

# County of York, Pennsylvania

## Recovery Plan

### State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

### 2021 Report

This Recovery Plan Performance Report will provide the public and Treasury information on the projects that York County is undertaking with program funding and how we are planning to ensure program outcomes are achieved in an effective, efficient, and equitable manner. The Report includes additional information that we believe is appropriate to provide on efforts we are taking to respond to the pandemic and promote an equitable economic recovery.

# County of York, Pennsylvania

## 2021 Recovery Plan

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## I. Executive Summary

York County, Pennsylvania is located in southcentral Pennsylvania, along the Maryland line. The County encompasses 911 square miles including, urban and suburban development, rich agricultural land and abundant natural resources. There are 72 municipalities in the County. The population (2019) is 449,058, with 18% of the total over age 65 years. The median household income is \$66,457 and 9.2% of the population is below poverty. There are over 8,600 employer establishments in the County. The racial composition is White alone 88.7%; Black or African American alone 7.1%, American Indian and Alaska Native alone 0.4%, Asian alone 1.5%, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander 0.1%, Two or More Races 2.3%, and Hispanic or Latino 8.1%.

Like the rest of the country, York County was not spared the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. This public health crisis created uncertain economic situations for County residents, businesses and government. This report will outline the issues, challenges and solutions in York County's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the County's recovery. This full report can be found at: [www.yorkcountypa.gov/communications-office/news\\_COVID\\_RECOVERY2021](http://www.yorkcountypa.gov/communications-office/news_COVID_RECOVERY2021)

In April 2020, the York County Commissioners created the YoCo Strong Recovery Task Force. The Task Force's primary responsibility was to provide guidance for the County's response to the COVID 19 pandemic. In May 2020, the Task Force delivered an exhaustive report with 8 priority recommendations. The report informed the County's allocation of CARES Act funds and other responses to the pandemic.



Utilizing the YoCo Strong Recovery Task Force report as guidance, the County dedicated \$14,761,489 for small business support, and \$1,698,200 for grants to support nonprofits. An additional \$2,122,284 was in direct allocations to non-profit social services for a total of \$18.6 out of the \$40.5 million that was received in CARES Act funding. Grants in the amount of up to \$35,000 were provided for eligible organizations that were negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The remainder of the funding for York County was allocated as follows:

## COVID-related Expenditures

**\$12,503,480**

<b>Direct Allocations</b>	<b>Broadband and pilot project to expand broadband to underserved communities</b>	<b>Reimbursement of COVID-related health care costs</b>	<b>Support for PPE to 161 polling locations</b>	<b>Grant administration</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•tourism businesses- \$3,202,248</li> <li>•72 municipalities- \$1,882,664</li> <li>•32 school districts and charter schools- \$1,000,000</li> <li>•31 long term care homes and local hospitals- \$590,000</li> </ul>	<b>\$1,183,179</b>	<b>\$1,114,768</b>	<b>\$161,000</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>

In April 2021, the York County Commissioners reactivated the YoCo Strong Recovery Task Force and reevaluated the need for updated recommendations to guide the County's recovery process and inform the allocation of \$87 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds. Priority recommendations were shared with the County Commissioners at their June 30 public meeting.

The full task force report identifies dozens of important recommendations to inform the County's current and future recovery. However, there were a number of recommendations that appeared across numerous focus areas which are clearly shared as priorities by the task force.

This Report covers all expenditures as of 7/31/2021 as directed in the guidance as indicated by the (◆) throughout the remainder of this report. It should be noted that all expenditures to date have also been included for completeness and will be further discussed in future reporting.

## YoCo Strong Task Force Priorities



Continue to provide emergency relief to businesses and non-profit organizations impacted by the pandemic and ongoing economic disruptions

Invest in continued enhancement of York County's emergency response capacity



Reactivate York County's tourism economy

Implement the YoCo Fiber countywide broadband strategy to continue closing the digital divide



Enhance the capacity of public and non-profit social service providers to deliver critical resources and support to county residents

Continue to prioritize programs that provide rent and mortgage relief



Foster clear pathways to employment for new or displaced workers

Invest in programs that expand childcare capacity and childcare workforce



## II. Uses of Funds

For ease of review, expenditures that were made prior to 7/31/2021 are indicated with a (◆). The remainder of expenditures are included for reference and will be covered in future reporting.

### a. Public Health (EC 1)

**Total- \$828,100**

Allowable costs under public health include several COVID-19-related items like vaccination, testing, contact tracing, prevention (including PPE), medical expenses and capital investments. In York County, funds were directed to mental health services, substance abuse services and other public health services.

#### 1. Mental Health Services

**Total- \$194,500**

Direct funding allocations were made to several organizations that promote public health in the community. Funds for the provision of **mental health services**, including counseling, animal therapy, PA211, outpatient therapy and case management were allocated to the following:

Keystone Service Systems, Inc	\$25,000
PA Counseling Services, Inc	\$25,000
TW Ponessa & Associates Counseling Services	\$25,000
Leg Up Farm	\$34,100
Mental Health America of York & Adams Counties	\$10,600
Contact Helpline	\$24,800
Community Services Group, Inc	\$50,000

#### 2. Substance Abuse Services

**Total - \$28,400**

Recovery funds were allocated to one provider for substance abuse services.

TrueNorth Wellness Services	\$28,400
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#### 3. Other Public Health Services

**Total - \$605,200**

The majority of the funds will go to support the Community Care Coordination System. Funds were also committed to case management activities and nurse-family work.

Community Care Coordination System <sup>1</sup>	\$500,000
The American Red Cross	\$60,800
Family First Health	\$37,300
The Arc of York County	\$7,100

## Community Care Coordination System<sup>1</sup>

A key recommendation of the YoCo Strong Recovery Task Force was to enhance the capacity of public and non-profit social service providers to deliver critical resources and support. The PA Department of Human Services recently paused efforts to establish a technology solution to improve coordination between health and human service organizations. To ensure that this initiative continues to move forward in York County, the Commissioners have allocated \$500,000 as an initial investment for better coordination between the health systems and human service agencies and to explore systems that will enable them to address social determinants of health more effectively and in a manner that addresses the unique needs of our communities.

