



Nueces County Annual Recovery Plan Performance Report

American Rescue Plan Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

July 31, 2024

For the Reporting Period of July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Nueces County

2024 Recovery Plan

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State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Recovery Plan Performance Report

Note: The Recovery Plan Performance Report provides the public and Treasury both retrospective and prospective information on the projects that recipients are undertaking or planning to undertake with program funding and how they are planning to ensure program outcomes are achieved in an effective, efficient, and equitable manner. Each recipient is encouraged to add information to the plan that they feel is appropriate to provide information to their constituents on efforts they are taking to respond to the pandemic and promote an equitable economic recovery.

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 both retrospective and prospective information on the recipient’s projects and how they plan to ensure program outcomes are achieved in an effective, efficient, 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. Treasury recommends that Recovery Plans be accessible within three clicks or fewer from the homepage of the recipient’s website.

The initial Recovery Plan covered the period from the date of award to July 31, 2021 and was required to 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 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	April 30, 2027

GENERAL OVERVIEW

I. Executive Summary

Nueces County received \$70,371,3662 under the U.S. Department of the Treasury's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program. The County received half of their allocation on May 19, 2021, and the remaining \$35.1 million on June 30, 2022. Nueces County intends to utilize this unprecedented funding opportunity to stabilize the local economy, stimulate economic growth, maintain and upgrade infrastructure, and enable an inclusive and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

To operationalize this intention, Nueces County engaged the community and sought feedback from over 800 government officials, practitioners, business owners, nonprofit leaders, and community stakeholders at the local level to:

- Understand the impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency on communities;
- Gauge public priority areas and identify a list of potential uses of SLFRF to address the community's most urgent recovery needs and challenges;
- Create a unified vision for the County's COVID-19 recovery by working collaboratively on mutually beneficial outcomes;
- Explore ways government and community leaders can work together to leverage SLFRF and other funding sources to amplify the impact on the County's economic recovery;
- Develop a Strategic Fiscal Recovery Plan that includes a comprehensive spending framework for the allocation of the County's SLFRF that addresses the community needs identified during the community engagement process.

The County's community engagement efforts revealed several priorities or use of fiscal recovery funds. Common themes included: discussions relaying the extent to which the pandemic has impacted and exacerbated long-standing community needs, including access to mental health and healthcare services; the need to use ARPA funds to deliver immediate relief for the ongoing COVID-19 public health response; continued support for investing in critical water and sewer infrastructure; and support for bolstering local government capacity and investments in parks, community centers, and government services, including emergency management and public safety.

To facilitate a strong and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn, Nueces County has taken proactive steps to use SLFRF to invest in the priority areas identified by residents and community stakeholders, including:

- Over \$9 million to support ongoing COVID-19 response and pandemic cost recovery efforts. Supporting the community's response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic remains a pressing priority. To date, the County has utilized SLFRF to implement a number of COVID-19 mitigation and prevention programs designed to decrease the transmission of the virus in congregate settings and cover costs associated with testing and treating COVID-19. Additionally, the County intends to allocate an additional \$7 million to strengthen and expand the capacity of the Medical Examiner's Office to support current and future public health care system needs.

- Over \$4.5 million for water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure projects. The County is prepared to utilize SLFRF to make improvements in water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure that are intended to build future resilience and begin to reverse the inequitable distribution of resources. These infrastructure projects seek to enhance water distribution, work toward more effective wastewater conveyance and treatment, and address long-term stormwater needs, with a focus on projects in traditionally underserved communities including Banquette, Robstown, Driscoll, and several Colonias.
- Over \$8 million for community parks and supporting local tourist attractions. Nueces county firmly believes that the whole community benefits when community parks and local attractions are prioritized. The County plans to allocate \$6 million to renovate parks across the County. Many of these projects will be targeted toward portions of the County that traditionally have the fewest resources and have been hit hardest by the pandemic, and many of these projects will be specifically tailored to the needs of the surrounding community, incorporating features designed to deter community violence or increase access to safe spaces. As a major tourist destination, Nueces County's economic wellbeing was devastated by the impacts of the pandemic. The County therefore intends to utilize funding from the SLFRF to invest in tourism projects that have national as well as local appeal, including providing support for rebuilding Bob Hall Pier and upgrades to ____.
- Over \$2.4 million to build Nueces County's capacity to serve its residents. In order to effectively develop, implement and increase residents' access to the programs and services funded with SLFRF and other federal, state, and local funding sources; the County utilized SLFRF funds to upgrade to a modernized information technology and cybersecurity infrastructure. The County also invested in case management software that will increase the efficiency of criminal justice interventions and help address the pandemic-related backlog in the court system that is contributing to the rising jail populations.
- Over \$6.3 million for workforce development and worker retention programs. In addition to investing in government technology upgrades, the County also used SLFRF to boost public sector capacity by hiring staff into positions necessary to support the County's ongoing response to the pandemic and efforts to advance an equitable and efficient economic recovery. Additionally, Nueces County is awarding premium pay to County employees that have supported the community throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency. The County also funded a series on worker retention programs designed to retain law enforcement personnel and employees working for the District Attorney's Office. These employees provide critical services to the residents of Nueces County. The increase in job demand and workload during the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated pre-existing challenges associated with hiring and retaining law enforcement and court personnel.
- Over \$4 million for mental health and community wellness initiatives. To date, Nueces County has utilized SLFRF to implement several mental health and community wellness programs. These programs are intended to increase residents' access to crisis and household support services and help effectively address the backlog of court cases to inform conditions of release. The County also intends to utilize SLFRF or other funding sources to establish a Public Defenders Office to improve the quality of representation for persons with a mental illness. The County is considering the use of SLFRF for

building a mental health restoration center to offer recovery-oriented programming, in collaboration with the Nueces Center for Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities (MHID), Nueces County Hospital District (NCHD), Corpus Christi Police Department, Nueces County Sheriff's Office, and the District Attorney's Office, with the aim of diverting those facing mental health challenges from the criminal justice system.

II. Uses of Funds

The American Rescue Plan Act funding presents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to Nueces County to make a lasting, transformational impact on this community. Recognizing this opportunity, Nueces County prioritizes using SLFRF funds to promote an equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and its negative economic impacts. Prior to allocating funds and designing programs, the County engaged in extensive efforts to receive feedback from the community. Engagement efforts included an online survey, four in-person listening sessions, and a comprehensive county department needs assessment. This allowed diverse groups from across the County to share their experiences during the pandemic; articulate the impacts the pandemic had on them, their families, and their businesses; and propose SLFRF programs to address those impacts.

