

# SEMINOLE COUNTY **RECOVERY PLAN**

## **State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**

2021 Report



# Seminole County 2021 Recovery Plan

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Seminole County has requested the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) through the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) to provide a substantial infusion of resources to turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout, and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery. The County has been preparing since early 2021 to execute expenditure of these funds to benefit the best interests of the jurisdiction. The County has been communicating with City leaders to coordinate and expedite aid to individuals, small businesses, and nonprofit organizations. The intent has been to devise a unified program for residents, businesses, and nonprofits to seek assistance, sharing the costs, and providing a single point of entry for applicants.

The Seminole County Recovery Plan includes \$9M dedicated to Mental and Community Health Initiatives, as well as general COVID response. The Recovery Plan includes \$8.75M in response to negative economic impacts through direct assistance to individuals, businesses and non-profits. This expenditure category also contemplates partnerships with Seminole State College to provide workforce training and small business technical assistance. Tourism Support incentives for Sanford International Airport and local hoteliers are addressed in this expenditure category.

The County has allocated \$10.65M in funding for Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities, including homelessness diversion and affordable housing. This expenditure category will also provide resources for community facilities and recreation opportunities to disadvantaged populations. Infrastructure projects for broadband and stormwater are scheduled to receive \$14.7M in funding. The remaining \$48.5M is designated for Revenue Replacement to provide for continuity of government services. Administrative expenses including those for evaluation and data analysis are in development. Allocations to this expenditure category will occur as the County further develops the projects and performs research into evidence-based interventions applicable to projects in the required expenditure categories.

The Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) is already underway with \$14.2M received in ERAP1 and \$4.5M from ERAP2 to assist eligible households with income at or below 80% of the area median income. The County's Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program is funded with \$1.6M of Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus funds and has been operating this year to assist individuals facing foreclosure. The individual assistance programs that will be added using the SLFRF funds will provide rental and mortgage assistance to applicants with household incomes between 80% and 140% of the Area Median Income of Seminole County.

Key outcome goals of the Recovery Plan include assisting individual and businesses in combating the adverse impacts of the pandemic through partnerships that offer aid to individuals, small businesses, and non-profit organizations. The County's plan also endeavors to assist with the recovery of the tourism industry with aid to hoteliers and the Sanford Orlando International Airport. Another key outcome goal is to increase equity in the provision of infrastructure resources with investments in stormwater and broadband systems to provide access and relief in underserved areas. A final key outcome goal is to stabilize the County's budget through revenue replacement to offset decreases in revenue growth as a result of the pandemic while ensuring the continuation of essential government services.

**Priority Category:** Public Health (EC1)

**Funding Amount:** \$6,000,000

**Business Unit:** 02118008 ARPA EC1-SHERIFF

**Existing or New Project:** *Existing Project with expansion*

**Purpose/Goal:** Crime is a symptom of another problem. Mental health and substance abuse are two of the most frequent conditions contributing to criminality. Too often individuals with behavioral health needs do not receive the treatment and support services needed, leading to repeated contacts with the criminal justice system which in turn causes strain on the individual's wellbeing and can disrupt housing, jobs, and family stability. Making improvements to the behavioral health system and diversion strategies are needed to provide a collaborative community approach with stabilization, rehabilitation, and treatment to assist those suffering. The goal is to improve outcomes by providing a holistic behavioral health strategy that addresses mental health/substance abuse disorders and crisis incidents (Baker Acts, arrests, Risk Protection Orders, suicides, suicide attempts, domestic violence, etc.) among adults and juveniles by providing assistance navigating services and providing follow-up to those struggling with behavioral health issues; by expanding diversion programs; by making services readily accessible and available to address mental health issues and co-occurring conditions.

**Description:** Funding will support the improvement and expansion of behavioral health initiatives using community-wide strategies to address the continued challenge of connecting people to appropriate community-based treatment and support services for adults and juveniles with mental health and substance abuse disorders.

- Expansion of the Seminole Collaborative Opioid Response Efforts (SCORE), a cross-system community collaboration effort, to include the Sheriff's SCORE team, SCORE services through community partners, and diversion programs for adults. The SCORE team responds to non-fatal drug overdoses and community referrals to aid individuals through the treatment process navigating appropriate resources and services; and provides follow-up to individuals and families from Baker Acts, suicides, suicide attempts, and Risk Protection Orders.

