2024 REPORT

CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER RECOVERY PLAN

STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS
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Executive Summary

In May 2021, President Biden’s American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allocated the City and County of Denver $308 million as part of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. Denver has made the necessary progress over the last two years to lock in and obligate all of our ARPA funds by the end of this year. In doing so we plan to continue making significant progress recovering from Covid, and also discover new ways to help our community thrive in the process. Denver anticipates obligation of our full $308 million to dozens of programs who worked diligently toward equitable implementation for those who faced or still face the largest impacts of the Covid pandemic. As we complete this report, approximately 85% of the $308 million has achieved obligation status.

Although headwinds persist from the pandemic, we have made strides that could have only occurred with or ARPA funds. These dollars have helped people stay in their homes, allowed for new housing, helped children grow and thrive, and created economic opportunities for those who may never have seen them come.

We’ve received and allocated $308 million under multiple categories, as of this report. Each of these categories has started to or has the potential to create life-changing opportunities, especially for those disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. In several instances, funds were reallocated as Denver’s needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted.

One instance where this shift occurred included a need for rental assistance that persisted as housing costs rose faster than our residents could keep up with them. Denver invested $8.6 million for Temporary Rental and Utility Assistance (TRUA) with ARPA funds.

Those implementing rental assistance heard from individuals and families who struggled to stay in their homes, including at least one man who indicated that he had contemplated suicide before receiving the rental assistance he needed.

In another example of successful program implementation, $2 million of the funding for the Denver Basic Income Project (DBIP) came from Denver’s ARPA dollars.

One of DBIP’s participants, Eleanor Cepero-Percy, moved to Colorado in 1980. She is a 13-year Army Veteran who spent the last three years houseless and struggling to make ends meet. Since enrolling in the Denver Basic Income Project, she has acquired an apartment, paid bills, and bought food and other necessities.

Nearly $10 million dollars in ARPA funding has recently been awarded to 19 local organizations that are filling needs in behavioral health services that were identified in an ARPA-funded needs assessment which outlined service gaps in Denver.

One of the organizations includes The Center for Trauma and Resilience, which will use the funding to provide mental health services for survivors of trauma who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color who live in Denver by hiring and maintaining mental health clinicians.
These are just a few out of dozens of successful programs Denver has successfully planned or implemented.

With the financial backing of the federal government and the shared vision for equitable outcomes, the City advanced its recovery plan, RISE Denver: Rebuilding an Inclusive and Sustainable Economy. As we finalize our obligated funds, Denver’s Dashboard is one way the City plans to remain transparent and continue to track our equitable, sustainable recovery. Our Denver Recovery Index more specifically shows how disproportionately impacted neighborhoods can prosper with ARPA investments. Both tools are regularly updated and located on Denver’s, dedicated ARPA page, which helps continue to tell the story of our community’s robust work to recover.

ARPA Funding Plan

Denver has received its full $308 million ARPA allocation. The City successfully received its first half of $154 million, in July 2021 and its second half of $154 million in July of 2022. Denver must properly allocate and obligate the money by the end of 2024. Funds must be spent by the end of 2026. To adhere to all U.S. Department of Treasury guidelines, and to best leverage the ARPA funds as fuel for Denver’s social and economic recovery, the City developed and implemented a phased ARPA plan. This plan is structured around several funding rounds with distinct yet interdependent goals:

ROUND 1:

Eligibility Category: Public sector revenue replacement eligibility category 6.

- **Outcome goal:** Ensure responsive City services to be more accessible to the public and better meet the evolving needs of the community, particularly historically marginalized communities.
- **Progress to date:** Denver City Council approved the Round 1 funding package in July of 2021.
- **Intended use of funds:** Increase staff capacity and agency budgets most impacted by the pandemic and most crucial to supporting recovery efforts, especially in historically marginalized communities. Funds will support responsive City services in two primary ways:
  - Restore City workforce by eliminating employee furloughs and rehiring to fill vacant positions.
  - Address workloads by replenishing agency budgets cut due to revenue loss or in need of additional resources due to increased demands from the pandemic.

Eligibility Category: Support negative economic impacts eligibility category 2.

- **Outcome goal:** Support an equitable and sustainable recovery for communities and businesses hit the hardest by the pandemic.
- **Progress to date:** Round 1 funding decisions were determined collaboratively between the community and government following a robust public outreach process that began on May 19, 2021, and included feedback from over 9,600 Denver residents. Denver City Council approved the continued Round 1 funding package in November of 2021.
- **Intended use of funds:** Support programming to rebuild social and economic structures so all residents, particularly historically marginalized communities, have access to stability and prosperity.

Eligibility Category: Provide premium pay; eligibility category 4.

- **Outcome goal:** Support eligible workers performing essential work during the pandemic.
- **Progress to date:** Round 1 funding decisions were determined collaboratively between the community and government following a robust public outreach process that began on May 19, 2021, and included feedback from over 9,600 Denver residents. Denver City Council approved the continued Round 1 funding package in November of 2021.
- **Intended use of funds:** Support career service City and County of Denver employees routinely risked exposure to COVID-19 to ensure the delivery of critical services to residents.
ROUND 2:

Eligibility Category: Support negative economic impacts eligibility category 2.

- **Outcome goal:** Support an equitable and sustainable recovery for communities and businesses hit the hardest by the pandemic.
- **Progress to date:** Round 2 funding decisions were determined collaboratively between the community and government following a robust public outreach process that began on May 19, 2021, and included feedback from over 12,000 Denver residents, with over 5,600 in 2022. Denver City Council approved the continued Round 2 funding package in November of 2022.
- **Intended use of funds:** Support programming to rebuild social and economic structures so all residents, particularly historically marginalized communities, have access to stability and prosperity.

REMAINING BALANCE ADJUSTMENT:

Eligibility Category: Support negative economic impacts eligibility category 2.

- **Outcome goal:** Support an equitable and sustainable recovery for communities and businesses hit the hardest by the pandemic.
- **Progress to date:** Funding decisions from Round 1 and Round 2 were determined collaboratively between the community and government following a robust public outreach process that began on May 19, 2021, and included feedback from over 12,000 Denver residents, with over 5,600 in 2022. For the remaining balance for which some programs had remaining balance, dollar reallocation followed the robust public outreach process and resubmitted the changes to Denver City Council.
- **Intended use of funds:** Support programming to rebuild social and economic structures so all residents, particularly historically marginalized communities, have access to stability and prosperity.

Denver advanced the first portion of the Round 1 ARPA funding package when the City Council approved it in July of 2021, and agencies advanced their planning for additional staff and budget capacity. With the first part of Round 1 approved, the City moved to approve the next part of Round 1, particularly for those disproportionately impacted.

In November of 2021, City Council approved Denver’s investments in affordable housing, shelter, and services for people experiencing homelessness, as well as business recovery, and community needs like childcare, digital equity, and mental and behavioral health support.

The next set of these efforts received funding through Round 2 following a continued, robust community conversation. In the final stages of the public process, an equitable set of Round 2 allocations were presented to the Denver City Council for discussion and review and passed in late 2022. City Council approved Denver’s investments for housing stability, homelessness resolution, vulnerable populations, community health, safety, business, worker, and nonprofit assistance as well as assorted expenditures that includes funding for first responder safety equipment.

Our remaining balance adjustment for ARPA funding, when programs underspent or otherwise did not utilize their allocated amount, follows what we saw members in the community say was their greatest priority. This priority also coalesces with one of Mayor Johnston’s priorities, homelessness resolution and the [All In Mile High](#) initiative.
We alone cannot solve homelessness. We’ll need faith leaders, business leaders, nonprofits and individuals to continue engaging in the way they have. Although Denver is the heart of this effort, the biggest part of our success has been and will be based on the number of community partners and advocates who are all in.
— Mayor Mike Johnston

Looking Ahead

Execution of Denver’s comprehensive recovery plan has nearly reached our first finish line with all signs pointing toward a successful obligation of our funds, and signs of progress continue to sprout. According to our Dashboard, by June 30th, 2024, nearly $262 million of an allocated $308 million, had been obligated or expended. Across all agency programs thus far; Denver has served 1,619 businesses, assisted 74 non-profits, 37,195 households, and 15,516 youth. In addition, as part of the intentional and strategic creation of Denver’s “Recovery Index” to measure long-term outcomes from our ARPA-funded investments; we are pleased to announce an additional 1% increase for 2024 from our prior year score which demonstrates an overall 2% increase from our baseline in 2022.

With a commitment to equity and sustainability, and with the support of ARPA, Denver will continue to grow stronger than ever before.
Section 2

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Community Engagement

When ARPA became law, Denver developed a robust community engagement plan that focused on those impacted the most by Covid. The implementation based on that engagement has grown to have a massive presence in our city as evidenced by the project inventory in this report. As we met with neighbors across our many neighborhoods, engaging with over 12,000 residents, we learned what the community wanted and needed. And now, nearly three years into the start of that process our community engagement has focused on meeting the needs of the community.

When developing the recovery plan, Denver committed to keeping historically marginalized communities at the forefront. This commitment led to the sequenced approach to ARPA funding and triggered the phased community outreach campaign, RISE Together Denver. This campaign stretched across 15 months between May 2021 and July 2022. The Department of Finance (DOF) aimed to educate residents on, and engage them in, the economic recovery process, with particular focus placed on reaching historically underserved communities. In addition, the City also organized focus groups with community leaders and a specialized survey for nonprofit and community organizations. The end result was a comprehensive public engagement effort that shaped the investments seen within the plan.

Between 2021 and 2022, DOF engaged with over 12,000 residents and received more than 15,000 surveys and comments. Over 40 percent of respondents identified as Black, Indigenous, or people of color (BIPOC), and over a third of respondents said they were either somewhat worried or very worried about affording next month’s expenses. The city saw the highest levels of participation from target neighborhoods identified as most vulnerable to displacement.

Through an inclusive, multi-year outreach process, Denver took into consideration community perspectives and needs, informed funding decisions, and drove the City’s economic recovery plan.

Some of the robust outreach included blog posts and media releases, which helped to shape some of the news media’s coverage of how Denver has programmed our ARPA funds. Here is a selection of Denver-created content and some of the subsequent media coverage that has followed since Denver’s last annual report. Below that are the members of the Stimulus Advisory Committee who have also helped to shape our relevant programming. As we finalize the obligation of all of Denver’s ARPA funds, we plan to continue making a significant impact on our community while also looking beyond our ARPA funding to help shape what comes next.
Content From Denver

- **Denver Expands Youth Mental Health Services in Public Schools** – To address youth mental health, including violence in our schools, the Denver Department of Public Health and Environment (DDPHE) is partnering with Denver Public Schools (DPS) to pilot behavioral health programming for students. Funded by ARPA, DDPHE has allocated over $850,000 to connect DPS students and families with culturally responsive and linguistically specific resources.

- **DDPHE hosts over 300 students at We Got This! Summit** - We Got This programming is designed for middle and high school students and provides access to resources including coping skills, therapy options and community help to support youth suicide and violence prevention. A key component of the program includes helping youth build relationships with their peers that encourage open, honest dialogue and educate students on how to access help if a family member, friend or classmate might be struggling or need assistance. The We Got This! Summit is funded through Denver’s ARPA allocation.

- **DDPHE Distributes $10 Million to Fill Behavioral Health Gaps** – ARPA funding has been awarded to 19 local organizations that are filling needs in behavioral health services identified in a recent needs assessment which outlined service gaps in Denver. The funded projects will improve behavioral health services and support for Denver residents by aligning with one or more of the seven recommendations in the 2022 Behavioral Health Needs Assessment.

- **DHS Announces Funding to Support Community Resource Navigation** - This year’s funding priority aims to enable organizations to create, enhance, or expand capacity to support community-based navigation of benefits and local resources. DHS seeks to build partnerships with organizations that will prioritize navigation, connecting individuals and families in Denver to services and resources across organizations, city agencies and systems.

- **Big Win for Denver Small Business Community** - Mayor Mike Johnston, City Councilman Darrell Watson, and Denver Economic Development & Opportunity (DEDO) announced the release today of $500,000 in federal funds to support small businesses through grant dollars and technical assistance. The grants are a continuation of DEDO’s Business Impact Opportunity (BIO) Fund, federally funded through ARPA dollars. Since 2022, over $5.58 million in grant funds have been disbursed through the BIO Fund to support 435 small businesses.

- **City Opens Innovation Hub to Support Underrepresented Entrepreneurs** - Strategically located in the Park Hill neighborhood, the Park Hill Innovation (PHI) Hub will expand accessibility and foster the growth of Denver’s entrepreneurial ecosystem. PHI Hub is a free one-stop shop for entrepreneurs in the City and County of Denver and offers personalized one-on-one business advisory sessions, innovative coworking space and office amenities.

- **City Releasing Funds for Small Businesses Impacted by Encampments** - DEDO is accepting applications for grants up to $15,000 to address ongoing post-pandemic challenges, and this round is focused on small businesses that have been impacted by nearby encampments. This effort complements the city’s House1000 initiative as the city continues to move individuals and families experiencing homelessness indoors and permanently close encampments.

- **Adaptive Reuse Study Outlines Housing Potential for Downtown Offices** - ARPA-funded study identifies buildings that could be “good candidates” for conversion: The study identifies 22 downtown buildings that are “Good Candidates for Conversion.” In addition to the study, the city has also launched an Adaptive Reuse Pilot Program in Upper Downtown.
• **$1M in ARPA Funds Distributed to Local Nonprofits** – The Denver Office of Nonprofit Engagement (D-ONE) sought proposals from nonprofits committed to increasing their capacity, program development, and/or program restoration. Following a review of more than 50 applications, 30 were chosen to receive grant funding of up to $50,000. These organizations submitted project proposals ranging from the expansion of programs helping residents in need of mental health care, and food access for families in need, to those working in the areas of individuals with disabilities, homelessness, and immigration.

• **$3 Million in ARPA Funds Approved to Relieve Impact of COVID-19** – Basic Cash Assistance Program will help provide eligible Denver families with a one-time, direct cash assistance of $1,000 or $1,500.

• **The Basic Cash Assistance Program to Begin Accepting Applications** - Denver’s Basic Cash Assistance for Households Program, an initiative aimed at helping eligible Denver families disproportionately and negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

• **DHA Announces Permanent Supportive Housing Purchase** - The hotel includes 194 units, one of which would be reserved for staff. More than half of the units already have kitchenettes, making the space ideal for supportive housing. At the time of conversion to supportive housing, at least 40% of the units will be restricted for tenants earning 30% of Area Median Income.

• **Denver Celebrates 82 New Affordable Apartments at The Rose on Colfax** - Mile High Early Learning will operate the new, 5,600-square-foot Mile High United Way Early Childhood Education Center, located on the first level of the building, and provide comprehensive education, health, and family support services for children ages six weeks through four years through Head Start and Early Head Start. It will also include an additional 2,400-square-foot outdoor play area.

• **Largest Affordable Housing Project in Years Breaks Ground in Park Hill** - Construction is now underway on Holly38, which will provide 253 income-restricted units, including a large portion of three- and four-bedroom homes suitable for larger families.

• **Denver Funds Development of 62 Permanently Affordable Condos** - The six-story building will include condo units ranging from one to three bedrooms. All units will be income-restricted to households earning up to 80 percent of the area median income.

• **Mayor Johnston Gives Update on Emergency Declaration on Homelessness** - HOST submitted an application for federal American Rescue Plan Act dollars to acquire, build, and operate a regional navigation center for homelessness, which will help to establish an encampment resolution program that connects people experiencing unsheltered homelessness through outreach to housing, bridge housing, shelter, and wrap-around support services.

• **Mayor Mike Johnston Shares 2024 Budget Proposal** - The 2024 budget will invest $242 million to help Denverites get out of homelessness and into transitional housing and support services. It will do this while continuing to invest in affordable home rental and homeownership opportunities for residents across Denver.