Through these efforts, county leaders learned that many community members placed a high priority on emergency response efforts, programs to enhance public safety, water and sewer infrastructure, and support for the businesses and individuals that were adversely impacted by the pandemic. Such activities would promote an equitable use of SLFRF and support communities and groups most in need of assistance.

From there, the County designed, and continues to design, programs to address the community's top priorities. For example, several projects have been approved to enhance stormwater infrastructure throughout the County, improve law enforcement's ability to deliver public safety services, and promote efforts to decrease the transmission of the COVID-19 virus. Similarly, programs are under consideration to enhance public spaces, improve the community's ability to respond to emergency situations, and support law enforcement's ability to confront an increase in gun violence.

These approved and proposed SLFRF projects place equity considerations at the forefront of County decision-making processes. The diversity of policy interventions allows the County to address the particularized needs and demands of the community, promote an equitable distribution of benefits, and enhance community resiliency in the aftermath of the pandemic. As the County continues to develop and implement SLFRF-funded projects, the County will continue to place a strong emphasis on community needs and incorporate diverse community feedback into policy considerations.

Part of the County's plan to efficiently utilize ARPA/SLFRF funding in a manner that promotes transformational outcomes involves thoroughly mapping different funding sources available to support COVID-19 recovery efforts. For example, over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, the County has strategically leveraged funding from a variety of other federal programs, including funding from the Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, FEMA Public Assistance (PA) program, and the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program to support an equitable and efficient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nueces County's SLFRF Projects

The projects included below are organized within specific SLFRF eligible use categories. For profiles of SLFRF projects Nueces County has funded to date, see the "Project Inventory" section of this document.

- **Public Health (EC 1)**

\$11.2 Million (Estimated)

The COVID-19 pandemic has further exposed and exacerbated health inequities in Nueces County. To date, the County has allocated over \$2.2 million of its ARPA/SLFRF funding to improve public health outcomes and tackle health disparities exacerbated by the pandemic. Notably, during the COVID-19 pandemic, the inability to quarantine or practice social distancing in detention settings, together with overcrowding, put imprisoned individuals and correctional staff at greater risk of infection. To help reduce this risk and prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the overcrowded County's detention facility, the County utilized SLFRF funds to cover the cost of relocating imprisoned individuals to facilities in Aransas County and Victoria County that were less crowded and could therefore better accommodate social distancing. Additionally, the County has a self-funded health insurance plan and utilized SLFRF to cover increased costs associated with covering COVID-19 testing, diagnostics, and prescription costs for their employees. Allocating SLFRF funds to these projects allows the County to help mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus and protect the health and safety of this community.

Other expenditures under this category could include securing the necessary infrastructure and supplies to continue to provide vaccinations, testing, personal protective equipment (PPE) and other items needed to ensure the safety of our community and upgrading the Medical Examiners' Office and other public health facilities to strengthen the capacity of the County's public health system.

- **Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2)**

\$21.4 Million (Estimated)

Responding to the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic is a leading priority. Over the period of performance for the SLFRF program, the County intends to utilize SLFRF and other funding sources to promote economic recovery for businesses, organizations, communities, and families hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. To date, the County has appropriated SLFRF funds to a Survivor's Benefits Program to provide financial assistance to the surviving spouse of a law enforcement officer who passed away after contracting COVID-19 while on duty. The County also plans to allocate funding to renovate parks across the County and aid nonprofit organizations, Mental Health Restoration Center, and renovations to upgrade the Hilltop Community Center.

- **Public Sector Capacity (EC 3)**

\$10.7 Million (Estimated)

Nueces County has dedicated substantial resources to addressing the COVID-19 public health emergency and its negative economic impacts. In order to maintain vital public services and improve the efficacy of public health and economic relief programs, the County has allocated over \$8.9 million to projects that support and enhance public sector capacity. To meet this objective, the County is taking a multipronged approach. The County utilized SLFRF funds to hire individuals into public sector positions that are necessary to support the County's

operations and ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including attorneys, emergency management personnel, public information officer, veterans' services personnel, victims' services personnel, and a risk assessment officer for the Community Supervision and Corrections Department. The County also implemented two public safety workforce stabilization programs to provide retention incentives to County law enforcement personnel and employees working for the District Attorney's Office who have supported the community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nueces County also used SLFRF funds to address unanticipated administrative needs that were caused or exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Most notably, the County sought to invest in electronic case management technology infrastructure to promote the efficiency of criminal justice agencies, increase the County's legal caseload processing capacity, and address the pandemic-related backlog in the court system that is contributing to the rising jail populations. The County also allocated resources to Metrocom, a consolidated emergency dispatch center between the City of Corpus Christi and Nueces County, to improve the dispatch center's ability to respond to emergencies, including issues caused or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Furthermore, recognizing that the success of the County's programs designed to respond to the pandemic and its negative economic impacts on the community requires modernized technology infrastructure, the County utilized SLFRF funds to upgrade to a modernized information technology and datacenter infrastructure. Both investments will enhance the County's IT infrastructure, increase remote work capacities, and support the required functionality capacity needs required to implement SLFRF and non-SLFRF funded programs.

- **Premium Pay (EC 4)** **\$3.6 Million (Estimated)**

The County recognizes the hard work and dedication of its employees throughout this unprecedented time. These employees continue to support the community as the public health emergency continues. The premium pay program is intended to boost morale, encourage employment retention of critical staff, reduce service gaps, and above all, compensate the County's essential workers who have put their wellbeing at risk to meet the needs of the residents they serve.

- **Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure (EC 5)** **\$10.6 Million (Estimated)**

The County intends to leverage their SLFRF allocation to invest in water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure projects. To date, the County has allocated \$20,000 to assess septic tank systems in four Colonias. Colonias are substandard housing developments, often found along the Texas-Mexico border, where residents lack basic services such as drinking water, sewage treatment, paved roads, and safe and sanitary housing. Nueces County has approximately 128 Colonias of which 38 are recognized by the state as being Colonias. The County funded this initial assessment to help alleviate some of these challenges and promote equitable access to water infrastructure across the County. The County also intends to support drainage infrastructure projects that benefit rural and historically underserved communities in and around the Nueces County area.

