

Waukesha County
Recovery Plan

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2021 Report

Waukesha County
2021 Recovery Plan

Table of Contents

General Overview2

 Executive Summary..... 2

 Uses of Funds 3

 Promoting equitable outcomes 5

 Community Engagement 6

 Labor Practices..... 6

 Use of Evidence..... 7

 Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category..... 8

Project Inventory10

Ineligible Activities: Tax Offset Provision12

General Overview

Executive Summary

Waukesha County is actively engaged in the evaluation of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program’s interim final rules. The County is working on the incorporation of program design and reporting requirements that ensure program outcomes are achieved in an effective, efficient, and equitable manner.

As of August 31, 2021, Treasury has yet to issue final SLFRF rules. The most significant challenge to SLFRF program development is directly related to the need for final federal programing guidance.

To effectively continue to respond to the pandemic and assist in local post pandemic recovery, Waukesha County has established an American Rescue Plan Act Management response team with representatives from countywide functional areas. To date, the County has focused on interpretation of the law and immediate pandemic response. The represented teams are as follows:

Team	Function	Public Advisory
Government Operations	Responsible for coordinating project requests and assisting departments through the budget, status reporting and completion of required Treasury financial, programmatic, and public reporting.	County Executive, Waukesha County Board, Finance Committee
Infrastructure	Project Specific – Complete request, document category and manage approved project in compliance within category requirements (e.g. Davis Bacon). As needed, coordinate with departments and intergovernmental/private partnerships.	County Executive, Waukesha County Board, Public Works Committee
Emergency Preparedness/Public Health	Project Specific / Pandemic Response and Capacity Building – Complete request, document pandemic response category and manage within category requirements. As needed, coordinate with departments and intergovernmental/private partnerships. Emergency Operations Center involvement as necessary for pandemic response.	County Executive, Waukesha County Board, Health and Human Services Committee, Health and Human Services Board
Economic Recovery and Workforce Development	Project Specific – Complete request, document response category and manage within category	County Executive,

	requirements. As needed coordinate with departments and intergovernmental/private partnerships.	Waukesha County Board, Executive Committee, Workforce Development Board
Community Development – Emergency Assistance	Manage within Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) requirements. As needed, coordinate with departments and intergovernmental/private partnerships. Coordinate with Government Operations	County Executive, Waukesha County Board, Health and Human Services Committee, Community Development Block Grant Board

Uses of Funds

Waukesha County has begun the planning process for utilizing American Rescue Plan funds to support a strong and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic downturn. There are two initial targeted areas that the county has approved an allocation of grant funds until final guidance is provided, and analysis is performed.

Expenditure Category	2021 Allocated Funds
<p>1. Public Health</p> <p>Waukesha County has prioritized continued public health response through disease investigation, community-based testing efforts and vaccination efforts. This includes staffing specific to pandemic response and the use of technology to improve response efficacy. Waukesha County has partnered with local schools, hospitals, and private organizations to provide information from subject matter experts to assist local businesses and schools stay safe and stay open.</p> <p>Communication efforts that began at the beginning of the pandemic continue. Examples of these efforts include public outreach and service coordination by proactively providing up to date information through the county website, wiki page and outreach via news release writing and distribution, social media communications, and rumor control. Communication efforts also include a dedicated call center and email to aid in the coordination of community resources and to answer</p>	\$2,230,000

<p>specific constituent questions related to vaccination, testing, disease investigation and contact tracing.</p> <p>The County also improved our ability to collect and visualize the data related to our COVID cases so that community leaders, schools, and business owners can make informed decisions regarding their day-to-day operations.</p> <p>Waukesha County has reviewed Human Services technology and prioritized investments that would provide increased operational efficiency to benefit the value of the service provided to citizens.</p>	
2. Negative Economic Impacts	\$0
3. Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities	\$0
4. Premium Pay	\$0
5. Water/Broadband Infrastructure	\$0
6. Revenue Replacement	\$0
7. Administrative and Other	\$50,000
<p>Waukesha County has allocated funds toward administrative costs essential to a successful grant program. The County is investing in a data subscription that will be used to analyze the local economic and workforce markets. This data will help establish programs based on the needs of local economy. In addition, the County has funded internal and external resources to determine project eligibility, analyze benchmark county project initiatives, and ensure grant reporting compliance through a new financial position and outside consulting dollars.</p>	