• **Mayor Johnston Makes Historic Progress During First 100 Days in Office** - Partnered with Denver Public Schools (DPS) to address youth mental health, including violence in our schools, to pilot behavioral health programming for students. Funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), DDPHE has allocated over $850,000 to connect DPS students and families with culturally responsive and linguistically specific resources.

• **DDPHE Blog: May is Mental Health Awareness Month** - The DDPHE is using ARPA funds, provided by the federal government to address issues related to the COVID crisis, to contract with over 15 community-based organizations (CBOs). These CBOs will bring needed behavioral health services to vulnerable populations in Denver.
• **Mayor Johnston Shares Update on 2023 Budget for House1000** - The Johnston administration’s coordinated citywide response to the homelessness crisis, is expected to total approximately $48.6 million in 2023. The funding covers hotel purchases, micro-communities, rapid rehousing, and the accompanying wrap-around services needed to ensure successful outcomes.

• **What Recovery Looks Like in a Year: Denver’s Annual ARPA Report** - On July 31, 2023, Denver released its third annual American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) report covering $308 million in federal ARPA dollars received and allocated across multiple categories. The allocation of ARPA funding continues to be driven by feedback from more than 12,000 Denver residents and stakeholders who shared their voice to help create an equitable, sustainable recovery from the pandemic.

### Content From External Sources

• **Business Insider**: As the basic income pilot continues to be successful in cities like Denver, local leaders and economic security experts are looking to translate pilots into policy. States like California and New Mexico are already proposing basic income programs in the state legislature.

• **CBS News**: After 1 year, Denver Basic Income Project finds significant improvements in housing outcomes- For the first time in eight to nine years, Jolene has some stability and a place she can call home for her family... It was something her kids had to also deal with, including her now 2-year-old son Kai. "One of the biggest struggles for me was finding like a bathroom or someplace to wash up and Kai was just a year old at the time, and it was really hard," said Jolene, "It took a toll on me emotionally."

• **Colorado Sun**: An experiment doled out money to homeless people in Denver, no strings attached. Here’s what happened. The percentage of people who had housing at the 10-month check-in of the Denver Basic Income Project climbed to 45%.

• **Denver Post**: Denver Basic Income Project gave homeless people cash and saved taxpayers almost $600,000 in the process, report says. First-year study shows more stable housing, decreased use of emergency services among recipients. “One of the bigger critiques of a program like this is, ‘Why are you going to give people money and disincentivize them from working?’” [Daniel] Brisson, one of the leading members of the research team said. “In fact, that’s not what we saw. We gave people money and work increased.”

• **Denverite**: Can direct cash payments alleviate poverty? Here’s what Denver has learned. One-year results from the Denver Basic Income Project are promising. “The first year we see is creating a sense of stability, but we’re already seeing the housing incomes continue to improve month to month, and we believe that the second year, and even beyond, can be even more profoundly transformational,” [Mark] Donovan, founder and executive director of Denver Basic Income Project] said.

• **Newsweek**: Behavioral health study used to help identify barriers to mental health care in Denver. Access to mental health services continues to be an issue in Denver and across the state. After years of stigma surrounding mental health and substance abuse, support experts say they are now seeing a shift making this a critical time.


- **CBS4**: Denver considers giving immigrants, refugees financial assistance using $3 million in ARPA funds. "My family was able to get relief because we benefit from our tax system. There are certainly families who work, who pay into that system, who don't get to benefit from it and that's who it was set up for. We know it made an impact, so being able to come back with ARPA dollars helps," said [City Council President Jamie] Torres.

- **9News (NBC)**: Denver families who couldn't access other COVID relief funds can apply for one-time cash payments. Through a Denver initiative, one-time payments of $1,000 or $1,500 will be made available using funds from the American Rescue Plan Act.

- **DU (University of Denver)**: DU Research Center Releases Denver Basic Income Project Report - The University of Denver’s Center on Housing and Homelessness Research (CHHR) has released the first findings in its research partnership with the Denver Basic Income Project (DBIP). The qualitative mid-term report, which was published in June, details the stories of some of the unhoused people involved in the study. The report states that early findings “demonstrate that there are significant benefits for people experiencing homelessness in receiving unconditional cash transfers.”

- **Axios Denver**: How Denver's universal basic income experiment helped Moriah Rodriguez - "It gives people the opportunity of not feeling judged...it's just like, 'We're supporting you with whatever you're going through,'" Rodriguez tells us.

- **Westword**: Guaranteed Income Helps Move Almost 300 People Into Housing After One Year - "We see a path to policy, and we think a policy based on these initial results would be something beneficial to society."

- **MSNBC**: The early results of a no-strings-attached cash experiment in Denver are encouraging. Housing prices are out of control. This experiment in Denver is an important attempt to explore solutions.

- **CPR**: Pilot project extended to ensure basic income for people experiencing homelessness in Denver. As the new year begins, the city of Denver has committed $2 million to extend the Denver Basic Income Project. The year-long pilot program is the largest of its kind in the country. It’s studying what happens when people experiencing homelessness are given different amounts of money.

- **Colorado Newsline**: Basic income saved lives, say supporters, who rally in Denver for extension of cash assistance. State and city elected Democrats among advocates of the program.

- **Colorado Newsline**: No-strings-attached cash assistance program in Denver extended. Denver Basic Income Project participants find stable housing and jobs.

- **Vice**: A Basic Income Trial In the U.S. Got $2 Million In Funding to Continue for a Second Year

- **Denver's basic income pilot secured new funding from Mayor Mike Johnson after a coalition of advocacy groups lobbied for it to continue.**

- **The Denver Gazette**: Denver Basic Income Project shares results after one year of cash payments to homeless Denverites.

- **The Denver Gazette**: Denver evictions jumped in June, as City Council expanded protections for some renters: On June 20, City Council expanded its eviction legal defense program through 2023, with $1.5 million in American Rescue Plan Act dollars for programming that runs through 2023. “We’re working to help. “Participants shared having reduced financial stress, which highlights the Denver Basic Income Project’s role in contributing to crucial financial stability.”

- **Denverite**: As Denver sees record-high evictions, Council pushes through more money for rental assistance. Denver will get an additional $13.5 million for a total of nearly $30 million to help renters at risk of homelessness.
• **9News**: Colorado nonprofit sees 117% increase in rental assistance requests. Colorado Housing Connects has seen a steady increase in rental assistance requests as eviction filings trend to record high numbers.

• **Denver Post**: Denver saw surging evictions last year. Will increased rent assistance funds be enough to meet the need? City has moved Temporary Rental and Utility Assistance applications online amid eviction wave.

• **CPR**: More than 100 Denver families bought homes in formerly redlined neighborhoods with help from city program. The program’s goal was to assist homebuyers in communities that had been redlined in the past, including Elyria Swansea, Globeville, Whittier, Five Points and West Barnum among others. Redlining is generally defined as a discriminatory practice in which services — often opportunities to borrow money — are kept from those who live in low-income communities considered hazardous to investment, making the securing of mortgages and insurance policies in those areas more difficult.

• **Denver Post**: Down-payment programs help Colorado's Black first-time homebuyers in push to close historic equity gaps. State’s white homeownership rate is around 70%, compared to Black homeownership rate of 42%.

• **Denverite**: A program to move unhoused folks directly into permanent housing secured funding, but sustainability is an issue. A council committee approved a $5 million contract with Housing Connector, a nonprofit that connects people experiencing homelessness to property owners. The funding for this program will come from American Rescue Plan Act, ARPA, dollars. About $4,250,350 of the proposed $5 million contract would be going toward rental assistance.

• **CBS4**: Denver mayor focuses on affordable housing, police recruits in budget proposal. While the city continues to leverage the one-time federal stimulus dollars awarded in 2021, it is no longer receiving new funding under the federal ARPA program. Despite this, the 2024 budget will still invest $242 million to help Denverites get out of homelessness and into transitional housing and support services. It will do this while continuing to invest in affordable home rental and homeownership opportunities for residents across Denver.

• **9News**: Denver's health department plans to distribute more than $10 million in federal dollars to address behavioral health needs. A report released in 2023 said providers can’t meet the high demand for mental and behavioral health services.

• **Denverite**: Council approves $1.15 million contract to continue revitalizing the 16th Street Mall. DDP began their revitalization of the strip in 2022 when they were initially given $2.4 million, also from ARPA. The plan coincided with the reconstruction of the strip, a now $173 million project that broke ground in April 2022.

• **Denver Business Journal**: $1.15M greenlighted for 16th Street Mall recovery effort. The city has put a total of $17 million in ARPA funding toward business recovery, and of that $5.5 million toward the downtown, according to the city’s ARPA dashboard. DEDO has deployed more than $2 million in ARPA Round 1 funding for “downtown activation,” according to an agency spokesperson. The contract approved Monday is $1.15 million in ARPA Round 2 funding for the same purpose. Another $2 million in ARPA funding was recently reallocated from the Department of Safety and DEDO’s “entrepreneurship” bucket and to downtown recovery.

• **Axios Denver**: These Denver businesses are getting grants to help with harm from homeless camps. The big picture: The latest cash infusions are part of a series of federal relief grants disbursed since 2022 to help ensure "businesses can survive and thrive" post-COVID, Denver Mayor Mike Johnston said in a statement when the program was announced in November.
• **CBS4**: Denver uses American Rescue Plan funds for Park Hill Innovation Hub to help small businesses. The City of Denver is using money from the American Rescue Plan to fund an innovation hub and help small businesses succeed.

• **Denverite**: Denver’s launching a new program to keep long-time local business vulnerable to displacement open. The Legacy Business program encourages businesses with social impact, that contribute to local history and culture and that have "positive business practices" such as fair wages and employee ownership.

• **Denver Business Journal**: [Photos] Denver to open a new entrepreneurship center. A free entrepreneurship center is getting ready to open in Denver as part of the city’s effort to support more diverse founders and their startups. PHI Hub, stands for Park Hill Neighborhood Hub. The 7,543-square-foot center will focus on minority and women-led startups, but the facility is open to everyone. The space is intended to support founders with business planning, marketing and networking.

• **Denverite**: Denver’s considering reallocating nearly $15 million toward mayor’s goal of housing 1,000 people. City Council will vote on the proposals pulling from COVID and American Rescue Plan funds in the coming weeks.

• **Colorado Newsline**: Denver metro faces $250 million funding cliff with few pandemic-era federal dollars left to spend. The American Rescue Plan Act brought millions to Denver-area governments. What happens to programs initiated with that money?

• **Denver Business Journal**: Inside Denver's $48.6M plan to house 1,000 people by the end of the year. The city will launch its first stage of encampment relocations this week, Mayor Mike Johnston said. The city will reallocate $8 million from federal pandemic aid that was in the General Fund, and $4.7 million worth of interest earned on ARPA funding. More than $5 million will be redirected following cost savings from other projects, including the $3.3 million it would take to equip city rec centers for overnight shelters.
Stakeholder Committee Process

A 12-member group of diverse community, nonprofit, and business representatives. This body advises the City on ARPA allocations relating to community and business investments.

- Councilwoman Jamie Torres — City Council President
- Lindy Eichenbaum Lent — Rose Community Foundation President and CEO
- Stewart Tucker Lundy — Disability Law Colorado Board Member, 16th Street Mall Champions Member, CEO Stewart Tucker Lundy & Associates
- Lori Davis — Economic Relief and Recovery Council Chair, Grant Thornton Managing Partner
- Albus Brooks — Long Term Recovery and Resiliency Committee Co-Chair, Milender White Vice President, Former City Council President
- Dewey Jackson — Denver Area Labor Federation AFL-CIO President
- Tony Lemus — El Centro Program Director
- Janice Sinden — Denver Center for the Performing Arts President and CEO
- Christine Benero — Mile High United Way President and CEO
- Susan Powers — Urban Ventures President; Denver Health Foundation Board Member
- Glenn Harper — Sun Valley Kitchen and Community Center Owner
- Monica Martinez — The FAX Partnership Executive Director

Stimulus Investment Advisory Partner Sub-Committee:

Local leaders from eight partner organizations, many of which also received federal funding, such as Denver Public Schools, RTD, Denver Housing Authority, and more. This body collaborates and shares investment plans to create a coordinated, regional federal funding approach.

- Dr. Robin Witenstein — Former Denver Health and Hospital Authority CEO
- David Nisivoccia — Denver Housing Authority Executive Director
- Chuck Carpenter — Denver Public Schools Chief Financial Officer
- Angela Bricmont — Denver Water Chief Financial Officer
- Doug McLeod — Regional Transportation District (RTD) Chief Financial Officer
- Deborah Jordy — SCFD (Scientific Cultural and Facilities District) Executive Director
- Patrick Meyers and Hana Sayeed — State of Colorado Office of Economic Development and Information Technology
Section 3

PROMOTING EQUITABLE OUTCOMES
Promoting Equitable Outcomes

Equity has long been a goal in Denver, and the City launched the Office of Social Equity and Innovation (OSEI) in 2019 and officially established the office in 2020 through Executive Order 146. OSEI uses best and innovative practices to lead Denver in transformative change with a commitment to equitable outcomes. The vision of equity in Denver is to be a city when race and social identity no longer predict life outcomes. OSEI aims to increase systems, policies, and practices that sustain social equity, race, and social justice to ensure that equity is embedded in all facets of Denver’s operations. The office oversees the Citywide effort to eliminate social inequity and racial and social injustices by evaluating institutional and structural government systems, policies, and practices to dismantle racism and advance policies and practices that center on those who are underrepresented and have been historically disadvantaged. Through its work, OSEI combats not only interpersonal racism, but structural racism entrenched in established institutions as well as institutional racism built into laws and practices that systemically result in inequality and negative outcomes for certain racial groups.

OSEI established four City-wide equity goals that were used to guide racial equity work:

1. The OSEI will directly influence policies, budget, and programmatic decisions in order to lead city agencies in achieving measurable improvements in racial equity, social equity, and social justice in Denver.
2. The OSEI will train city staff in its Race and Social Justice Academy in order to establish understanding of the concepts and approaches that drive the City’s commitment to promote racial equity, social equity, and social justice across the city.
3. The OSEI will lead and guide concrete methodologies for collecting and analyzing equity data with agencies across the city to create more equitable outcomes for city programming.
4. The OSEI will create a direct link with the community, internal, and external stakeholders in order to guide, shape, and inform perspectives of our work.

With these goals in mind, DOF aims to be in alignment with OSEI to ensure equitable outcomes for all of Denver’s ARPA spending plan.

Equitable Goals and Intended Outcomes:

To achieve its goal of an equitable and sustainable recovery, Denver first identified how to use the term equity. Equity means the fair treatment, access, opportunity, and advancement for all people, while at the same time identifying and eliminating structural barriers and systemic racism that have created inequity for historically marginalized groups. Equity is achieved through the advancement of policies and practices that center on those who are underrepresented and have been historically disadvantaged. Improving equity involves increasing justice and fairness within the protocols, processes, practices, and policies of institutions or systems, as well as in their distribution of resources. When equity is the primary focus, with diversity and inclusion as supportive facets, all segments of communities are improved. This allows individuals who have often been institutionally marginalized and historically disadvantaged to be fully engaged and supported in achieving successful outcomes. Denver takes a race-explicit but not race-exclusive approach. This means the City leads with race because it is still the primary determinant of life outcomes, but also considers the intersection of all aspects of a person’s identity.

Equity is closely tied to actions and results that address historical disparities. Ultimately, equity occurs when race can no longer be used to predict life outcomes, and outcomes for all groups are improved.
Based on this definition of equity, DOF worked with City agencies and OSEI to outline key priority groups for ARPA funding allocations. In disaggregating outcomes, the City intends that demographic factors and one’s neighborhood should not determine life outcomes or access to services. These categories include intersectional identities such as race/ethnicity, gender identity, disability, age, sexuality, immigrant identity, and others who have been historically marginalized from benefits, services, investments, and resources.