- **Revenue Replacement EC 6)**

\$10 Million

Within the revenue replacement eligible use category, recipients are permitted to use payments from the SLFRF to invest in general government services to enable a broader economic recovery from the budgetary impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on recipient governments. On January 6, 2022, the U.S. Treasury released the Final Rule for the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. Under the Final Rule, the U.S. Treasury included an option for recipients to use a standard allowance of \$10 million for revenue loss for the entire period of performance for the SLFRF program. This standard allowance was accepted by the County. The County intends to utilize lost revenue funds to invest in cybersecurity infrastructure, maintenance and operations projects, and other government services necessary to support an equitable economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Administrative EC 7)**

\$1.7 Million

Nueces County has utilized administrative services under the Final Rule, the U.S. Treasury for general administrative needs to address single audit components and administrative services for the management and oversight of ARPA funded Programs and projects. Services provided by consultants, contractors and/or staff and may include public notices, accounting and audit support, disbursement of funds, monitoring, reporting, or any other general administrative or grant management services. Development of internal policies and procedures that are compliant with ARPA guidelines which may include procurement, financial management, labor monitoring, oversight of subrecipient awards, etc.

III. Promoting equitable outcomes

Nueces County is committed to addressing the long-standing inequities exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. From the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Nueces County has worked in partnership with practitioners, community partners, local government stakeholders, and residents to understand the important trends, drivers, and issues facing traditionally underserved and disenfranchised communities. Drawing on the insights gained, the County intends to utilize federal funds to promote equitable outcomes by designing and implementing programs that advance opportunities for all County residents.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been devastating to all, but it has not impacted Nueces County residents equally. Instead, it has exposed and further exacerbated long-standing inequities in Nueces County. This is evidenced in the April 2021 report conducted by the Texas Health Institute titled “Advancing Health Equity in Nueces County: Amid and Beyond the COVID-19 Pandemic” (Health Equity report). With this equity framework, the County will ensure an equity lens is applied to investments made possible by the SLFRF program. The availability of these funds provides an unprecedented opportunity to invest in and improve broader social, economic, and health circumstances across the County, particularly for those disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. In doing so, County leaders will work to ensure the equitable distribution of funds and opportunities across communities and organizations. The need for more equitable distribution of funds was a recurring theme voiced by several stakeholders within the Health Equity report.

Addressing these inequities requires a systematic approach to embedding fairness in decision-making processes and ensuring equal access to services and opportunities, as communities facing a disproportionate burden of the COVID-19 disease were already experiencing greater health, economic, employment, housing, and mental health challenges. In particular, lower-income communities and communities of color in the Northside, including Hilcrest and Washington-Coles, Central City and Molina areas, and Robstown and Driscoll in the West Side have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The County intends to allocate resources in ways that expand access to opportunities and services in these and other adversely affected communities. Further, Nueces County intends to engage diverse community leaders, practitioners, and residents as active collaborators on an ongoing basis to ensure that residents, businesses, and nonprofits are aware of the services funded by SLFRF and non-SLFRF sources.

Implementing the County's Equity Strategy:

- **COVID-19 Response:** Nueces County incurred significant costs associated with the County's efforts to test, diagnose, and support employees that contracted the COVID-19 virus. These efforts helped protect the health and safety of employees and the public. The County is utilizing SLFRF funds to defray costs associated with these efforts, which allows the County to provide government services without disruption and keep these critical health care services available to its employees. Also, the County is using SLFRF funds to relocate incarcerated individuals to facilities outside of Nueces County that are less crowded. This increased social distancing in the County's correctional facility, which improves and protects the health and safety of incarcerated individuals, employees, and members of the public.
- **Wastewater and Stormwater Infrastructure:** The County is implementing and considering several projects to enhance access to clean water and drinking water infrastructure throughout the County. In particular, the County is implementing programs to improve stormwater management, improve septic systems, update a wastewater treatment plant, and support the construction of a booster pump station, among others. These projects are necessary investments in the County's drinking and sewer water infrastructure and benefit diverse and underserved communities throughout the County.
- **Parks and Economically Impacted Nonprofit Organizations:** Recognizing the importance of public spaces in improving neighborhood health and resiliency, the County is proposing projects to enhance inland and walking trail nature parks. These parks not only benefit members of the community but are also vital to the County's tourism industry, which is heavily dependent on tourism to the County's coastal areas. Economically Impacted Nonprofit Organizations who were impacted during COVID-19 stay in place orders, especially locally operated veteran groups, community-based groups and literacy programs which affected daily operations to function or assist county residents face to face.
- **Public Sector Capacity:** The COVID-19 pandemic strained County resources as it responded to the COVID-19 public health emergency and its negative economic impacts. The pandemic caused the County to alter a variety of core government

activities to enable continuity of operations. Such activities include a pivot to remote work for some employees, increasing social distancing activities, and implementing software and hardware solutions which allowed for remote meetings. Further, the County is using SLFRF funds to implement software that allows for more government operations to be made available via the internet, which increases the ease of accessing government services and programs and decreases the need for employees and residents to interact in person as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact this community. The County is also utilizing SLFRF funds to expand public sector employment, which increases the County's ability to provide government services without interruption. Taken together, the County's investment in its public sector improves its ability to respond to the pandemic and continue government operations for years to come.

- **Workforce Development and Retention:** As with most communities, the COVID-19 pandemic profoundly disrupted Nueces County's labor market. Many individuals have left the labor market or are reconsidering their employment options. This has caused Nueces County to implement SLFRF programs to make County employment more competitive, thereby retaining existing employees and attracting new ones. Further, as mentioned previously, Nueces County is using SLFRF funds to expand their public sector employment capacity, which increases the number workforce opportunities in the community.
- **Mental Health:** The COVID-19 pandemic has created and exacerbated mental health challenges for many individuals living and working in Nueces County. As a result, existing mental health interventions struggled to keep up with the increase in demand for services. Recognizing this trend, the County utilized SLFRF funds to increase funding for Metrocom, the 911 dispatch team that serves residents located in the City of Corpus Christi and in Nueces County. The county is also considering SLFRF programs to promote mental health and criminal justice collaboration. With research indicating that people with mental illness are overrepresented in the justice system, the County is exploring opportunities to address that challenge, increase support for those who interact with the criminal justice system, and divert those who suffer from mental illness away from traditional incarceration and towards diversion centers and activities that seek to treat underlying issues. The County is also considering using SLFRF funds to purchase software that enhances the County's social services to handle and track cases. This will increase the County's ability to effectively respond to those who require mental health interventions and support.