- Homeless Outreach through specialized training for law enforcement officers to assist in addressing the underlying conditions of homelessness and co-occurring conditions.
- Expansion of the Juvenile Mobile Crisis Response (JMCR) program which provides law enforcement with an option for juveniles facing a mental health crisis, when symptoms or behaviors may be alleviated through crisis intervention and/or de-escalation while on scene. The JMCR team of licensed therapists and care coordinators are trained to intervene, assess, and assist juveniles who are experiencing a mental health crisis. Care coordination assists with navigating and connecting the child and family to necessary resources and services, including juvenile Baker Acts.
- Expansion of Juvenile Intervention Services (JIS) to assist families with school-aged children dealing with issues related to mental health, behavioral, academic, and truancy concerns through community referral. The JIS team will assist youth in learning new skills to help reduce at-risk behaviors and to teach parents to reinforce these skills as well as connecting families to appropriate community resources that fit their needs.
- Mental Health Crisis Center working with local behavioral health care providers to establish a one-stop mental health drop-in center to provide an option for clinical assessment and evaluation of persons with mental health issues for referral and placement into appropriate treatment.
- Additional \$3M from NEU cities in support of these initiatives

**Equity and Inclusion:** Services and programs are offered and provided to the community regardless of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, nationality, socioeconomic status, language, (dis) ability, age, or political perspective.

### Performance Measures

#### Output Measures:

- Number of contacts
- Number of Baker Acts
- Number of Risk Protection Orders
- Number of suicides/attempted suicides
- Number of arrests of individuals with mental health issues

- Number of adults/juveniles served
  - Clinical services
  - Diversion programs (pre and post-booking)

**Outcome Measures:**

- Decrease in Baker Acts
- Decrease in RPOs
- Decrease in suicides/attempted suicides
- Decrease in arrests of individuals with mental health issues
- Increase in contract services (and completion rates)
- Increase in diversion program participation (and completion rates)

**Priority Category:** Public Health (EC1)

**Funding Amount:** \$2,000,000

**Business Unit:** 02118009 ARPA EC1-COMMUNITY HEALTH

**Existing or New Project:** New Project in Development Stage

**Purpose/Goal:** The purpose is to offer comprehensive services that grant communities direct and immediate access to essential resources, including medical, and mental health care. The project includes the development of an action-oriented, strategic project plan to address identified community health issues. By educating area residents on what resources are available and giving them the tools to access care, may empower people to take control of their health while Covid- 19 continues to impact the community.

**Description:** Four complimentary strategies:

**1. Community Health Needs Assessment**

- Review and augmentation of the FDOH’s Community Health Needs Assessment
- The Community Health Needs Assessment will establish the key foundational element toward assuring that the County accurately identifies community needs and systematically begin to improve the health, wellness, and quality of life of the Seminole County Community. Programming and initiatives will follow the assessment.

**2. Healthy Lifestyles**

- The Health Life Styles Initiative will offer educational resources and community engagement opportunities designed to inform residents on ways to make healthier lifestyle decisions. This initiative will seek to mitigate the effects of chronic disease, increase access to Seminole County recreational amenities, eliminate food deserts, and provide all for all at-risk populations regardless of socio-economic status.
- Improving the provision of healthy lifestyles information and educational materials to individuals, families, and community groups in order to foster improved community health.
- Building a shared understanding that lack of access to educational programs, public recreational facilities, and other resources can lead to uninformed risky behavior.

- Focusing on most critical priority areas that perpetuate unhealthy lifestyles such as poor nutrition, sedentary lifestyles, and use of addictive substances.
- Expand the reach of programs provided by existing extension services.

**3. Community Mental Health**

- Develop a community mental health program designed to connect residents to appropriate resources that will aid in reducing the risk of chronic diseases related to stress, anxiety, and substance abuse, while improving their quality of life and well-being, thereby reducing individual’s and families’ feelings of hopelessness.
- Continue coordinating with the Seminole County Mental Health Collaborative Partnerships
  - Expanding community access to mental health and substance abuse programs and services.
  - Increasing prevention and educational opportunities surrounding mental health and substance abuse.
  - Ensuring success and sustainability of mental health and substance abuse programs.
  - Establishing appropriate community infrastructure designed to provide support to individuals and families during recovery and reintegration into the community.
  - Ensuring equity of mental health and substance abuse programs and services for underserved and at-risk community members.

