



LINCOLN

RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2024 Federal Report

City of Lincoln, Nebraska
2024 Recovery Plan
Performance Report

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Executive Summary

The City of Lincoln has pursued and is in development of the following activities using American Rescue Plan State and Local Fiscal Recovery funds:

1. **Public health:** Invested in public health programs including vaccine services and addressing health disparities. Funds have also been allocated for technology and office space upgrades.
2. **Address negative economic impacts to small businesses:** Deployed business mortgage and rental assistance to stabilize and grow businesses most impacted by the pandemic. Deployed small business utility grant to stabilize businesses in Qualified Census Tracts. Other programs are currently in contracting stages and will be rolled out in late 2024.
3. **Address negative economic impacts to the tourism industry:** Direct support given to non-profit tourism destinations.
4. **Address negative economic impacts to under and unemployed workers:** Developed job training programs that serve individuals most impacted by the pandemic, including low-wage workers and youth, and have a clear connection to workforce demand. During the last year we have expanding training to include Commercial Drivers License and expanded classes and on-the-job training opportunities for childcare workers.
5. **Revenue replacement:** Ensured that city parking services which lost revenue due to the pandemic can provide stable services into the future. We are supporting the construction of a youth ball field as well.

Up-to-date information on programs, spending, and reporting can always be found at <https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Mayor/American-Rescue-Plan>

Uses of Funds

These funds may be used for responding to the public health emergency or negative economic impacts, infrastructure, revenue replacement, and other specific purposes.

In consideration of the use of these funds, the following priorities were considered:

- Promote equity and economic impact.
- Avoid duplication of other efforts and funding streams.
- Leverage matching funds when practical.
- Build on existing plans and initiatives, especially formally adopted plans through public processes.

The following priorities were identified: Restore Our Economy and Renew Community Commitments. As seen on the City's website at [American Rescue Plan – City of Lincoln, NE](#). Each expenditure falls under these categories.

The City of Lincoln has implemented the following uses of funds:

1. **Public health:** Invested in public health programs including vaccine services and addressing health disparities.
 - a. Lincoln invested in public health initiatives per the U.S. Department of Treasury guidance. A broad range of services and programming were needed to contain COVID19. Mitigation and prevention efforts for COVID19 that were planned for Lincoln included vaccination programs and supports for vulnerable populations to access medical or public health services. Funds continue to be available to address any resurgence of the virus.
 - b. Other expenditures include remodeling the Public Health administrative building and technology to better serve the community. This renovation began in April 2024.
2. **Address negative economic impacts to small businesses:** Deployed small business grants for businesses most affected by the pandemic.
 - a. Small Business Stabilization Grant was a rent/mortgage assistance program for small businesses that have experienced significant revenue loss due to the pandemic.
 - i.) Small businesses had to prove a 25% reduction of gross receipts to be eligible for this grant.
 - ii.) Initial analysis predicts a 1.75 economic multiplier effect.
 - b. Small Business Utility Grant gave grants to small businesses in Qualified Census Tracts to cover utility costs (electric and water) for up to a year.
 - i.) Small businesses had to be located in a Qualified Census Tract.
 - ii.) Feedback from the business community was positive as utility costs are some of the highest operating expenses for certain industries.
 - c. Additional programs are in the development stages to promote the Music District in downtown Lincoln and to ensure all buildings in the City are up to fire code.
3. **Address negative economic impacts to the tourism industry:** Tourism Support

Grants were given to aid non-profit tourism destinations throughout the City and County.

- a. Qualifying non-profits were granted funds equal or less than six months of operating expenses.
- b. Grant applications were reviewed by a board of elected officials including members of the City Council and Lancaster County Commissioners.
- c. Lancaster County also appropriated funds for qualified nonprofits.

4. **Address negative economic impacts to under and unemployed workers:**

Deployed job training programs that serve individuals most impacted by the pandemic, including low-wage workers and youth, and have a clear connection to workforce demand.

- a. Lincoln implemented a competitive workforce development grant program for nonprofits and/or institutions of higher education implementing programs designed for unemployed workers and youth who were unemployed prior to the pandemic and seeking employment.
- b. These programs are providing approved job training including trainings for the most in-demand job fields such as nursing, IT certifications, manufacturing certifications, and reskilling/upskilling in advanced technology.
- c. To date 1026 participants have been served cumulatively. See specific numbers for each training grant under Project Inventory.