IV. Community Engagement

Nueces County pursued a variety of community engagement strategies to understand community needs, identify barriers to recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, and explore opportunities to address priority areas for an equitable economic and social recovery. To achieve these goals, the County and the Nueces County Hospital District engaged the Meadows mental Health Policy Institute to conduct a comprehensive behavioral health community needs assessment to inform the county's efforts to improve access to and quality of

mental health services for its residents. The County then, in partnership with the Nueces County Hospital District, contracted with the Texas Health Institute to analyze the role that social, economic, and neighborhood conditions play in shaping and perpetuating health disparities in Nueces County. This report, titled “Advancing Health Equity in Nueces County Amid and Beyond the COVID-19 Pandemic.” Integrates findings from community engagement and COVID-19 data to provide guidance to county leaders and community partners on ways to leverage and invest federal funding to bridge gaps in social, health, and economic opportunities across Nueces County.

Building upon those efforts, between September and December of 2021, the County hosted four community listening sessions and commissioned a community survey to solicit residents’ thoughts on how the County should consider investing SLFRF funds to respond to community needs.

Key Community Engagement Takeaways:

- Hosted 4 community engagement events, plus the opportunity for invitees to respond to a post-meeting survey or submit feedback directly to the County via phone or email.
- Issued over 230 invitations to individuals and organizations, inviting them to attend the 4 community engagement events.
- Connected with 77 stakeholders from local governments, businesses, nonprofits, and the general community at the listening sessions.
- Launched a community-wide feedback survey to identify residents’ priority projects and long-term needs.
- Received survey responses from 688 Nueces County residents.
- Identified 70 potential projects most of which address long-term community needs that have been created or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health crisis.

The County’s community engagement efforts brought a diverse group of community leaders and members together to discuss strategies for allocating funds in ways that stimulate economic growth, advance opportunities, and enable an inclusive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The County serves a diverse population, and therefore it is in the best interest of the citizens to ensure that all community input activities are performed in an inclusive and mindful manner and capture the needs of all populations served. The County’s approach focused on removing barriers to participation by ensuring that:

- COVID-19 safety protocols were prioritized at each in-person session;
- Community engagement sessions were offered on weekdays and weekends at various times of the day;
- Events were held at venues that were easy to access (e.g., adjacent to other frequented neighborhood amenities and included free on-site parking);
- Invitations were extended to organizations that previously had limited contact with County leaders, including a focus on extending invitations to communities of color and residents living in the more rural areas of the County; and
- Creating opportunities for follow-up and re-engagement at the end of every public input session.

This approach will allow a broad reach into the community while building intercommunity partnerships to allow current and future recovery needs to be addressed with SLFRF and other funding sources.

V. Labor Practices

Whenever federal funds are involved in construction projects, it is standard practice for the County to incorporate 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Appendix II to Part 200, which includes, but is not limited to, the Davis-Bacon Act, Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, Clean Air Act, and Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment. The inclusion of such contract provisions in the County's competitive bid documents promote effective and efficient delivery of high-quality construction projects while also supporting the economic recovery through strong employment opportunities for workers.

VI. Use of Evidence

The County's decisions regarding use of SLFRF funding have been and will continue to be guided by principles that place value on ensuring inputs from a variety of stakeholders, setting broad and achievable goals, capturing program outputs, conducting meaningful analyses, and evaluating program outputs against overall goals. While the County has not allocated funding towards evidence-based interventions, or funded projects being evaluated through rigorous program evaluations, the County has invested time, materials, efforts, and dollars in recent years to identify significant gaps in services and to also identify certain needs that have not been previously addressed. For example, in September 2020, the Meadows mental Health Policy Institute released the "Nueces County Comprehensive Behavioral Health Community Needs Assessment." The report emphasized the need for improvement in the jail diversion workflow, which is being considered as a proposed use for ARPA funds. Such improvements would have a variety of benefits such as providing much needed mental health services to those who needed it, reducing the rapidly growing jail population, and alleviating the backlog within the criminal justice system. In April 2021, the Texas Health Institute completed the Health Equity report. This report revealed that the pandemic has left lower-income communities and communities of color facing a disproportionate burden of disease, death, and loss. Taken together, the County's approach is informed by evidence attained through research and discussions with subject matter experts and local practitioners responsible for supporting the community amid and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

PROJECT INVENTORY

2134-1401: COVID-19 PREVENTION MEASURES IN DETENTION FACILITIES

Funding Amount: \$1,093,346.96

Project Expenditure Category: 1: Public Health – 1.4 Prevention in Congregate Settings

Timeline: July 1, 2021, through September 30, 2023

Project Description

During the COVID-19 pandemic, overcrowding in the County's detention facility became a significant public health concern. The inability to quarantine or practice social distancing, together with overcrowding, put imprisoned individuals and correctional staff at greater risk of infection. To help reduce this risk and prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the County's detention facility, the County utilized general funds to cover the cost of relocating imprisoned individuals to facilities in Aransas and Victoria that were less crowded and could therefore better accommodate social distancing to decrease the transmission of the virus. The county is leveraging SLFRF funds to replenish funds used to transfer incarcerated individuals to surrounding County facilities.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Decrease the likelihood of COVID-19 transmission in the County's detention facility by housing imprisoned individuals in other facilities.
- Protect the health and safety of imprisoned individuals and staff.

Key Performance Indicators

The U.S. Department of the Treasury did not include any mandatory programmatic data or performance indicators for projects funded under Expenditure Category 1.4. To ensure program outcomes are achieved, the County intends to track the number of incarcerated individuals transferred to facilities in Aransas County and Victoria County.

- As of June 30, 2022, the County has relocated over 200 individuals.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-1402: Keach Family Library-HVAC Upgrade

Funding Amount: \$114,624.00

Project Expenditure Category: 1: Public Health – 1.4 Prevention in Congregate Settings

Timeline: July 18, 2022, through September 30, 2023

Project Description

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Keach Family Library conducted itself as a HUB facility during the public health concern and became a cooling center during extreme weather conditions for Nueces County residents who fall under the QCT and are considered LMI. To help reduce this risk and prevent the spread of COVID-19 during a time of need as vaccinations were conducted at the Richard M. Borchard Fairgrounds in the County's facility, the County utilized general funds to cover the cost of utility usage and was able to provide wi-fi connectivity as the facility resides in the out-skirts for Corpus Christi and Robstown.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Decrease the likelihood of COVID-19 transmission in the County's by social distancing and provide inclement weather assistance for those who reside in the rural community.

Key Performance Indicators

The U.S. Department of the Treasury did not include any mandatory programmatic data or performance indicators for projects funded under Expenditure Category 1.4. To ensure program outcomes are achieved, the County intends to track the number of individuals utilizing facility as a shelter due to extreme weather conditions and in matters of heat related temperatures.