**4. Community Paramedicine Program**

- a. Mobile Health unit to go into underserved neighborhoods to provide medical services to residents
- b. Initial start-up cost - \$200,000

**Equity and Inclusion:** The funding will seek to assist all members of the community especially those that are identified as underserved and at-risk. This will help promote healthy living that will bring the greatest health benefits to the greatest number of people. It will help to reduce health gaps caused by differences in income, education, race and ethnicity, location, and other factors that can affect health.

**Performance Measures**

**Output Measures:**

- Number of citizens served
- Demographics including age, race, ethnicity, sex and zip code of citizens served
- Types of services received
- Develop and implement Community health assessment
- Number of community awareness meetings

**Outcome Measures:**

- Increase the percentage of citizens engaged in services
- Increase in percentage and numbers of citizens from underserved and at-risk community members increased from the start of the project
- Increase in the number of citizens that met a successful discharge from treatment
- Increase the number of citizens receiving health services
- Increased rate of Voluntary Counselling and Testing among community people/high-risk people.

**Priority Category:** Public Health (EC1)

**Funding Amount:** \$1,000,000

**Business Unit:** 02118015 ARPA EC1-EOC COVID RESPONSE

**Existing or New Project:** Existing

**Purpose/Goal:** COVID-19 has spread around the world, affecting every country directly or indirectly. The pandemic continues to evolve. The number of cases and deaths globally continues to increase. This funding will help with the mitigation and containment of COVID-19 in Seminole County. It will also provide equitable access to and accurate information about vaccines.

### Description

- To assist with the containment of COVID-19 in Seminole County:
- Vaccination programs;
- Support for those in isolation or quarantine;
- Support for vulnerable populations to access medical or public health services;
- Public communication efforts;
- Enhancement to health care capacity, including through alternative care facilities (medical tents, lighting, mobile air conditioners, and generators);
- Purchases of personal protective equipment; and
- Support for prevention, mitigation, or other services in congregate living facilities (e.g., nursing homes, incarceration settings, homeless shelters, group living facilities).

**Equity and Inclusion:** Seminole County will focus on increasing equity in health outcomes and increasing resilience to COVID-19 in identified areas throughout the County. A critical part of increasing health equity is assuring vaccine and relevant vaccination information is available for all Seminole County residents.

### Performance Measures

#### Output Measures:

- Testing availability and positivity rate
- Incidence per thousand residents
- Timely disease investigations/tracing
- Hospitalization and death rates
- Vaccination rates for the County
- Points of access for vaccination in Qualified Census Tracts

#### Outcome Measures:

- Increase vaccination rates in Qualified Census Tracts
- Sustained low transmission and positivity rates
- Infection prevention and control



## USES OF FUNDS | DIRECT ASSISTANCE INDIVIDUALS

**Priority Category:** Negative Economic Impacts (EC2)

**Funding Amount:** \$4,000,000

**Business Unit:** 02118007 ARPA EC2-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

**Existing or New Project:** Existing

**Purpose/Goal:** Intended to assist households that have experienced financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Description:** Funding will be used in response to the negative economic impacts of the pandemic include rent, mortgage, or utility assistance to prevent eviction or homelessness.

- Would provide up to twelve (12) months assistance of arrears for rent, mortgage, and/or utilities and an additional one-month prospective rent/mortgage/utility(ies) payment.
- This generally mirrors the federal guidelines for the current EMAP and ERAP.
- Assistance would be available to unincorporated Seminole County residents and residents of participating cities.
- Must have an annual household income above 80%, and less than or equal to 140% of the Area Median Income (AMI) of Seminole County.

**Equity and Inclusion:** The COVID-19 pandemic has hit lower-income households and senior citizens especially hard. The loss or reduction in available full-time work put many renters and homeowners at risk for eviction or foreclosure of homes, because of their inability to make ends meet due to a lack of stable employment. Seminole County will provide services and programs regardless of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, nationality, socioeconomic status, language, (dis) ability, age, or political perspective.

**Performance Measures**

**Output Measures:**

- Number of applications processed, and the number approved
- Demographics including race, gender, zip code
- Award amount by race and gender
- Estimate assistance to 350 households

**Outcome Measures:**

- Decrease the number of foreclosures and evictions
- Track awards by zip codes

2021 INCOME GUIDELINES								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
80% AMI	\$42,750	\$48,850	\$54,950	\$61,050	\$65,950	\$70,850	\$75,750	\$80,600
140% AMI	\$74,900	\$85,540	\$96,180	\$106,820	\$115,500	\$124,040	\$132,580	\$141,120
* To be eligible annual income must be greater than the first line and less than or equal to the second line.								

