic, social-emotional, and mental health supports for high poverty schools), and promote healthy childhood environments (e.g., home visiting, child care).*

Describe your jurisdiction's efforts to date and intended outcomes to promote equity using qualitative and quantitative data on how the jurisdiction's approach achieved or promoted equitable outcomes or progressed against equity goals. Describe any constraints or challenges that impacted project success in terms of increasing equity.

Describe the geographic and demographic distribution of funding, including whether it is targeted toward traditionally marginalized communities.

See Section C(3) on pages 24 and 25 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

The Larimer Recovery Collaborative, of which Larimer County is a primary facilitator, has used a triple bottom line approach to developing recovery plans and strategies. This is evident in our plan (<https://larimerrecovers.org/covid-19-recovery-plan-implementation-strategies/>) with equity being one of the primary principals of our efforts, and we highlight equity as an opportunity to improve. Additionally, to ensure that equity efforts were community-led, the Larimer Recovery Collaborative stood up the Community Support and Equity Advisory Board, which is made up of members of the community and community-rooted organizations that represent marginalized communities that provide consistent feedback to the recovery process from an equity perspective. This group will continue to be engaged and help to develop community engagement strategies that ensure marginalized voices are elevated in providing feedback to long-term recovery efforts.

Community Engagement

Describe how your jurisdiction's planned or current use of funds incorporates written, oral, and other forms of input that capture diverse feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and the communities themselves. Where relevant, this description must include how funds will build the capacity of community organizations to serve people with significant barriers to services, including people of color, people with low incomes, limited English proficiency populations, and other traditionally underserved groups.

See Section C(4) on page 25 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

In February we brought on the position of a recovery-focused bi-lingual community engagement and communications professional whose primary task is to engage the community around COVID-19 recovery. This position was developed to have not only a communications focus, but an equity focus as well, with a key goal being that of building relationships and connecting resources to marginalized and vulnerable communities that have been most heavily impacted by this event. Since March, this person has also taken over as the key facilitator of our COVID-19 Recovery Equity and Advisory Board which seeks to receive feedback and direction from marginalized community members and community organizations around needs, gaps, and opportunities to partner to improve access to recovery resources. This person also collaborates heavily with County departments like the LCDHE (Larimer County Department of Health and Environment) on vaccine equity outreach to support these efforts and further connect with marginalized communities.

Outreach to date has been multi-faceted, including attendance at community events and in-person meetings, as well as virtual. The current Larimer Recovery Collaborative plan is [available online](#) in both English and Spanish for community members to be able to provide feedback, with the contact information provided as well in case folks are not comfortable using the Google form mechanism set up.

Additionally, Larimer County representatives have been working with key partners and organizations, including municipal governmental partners and community-rooted organizations to develop a unified community engagement plan to receive feedback and input from the community in an inclusive and equitable manner, capitalizing on lessons learned, already established trusted relationships, multiple methods of engagement, and with the key goal of

avoiding over-burdening our community with such things as survey fatigue or overwhelming marginalized communities when trying to seek feedback.

In addition to community feedback from individuals and non-profit groups, we are also surveying special districts to survey their needs as well.

Labor Practices

Describe workforce practices on any infrastructure projects being pursued (EC 5). How are projects using strong labor standards to promote effective and efficient delivery of high-quality infrastructure projects while also supporting the economic recovery through strong employment opportunities for workers? For example, report whether any of the following practices are being utilized: project labor agreements, community benefits agreements, prevailing wage requirements, and local hiring.

See Section C(5) on page 25 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

At this point, there has been no work on infrastructure projects.

Use of Evidence

Identify whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions and/or if projects are being evaluated through rigorous program evaluations that are designed to build evidence. Specifically, in this section, recipients should describe their overall approach for using evidence and evaluation, including how a Learning Agenda (either narrowly focused on SLFRF or broadly focused on the recipient's broader policy agenda) could support their overarching evaluation efforts in order to create an evidence-building strategy for their jurisdiction. However, detailed evidence information for each project should be included in the Project Inventory (see details in the Project Inventory section below).