- As of October 1, 2023, the County has assisted over 150 individuals and residents during inclement weather events.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-1601: COVID-19 MEDICAL COSTS

Funding Amount: \$1,716,145

Project Expenditure Category: 1: Public Health – 1.6 Medical Expenses

Timeline: March 3, 2021, through April 30, 2022

Project Description

The County has a self-funded health insurance plan. The County is utilizing SLFRF funds to reimburse their general fund for increased unbudgeted expenses associated with covering COVID-19 testing, diagnostics, and prescription costs for their employees. This allows the County to support efforts to protect the health and safety of their employees and members of the general public they interact with. By utilizing extensive testing and diagnostics, the County is mitigating the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Replenish funds used to cover COVID-19 medical claims.
- Mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus in the community.

Key Performance Indicators

The County is leveraging SLFRF funds to replenish funds used to expand and establish programs and responsibilities to directly address the COVID-19 pandemic. In line with the County's overarching recovery goals, SLFRF funding was used to enhance the County's ability to overcome budget shortfalls as a result of the pandemic and continue to deliver critical services to its residents.

The U.S. Department of the Treasury did not include any mandatory programmatic data or performance indicators for projects funded under Expenditure Category 1.6.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-1701: MEDICAL EXAMINERS OFFICE

Funding Amount: \$6,999,400

Project Expenditure Category: 1: Public Health – 1.14 Other Public Health Services

Timeline: July 6, 2022, through December 31, 2026

Project Description

The County will utilize the existing Medical Examiner's office to reinforce expansion usage due to disaster declaration COVID-19 pandemic. This office supports critical COVID-19 public health response and mitigation efforts and helps monitor the spread of the disease in the community. Based on the size of the population in Nueces County, in a normal year, the Medical Examiner's office processes approximately 360 cases. However, the COVID-19 pandemic dramatically

increased these numbers and, as a result, the office exceeded their operational capacity. The addition and renovation provide the Medical Examiner's office with increased capacity and resources; thereby enhancing their efforts to monitor and respond to the pandemic.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Provide and promote emergency response to hospitals and public health facilities.
- Assist in local and outside public agencies due to the case investigations or court case evidentiary input in the community.

Key Performance Indicators

The County is leveraging SLFRF funds to replenish funds used to expand and establish programs and responsibilities to directly address the COVID-19 pandemic. In line with the County's overarching recovery goals, SLFRF funding was used to enhance the County's ability to overcome budget shortfalls as a result of the pandemic and continue to deliver critical services to its residents.

The U.S. Department of the Treasury did not include any mandatory programmatic data or performance indicators for projects funded under Expenditure Category 1.14.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-2221: NC PARK IMPROVEMENT UPGRADES (COUNTY-WIDE)/SUNRISE POND NATURE TRAIL/OIL BELT PARK

Funding Amount: \$13,360,880

Project Expenditure Category: 2: Negative Economic Impact – 2.22 Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

Timeline: July 6, 2022, through December 31, 2026

Project Description

County Wide Park improvements will maintain the citizens of NC wellness and healthy lifestyles. Nueces County Parks will incorporate recreational facilities, walking trails and exercise components to promote healthier living environment by promoting opportunities to engage in physical activities. Promoting physical activity among segments of the population at highest risk of inactivity and providing residents of all ages a safe place for walking, exercising, playing, and holding social gathering events. County Park improvements will maintain the citizens of NC wellness and healthy lifestyles. Oil Belt Park incorporates a recreational facility, walking trails and sidewalks to promote healthier living environment by promoting opportunities to engage in physical activities.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Provide and promote health benefits impacted by the pandemic to increase their mental and health well-being.

Key Performance Indicators

As required by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Guidance, the following performance metrics are being reported on the quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports for projects under Expenditure Category 2.22:

- As of June 30, 2023, 7 park upgrades will be upgraded to accommodate areas impacted by the pandemic and will serve disproportionate areas to promote health.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-3515: NC COMMUNITY FACILITY CENTERS (INCORPORATED/UNINCORPORATED) REHABILITATION IMPROVEMENT

Funding Amount: \$2,163,282

Project Expenditure Category: 2: Negative Economic Impact – 2.23 Strong Healthy Communities: Demolition and Rehabilitation of Properties

Timeline: March 22, 2023, through December 31, 2026

Project Description

Nueces County Wide, including unincorporated community facilities improvements will maintain the citizens of NC wellness and healthy lifestyles by providing a public space to those in need. Nueces County will incorporate into a few facilities' emergency communication center check-in during a disaster declaration event, incorporate components of public health in conjunction with city-county health to promote healthier living and provide opportunities by community engagement with outside agencies.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Provide and promote safe facilities during disaster events, community engagement and routine health check-ups with outside agencies.

Key Performance Indicators

As required by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Guidance, the following performance metrics are being reported on the quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports for projects under Expenditure Category 2.23:

- As of March 22, 2023, 5 rehabilitated facilities will be upgraded to accommodate areas impacted by the disaster events and will serve disproportionate areas to promote safe environment.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-2340: TEXAS SEALIFE CENTER

Funding Amount: \$250,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2: Negative Economic Impact – 2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations: Nonprofit Fiscal Recovery Assistance Program

Timeline: November 2, 2022, through December 31, 2026

Project Description

The County will utilize SLFRF funds to assist nonprofits that have been impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency and its negative economic impacts. As a result of the pandemic, many community nonprofits have faced a variety of challenges, such as declining revenues, significant job losses, and an increased demand for services. The project is designed to assist in the recovery of eligible nonprofits by providing grants to restore employment, offset revenue loss, and respond to an increased demand for services because of the pandemic.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Provide financial assistance to nonprofit organizations impacted by the pandemic to increase their capacity to serve this community.

