

County of Monmouth, NJ
Recovery Plan

**Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal
Recovery Funds**

2021 Report

County of Monmouth, NJ
2021 Recovery Plan

Table of Contents

General Overview..... 2

- Executive Summary 2
- Uses of Funds 2
- Promoting Equitable Outcomes..... 3
- Community Engagement..... 3
- Labor Practices 3
- Use of Evidence 4
- Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category 4

Project Inventory..... 6

Performance Report 8

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

In March of 2021, it was determined that the County of Monmouth would receive \$120,193,675.00 under the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CSLFRF). To date, the County has received \$60,096,837.50 which is 50% of our total CSLFRF allocation. The County intends to utilize this funding under the following expenditure categories: Public Health (EC1), Negative Economic Impacts (EC2), Infrastructure (EC5), and Revenue Replacement (EC6).

Uses of Funds

Since March of 2020, the County has received approximately \$159 million in Federal Recovery funds not including the CSLFRF. The majority of the \$159 million was CARES Act funding in the amount of approximately \$108 million. These funds were used to cover County expenses related to COVID-19 such as salaries for employees doing substantially different work than they would normally do to respond to the pandemic, salaries for employees who were substantially dedicated to responding to the pandemic, personal protective equipment, workplace renovations to promote social distancing to allow our employers to safely return to work and serve our residents, testing, medical costs, and vaccines (\$40.5 million). In addition to covering direct County-related expenses, the County provided direct funding to municipalities (\$17.2 million), small businesses and non-profit organizations (\$45.8 million), special education schools (\$629 thousand), Monmouth County Vocational School (\$1.1 million), and performing arts organizations (\$1.4 million) to reimburse them for expenses incurred as a result of COVID-19.

The County also received direct funding for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) under ERA1 and ERA2 (\$38.4 million). The Monmouth County ERAP is open to applicants at or below 80% of area median income. Priority consideration is given to applicants who are at or below 50% of area median income. Additional information can be found at through our online portal www.monmouthcountyerap.com.

The County is currently working on a grant program for small businesses, micro-businesses, and non-profits that are located in or serve communities that meet low to moderate income eligibility criteria under the Community Development Block Grant CV Program (\$8.2 million). The County will begin accepting applications via an online portal in September 2021.

Other direct federal funding (\$4.6 million) was used for programs in the area of public health, public safety, elections, and senior citizen services.

Additional information about direct federal recovery funds (not including CSLFRF) is attached.

Based upon the various programs that were implemented by the County with prior direct federal funding related to the pandemic, the County is now prioritizing CSLFRF funding for Public Health (EC1) (\$8.3 million), Negative Economic Impacts (EC2) (\$10 million), Infrastructure (EC5) (\$9.3 million), and Revenue Replacement (EC6) (\$66.8 million). The remaining balance of \$25.8 million may be utilized for additional expenditures under Public Health (EC1), Negative Economic Impacts (EC2), Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC3),

Infrastructure (EC5), and/or Administrative and Other (EC7) as additional needs are identified by the County over the next year.

Promoting equitable outcomes

The County is currently considering specific community-based programs to address assistance with food insecurity, mental health issues resulting from the pandemic, and/or veteran's services which all fall under the Negative Economic Impacts (EC2) Category. There are a number of non-profit agencies and organizations in Monmouth County that deal directly with these issues and the County will continue to consult with them to develop specific programs based on identified and defined needs. Over the next 6 months, the County will begin to obtain qualitative and quantitative data to develop specific goals, objectives, and performance metrics and establish programs that promote equitable outcomes.

Community Engagement

The Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners will continue to utilize a number of strategies to promote community engagement. One important resource is Monmouth ACTS, which assists communities through services and involves public/private partnerships. The guiding values and core components of planning established by Monmouth ACTS include: (1) consistent resident and community voice is included in every step of the process, (2) bending the curve away from crisis response and toward family supports and prevention, (3) assisting communities through organized systems of service, (4) building resilient communities utilizing trauma informed practices, and (5) building systems and responses that promote racial and ethnic equity. The *Monmouth ACTS Advisory Council* focuses on the interconnectedness of services and ensuring that community voice is part of the process. The Council is accountable for the establishment of SMART goals and maximizing community impact for their efforts across all areas. Planning, service delivery, and quality assurance efforts will be coordinated by the group across several "hubs" including *Behavioral Health, Successful Aging, Early Childhood Success, Positive Youth Development, Transportation and Communications, and the Financial Recovery Initiative (FRI)*.

Implementation of community engagement through Monmouth ACTS may involve intensive communication and community outreach efforts through County and community partners including but not limited to online social media, radio/TV, and "boots on the ground" outreach with hard materials in libraries, laundromats, food stores, businesses, schools, medical offices, etc.

Additional information about Monmouth ACTS is attached.

Labor Practices

All County infrastructure projects are done in strict accordance with State and Federal guidelines. The County has utilized project labor agreements for a number of projects over \$5 million and will consider doing so if appropriate. The County also follows prevailing wage requirements in accordance with the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law.