After analyzing ARPA eligibility requirements, and cross-walking those requirements with the themes prioritized through the RISE Together Denver public outreach process, the City identified a variety of populations that may benefit from Denver’s ARPA allocations:

- BIPOC households and communities
- Small businesses impacted by COVID-19, including minority/women-owned businesses
- NEST neighborhoods
- Youth and children
- People with behavioral health, mental health, and substance abuse conditions in underserved communities
- People with disabilities
- People with limited English proficiency
- Households with digital access barriers
- Low- to moderate-income individuals and households
- Low-food-access neighborhoods or populations
- People experiencing homelessness

**Equitable Access and Distribution:**

To serve the needs of those most impacted by the pandemic, the City employed an existing and proven framework to evaluate ARPA funding proposals through an equity lens.

Since its creation, OSEI has been embedded in the annual Citywide budget process and developed a Budget Equity Framework. This framework is intended to operationalize identifying and developing budget requests that support historically marginalized communities or mitigate the impacts of budget decisions that may negatively impact these communities. Since 2021, the budget process has required agencies to consider:

- Does the program impacted by this request most directly serve internal customers or external customers?
- Was the program impacted by this request derived from feedback by community/stakeholders that will be impacted by the program? If so, please indicate who your stakeholders are and describe the tools and strategies used to gather this feedback.
- Provide data to support the claim that the program impacted by this request seeks to continue or increase access, services, resources, and opportunities for historically marginalized communities/neighborhoods and/or to address rising workloads for City services.
- Does the program impacted by this request increase or decrease access to city services/opportunities for any historically marginalized groups?
Section 3  Promoting Equitable Outcomes

DOF developed a similar set of questions specifically for the ARPA process. The questions included:

1. Please review pp. 20–21 of the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance and Reporting Guide. From the available options, please indicate the primary population served.

2. If applicable, please select two additional populations served by this program.

3. How equal and practical is the ability for historically marginalized residents or businesses to become aware of the services or goods offered within this program?

4. What is the primary goal of this program in promoting equitable outcomes: (Multiple Choice)
   
   A. Closing gaps
   
   B. Reaching universal levels of service
   
   C. Disaggregating progress by race, ethnicity, or other equity dimensions.

This budget framework is coupled with a data-driven approach to ensure that funds are distributed to communities and neighborhoods in most need of resources and support. Many City agencies have equity frameworks or tools to guide programming and budget decisions. For example, the Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE) uses a Neighborhood Equity Index to identify where the greatest health disparities exist in Denver. Considering health outcomes based on these factors helps DDPHE address health disparities and social determinants of health. Denver Economic Development & Opportunity (DEDO) directs much of its resources to businesses and households in NEST neighborhoods to support anti-displacement efforts. Similarly, the Office of Children’s Affairs uses a Child Well-Being Index to devote support to neighborhoods with a high percentage of youth of color, high child poverty rates, and high percentages of chronically absent students, as well as other factors.

Finally, to identify and understand the potential impacts of ARPA funding, OSEI continues to work with agencies across the City to develop and discuss measurable outputs, outcomes, and impacts, both short-term and long-term through agency equity action plans.
Awareness

Confronting and tackling equity issues requires an understanding of the root causes of disparities within society and listening to those most impacted by inequity. Relationship building is instrumental to the larger rebuilding goals in Denver, which is why multiple rounds started with a robust community outreach process. The City heard directly from residents and learned about the most pressing needs of the community. Vulnerable NEST neighborhoods had the highest concentrations of participation over the three-week outreach campaign.

RISE Together Denver did not end on June 9, 2021, when surveys closed. Rather, the initial three-week survey collection period serves as the first step to opening better and lasting channels of communication and dialogue between the City and its historically marginalized residents. The website pivoted after surveys closed to host information about the next steps in the economic recovery process. To be as transparent as possible, a dashboard with all community feedback was published on the site, along with recordings of all four telephone townhalls. DOF also published details and information about Round 2 funding proposals when they were advanced to the Denver City Council.

When support resources have been approved and become available, the same communication channels have been employed to relay opportunities to the public. The City gained the ear of more than 6,200 residents through RISE Together Denver, and there is an opportunity to strengthen those relationships by being responsive and accountable to the needs they raised. Denver has communicated funding decisions to residents who participated in the outreach campaign, and also cultivate new connections by empowering residents to tap into their networks and distribute information. Trust-building is a long process, and Denver knows that communities may be uncertain of their government.

The various community stakeholder committees established during the public process will serve as trusted intermediaries to distribute information to vulnerable and historically marginalized populations. Nearly 30 diverse community members sit on either the Stimulus Investment Advisory Committee, the Partner Sub-Committee, or the Bond Executive Committee. These residents are known and recognized as leaders in their communities, and more than 60 percent of these individuals are identified as BIPOC. These local leaders have far greater reach into their communities and DOF has provided content and support so they could distribute information about available resources to their networks.

In addition to building on the positive momentum from RISE Together Denver, the City has leveraged all relevant communication channels to spread information about support programs. This includes newsletter or e-blast communications from the Mayor’s Office, Denver City Council, and City agencies such as Denver Human Services, Denver Economic Development & Opportunity, the Office of Children’s Affairs, Human Rights & Community Partnerships, and more. Other tactics such as geofenced social media campaigns, flyers at public buildings, like Denver Public Libraries, media releases, and community events have also been leveraged by specific programs.
Section 4 USE OF FUNDS
Use of Funds

ARPA Funding Strategy

Denver’s ARPA funds were delivered in two equal installments, the first half was received in July 2021 and the second disbursement was delivered in July 2022. The City will continue to evaluate the use of dollars on an ongoing basis with all costs obligated by December 31, 2024. Denver’s use of funds can be summarized under three strategies: 1) Restoring Responsive City Services; 2) Rewarding Courageous and Dedicated City Workers; 3) Recovering from Pandemic Impacts with an Equitable and Sustainable Response.

Each will be described in detail below:

STRATEGY #1: RESTORING RESPONSIVE CITY SERVICES

The first phase of Denver’s ARPA funds dedicated $64 million to restore portions of budgets that were reduced amid decreased revenues as a result of the pandemic. In April 2020, the City initiated a mid-year budget reduction process in response to dire economic conditions of the pandemic. The Mayor’s Office and the DOF partnered with OSEI to ensure that reductions would have as few negative impacts as possible on historically marginalized communities. The City requested 7.5 percent budget reduction proposals from each agency, and those proposals were processed through OSEI’s Budget Equity Framework to mitigate negative impacts on key populations, including BIPOC communities, people with disabilities, older adults, and children. Each savings proposal was evaluated based on its impact and feasibility. Not all proposals were implemented. In fact, as a result of this process, certain agencies, such as the Office of Housing Stability and the Office of Children’s Affairs, were identified as critical to serving vulnerable communities and experienced few, if any, reductions. In some cases, these critical agencies were allocated more funds.

Although the reduction process was rooted in the Budget Equity Framework, leaner budgets posed hardships both to agencies and to the residents most dependent on City services. Denver’s spending of its Round 1 ARPA funding was used to immediately address those hardships and includes two categories:

Sub-Use 1: Restoring City Workforce

Through the first round, Denver invested $64 million in restoring portions of City agency budgets to address staffing. Approximately 400 staff positions were held vacant as a cost-saving measure, and those funds allowed agencies to fill 271 positions. Additionally, staff were required to take between six and nine furlough days, depending on their annual pay, with closures of all City offices on four of those days. The furlough plan varied the unpaid days with equity in mind. With these funds, all furlough days were canceled.

Key outcomes: Restoring the City’s workforce provided residents with more access to critical City services, and staff had the capacity to better meet the evolving needs of the community. In the long term, these efforts will yield greater connections between residents and City staff, and more positive relationships between the government and the public. Given the continuous nature of these expenditures, Denver has used the budget process to restore services using ongoing resources. The majority of these expenditures are now funded by the General Fund.

Sub-Use 2: Addressing Workloads

In addition to supporting staff positions and availability, the first round dedicated $6.8 million in 2021 and 2022 to critical services that were impacted by the pandemic, either through backlogs during public-health-ordered closures or through increased need due to the virus. Through these funds, the City was better able
Use of Funds

to serve a variety of residents, including:

- Residents in the criminal justice system, by reducing backlogs within courtrooms.
- Residents facing housing insecurity, by adding resources to address the threat of foreclosure and eviction.
- Residents struggling to maintain or revitalize business opportunities, by investing in the patio expansion program, City permitting, and public health inspections.

In addition to supporting these services, funds will support general security and technology efforts to allow for safe and efficient hybrid Denver City Council meetings, a more seamless return-to-work process, and support for the management of federal funds.

**Key outcomes:** By dedicating resources toward critical City services that have experienced drastic increases in staff workloads, the City will be more responsive to emerging needs and better prepared to serve residents most impacted by the pandemic, including those in the criminal justice system, those facing housing insecurity, and the business community.

**STRATEGY #2: REWARDING COURAGEOUS AND DEDICATED CITY WORKERS**

In November of 2021, Denver extended $8.8M in premium payments to City employees who were required to work in environments with the risk of exposure to Covid-19 prior to vaccines becoming widely available. In alignment with federal guidance, to receive a payment, employees must have been required to regularly spend their work time having in-person interactions and/or physically handling items that were handled by others. Employees who worked from home did not qualify for this payment. For each month of qualifying work between March and December of 2020, an eligible employee received $250. As there were 10 possible qualifying months, the maximum amount an eligible employee received was $2,500. Denver used its ARPA allocation to extend payments to 4,115 civilian, non-uniformed, staff. A parallel hazard pay program utilizing the Coronavirus Relief Funds occurred at the same time, with its beneficiaries being uniformed staff within the Fire, Police, and Sheriff departments.
The use of the premium pay category was a practical, tangible way for the City to showcase its appreciation for the staff who exemplified public service during the height of the emergency. And given the payments were made during the onset of the Omicron variant, they underscored the commitment of the City to support its employees in their dogged pursuit to avoid disruption to the smooth functioning of City services.
STRATEGY #3: RECOVERING FROM PANDEMIC IMPACTS WITH AN EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE RESPONSE

Denver’s largest and most extensive category within ARPA funds addresses the negative impacts of the pandemic, particularly among disproportionately affected communities. Totaling $189 million and directly informed by public engagement strategies, as described in the Community Engagement section, these uses direct resources to individuals, households, businesses, and non-profits, and are distributed within three overarching programmatic areas: 1) Housing & Homelessness; 2) Community Investments; 3) Support to Businesses and Workers.

Sub-Use 1: Housing & Homelessness

Denver’s primary recovery investment area is housing and homelessness. $155 million of ARPA funds were allocated for this purpose across a variety of projects and programs. Seeing that the reasons for homelessness and housing insecurity are numerous, Denver opted to use a variety of techniques to grapple with this complex problem. At the forefront is a $25.7 million investment in affordable housing, designed to increase the inventory of affordable housing units for low- and medium-income individuals. In addition, there are also investments in shelter alternatives, like outdoor encampments, tiny home construction, and a pilot program for individuals who choose to shelter in their vehicles. To keep individuals at risk of homelessness in their current homes, funding was also made available to support rapid re-housing efforts, as well as to pilot a novel basic income program. Additionally, Denver has strengthened its network of shelter sites by investing in the continued build-out of the 48th Avenue Shelter site, which opened in 2021. There has also been an effort to bolster the resiliency of Denver’s shelter sites through a capital needs assessment, which will eventually result in several physical improvements at priority locations, whether City or partner owned. Finally, Denver will make an investment in assessing three recreation centers in strategic areas as emergency shelter sites, if needed in the event of a future emergency. More detail on these projects is available in the project inventory section.

Key outcomes: Strengthened housing stability resources and investments in the community.

Sub-Use 2: Community Investments

$45 million in ARPA funds were invested in a wide-ranging list of community-centric investments. While the particulars may vary, the glue that binds them is their focus on addressing the Covid-19 impacts on specific populations with very precise needs. Here, investments in food security, mental wellness and substance misuse, childcare, non-profit resiliency, digital equity, cultural institutions, and community safety, all reside. At their heart, all requests aim to deliver equitable outcomes for populations that have been historically underserved, and consequently significantly disadvantaged by the pandemic. More detail on these projects is available in the project inventory section.

Key outcomes: Revitalize Denver’s neighborhoods through targeted community support and placemaking, including:

- Increased access to affordable, quality, and culturally appropriate food.
- Strengthened mental and physical health support and systems in Denver.
- An environment where the community feels safe and can gather collectively without fear of crime.
- Improved and expanded access and utilization of high-quality out-of-school time services for youth.
- Presence of a sustained workforce of providers that can provide trusting and engaging programs.
- Improved and expanded access and utilization of high-quality, affordable child care services. Presence of a workforce of providers that can earn an income and that are connected to city systems.
Businesses and workers were supported with $20 million in ARPA funds. The primary use of this category is a business impact opportunity grant program, allowing small businesses to access $10M in grant funds with issues related to displacement, disruption from construction, operating challenges, or neighborhood safety—all factors exacerbated by the pandemic. Additional investments in this category include support for entrepreneurial activities and business navigation among women and/or black individuals, indigenous individuals, and people of color. Finally, related to the intense and ongoing impact on business health in the City downtown core, dedicated support was extended to reactivate and reenergize that geography through seasonal events, tourism promotion, and pop-up retail activity. More detail on these projects is available in the project inventory section.

**Key outcomes:** Bring back and enhance lost jobs, create new jobs, and strengthen small business and nonprofit growth and resiliency. In addition, make it easier to do business with Denver.

**Broader Federal Funding Strategy**

Federal recovery funds are a vital component in the City’s financial response to the COVID-19 emergency. As the City experienced unprecedented declines in tax revenue and subsequent reductions in outlays for services and programs in both 2020 and 2021, these funds have helped Denver weather the worst impacts of the pandemic and provide favorable conditions for a robust recovery. The City’s fundamental approach is to prioritize community needs around life and safety and to direct those expenses to the most restrictive of funding sources. This way the City maintains funding capacity for broader impacts of the emergency, such as helping individuals, households, businesses, and nonprofit organizations recover from the economic fallout of the emergency. That is because some federal funding sources only reimburse for items that are closely tied to the preservation of life and safety, such as personal protective equipment (PPE) or emergency shelter expenses, while others are broader in scope and application.

Keeping those latter sources open for a more flexible response—whether that be through small-business grant programs, childcare assistance, or the provision of transportation when residents are hesitant to use public buses and trains—is contingent on first maximizing the more restrictive categories of funding. This strategy is depicted in the figure above, which demonstrates the order or progression from most to least restrictive funding source.

As the graphic indicates, Denver has adopted a strategy of using Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) public assistance funding first. This grant program continues to provide vital support for sheltering people experiencing homelessness, the provision of personal protective equipment, emergency operations
center expenses, community testing, vaccine administration, support to the local public safety net hospital system, and emergency needs at Denver International Airport. All of these uses fit squarely in the category of emergency expenses that preserve and protect lives, which is why FEMA funds were pursued from an early stage.

However, not every community need is life and safety driven. Businesses and nonprofits have struggled to keep their doors open amid the economic fallout from the crisis, families have struggled to afford nutritious food, renters have fallen behind on their monthly payments, including those for utilities, and educational programming for Denver’s youth has been severely disrupted amid social distancing requirements. These are just a sample of community needs met with funding from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) program, which are detailed in the figure below. The City recognizes that the pandemic has impacted everyone in different ways, which is why Denver has prioritized using these funds on a diverse array of projects, each of which tackles pandemic-related issues from a different angle. To meet these diverse needs, Denver provided CRF funding through separate project allocations to 19 City agencies and departments. Because this funding source was timebound, with a program end date of December 31, 2021, Denver prioritized the deployment of this money over funds from other emergency response grant programs, which often have longer implementation periods.