### **b. Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2)**

**Total- \$18,876,730**

Allowable under this spending category is a variety of household assistance, unemployment and job training and assistance to small business, non-profits, the tourism and hospitality industries and other economic support.

#### **1. Job Training Assistance**

**Total - \$24,100**

In York County, funds were directed to support employment and training and community employment opportunities.

Crispus Attucks Association of York	\$7,100
Penn-Mar Human Services	\$17,000

#### **2. Small Business Economic Assistance**

**Total - \$9,500,000**

The York County Commissioners voted to allocate a portion of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding to support a small business and nonprofit organization grant program. Similar to that, using the ARPA funds, the YoCo Strong Restart program is administered by the York County Economic Alliance and Community First Fund. These Restart II funds through ARPA will be used to provide additional relief to small businesses and non-profits.

Restart II	\$9,500,000
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#### **3. Aid to Non-Profit Organizations**

**Total - \$2,562,825**

A variety of non-profits providing a myriad of services to York County were allocated relief funding directed to non-profits.

Glenn Hope Care Farm Inc	\$21,525
Citizens for Independence & Access	\$25,000
Commonwealth Clinical Group, Inc.	\$25,000
Easter Seals Western & Central PA	\$25,000
Greater York Center for Dance Education	\$25,000
Life's New Beginning	\$25,000
Merakey Pennsylvania	\$25,000
NAMI York-Adams Counties PA	\$25,000
Penn Cares, Inc.	\$25,000
Typical Life Corporation	\$25,000
The Shadowfax Corporation	\$50,000
York County Food Bank, Inc.	\$50,000
York County Library System	\$50,000
York Union Rescue Mission Inc	\$50,000
Mid Penn Legal Services	\$16,900
YMCA of York County (Southern Community Services)	\$22,200
YMCA of York County (New American Welcome Center)	\$9,600
York County Bar Foundation	\$7,100
York County SPCA	\$3,500
United Way Initiatives	\$57,000
Countywide Senior Centers	\$1,000,000
Veterans' support	\$1,000,000

**4. Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality                      Total - \$5,289,805**

<b>CHIRP</b>	<b>\$1,509,805*</b>
Tourism Partners	\$780,000
Tourism Industry Reboot	\$3,000,000

To support the hard-hit tourism and hospitality industries, York County previously allocated \$4,950,195 of COVID-19 Hospitality Industry Recovery Program (CHIRP) dollars received from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to hotels, restaurants, and other hospitality industry businesses adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This represented approximately 77% of the applications received for funding.

In order to fulfill the remaining requests, the County allocated an additional \$1,509,805 of American Rescue Plan funding to the Hospitality Industry Recovery Program. The program addressed 223 eligible applicants in more than half of our local municipalities (44 of 72 local municipalities). 34% of the businesses were owned by people of color, 31% were women owned businesses and 7% were veteran owned businesses. Grants to eligible businesses ranged from \$5,000 to \$50,000. See Section VIII: Project Inventory for additional details.





Funding below has been assigned to several early childhood education programs in York County.

Crispus Attucks Association	\$58,600
Hanover Area YMCA	\$7,100
YMCA of York and York County	\$15,600
YWCA of Hanover	\$12,000
YWCA of York	\$45,800
Early Childcare Development	\$1,000,000

**2. Education Assistance: Other Education Assistance Total - \$116,100**

Communities in Schools PA	\$46,000
Community Progress Council (self-sufficiency)	\$18,200
Community Progress Council (getting ahead in a getting by world)	\$7,100
Leadership York (future leaders)	\$7,100
Leadership York (board training)	\$7,100
York Literacy Council (ESL)	\$15,300
York Literacy Council (Adult Readers)	\$15,300

**3. Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care Total- \$264,200**

In the area of child care, the funding allocations were made to the following organizations:

Child Care Consultants	\$26,000
Children's Aid Society	\$25,500
Crispus Attucks	\$19,100
The Salvation Army	\$15,900
TrueNorth Wellness Services	\$15,900
YMCA of York and York County	\$19,800
York Day Nursery	\$84,100
York Jewish Community Center	\$26,200
YWCA Hanover	\$12,000
YWCA York	\$19,700

**4. Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in the Child Welfare System Total- \$60,800**

Children's Home of York	\$19,100
Pressley Ridge	\$16,300
TrueNorth Wellness Services	\$23,200

**5. Healthy Childhood Environments: Other Total - \$239,200**

A variety of programming is provided around the County. Below are the programs and services that received assignment of relief funds in this funding category.

Big Brothers Big Sisters (Community Based Mentoring)	\$19,100
Big Brother Big Sisters (School Based Mentoring)	\$9,600
Girl Scouts in the Heart of PA (Leadership program)	\$35,000
Girl Scouts in the Heart of PA (Girls in STEAM)	\$8,500
Hanover YMCA (Discovery SACC program)	\$8,500
Boy Scouts of America (urban scouting)	\$22,300
Boy Scouts of America (traditional scouting)	\$35,400
New Hope Ministries (Children's Success)	\$20,500
YMCA of York and York County (Y Achievers)	\$10,600
YWCA (Quantum Opportunities)	\$36,600
YWCA (Temple Guard)	\$17,800
YWCA (community education)	\$15,300

**6. Housing Support: Affordable Housing Total- \$215,000**

This funding to ALPHA provided COVID modifications to seven personal care homes.

Alliance for Low Income Personal Care Homes (ALPHA)	\$215,000
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**7. Housing Support: Services to Unhoused Persons Total- \$119,700**

Bell Socialization Services, Inc	\$18,500
New Hope Ministries	\$82,100
YMCA of York and York County	\$19,100

**8. Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance Total- \$80,700**

Funding in this category supports transitional housing and family emergency assistance.