Key Performance Indicators

As required by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Guidance, the following performance metrics are being reported on the quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports for projects under Expenditure Category 2.34:

- As of June 30, 2023, 0 nonprofit organizations impacted by the pandemic has been served by this program.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-1121: MENTAL HEALTH RESTORATION CENTER (MHID)

Funding Amount: \$4,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2: Negative Economic Impact – 2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations: Nonprofit Fiscal Recovery Assistance Program

Timeline: March 22, 2023, through December 31, 2026

The COVID-19 pandemic further exposed and exacerbated the prevalence of behavioral health and substance misuse concerns in this community and highlighted the heightened need for services to adequately address behavioral health needs. To expand the capacity the county's behavioral health crisis system to deliver appropriate, needs-based care to its residents experiencing a mental health, homelessness, or substance misuse crisis, the County SLFRF fund to the Nueces Center for Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities ("MHID"), a local nonprofit, to build a Mental Health Restoration Center. This center will be the first of its kind in Nueces County and offer residents no-wrong-door access to mental health and substance use care by accepting all walk-ins and ambulance, fire, and police drop-offs. This center will operate 24/7 and provide comprehensive services, including: assessment, treatment and care plans; medication management; primary and psychiatric care; substance use disorder interventions; rehabilitation services; peer support; and extensive discharge planning to coordinate access to housing, social services, and treatment. A focused effort will be dedicated to diverting individuals with serious mental illness, substance use disorders, and those experiencing homelessness away from jail. This center will promote suicide prevention and provide links to community-based treatment and support services.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Provide and promote health benefits impacted by the pandemic to increase their mental and health well-being.

Key Performance Indicators

As required by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Guidance, the following performance metrics are being reported on the quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports for projects under Expenditure Category 2.34:

- As of April 22, 2023, Medical Restoration Center upgrades will accommodate areas for individuals whom were impacted by the pandemic and will serve disproportionate areas to promote health, wellness and treatment support services.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-2342: NONPROFIT FISCAL RECOVERY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Funding Amount: \$569,500

Project Expenditure Category: 2: Negative Economic Impact – 2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations: Nonprofit Fiscal Recovery Assistance Program

Timeline: August 10, 2022, through December 31, 2026

Project Description

The County will utilize SLFRF funds to assist nonprofits that have been impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency and its negative economic impacts. As a result of the pandemic,

many community nonprofits have faced a variety of challenges, such as declining revenues, significant job losses, and an increased demand for services. The project is designed to assist in the recovery of eligible nonprofits by providing grants to restore employment, offset revenue loss, and respond to an increased demand for services because of the pandemic.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Provide financial assistance to nonprofit organizations impacted by the pandemic to increase their capacity to serve this community.

Key Performance indicators

As required by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Guidance, the following performance metrics are being reported on the quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports for projects under Expenditure Category 2.34:

- As of June 30, 2023, 9 nonprofit organizations impacted by the pandemic has been served by this program.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-2348: VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Funding Amount: \$262,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2: Negative Economic Impact – 2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations: Nonprofit Fiscal Recovery Assistance Program

Timeline: August 10, 2022, through December 31, 2026

Project Description

The County will utilize SLFRF funds to assist nonprofits that have been impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency and its negative economic impacts. As a result of the pandemic, many community nonprofits have faced a variety of challenges, such as declining revenues, significant job losses, and an increased demand for services. The project is designed to assist in the recovery of eligible nonprofits by providing grants to restore employment, offset revenue loss, and respond to an increased demand for services because of the pandemic.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Provide financial assistance to nonprofit organizations impacted by the pandemic to increase their capacity to serve this community.

Key Performance indicators

As required by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Guidance, the following performance metrics are being reported on the quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports for projects under Expenditure Category 2.34:

- As of June 30, 2023, 5 nonprofit organizations impacted by the pandemic has been served by this program.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-2801: SURVIVOR'S BENEFITS PROGRAM

Funding Amount: \$13,322.09

Project Expenditure Category: 2: Negative Economic Impact – 2.8 Household Assistance: Survivor's Benefits

Timeline: April 27, 2021, through September 30, 2024

Project Description

The County is awarding survivor's benefits to the surviving spouse of a Nueces County Sheriff's Deputy who passed away after contracting COVID-19 while on duty.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Provide financial assistance to the surviving spouse of a law enforcement officer who passed away after contracting COVID-19 while on duty.

Key Performance Indicators

As required by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Guidance, the following performance metrics are being reported on the quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports for projects under Expenditure Category 2.8:

- As of June 30, 2022, 1 household has been served by this program.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-3201: HIRING PUBLIC SECTOR STAFF

Funding Amount: \$3,208,488.00

Project Expenditure Category: 3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity – 3.2 Public Sector Workforce: Rehiring Public Sector Staff

Timeline: March 3, 2021, through September 30, 2024

Project Description

Nueces County has dedicated substantial staff resources to address the COVID-19 public health emergency and its negative economic impacts. The County intends to utilize SLFRF funds to staff positions that are necessary to support the County's operations and ongoing response to the COVID-10 pandemic. As on June 30, 2022, the County has increased its pre-pandemic employment baseline by using SLFRF funds to cover payroll and covered benefits for 14 positions, including 1) Public Information Officer, 2) Crime Victim Restitution Analyst, 3) Attorney III, 4) Attorney II Civil, 5) Legal Secretary I, 6) Disaster Recovery Specialist, 7) Emergency Preparedness Planner, 8) Temporary Services for Veterans Services Department, 9) Deputy Constable for Kleberg Property, 10) Environmental Officer, 11) Deputy Constable for Constable Precinct 1, 12) Environmental Inspector, 13) School Resource Officer for Precinct 1 and 12) ARPA Manager

Nueces County completed the analysis outlined in the Final Rule on a government-wide basis. The County can use SLFRF funds to cover payroll and covered benefits for up to fifty-two (52) full-time equivalent employees.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Boost local government capacity.
- Hire public sector workers above the pre-pandemic baseline.

Key Performance Indicators

As required by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Guidance, the following performance metrics are being reported on the quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports for projects under Expenditure Category 3.2:

- Number of full-time equivalent (FTE) employees rehired by governments under this authority.
- As of June 30, 2022, 14 FTEs have been hired under this program.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-3304: DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE RETENTION PROGRAM

Funding Amount: \$220,000

Project Expenditure Category: 3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity – 3.3 Public Sector Workforce: Other

Timeline: October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022

Project Description

Nueces County is providing retention incentives to the employees working in the District Attorney's Office who have supported the community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The Office files 14,000 to 16,000 cases a year and indicts 100 to 200 cases per week. During the

COVID-19 pandemic, misdemeanor courts and felony counts shut down for a significant period of time and returned with minimal dockets, leading to reduced court proceedings and overcrowding in the County's jails. These circumstances placed immense pressure on prosecutors to address the backlog in cases, which resulted in an increase in rates of burnout amount prosecutors. The County designed the District Attorney's Office Retention Program to promote the retention of critical personnel who could relocate to surrounding counties to work in offices that are not facing this increased workload and backlog. Additionally, surrounding counties pay \$15,000 to \$20,000 more per year and have a greater range of pay for these positions.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Provide retention to employees working in the District Attorney's Office
- Address retention challenges and promote the retention of critical staff.
- Address the Court backlog of cases created and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Key Performance indicators

The U.S. Treasury did not include any mandatory programmatic data or performance indicators for projects funded under Expenditure Category 3.3. The County intends to track the number of employees receiving retention pay.

