MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA
Recovery Plan

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2021 Report

Notes on using this template

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

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

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

Instructions:

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

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

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

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

For More Information

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

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

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA

2021 Recovery Plan

Table of Contents

Executive Summary

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

To date, while Montgomery County has no expenditures of its recovery funds, the County has created a Recovery Office to direct and manage the planning, expenditure, reporting, and execution of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) allocations, in addition to any future infrastructure and / or recovery-focused funding avenues. The County is positioned to institute bold initiatives that will advance equity, ensure economic recovery, invest in infrastructure and lay the groundwork for prosperity for decades. The Recovery Office is responsible for planning and executing projects that fulfill the purpose of the funding, have the intended impact, and can be completed successfully within the timeframe. Building an implementable program of projects requires a professional, dedicated staff to ensure initiatives fulfill program goals, are well-planned, are executed and reported on transparently, and comply with United States Treasury regulations.

Deliberate and regular engagement with a diverse group of internal and external stakeholders will create a consistent communication stream to convey efforts underway while identifying new pathways to augment recovery projects.

The Recovery Office, using inclusive and deliberate processes to involve a wide variety of constituencies, will ultimately build Montgomery County's Recovery Plan, reflecting adoption of identified projects, engagement and communication strategies, and full transparency for reporting of not only funded project status but also rationale about project selection.

The mission of the Montgomery County Recovery Office is:
The Recovery Office connects our community to information, resources, and opportunities as well as equitably distributes funding throughout Montgomery County. Our goal is to support the health, social, and economic well-being of all residents, address racial and other disparities, and serve those hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Montgomery County Recovery Office creates and follows an inclusive, objective, collaborative, and transparent process to identify and select initiatives to fund and manages expenditures and initiatives responsibly.

Montgomery County has identified governing priorities for the Recovery Office work, and its plan for expending recovery funds, stating that this work will be:
- collaborative
- effective
- equitable
- inclusive
- impactful
- measurable
- objective
- responsible
- transformative
- transparent

Uses of Funds

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

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

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

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

As of the Interim Reporting date (July 31, 2021), Montgomery County has not expended any SLFRF funding, and has not identified any direct projects to be funded to date. At this point, the County through its Recovery Office is finalizing a deliberate process to identify, assess, prioritize, and manage recovery-funded projects. (See attached presentation for more detail) In creating that process, the County has established the following:

- **KEY EVALUATION CRITERIA:** Each project will be evaluated by the Recovery Office team through the same objective criteria. Project submission process, forms and submitted projects will be available on a publicly accessible webpage.

All projects, regardless of source, will be evaluated using the same objective criteria, which include:
- Meet funding source requirements
- Align with County priorities
- Focus on underserved communities
- Equity impact
- Measurable Impact
- Budget Value/ROI
- One-Time funding OR sustainable business plan
- Leverage other resources

Using the provided SLFRF funding priorities as a guide, the County has developed granular criteria for governing project selection:

SUPPORT PUBLIC HEALTH EXPENDITURES
- Telehealth Solutions for medical, mental health, and substance use providers
- Increase and innovation in Mental Health Services for at-risk populations, including business community
- Increase and innovation in substance use treatment and prevention services
- Improvements to Crisis Intervention System
- Infrastructure for Public Safety to manage large scale crises
- Initiatives to enable our most vulnerable residents, including non-English speaking, those without transportation, and people with disabilities, to react to public safety emergencies

ADDRESS NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS
- Invest in workforce training initiatives
- Develop regional business opportunities to provide sustained revenue and business growth
- Invest in sustainable industries that provide new business opportunity and address climate change
- Remove barriers to minority business ownership
- Increase minority-, woman-, and veteran-owned business participation in procurement opportunities

SERVE THE HARDEST HIT COMMUNITIES
- Support to reinvent emergency food systems, including food bank and innovative delivery models
- Initiate housing affordability programs including home ownership incentives in areas of need
- Innovative models to enhance and expand day care including increased pay for workers and equitable cost structures
- Address inequitable access and utilization of healthcare
- Invest in infrastructure and program improvements to such facilities as libraries and community centers in underserved communities.

REPLACE PUBLIC SECTOR REVENUE LOSS

- Mitigate County financial losses for taxpayers through approved reimbursement of revenue loss per U.S. Treasury Guidance, including for provision of government services.