County's use of other federal recovery funds

Throughout 2020 and 2021, federal legislative actions have provided the State of Wisconsin and local governments with a variety of funding sources to help respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. The largest funding sources in addition to the American Rescue Plan Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds are from the following programs:

- State of Wisconsin Routes to Recovery Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) - \$7.3 million
- CARES Community Development Block Grant COVID funding (CDBG-CV) - \$2.2 million
- Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act Rental Assistance (CRSSAA) Program - \$26.5 million
- ARPA Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program - \$9.5 million
- ARPA Affordable Housing Program - \$5.3 million
- Transit Assistance (CARES, CRSSAA, and ARPA) - \$6.3 million
- State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services Public Health Funding - \$7.7 million

CDBG-CV funding made available to the County by Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the CARES Act was used to prevent, prepare for and respond to the spread of coronavirus 19 (COVID-19) and facilitate assistance to eligible communities, households, and persons economically impacted by COVID-19. The CDBG-CV funds were

allocated to nonprofit organizations in Waukesha County who carried out a variety of activities including: assisting low- and moderate-income households with rental assistance for up to six months, expanding homeless services including creating a hotel program to de-congregate homeless shelters, expanding meal and food programs, small business grants, mortgage assistance for low income homeowners, expansion of medical services in the free medical clinics, and support of other COVID-19 response services such as paying for the purchase of PPE and sanitation services.

ERA funding made available to the County by the U.S. Treasury Department through the CARES Act and ARPA is being used to create an Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) for Waukesha County tenants and landlords. The County sub-contracted with a nonprofit organization, Community Advocates, Inc., to administer the program, which started at the end of March 2021. Grants are available for rental and utility arrears for up to 12 months, and for rent assistance going forward, for three months at a time. Renters and landlords can apply for the funding online at renterhelp.org.

Waukesha County produced an ERAP marketing campaign in conjunction with Milwaukee County, to reach out to disadvantaged communities through ads on buses, print ads, social media, and radio ads in English and Spanish with a special target toward the Spanish language radio station and newspapers in the metro area. Waukesha County also issued press releases and gave interviews with the Waukesha Freeman to promote the program. In addition, the County produced flyers about the ERAP program and contacted County departments that work with the low-income population, like the economic support division, and nonprofit partner agencies, to promote and publicize the rent assistance program to their clients.

Waukesha County continues to analyze funding sources as they become available. We prioritize using funding sources for multi-eligible projects that have the most restrictions on eligible uses and funding periods first.

Promoting equitable outcomes

The County is still in the process of establishing guidelines for program selection and implementation. As of August 31st, 2021, the County has created a project request form that provides the listing of expenditure categories and associated reporting requirements. Departments will be required to detail at initiation how they will address the promotion of equitable outcomes and report out on meeting this objective.

As was the case with our pandemic response through March 2nd, 2021, Waukesha County works to outreach underserved communities. Past pandemic related examples include the following:

- To make COVID-19 testing more accessible to the Hispanic community, the County collaborated with community-based organizations that provide economic and educational services to the Hispanic population in Waukesha County.
- To allow for testing of the low-income community, a testing site was established at the Waukesha Free Clinic.
- A County run hotline was established for Waukesha County residents without access to the internet.

- A team was formed in late March 2020 to address de-congregating high-risk individuals at the homeless shelters in Waukesha County and provide temporary alternate housing.

