



Lucas County, Ohio

Recovery Plan

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2024 Report

Lucas County, Ohio 2024 Recovery Plan

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Lucas County State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) have been directed toward investments designed to achieve the following objectives:

- Support COVID-19 mitigation in order to slow the spread of the virus to protect vulnerable populations
- Stabilize the local economy to speed the recovery and facilitate the growth of opportunities for businesses and organizations especially hard-hit by the pandemic and the public health measures implemented to control its spread
- Provide resources designed to assist vulnerable workers, entrepreneurs, and households, paying particular attention to equity for traditionally underserved populations
- Invest in viable affordable housing development projects, thereby reducing the risks and consequences associated with housing instability and contributing to additional housing stock capable of relieving market pressures that are driving home purchase and rent prices upward
- Ensure that the county-delivered services on which Lucas County residents depend are subject to as little disruption as possible

In 2021, Lucas County made investments in efforts to protect the public health against the COVID-19 pandemic through vaccine incentives for Lucas County employees and the employees of the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department. Staff able to demonstrate that they had received the FDA approved vaccines were eligible to receive the incentive. In addition, the county collaborated with the management of the Huntington Center, a multi-use arena owned by Lucas County that is home to the community's minor league hockey team and is host to many concerts and recreational events, to deliver vaccine incentives to attendees on home games.

Ohio Department of Health social distancing orders and CDC recommendations and guidelines designed to protect against COVID-19 forced the Board of Lucas County Commissioners to suspend holding in-person meetings that allowed for public participation. The Commissioners were forced to convene meetings through an all-virtual format to conduct county business. Consequently, Lucas County has invested in technologies to develop and install visual equipment in the Hearing Room and in corresponding software upgrades to ensure that interested members of the public can attend public county meetings virtually.

These improvements, along with upgrades to integrate streaming and archival software upgrades to the County website, will allow live-streaming of all Commissioners' meetings, ensuring greater transparencies of governmental functions and allowing the public greater access to county government without the necessity to expose themselves to COVID-19 or any pathogen inherent in congregations of people in public spaces.

Lucas County has also made commitments to eligible subrecipients for eligible SLFRF uses such as housing, economic development, and educational supports for pre-kindergarten and post-secondary programs designed to address and overcome disparities among these populations. Lucas County continues the process of composing the contracts and subrecipient agreements related to compliance with SLFRF guidance and the related submission to monitoring.

Uses of Funds

The Lucas County Board of Commissioners have carefully deployed and committed SLFRF to not only comply with Treasury guidance, but perhaps even more importantly, rebuild an equitable recovery that simultaneously address the negative economic impacts of COVID-19, bring the pandemic under control, and facilitate broad-based access to government services provided by Lucas County. In particular, Lucas County has utilized or committed SLFRF to address program objectives in the following ways:

Public Health (EC 1)

Lucas County employed SLFRF to effectively enhance public health outcomes through COVID-19 mitigation among Lucas County staff, Toledo-Lucas County Health Department (Health Department) staff, and visitors to the Huntington Center arena. These objectives were met through vaccine incentives for Lucas County and Health Department staff, incentives for visitors to the arena, and on-site vaccinations at the arena and at county buildings through 2021.

Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2)

The Lucas County Commissioners have placed a significant emphasis on utilization of SLFRF to address the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19. The county has tackled this critical objective in a number of ways, having invested or committed SLFRF to the following investments:

- supports for children prior to entering primary school to mitigate disparate educational outcomes for low-income children in Lucas County
- affordable housing and housing security
- funding for industries and workers negatively impacted by the pandemic and the public health precautions put in place to mitigate its spread.

Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity (EC 3)

The Board has made an investment in public sector capacity to contend with the health risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic in two ways:

- by ensuring that residents can engage with county government more easily and safely through remote access to public meetings
- through support for public safety personnel engaged in COVID-19 mitigation in the largest congregant public facility operated by the county

Premium Pay (EC 4)

The Board of County Commissioners has utilized SLFRF to offer premium pay to eligible Health Department employees, who have worked long hours since the pandemic began with few days off during the height of testing, provision of personal protective equipment (PPE), and mass vaccination.

Revenue Replacement (EC 6)

As the replacement of public sector revenue lost during the pandemic is an eligible use for SLFRF, the Lucas County Board of Commissioners have employed a portion of its allocation to this purpose, using the formula provided by Treasury for this purpose. Use of SLFRF for revenue replacement will be utilized for a broad array of government services and expenses, including investments in educational and workforce development programming, economic supports for workers in vulnerable industries, housing, and government administration and staff.