- Cities may participate to the extent that they are willing to contribute; the County will administer the program on their behalf.

## USES OF FUNDS | DIRECT ASSISTANCE SMALL BUSINESS

**Priority Category:** Negative Economic Impacts (EC2)

**Funding Amount:** \$1,500,000

**Business Unit:** 02118007 ARPA EC2-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

**Existing or New Project:** New Project in Development Stage

**Purpose/Goal:** Intended to provide essential funding assistance to help small businesses (1–50 employees) continue to operate while also providing funds to acquire the tools and resources to recover from the pandemic impact and changes in consumer consumption behaviors.

**Description:**

- Assistance would be available to unincorporated Seminole County businesses and businesses in participating cities.
- Would mirror the CARES Act small business assistance program.

**Performance Measures**

**Output Measures:**

- Number of applications processed and number approved
- Number of small businesses served by race and gender
- Award amount by race and gender
- Description of how award responds to the negative economic impact of COVID 19
- Business demographics by race and gender including location, business type, primary business industry, NAICS code, and annual gross receipts/revenues
- Number of jobs retained or created by race and gender

**Outcome Measures:**

- Increase access to recovery capital for small underserved businesses
- Stabilize recovery efforts for small and underserved
- Greater local and ethnically diverse business retention and growth

Business Size	Amount	Additional Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home-based or mobile businesses</li> <li>• Businesses with up to one employee</li> </ul>	\$5,000	All businesses must have a Seminole County Business Tax Receipt.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Businesses with 2 – 25 employees</li> </ul>	\$10,000	W-2 full-time employees or part-time equivalent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Businesses with 26 – 50 employees</li> </ul>	\$15,000	W-2 full-time employees or part-time equivalent

- (See attached information sheet)

**Equity and Inclusion:** This will help small businesses and small business owners of color as a substantial portion of project participants. By continuing to solicit feedback, review past recipients, and increase access in neighborhoods via partners, more small businesses will be able to access the program.



## USES OF FUNDS | DIRECT ASSISTANCE NOT FOR PROFIT

**Priority Category:** Negative Economic Impacts (EC2)

**Funding Amount:** \$400,000

**Business Unit:** 02118007 ARPA EC2-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

**Existing or New Project:** New Project in Development Stage

**Purpose/Goal:** Intended to provide funding to eligible non-profits based on need, service priority category, and availability of funding.

**Description:** Agencies providing services in Priority Group #1 could receive up to \$25,000; agencies providing services in Priority Group #2 could receive up to \$15,000.

Priority Group #1	Priority Group #2
Housing Homeless Services Food (Established Program) Medical Mental Health Disability Services	Childcare After-school care Education Services Arts Legal Services Elderly Services Supportive services for medical care

- Eligible reimbursement activities under this program must be directly related to the financial hardship experienced as a result of COVID-19 and/or additional expenses incurred, or client services provided (e.g. implementation of protective measures) in response to the pandemic.
- Due to the fact that these services frequently overlap jurisdictional boundaries, we are seeking participation from the cities in order to reduce duplication of services and “double-dipping.” Cumulative ask from the cities - \$200,000k

**Equity and Inclusion:** The nonprofit sector is a steady source of job growth and economic vitality, and an important part of strong, thriving communities. Nonprofits are committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups.

**Performance Measures**

**Output Measures:**

- Track priority group served;
- Demographics of served communities

**Outcome Measures:**

- Increased number served; reduce turnover of staff; success measurements; increase safety measures due to pandemic

## USES OF FUNDS | SMALL BUSINESS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

**Priority Category:** Negative Economic Impacts (EC2)

**Funding Amount:** \$350,000

**Business Unit:** 02118007 ARPA EC2-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

**Existing or New Project:** New Program in Development

**Purpose/Goal:** Seminole State College and their Center for Business Development have been dedicated to helping small businesses in Seminole County for over 20 years with resources and programming all at no cost. This includes a variety of training programs, affordable office space, business resources, and one-on-one consulting. Funds will help to use Seminole State College to support the small business community through the College's Small Business Development Center.

**Description:**

- Scholarships for the Seminole State College Small Business Incubation Program. (\$46K);
- Specialized services for second-stage Seminole County Businesses, such as legal work, website development, accounting support, and marketing content. Seminole State's Small Business Development Center will connect candidates with services providers via a screening program. (\$45k);
- Short-term COVID-relief support position to assist with the increased demand for small business services. (\$60k);
- Training seminars for County businesses related to leadership, communications, and other necessary workplace soft skills. (\$24k)
- Human resources technical assistance – targeted services to assist small businesses in recruiting and retaining talent. (\$120k)

**Equity and Inclusion:** Services and programs are offered and provided to the community regardless of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, nationality, socioeconomic status, language, (dis) ability, age, or political perspective.