Bell Socialization Services, Inc (Bridge Housing Program)	\$9,200
The Salvation Army	\$71,500

**9. Social Determinants of Health – Community Violence Interventions Total- \$79,000**

York County Children's Advocacy Center	\$22,600
YWCA of Hanover	\$18,800
YWCA of York (domestic violence shelter)	\$21,300
YWCA of York (victim assistance center)	\$16,300

**10. Social Determinants of Health- Other Total- \$57,700**

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Harrisburg	\$24,800
Crispus Attucks Association	\$15,200
Visiting Nurses Association of Hanover and Spring Grove	\$14,200
Healthy York County Coalition	\$3,500

As a provider highlight, the focus turns to the Community Progress Council, Inc. In addition to the allocation of CARES funding and American Rescue Plan funding that has been distributed to businesses, non-profits, local governments and school districts within the County of York, the County utilized Community Progress Council (CPC) to administer an equitable program to provide individuals with emergency assistance to avoid homelessness.

CPC's overall mission is to provide a comprehensive array of services primarily within disproportionately impacted communities including:

- Early childhood education to low-income York County families with children under the age of five years
- Women Infants and Children (WIC)-supplemental nutrition services to low- and moderate-income pregnant and postpartum women and children under the age of five years
- Housing counseling and financial education to renters, prospective home buyers, and to those facing potential foreclosure
- Workforce development to connect program participants to job training, educational opportunities, and/or employment
- Coaches partnering with program participants to coordinate and navigate social services and serve as sources of motivation and accountability



**CPC is the only HUD-certified housing counseling agency in York County, employing three HUD-certified housing counselors. Prior to COVID, their housing team provided homebuyer education, pre- and post-purchase counseling, foreclosure remediation, financial literacy, renter counseling, and credit repair. As a result of the pandemic and the changing and increasing needs for assistance within the community, CPC has resiliently adapted and expanded the services and help they provide.**

In July 2020, the County of York contracted with CPC to administer the Rent Relief Program to families that lost 30% or more of their income due to COVID. CPC successfully distributed \$4.1 M to landlords, enabling 447 York County families to avoid homelessness.

In March 2021, the County again turned to CPC to operate the Emergency Rental (and utility) Assistance Program. In just four months, CPC has distributed over \$8M to landlords and utility companies stabilizing the lives of 1,373 York County families. An additional 4,511 applications are currently in review and the agency will continue to partner with the County and broader community to help more families with rent and utility assistance.

**d. Premium Pay (EC 4)**

Although the County has remained open throughout the pandemic to serve our citizens, none of the federal funding for assistance has been utilized for Premium Pay for County employees or employees of other businesses receiving assistance.

**e. Infrastructure (EC 5)**

**Total – \$25,000,000**

Allocated funding in this expense category was designated solely to the County's broadband infrastructure needs.

Broadband “Last Mile” projects♦	\$5,000,000
Broadband Other Projects♦	\$20,000,000

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the impact of inequitable access to broadband internet in areas of York County, as students and employees pivoted to study and work from home and increasing numbers of residents relied on the internet to access critical services, such as health care and employment. The importance of reliable, fast, and affordable internet access continues to be one of the major lessons of the pandemic and a crucial part of recovery efforts.

The York County Commissioners, York County Economic Alliance, and YoCo Fiber Broadband Task Force are working towards the goal of countywide broadband access to bring faster, more reliable, and more affordable internet to all homes and businesses in York County. Broadband is crucial infrastructure for education, telehealth, business, and general quality of life. By investing in broadband and supporting public private partnerships to connect internet to homes and businesses, it can be ensured that York County is an attractive place to live and a competitive place to do business.



Broadband has emerged as one of the most critical and key factors in a community’s ability to be resilient during the pandemic and well-positioned for recovery. York County gained state and national attention for its proactive use of CARES funds to begin the process of expanding countywide broadband.

In April 2020, the YoCo Strong Recovery Task Force identified “investing in broadband infrastructure for all residents” as one of its priority recommendations. In early August, the Commissioners approved the allocation of federal CARES Act funding for a countywide broadband assessment. A consulting team from Lit Communities and Katapult Engineering completed the assessment in December 2020, which includes a preliminary design for a countywide broadband network, financial models for its construction, and several potential structures for its ownership and operations. In tandem with the assessment, the Commissioners also allocated \$1.5 million of CARES funding to construct a 16-mile fiber backbone project in conduit underneath the Heritage Rail Trail and install a wireless antenna at Hanover Junction and Stump Park. The County is currently working to expand services and provide Wi-Fi service for Seven Valleys, Glen Rock, Railroad and New Freedom Boroughs.

One of the recommendations from the assessment was to establish a task force to advise on the further development and implementation of the County’s broadband strategy, particularly the construction of a public Middle Mile fiber network to entice private investment in fiber to homes, businesses, and priority institutions. We hope to leverage ARP funding with other available broadband infrastructure funding and incentives to aid in connectivity, technological capacity, and inclusion of communities without access. We will identify specific build out of appropriate digital infrastructure to address the digital divide facing low-income communities, people of color, and rural communities.

The Task Force will advise on implementation of its broadband strategy, in particular the preliminary design and recommendations outlined in the community assessment. Some of the work of the Task Force includes conducting a survey of residents, prioritizing construction phases, recommending ownership and financial models for county-constructed infrastructure and potential

leasing agreements for use of the County’s fiber, securing grants, engaging public and private partners and reporting out to the County Commissioners.

Expanding broadband internet access is also a signature goal of the recently adopted York County Economic Action Plan, which is a component of York County’s Comprehensive Plan. Broadband access is recognized as a priority in other County and statewide planning documents and initiatives. Recently, The County Commissioners’ Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) identified broadband expansion as a top statewide priority.

In an effort to continue moving forward on this vital project for the County’s recovery, York County Commissioners have allocated up to \$25 million of American Rescue Plan funding to further expand broadband service within the County.



Lit and Katapult have determined that in order to build an efficient and robust Last Mile, Fiber-to-the-Premise network, a Middle Mile should be built out especially in parts of the County where no fiber infrastructure exists. This will enable a Last Mile provider to bring ISP services to the residents with less capital expenditure, therefore making the area more competitive for private investment. The Middle Mile was designed with focus to connecting anchor institutions and building redundancy into the network. It is recommended that this Middle Mile network be primarily underground rather than aerial. This portion of the network is the County’s lifeline and keeps the Middle Mile more protected, making for a more secure network. The Rail Trail Project was strategically incorporated into the overall middle mile ring system designed for the County. The constructed portion of backbone is approximately 16 miles long with 144 count fiber starting in York City. It is buried along the rail trail southward to New Freedom and a large portion of rings 5 and 6 are already well on its way to completion. See Section VIII: Project Inventory for additional details.