5. **Revenue replacement:** Ensured that city services that lost revenue due to the pandemic can provide stable services into the future and complete government services as deemed necessary.

- a. Replace lost revenue in the amount of \$10 million
- b. A total of \$4.5 million has been used to replace lost revenue in the City Parking Services Division.
- c. A total of \$4.5 million has been dedicated to the youth sports complex along with funds from Lancaster County and private donors.
- d. One million dollars will be dedicated to the improvements needed for the Music District in downtown Lincoln.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

The City of Lincoln intends to pursue the following equity initiatives using American Rescue Plan State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds:

1. **Public health:** Invested in public health programs including vaccine services and addressing health disparities.
 - a. Equity goals for this program include vaccine and public health promotion to diverse communities through strategic partnerships with cultural and religious organizations.
 - b. Funds have been spent to translate health documents into additional languages and use community cultural centers as vaccine clinic sites.
 - c. Childhood safety programs, such as Lead Free Lincoln, have been invigorated with these funds.
2. **Address negative economic impacts to small businesses:**
 - a. Small Business Stabilization Grants for mortgage and rental assistance deployed to stabilize and grow businesses most impacted by the pandemic.
 - i.) Equity goals for this program included significant participation by small, female, and minority owned businesses, promoted through targeted outreach and awareness building in partnership with community organizations serving diverse communities. \$1.5 million was granted to micro businesses, which have a larger representation of diverse business owners.
 - ii.) Through a partnership with the Asian Cultural Center program materials were translated into Vietnamese to serve one of the City's largest minority groups.
 - b. Small Business Utility Grant was structured to provide utility payments for small businesses located in Qualified Census Tracts.
 - i.) Qualified Census Tracts were presumed to be disproportionately impacted and thus this grant supported historically low-income and underserved communities with this grant.
 - ii.) Program materials were translated into Vietnamese and Spanish to provide direct outreach through community cultural centers.
3. **Address negative economic impacts to the tourism industry:** Tourism Support Grants provided to nonprofit tourism destinations to ensure that they could continue to offer services to the greater community. Most of the non-profits are located in a Qualified Census Tract and many provide opportunities to low-income and diverse populations.
4. **Address negative economic impacts under and unemployed workers:** Developed job training programs that serve individuals most impacted by the pandemic, including low-wage workers and youth, and have a clear connection to workforce demand.
 - a. Equity goals for this program include alignment with the Greater Lincoln Workforce Development Board goals of living wages, promoting career pathways, increasing awareness of workforce programs, and enhancing youth employment. Initiatives promote equity and address equity for all, including people of color and others who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality.

- b. Many training programs are located in a Qualified Census Tracts. All programs prioritize serving unemployed individuals.
 - c. To date, 95% of training participants are an “targeted impacted group” including unemployed or underemployed individuals, individuals from low- to moderate-income households, and individuals who reside in Qualified Census Tracts.
5. **Revenue replacement:** Ensured that city services that lost revenue due to the pandemic can provide stable services into the future.

Community Engagement

The City of Lincoln consulted and leveraged the following reports, surveys, and commissions in plan development in order to incorporate written, oral, and other forms of input that capture diverse feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and the community as a whole.