**Performance Measures**

**Output Measures:**

- Number of participants and number of business applications
- Number of applicants assisted
- Number of hours of business technical assistance
- Number of jobs retained
- Number of jobs created
- Number of new businesses established

**Outcome Measures:**

- Number of persons getting employment
- Greater local and ethnically diverse business retention and growth

**Priority Category:** Negative Economic Impacts (EC2)

**Funding Amount:** \$1,500,000

**Business Unit:** 02118007 ARPA EC2-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

**Existing or New Project:** New

**Purpose/Goal:** Provide tourism support incentives to increase tourism to Seminole County

**Description:** **Airport Incentive to recruit a new carrier - \$1M** (In development stage)

- Request received from Orlando Sanford International Airport for \$5M to incentive a new carrier.
- Per Tom Nolan, President & CEO Sanford Airport Authority:
- OSIA is at a critical phase of its evolution.
- With the completion of the major phase of the terminal expansion (ticketing, security checkpoint, gates, and baggage claim), OSIA's capacity can accommodate more airline activity through the growth of new and existing airlines with both domestic and international routes.
- The sooner SFB achieves its maturation in airline service, the better poised Seminole County will be for attracting new businesses and residents that seek convenient air travel.
- The pandemic's negative financial impact on airlines has resulted in the need for smaller competing airports to be more aggressive with financial incentives which is precisely what this funding request will address.

**Incentives to support the lodging industry - \$500k**

- The tourism industry is one of the most severely impacted due to COVID-19. As part of Seminole County's ARPA initiative, various hospitality organizations have been identified for funding, which includes Seminole County's full-and-select-service hotels.
- To support the recovery of these organizations who drive both tourism and economic impact, the direct funding program is proposed:
- Full-Service Hotels: \$20,000
- Select-Service Hotels: \$10,000
- Eligible expenditures include hiring incentives, payroll, safety investments, telecommuting equipment, and other internet-based technologies.

**Performance Measures**

**Output Measures:**

- Number of hotels grants
- COVID 19 related uses of funds
- Number of people use of airport

**Outcome Measures:**

- Increase of hotel occupancy
- Increase in number of people use of airport

**Priority Category:** Negative Economic Impacts (EC2)

**Funding Amount:** \$1,000,000

**Business Unit:** 02118007 ARPA EC2-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

**Existing or New Project:** New Program in Development

**Purpose/Goal:** Provide workforce training classes through Seminole State College that will benefit both individuals and businesses.

**Description:**

- SSC offers five short-term Vocational Workforce Training Programs with the purpose of producing workforce-ready graduates to serve the region. These 12-month-or-less programs include: Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR Level 1 and 2), Plumbing, Electrician Helper, and other building trades technologies.
- Receiving a short-term credential from one of Seminole State’s construction building programs is one of the fastest and most cost-efficient ways to enter the well-paying construction industry.
- SSC is proposing the addition of two new vocational programs in carpentry and machining technologies to further support the emerging direction of the construction industry.
  - Programmatic needs include upgraded equipment and materials to enhance the current construction building trade programs; expansion of program offerings to include carpentry and machining technologies; additional faculty and staff to support and sustain expansion; improved space for the welding program; and renovation to facilities and specialized training labs.
- We are also working with SSC to address identified workforce shortages in various public works trades, including employees skilled in preventive maintenance to maintain the physical plant and facility assets, as well as building inspectors, plans reviewers, and treatment plant operators.

- This has been identified as a potential area of partnership/leverage with the cities.
- Use funds to purchase capital improvement for projects in the Public Works sector.

**Equity and Inclusion:**

This program can help youth and adults of color from low socioeconomic areas. The initiative will invest in occupational skills training that helps build a talent pipeline to quality jobs while mitigating/addressing ongoing public health hazards in Seminole County.