**f. Revenue Replacement (EC 6) ←**

**Total- \$21,000,000**

Due to the substantial loss of revenues associated with the Judicial System, a significant portion of funds will be utilized to cover court and court-related costs. A large portion of funds will also be allocated to support the York County Prison operations and care of prisoners. A portion of funds will also be utilized to support York County 911 operations. All remaining funds will be allocated to matching funds for County human services departments including Children, Youth and

Families, Aging, Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities, and Domestic Relations. For more details on Revenue Replacement, please refer to the Interim Report prepared and submitted by York County, PA.

### III. Promoting Equitable Outcomes

York County's efforts to promote equitable outcomes is guided by the priorities set forth by the YoCo Strong Recovery Task Force. During their August 18, 2021 meeting the York County Board of Commissioners allocated \$1,500,000 of funding to community service partners for the programs that serve many of our disproportionately impacted residents.

Agency/Program	Allocation
<b>American Red Cross of South Central PA</b> Emergency Services	\$ 60,800
<b>Bell Socialization Services, Inc.</b> Bell Family Shelter Bell Bridge Housing	\$ 27,700
<b>Big Brothers Big Sisters of York County</b> Community based Mentoring Program School-based Mentoring Program	\$ 28,700
<b>Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Harrisburg, PA Inc.</b> York Counseling Office	\$ 24,800
<b>Child Care Consultants, Inc.</b> Child Care Recruitment & Support Services	\$ 26,000
<b>Children's Aid Society - The Lehman Center</b> Crisis Respite Nursery	\$ 25,500
<b>Children's Home of York</b> Independent Living Program at George Street	\$ 21,300
<b>Communities in Schools PA</b> Integrated Student Services	\$ 46,000
<b>Community Progress Council, Inc.</b> Self Sufficiency Coaching Getting Ahead in a Just Getting By World	\$ 25,300
<b>Contact Helpline</b> PA 211	\$ 24,800
<b>Crispus Attucks Assoc. of York PA</b> Early Learning Center Rising Stars After-School Program Center for Employment & Training Active Living Center	\$ 100,000

<b>Agency/Program</b>	<b>Allocation</b>
<b>Family First Health</b> Nurse-family Partnership	\$ 37,300
<b>Girl Scouts in the Heart of PA</b> Girl Scout Leadership Experience Girls go STEAM	\$ 43,500
<b>Hanover Area YMCA</b> Early Learning Center Discovery SACC Program	\$ 15,600
<b>Healthy York County Coalition</b>	\$ 3,500
<b>Leadership York</b> Future Leaders of York Board Training Program	\$ 14,200
<b>Leg Up Farm</b> Animal Assisted Program Able Services Outpatient Therapy Program	\$ 34,100
<b>Mental Health America of York &amp; Adams County</b> Financial Case Management & Representative Payee Services	\$ 10,600
<b>Mid Penn Legal Services</b> Critical Help for Critical Moments	\$ 16,900
<b>New Birth of Freedom Council, Boy Scouts of America</b> Urban Scouting Traditional Scouting	\$ 57,700
<b>New Hope Ministries</b> Children's Success Initiative Economic Stability Centers	\$ 102,600
<b>Penn-Mar Human Services</b> Customized Community Employment	\$ 17,000
<b>Pressley Ridge</b> In-Home Family Services	\$ 16,300
<b>The Arc of York County</b> Case Management Advocacy	\$ 7,100
<b>The Salvation Army</b> Community Center Youth Program Family Emergency Assistance	\$ 87,400
<b>TrueNorth Wellness Services</b> Amazing Kids Club	\$ 67,500



Agency/Program	Allocation
Transitions Substance Use Prevention Program	
<b>Visiting Nurse Assoc. of Hanover &amp; Spring Grove</b>	\$ 14,200
NVNA Home Health	
<b>YMCA of York &amp; York County</b>	\$ 96,900
School Age Child Care	
Y Achievers	
Early Learning Center	
Men's Residence Case Management	
Southern Community Services	
New American Welcome Center	
<b>York County Bar Foundation</b>	\$ 7,100
<b>York County Children's Advocacy Center</b>	\$ 22,600
Child Forensic and Advocacy Services	
<b>York County Literacy Council</b>	\$ 30,600
Adult Reading	
English as a Second Language	
<b>York County SPCA</b>	\$ 3,500
SafePet	
<b>York Day Nursery</b>	\$ 84,100
Child Care	
<b>York Jewish Community Center</b>	\$ 26,200
Child Care	
<b>YWCA Hanover</b>	\$ 42,800
Early Learning Center	
School Age Child Care	
Safe Home Program	
<b>YWCA York</b>	\$ 172,800
Early Learning Center	
Quantum Opportunities Program	
School Age Child Care	
Domestic Violence Shelter	
Victim Assistance Center Counseling	
Temple Guard	
Community Education	
<b>United Way Initiatives</b>	\$57,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>

**Invest in continued enhancement of York County’s emergency response capacity.**

The County serves as a coordinating entity during pandemics and other community emergencies. We will continue to invest in technological improvements to the Emergency Operations Center; ongoing improvements to the COVID hub site; and enhance sites that provided economic and community resources, such as Prepared York.

We are committed to prioritize and enhance outreach to communities and vulnerable populations through innovative, bilingual marketing and community partnerships with trusted institutions and leaders.

**Enhance the capacity of public and non-profit social service providers to deliver critical resources and support to county residents.**

The pandemic strained our social safety nets, placed a disproportionate burden on vulnerable populations, and will have lingering mental health, social, and occupational implications. This is the moment to invest in our capacity for Community Care Coordination through both systems change and technological investment to drive improved health and human service outcomes in York County. This is an opportunity for the County of York and its non-profit partners to collaborate closely. As identified under Public Health (EC-1) the Commissioners have allocated \$500,000 as an initial investment to enable the health systems and human service agencies to explore systems that will enable them to address social determinants of health more effectively and in a manner that addresses the unique needs of our communities. It is anticipated that there will be additional investment in this area from the remaining unallocated ARP funding.