- As of June 30, 2022, the County has awarded retention incentives to 53 employees.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-3301: LAW ENFORCEMENT RETENTION PROGRAM

Funding Amount: \$3,696,031

Project Expenditure Category: 3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity – 3.3 Public Sector Workforce: Other

Timeline: May 14, 2022, through September 30, 2022

Project Description

Nueces County is providing retention incentives to law enforcement personnel who have supported the community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The increase in job demand and workload during the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated pre-existing challenges associated with retaining law enforcement personnel. The County continues to experience issues related to recruiting, hiring, and retaining the officers needed to fill the growing vacancies in the Sheriff's Office. The Law Enforcement Retention Program is designed to address these staffing challenges, alleviate shortages, promote the retention of personnel, and maintain current staffing levels by offering retention incentives to law enforcement personnel. The retention

incentive is set at 20 percent of each Collective Bargaining employees' base pay, to be paid over two fiscal years (2021/2022 and 2022/2023).

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Provide retention to law enforcement personnel.
- Address hiring and retention challenges and promote the retention of critical staff.
- Alleviate staff shortages during the COVID-19 the Court backlog of cases created and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Key Performance Indicators

The U.S. Treasury did not include any mandatory programmatic data or performance indicators for projects funded under Expenditure Category 3.3. The County intends to track the number of employees receiving retention pay.

- As of June 30, 2022, the County has awarded retention incentives to 35 employees.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-3402: MODERNIZED TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE

Funding Amount: \$1,990,566

Project Expenditure Category: 3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity – 3.3 Public Sector Workforce: Other

Timeline: July 26, 2023, through September 30, 2024

Project Description

In order to effectively develop, implement, and increase access to SLFRF-funded programs and other programs that respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its negative impacts or which households, local businesses, and other members of the community are accessing during the pandemic that are funded by other sources, Nueces County intends to utilize SLFRF funds to upgrade to a modernized information technology infrastructure. This will require replacement of network routers and switches, increasing the number of wireless access points, and extending the reach and bandwidth capacity of the overall infrastructure. Modernized information technology infrastructure will also provide secure and reliable connectivity to cloud applications and data, local datacenter applications and data, and the open internet, which allows for nondisruptive access by current employees working on-site or remotely, potential employees, and the public. Without this upgrade, the information technology infrastructure is at risk of being unable to support the required functionality and growing capacity needs. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, personnel have been provided remote access. Further, several County departments and functional areas are employing new software and hardware solutions to implement SLFRF-

funded programs. Modernizing the County's IT Infrastructure is necessary to support these software and hardware solutions.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Enhance the County's IT infrastructure.
- Expand bandwidth capacity.
- Increase remote work capabilities.
- Support effective programs and service delivery.

Key Performance Indicators

SLFRF funding was used to enhance the County's technology infrastructure, as operational capacity is critical to achieving its overarching recovery goals.

The U.S. Treasury did not include any mandatory programmatic data or performance indicators for projects funded under Expenditure Category 3.4.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-3503: METROCOM 911 DISPATCH CENTER

Funding Amount: \$546,621

Project Expenditure Category: 3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity – 3.5 Public Sector Capacity: Administrative Needs

Timeline: July 7, 2021, through September 30, 2022

Project Description

Metrocom is a consolidated emergency dispatch center between the City of Corpus Christi and Nueces County. The City and County consolidate their public safety dispatch centers into a single public safety answering point for the two jurisdictions. The County is leveraging SLFRF funds to replenish funds used to expand the Metrocom program and improve the dispatch center's ability to respond to emergencies including issues caused or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Improve the operational capacity of the 911 dispatch center.

Key Performance Indicators

The County is leveraging SLFRF funds to replenish funds used to expand and establish programs and responsibilities to directly address the COVID-19 pandemic. In line with the

County's overarching recovery goals. SLFRF was used to enhance the County's ability to overcome budget shortfalls as a result of the pandemic and continue to deliver critical services to its residents.

The U.S. Treasury did not include any mandatory programmatic data or performance indicators for projects funded under Expenditure Category 3.5.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-3502: E-CITATION COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT CITATION MANAGEMENT

Funding Amount: \$150,000

Project Expenditure Category: 3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity – 3.5 Public Sector Capacity: Administrative Needs

Timeline: April 27, 2022, through September 30, 2024

Project Description

The E-Citation Management and Reporting Application Program technology enables county law enforcement to efficiently respond to incidents and facilitates effective data exchange across criminal justice agencies. By investing in electronic case management technology infrastructure, the County intends to promote the efficiency of criminal justice agents, increase the County's legal caseload processing capacity and speed, and address the pandemic-related backlog in the court system that is contributing to the rising jail populations.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Implement electronic caseload management technology.
- Address administrative needs exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Increase the efficiency of criminal justice interventions and case management processes.

Key Performance Indicators

SLFRF funding was used to enhance the County's technology infrastructure, as operational capacity is critical to achieving its overarching recovery goals.

The U.S. Treasury did not include any mandatory programmatic data or performance indicators for projects funded under Expenditure Category 3.5.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not

currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-5211 PREMIUM PAY FOR ESSENTIAL COUNTY EMPLOYEES

Funding Amount: \$3,602,361

Project Expenditure Category: 4: Premium Pay – 4.1 Public Sector Employees

Timeline: October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022

Project Description

The County established a prospective premium pay program for essential County employees that have performed essential work during the COVID-19 pandemic, as defined by the U.S. Treasury's Final Rule. The program compensates County employees that faced increased risks, and took on additional burdens, because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The design of this program ensures that employees are not compensated for work already performed and that premium pay is not provided retroactively.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Provide premium pay to County employees to boost employee engagement and workplace morale.
- Address hiring and retention challenges and promote the retention of critical County staff
- Alleviate staff shortages during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Key Performance Indicators

As required by the U.S. Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Guidance, the following performance metrics are being reported on the quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports for projects under Expenditure Category 4.1:

- Sectors designated as essential critical infrastructure sectors.
- As of June 30, 2022, the critical infrastructure sector(s) is as follows: "Any work performed by an employee of a State, local or Tribal government".
- Number of workers to be served.
- As of June 30, 2022, 958 workers have been served by this premium pay program.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-5101 COUNTY WIDE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