**Performance Measures**

**Output Measures:**

- Number of people served
- Number served by zip code
- Number served by age
- Number served by race
- Number served by income
- Number of certificates completed

**Outcome Measures:**

- Improve employment in the County for trades programs
- Improve vocational skills for underemployed or unemployed residents
- Improve employment situations for impacted Seminole County residents
- Potentially increase earnings for participating Seminole County residents

**Priority Category:** Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC3)

**Funding Amount:** \$3,650,000

**Business Unit:** 02118012 ARPA EC3-DISP IMPACT COMMUNITY

**Existing or New Project:** Existing

**Purpose/Goal:** Funding to local emergency shelters and other non-profits that focus on the prevention of homelessness

**Description:**

Rescue Outreach Mission - \$2.35M

- Provide funding to stabilize Seminole County's only local emergency shelter.
  - This funding will assist in underwriting the Mission's operating expenses for three years.
  - Seeking partnerships with the cities to provide the remaining \$500k to fully underwrite the operating costs during that period.

Other Homelessness Diversion Services - \$1.3M

- Provide funding for other identified needs to combat homelessness in the community including:
  - Rapid Re-Housing;
  - Case Management;
  - Bridge Housing (Hoteling); and
  - Street Outreach.

**Equity and Inclusion:**

- Evidence-based program – Housing First Basis will use funds to secure housing for homeless individuals and provide case management services to provide additional needs for clients.

**Performance Measures**

**Output Measures:**

- Demographics of individuals
- Number of participants tracked by race and gender

**Outcome Measures**

- Increase the number of homeless individuals to permanent housing

**Priority Category:** Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC3)

**Funding Amount:** \$2,000,000

**Business Unit:** 02118016 ARPA EC3-AFFORDABLE HOUSING

**Existing or New Project:** New Project in Development

**Purpose/Goal:** Funding will help pursue opportunities to create, diversify, and preserve attainable housing by using the funding to provide vacant land and/or structures to a community land trust, develop a land bank program, and transfer title to a 501C3 for the development of affordable housing (attainable/workforce)

**Description:**

- Provide resources to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to accomplish the goals and activities included in the Attainable Housing Strategic Plan, including but not limited to:
  - Unit construction partnerships, subsidies, and incentives;
  - Repair & renovation subsidies;
  - Land purchases;
  - Inclusionary Zoning incentives
  - Down payment assistance for the workforce and moderate-income first-time home buyers;
  - Impact fee subsidies; and
  - Rental deposit and emergency rental assistance for the workforce and moderate-income households.
  - Model program similar to the SHIP down payment assistance

**Equity and Inclusion:**

Increase investments in housing and homeownership programs and prevent the displacement of residents regardless of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, nationality, socioeconomic status, language, (dis) ability, age, or political perspective during the COVID-19 pandemic and post-recovery.

**Performance Measures**

**Output Measures:**

- Number of participants – track households – increase units of household
- Increase housing stock through rehabilitation – Community Land Trust –
- Incentives to contractors for including affordable housing in development projects

**Outcome Measures:**

- Funding support to build affordable housing; Increase down payment assistance for first time home buyers
- Get more individuals and first-time homebuyers in affordable housing



**Priority Category:** Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC3)

**Funding Amount:** \$3,000,000

**Business Unit:** 02118012 ARPA EC3-DISP IMPACT COMMUNITY

**Existing or New Project:** New Project in Development

**Purpose/Goal:** Funding to provide capital investment to economically disadvantaged populations

**Description:**

This project is in the developing stage to use funding to enhance the quality of life for economically disadvantaged population through the provision of community facilities. The project will engage stakeholders in consensus-building and buy-in over the course of the project, using two-way communication and exploration of new idea to support and encourage stakeholder action that incorporates community values and desires as a basis for examining potential programs and services and may include the following:

- Community centers
- Vocational training centers
- Health and mental health centers
- Daycare facilities
- Recreation facilities
- Sheriff substations
- Mixed -income and elderly housing

**Equity and Inclusion:**

The project will be built on a framework of equitable and inclusive public engagement to work with all stakeholders in the community to build relationships, understand issues, create solutions, and foster a sense of ownership that can be carried forward into the future.

**Performance Measures**

**Output Measures:**

- Analysis of existing conditions, networks, programs, identity, and character and compile it in a form that can be selectively mapped or used as needed.
- Data on land use, roadways, sidewalk, pedestrian enhancements, streetscape elements, open spaces, and gateways, as well as community programs and demographics.
- Community and Stakeholder Engagement

**Outcome Measures:**

- Working vision map
- Framework Concept Plan
- Workshop outreach materials
- Workshop summary

**Priority Category:** Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC3)

**Funding Amount:** \$2,000,000

**Business Unit:** 02118012 ARPA EC3-DISP IMPACT COMMUNITY

**Existing or New Project:** New Project in Development

**Purpose/Goal:** Funding will help pursue opportunities to provide passive recreation, public open space, and outdoor park amenities in disadvantaged populations.