1. **Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan:** This plan was developed with significant community feedback including citizen engagement, a nine-member citizen board, public hearings, and approval by the City Council.
2. **Downtown Lincoln Master Plan:** This plan was developed with significant community feedback including community engagement and working groups, focus group by interest area, an online survey, and community open houses, as well as a representative and a stakeholder project committee and steering committee.
3. **Lancaster County Board of Commissioners Survey:** This survey was made available to the entire County, encompassing the City of Lincoln.
4. **Mayor's Economic Recovery Task Force Report:** This report was developed by a diverse group of representative community stakeholders, including business leaders, diversity experts, and service providers.
5. **Mayor's Economic Recovery Task Force Survey:** This survey was conducted across the Lincoln Business community and resulted in engagement from a diverse group of business leaders in a variety of industries from numerous different perspectives and representing all areas of the City.
6. **Joint Budget Committee Priority Matrix:** The Joint Budget Committee is an existing fund distribution committee with City, County, and community representatives.
7. **Visitor's Promotion Committee:** The Visitor's Promotion Committee is an existing fund distribution committee with City, County, and community representatives, specifically including leadership from industries hardest hit by the pandemic, including travel and tourism.
8. **Lincoln/Lancaster County Board of Health:** The Lincoln/Lancaster County Board of Health is an existing administrative board with City, County, and Community representatives.
9. **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Local Plan:** This plan is developed by the Greater Lincoln Workforce Development Board and includes a public hearing and public comment period. The Board includes diverse representation, specifically including service providers to individuals with disabilities and English as a second language learners.

Labor Practices

The City of Lincoln follows the Federal Procurement Manual developed by the City Finance Department which incorporates the standards in 2 CFR Part 200. Any item bid through City Purchasing Department has these provisions included.

Subrecipients of these funds are required by their contract to follow the same Federal procurement procedures as outlined in 2 CFR Part 200.

Use of Evidence

The City of Lincoln will not use evidence-based interventions but will be evaluating the programs administered through this funding.

Many programs were designed to rapidly address the economic impact of the pandemic and thus were implemented as beneficiary programs. Landlords or mortgage holders were paid directly by the Small Business Stabilization Grant on behalf of qualifying small businesses. The Small Business Utility Grant paid utility costs for qualifying small businesses directly to the utility company. Developed with the same goal, our Tourism Support Grant, paid qualifying nonprofit tourism destinations direct payments to cover a portion of their operating expenses.

The Workforce Development Training Grant was designed as a subrecipient program and thus has a more rigorous evaluation plan. This grant aims to ensure workers have access to rewarding and financially secure careers and to ensure businesses and organizations can secure the workforce needed to be successful and grow the local economy. The City selected six local grantees to receive resources to implement workforce development programs. The funds were awarded to agencies in industries that have been identified by the Mayor's Economic Recovery Task force as lacking applicants and needing employment.

The City has partnered with the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center (NUPPC) to evaluate the Lincoln Workforce Development Training Grant program. The NUPPC evaluation team works closely with each grantee to track data to report progress on program goals. The primary intended users of this evaluation include the City and the grantees to assess progress on goals and program implementation, and to help meet federal reporting requirements. The results of this evaluation will ultimately serve to inform future workforce development programming.

Performance Report

Performance management was addressed by adding an ARPA Compliance Administrator staff member whose job duties include developing and implementing programs, including auditing and compliance functions. The City also hired a staff member located in the City Finance Department that is responsible for reviewing ARPA budgets and paying all ARPA related invoices. Together these positions have proven invaluable to the success of each program.

Information is readily available for everyone at www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Mayor/American-Rescue-Plan.

All beneficiary programs were considered successful based on the volume of applicants, meeting statutory requirements, and passing outside auditing examinations.

All Workforce Development Training grantees will be assessed by 1) the number of workers who achieve a credential through the program, 2) the number of workers who obtain a job within targeted sectors within 12 months of completing the program, and 3) the number of workers with increased income within 12 months of completing program. Data for these indicators is collected to disaggregate by race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, educational attainment, income, and location where possible. The annual report for the Workforce Development Training grants is compiled over a calendar year and thus does not match up in timing with this quarterly report, but we can definitely state that when enrollment participants are compared to the racial and ethnic demographics of all Lancaster County residents, available program participant records continue to indicate that grantee workforce development training programs are increasing opportunities for career and wage growth for people of color who have been historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.

Further, the Workforce Development Training Program aims to ensure workers have access to rewarding and financially secure careers and to ensure businesses and organizations can secure the workforce needed to be successful and grow the local economy. Specifically, Goal 3 for this program is to *Increase opportunities for career and wage growth for job seekers that have been historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality*. To assess progress on this goal, participant level datasets are collected from each of the seven workforce grantees to allow disaggregation of Key Performance Indicators (KPI) data by participant demographics, educational attainment, and targeted impacted status at enrollment. These impacted groups,^[1] were specifically targeted in recruitment efforts by the City of Lincoln Workforce Development Training program: unemployed or underemployed individuals, individuals from low- to moderate-income households, and individuals who reside in Qualified Census Tracts. For participants whose targeted impacted group status could be determined, nearly all were part of *at least* one of the groups (94.3%), which included 39.0% of program participants who were unemployed at enrollment, 88.9% of individuals who are from low-to-moderate income households, and 28.1% of individuals who reside in Qualified Census Tracts.