**Figure:** Non-exclusive sample of CRF disbursements

Finally, the third source of recovery funding that Denver has received includes more targeted grant programs that have a specific allocation to a given program area or target population. These grants typically have a narrower application and are often delivered as supplements to pre-existing federal grant programs such as Head Start, the Community Development Block Grant, and the Emergency Solutions Grant. A notable exception is the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)—Denver was a direct recipient of this funding, which provided relief to those struggling with rental and utility bills.

Prior to the Treasury creating the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), Denver utilized Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) to expand Denver’s rent and utility assistance program which had been using local funds and was operational since late 2017. Denver was able to serve more than 2,000 households with rent and utility assistance using CRF. Once Denver received ERAP funds, Denver stood up the new program and phased out the use of CRF.

Due to these crucial and unprecedented federal resources, thousands of low- and moderate-income Denver households impacted by the pandemic have been able to avoid an eviction and remain in their homes.
Since July 2021, Denver has served more than 2,100 households and spent more than $22M of this ERAP funding. Denver has closely coordinated the local ERAP program with the Colorado Division of Housing, which is also serving Denver residents with ERAP by sharing an online database and application.

ERAP funds have also been utilized for housing stability services including housing navigation, tenant/landlord mediation, and case management.

Denver expanded free eviction legal services for low- and moderate-income households utilizing $1.5M in ARPA funds. There continues to be strong coordination between the nonprofit organizations providing free eviction legal assistance and nonprofit organizations providing emergency rent assistance through ERAP.

However, there continues to be a significant demand for emergency rental assistance and free eviction legal assistance, and Denver is committed to continuing to deploy resources in a strategic and effective way to help Denver’s residents recover from the impacts of COVID-19.

In summary, Denver’s approach is strategic, organized, and effective. It considers the relative restrictiveness of the funding source as well as the time frame before expiration, thereby producing an approach that maximizes impact. We look forward to adding the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to the mix of sources to power Denver’s recovery in the years to come.
Transparency, Equity in Data Collection and Visualization

Denver has publicly released a [City and County of Denver ARPA Performance Page](#) containing two interactive and crucial data collection tools that demonstrate transparency and equity in their unique visualizations: an ARPA Dashboard and a Recovery Index. The dashboard and recovery index build on nearly a decade of financial transparency work initiated under Mayor Hancock. That work started with the debut of Transparent Denver in 2013, followed by continued efforts to make Denver’s financial information more open and accessible to the public.

**City and County of Denver ARPA Performance Dashboard**

A single location for all ARPA performance tracking data, including fund expenditures and the Neighborhood Recovery Index

*Figure: Cover of the ARPA performance dashboard*

The dashboard provides a comprehensive view of Denver’s use of the $308 million in American Rescue Plan Act State and Local Fiscal Relief Funds. The tool, updated weekly, displays the amount received from the federal government that has been committed (i.e. a vendor has been selected), obligated (a contract is signed), or spent, and what those funds are going toward. It was intentionally built to be interactive, allowing users to filter and sort through the data in a multitude of ways.
American Rescue Plan Act - Fund Expenditures

State and Local Fiscal Relief Funds

Project Search by Keyword(s)

Recovery Category
- Business
- City Operations
- Community
- Housing/Homelessness
- Infrastructure
- Unassigned Funding Allocation

Expenditure Category
- Administrative
- Government Provision
- Negative Economic Impacts
- Premium Pay
- Public Health

Note: Expenditure categories are set forth by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for reporting purposes.

Project
- Amount Committed, Obligated or Spent
- Remaining Budget

Figure: Dashboard overview of the American Rescue Plan Act fund expenditures

Figure: Chart displaying business, community, and housing/homelessness initiatives

Note: Additional projects organized by recovery category will be added as they are launched and data becomes available.
Performance measures, tracking project outputs, have been added for twenty-seven ARPA projects thus far and others will follow once data collection points have been determined and project execution begins. Business demographics, firmographics, and households’ data is collected by each program and reported monthly and quarterly by each project agency. At the onset, Denver was committed to robust reporting and therefore ensured all data reporting was formally standardized across all projects prior to contract execution. As a result, we can easily aggregate ARPA-wide performance across multiple data layers and report that across all agency programs thus far; Denver has served 1,318 businesses, assisted 74 non-profits, 34,321 households, and 14,037 youth.

Denver is tasked by the Treasury Department to ensure a strong, resilient, and equitable recovery by making investments that support long-term growth and opportunity. Acknowledging the impact of Covid-19 has varied considerably across the region, we worked in collaboration with numerous agency analysts and GIS specialists throughout the city to develop a “Recovery Index” that takes the economic, health, and educational wellbeing of the various neighborhoods into account. The Neighborhood Recovery Index is used to evaluate overall stability in each of the city’s neighborhoods through one comparable score which is a single-factor composite of multiple variables elevated thru statistical analysis.

Underlying all of this is currently 17 different data sets that include measures such as employment and poverty levels, access to mental health or substance abuse facilities, child care facilities, access to parks and recreation facilities among many others. The indicators selected are intended to show progress on overarching long-term outcomes Denver is striving towards and were determined during the creation of a logic model that was used to determine overall outcomes and supporting project outputs for all ARPA spending. Underlying demographics such as race and total population are included for monitoring equity but are not utilized in the calculation of the index score.

By looking holistically at these various indicators, we are able to focus CCD’s efforts on specific interventions that our diverse communities need to recover in a strong and sustainable manner. By clicking on a census tract, you can see both the neighborhood that a tracts is located within, and the various economic, health, and educational wellbeing index scores. The map you see identifies areas most impacted by pandemic and at risk for inequitable recovery (dark blue); and areas with highest opportunity and moving toward recovery (white). Someone utilizing the recovery index can select one or more different layers if they wish to do so. As a first step in this process, Denver released a 2022 Baseline Index to measure future progress from. Continuing to monitor these indicators over time provides Denver with a way to measure long-term outcomes of our efforts as economic stimulus, policy responses to the pandemic, and their economic impacts progress over time.

We observed our first improvements to the Full Index score at the onset of our initial 2023 update and are excited to share that with our 2024 update, we’ve shown even further progress as more projects have come online and had additional time to impact our communities. We invite you to thoroughly interact with all the data and read more on our findings here.
Figure: Overview of the interactive webpage hosting the Neighborhood Recovery Index.

Use of Funds

Overview of the interactive webpage hosting the Neighborhood Recovery Index.

The Neighborhood Recovery Index scores indicate how far we are from our year-by-year program roll-out goal on average.

- 2024 Index Update
- 2023 Index Update
- 2022 Baseline Index

Use the buttons below to compare the Index scores to the latest update.

2023 Baseline Neighborhood Recovery Index

- Area and the City and County O.
- Area Economic Activity Dashboard

(City and County of Denver Area Performance Dashboard)
Section 5

LABOR PRACTICES
Labor Practices

Any infrastructure projects pursued with ARPA funds will reflect workforce practices that follow strong labor standards. All projects will conform with the City’s ordinances including those adopted to level the field for disadvantaged businesses, workers, and residents of Denver’s entire community. Current wage policies and social programs include:

Local Minimum Wage Law

In 2019, the Colorado General Assembly enacted a new statute permitting local governments to set a jurisdiction- wide minimum wage higher than the state minimum wage. Denver City Council responded by adopting a local minimum wage law that applies to all workers performing work in the geographical boundaries of the City after January 1, 2020.

Prevailing Wage

Denver city ordinance requires any contractor or subcontractor at any tier who performs construction, alteration, improvements, repairs, maintenance, or demolition of any city-owned or leased building or on any city-owned land, pursuant to a contract by or on behalf of the city, or for any agency of the city, or financed in whole or part by the city, to pay its employees working on those projects not less than the appropriate prevailing wage as determined by the Denver Office of Human Resources.

Minority/Women Business Enterprise Goals Program

The City’s Minority/Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE) utilization program will require any qualified funded project to meet the required participation of minority-owned, woman-owned, and small- business enterprises in construction, professional design, and construction services contracts.

Denver Construction of Careers Pilot Program (DCCP)

The Denver Construction Careers Program (DCCP) focuses on public infrastructure projects. The City chose to implement the workforce development requirements on its marquee projects, which cost over $10 million, including arts and cultural venues, as well as other critical infrastructure.

Requirements of the program include:

- A prime contractor and a designated workforce coordinator that will partner with City staff to implement workforce development goals.
- Conducting impactful outreach and engagement to priority populations that have been historically disenfranchised, such as veterans, justice-involved individuals, public assistance recipients, people who are unhoused, persons with histories with foster care, and residents of priority neighborhoods.
- Employing registered apprentices for a minimum of 15 percent of the overall construction hours on the project. Within that 15 percent of registered apprentice hours on a project, additional subgoals state that 25 percent of the overall construction hours must be performed by apprentices from the priority populations and by first-year apprentices to ensure new registered apprentices have access to work on City projects.
The City has also made an over $2 million investment in a workforce development platform called WORKNOW, which serves as the organizing body for collaborative efforts to attract new workers to the industry, provide training and supportive services to keep them engaged, and offer upskilling so workers can pursue career promotions and wages that allow them to thrive.

Moving forward, the Denver Construction Careers Program focuses on projects with a construction value of $10M or more beyond the initial list of 20 pilot projects. Denver City Council unanimously approved an ordinance creating DCCP in May 2023. The City has allocated funds to expand Denver Public Schools capacity for the Careers In Construction, established through a special revenue fund. The DCCP team has been working with Colorado Department of Labor and Employment to expand access to construction apprenticeship programs in the Denver metro area.

Acknowledgments

The DCCP team would like to acknowledge and thank all the contributors to the DCCP over the past three years. We have had the opportunity to learn from and leverage expertise from multiple organizations. We’ve had input from our sister cities and their supporting organizations. We’ve used best practices from local, state and community partners. Additionally, we’ve leveraged industry and trade partner relationships to build sustainable solutions for Denver area residents.

Conclusion

During its pilot phase, the DCCP team had the unique opportunity to work on some of the City’s iconic venues and assets. The information depicts the impact of increased engagement with contractors, city services, and non-profit supportive services. Through thoughtful engagement, the DCCP team has tackled some of the toughest issues facing construction, bolstering the skilled trades by leveraging the City’s capital improvement projects as career opportunities for workers. Denver City Council unanimously approved an ordinance creating DCCP in May 2023.
Section 6

PROJECT INVENTORY

This section incorporates information about use of evidence and performance reporting.
Business Impact Opportunity Grant + Continuation

Grant ID: GR00002246 & GR00002680  |  Funds: $10,000,000
Expenditure Category: 2.29  |  Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Project Overview

Denver Economic Development Opportunity (DEDO) will provide direct cash assistance to small businesses negatively impacted by COVID-19. These small business impacts are meant to mitigate the effect of the pandemic through business improvements, staffing incentives, added security measures, and/or other issues that will support the businesses’ recovery efforts. These grants should alleviate some burden and stress from small business owners who may have had to adapt to new methods of service delivery and communication for their business operations and activities. Technical assistance will be available to support the businesses with their grant application.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number of businesses served by industry, location, and demographics
- Number of grants issued
- Number of neighborhood served

Outcomes
- Increased access to cash assistance for businesses
- Reduce burden for small business owners needing assistance
- Increased access to technical assistance with grant application

KPIs
- Number of businesses served by industry, location, and demographics
- Number of grant awards by type
- Number of neighborhoods served

Performance
- $6,765,678 distributed in the form of grants centered around stabilization, anti-displacement, and/or activation efforts
- Median grant award amount: $15,000
- 514 businesses served across 58 Denver neighborhoods
- 31% of grants awarded went to businesses in the accommodations and food services industry, 12% to other services (except public administration), and 11% to retail trade, entertainment, and recreation. Business in the arts, entertainment, and recreation also received 10% in grant awards with the remaining industries impacted by covid-19.

Figure: Overview of the Business Impact Opportunity Grants page from the ARPA performance dashboard
Denver Youth Employment Program

Grant ID: GR00002683 | Funds: $1,400,000
Expenditure Category: 2.37 | Other Economic Impact

Project Overview
This program offers structured career exploration, job readiness, financial literacy and case-management support to more than 300 local youth between the ages of 14 and 21, all anchored around a paid summer internships. Through personalized coaching and services to address individual needs and challenges, we prepare youth for post-secondary education and employment opportunities will building their skills, resume and professional network.

Use of Evidence
N/A

Performance Report

Outcomes
- Increase youth readiness for employment
- Increased employer engagement in youth workforce development
- Increase in youth employment and education enrollment

KPIs
- 300 local youth served

Performance
- 281 youth served across 50 Denver neighborhoods
- Demographics:
  - Median age: 16 yrs.
  - Hispanic: 43% Hispanic; 47% Non-Hispanic; 10% No response
  - Race: 50% Black; 19% Not disclosed; 15% White; 12% More than one race; 5% Other Race

Denver Economic Development Opportunity’s Denver Youth Employment Program provides structured career exploration, job readiness, financial literacy and case-management to local youth between the ages of 14 and 21, all anchored around a paid summer internship. Through personalized coaching and services to address individual needs and challenges, we prepare the youth for post-secondary education and employment opportunities while building their skills, resume and professional network.

Figure: Overview of the Denver Youth Employment Program page from the ARPA performance Dashboard
Downtown Support + Continuation

Grant ID: GR00002248, GR00002684,GR00003198, & GR00003200 | Funds: $5,500,000
Expenditure Category: 2.36 & 2.37 | Aid to Other Impacted Industries & Other Economic Impact

Project Overview

Denver Economic Development Opportunity DEDO will continue to reactivate and reenergize downtown spaces through seasonal event promotion, activating vacant retail spaces, prioritizing pop-up spaces in vacant locations, and the creation of various events and attractions that support the promotion of tourism. The downtown neighborhood is the front door to Denver and a strong local economic engine that has been deeply impacted by COVID-19. The goal of this project is to increase the traffic of customers to downtown businesses and support sectors of our economy that have been most negatively impacted by COVID-19.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number of events supported
- Number of vacant retail spaces activated
- Number of pop-up spaces activated

Outcomes
- Increased access to local seasonal events
- Reduction in vacant retail spaces
- Increased tourism
- Increased customer traffic
- Increased business support

KPIs
- Number of organizations supported
- Number of vacant retail spaces activated
- Number of pop-up spaces activated

Performance
- Denver Startup Week
  - Featured Business Participants: 181 Businesses
  - Total Registrants: 8,200
  - Total Attendees: 10,000+
  - Companies Represented: 4,675
  - Registrant Racial Demographics: 62% White; 10% Latino; 7% Asian; 7% Black/African American; 14% Other
  - Registrant Gender Demographics: 45% Male; 43% Female; 12% Other
  - Popup Program Beneficiaries: 29 beneficiaries; $105,000 Awarded
- Outer Spaces Popups: 3
- Popup Workshops: 4 Events
- Restaurant-Music Showcase: 1 Event; 49 Local Bands; 39 Small Businesses; 32 Restaurant/Food Vendors
- CO.STARTERS Business Development Program: 20 Beneficiaries
- Business Activation: 4 Social media post/paid advertising; 5 enhanced signage banners
Entrepreneurship – Tech-Up

Grant ID: GR00002681 | Funds: $345,000*
* Funds reduced and reallocated as Denver’s needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted.
Expenditure Category: 2.32 | Business Incubators and Start-Up or Expansion Assistance

Project Overview

This program, which is offered through an entrepreneurial hub located in a historically underrepresented region of Denver, will be focused on supporting BIPOC technology entrepreneurs. The program will support a multi-tiered entrepreneur build-to-scale program focused on tech entrepreneurship, mentorship groups, ideation technical assistance, business incubation services, and sales pipeline generation opportunities. This program is also being supported by an Economic Development Administration (EDA) Venture Challenge Scale Grant.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number of technology entrepreneurs served by location and demographics
- Number of created/retained jobs in tech-based firms in Denver
- Private capital invested in tech-based firms in Denver
- Number of technical assistance sessions provided

Outcomes
- Establish Ecosystem Resources to support advanced tech sector
- Focus on BIPOC communities
- Enhance existing resources and support early-stage entrepreneurs
- Support scaling companies