**Invest in programs that expand childcare capacity and the childcare workforce.**

Prior to the pandemic, York County had approximately 6,800 fewer available childcare “seats” than needed to meet demand. During the past year, this situation has grown more concerning with the gap expanding by another 3,400 “seats” due to some centers closing permanently and others scaling back capacity to achieve social distancing guidelines. Further, the centers that remained open have struggled to attract and retain employees, exacerbating the obstacles to reopening to full capacity.

With more than 2 million women exiting the labor force in the past 10 months and more than 60% of women reporting reduced working hours due to providing childcare at home, access to childcare has become not only a social and educational crisis but also a major obstacle to workforce development. The County will prioritize childcare centers in grant and loan programs and invest in programs that support the retention and growth of the childcare workforce.

**Foster clear pathways to employment for new or displaced workers.**

The pandemic created historic disruptions to employment across the County. While York County has fared better than many parts of Pennsylvania, we continue to experience higher unemployment than in 2019, thousands of employees exiting the workforce, and significant obstacles for employers trying to hire at full capacity. The County has an opportunity to support ongoing rapid re-employment programs, re-entry programs, community college job skills trainings, apprenticeships, and partnerships with schools to help graduating seniors find meaningful, living wage employment.

**IV. Community Engagement**

Through the COVID-19 pandemic, the primary way in which the community’s needs and priorities were identified and addressed was through the YoCo Strong Recovery Task Force. The York

County Commissioners created the Task Force in April 2020. The Task Force is comprised of representatives from offices within County government, local business, human service agencies, public health organizations, and other key leaders. In May 2020, the task force delivered an exhaustive report with eight priority recommendations which are outlined in the executive summary of this report. The report informed the County's allocation of CARES Act funds and other responses to the pandemic.

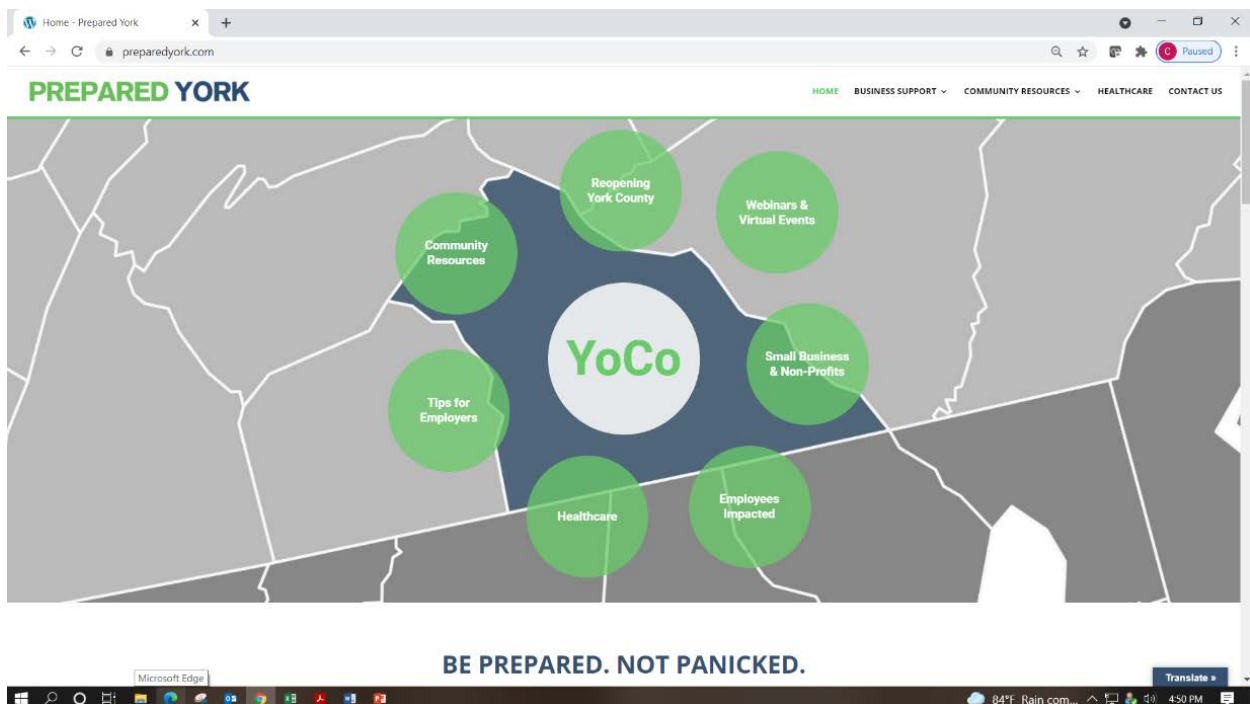
In April 2021, the Commissioners reactivated the YoCo Strong Recovery Task Force and asked for updated recommendations to guide the County's recovery process and inform the allocation of \$87 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds. Priority recommendations were shared with the County Commissioners at their June 30 public meeting.

The YoCo Strong Recovery Task Force worked effectively as a voice of the community during the pandemic and in the recovery. Credit should be given to the task force committees. The targeted approach used by experts in the respective fields mobilized the efforts to identify needs and implement recovery actions.

### YoCo Strong Task Force Committees

- Equitable & Inclusive Recovery
- Emergency Management, Resources & Preparedness
- Local Government Recovery
- Healthcare Readiness & Resurgence Mitigation
- Court System
- Law Enforcement
- Vulnerable Populations
- Education & Childcare
- Non-Profit & Social Services
- Economic Recovery & Restart
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Technological Capacity
- Real Estate Recovery
- Public Policy

The work of the YoCo Strong Task Force and its committees, along with the status of funding, impacts, and recovery were shared with the greater York County Community in a variety of ways. [www.preparedyork.com](http://www.preparedyork.com) was developed to put related information into one place for those looking for recovery resources, emergency assistance, job postings and other community resources.



The leadership at the York County Economic Alliance kept the public informed with various webinars, press releases and regular updates at the televised and livestreamed County Commissioners meetings. There has been ongoing accurate and engaged attention from local media throughout this period.