When compared to the demographics of all Lancaster County residents, available program participant records through Year 2 indicate that the grantee workforce development programs are providing and increasing opportunities for career and wage growth for individuals that have been

^[1] U.S. Department of the Treasury. (2022, September). *Compliance and reporting guidelines: State and local fiscal recovery funds*. Version 5.0. <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance.pdf>

historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality. Although demographic information was not provided for all program participants, the data available illustrates that the City of Lincoln Workforce Development Training program is serving a more diverse population compared to the overall population of Lancaster County. For example, 13.8% of program participants with race and ethnicity data identify as Black or African American Alone compared to 3.6% of total Lancaster County residents. Additionally, 3.4% of program participants with race and ethnicity data identify as American Indian or Alaska Native Alone compared to 0.3% of total Lancaster County residents. This disaggregated KPI data indicates that progress continues towards meeting Goal 3. You may also see the whole report here nuppc-lwd-annual-report-y2-4-30-2024.pdf (ne.gov).

As announced to the public on April 25, 2024, in order to allocate all available funds budgeted for Workforce Development Training the City is redirecting unused grant funds in the following manner:

- \$150,000 to support ECHO Collective, which connects and empowers local refugee and immigrant women. The grant provides funding to enable multiple cohorts of refugee and immigrant women to attend an intensive, four-month business education course.
- \$250,000 additional dollars to support a commercial driver's license program offered by the American Job Center. The funds will provide financial assistance for training and facilitating job placements.

Another \$200,000 of the redirected funds will be allocated to childcare-related initiatives:

- \$100,000 to Lincoln Littles for an internship program in conjunction with the American Job Center for 30 participants. Participants will be paid during their internship and receive weekly educational opportunities to bolster their childcare knowledge.
- \$100,000 to CEDARS in support of their childcare programs in their Northbridge Childcare Center. These funds will assist CEDARS in providing stable access to childcare for low-income families in North Lincoln.

Project Inventory

Project 205101: Small Business Stabilization Grant

Funding amount: \$7,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2-Negative Economic Impacts; 2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Number of Businesses Served: 263

Project Overview: The purpose of this program was to provide stabilization assistance to small businesses negatively impacted by the pandemic. The program provided rent or mortgage payments to assist qualifying small businesses in stabilizing and growing business operations and employment as well as to recover from pandemic losses.

Small businesses applied for the grant and had to show a 25% reduction in gross receipts between 2020 and 2021. For eligibility requirements, additional information, and frequently asked questions, visit:

<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Mayor/American-Rescue-Plan/Small-Business>

Project 205113: Small Business Utility Grant

Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2-Negative Economic Impacts; 2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Number of Businesses Served: 160, many grants were for buildings that house multiple small businesses so the estimated number served in total is over 200

Project Overview: The purpose of this program was to aid small businesses negatively impacted by the pandemic. The program provided utility payments directly to the utility companies on behalf of the small businesses to assist in stabilizing and growing business operations and employment as well as to recover from pandemic losses.

Small businesses located in a Qualified Census Tract applied for the grant and after verification payments were made directly to the utility companies from the City.