KPIs
- Capital raised
- Completion of SuperHub platform
- Program services

Performance
- 150 businesses served through TechUp seminars
- 24 Businesses enrolled in Access Mode
- 16 Businesses enrolled in DENSUN Accelerator
- $120K raised by six companies that went through TechUp programing TechStars
- $35K raised by one company from additional accelerator program
- Combined, these companies have created 91 full-time positions and generated $3.1 million in revenue
Entrepreneurship Center

Program Code: GR00002247 | Funds: $2,000,000
Expenditure Category: 2.32 | Business Incubators and Start-Up or Expansion Assistance

Project Overview

denver Economic Development & Opportunity (DEDO) will lease a facility in a historically marginalized and under-resourced neighborhood in Denver to house a new entrepreneurship center. Having a facility that is more accessible for BIPOC entrepreneurs and innovators will allow them to connect to the resources and opportunities they need to develop, accelerate, and/or scale their businesses. This center will be focused on building new wealth pathways for BIPOC communities through entrepreneurship.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs

- Number of BIPOC entrepreneurial businesses served by industry, location, and demographics
- Number of resources provided

Outcomes

- Increased access to resources for BIPOC entrepreneurial businesses
- Increased wealth pathways for BIPOC communities

KPIs

- Finalize lease agreement with WC Dahlia Street, LLC for the Entrepreneurship Center at Saltbox location
- Furnish and install office fixtures
- Commission local artist for artistic, decorative art

Performance

- Approved 5-year lease agreement
- Installed new electrical infrastructure to accommodate electrical systems
- Furnished and installed office fixtures
- Commissioned local artists for decorative art
Small Business Navigators + Continuation

Grant ID: GR00002249 & GR00002682 | Funds: $1,200,000
Expenditure Category: 2.30 | Technical Assistance, Counseling or Business Planning

Project Overview

Denver Economic Development & Opportunity (DEDO) will target outreach efforts to Denver’s hard-to-reach communities through community navigators who will provide one-on-one support for small businesses. Although Denver was growing rapidly prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, this economic burst was not benefiting everyone. The historic inequities faced by Denver’s Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities have only been exacerbated by the pandemic. BIPOC communities have suffered the most in terms of loss of employment and the number of small businesses open and operating in Denver. Community navigators will take a holistic look at the needs of these small businesses and will work to connect them to wraparound services available with the City or our partners.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs

- Number of businesses served by industry, location, and demographics
- Number of technical assistance sessions provided
- Number of neighborhoods served

Outcomes

- Increased access to small business services and resources
- Increased support to BIPOC communities

KPIs

- Assist 800 businesses
- Provide 1,800 hours of technical assistance
- Provide 1,500 hours of one-on-one assistance
- Provide 200 hours of application assistance

Business Navigators

The Business Navigator project targets outreach efforts to Denver’s hard-to-reach communities through community navigators who provide one-on-one support for small businesses. Although Denver was growing rapidly prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, this economic burst was not benefiting everyone. The historic inequities faced by Denver’s Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities have only been exacerbated by the pandemic. BIPOC communities have suffered the most in terms of loss of employment and the number of small businesses open and operating in Denver. Community navigators take a holistic look at the needs of these small businesses and will work to connect them to wraparound services available with the City or our partners.

Performance

- Project impact:
  - 647 businesses surveyed and assisted
  - 1,558 hours of technical support provided
  - 2.4 avg. hours of technical support per business provided

- Business Firmographics:
  - 21% retail trade; 19% other services (except public administration); 15% accommodation and food services; remaining 133% distributed across 17 other industries.

- Business Demographics:
  - 30% Prefer not to respond; 29% White; 25% Black or African American; 9% Multiracial; 4% Asian; 3% Other
  - 41% Hispanic or Latino; 35 % Non-Hispanic/Latino; 23% Prefer not to respond/Not listed

Business Firmographics

Program impact

- Businesses Surveyed: 647
- Hours of Technical Support: 1,558
- Avg. Hours of Technical Support per Business: 2.41

Ownership Demographics

- Female: 89%
- Male: 11%
- Prefer not to respond: 0%

Figure: Overview of the Business Navigators page from the ARPA performance dashboard
CITY OPERATIONS

Premium Pay

Grant ID: GR00002212 | Funds: $8,230,500
Expenditure Category: 4.1 | Public Sector Employees

Project Overview

Between March and December 2020, before the widespread availability of vaccines, career service City and County of Denver employees routinely risked exposure to COVID-19 to ensure the delivery of critical services to residents. The City and County of Denver compensated employees required to work in higher-risk occupations due to the possible COVID-19 exposure.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

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Revenue Loss

Grant ID: GR00002033 & GR00002035 & GR00002036 & GR00002037 & GR00002038 & More | Funds: $77,082,270
Expenditure Category: 6.1 | Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Restoration expenses include mission-critical positions, good and supplies eliminated through prior budget reductions, as well as the elimination of furlough day originally required of City Employees in 2021. This project also addresses severe workload increases driven by backlogs or other demands of City services. Finally, this project includes staffing to support the financial administration of managing ARPA funding, staffing for communications support to relay information to the public and other constituencies about the use of funds, and staffing for data analytics and program measurements.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

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**Denver Metro Non-Profit Loan Fund**

**Grant ID:** GR00002239  |  **Funds:** $250,000  
**Expenditure Category:** 6.1  |  **Provision of Government Services**

**Project Overview**

The Department of Human Rights and Community Relations will combine financial and technical assistance to help strengthen individual nonprofit organizations. Nonprofits, especially those serving the communities hardest hit by the pandemic, are vital to our recovery. Government loans, grants, and charitable contributions have been critical during the immediate crisis.

The City and County of Denver is joining three community foundations to engage the Nonprofit Finance Fund (NFF), an experienced Community Development Financial Institution, in making interest-free loans to nonprofits. NFF is responsible for the administration of the Fund and the loans, and to establish a program to strengthen both individual nonprofits. In contrast, individual community members can continue to access needed services.

Some nonprofits in COVID recovery are positioned to add debt to their toolkit, opening another avenue for needed funds. For nonprofits with limited experience with debt, this is a low-risk way to develop creditworthiness and learn how to manage debt, making them better candidates for other financings from the ‘commercial’ market in the future.

NFF will provide technical assistance to help nonprofits assess and adapt their business operations and loans with a grace period to ensure the sustainability of services. The inclusion of technical assistance in this program is a strong benefit to nonprofit organizations. It strengthens their business planning, restructures their business models to better serve their constituents, and allows them to build strategic alliances with other organizations to enhance service provision.

**Use of Evidence**

N/A

**Performance Report**

**Outputs**

- Number of non-profits served by industry, location, and demographics
- Number of loans issued

**Outcomes**

- Increased access to funding opportunities for nonprofits
- Continued service availability to non-profit consumers in the community
- Access to technical resources

**KPIs**

- Fund at least 5 local non-profits

**Performance**

- Loans issued to 5 non-profits:
  - ArtistICO Inc
  - Colorado Village Collaborative
  - Glowmundo Creations, Inc
  - Khesed Wellness
  - The World, A Story Telling Sanctuary, Inc

![Figure: Overview of the Denver Metro Non-Profit Loan Fund page from the ARPA performance dashboard](image.png)
Arts & Venues Reactivation Support + Continuation

Grant ID: GR00002235 & GR00002688 | Funds: $2,000,000
Expenditure Category: 2.35 | Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Project Overview

Denver Arts and Venues will defray the costs of producing events at the City of Denver owned and operated venues. Funds will be applied directly against costs typically billed back to the producers/promoters, such as security, personnel services (ushers), and/or janitorial services. Eligible entities must demonstrate adverse impacts financial impacts from Covid-19 and state how cost savings will be used to promote the business’ recovery (e.g. retention or hiring of additional staff).

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number of events/venues supported
- Number of businesses served
- Number of service cost covered

Outcomes
- Increased event/venue options
- Increased grant availability for businesses

KPIs
- Number of events/venues supported
- Number of organizations served
- Number of service cost covered

Performance
- 21 beneficiaries supported
- Over $1,8M in credits applied to defray production costs
- 45 events hosted at City and County of Denver owned and operated venues
- Top three use of funds comprised of film and theater production support, security and personal safety services, public order and safety services

Figure: Arts & Venues Reactivation Support page from the ARPA performance dashboard
Basic Cash Assistance for Households

Grant ID: GR00002712 | Funds: $3,000,000
Expenditure Category: 2.3 | Household Assistance: Cash Transfers

Project Overview

This cash transfer program will support low-income households by providing a one-time payment to the head of household. These cash members are ineligible for federally funded public benefits and have at least one child 17 years of age or under residing in the household. These cash transfers will address the lack of work-based inadequate income needed to address a household’s basic needs, including but not limited to housing, food, utilities, transportation, childcare, and or health care.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs

• One-time cash transfer payments of at least $1,000
• Some may be eligible for an additional $500 based on additional extenuating factors related to the inability to address basic household needs.

Outcomes

• Increased assistance to low-income households
• Increased ability to for households to meet basic needs

KPIs

• Number of one-time cash transfers issued
• Number of additional cash transfers issued
• Serve between 1,800 and 2,200 households
• Neighborhoods served

Performance

• 571 base payments (one-time cash transfer of $1,000)
• 1,246 base payment and supplemental (base payment plus $500)
• 1,817 households served
• 3,570 children served (ages 0-17)
• Neighborhoods served:
  • 48% Non-Nest neighborhoods
  • 44% Nest neighborhoods
  • 8% Previous NEST neighborhoods

Basic Cash Assistance for Households

This cash transfer program supports low-income households by providing a one-time payment to the head of household. To qualify for program assistance, the head of household must be ineligible for federally funded public benefits and have at least one child 17 years of age or under residing in the household. These cash transfers will address the lack of work-based inadequate income needed to address a household’s basic needs, including but not limited to housing, food, utilities, transportation, childcare, and or health care.

Figure: Overview of the Basic Cash Assistance for Households page from the ARPA performance dashboard
Behavioral Health and Network Adequacy

Grant ID: GR00002710  |  Funds: $12,517,611.77*
*Funds reduced and reallocated as Denver's needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted.
Expenditure Category: 1.12  |  Mental Health Services

Project Overview

ARPA funding will be used to increase behavioral health services and address needs. It will improve behavioral health infrastructure and network adequacy to advance positive behavioral health and substance use outcomes. Behavioral health services will address the needs of Denver residents for timely, appropriate, and culturally responsive care, and may include outpatient and inpatient services to treat behavioral health issues of various intensity, severity, and acuity levels. Program development will respond to an updated description of risk for adverse outcomes and impacted populations expected in Jan. 2023, funded by round one ARPA funds.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

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Behavioral/Mental Health Initial Implementation of Needs Assessment

Grant ID: GR00002230  |  Funds: $569,875.20*
*Funds reduced and reallocated as Denver’s needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted
Expenditure Category: 1.12  |  Mental Health Services

Project Overview
Department of Public Health and Environment (DDPHE) will initiate behavioral health programming based on the findings of the Mental Health Substance Abuse Citywide Needs Assessment. Programs will focus on overdose prevention strategies, mental health support, and assistance for youth and their families. Additionally, DDPHE will work to establish a network of private behavioral health providers that reflect the diversity of the community as a direct result of early findings from the department’s needs assessment work.

Use of Evidence
N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
• Number of behavioral health programing findings made
• Number of findings implemented
• Number/types of focus areas
• Number/types of at-risk populations and demographics served

Outcomes
• Increase in behavioral health programing access
• Increase in number of people served
• Increase in knowledge/awareness surrounding mental health resources
• Increase access to substance use resources

KPIs
• Completion of needs assessment

Performance
• Denver Fentanyl Action Summit hosted September 2022
• Behavioral health needs assessment submitted January 2023
Child Care and Family, Friend & Neighbor Care + Continuation

Grant ID: GR00002242 & GR00002692 | Funds: $2,080,543*

*Funds reduced and reallocated as Denver’s needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted.
Expenditure Category: 2.11 | Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care

Project Overview

The Office of Children’s Affairs (OCA) plans to partner with the Colorado Statewide Parent Coalition (CSPC). They will provide the fifteen-week Providers Advancing School Outcomes (PASO) program, which trains Family, Friends and Neighbors (FFN) childcare providers favored by the Latinx community, the resources to attain a Child Development Associate (CDA) certification in target neighborhoods. OCA’s aim is to create a sustainable system by targeting:

- The development of a childcare workforce that can earn income;
- Ensuring children are cared for in a safe and well-supported environment and;
- That parents and caregivers can access and utilize real-time affordable childcare providers.

OCA will support the development of a curriculum that trains FFN providers to work with children with special needs. This training is intended to be an in-depth training focusing on the specifics of working with children with diverse health needs in target communities, ranging from the Autism spectrum, down syndrome, and other cognitive health needs, to physical special health needs and linguistic special needs.

Similarly, OCA will also partner with La Piñata del Aprendizaje (LPDA), which will design a curriculum for a 10 week- Early Childhood Development Training 101 that is culturally and linguistically appropriate for Spanish speaking FFN providers. They will gear their trainings to serve older FFN providers and providers with different learning ranges. LPDA will provide four cohorts and serve an estimated 100 FFN providers in the GES, Montbello and the Cole Neighborhood.

Finally, OCA will support Mercy Housing by contributing funding toward building out the Rose on Colfax affordable housing development, which includes an early childhood center. Plans are for the center to be majority Head Start funded, with the remainder of slots remaining affordable at an average of 80% area median income.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

 Outputs

- Number of FFN providers trained
- Neighborhoods served
- Number of children cared for by each FFN provider
- Number of full scholarships provided
- Number of Child Development Associate certificates earned

Outcomes

- Increased access to trained FFN provider in target neighborhoods
- Increased access to scholarships funded for Child Development Associate certificate attainment

KPIs

- 120 FFN providers trained - Goal
- Certificate completion rate
- Neighborhoods served
- Number of children cared for by each FFN provider
- Number of CDA scholarship awards issued
- Number of Child Development Associate certificates earned
## Performance

### Colorado Statewide Parent Coalition

- 253 FFN providers enrolled
- 79% PASO Program Completion Certificate issuance rate
- 40 Denver Neighborhoods served by FFNs
- 126 CDA Award issued
- Age Groups: 24 and under: 10%; 25-34: 23%; 35-44: 29%; 45-54: 26%; 55 and over: 12%
- Race/Ethnicity: 96% Hispanic; 4% Non-Hispanic

### La Piñata del Aprendizaje

- 80 FFN providers enrolled
- 100% LPDA Program Completion Certificate issuance rate
- 43 Denver Neighborhoods FFN providers served
- Age Groups: 24 and under: 9%; 25-34: 19%; 35-44: 39%; 45-54: 21%; 55 and over: 8%; Other 5%
- Race/Ethnicity: 95% Hispanic; 5% Non-Hispanic

---

**Figure:** Childcare & Family, Friend & Neighbor Care page from the ARPA performance dashboard
Code Violation Remediation

Grant ID: GR00002238 | Funds: $1,000,000
Expenditure Category: 2.37 | Other Economic Impact

Project Overview

The Department of Human Rights and Community will mitigate displacement of Denver small business owners and homeowners in target neighborhoods by funding property improvements required by mandated code and by avoiding liens being placed on properties. Key program activities include:

- **Inventory and Assessment:** the Office of Financial Empowerment and Protection (OFEP) will do an inventory of code violation fees and fines to identify the most common violations and how the related fees/fines are assessed, billed, and remediated. The program team will break down data by target neighborhood and vulnerable populations and use the information to determine how to focus remediation activities.

- **Remediation:** OFEP will contract with nonprofit organizations to provide grant funding, up to $50,000 per small business or $10,000 per individual, for remediation activities such as training and technical assistance related to the code violation or securing equipment/building infrastructure to prevent code violations in the future. OFEP will work closely with the nonprofit to establish policies and procedures for granting funds equitably and ensuring that grantees demonstrate a negative economic impact from COVID-19.