Funding Amount: \$10,059,374

Project Expenditure Category: 5: Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure – 5.06 Clean Water Stormwater

Timeline: June 06, 2022, through September 30, 2026

Project Description

This project aims to bolster the water drainage infrastructure in Nueces County, Texas, to mitigate the risks of flooding and enhance community resilience. Nueces County faces recurring challenges due to its susceptibility to heavy rainfall and storm surges, exacerbated by its geographical location along the Gulf Coast. These environmental factors often lead to inundation, posing threats to public safety, property, and local economies. The project will focus on upgrading existing drainage systems and implementing innovative solutions to manage stormwater effectively. This may include the expansion and modernization of culverts, construction of retention ponds, and installation of advanced drainage systems equipped with real-time monitoring capabilities. By fortifying the water drainage infrastructure, this project aims to safeguard lives, property, and critical infrastructure, while also fostering environmental sustainability and enhancing the overall quality of life for residents in Nueces County, Texas.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Address long-standing disparities faced by residents living in Nueces County by investing in water infrastructure projects.

Key Performance Indicators

As required by the U.S. Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Guidance, the following performance metrics are being reported on the quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports for projects under Expenditure Category 5.18:

- Projected/actual construction start date
- Projected/actual initiation of operations date
- Location type
- Location details
- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Number (if applicable)
- Public System Water (PWS) ID Number (if applicable)
- Median Household Income of service area
- Lowest Quintile Income of the service area

As of June 30, 2022, this project has not started. The County will provide an update on key performance indicators upon program implementation, which will be included in the next year's Recovery Plan Report.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-5161 COLONIAS SEPTIC SYSTEMS ASSESSMENT

Funding Amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 5: Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure – 5.16 Water and Sewer: Private Wells

Timeline: October 27, 2021, through September 30, 2026

Project Description

The County is utilizing SLFRF funds to conduct a needs and cost assessment to identify households in four (4) Colonias with non-functional septic tanks and those households with non-buried components that are required to be elevated to a height of three (3) feet from the ground in accordance with the requirements set forth in Chapter 285.90 and 285.91 of the Texas Administrative Code. Colonias are substandard housing developments, often found along the Texas-Mexico border, where residents lack basic services such as drinking water, sewage treatment, paved roads, and safe and sanitary housing. Nueces County has approximately 128 Colonias of which 38 are recognized by the state as being Colonias.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Address long-standing disparities faced by residents living in Colonias in Nueces County by investing in water infrastructure projects.

Key Performance Indicators

As required by the U.S. Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Guidance, the following performance metrics are being reported on the quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports for projects under Expenditure Category 5.18:

- Projected/actual construction start date
- Projected/actual initiation of operations date
- Location type
- Location details
- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Number (if applicable)
- Public System Water (PWS) ID Number (if applicable)
- Median Household Income of service area
- Lowest Quintile Income of the service area

As of June 30, 2022, this project has not started. The County will provide an update on key performance indicators upon program implementation, which will be included in the next year's Recovery Plan Report.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-3513: REVENUE LOSS

Funding Amount: \$10,000,000

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

Timeline: July 7, 2021, through September 30, 2026

Project Description

Loss Revenue recovery and allocation of funds will be designated to government services of particular interest to the Nueces County Commissioners Court. As of date, Nueces County has unused funds available under this eligibility category and portions of the funds will be towards Bob Hall Pier, county roof repairs and other uses deemed necessary by Commissioner Court.

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Improve government services county wide.

Key Performance indicators

The County is leveraging SLFRF funds to replenish funds used to expand and establish programs and responsibilities to directly address the COVID-19 pandemic. In line with the County's overarching recovery goals. SLFRF was used to enhance the County's ability to overcome budget shortfalls, as a result of the pandemic and continue to deliver critical services to its residents.

The U.S. Treasury did not include any mandatory programmatic data or performance indicators for projects funded under Expenditure Category 6.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-5305: ARPA ADMINSTRATIVE EXPENSES COLLIER, JOHNSON AND WOODS; HAGERTY CONSULTING

Funding Amount: \$528,008

Project Expenditure Category: 7: Administrative – 7.1 Administrative Expenses

Project Description

Collier, Johnson and Woods: On November 3, 2021, the County authorized the execution of an agreement with an accounting firm to provide SLFRF program administration support. The firm provides expertise in governmental accounting and auditing to support the effective and compliant implementation of the County's SLFRF program.

- Timeline: November 3, 2021, through September 30, 2024

Hagerty Consulting: On February 3, 2021, the County authorized the execution of an agreement with a consulting firm to provide SLFRF program administration support. Consultants support the day-to-day oversight and administration of County SLFRF programs. Support activities and roles include, but are not limited to, community engagement, policy analysis, review of program eligibility and compliance preparation of program documents and agreements and tracking and reporting on program activities to the U.S. Treasury and other internal agencies.

- Timeline: February 24, 2021 through February 23, 2023

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Engage consultants to support effective management and oversight of the SLFRF program.

Key Performance indicators

Nueces County is committed to ensuring responsible use of fiscal recovery funds. As such, the County engaged consultants to support the effective administration and management of the SLFRF program.

The U.S. Treasury did not include any mandatory programmatic data or performance indicators for projects funded under Expenditure Category 7.1.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.

2134-7710: ARPA ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES GRANTWORKS CONSULTING

Funding Amount: \$1,173,490

Project Expenditure Category: 7: Administrative – 7.1 Administrative Expenses

Project Description

GrantWorks Consulting: On January 17, 2024, the County authorized the execution of an agreement with a consulting firm to provide SLFRF program administration support. Consultants support the day-to-day oversight and administration of County SLFRF programs. Support activities and roles include, but are not limited to, community engagement, policy analysis, review of program eligibility and compliance preparation of program documents and agreements and tracking and reporting on program activities to the U.S. Treasury and other internal agencies.

- Timeline: January 17, 2024, through December 31, 2026

Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Engage consultants to support effective management and oversight of the SLFRF program.

Key Performance Indicators

Nueces County is committed to ensuring responsible use of fiscal recovery funds. As such, the County engaged consultants to support the effective administration and management of the SLFRF program.

The U.S. Treasury did not include any mandatory programmatic data or performance indicators for projects funded under Expenditure Category 7.1.

Use of Evidence

At this time, no SLFRF funds are proposed to be used for evidence-based interventions as part of this SLFRF project. Although the County intends to collect and analyze data to determine whether intended outcomes support the County's recovery goals, program evaluations are not currently part of this project. This section will be updated in future reports if evidence-based interventions are implemented for this project.