<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Mayor/American-Rescue-Plan/Small-Business-Utility-Grants>

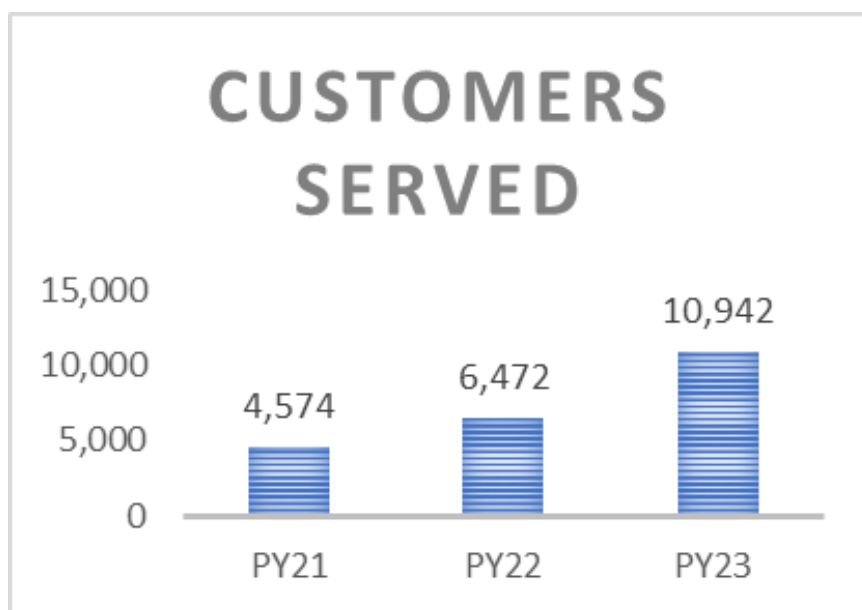
Project 205102: American Job Center Remodel

Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2-Negative Economic Impacts; 2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)

Project Overview: Improvement to the American Job Center was required to accommodate better ingress and egress of clients. The Center, which was relocated to a high foot traffic location across from the downtown public library, has seen a significant increase of job seekers in this new location.

Impact of Funding: The official grand opening in February 2023 was attended by the U.S. Secretary of Labor and other State and Local leaders. The remodel and relocation directly resulted in exponential growth in foot traffic from year 2021 to 2023, shown in the following graph.



Project 205103: Workforce Development Southeast Community College

Funding amount: \$4,800,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2-Negative Economic Impacts; 2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)

Cumulative Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs: 240

Cumulative Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs: 218

Project Overview: Create a work-based learning center including hiring a director and coordinator. This office will customize reskilling/upskilling training for eligible participants

including apprenticeships, internship, and other asymmetrical workforce development opportunities in high-demand sectors.

Construct and equip reskilling/upskilling and apprenticeship training space within a new IT and Advanced Technology Center. Grant includes the construction and equipping of dedicated training spaces within these facilities, which will be specifically designed to provide robust and customized reskilling and upskilling in Information Technology to create an innovative and scalable approach to rapid and adaptive retraining of the City workforce.

<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Mayor/American-Rescue-Plan/Workforce>

Evaluation: The NUPPC evaluation focuses on the Workforce Development Training Grant program at a city-wide level to assess progress on program goals and implementation. Progress is assessed on the following program goals:

- a. Address the negative economic impacts of the pandemic each grantee program sought to address.
- b. Increase opportunities for career and wage growth.
- c. Increase opportunities for career and wage growth for job seekers that have been historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.
- d. Co-enroll 50% of workforce development program participants in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program.

In addition, each individual grantee program has its own unique goals and associated metrics. Documentation of individual grantee goals and proposed metrics is included in each grantee's individual annual report. Technical assistance is provided by the NUPPC to grantees to complete their own individual evaluations.

Progress on the program goals is assessed through 1) quarterly collection of Key Performance Indicator (KPI) data, 2) annual collection of participant level datasets from each grantee, 3) an implementation evaluation, and 4) Nebraska Department of Labor the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) -City of Lincoln Workforce Development Program cohort data.

Project 205104: Workforce Development Rabble Mill

Funding amount: \$2,100,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2-Negative Economic Impacts; 2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)

Cumulative Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs: 150

Cumulative Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs: 46

Project Overview: Update the physical location at The Bay to accommodate safe COVID spaces as well as update to allow for better learning experiences.

Use resources from other community foundations and Lincoln School System to staff and operate The Bay High School. Serve high school age students who are most at risk for not graduating high school. Programing will focus on future skills, social and emotional wellness, and college or career readiness.