This program will serve small businesses and individuals located in ten neighborhoods experiencing rapid socio-economic change and a high risk of involuntary displacement. These neighborhoods have been identified by Denver Economic Development & Opportunity’s division of Neighborhood Equity & Stabilization. Individuals and small businesses in these neighborhoods have also been disproportionately affected by COVID-19, experiencing loss of employment income or increased expenses (individuals), staffing shortages, and increased operating costs (businesses).

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

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<td>Number of homeowners served</td>
<td>Reduction in property liens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of NEST neighborhoods served</td>
<td>Increased awareness of code violations and how they can be prevented</td>
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Performance

- In development
### Commercial Affordability Program

**Grant ID: GR00002655 | Funds: $0,000,000*  
*Project was cancelled, and funds were reallocated as Denver’s needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted.**

**Expenditure Category:** 2.37 | Other Economic Impact

#### Project Overview

With the economic pressures of COVID-19, it is more important than ever to provide support to small businesses that are foundational to the cultural and economic fabric of the Denver community. The proposed Commercial Affordability program will explore and pilot solutions to address rising leases, one option included in this pilot is partnering with one or more community partners to establish a commercial land trust that will provide discounted commercial or retail space to businesses. The program will prioritize small, local, historically, or traditionally marginalized, and minority-owned businesses.

#### Use of Evidence

N/A

#### Performance Report

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### Community Safety Grants + Continuation

**Grant ID: GR00002245 & GR00002693 | Funds: $1,750,000*  
*Funds reduced and reallocated as Denver’s needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted.**

**Expenditure Category:** 2.22 | Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

#### Project Overview

The Department of Safety will implement a micro-grant program to work in tandem with Denver Police Department’s existing Place Network Investigations Board to identify security and safety enhancements in identified hotspots and persistently violent locations. The Board is a conglomeration of investigators, various City Agencies, and Council representatives who will identify locations and understand the structural reasons behind the activity in those areas. These grants will provide resources supporting non-enforcement crime prevention activities and solutions and will engage both City and community partners to accomplish its mission.

#### Use of Evidence

N/A

#### Performance Report

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<td>• Reduction in violent crimes in hotspots and violent locations accessed</td>
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Denver Native Healing

Grant ID: GR00002714  |  Funds: $100,500
Expenditure Category: 2.37  |  Other Economic Impact

Project Overview

As the Denver American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) community have been hit hard physically, emotionally, spiritually, and financially by the COVID-19 pandemic, it is crucial to put intentional efforts and resources into collective healing work. JSI Research and Training Institute (JSI RXT) wishes to expand upon the Denver Native American Community COVID-19 Year 1 and Year 2 Projects, by developing and implementing a mini-grant program for local Native-serving organizations that best know the needs in the community. Denver Native community organizations will be able to request funding for projects that will engage those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, community members, and organizations in healing together.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs

- Conduct a COVID-19 Denver AIAN Community Needs Assessment and an Organizational Impact Assessment amongst organizations that service the Denver Native community (such as the Denver Indian Health and Family Services, Denver Indian Center, and the Denver Indian Family Resource Center).
- Develop a community advisory board that will guide the project, and serve as its convener, facilitator, and strategic plan advisor.
- Serve as a grant manager to fund projects that align with the goal of supporting healing among local AIAN community members who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Outcomes

- Understand the needs of the Denver Native community regarding the lasting effects of COVID-19.
- Center the voices of Denver Native community members and leaders, and create a network between partners.
- Distribute funds to support projects that will sustain the recovery and healing of the Denver Native community.

KPIs

- Successful assessment completion.
- Creation of advisory board Native community members and leaders, and create a network between Partners.
- Number of awards issued

Performance

- Assessment completed with 100% response rate
- Advisory board/network created
- 5 mini-grants awarded to the following organizations:
  - Colorado Native Cultural Enrichment Program, in partnership with RedLine Contemporary Art Center
  - Native American Counseling and Healing Collective
  - Creative Nations Native American Heritage Month Arts Market, in partnership with Dairy Arts Center
  - Spirit of the Sun - Elders' Food Share Program
  - All My Relations Celebration, in partnership with Levitt Pavilion Denver

Figure: Denver Native Healing page from the ARPA performance dashboard
Digital Navigators + Continuation

Grant ID: GR00002244 & GR00002716  |  Funds: $600,991
Expenditure Category: 2.4  |  Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs

Project Overview
Denver Public Library will provide individualized or small group assistance to community members in underserved neighborhoods who need affordable home internet service, affordable internet-capable devices, and/or coaching in introductory digital skills to become effective technology users. This assistance is provided primarily in person as safety allows, but may also include phone, email, text, video chat, paper mail, and other communication methods that work for the learner.

Use of Evidence
N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number of individuals served
- Number of tech help sessions provided
- Number of neighborhoods served
- Number of Affordable Connectivity Program registrations completed

Outcomes
- Increased digital literacy
- Increased access to personalized tech help sessions
- Increased neighborhood presence
- Increased registrations for Affordable Connectivity Program

KPIs
- Onboard 4 digital navigators to implement program services
- Serve at least 300 individuals throughout the Denver Area.

Performance
- 1,688 Individuals served across 78 neighborhoods
- 4,847 Sessions held across 54 neighborhoods
- 509 Affordable Connectivity Program Registrations
- Successfully onboarded 4 digital navigators to deliver program services

Individual served demographics:
- Race/Ethnicity: 30% Hispanic or Latino; 25% White; 20% Black or African American; 12% Other; 6% Asian; 4% Two or more races; 3% Declined to respond
- Native Language: 75% English; 19% Spanish; 4% Vietnamese; 2% Other

Figure: Denver Public Library Digital Navigators page from the ARPA performance dashboard
Downtown Adaptive Reuse Study

Grant ID: GR00002661 | Funds: $75,000
Expenditure Category: 2.18 | Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance

Project Overview

This study will hire a consultant to investigate the feasibility of adaptively reusing 10-15 high-rise office buildings in downtown Denver. The scope of work includes an investigation of under performing office buildings to determine their adaptive reuse potential. Results will help guide conversations between City staff and the consultant with associated property owners and developers to pursue successful office-to-residential conversions and provide more space for more people to make downtown their home. This proactive approach and assistance will help advance several city initiatives, including equity, the creation of a complete neighborhood, Expanding Housing Affordability (EHA) policy, climate action goals, and the Adaptive Reuse Program. It will allow us to also identify new tools, incentives, and other resources to support this type of adaptive reuse and bring more vibrancy and diversity to Denver’s downtown. Consultant proposals are under review and a contract is anticipated to be finalized by February 2023.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs

- Successful completion of adaptive reuse study

Outcomes

- Help advance city initiatives
- Increase support for adaptive reuse initiatives

KPIs

- Complete adaptive reuse study in 2023
- Identify 10-15 potential high-rise office buildings for conversion

Performance

- Study was publicly released in August 2023
- 29 properties scored
- 22 downtown buildings identified as "Good candidates for conversion based on walkability, proximity to transit, natural light, the shape of the building, existing window to wall ratio and ease of window replacement."
- 16 buildings were identified as "Top Candidates" and were selected for individual compatibility assessment
  - Total area assessed: 4.8 million sqft.
  - Area of office to residential conversion: 4.3 million sqft. with 5,124 potential residential units

Figure: Community Planning and Development’s Adaptive Reuse page from the ARPA performance dashboard
Financial Equity Study-BIPOC Neighborhoods

Grant ID: GR00002240 | Funds: $35,000
Expenditure Category: 2.37 | Other Economic Support

Project Overview

The Department of Human Rights and Community (HRCP) will work with a nonprofit evaluation contractor to study the financial equity impacts of COVID-19 on Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) in Denver. The study will focus on BIPOC residents across the city who are experiencing financial instability, are low-income or moderate-income, and are at risk of being displaced.

The desired impact of the study is to inform HRCP and other City of Denver departments on the best ways to promote equitable pandemic recovery, create livable and thriving wage structures, mitigate involuntary displacement of BIPOC residents, and deliver sustainable and high-quality programs/services for low to moderate income BIPOC residents who have been affected by COVID-19. The study will include recommendations for specific actions (and associated costs and timelines) that HRCP and other departments can take to make a long-term, sustainable impact on Denver’s BIPOC residents.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs

- Number of financial equity impacts identified
- Number of recommendations made
- Total associated costs
- Number of recommendations implemented

Outcomes

- Increased awareness of financial equity impacts
- Increased options to promote equitable pandemic recovery.
  Reduce involuntary displacement of BIPOC residents.
- Increased access to programs and services

KPIs

- Assessment completion

Performance

- Assessment completed by Corona Insights
Food Resiliency Grants + Continuation

Grant ID: GR00002234 & GR00002697 | Funds: $3,049,886.03 *Funds reduced and reallocated as Denver’s needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted.
Expenditure Category: 2.1 | Household Assistance: Food Programs

Project Overview
Denver Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE) will issue grants to qualifying organizations which focus on improving infrastructure, operations, and food systems to address the long-term impacts of COVID-19 on the community’s food network. By focusing not just on emergency food, but by improving the infrastructure, transportation, storage, and communications for our food organizations, we will have a more resilient food system in Denver that is better prepared to respond to emergencies like COVID-19.

Use of Evidence
N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number resiliency infrastructure projects
- Number of jobs retained or created
- Number of services provided by type and provider by targeted community

Outcomes
- Improved capacity of organizational services/resources
- Improved staffing levels
- Expanded reach to Denver communities

KPIs
- Total amount of funding allocated to resiliency projects

Performance
- 10 community organizations awarded funding
  Food Distribution Impact:
  - Focus Points Family Resource Center: 2,499 individuals visited Huerta Urbana
  - Fresh Food Connect: 2,545 Denverites reached through partner produce distribution
  - Volunteers of America: Expanded infrastructure to serve and additional 726 Denver Clients
  - Denver Inner City Parish: 5,443 meals/grocery boxes provided in low food access neighborhoods/populations
  - Lifespan Local: 1,600 families provided with grocery boxes
  - Trailhead Bondadosa: 11,741 food boxes distributed

Infrastructure Impact:
- Denver Botanic Gardens:
  - Purchased and Installed 10ft x 14ft walk-in cooler to support safe food storage of produce
  - Storage shed for packing/processing supplies built and installed
- Denver Inner City Parish
  - Food security fleet strengthening completed with the acquisition of Box truck, pick-up truck, and cargo van
- The Urban Farm:
  - Prairie dog fencing installation completed
  - Poultry and small animal livestock expansion completed
Interpreter Workforce Training

Grant ID: GR00002686 | Funds: $1,000,000
Expenditure Category: 2.10 | Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers

Project Overview

The Denver Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Office will plan and execute an interpreter workforce training course for immigrant and refugee residents that are bilingual in English and another language using a qualified interpretation training vendor. This course will offer workforce training on how to become a professional interpreter for in-person and online meetings as well as over-the-phone services. An interpreter is someone who orally translates conversations in different languages without changing the original message or meaning.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs

• ~240 households over a 3-year period will be served by this program
• Program will graduate 80 students per year
• Participants will learn about city services
• Graduates become small business owners

Outcomes

• Each year there will be additional ~80 immigrant and refugee residents trained as professional interpreters.
• Each year there will be an additional ~80 small business certification applications processed and approved by the Division of Small Business Opportunity, expanding the pool of interpreter language service vendors for the City.
• Each year there will be an additional ~80 trained professional interpreters in languages that correspond to the language needs of communities and the languages most encountered by City agencies
• Economic mobility for the ~200 professional interpreters and their families

KPIs

• 200 graduates

Performance

• 513 applicants
• 3 cohorts
• 51 participants
• 49 graduates
• 96% graduation rate
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Citywide Needs Assessment

Grant ID: GR00002233 | Funds: $249,980*
* Funds reduced and reallocated as Denver’s needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted.
Expenditure Category: 1.13 | Substance Use Services

Project Overview

Denver Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE) has contracted with a third party to conduct a comprehensive behavioral health needs assessment for Denver. The assessment will include information from individuals with behavioral health needs, individuals who help navigate others into the appropriate level of services, and providers of services. The assessment will identify gaps across the service continuum. The goals are to understand the current behavioral health landscape and determine the unmet needs and barriers to accessing services, which will inform the initiatives to address those gaps.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outcomes
- Increased access to behavioral mental health services
- Increased network of service providers
- Reduction of unmet need barriers of service

KPIs
- Assessment completion
- Number of surveys distributed and response rate
- Number of focus groups and focus group participants
- Number of interviews
- Number of secondary sources referenced
- Prevalence & scope of behavioral health conditions

Performance
- Behavioral health needs assessment submitted January 2023
- 601 surveys completed:
  - Respondent ages ranged from 15 to 65 and over
  - Median Age: 35 yrs. old
  - Gender Identity: 52% Female, 41% Male, 7% Non-Binary
  - Median household income: $51,500
  - Avg number of mental health services sought: 2.5
  - Avg number of substance use services sought: 2.3
  - 46% spent more than 2 weeks actively looking for service
  - 59% found service, 17% scheduled an initial appointment, 17% still looking, 7% stopped looking
- 10 Focus groups, 95 participants:
  Top 3 Factors impacting ability to access behavioral health services:
  - 20% distance to provider locations/transportation issues
  - 16% cost/insurance
  - 15% inaccessible hours
- 21 Provider interviews, 34 participants:
  Greatest impact on organization’s ability to provide services to their intended communities:
  - 45% insufficient staff
  - 27% lack of resources
  - 23% incongruences between providers and service population
  - 5% Education and training
- 10 Primary findings presented and 7 recommendations made
## Mental Health Support for Youth

**Grant ID:** GR00002689  |  **Funds:** $1,600,000  
**Expenditure Category:** 1.12  |  **Mental Health Services**

### Project Overview

The Office of Children’s Affairs (OCA) will partner with community-based organizations to provide health and mental health supports to expectant mothers, youth and families. Services de la Raza promotes connection, mental wellness, leadership, and identity development through outreach and workshops for youth ages 11-25 in designated high schools. Fully Liberated Youth (FLY) provides school and community-based therapeutic services for fully liberated youth ages 11-25. FLY is expanding the services available to include re-entry/transition support for youth committed to the Department of Youth Services. Mama Bird and Roots Family Center will support the training and certification of doulas and lactation specialists for targeted populations. OCA will track participation in each of these activities along with outcome and satisfaction measures.