Promoting equitable outcomes

Consistent with the policies they regularly adopt, the Lucas County Board of Commissioners are committed to applying SLFRF to initiatives and programs that actively promote economic and racial equity in the county. In fact, over 20% of the Lucas County SLFRF plan is devoted to projects explicitly intended to narrow equity gaps.

In particular, the Board will invest approximately \$12 million in affordable housing projects throughout the county. This commitment addresses both the economic disparities in this community and will largely serve communities of color. More than 50% of housing developments approved for Lucas County SLFRF funding will be built in census tracts with significant minority populations. More specifically, approved projects will add housing units affordable to households with incomes that are 80% or below the Area Median Income (AMI) and a majority will be built in communities in which the population is 70% or more non-white, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Lucas County investments in pre-kindergarten and post-secondary education supports will also take great strides toward providing assistance to economically disadvantaged households. Helping Our Population Educate (HOPE) Toledo collaborates with childcare providers to administer high quality early childhood education to prepare low-income students for future success. This is critical because childhood poverty in Lucas County is particularly acute, with 27.4% of the Lucas County population under the age of 18 living in poverty, compared to 19.1% of children across the State of Ohio living below the poverty line.

Toledo Tomorrow has partnered with the Northwest Ohio Regional Education Partnership, assembling diverse partners in education, public, business, and philanthropy to meet the current and future needs of industry and businesses through the development of programming designed to ensure that 65% of area students attain an in-demand accreditation or degree. This is particularly important because, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, individuals over the age of 25 who earn a post-secondary credential or degree earn an average of 64% more than do those with a high school diploma. Further, individuals who have completed some post-secondary education or training are 40% less likely to endure unemployment.

Community Engagement

The Lucas County Board of Commissioners held numerous discussions with diverse community leaders, including those representing communities of color, labor, and social services, regarding the County's SLFRF allocation. The Board has communicated its intended use of the funds through earned and social media. We have also attended and participated in discussions and community events with the City of Toledo and stakeholders and partners throughout Lucas County to foster a process and to determine the most impactful uses of SLFRF. Feedback obtained through these avenues has led to the substantial planned Lucas County investment in affordable housing and educational supports for low-income and minority Lucas County residents.

Labor Practices

Lucas County is dedicated to ensuring labor for projects funded through Lucas County SLFRF meet a minimum threshold for labor fairness. In all instances where the law permits, therefore,

contractors performing construction projects with dollars directed by Lucas County in an amount greater than \$100,000 must agree to a project labor agreement (PLA). The PLA helps to ensure that skilled tradespeople are employed on these projects, are compensated fairly, and enjoy safe worksites. Given that a significant portion of Lucas County SLFRF is to be dedicated to affordable housing and economic development, the county policy is that PLAs are to be incorporated PLAs into all qualifying construction projects.

Use of Evidence

The Lucas County Board of Commissioners has prioritized outcome-oriented criteria for SLFRF-funded projects. Recipients of county-allocated SLFRF funds are expected to quantifiably demonstrate that they meet one or more of the following objectives:

- Make a measurable impact on the slowing of the COVID-19 virus in order to ensure that Lucas County makes a meaningful contribution to bringing the pandemic to an end
- Provide Lucas County residents and businesses with expanded opportunity to obtain employment and business growth
- Bring government staffing levels for those operations harmed by the pandemic to pre-pandemic levels so that County-delivered services continue to meet the needs and expectations of our residents

Performance Report

Lucas County Administration and the Office of Management and Budget are cooperating to ensure that SLFRF are utilized not only in accordance with Treasury guidance, but also so that funds are expended in a manner most effective to lead to a robust and equitable economic and public health recovery from COVID-19. To assist in this effort, in addition to the use of local counsel, Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP, the Lucas County Board of Commissioners authorized the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to retain Bricker & Eckler, Attorneys at Law, a firm with considerable expertise in regulatory compliance related to local government use federal funds for legal consulting services related to eligibility, compliance, monitoring and deployment of SLFRF. The firm assists Lucas County in its efforts to:

- Participate in due diligence necessary to determine eligibility with respect to use of SLFRF
- Ensure regulatory compliance for projects utilizing SLFRF
- Provide monitoring assistance for subrecipient entities
- Provide assistance in the composition of SLFRF related documents

PROJECT INVENTORY

The following project inventory represents those projects for which the Lucas County Board of Commissioners has approved an expense and excludes those for which decisions have not been finalized. For example, the Board of Lucas County Commissioners intends to devote significant resources to affordable housing construction, but have not determined all such projects to which SLFRF will apply.