<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Mayor/American-Rescue-Plan/Workforce>

Evaluation: The NUPPC evaluation focuses on the Workforce Development Training Grant program at a city-wide level to assess progress on program goals and implementation. Progress is assessed on the following program goals:

- a. Address the negative economic impacts of the pandemic each grantee program sought to address.
- b. Increase opportunities for career and wage growth.
- c. Increase opportunities for career and wage growth for job seekers that have been historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.
- d. Co-enroll 50% of workforce development program participants in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program.

In addition, each individual grantee program has its own unique goals and associated metrics. Documentation of individual grantee goals and proposed metrics is included in each grantee's individual annual report. Technical assistance is provided by the NUPPC to grantees to complete their own individual evaluations.

Progress on the program goals is assessed through 1) quarterly collection of Key Performance Indicator (KPI) data, 2) annual collection of participant level datasets from each grantee, 3) an implementation evaluation, and 4) Nebraska Department of Labor the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) -City of Lincoln Workforce Development Program cohort data.

Project 205105: Workforce Development Lincoln Manufacturing

Funding amount: \$1,050,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2-Negative Economic Impacts; 2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)

Cumulative Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs: 241

Cumulative Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs: 179

Project Overview: Train 50+ participants per year to obtain the Manufacturing Certificate

1. Offer Manufacturing Certificate 2 classes within six months to continue to train the same or other qualified individuals. All participants will be provided supportive services to ensure participants complete the program including needs-based payments, childcare assistance, and transportation assistance.

<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Mayor/American-Rescue-Plan/Workforce>

Evaluation: The NUPPC evaluation focuses on the Workforce Development Training Grant program at a city-wide level to assess progress on program goals and implementation. Progress is assessed on the following program goals:

- a. Address the negative economic impacts of the pandemic each grantee program sought to address.
- b. Increase opportunities for career and wage growth.
- c. Increase opportunities for career and wage growth for job seekers that have been historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.
- d. Co-enroll 50% of workforce development program participants in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program.

In addition, each individual grantee program has its own unique goals and associated metrics. Documentation of individual grantee goals and proposed metrics is included in each grantee's individual annual report. Technical assistance is provided by the NUPPC to grantees to complete their own individual evaluations.

Progress on the program goals is assessed through 1) quarterly collection of Key Performance Indicator (KPI) data, 2) annual collection of participant level datasets from each grantee, 3) an implementation evaluation, and 4) Nebraska Department of Labor the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) -City of Lincoln Workforce Development Program cohort data.

Project 205106: Workforce Development Center for People In Need

Funding amount: \$555,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2-Negative Economic Impacts; 2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)

Cumulative Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs: 160

Cumulative Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs: 33

Project Overview: Offering the Google Career Certificate. This certificate will allow participants to obtain jobs in the IT field. Multiple supportive services will be provided to ensure that participants can complete the program including childcare subsidy, gas vouchers, and emergency aid for rent or medical bills.

<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Mayor/American-Rescue-Plan/Workforce>

Evaluation: The NUPPC evaluation focuses on the Workforce Development Training Grant program at a city-wide level to assess progress on program goals and implementation. Progress is assessed on the following program goals:

- a. Address the negative economic impacts of the pandemic each grantee program sought to address.
- b. Increase opportunities for career and wage growth.

- c. Increase opportunities for career and wage growth for job seekers that have been historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.
- d. Co-enroll 50% of workforce development program participants in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program.

In addition, each individual grantee program has its own unique goals and associated metrics. Documentation of individual grantee goals and proposed metrics is included in each grantee's individual annual report. Technical assistance is provided by the NUPPC to grantees to complete their own individual evaluations.

Progress on the program goals is assessed through 1) quarterly collection of Key Performance Indicator (KPI) data, 2) annual collection of participant level datasets from each grantee, 3) an implementation evaluation, and 4) Nebraska Department of Labor the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) -City of Lincoln Workforce Development Program cohort data.

Project 205107: Workforce Development Community Action Network

Funding amount: \$1,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2-Negative Economic Impacts; 2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)

Cumulative Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs: 79

Cumulative Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs: 12

Project Overview: Train 30 participants a year to obtain a Child Development Associate Credential and/or advanced credentialing offered through the TEACH program or associate's bachelor's degree programs. All participants will be provided supportive services to ensure participants complete the program including needs-based payments, childcare assistance, and transportation assistance.