Use of Evidence

CSLFRF funds may be used for evidenced based interventions and/or if projects are being evaluated through rigorous program evaluations that are designed to build evidence. The County has not yet determined an overall approach for using evidence and evaluation.

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health		
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination		
1.2	COVID-19 Testing		
1.3	COVID-19 Contact Tracing		
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.)		
1.5	Personal Protective Equipment		
1.6	Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)		
1.7	Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency	0	0
1.8	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)		
1.9	Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19		
1.10	Mental Health Services		
1.11	Substance Use Services		
1.12	Other Public Health Services		
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts		
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs		
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid		
2.3	Household Assistance: Cash Transfers		
2.4	Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs		
2.5	Household Assistance: Eviction Prevention		
2.6	Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers		
2.7	Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-		

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
	training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)		
2.8	Contributions to UI Trust Funds*		
2.9	Small Business Economic Assistance (General)		
2.10	Aid to nonprofit organizations	0	0
2.11	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality		
2.12	Aid to Other Impacted Industries		
2.13	Other Economic Support		
2.14	Rehiring Public Sector Staff		
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities		
3.1	Education Assistance: Early Learning		
3.2	Education Assistance: Aid to High-Poverty Districts		
3.3	Education Assistance: Academic Services		
3.4	Education Assistance: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services		
3.5	Education Assistance: Other		
3.6	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care		
3.7	Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting		
3.8	Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System		
3.9.	Healthy Childhood Environments: Other		
3.10	Housing Support: Affordable Housing		
3.11	Housing Support: Services for Unhoused persons		
3.12	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance		
3.13	Social Determinants of Health: Other		
3.14	Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators		
3.15	Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation		
3.16	Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions		
4	Expenditure Category: Premium Pay		
4.1	Public Sector Employees		
4.2	Private Sector: Grants to other employers		
5	Expenditure Category: Infrastructure		
5.1	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment		
5.2	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance		

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
5.3	Clean Water: Decentralized wastewater		
5.4	Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows		
5.5	Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure		
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater		
5.7	Clean Water: Energy conservation		
5.8	Clean Water: Water conservation		
5.9	Clean Water: Nonpoint source		
5.10	Drinking water: Treatment		
5.11	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution		
5.12	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution: lead remediation		
5.13	Drinking water: Source		
5.14	Drinking water: Storage		
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure		
5.16	Broadband: "Last Mile" projects	0	0
5.17	Broadband: Other projects	0	0
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement		
6.1	Provision of Government Services	0	0
7	Administrative and Other		
7.1	Administrative Expenses		
7.2	Evaluation and data analysis		
7.3	Transfers to Other Units of Government		
7.4	Transfers to Nonentitlement Units (States and Territories only)		

Project Inventory

Project MCCSLFRF1: Human Services Building HVAC Project

Funding amount: \$6.8 million

Project Expenditure Category: EC1 Public Health 1.7, Capital Investments or Physical Plant changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

Project overview

- Upgrade the HVAC system at the Human Services Building to ensure proper air flow and quality to prevent transmission of COVID-19. Project is expected begin in 2022.

Project MCCSLFRF2: Emergency Mobile Units

Funding amount: \$1.5 million

Project Expenditure Category: EC1 Public Health 1.7, Capital Investments or Physical Plant changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

Project overview

- Purchase of 2 Emergency Mobile Units to rapidly respond to “Hot Spots” in need of COVID-19 testing and/or vaccinations. Expected to be procured in 2021-2022.

Project MCCSLFRF3: Aid to Non Profit Organizations

Funding amount: \$10.0 million

Project Expenditure Category: EC2 Negative Economic Impacts 2.10, Aid to Non Profit Organizations.

Project overview

- Provide direct funding to non-profit organizations that are focused on food insecurity, mental health issues resulting from the pandemic, and/or veteran’s services. Projects are expected to begin in 2021-2022.

Use of Evidence

To be determined

Project MCCSLFRF4: Countywide Fiber Optic Upgrade/Replacement

Funding amount: \$5.0 million

Project Expenditure Category: EC5 Infrastructure 5.16, Broadband: “Last Mile” Projects

Project overview

- Replace and upgrade fiber optic infrastructure to improve connectivity and service throughout the County. Scheduled to begin in 2020

Project MCCSLFRF5: Cybersecurity Upgrades

Funding amount: \$4.3 million

Project Expenditure Category: EC5 Infrastructure 5.17, Broadband: Other Projects

Project overview

- Cybersecurity upgrades including hardware and software for advanced phishing protection, cyber recovery, firewalls and hardware licensing, and multi-factor authentication. Project to begin 2021-2022.

Project MCCSLFRF6: Government Services

Funding amount: \$66.8 million

Project Expenditure Category: EC6 Revenue Replacement 6.1, Provision of Government Services

Project overview

- The County calculated revenue loss for 2020 as compared to the base year of 2019 at \$16.7 million. The specific government services this will cover will be determined. The County intends to utilize revenue in each of the four years of the recovery program, and estimated each year's revenue loss based on the 2020 revenue loss. If actual revenue loss is less than estimated, additional projects will be explored.

Performance Report

To be determined