Project 21.01: Vaccine Incentives – Payment to Lucas County employees

Funding amount: \$226,625

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 1, Public Health

Project Overview

- Through a \$125 vaccination incentive administered to Lucas County staff, the use of County SLFRF have expanded vaccinations.
- <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/>

Use of Evidence

- Over 1,800 county employees took advantage of the incentive. Further, a survey of Lucas County employees revealed that approximately 72% of county employees were fully vaccinated by September of 2021. In contrast, the vaccination rate of the county as a whole remains at approximately 58% at the time of this writing.
- \$226,625 is allocated to this project; Category 1 (Public Health), Subcategory 8 (Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses)

Performance Report

- Over 1,800 of approximately 3,000 county employees took advantage of the incentive. Lucas County Administration and OMB have records to demonstrate vaccinations.

Project 21.02: Vaccine Incentives – Payment to Toledo-Lucas County Health Department employees

Funding amount: \$11,500

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 1, Public Health

Project Overview

- Through a \$125 vaccination incentive administered to Toledo-Lucas County Health Department staff, over 100 health department employees took advantage of the incentive. Further, approximately 88% of Toledo-Lucas County Health Department were fully vaccinated by September of 2021.
- \$11,500 is allocated to this project; Category 1 (Public Health), Subcategory 8 (Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses)

Performance Report

- Over 100 of approximately 120 Health Department employees took advantage of the incentive. Lucas County Administration and OMB have records to demonstrate vaccinations.

Project 22.01: Vaccine Incentives – Incentive to Visitors of the Huntington Center

Funding amount: \$26,600

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 1, Public Health

Project Overview

- Visitors to the Huntington Center for the 2021-2022 season were offered Walleye gift cards to support COVID-19 vaccination and booster promotion. Vaccines were available on-site. Hundreds of arena patrons were vaccinated at home games as a result of this program.
- \$26,600 is allocated to this project; Category 1 (Public Health), Subcategory 8 (Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses)

Performance Report

- Hundreds of patrons were vaccinated at home hockey games for the 2021-2022 season. Lucas County Administration and OMB have records to demonstrate vaccinations.

Project number 22.07: **HOPE Toledo Pre-Kindergarten**

Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 6, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview

- HOPE Toledo is a 501(c) 3 organization established to help area children obtain high-quality early childhood education through HOPE Toledo Pre-K and postsecondary training in college or trade schools. Through collaboration with area public school districts, early childhood education providers, and many other educators and service organizations in our community, HOPE Toledo Pre-Kindergarten will help improve school readiness outcomes and subsequent school performance through evidence-based early educational interventions so that disadvantaged area children will enter kindergarten prepared to learn.
- <https://www.hope-toledo.org/>

Use of Evidence

- The program employs the State of Ohio recognized Step Up to Quality early childhood educational standards, which is an evidence-based program administered by the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.
- \$1,500,000 was allocated to this project.

Performance Report

- The program launched in Q3 2022, and scheduled updates to comply with Lucas County objectives and Treasury guidance.
- Children served for 2024-2025 school year
 - 292 - total children served (unduplicated)
- Childcare Providers in 2024-2025 school year
 - 20 Partner Providers

Project number 22.08: **Toledo Tomorrow Post-Secondary Support**

Funding amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 6, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview

- Toledo Tomorrow has partnered with the Northwest Ohio Regional Education Partnership to meet the current and future needs of industry and businesses through the development of programming designed to ensure that 60% of students attain an in-demand accreditation or degree by 2030. This partnership will strengthen the community and bring additional resources to support both education and workforce development while improving equity, opportunities, and quality of life for Lucas County residents
- <https://toledotomorrow.org/>

Use of Evidence

- Evidence demonstrates that access to post-secondary education is correlated to better educational outcomes and career opportunities. It is projected that two-thirds of jobs will require post-secondary education by 2025, and that is why the work of organizations like Toledo Tomorrow and the Northwest Ohio Regional Education Partnership is important to not only help the young adults in Lucas County but also to enhance the career prospects of adults that want to further their education. Collection of enrollment data in post-secondary for program participants' educational pursuits will be collected by program administrators.
- \$500,000 is allocated to this project; Category 6, Revenue Replacement