**Description:**

Community Parks: \$2M

- Pursue opportunities to provide recreational amenities to disadvantaged populations in various areas throughout the County
  - Trail and linear park in the Midway community - \$1M
  - Undesignated park projects - \$1M

**Equity and Inclusion:**

This project will contribute to the ARPA goal of building stronger communities through investments in parks in underserved communities. Providing meaningful greenspace in these underserved communities improves access to healthy neighborhood amenities and promotes a healthy environment for children in the area.

**Performance Measures**

**Output Measures:**

- More parks and recreation need for disadvantage individual populations

**Outcome Measures:**

- Increase of park use for area residents

**Priority Category:** Infrastructure (EC5)

**Funding Amount:** \$14,700,000

**Business Unit:** 02118010 ARPA EC5-STORMWATER

02118014 ARPA EC5-BROADBAND IMPROVEMENT

**Existing or New Project:** New

**Purpose:** Funding for Infrastructure projects to improve quality of life for Seminole County citizens including Broadband and Stormwater improvement projects.

**Description:**

**Stormwater:**

The Midway Basin is located in north-central Seminole County, just south of Lake Monroe and just over half a mile east of historic downtown Sanford. The Midway Basin encompasses an area of approximately 4 square miles with Lake Monroe and the St. Johns River serving as the ultimate receiving waters for stormwater runoff from the basin tributary area. Approximately 2 square miles of the basin are within the unincorporated portion of Seminole County while the remaining 2 square miles are within the City of Sanford. The Midway area is bounded by Lake Monroe to the north, the St. Johns River to the east, the Orlando Sanford International Airport to the south, and downtown Sanford to the west. Midway is a census-designated area of approximately 1,700 residents, based on the 2010 census, fully encompassed within the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD). The community is a historic African American community developed in the 1940's and 1950's long before current stormwater requirements and frequent floods. Residents are concerned new development coming online in the region could exacerbate current flooding.

Underserved communities are often subjected to the greatest impact from stormwater runoff and lack a sustainable source of funding for their stormwater programs. In neighborhoods at risk of flooding, failing to

capture stormwater can cause extensive damage and threaten health safety. Untreated stormwater also poses serious risks to human health and the environment, especially in underserved communities.

The Midway Basin capital improvement project will benefit flood control and water quality in the Midway Basin. This project will directly address known areas of concern and is expected to improve flood control and water quality.

**Broadband:**

Seminole County will seek a Request for Proposal (RFP) to gather information needed to analyze, select and implement the best solutions to improve broadband connectivity to unserved and underserved communities as defined in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Seminole County's Board of County Commissioners also recognizes the value of broadband services and wants to ensure the availability of service for all citizens and so if there are external funding sources or opportunities that can improve broadband across our entire county, we want to pursue those as well.

We expect that reaching our goal may require a mix of technologies and phased build-out plans. We also understand that there are a variety of models that could be used to achieve our vision and we while are open to all of them, our preference is to leverage current providers and commercially available solutions through one time investments; only considering a public utility option when no other options exist.

Flexibility, ingenuity, and innovation along with cohesiveness in design will be necessary to reach the goal of digitally connecting the County's entities through a world-class, next-generation network

**Priority Category:** Revenue Replacement (EC6)

**Funding Amount:** \$43,803,399

**Business Unit:** 02118011 ARPA EC6-REVENUE REPLACEMENT; 02118013 ARPA EC6-TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENT

**Existing or New Project:** Existing

**Purpose/Goal:** Stabilize the County budget with revenue replacement to offset decreases in revenue experienced during the economic impact of the pandemic.

**Description:**

- Local governments may use ARPA funds for the provision of “government services” to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- The amount determined as “lost revenue” may be used for most regular government purposes, except for activities such as reserve funds or debt service payments.
- Examples of Government Services:
  - Maintenance or pay-go funded building of infrastructure and facilities;
  - Modernization of cybersecurity, including hardware, software, and protection of critical infrastructure;
  - Recreational needs;
  - Personnel costs; and
  - Day-to-day operational costs.
  - Seminole County is eligible to use \$48.5M of its \$91.6M allocation for revenue replacement.
- Staff recommends the following structure:
  - \$27.5M for budget stabilization; \$6.8M annually for 4 years;
  - \$2M for website and information services improvements; and
  - \$14.3M for other general government needs and services to the community.