### Use of Evidence

N/A

### Performance Report

#### Outputs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth &amp; Family Supports:</th>
<th>Maternal &amp; Child Health:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Waitlists</td>
<td>Roadmap to Certification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of youth/families served</td>
<td>Doulas &amp; Lactation specialists trained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of community outreach/partnership</td>
<td>Number of providers certified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of activities workshops and trainings.</td>
<td>Providers mirror the community they serve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of classes offered</td>
<td>Number of moms served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formation of Youth/Peer Leaders</td>
<td>Number of birthing plans created</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of staff hired</td>
<td>Number of staff hired</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth &amp; Family Supports:</th>
<th>Maternal &amp; Child Health:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Develop protective factors in youth</td>
<td>Moms have an increased connection to the birthing process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth and their families have access to needed mental health services</td>
<td>Moms are creating and implementing birthing plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culturally responsive and linguistically specific services provided to target population</td>
<td>Increased number of trained and certified doulas in target communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Providers are familiar with and connected to the culture of the population they serve</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### KPIs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth &amp; Family Supports:</th>
<th>Maternal &amp; Child Health:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of positions created &amp; filled</td>
<td>Number of positions created &amp; filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number on waitlists</td>
<td>Number of completed certifications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of youth &amp; families served</td>
<td>Number of completed trainings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outcomes Survey results</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mental Health Support for Youth

Grant ID: GR00002689  |  Funds: $1,600,000
Expenditure Category: 1.12  |  Mental Health Services

Performance Report continued

Performance

Youth & Family Supports:
  Fully Liberated Youth
  • 1,037 youth received evidence-based mental health services
  • 1,613 hours of service provided to youth
  • Youth demographics:
  • Gender: 66% male; 34% female
  • Race/Ethnicity: 51% Hispanic; 38% Black/African American; 7% Other; 3% White (Non-Hispanic)

Servicios de La Raza
  • Total outreach contacts (787 youth; 837 adults)
  • Weekly in school mental health classes
    • In school mental health classes
    • 234 North East Early College
    • 90 Denver Center for 21st Century Learning
  • Individuals served by programing
    • Cara y Corazon: 34
    • Familia Adelante: 33
    • Girasol: 18
    • El Joven Noble: 69
  • Community psychoeducation: 5 workshops; 72 individuals in attendance

Maternal & Child Health:
  Mama Bird Doula Services
  Doula and Lactation Training
  • 10 trainees enrolled in doula training
  • 6 completed doula training as well as lactation classes
  Doula and Lactation Instructor Training
  • 2 trainees enrolled and completed training
  • 1,377 hours of service provided to youth

Roots Family Center
  Doula Training
  • 14 trainees enrolled in doula training
  • 13 completed doula training
  Doula Trainee Services Performed
  • 14 families served
  • 14 hours of doula intake
  • 42 hours of prenatal appointments
  • 168.5 hours of birth labor and delivery support
Mobile Medical, Behavioral and Mental Health Services

Grant ID: GR00002232 | Funds: $432,647*
* Funds reduced and reallocated as Denver’s needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted.

Expenditure Category: 1.7 | Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses

Project Overview

Denver Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE) will offer supportive services, behavioral health assistance, and resources to those in need, where they are and increases equitable access to services for historically under-resourced communities. In 2021, one Wellness Winnie unit reached over 3,500 Denver residents. A second mobile medical vehicle (Wellness Winnie 2) could double the program’s capacity, add medical services and substance use treatment, and safeguard private protected health information by having fully enclosed exam/interview rooms.

The Wellness Winnie mobile program is designed to reach geographic areas of the city with the least amount of treatment services as well as areas that have historically been under-resourced. These are also areas of Denver where COVID-19 mortality rates were higher and vaccination rates are lower. Additionally, we know the need for mental and behavioral health services has exploded, city-wide, since the beginning of the pandemic. Furthermore, a recent census of Wellness Winnie clients showed 40% of people receiving services reported an unstable housing status, a number driven higher by the pandemic. An additional Wellness Winnie unit will allow DDPHE to offer supportive services in more communities that don’t have equitable access to resources.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>KPIs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of support services provided</td>
<td>Increased access for support services</td>
<td>Procurement of mobile medical vehicle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of behavioral health and medical services provided</td>
<td>Increased access to behavioral health and medical services</td>
<td>Serve 3,500+ Denver residents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of neighborhoods served by Wellness Winnie mobile program</td>
<td>Increased presence in target neighborhoods and at-risk populations</td>
<td>Performance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Class C mobile medical vehicle with on board generator procured
- Customization of vehicle currently in process. When completed, the mobile medical vehicle will include a reception/intake area, 2 exam rooms, and a lab
Neighborhood Activation Grants + Continuation

Grant ID: GR00002237 & GR00002685  |  Funds: $3,150,000
Expenditure Category: 2.37  |  Other Economic Impact

Project Overview

Denver Economic Development & Opportunity (DEDO) will support the meaningful and necessary work of nonprofit organizations, community groups, and/or micro businesses in some of Denver’s most vulnerable neighborhoods through events, meetings, forums, etc. to engage and drive potential clients to neighborhood organizations and/or services. The funding from these grants seeks to reengage Denver’s neighborhoods and business corridors to encourage people to eat/shop locally to boost small business revenue and increase foot traffic to our small business, retail, restaurant, and hospitality sectors. These grants will be prioritizing activity in Denver’s historically under-resourced, and marginalized NEST neighborhoods.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs

- Number of businesses served by industry, location, and demographics
- Number of grants issued
- Number of neighborhoods served

Outcomes

- Increased access to local seasonal events
- Increased tourism
- Increased customer traffic
- Increased business support

KPIs

- Number of businesses served by entity type
- Number of grants issued
- Number of neighborhoods served

Performance

- 32 projects awarded across 20 non-profits, 7 businesses, and 5 community based organizations
- 72% of the projects were event focused and 28% were for physical improvements
- Median grant award amount: $80,473
- 15 neighborhoods served

Neighborhood Activation Grants

Denver Economic Development & Opportunity (DEDO) will support the meaningful and necessary work of nonprofit organizations, community groups, and/or micro businesses in some of Denver’s most vulnerable neighborhoods through events, meetings, forums, etc. to engage and drive potential clients to neighborhood organizations and/or services. Funding from these grants seek to reengage Denver’s neighborhoods and business corridors to encourage people to eat/shop locally to boost small business revenue and increase foot traffic to our small business, retail, restaurant, and hospitality sectors. These grants will be prioritizing activity in Denver’s historically under-resourced, and marginalized NEST neighborhoods.
Neighborhood Cultural Activation

Grant ID: GR00002236 | Funds: $50,000
Expenditure Category: 2.35 | Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Project Overview

Honor the history of Jazz in Denver. This program aids in payments for performers and festival production.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

KPIs
- Attract 80,000 or more attendees
- Host 40 or more live performers/bands
- Register at least 140 pop-up retailers

Performance
- Attracted an estimated 90K audience in attendance
- Hosted 51 bands/performers
- Registered 154 pop-up retailers

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number event attendees
- Number of performers

Outcomes
- Increased attendees
- Increased number of live performers

Event Highlights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Audience (estimated)</th>
<th>Bands</th>
<th>Payments to Bands</th>
<th>Pop-up Retailers</th>
<th>Contractors/Sub Contractors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90K</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>$38,450</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure: Neighborhood Activation page from the ARPA performance dashboard
Out of School Time Programs + Continuation

Grant ID: GR00002241 & GR00002691 | Funds: $3,300,000
Expenditure Category: 2.25 | Addressing Educational Disparities: Academic, Social, and Emotional Services

Project Overview

The Office of Children’s Affairs (OCA) will implement a competitive grant process to support 8-10 youth-service organizations that offer free, daily summer programming to approximately 1,000 youth. These programs improve youths’ academic achievement, social-emotional development, health, and well-being, and they are an essential support for working families.

To help prevent youth violence, funds will also be used in partnership with Denver Parks and Recreation to provide teen programming at five recreation centers on Friday nights, serving approximately 250 teens each time. We will track the number of unduplicated participants as well as attendance and dosage.

Because of the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, many Denver teens are struggling with increased mental health and substance use issues. OCA plans to expand the Healthy Lifestyles teen marijuana education and awareness curriculum to include a focus on opioid/vaping. This curriculum will be delivered to at least 500 teens in 2024 and beyond.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs

- Number of organizations supported
- Number of staff supported
- Number of youth participants
- How many days youth attend
- Number of vaping/opioid curriculum completions
- Number of marketing campaigns developed
- Number of marketing materials distributed
- Number of Youth Program Location visits

Outcomes

- Increased access to out-of-school time services
- Increased youth participation

- Increased awareness of vaping and opioid dangers via curriculum and campaign development

KPIs

- 12 organizations funded
- 1,000 youth funded each summer

Performance

- 12 organizations funded
- 5,992 youth served

Participant demographics:

- Gender: 51% Female; 49% Male
- Race/Ethnicity: 46% Hispanic; 30% Black or African American; 8% White; 8% Other; 7% Two or more races

Figure: Out of School Time Programs page from the ARPA performance dashboard
Nonprofit Recovery Grant Program

Grant ID: GR00002687 | Funds: $1,000,000
Expenditure Category: 2.34 | Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview
This is a program to provide direct assistance to small nonprofits (nonprofits with budgets under $1m & led by or serving BIPOC communities.) The program would involve the distribution of $1 million in grants that can be as large as $50k or as small as $10k but the average grant would be $25k. The Collaborative Impact of Denver (CIFD) will be contracted to work in partnership with selected recipients and distribute and oversee the maintenance of the grants. CIFD will apply an indirect cost rate of 15% to cover program evaluation and administrative costs. These grants will be unrestricted but should be used for critical expenses for recovery and capacity building for sustainability.

Use of Evidence
N/A

Performance Report

 Outputs
- Number of nonprofits served
- Average grant amount

 Outcomes
- Increased access to funding assistance for local nonprofits
- Continuation of community services

KPIs
- Serve between 20 and 40 nonprofits
- 80% NEST representation

 Performance
- 30 nonprofits served
  - 10 received $20,000
  - 8 received $25,000
  - 12 received $50,000
- 90% serve at least one NEST neighborhoods
- Populations served
  - 47% BIPOC
  - 33% low income
  - 27% youth
  - 17% immigrants/refugees
  - 3% individuals with disabilities

The Department of Human Rights and Community Partnership’s Nonprofit Recovery Grants project provides direct assistance to small nonprofits via grants that can be as large as $50,000. The Collaborative Impact of Denver (CIFD) will be contracted to work in partnership with selected recipients, distribute and oversee maintenance of the grants. CIFD will apply and indirect cost rate of 15% to cover program evaluation and administrative costs. These grants are unrestricted but should be intended to for critical expenses for recovery and capacity building for sustainability.

Figure: Nonprofit Recovery Grant Program page from the ARPA performance dashboard
Program Evaluation

Grant ID: GR00002717 | Funds: $1,500,000
Expenditure Category: 7.1 | Administrative Expenses

Project Overview

The City recently released an RFP seeking third-party evaluator(s) to assess the impact of select programs funded through the American Rescue Act Plan’s State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF). The evaluations will determine whether the programs are supported by strong, moderate, or weak evidence with respect to their impact on intended outcomes. In addition to providing the City and the U.S. Treasury Department with information about the effectiveness of the programs, this work may inform whether future funding allocations are made within these vital areas.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>KPIs</th>
<th>Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• TBD</td>
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</table>
Promotora Pilot

Grant ID: GR00002715  |  Funds: $400,000
Expenditure Category: 2.19  |  Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators

Project Overview

This program will partner with local Denver-based community organizations to pilot a Promotora/es-led program to increase Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) outreach and enrollment.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs

• Training sessions for Promotoras on SNAP eligibility and applications process
• Materials developed for outreach efforts, such as flyers or brochures
• Number of Promotoras recruited and trained for the project

Outcomes

• Increased number of SNAP applications submitted in target neighborhoods
• Increased number of SNAP enrollees in targeted neighborhoods
• Improved food security for SNAP enrollees in target neighborhoods

KPIs

• Number of SNAP applications submitted as a result of Promotora outreach
• Percentage of SNAP-eligible individuals in target neighborhoods who are enrolled in the program
• Percentage reduction in food insecurity among SNAP enrollees in target neighborhoods

Performance

• 1,786 Individuals served

Navigator Services Focus

• 63% rental assistance
• 18% community resources
• 10% utility assistance
• 3% SNAP assistance
• 4% Basic needs assistance

Applications Completed

• SNAP Applications Completed: 30
• 23 Health First Colorado (Medicaid)
Recovery Disability Services

Grant ID: GR000002713 | Funds: $375,000
Expenditure Category: 2.37 | Other Economic Impact

Project Overview

COVID-19 led to people with disabilities being denied adequate physical and mental health care, not receiving transition or direct care services to move out or remain out of institutions, being denied necessary in-person special education services and supports, and not being able to obtain or maintain stable employment. To help address these issues, Disability Rights will provide grants to eligible Denver disability-oriented nonprofit organizations which have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The goal of this funding is to assist nonprofits that serve the disability community through funding allowing advocacy, direct service provision, and assistive technology and training to close service gaps.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs

• Number of non-profit organizations supported
• Neighborhoods served

Outcomes

• Increased access to funding assistance for local non-profits
• Increased/continuation of services for individuals with intellectual and physical disabilities
• Increased outreach

Awardees:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awardee</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Intended Use</th>
<th>Population Served</th>
<th>Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Atlantis Community, Inc | • $38,010 | • Intended Use: Internships
• Population Served: People with disabilities; youth
• Impact: 7 youth participated in the paid intern/employment program
• Staff funding | |
| Denver Fencing Foundation | • $40,925 | • Intended Use: Programing
• Population Served: People with disabilities; youth
• Impact: Offer once a month programing with Revel
• Created 2 weekly programs | |
| Feel the Beat | • $50,000 | • Intended Use: Programing
• Population Served: Individuals who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHONH); People living with other disabilities
• Impact: Hiring of a part-time outreach and marketing director
• April 2023: Dance Program survey showed 86% of students demonstrated growth in motor and coordination skills; 70% displayed and acknowledged more self confidence | |
| INI Pathways to Inclusive Higher Education | • $50,000 | • Intended Use: Outreach
• Population Served: youth with intellectual/developmental disabilities
• Impact: New programing at Metro State University
• Reduced equity gap in terms of language and financial access
• Reached 549 students, families, educators, disability professionals and higher education professionals | |
| Jewish Family Service of Colorado, Inc | • $50,000 | • Intended Use: Programing
• Population Served: People with Disabilities
• Impact: Launched a benefits counseling program | |
| Move Through Yoga | • $24,045 | • Intended Use: Programing
• Population Served: People with disabilities
• Impact: Delivery of Train-the-Trainer program and technical learning platform | |
| Roots Colorado dba DIRT | • $50,000 | • Intended Use: Programing
• Population Served: People with disabilities
• Impact: 79% event increase from 2022
• Denver neighborhood events: South Park Hill (13), Skyland (3), Central Park (2), Capital Hill (1), Lowry Field (1) | |
| Statewide Independent Living Council | • $20,000 | • Intended Use: Host The Colorado Youth Leadership Forum, 5-day event (July 22nd-26th, 2024)
• Population Served: High school juniors, seniors, and young adults under 26 with disabilities as they prepare for and experience transitions to adulthood | |
| TACT Kids, Inc | • $50,000 | • Intended Use: Programing
• Population Served: People with disabilities; youth
• Impact: Provide mobilized programing to individuals who might not have had the ability to access TACT services on their own
• 28 individuals served | |
Recreation Center Security Cameras

Grant ID: GR00002698 | Funds: $1,400,000
Expenditure Category: 2.22 | Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

Project Overview
It is our objective to complete camera installations at all currently unprotected recreation centers, outdoor pools, and recreation administration buildings as quickly as possible, and we are aiming to have all new installations complete by the end of 2024. There are an additional four locations that require camera system upgrades, and our goal is to have these completed no later than the end of 2025. We are also looking to purchase trailer-mounted camera units that can be deployed temporarily at locations experiencing a spike in activity (hot spots).

By the completion of this project, all Denver Recreation Centers and standalone outdoor pools will be equipped with high-level video surveillance. The video surveillance footage at these locations will be accessible through any workstation with the Milestone software. Footage will be retained for at least 30 days and will be a valuable tool when investigating instances that occur at our facilities.

Use of Evidence
N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
• Number of locations outfitted with video surveillance
• Number of cameras installed

Outcomes
• Real-time video surveillance
• Increased safety and security
• Reduction in on-premise crime
• Actual video evidence to aid in investigations

KPIs
• 14 locations will be outfitted with high-level video surveillance

Performance
• 100% walk-throughs completions
• 79% (10) installations complete

Note: Two seasonal locations (pool offices) were removed from the project list due to excessive costs to pull fiber optics for video surveillance. Two additional locations were also excluded as they will be completed using a different funding source.
Youth Violence Prevention

Grant ID: GR00002690 | Funds: $1,708,300
Expenditure Category: 1.11 | Community Violence Interventions

Project Overview
The Office of Children’s Affairs (OCA) will partner with 8–10 community-based organizations to provide early intervention services for youth violence. Specifically, these organizations will provide programming to expectant mothers, youth, and their families.