Community Engagement

Waukesha County will be utilizing established boards and committees that are either elected by citizens or appointed by elected officials to address the needs of the community as follows:

Public Advisory	Board/Committee objective
Waukesha County Executive and American Rescue Plan Act Management Teams	Waukesha County Executive leads a multidisciplinary management team which will solicit input from the public through outreach to local and state governments, non-profit organizations, and community advocacy groups.
Waukesha County Board/standing committees	The Waukesha County Board consists of elected County Board supervisors responsible for the oversight of policy and financial oversight for county government.
Health and Human Services Board	The Waukesha County Health and Human Services Board consists of 7 to 15 members; the requirements of membership are defined in Wisconsin State statute and ensure that all stakeholders are fairly represented during meetings of the HHS board.
Workforce Development Board	The Waukesha-Ozaukee-Washington (WOW) Workforce Development Board is one of Wisconsin's eleven regional Boards originally established by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) to address local economic workforce issues in Waukesha, Ozaukee, and Washington Counties. The Board works in collaboration with local elected officials, economic development corporations, businesses, and the community to address macroeconomic workforce issues in the 3-county area. It is committed to finding workforce solutions through long-term planning and timely responses to the changing economy.
Community Development Block Grant Board	The CDBG program is governed by an 11-member Board of Directors, appointed by the Waukesha County Executive. Responsible for public service programs that address issues such as: homeless prevention and shelter, food and nutrition, medical care, domestic abuse, parenting, mental health, and transportation for low and moderate income people. Funds are also used for affordable housing, public facilities and improvements, and economic development.

Labor Practices

There are currently no planned infrastructure projects for water, sewer, or broadband in Waukesha County.

Use of Evidence

The County is still in the process of determining which programs will be implemented in the future. As of August 31st, 2021, the County has created a project request form that provides the listing of expenditure categories and associated reporting requirements. Departments will be required to detail at initiation if the project will incorporate evidence based interventions, how the data will be collected and reported on a quarterly basis.

Program implementations require budget modification. The Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category reflect only amounts approved and appropriated as of August 31, 2021. As Treasury rules are finalized, and projects are recommended and appropriated, Waukesha County will update the Expenses by Category table and post at www.waukeshacounty.gov .

As was the case with our pandemic response through March 2nd, 2021, Waukesha County takes a broad approach to prioritizing data driven decisions and initiatives that result in increased efficiency, cost savings and program effectiveness.

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

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

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
2.13	Other Economic Support	\$0	\$0
2.14	Rehiring Public Sector Staff	\$0	\$0
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities		
3.1	Education Assistance: Early Learning	\$0	\$0
3.2	Education Assistance: Aid to High-Poverty Districts	\$0	\$0
3.3	Education Assistance: Academic Services	\$0	\$0
3.4	Education Assistance: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services	\$0	\$0
3.5	Education Assistance: Other	\$0	\$0
3.6	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care	\$0	\$0
3.7	Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting	\$0	\$0
3.8	Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System	\$0	\$0
3.9.	Healthy Childhood Environments: Other	\$0	\$0
3.10	Housing Support: Affordable Housing	\$0	\$0
3.11	Housing Support: Services for Unhoused persons	\$0	\$0
3.12	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	\$0	\$0
3.13	Social Determinants of Health: Other	\$0	\$0
3.14	Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators	\$0	\$0
3.15	Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation	\$0	\$0
3.16	Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions	\$0	\$0
4	Expenditure Category: Premium Pay		
4.1	Public Sector Employees	\$0	\$0
4.2	Private Sector: Grants to other employers	\$0	\$0
5	Expenditure Category: Infrastructure		
5.1	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment	\$0	\$0
5.2	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance	\$0	\$0
5.3	Clean Water: Decentralized wastewater	\$0	\$0
5.4	Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows	\$0	\$0
5.5	Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure	\$0	\$0
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater	\$0	\$0
5.7	Clean Water: Energy conservation	\$0	\$0
5.8	Clean Water: Water conservation	\$0	\$0
5.9	Clean Water: Nonpoint source	\$0	\$0