Performance Report

- Lucas County funding was delivered to this project in Q4 2022.
- To date, Toledo Tomorrow has initiated over 3,500 interactions with high school students, engaged over 90 companies career fairs, and have facilitated more than \$200,000 in scholarships for Lucas County students
- Toledo Tomorrow has convened the Northwest Ohio Regional Education Partnership, assembling diverse partners in education, public, business, and philanthropy to align workforce resources with emerging workers

Project number 22.09: Arts Commission of Greater Toledo (ACGT) – Greater Toledo Arts & Culture Recovery & Renewal

Funding amount: \$3,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 6, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview

- Through the program, the ACGT will administer grants to arts organizations, based on budget size, and individual artists to ensure recovery of the industry:
 - Small - Annual Budget \$300,000 or Less, \$2,500-\$25,000 eligibility
 - Midsize - Annual Budget \$300,001 - \$2 million, \$50,000-\$100,000 eligibility
 - Large - \$2 million and Above, \$75,000-\$150,000 eligibility
 - Individual artists - \$500-\$1,000 eligibility
- Grants will address these programs' limitations and create opportunities for arts organizations to become more sustainable, leading to a dynamic and vibrant future for arts and culture in Lucas County.
- <https://theartscommission.org/>

Use of Evidence

- As the pandemic took hold, the economic output of creative industries in the county contracted by 20.45% from 2019 to 2020, compared to 7.72% in the Lucas County economy overall. The rapid reduction corresponded with an 11.47% drop in payroll and a 17.17% decline in employment in these fields. ACGT will adhere to rigorous record keeping of grants administered when the program is launched. Collection of grants administered will be collected by program administrators.
- \$3,500,000 is allocated to this project; Category 6, Revenue Replacement

Performance Report

- The entity launched the program in Q1 2023
- The program has to date made 124 awards to qualifying arts organizations totaling \$2,315,297.
- The program has also made 237 awards to qualifying individual artists whose work was compromised during the pandemic, totaling \$267,070.

Project 23.03: Affordable Housing Development – Trailside Lofts

Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 6, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview

- Trailside Lofts is a workforce housing development serving a diverse spectrum of families desiring new, high-quality affordable options. The development consists of 50 total units in a single 4-story, elevator served building. The development offers 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom units that target incomes of 30%, 50%, and 60% of the area median income. The proposed collected rents range from \$345 to \$476 for the 30% AMI units, \$615 to \$800 for the 50% AMI units, and \$675 to \$900 for the 60% AMI units. The proposed collected rents represent a value as they are 43.1% to 84.8% of the achievable market rents in the primary market area (MA). Having a diverse range of unit mixes and AMI's will attract families of all incomes, sizes, and ages.
- <https://www.mvahpartners.com>

Use of Evidence

- The city of Maumee is predominantly moderate-income working-class families in need of high-quality affordable housing options. The only affordable housing developments within the PMA are in adjacent communities, with the nearest affordable options are more than 8 miles from the site. The project will add 50 units of affordable workforce housing units upon completion.
- \$1,500,000 is allocated to this project; Category 6 (Revenue Replacement)

Performance Report

- Construction was completed in November of 2023 and certificate of occupancy issued.

Project 24.02: Emergency Domestic Violence Shelter Expansion – YWCA of Northwest Ohio

Funding amount: \$2,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 6, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview

- The Journal of Criminal Justice stated in 2021 that reports of domestic violence increased dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic nationally, putting additional pressure on already scarce resources dedicated to addressing it. The crisis has shown no signs of abating in 2022, with almost half of the Toledo area murders to date related to domestic violence. As the operator of the sole emergency domestic violence shelter in the city of Toledo, the YWCA of Northwest Ohio has embarked on a \$12 million capital campaign to

renovate the facility. To ease overcrowding, the renovation will more than double the rooms from 17 to 44 and increase the square footage and footprint of individual rooms to accommodate diverse families. The renovation will also provide space for work searches, homework, and recreation.

- <https://www.ywcanwo.org/>

Use of Evidence

- The renovation will add 27 rooms and increase the square footage and footprint of individual rooms.
- \$2,000,000. is allocated to this project; Expenditure Category 6 (Revenue Replacement)

Performance Report

- Construction on Phase I of this project began in May 2023 and is expected to be completed in 2025.