This program has been expanded to include micro credentialing programs which are short term in nature. This will allow even more childcare employees the ability to increase their knowledge and skill set to better serve our communities children.

<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Mayor/American-Rescue-Plan/Workforce>

Evaluation: The NUPPC evaluation focuses on the Workforce Development Training Grant program at a city-wide level to assess progress on program goals and implementation. Progress is assessed on the following program goals:

- a. Address the negative economic impacts of the pandemic each grantee program sought to address.
- b. Increase opportunities for career and wage growth.
- c. Increase opportunities for career and wage growth for job seekers that have been historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.

- d. Co-enroll 50% of workforce development program participants in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program.

In addition, each individual grantee program has its own unique goals and associated metrics. Documentation of individual grantee goals and proposed metrics is included in each grantee's individual annual report. Technical assistance is provided by the NUPPC to grantees to complete their own individual evaluations.

Progress on the City of Lincoln Workforce Development program goals is assessed through 1) quarterly collection of Key Performance Indicator (KPI) data, 2) annual collection of participant level datasets from each grantee, 3) an implementation evaluation, and 4) Nebraska Department of Labor the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) -City of Lincoln Workforce Development Program cohort data.

Project 205108: Workforce Development Bryan Foundation

Funding amount: \$1,100,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2-Negative Economic Impacts; 2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)

Cumulative Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs: 129

Cumulative Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs: 73

Project Overview: Providing scholarships for Nursing students who are currently in their third and fourth year of nursing who were disproportionately impacted by COVID19 and are at a risk of not completing their degree due to the impact. This will allow 15-20 students to graduate in the next two years. Also being offered are CNA (50 students a year) and Phlebotomy (75 students a year) certificates. Supportive services including transportation stipends will be provided to ensure all participants have ability to complete the program. This grant also provided the nursing school with a state of the art Noelle Patient Training Simulator which allows students hands on training in a safe environment.

<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Mayor/American-Rescue-Plan/Workforce>

Evaluation: The NUPPC evaluation focuses on the City of Lincoln Workforce Development program at a city-wide level to assess progress on program goals and implementation. Progress is assessed on the following program goals:

- a. Address the negative economic impacts of the pandemic each grantee program sought to address.
- b. Increase opportunities for career and wage growth.
- c. Increase opportunities for career and wage growth for job seekers that have been historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.
- d. Co-enroll 50% of workforce development program participants in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program.

In addition, each individual grantee program has its own unique goals and associated metrics. Documentation of individual grantee goals and proposed metrics is included in each grantee's individual annual report. Technical assistance is provided by the NUPPC to grantees to complete their own individual evaluations.

Progress on the City of Lincoln Workforce Development program goals is assessed through 1) quarterly collection of Key Performance Indicator (KPI) data, 2) annual collection of participant level datasets from each grantee, 3) an implementation evaluation, and 4) Nebraska Department of Labor the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) -City of Lincoln Workforce Development Program cohort data.

Project 205112: Workforce Development UNL- Public Policy Center

Funding amount: \$257,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2-Negative Economic Impacts

Project Overview: The Public Policy Center was contracted to administer a comprehensive evaluation and technical assistance for the workforce development projects. Key deliverable include interactive training sessions with all grantees, quarterly compilation of data for federal reporting, annual comprehensive evaluation report tracking impacts for each grantee and compiling the data for stakeholder evaluation.

Project 205114: Workforce Administration

Funding amount: \$5,000

Project Expenditure Category: 7-Administrative

Project Overview: Funds to support the administration of the Workforce Development Training Grants. Including funds to host quarterly meetings to facilitate compliance and audit requirements.

Project 205116: Workforce Development American Job Center Commercial Drivers License

Funding amount: \$585,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2-Negative Economic Impacts; 2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)

Cumulative Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs: 27

Cumulative Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs: 11

Project Overview: Helping individuals acquire a commercial driver's license (CDL) so they can enter a high-wage, in-demand career. Includes creating an employment plan and financial plan, providing supportive services such as transportation and childcare, paying 100% of the tuition to attend a driving academy, and assisting with job placement when completed.