Broadband has emerged as a key issue during the COVID-19 pandemic. The York County Commissioners, York County Economic Alliance, and YoCo Fiber Broadband Task Force are working towards the goal of countywide broadband access to bring faster, more reliable, and more affordable internet to your home or business. Broadband is crucial infrastructure for education, telehealth, business, and our residents' general quality of life. By investing in broadband and supporting public private partnerships to connect internet to homes and businesses, we can ensure York County is an attractive place to live and a competitive place to do business.

In June 2021, every household in the County was asked to take part in a survey about current internet service, thoughts on that service, and willingness to change. One of the main goals was to identify where service where services is unreliable, slow or no internet is available. The inadequacies that surfaced during the pandemic have made YOCO Fiber and the expansion of broadband very necessary.

The survey came after the state Senate cleared two bills sponsored by State Senator Kristin Phillips-Hill, R-York Township, related to broadband access. The bills look to do away with outdated regulations and ensure broadband expansion is properly funded.

## **V. Labor Practices**

Construction of the broadband project will be publicly bid and awarded following the County of York's standard policy. Qualified public bidders who can also demonstrate enhanced community benefit through local hiring will be considered favorably. In a recent broadband project funded under the CARES Act, the County selected a project engineer based in York County and a construction firm with a strong York County basis. As a result, the project supported local employment and local business enterprises. Depending on the nature of the public bids for the ARPA-funded broadband project, we anticipate the selected firms being able to provide similar positive community benefit.

A recipient will be required to provide certification that, for all the relevant projects, all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors in the performance of such project are paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing, as determined by the US Secretary of Labor in accordance with subchapter IV of Chapter 31 of Title 40, United States Code, more commonly known as the Davis-Bacon Act.

## **VI. Use of Evidence**

The County will work with recipients to document evidenced based interventions as the projects are developed.

**VII. Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category**

Category		Funds Allocated	Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health			
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination			
1.2	COVID-19 Testing			
1.3	COVID-19 Contact Tracing			
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.)			
1.5	Personal Protective Equipment			
1.6	Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)			
1.7	Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency			
1.8	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)			
1.9	Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19			
1.10	Mental Health Services	194,500		
1.11	Substance Use Services	28,400		
1.12	Other Public Health Services	605,200		
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts			
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs			
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid			
2.3	Household Assistance: Cash Transfers			
2.4	Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs			
2.5	Household Assistance: Eviction Prevention			
2.6	Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers			
2.7	Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)	24,100		
2.8	Contributions to UI Trust Funds*			
2.9	Small Business Economic Assistance (General)	9,500,000		
2.10	Aid to nonprofit organizations	2,562,825		
2.11	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality	5,289,805	1,509,805	1,509,805

Category		Funds Allocated	Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
2.12	Aid to Other Impacted Industries	1,500,000		
2.13	Other Economic Support			
2.14	Rehiring Public Sector Staff			
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities			
3.1	Education Assistance: Early Learning	1,139,100		
3.2	Education Assistance: Aid to High-Poverty Districts			
3.3	Education Assistance: Academic Services			
3.4	Education Assistance: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services			
3.5	Education Assistance: Other	116,100		
3.6	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care	264,200		
3.7	Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting			
3.8	Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System	60,800		
3.9	Healthy Childhood Environments: Other	239,200		
3.10	Housing Support: Affordable Housing	215,000		
3.11	Housing Support: Services for Unhoused persons	119,700		
3.12	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	80,700		
3.13	Social Determinants of Health: Other	57,700		
3.14	Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators			
3.15	Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation			
3.16	Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions	79,000		
4	Expenditure Category: Premium Pay			
4.1	Public Sector Employees			
4.2	Private Sector: Grants to other employers			
5	Expenditure Category: Infrastructure			
5.1	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment			
5.2	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance			
5.3	Clean Water: Decentralized wastewater			
5.4	Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows			
5.5	Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure			
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater			

Category		Funds Allocated	Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
5.7	Clean Water: Energy conservation			
5.8	Clean Water: Water conservation			
5.9	Clean Water: Nonpoint source			
5.10	Drinking water: Treatment			
5.11	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution			
5.12	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution: lead remediation			
5.13	Drinking water: Source			
5.14	Drinking water: Storage			
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure			
5.16	Broadband: "Last Mile" projects	5,000,000		
5.17	Broadband: Other projects	20,000,000		
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement	\$21,000,000		
6.1	Provision of Government Services			
7	Administrative and Other			
7.1	Administrative Expenses			
7.2	Evaluation and data analysis			
7.3	Transfers to Other Units of Government			
7.4	Transfers to Nonentitlement Units (States and Territories only)			
	Unallocated	19,015,704		
	Total	87,092,034	1,509,805	1,509,805

†Note: Revenue Replacement is addressed in the Interim Report prepared and submitted by York County, PA.

## VIII. Project Inventory

Project 2.11.100: COVID-19 Hospitality Industry Recovery Program (CHIRP)

Funding amount: \$1,509,805

Project Expenditure Category: 2.11, Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

In order to fulfill the remaining CHIRP funding requests through the PA Department of Community and Economic Development, York County allocated an additional \$1,509,805 of American Rescue Plan funding to the Hospitality Industry Recovery Program. This funding supports the local hospitality industry hit hard by the pandemic and resulting shut-downs. The program addressed 223 eligible applicants in more than half of our local municipalities (44 of 72 local municipalities). 34% of the businesses were owned by people of color, 31% were women owned businesses and 7% were veteran owned businesses.

Grants to eligible businesses ranged from \$5,000 to \$50,000. The businesses that received funding included restaurants and hotels. Based on the data provided, the reduction in gross receipts for the applications ranged from 25-75%.

The following map shows the locations of the 223 CHIRP projects.