Project 22.02: Technology Infrastructure to Adapt Government Operations to the Pandemic

Funding amount: \$59,561.25

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 3 (Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity)

Project Overview

- The Board has made an investment in public sector capacity to contend with the health risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic by ensuring that residents can engage with county government more easily and safely. Video conferencing improvements, along with corresponding software upgrades to integrate streaming and archival software upgrades to the County website, will allow live-streaming of all Commissioner's meetings, ensuring greater transparencies of governmental functions and allowing the public greater access to county government without the necessity to expose themselves to COVID-19 or any pathogen spread through congregations of people in public spaces.
- <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/>

Use of Evidence

- These much needed upgrades have modernized Lucas County's ability to provide public access to meetings and improved relations with the public to strengthen government accountability.
- \$59,561.25 is allocated to this project; Category 3 (Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity), Subcategory 4 (Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery).

Performance Report

- The equipment and software upgrades were installed Q3 2023.
- Beginning in January of 2024, the Board began live-streaming their public meetings. Meetings that were streamed in the past are also now available to be viewed on demand.

Project 21.03: Toledo-Lucas County Health Department Hazard Pay

Funding amount: \$146,088.00

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 4 (Premium Pay)

Project Overview

- Beginning in March of 2020, the staff at the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department (Health Department) worked tirelessly to aid Lucas County communities, providing services including personal protective equipment (PPE), COVID testing, and vaccinations for Lucas County residents. The steadfast commitment of the employees safeguarded countless members of our community, and many of these employees worked for more than a year without a vacation and very few days off. The Board of County Commissioners has utilized SLFRF to offer premium pay to eligible Health Department employees.
- <https://lucascountyhealth.com/>

Use of Evidence

- To accommodate the unforeseen and unprecedented need for public health services, Health Department employees worked long hours and often exposed themselves to risks associated with COVID-19 in order to deliver said services.
- \$146,088 is allocated to this project; Category 4 (Premium Pay), Subcategory 1 (Public Sector Employees).

Performance Report

- The premium pay was administered in Q1 2022.

Project 22.03: Retention Pay for Lucas County Employees

Funding amount: \$624,500.00

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 6 (Revenue Replacement)

Project Overview

- As the replacement of public sector revenue lost during the pandemic is an eligible use for SLFRF, the Lucas County Board of Commissioners will employ a portion of its allocation to this purpose, using the formula provided by Treasury for this purpose. Use of SLFRF for revenue replacement may be broadly applied to government services and expenses, including government administration and staff. The coronavirus pandemic and the public health measures taken to mitigate it have made the maintenance of sufficient staffing levels for continued delivery of the services residents expect and deserve more challenging. The Board has utilized SLFRF for one-time retention payments to decrease turnover among staff, thereby minimizing disruption to the county-delivered services Lucas County residents expect and deserve. The Board also anticipates substantial use of revenue replacement funds to support public safety services provided by the Lucas County Sheriff's Office and other government services.
- <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/>

Use of Evidence

- COVID-19 presented unique challenges to delivery of government services to which Lucas County employees were required to adapt. To ensure that county residents could rely on the services to which they are entitled, employee retention in a tight labor market is a major concern.
- \$624,500.00 is allocated to this project; Category 6 (Revenue Replacement), Subcategory 1 (Public Sector Employees).

Performance Report

- The first tranche of retention pay was administered in Q1 2022.

Project 21.04: Toledo-Lucas County Health Department Hazard Pay for FLSA exempt employees

Funding amount: \$9,130.50

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 6 (Revenue Replacement)

Project Overview

- Beginning in March of 2020, the staff at the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department (Health Department) tirelessly worked to aid Lucas County communities, providing services including personal protective equipment (PPE), COVID testing, and vaccinations for Lucas County residents. The steadfast commitment of the employees safeguarded countless members of our community, and many of these employees worked for more than a year without a vacation and very few days off. The Board of County Commissioners has utilized SLFRF to offer premium pay to eligible Health Department employees. This use is for FLSA exempt employees of the Health Department.
- <https://lucascountyhealth.com/>

Use of Evidence

- To accommodate the unforeseen and unprecedented need for public health services, Health Department employees worked long hours and often exposed themselves to risks associated with COVID-19 in order to deliver said services.
- \$9,130.50 is allocated to this project; Category 6 (Revenue Replacement), Subcategory 1 (Public Sector Employees).

Performance Report

- The premium pay was administered in Q1 2022.