PROVIDE PREMIUM PAY FOR ESSENTIAL WORKERS

- Employ various compensation models to support the recruitment and retention of public health, public safety and other essential workers to ensure a trained and equipped workforce that is prepared to respond to any emerging crisis

INVEST IN WATER, SEWER, AND BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

- Equitably increase broadband availability and quality
- Partner with municipalities to strengthen their infrastructure investments
- Invest in improvements to ensure delivery of clean, safe drinking water

Promoting equitable outcomes

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

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

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

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

a. *Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2): assistance to households, small businesses, and non-profits to address impacts of the pandemic, which have been most severe among low-income populations. This includes assistance with food, housing, and*

other needs; employment programs for people with barriers to employment who faced negative economic impacts from the pandemic (such as residents of low-income neighborhoods, minorities, disconnected youth, the unemployed, formerly incarcerated people, veterans, and people with disabilities); and other strategies that provide disadvantaged groups with access to education, jobs, and opportunity.

b. *Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC 3): services to address health disparities and the social determinants of health, build stronger neighborhoods and communities (e.g., affordable housing), address educational disparities (e.g., evidence-based tutoring, community schools, and academic, social-emotional, and mental health supports for high poverty schools), and promote healthy childhood environments (e.g., home visiting, child care).*

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

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

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

Equity of opportunity, of communication, and of implementation is a focal element in Montgomery County Recovery Office planning. As reporting guidance and best practice dictates, the Recovery Office in coordination with County management principals will incorporate equity assessment metrics into its initiative assessment tools to enable an objective, transparent planning and data collection to ensure equity accountability. Our current goal, generally to adopt an equitable approach to all facets of the Recover Office work (communication, project identification, initiative implementation, and ultimate effects of investment), will be more fully specified, with direct metrics, as the work of the Recovery Office continues.

County Recovery Office and management staff have:
- Directly engaged multiple third-party entities with whom Montgomery County does not have pre-existing relationships to engender engagement across new and disparate swaths of our community
- Planned to ensure that all communication materials and outreach efforts are predicated upon data collected and organized by our existing health and human services offices.
  - Written materials will be translated into the top three (at a minimum) languages spoken in Montgomery County
  - Socio-economic demographics will be utilized to focus geographic community efforts in centers, places of worship, schools, and other points of contact, to supplement conventional internet / social media marketing
- Required examination of equity in all Recovery Office actions

As planning to incorporate equity into Recovery funding planning and project execution is formalized, reports and future plans will reflect and report on fulfilment of the notional goals delineated here.

Community Engagement

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

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

See above description of Community Engagement efforts under "Promoting Equitable Outcomes."

Labor Practices

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

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

Under Pennsylvania state law, Montgomery County is required for all construction projects to follow prevailing wage law regardless of funding source, and will do so for all infrastructure projects funded through Recovery funds.

Use of Evidence

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

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

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

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

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

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

	Category	Cumulative expenditures to date ($)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health		
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination	$0.00	$0.00
1.2	COVID-19 Testing	0.00	0.00
1.3	COVID-19 Contact Tracing	$0.00	$0.00
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.)	$0.00	$0.00
1.5	Personal Protective Equipment	$0.00	$0.00
1.6	Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)	$0.00	$0.00
1.7	Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency	$0.00	$0.00
1.8	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)	$0.00	$0.00
1.9	Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19	$0.00	$0.00
1.10	Mental Health Services	$0.00	$0.00
1.11	Substance Use Services	$0.00	$0.00
1.12	Other Public Health Services	$0.00	$0.00
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts		
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs	$0.00	$0.00
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid	$0.00	$0.00
2.3	Household Assistance: Cash Transfers	$0.00	$0.00
2.4	Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs	$0.00	$0.00
2.5	Household Assistance: Eviction Prevention	$0.00	$0.00
2.6	Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers	$0.00	$0.00