<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Mayor/American-Rescue-Plan/Workforce>

Evaluation: The NUPPC evaluation focuses on the City of Lincoln Workforce Development program at a city-wide level to assess progress on program goals and implementation. Progress is assessed on the following program goals:

- a. Address the negative economic impacts of the pandemic each grantee program sought to address.
- b. Increase opportunities for career and wage growth.
- c. Increase opportunities for career and wage growth for job seekers that have been historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.
- d. Co-enroll 50% of workforce development program participants in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program.

In addition, each individual grantee program has its own unique goals and associated metrics. Documentation of individual grantee goals and proposed metrics is included in each grantee's individual annual report. Technical assistance is provided by the NUPPC to grantees to complete their own individual evaluations.

Progress on the City of Lincoln Workforce Development program goals is assessed through 1) quarterly collection of Key Performance Indicator (KPI) data, 2) annual collection of participant level datasets from each grantee, 3) an implementation evaluation, and 4) Nebraska Department of Labor the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) -City of Lincoln Workforce Development Program cohort data.

Project 230101: Finance Administration & Oversight

Funding amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 7-Administrative

Project Overview: Funds to support the administration of the ARPA funds granted to the City.

Project 255901: Public Health Vaccines

Funding amount: \$1,070,000

Project Expenditure Category: 1-Public Health, 1.1-COVID-19 Vaccination

Project Overview: Provided mass vaccination sites and booster shot clinics throughout Lincoln providing more than 190,000 shots. Sites included the arena, hospitals, and cultural centers. Marketing for these events as well as public service reminders were also funded through these dollars.

Project 255911: Public Health Technology & Building

Funding amount: \$5,930,000

Project Expenditure Category: 1-Public Health; 1.14-Other Public Health Services

Project Overview: Public Health expenditures include a wide range of projects, but generally fall under the following categories: upgrades to city wide technology and alert services, IT hardware and software to increase cybersecurity, overall updates to building, and supporting the Lead Free Lincoln program.

Specific information on the renovation to the Public Health building can be reviewed under the City of Lincoln Executive Order #98683.

Project 205110: Tourism Support Grant

Funding amount: \$4,299,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2-Negative Economic Impacts; 2.35-Aid to Tourism Travel or Hospitality

Number of Non-profits Served: 15

Project Overview: The purpose of this program was to provide support assistance to non-profit businesses negatively impacted by the pandemic. The program will provide operational payments to assist non-profit businesses in stabilizing and growing business operations and employment as well as to recover from pandemic losses. Grants covered up to six months of operational expenses up to \$1 million.

<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Mayor/American-Rescue-Plan/Tourism>

Project 205111: Increased Air Service

Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2-Negative Economic Impacts; 2.35 Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Project Overview: Negotiating additional flights into the Lincoln Airport to aid tourism to the City and surrounding communities.

Impact of Funding: A total of seven weekly flights were added during the summer months of 2023, but without further funding were terminated in 2024.

Project 205109: Parking Revenue Replacement

Funding amount: \$4,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement; 6.1-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The City Parking Services Division experienced a significant financial downturn as a result of the pandemic. As compared with the base year of the fiscal year ending 8/31/2019, parking has had a reduced income of over \$9 million from the years 8/31/2020 thru 8/31/2022. Parking revenues for the year 8/31/2022 vs 8/31/2019 are down approximately 22%.

This is a result of multiple factors of the pandemic:

- 1) There are fewer parkers working downtown daily. Many parkers are working remotely.
- 2) Students have also studied remotely, rather than in class.
- 3) Restrictions for entertainment facilities, including restaurants and bars, were enacted which resulted in fewer parkers.
- 4) Special events parking for Pinnacle Bank Arena and football were cancelled or held with no fans. As the pandemic eased up, fans such as tailgaters did not return in the same numbers as prior to the pandemic.

Project 205115: Lincoln Sports Complex

Funding amount: \$4,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6-Revenue Replacement; 6.1-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: Build a complex of ballfields including but not limited to materials, goods and services for site prep, excavation, work needed for ingress and egress of the property, utilities including, electric and water, and to the extent possible funding for the parking lots. This project is currently underway and the project is slated to be completed in 2025.