Project number 21.05: Convention Center Renovation

Funding amount: \$8,511,637.08

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 2 (Negative Economic Impacts)

Project Overview

- Few industries were subject to as steep a decline as was the travel, tourism, and hospitality industry. The Brookings Institution reports that tourism sharply declined by 73% in 2020 and another 65% through May of 2021, affecting over 100 million hospitality jobs. In Lucas County, the COVID-19 pandemic led to a substantial loss in convention and tourism traffic and a 42% decline in lodging tax collections in 2020 as compared to 2019.

The uncertainty and massive lodging tax revenue loss in Lucas County delayed the long-planned renovation and expansion of the SeaGate Convention Centre (now the Glass City Center) by a year. The SLFRF Interim Final Rule authorized local governments to provide aid for planned expansions of tourism, travel and hospitality facilities that were delayed as a result of the pandemic for expenses incurred before April 1, 2022. The Board focused the use of SLFRF to the increased costs of the project that were attributable to the pandemic and the public health measures taken to mitigate it during the period permitted under the Interim Final Rule.

- <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/>

Use of Evidence

- The Brookings Institution reports that tourism sharply declined by 73% in 2020 and another 65% through May of 2021, affecting over 100 million hospitality jobs. In Lucas County, the COVID-19 pandemic led to a substantial loss in convention and tourism traffic and a 42% decline in lodging tax collections in 2020 as compared to 2019. The investment only ensured that the project would not be threatened, but a study authorized by the Board revealed that the improved convention center is anticipated to enjoy an 89% increase in jobs related to convention travel and a doubling of economic output.
- \$8,511,637.08 is allocated to this project; Category 2 (Negative Economic Impacts), Subcategory 36 (Aid to Other Impacted Industries).

Performance Report

- A study authorized by the Board revealed that the improved convention center is anticipated to enjoy an 89% increase in jobs related to convention travel and a doubling of economic output.
- OMB and Brickler & Eckler are collaborating to provide scheduled updates to comply with Lucas County objectives and Treasury guidance.

Project 23.01: Toledo Innovation Center

Funding amount: \$1,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 2 (Negative Economic Impacts)

Project Overview

- ProMedica initiated the Toledo Innovation Center (TIC) to revitalize Toledo's long-vacant original post office at the corner of Jefferson and 13th Street (The Jefferson Center). The completed 100,000 square foot historic building will serve as a business incubator for technology and non-technology businesses that supports start-ups in alternative energy,

diagnostics, advanced materials, agriculture tech, biotech, logistics, medical device development, robotics, and digital health services. The goal of the TIC is to provide education, job training and technical assistance to residents living in this community that has suffered decades of disinvestment and that whose inequalities were laid bare by the COVID-19 pandemic. Lucas County SLFRF were used to acquire the Jefferson Center.

- [https:// www.promedica.org/](https://www.promedica.org/)

Use of Evidence

- A Qualified Census Tract (QCT) [is defined as](#) any census tract in which at least 50 percent of households have an income less than 60 percent of the Area Median Gross Income (AMGI), or which has a poverty rate of at least 25 percent.
- The project is eligible for SLFRF investments because it is situated in Lucas County Census Tract 28, which is a QCT because the 2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates report that 48.5% of the population of the census tract live below the poverty level
- Expenditure Category 2 (Negative Economic Impacts), Subcategory 2.23 (Strong Healthy Communities: Demolition and Rehabilitation of Properties)

Performance Report

- Funds were distributed in Q1 2023 for ProMedica to support costs incurred by the organization associated with acquisition of the Jefferson Center.

Project 22.042: Affordable Housing Development - Warren Commons

Funding amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 6 (Revenue Replacement)

Project Overview

- Warren Commons is a sixty (60) unit permanent supportive housing (PSH) community located at 2011 Franklin Avenue in Toledo. The site is proximate to downtown with convenient access to public transportation, neighborhood amenities, and job opportunities. Warren Commons will offer fully furnished one-bedroom, one-bath apartments for which tenants pay no more than 30-40% of their income for rent.
- This PSH community will serve individuals with disabilities such mental health, substance use disorder, and/or physical disabilities who are or may be at risk of homelessness.
- In addition to housing and property management services, Warren Commons will provide supportive services to residents including case-management, psychiatric services, employment services, individual counseling, and substance abuse treatment. All of these services will be voluntary on the part of residents.