See Section C(6) on page 26 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

As of this report, Larimer County has not engaged in any projects that are evidence-based.

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

In this section, list the amount of funds used in each Expenditure Category. The table should include cumulative expenses to date within each category, and the additional amount spent within each category since the last annual Recovery Plan.

Jurisdictions may modify the table as needed by deleting unused rows where they have not expended any funds or by adding columns to more clearly characterize their program expenditures over time.

For the initial Recovery Plan, the amounts listed for “Cumulative expenditures to date” and “Amount spent since last Recovery Plan” will be equal.

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health		
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.)	\$66,026	\$66,026
1.8	Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19	\$1,979,373	\$1,979,373
1.9	Mental Health Services	\$2,300	\$2,300
1.12	Other Public Health Services	\$56,702	\$56,702
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement		
6.1	Provision of Government Services	\$831,312	\$831,312
7	Administrative and Other		
7.1	Administrative Expenses	\$5,024	\$5,024

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

Project Inventory

In this section, jurisdictions should provide a description of each project undertaken. See Section C(8) on page 27 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information. Below is an example of how to present the information noted in the Reporting Guidance, which incorporates project details as well as evidence and performance measure information outlined in the relevant sections above. This information should be replicated for all of the jurisdiction’s projects.

Example Project

Project [Identification Number]: [Project Name]

Funding amount: [Funding amount]

Project Expenditure Category: [Category number, Category Name]

Project overview

- A description of the project that includes an overview of the main activities of the project, the approximate timeline, primary delivery mechanisms and partners, if applicable, and intended outcomes.
- Link to the website of the project if available
- How project contributes to addressing climate change (for infrastructure projects under EC 5)

Use of Evidence

- Briefly describe the goals of the project, and whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions, the evidence base for the interventions, and/or if projects are being evaluated through rigorous program evaluations that are designed to build evidence. If a recipient is conducting a program evaluation in lieu of reporting the amount of spending on evidence-based interventions, they must describe the evaluation design (see Reporting Guidance for additional details that should be included).
- Identify the dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions for each project in the Public Health (EC 1), Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2), and Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC 3) Expenditure Categories.

See Section C(6) on page 26 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

Additional Projects

Project [Identification Number]: [Project Name]

Funding amount: [Funding amount]

Project Expenditure Category: [Category number, Category Name]

As of July 31, 2021 there have been no projects beyond payroll-related costs for COVID impacted departments.

Performance Report

- For the Project Inventories in Section 8, include key performance indicators for your jurisdiction's major SLFRF funded projects. Report key performance indicators for each project, or group projects with substantially similar goals and the same outcome measures. Jurisdictions may choose to include some indicators for each individual project as well as crosscutting indicators. Include both output and outcome measures. See Section C(9) on page 27 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.
- In addition, you must include the mandatory performance indicators if your jurisdiction has projects in the relevant areas (this information may be included in each recipient's Recovery Plan as they determine most appropriate). Provide data disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, income, and other relevant factors, if possible. Data should be presented in a table and each annual report should include updated data for the performance period as well as prior period data.
 - a. Household Assistance (EC 2.2 & 2.5) and Housing Support (EC 3.10-3.12):
 - Number of people or households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation)
 - Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed
 - b. Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2):
 - Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs
 - Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs
 - Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs
 - c. Education Assistance (EC 3.1-3.5):

- Number of students participating in evidence-based tutoring programs
- d. Healthy Childhood Environments (EC 3.6-3.9):
 - Number of children served by childcare and early learning (pre-school/pre-K/ages 3- 5)
 - Number of families served by home visiting

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

This section is N/A as there have been no projects that have used KPIs or other performance indicators.

Ineligible Activities: Tax Offset Provision (States and territories only)

For the initial reporting year, States and territories will report the following items related to the Tax Offset Provision 31 CFR 35.8. Baseline revenue or revenue-increasing covered charges are not required at this time.

Item	Amount
a. Revenue-reducing Covered Changes	\$0

See Section C(11) on page 28 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

Additional guidance will be forthcoming for reporting requirements regarding the tax offset provision.