	Category	Cumulative expenditures to date ($)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
2.7	Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)	$0.00	$0.00
2.8	Contributions to UI Trust Funds*	$0.00	$0.00
2.9	Small Business Economic Assistance (General)	$0.00	$0.00
2.10	Aid to nonprofit organizations	$0.00	$0.00
2.11	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality	$0.00	$0.00
2.12	Aid to Other Impacted Industries	$0.00	$0.00
2.13	Other Economic Support	$0.00	$0.00
2.14	Rehiring Public Sector Staff	$0.00	$0.00
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities		
3.1	Education Assistance: Early Learning	$0.00	$0.00
3.2	Education Assistance: Aid to High-Poverty Districts	$0.00	$0.00
3.3	Education Assistance: Academic Services	$0.00	$0.00
3.4	Education Assistance: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services	$0.00	$0.00
3.5	Education Assistance: Other	$0.00	$0.00
3.6	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care	$0.00	$0.00
3.7	Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting	$0.00	$0.00
3.8	Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System	$0.00	$0.00
3.9.	Healthy Childhood Environments: Other	$0.00	$0.00
3.10	Housing Support: Affordable Housing	$0.00	$0.00
3.11	Housing Support: Services for Unhoused persons	$0.00	$0.00
3.12	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	$0.00	$0.00
3.13	Social Determinants of Health: Other	$0.00	$0.00
3.14	Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators	$0.00	$0.00
3.15	Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation	$0.00	$0.00
3.16	Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions	$0.00	$0.00
4	Expenditure Category: Premium Pay		
4.1	Public Sector Employees	$0.00	$0.00
4.2	Private Sector: Grants to other employers	$0.00	$0.00
5	Expenditure Category: Infrastructure		
5.1	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment	$0.00	$0.00
5.2	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance	$0.00	$0.00

	Category	Cumulative expenditures to date ($)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
5.3	Clean Water: Decentralized wastewater	$0.00	$0.00
5.4	Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows	$0.00	$0.00
5.5	Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure	$0.00	$0.00
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater	$0.00	$0.00
5.7	Clean Water: Energy conservation	$0.00	$0.00
5.8	Clean Water: Water conservation	$0.00	$0.00
5.9	Clean Water: Nonpoint source	$0.00	$0.00
5.10	Drinking water: Treatment	$0.00	$0.00
5.11	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution	$0.00	$0.00
5.12	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution: lead remediation	$0.00	$0.00
5.13	Drinking water: Source	$0.00	$0.00
5.14	Drinking water: Storage	$0.00	$0.00
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure	$0.00	$0.00
5.16	Broadband: "Last Mile" projects	$0.00	$0.00
5.17	Broadband: Other projects	$0.00	$0.00
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement		
6.1	Provision of Government Services	$0.00	$0.00
7	Administrative and Other		
7.1	Administrative Expenses	$0.00	$0.00
7.2	Evaluation and data analysis	$0.00	$0.00
7.3	Transfers to Other Units of Government	$0.00	$0.00
7.4	Transfers to Nonentitlement Units (States and Territories only)	$0.00	$0.00

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

Project Inventory

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

Example Project
Project [Identification Number]: [Project Name]
Funding amount: [Funding amount]
Project Expenditure Category: [Category number, Category Name]

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

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

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

Additional Projects
Project [Identification Number]: [Project Name]
Funding amount: [Funding amount]
Project Expenditure Category: [Category number, Category Name]

Performance Report

- *For the Project Inventories in Section 8, include key performance indicators for your jurisdiction's major SLFRF funded projects. Report key performance indicators for each project, or group projects with substantially similar goals and the same outcome measures. Jurisdictions may choose to include some indicators for each individual project as well as crosscutting indicators. Include both output and outcome measures.* See Section C(9) on page 27 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.
- *In addition, you must include the mandatory performance indicators if your jurisdiction has projects in the relevant areas (this information may be included in each recipient's Recovery Plan as they determine most appropriate). Provide data disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, income, and other relevant factors, if possible. Data should be presented in a table and each annual report should include updated data for the performance period as well as prior period data.*
  a. *Household Assistance (EC 2.2 & 2.5) and Housing Support (EC 3.10-3.12):*

- *Number of people or households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation)*
- *Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed*

  b. *Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2):*
   - *Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs*
   - *Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs*
   - *Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs*

  c. *Education Assistance (EC 3.1-3.5):*
   - *Number of students participating in evidence-based tutoring programs*

  d. *Healthy Childhood Environments (EC 3.6-3.9):*
   - *Number of children served by childcare and early learning (pre-school/pre-K/ages 3- 5)*
   - *Number of families served by home visiting*

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

<u>Ineligible Activities: Tax Offset Provision (States and territories only)</u>

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

Item	Amount
a. Revenue-reducing Covered Changes	$

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

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