Use of Evidence

- A Qualified Census Tract (QCT) [is defined as](#) any census tract in which at least 50 percent of households have an income less than 60 percent of the Area Median Gross Income (AMGI), or which has a poverty rate of at least 25 percent.
- The project is eligible for SLFRF investments because it is situated in Lucas County Census Tract 105, which is a QCT because the 2021 American Community Survey 5-

year estimates report that 51.8% of the population of the census tract live below the poverty level

Performance Report

- The funds were deployed in Q1 2023 for construction costs associated with the Warren Commons development.
- Construction was completed in January 2024, with certificates of occupancy issued.

Project 22.05: Public Safety Personnel

Funding amount: \$32,171,912.99

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 3 (Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity)

Project Overview

- Among the eligible uses for SLFRF funds is their use for payroll and covered benefits expenses for public safety employees of a recipient government for the portion of the employee's time that is dedicated to responding to COVID-19 that were incurred after March 3, 2021. Eligible public safety employees include sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, correctional and detention officers, and those who directly support such employees.
- The Lucas County Sheriff and key leadership in the Lucas County Sheriff's Office have attested that select corrections and medical unit employees have incorporated COVID-19 mitigation and health services in the course of not less than fifty percent of their duties throughout the eligibility period outlined by the Treasury SLFRF Final Rule (March 3, 2021 – September 10, 2022), thus their wages and benefits are eligible uses of Lucas SLFRF dollars.

Use of Evidence

- Lucas County collected signed attestations from the Lucas County Sheriff, the Corrections Center Medical Director, the Director of Inmate Services, and officers that between March 3, 2021 and September 10, 2022, not less than fifty percent of corrections duties included COVID-19 mitigation activities in the congregant facility.
- Activities included social distancing, distribution of facemasks and other personal protective equipment, food safety protocols, repeated cleaning and disinfection of cells, common areas, and operations centers to prevent coronavirus transmission.

Performance Report

- Lucas County corrections operations wages and benefits were adjusted in Q3 2022 following receipt of signed attestations from the sheriff and corrections center leadership covering more than 120 corrections center employees.
- Expenditure Category 3 (Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity), Subcategory 3.1 (Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers)

Project 22.061: Legal Services – Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick

Funding amount: \$31,610.32

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 3 (Administrative Expenses)

Project Overview

- To ensure that SLFRF expenditures comply with Treasury guidance as well as federal, state, and local law, Lucas County has employed outside counsel.
- Services include eligibility, compliance, monitoring and deployment of Lucas County State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF).

Project 22.062: Legal Services – Bricker & Eckler

Funding amount: \$303,236.50

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 3 (Administrative Expenses)

Project Overview

- To ensure that SLFRF expenditures comply with Treasury guidance as well as federal, state, and local law, Lucas County has employed outside counsel.
- Services include eligibility, compliance, monitoring and deployment of Lucas County State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF).
- Bricker & Eckler was added as a result of depth of experience with federal programs and SLFRF in particular

Project 23.02: SLFRF Administration

Funding amount: \$134,793.94

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 3 (Administrative Expenses)

Project Overview

- To ensure that SLFRF awards to entities outside of Lucas County comply with Treasury guidance for use of the funds and with objectives of the Lucas County Board of Commissioners, the position of External Fiscal Monitor was created in June of 2023. As the person hired for this position will focus on SLFRF subrecipient awards for the duration of the SLFRF reporting period, Lucas County's allocation will be used for the compensation of the position.
- Duties include:
 - Financial review of agencies applying for and awarded SLFRF funds
 - Monitoring of performance of entities in receipt of Lucas County SLFRF
 - Ensure that entities comply with relevant procurement requirements
 - Participate in mandatory SLFRF reporting requirements and ensure accuracy and timeliness of said reports

Project 23.04: Lucas County Sheriff's Office Expenses

Funding amount: \$20,500,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 6 (Revenue Replacement, Provision of Government Services)

Project Overview

- Among the eligible uses for SLFRF funds is their use for the provision of government services. The Sheriff's Office is a direct government service, and any expenses, personnel or non-personnel are an eligible use of Lucas County SLFRF dollars.