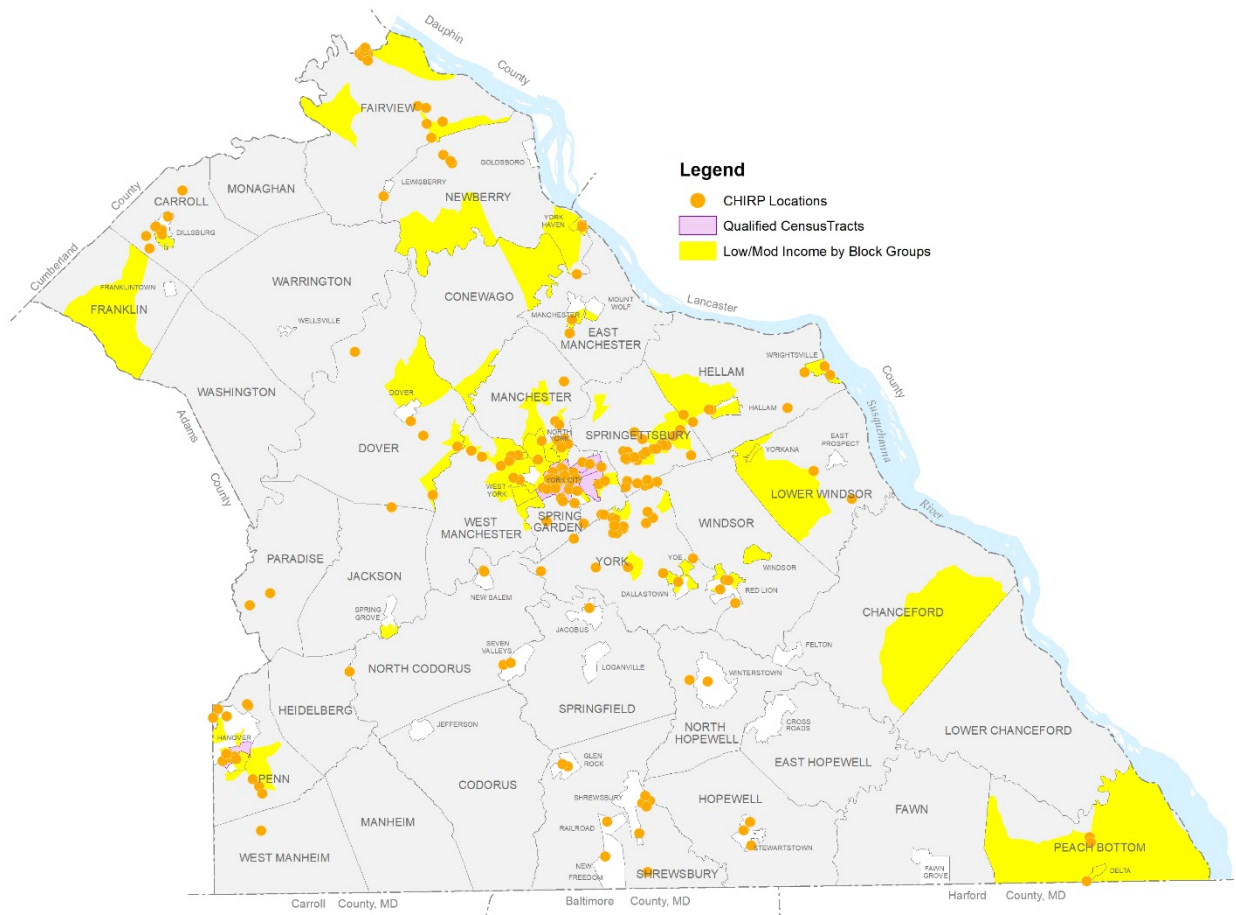
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*"I felt very grateful when we found out that we received the CHIRP grant. It helped me get caught up on my winter heating bills. With the price of food skyrocketing, it helped us cover the cost of food and just our day-to-day operation."*

Audra Crenshaw, Owner  
Soulfood in the Park restaurant

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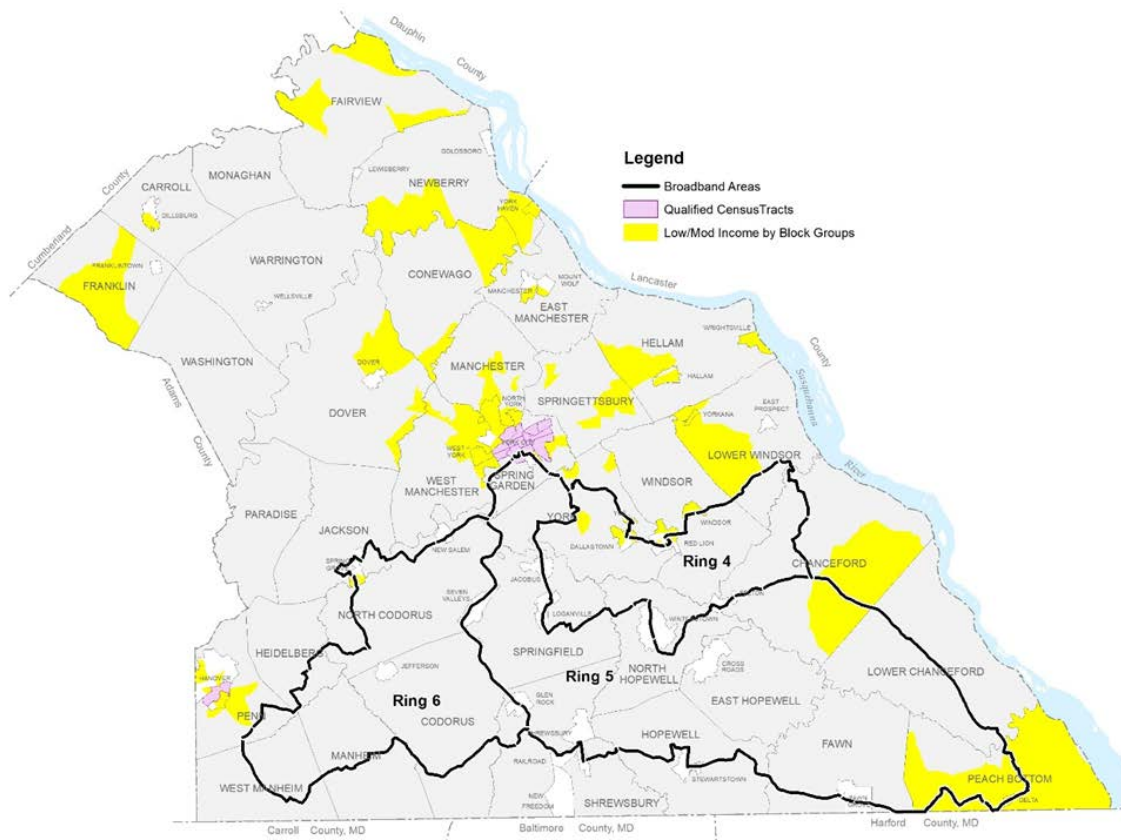
The following website [www.preparedyork.com/chirp](http://www.preparedyork.com/chirp) provided a link to the application as well as the guidelines, eligibility criteria, FAQs, and a revenue statement template. The information was provided in English and in Spanish.