## PROMOTING EQUITABLE OUTCOMES

There are multiple historically adversely affected communities that Seminole County could serve through the Recovery Funds. For example, the Midway Community is a historic African American community developed in the 1940-50's, predating current infrastructure standards. The County's plan includes \$10M to upgrade the drainage system in this community, and \$1M to provide a long-awaited park associated with a historic borrow pit.

The County's Recovery Plan also provides \$3M in funding to assist the development of community facilities to support disadvantaged neighborhoods and populations. An additional \$1M is available for recreational facilities directed towards the same communities. Over \$2M is included in the Recovery Plan to provide assistance to the Rescue Outreach Mission, located in the historic Goldsboro community. Additionally, the Recovery Plan and associated programs target direct assistance programs to individuals and families with a household income at or below 140% of the Average Median Income (AMI). The \$4.7M allocated for broadband expansion contemplates expanding services to underserved neighborhoods, ensuring that as many neighborhoods as possible will have access to this essential service. Finally, the County's proposed business assistance programs are directed at small businesses of no more than 50 employees, which will provide enhanced access to minority owned businesses.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Seminole County has strong engagement with communities with significant barriers to services through elected representatives who seek an open dialogue with constituents and community-based organizations. Since March of this year, the Board of County Commissioners has routinely engaged in public discussions focused on the SLFRF guidance as it has unfolded and potential uses of the Recovery Funds. The design of the Recovery Plan reflects feedback obtained from stakeholders throughout the County. The plan relies upon ongoing feedback received at district community meetings and stated priorities established through the County's formal committees and advisory boards, including quarterly Mental Health and Substance Abuse taskforce meetings, the Affordable Housing Committee, and the Community Services Block Grant Advisory Board.

## LABOR PRACTICES

Infrastructure projects in the Recovery Plan include improvements to stormwater and broadband. The stormwater project will comply with Davis Bacon Act to reflect the prevailing minimum wage rates. Construction projects that result from the consulting contract for Broadband will include prevailing minimum wage rates accordingly.

## USE OF EVIDENCE

The Recovery Plan includes projects with evidence-based interventions for Mental Health Initiatives and the Homelessness Diversion categories included in the Public Health and Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities expenditure categories. Evidence-based crisis intervention strategies are utilized with the "Juvenile Mobile Crisis Response" project which will be expanded as part of this Recovery Plan and is included in the with funding allocation of \$6M for the Sheriff's Office Mental Health Initiatives. The evidence-based Housing First intervention is employed in the Homeless Diversion project with \$3.65M to assist with emergency sheltering and other homeless services providers. The County is still in the process of evaluating additional projects in the required expenditure categories of Public Health, Negative Economic Impacts, and Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities for evidence-based interventions.

**TABLE OF EXPENSES BY EXPENDITURE CATEGORY**

CATEGORY		RECOVERY PLAN ALLOCATION	CUMULATIVE EXPENDITURES TO DATE (\$)	AMOUNT SPENT SINCE LAST RECOVERY PLAN
<b>1</b>	<b>Expenditure Category: Public Health</b>			
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0
1.10	Mental Health Services	\$6,210,790	\$0	\$0
1.11	Substance Use Services	\$789,210	\$0	\$0
1.12	Other Public Health Services	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0
<b>2</b>	<b>Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts</b>			
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$0
2.7	Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0
2.9	Small Business Economic Assistance (General)	\$1,850,000	\$0	\$0
2.10	Aid to nonprofit organizations	\$400,000	\$0	\$0
2.11	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$0
<b>3</b>	<b>Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities</b>			
3.10	Housing Support: Affordable Housing	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0
3.11	Housing Support: Services for Unhoused persons	\$3,650,000	\$0	\$0
3.13	Social Determinants of Health: Other	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0
<b>4</b>	<b>Expenditure Category: Premium Pay</b>			
<b>5</b>	<b>Expenditure Category: Infrastructure</b>			
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater	\$10,000,000	\$0	\$0
5.17	Broadband: Other projects	\$4,700,000	\$0	\$0
<b>6</b>	<b>Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement</b>		\$0	\$0
6.1	Provision of Government Services	\$43,803,399	\$0	\$0
<b>7</b>	<b>Administrative and Other</b>		\$0	\$0
7.1	Administrative Expenses	\$4,743,270	\$0	\$0
7.2	Evaluation and data analysis		\$0	\$0
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$91,646,669</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>



# SEMINOLE COUNTY

FLORIDA'S NATURAL CHOICE

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