Performance Report

- Expenses of the Lucas County Sheriff's Office incurred during calendar year 2023 attributed to the following departments: Public Safety, Court Security, Law Enforcement, Sheriff Administration, Corrections Center, and Medical Unit of the Corrections Center.
- Expenditure Category 6 (Revenue Replacement, Provision of Government Services)

Project 23.05: Glass City Enrichment Center - Metroparks Toledo

Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 6, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview

- The Glass City Enrichment Center project's aim is to repurpose a previously vacant building in a qualified census tract, into a safe and welcome space for community members that serves as a key access point for a variety of programs and services offered by Metroparks and other partners. This center will allow for year-round service in an accessible location, encourage multisector collaboration and partnership among different organizations, improve efficiency and sustainability of services through the sharing of resources, and highlight a range of services available in the community.
- <https://metroparkstoledo.com/features-and-rentals/glass-city-enrichment-center/>

Use of Evidence

- The enrichment center will serve as a space for deeper community engagement and the delivery of services for a depressed zip code. The enrichment center is also located near the Northwest Ohio Council of Building Trades and is intended to house the *Hard Hat in Hand Workforce Development Program*. This program will help to create a pipeline of much-needed qualified entry level workers ready for immediate hire by leveraging local construction sites as hands-on training grounds to produce skilled labor for the future.

Performance Report

- Construction was completed during the late part of December 2023.
- Funds were deployed in December of 2023 for this project.

Project 24.01: Park Apartments – Lucas Metropolitan Housing

Funding amount: \$750,000

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 6, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview

- The project seeks to remove the former dilapidated Park Hotel and construct a newly built 4-story building that will provide permanent supportive housing to transition young adults aged 18 to 24 who are homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless (transition aged youth). The project will offer housing and supportive services with the goal of helping the tenants have a stable home and the opportunity to access services that will help them transition into adulthood.
- The project is designed to include 41 one-bedroom apartments and 4 two-bedroom apartments.
- The new building also includes socialization, counseling, and education resource space for resident use along with a community room, a fitness space, and laundry.
- <https://www.lucasmha.org/news-view?id=261>

Performance Report

- The funds were obligated, and the agreement was executed in December of 2023.
- Construction started in April of 2024 and is on-track to be finished by mid-2025 with occupancy starting in fall of 2025.

Project 24.03: Unison Behavioral Health Project

Funding amount: \$400,000

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 6, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview

- The project seeks to renovate an existing structure into a 16 bed residential mental health facility for adults with severe and persistent mental health issues.
- It will serve individuals returning from long-term incarceration, hospitalization, or chronic homelessness.
- Residents will be provided with services such as group and individual therapy, case management, linkage with medication management, referrals for primary care, medication assisted treatment, and any other medical needs.

Performance Report

- The funds were obligated, and the agreement was executed in December of 2023.
- Construction started in April of 2024 and is expected to be finished by early-2025.

Project 24.04: Collingwood Green V Apartments – Lucas Metropolitan Housing

Funding amount: \$3,690,000

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 6, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview

- The project seeks to construct a 75-unit income-restricted senior apartment community.
- The complex will also feature a community room, fitness center, and outdoor green space as well as offer on-site service coordination for essential services such as healthcare and legal assistance.
- There will also be space to accommodate future commercial tenants in the building.
- The project has a long-term HUD award for a rental subsidy to preserve affordability for 30 of the units.

Performance Report

- The funds were obligated, and the agreement was executed in December of 2023.
- Construction has begun and is expected to be finished by late-2025 or early-2026.

Project 24.05: Lucas County Facilities Department Expenses

Funding Amount: \$3,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 6, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview

- Among the eligible uses for SLFRF funds is their use for the provision of government services. The Lucas County Facilities Department is a direct government service, and any expenses, personnel or non-personnel are an eligible use of Lucas County SLFRF dollars.

Performance Report

- Expenses covered by this project were personnel and non-personnel expenses such as supplies, equipment, security contracts, and maintenance inspection and certification contracts for the Lucas County Facilities Department.

Project 24.06: ARPA Administration II

Funding amount (budgeted): \$104,381.42

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 7 (Administrative Expenses)

Project Overview

- To ensure that SLFRF awards to entities outside of Lucas County comply with Treasury guidance for use of the funds and with objectives of the Lucas County Board of Commissioners, the position of External Fiscal Monitor was created in June of 2023. As the person hired for this position will focus on SLFRF subrecipient awards for the duration of the SLFRF reporting period, Lucas County's allocation will be used for the compensation of the position through the end of the SLFRF period of performance.
- Duties include:
 - Financial review of agencies applying for and awarded SLFRF funds
 - Monitoring of performance of entities in receipt of Lucas County SLFRF
 - Ensure that entities comply with relevant procurement requirements

- Participate in mandatory SLFRF reporting requirements and ensure accuracy and timeliness of said reports