**Project 5.16.100 and Project 5.17.100:** Broadband “Last Mile” and Other Projects -- YoCo Fiber Funding Amount(s): \$5,000,000 and \$20,000,000

**Project Expenditure Category:** 5.16, Broadband “Last Mile” Projects and 5.17, Broadband Other Projects

The COVID-19 pandemic brought to light the inefficiencies of the broadband infrastructure in York County. Led by the York County Commissioners and the York County Economic Alliance, the Countywide Broadband Community Assessment included the feasibility and financial modeling of a Middle Mile Network, Last Mile Network for 50,000 demand points and an extrapolated Last Mile, Fiber-to-the-Premise Network that includes the entire County. The Kickoff Meeting, Data Collection, Preliminary Financial Models for the entire service area are complete. Simultaneously, the Rail Trail CARES Act project is being completed -- 16 miles of new fiber infrastructure. The project begins in the City of York southward to New Freedom. The County prepared RFPs and selected vendors to provide materials and complete the construction utilizing PA prevailing wage rates. The fiber placed down the Rail Trail will play a much larger role in York County's overall planned network and has been incorporated into the preliminary design as part of a larger middle

mile network. The \$25,000,000 was approved for the construction of 144 miles/three priority rings and for the deployment of urban wireless networks in the York and Hanover Borough metropolitan areas.



The work of the YoCo Task Force, the group which led this project can be found at this website: [www.yceapa.org/fiber](http://www.yceapa.org/fiber). This links to the survey, task force information, assessment report and related news coverage.

The expansion of broadband in an area can positively affect climate change. Some of the benefits realized by York County are listed below.

- By expanding broadband coverage, it increases rural household’s ability to utilize smart energy technology, including electronic, programmable, and self-learning Wi-Fi-enabled thermostats that optimize heating and cooling of homes and businesses to conserve energy.
- Expanded broadband increases communities’ connectivity. This helps them to be more resilient especially in situations of weather and other related hazards during which time reliable and widespread communication is vital.
- Reliable expanded broadband coverage promotes teleworking, decreasing daily commutes and reducing emissions and greenhouse gases.

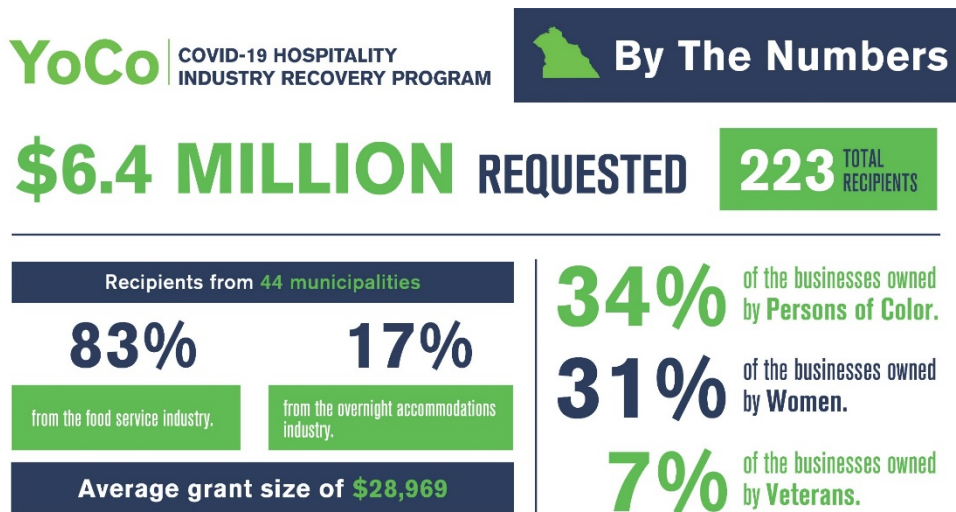
Additional tracking and study of the climate change impacts can inform future reports.

## IX. Performance Report

### Project 2.11.100: COVID-19 Hospitality Industry Recovery Program (CHIRP)

The second installment of CHIRP funds, in the total amount of \$1,509,805, has been completed. As outlined previously, the CHIRP funds were allocated using an application process. The eligible applications received previously totaled \$6,460,000. A breakdown of the previous requests is as follows:

- Roughly 83% food service, 17% accommodations
- 31% of applications were women owned businesses
- 7% of applications were from Veteran owned businesses
- 34% of applications from businesses owned by Persons of Color
- This includes 44 of the 72 municipalities in York County, with an average grant amount of **\$28,968.61**
- All eligible applicants have received their first installment of the grant award



### Project 5.16.100 and Project 5.17.100: Broadband “Last Mile” and Other Projects -- YoCo Fiber

As documented in this Report, a total of \$25,000,000 has been allocated to the broadband infrastructure improvements in York County. To date, an RFP for this work has not been issued nor have contracts been issued. It is noted that measurements for outcomes and performance are required and this data and progress will be tracked and shared in future reports.

## X. Required Performance Indicators and Programmatic Data

In York County, none of the approved funding to date has been targeted to job training or summer youth employment programs. In York County, these funds were allocated to support the recovery of the local hospitality industry to offset lost income and other impacts of the pandemic. If future allocations are directed to these activities, performance indicators and programmatic data will be provided.

**XI. Ineligible Activities: Tax Offset Provision (States and territories only)**

This does not apply.