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
5.10	Drinking water: Treatment	\$0	\$0
5.11	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution	\$0	\$0
5.12	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution: lead remediation	\$0	\$0
5.13	Drinking water: Source	\$0	\$0
5.14	Drinking water: Storage	\$0	\$0
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure	\$0	\$0
5.16	Broadband: "Last Mile" projects	\$0	\$0
5.17	Broadband: Other projects	\$0	\$0
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement		
6.1	Provision of Government Services	\$0	\$0
7	Administrative and Other		
7.1	Administrative Expenses	\$0	\$0
7.2	Evaluation and data analysis	\$0	\$0
7.3	Transfers to Other Units of Government	\$0	\$0
7.4	Transfers to Non-entitlement Units (States and Territories only)	\$0	\$0

Project Inventory

Project 2701: American Rescue Plan Act Financial Management and Administration

Funding amount: \$50,000

Project Expenditure Category: [7.1, Administrative Expenses]

Project overview

- New senior financial position for management of financial tracking, ongoing fiscal projections, grant reporting, and other related tasks.
- Consulting services needed to assist with project eligibility interpretation, grant compliance, and strategically aligning programs with county financial planning objectives.
- Economic and labor data subscription to conduct data analysis and impact studies to help determine economic assistance programs and recovery efforts.

Use of Evidence

Waukesha County will be investing in a data subscription to allow county staff to prioritize programs utilizing the ARPA funds based current local market data trends.

Project 2703: Public Health Response

Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: [1.1, Vaccination]; [1.2, Testing]; [1.3, Contact Tracing]

Project overview: Waukesha County continues to actively monitor and respond to the public health emergency through disease investigation, supporting testing efforts, and providing

support for community vaccination efforts as additional age groups are eligible to receive vaccinations. This project was approved to incorporate all public health outreach efforts to allow for flexibility in prioritizing response efforts between categories as new information regarding community response needs become available.

Outreach to disadvantaged communities:

- To make COVID-19 testing more accessible to the Hispanic community, the Testing Section collaborated with La Casa De Esperanza to establish an onsite testing site. La Casa De Esperanza is a community-based organization that provides economic and educational services to the Hispanic population in Waukesha County.
- To allow for testing of the low-income community that may not have a primary care provider, a testing site was also established at the Waukesha Free Clinic to offer testing to individuals who did not have a primary care provider.
- Waukesha County residents without access to the internet were able to access a county run information hotline for information on testing, vaccination, or other COVID-19 related questions.
- A team was formed in late March 2020 to address de-congregating the homeless shelters in Waukesha County. The team worked with four homeless shelters (The Salvation Army, and three Hebron Housing Services shelters) to identify high risk individuals who should be segregated from the general shelter population to keep them safe (older than 65, health issues, etc.) Shelters were also asked to determine what their maximum capacity was to house guests in a way that kept them socially distanced from other guests (i.e. no crowded dormitory style housing). Approximately 30-40 individuals needed to be moved out of the congregate shelter system into individual hotel rooms

Project 202014: Health and Human Services Technology System Enhancements

Funding amount: \$730,000

Project Expenditure Category: [1.12, Other Public Health Services]

Project overview

- This project includes the creation of a contract management module to allow for Health and Human Services to effectively and efficiently manage the life cycle of contracts and grants versus current paper-based process.
- The project includes the implementation of system that specializes in public health and disease tracking. This provides enhanced access to data to more efficiently and effectively respond to the pandemic or public health related outbreaks. In addition, the department will be able to efficiently provide public health data to the State of Wisconsin. This system will also streamline the disease investigation process performed by county staff. Lastly, this system has enhanced reporting capabilities that will improve the County's ability to analyze public health trends.
- Funding has been allocated towards a system implementation that allows vendors providing services to Waukesha County health clients the ability to provide standardized electronic records to county case workers. This allows the County to provide better quality assurance and program outcomes versus the current paper intensive process.

Ineligible Activities: Tax Offset Provision

Item	Amount
a. Revenue-reducing Covered Changes	\$ 0