Use of Evidence
N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Organizations funded
- Number of youth & families served

Outcomes
- Community based organizations receive support for service provision
- Families receive support around child growth and development

KPIs
- 8-10 organizations funded
- Number of youth & families served

Performance
- 14 organizations funded
- 655 youth served
- Breakdown by school grade
  - 23% Pre-K
  - 7% Kindergarten
  - 31% 1st to 5th grade
  - 19% 6th to 8th grade
  - 16% 9th to 12th grade
  - 3% post-secondary/other
- Gender: 53% female; 45% male
- Race/Ethnicity
  - 53% Hispanic
  - 19% White
  - 12% other
  - 9% Two or more races
  - 7% Black/African American
Youth Mental Health Summit

Grant ID: GR00002231 | Funds: $75,000
Expenditure Category: 1.12 | Mental Health Services

Project Overview

Denver Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE) will provide the opportunity for 400 youth to gain more knowledge about mental health topics and create a space for their voices to be heard through a 2022 “We Got This Youth Mental Health Summit.” Priorities for the summit include recognizing and addressing the stress of being a young person today. The past few years have been particularly challenging as the pandemic forced further isolation and disconnectedness for our youth, and DDPHE and its partners are committed to achieving positive change. Through the summit, we aim to:

- Educate youth on how to live a mentally healthy lifestyle and provide access to internal and external resources and information (including coping skills, therapy options, suicide prevention resources, and community help)
- Help youth build relationships with their peers to find common humanity in others and transform divisive attitudes by encouraging open, honest dialogue that allows youth to speak their truths
- Guide youth toward understanding and resources when a family member, friend, classmate or other person in their lives needs help, and foster a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by youth through the sharing of lived experiences
- Show youth how to recognize those signs of struggle within themselves and seek immediate help, while normalizing the need for care and self-care, which is not defined as bubble baths and massages, but real care that is meaningful and impactful

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs

- Number of youth that attend summit
- Number of parents/guardians that attend summit
- Outcomes
- Reduction in youth suicides
- Increased confidence in accessing services
- Increased motivation to seek help for self/others

KPIs

- Event hosted on schedule
- Up to 400 youth served

Performance

- 183 youth attended live event
- Gender: 54% Female; 16% Male; 21% No response provided; 9% Other
- Race: 36% No response provided; 20% White; 16% Hispanic; 18% Other; 10% Two or More Races;

Figure: Overview of the Youth Mental Health Summit page from the ARPA performance dashboard
Digital Equity Plan & Programs

Grant ID: GR00002243 | Funds: $681,857*
*Funds reduced and reallocated as Denver’s needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted.
Expenditure Category: 2.4 | Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs

Project Overview
A mixture of possible programs funded from this plan include stipends for wi-fi and technology access, increased bandwidth at public buildings and locations, free wi-fi activation zones and 5G investments.

Use of Evidence
N/A

Performance Report
Outcomes
- Increased presence in NEST neighborhoods
- Reduced barrier to reliable and affordable internet access
KPIs
- Distribution of devices

Performance
- 11,900 postcards distributed with information about digital equity
- $143,872 were spent to purchase 200 Chromebook and 200 hotspots to help increase Denver Public Library’s equipment circulation

My Spark Out of School Time

Grant ID: GR00002951 | Funds: $1,500,00
Expenditure Category: 2.25 | Addressing Educational Disparities: Academic, Social, and Emotional Services

Project Overview
My Spark is a program that provides stipends to parents to support access to fee-based enrichment programs outside of school, including dance classes, music lessons, sports leagues, and art programs.

Use of Evidence
N/A

Performance Report
Outcomes
- Increased number of approved My Spark providers serving middle school youth on the My Spark Youth Program Locator
KPIs
- 4,000 youth receiving free or reduced lunch, or from a school that is 70% free or reduced lunch or higher, will receive $1000 stipend to spend on enrichment activities from approved My Spark vendors

Performance
- 3,474 youth served (ages 11-14)
Demographics:
- Gender: 53% male; 47% female
- Race: 41% White; 24% Black/African American; 17% Other; 11% Prefer not to disclose; 7% Two or more races
- Hispanic: 61% Hispanic or Latino/a; 34% Non-Hispanic or Latino/a
**48th Ave Shelter Expansion/Improvements**

Grant ID: GR00002220  |  Funds: $4,460,000*
*Funds reduced and reallocated as Denver’s needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted.*
Expenditure Category: 2.16  |  Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons

**Project Overview**

The Department of Housing Stability will provide critical improvements to support around the clock shelter operations at the 48th Avenue campus that serve men, women, and transgender individuals experiencing homelessness. Compared to overnight-only models, which require guests to leave during the day and return at night, around-the-clock shelter allows guests greater stability of a safe place to be during their housing crisis and provides a better platform for case management and other services that help guests get back into housing. This investment will fund a new commercial kitchen, which will provide meals to more than 700 beds, support onsite integrated health services, and increase guests’ privacy through the build-out of individualized sleeping areas.

**Use of Evidence**

N/A

**Performance Report**

**Outputs**
- Number of households served
- Expanded hours of operation
- Commercial kitchen construction
- Individualized cube sleep areas construction

**Outcomes**
- Increased number of households served
- Increased hours of operation to increase service availability
- Commercial kitchen availability
- Cube sleep area availability

**KPIs**
- Full 24/7 operation
- Commercial kitchen constructed
- Individual cube sleep area constructed

**Performance**
- Achieved 24/7 operation goal since 6/24/2021
- Commercial kitchen currently under construction and scheduled for completion by end of 2024
- Individual cubes under construction
- Construction to begin Q3 of 2023

*Households served to be tracked upon construction completion
Affordable Housing Fund

Grant ID: GR00002216 | Funds: $25,721,100*
*Funds reduced and reallocated as Denver’s needs in recovering from pandemic shifted.
Expenditure Category: 2.15 | Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Project Overview

The Department of Housing Stability (HOST) will provide financing that assists in the development and preservation of affordable housing projects. HOST’s current priorities include rental projects that have deeply affordable units with supportive services or large units for families and homeowner projects. Planned projects that may be supported by this fund include 400 newly constructed rental units, 200 preserved rental units, 50 newly constructed homeowner units, and 1–2 projects to acquire existing unsubsidized affordable and hotel buildings.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs

- Number of affordable housing units developed
- Number of affordable housing units preserved

Outcomes

- Increased number of affordable housing units developed
- Increased number of affordable housing units preserved

KPIs

- 400 newly constructed rental units
- 200 preserved rental units
- 50 preserved owner units
- 200 hotel units for non-congregate shelter and/or rental housing

Performance

- 390 units developed
  - 137 non-congregate shelter units
  - 253 rental units
- 264 units preserved
  - 3 non-congregate units
  - 244 rental units
- 17 sale units
Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Grant ID: GR00002952  |  Funds: $5,544,345*
*Funds increased as Denver’s needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted.
Expenditure Category: 2.2  |  Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid

Project Overview

Funds will provide emergency rent assistance to eligible households in the City and County of Denver earning up to 80% of the area median income.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number of households served

Outcomes
- Increased number of households served
- Comprehensive list of non-congregate shelter addresses

KPIs
- 650 households served

Performance
- 701 households served
- 37% Black or African American; 31% White; 15% Prefer not to answer; 17% Other or multi-racial
- 57% Non-Hispanic or Latino; 29% Hispanic or Latino; 14% Prefer not to answer
- 63% Female; 33% Male; 4% Other
Encampment Resolution

Grant ID: GR00002667 | Funds: $23,250,000
Expenditure Category: 2.16 | Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons

Project Overview

Funds will support the acquisition and rehabilitation of hotel property(ies) to be used for encampment resolution, offering indoor living space and support services leading to long-term affordable housing—in anticipation of leveraging additional resources such as state or federal sources.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Identify hotels to be acquired
- Number of rooms available

Outcomes
- Increased number of rooms available for housing navigation and support services

KPIs
- Hotel acquisition

Performance
- Double Tree hotel scheduled to close in late summer 2024
- 300 rooms, 450 beds

EOC Homelessness + EOC Operating

Grant ID: GR00003067 & GR00003126 | Funds: $12,085,105.61
Expenditure Categories: 2.18 | Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance

Project Overview

These funds will be used to design, prepare and assemble several micro-community and/or hotel sites to serve as non-congregate sheltering for people experiencing homelessness.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number of micro-communities and/or hotel non-congregate shelter sites developed

Outcomes
- Increased number of micro-communities and/or hotel non-congregate shelter sites developed to provide shelter services

KPIs
- At least one micro-community and/or hotel non-congregate shelter developed

Performance
- See metrics for hotels and micro-communities
**House1000 Hotels**

**Grant ID:** GR00003152 | **Funds:** $4,703,889  
**Expenditure Category:** 2.18 | **Housing Support:** Other Housing Assistance

**Project Overview**

Funds will support the acquisition and rehabilitation of hotel properties to be used for encampment resolution, offering indoor living. Funds will be used to support the acquisition of hotel properties for use as affordable housing as well as gap financing for housing development beyond what is currently available and funded in HOST’s pipeline of existing resources. This will leverage additional funding to quickly create more housing with services for households experiencing homelessness.

**Use of Evidence**

N/A

**Performance Report**

**Outputs**

- Number of hotels acquired or leased
- Number of households served

**Outcomes**

- Increased number of hotels acquired or leased served as non-congregate shelters
- Increased capacity to serve households

- Two hotels acquired or leased
- 500 households served

**Performance**

- Embassy Suites and Raddison Hotel leased
- 975 households served consisting of 2,535 unique individuals

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**House1000 Micro-Communities Capital + Operating**

**Grant ID:** GR00003149 & GR00003151 | **Funds:** $5,496,111  
**Expenditure Category:** 2.18 | **Housing Support:** Other Housing Assistance

**Project Overview**

Funds will support the acquisition and rehabilitation of hotel properties to be used for encampment resolution, offering indoor living. Funds will be used to support the acquisition of hotel properties for use as affordable housing as well as gap financing for housing development beyond what is currently available and funded in HOST’s pipeline of existing resources. This will leverage additional funding to quickly create more housing with services for households experiencing homelessness.

**Use of Evidence**

N/A

**Performance Report**

**Outputs**

- Number of micro-communities created and maintained
- Number of households served

**Outcomes**

- Increased number of micro-communities available in Denver
- Increased number of households served through micro-communities

**KPIs**

- 316 micro-communities created and maintained
- 316 households served

**Performance**

- 706 households served
  - Bayaud Stay Inn: 380
  - CVC Santa Fee: 224
  - TGP Elati: 102
Housing Development Though Acquisition & Rehab

Grant ID: GR00002668 | Funds: $18,700,000 *Funds reduced and reallocated as Denver’s needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted.
Expenditure Category: 2.15 | Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Project Overview

Funds will support the acquisition and rehabilitation of hotel properties to be used for encampment resolution, offering indoor living Funds will be used to support the acquisition of hotel properties for use as affordable housing as well as gap financing for housing development beyond what is currently available and funded in HOST’s pipeline of existing resources. This will leverage additional funding to quickly create more housing with services for households experiencing homelessness.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
• Addresses of hotels acquired
• Number of units created

Outcomes
• Increased number of supportive housing units created

KPIs
• 200/220 supportive housing units

Performance
• Purchase of Best Western to be completed August 2023
• 193 non-congregate shelter units
Housing Justice Down Payment Assistance

Grant ID: GR00002666 | Funds: $6,000,000 *Funds reduced and reallocated as Denver’s needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted.
Expenditure Category: 2.2 | Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid

Project Overview

Funds will be used to expand the metroDPA Social Equity Homeownership Program, which assists households impacted by past redlining practices. Funds will also be used to conduct a disparity study to document racial disparities and discrimination in housing in Denver and propose solutions that advance equity.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number of households served

Outcomes
- Provide home loans and downpayment assistance to help people become homeowners in Denver and the front range

KPIs
- 200 households served annually

Performance
- 198 households served
  - 83% BIPOC identify
  - 83% First time homebuyer
  - 47% Female head of household
  - $68.8M Total loans created
  - Median home loan: $399K
  - Median interest rate: 6%
  - Loan Type: 53% Conventional; 47% Government
  - Property Address:
    - 95% Denver- Aurora- Lakewood
    - 5% Other (Boulder/Greeley)

![Chart: MetroDPA Social Equity Homeownership](chart)

*Figure: Overview of the Housing Justice Downpayment Assistance project (which expanded the MetroDPA Social Equity Homeownership Program) from the ARPA Performance Dashboard*
Housing Justice Pipeline Support

Grant ID: GR00002665  |  Funds: $10,000,000
Expenditure Category: 2.15  |  Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Project Overview
Funds will be used toward the development of new affordable for-sale housing to increase the supply of affordable homes available to potential buyers.

Use of Evidence
N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number of affordable homeowner units developed

Outcomes
- Increased affordable homeowner units developed

KPIs
- Minimum of 133 affordable owner units

Performance
- 150 units planned for development across 5 Denver locations

Housing Stability Programs

Grant ID: GR00002222  |  Funds: $1,500,000
Expenditure Category: 2.2  |  Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid

Project Overview
The Department of Housing Stability will provide eviction prevention and stability assistance to households vulnerable to displacement through non-profit partners. Services will include assistance such as legal representation in eviction proceedings, legal advice, educational materials, and Know-Your-Rights clinics regarding tenant/landlord laws, community navigation, and language support.

Use of Evidence
N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number of households receiving eviction prevention services
- Number of households receiving legal representation

Outcomes
- Increase in number of households receiving eviction prevention services
- Number of households receiving legal representation

KPIs
- Increase in number of households receiving eviction prevention services

Performance
3,757 households received eviction prevention services
- 38% received youth support services
- 62% received legal clinic services
2,610 households received legal representation
- 22% received full legal representation
- 78% received limited legal representation

Figure: Overview of the Housing Stability Programs page from the ARPA Performance dashboard
Rapid Rehousing & Landlord Incentives

Grant ID: GR00003150 & GR00003195 | Funds: $6,917,600
Expenditure Category: 2.18 | Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance

Project Overview
Funds will be used to create pathways to permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness, including those served in the hotels and micro-communities. This includes expansion of rapid rehousing support, which provides up to two years of rental assistance alongside case management to help households lease up in their own housing. It also includes support for supportive services that will be paired with permanent housing vouchers provided by the State of Colorado. Lastly, it includes partnerships to better access affordable units in the housing market, including trainings to non-profits on housing navigation, landlord recruitment, lease negotiations, tenant background check issues and other topics aimed at helping improve and cultivate long-term relationships with landlords.

Use of Evidence
N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number of landlord engagement trainings provided
- Number of participants at landlord engagement trainings
- Number of studio and/or 1 bedroom apartments at or below fair market rent added to Housing Connector program through landlord recruitment

Outcomes
- Increased landlord and participant engagement and education
- Increased availability and access to studio and/or 1 bedroom apartments at or below fair market rent

KPIs
- 12 landlord engagement trainings provided with 204 participants
- 610 studio and/or 1 bedroom apartments

Performance
- 54 households served
- Household demographics:
  - 82% single adults
  - 57% female; 39% male
Rehousing Collaboration Continuation

Grant ID: GR00002662 | Funds: $6,000,000
Expenditure Category: 2.17 | Housing Support: Housing Vouchers and Relocation Assistance for Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Project Overview

Funds will be used to continue providing time-limited financial assistance and supportive services to people experiencing homelessness until the household is able to maintain the rents on their new lease independently.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number of households served

Outcomes
- Increased number of households served

KPIs
- 150 households served annually

Performance
- 527 households served
- Household demographics:
  - Gender: 63% male; 35% female; 2% other
  - Type: 79% Single Adult; 11% HH with children; 10% other
  - Age tier: 18 to 24: 6%; 25 to 34: 19%; 35 to 44: 24%; 45 to 54: 19%; 55 to 64: 22%; 65+: 10%
  - Disability status (yes/no): 77% yes; 23%
  - Mental health status (yes/no): 58% yes; 42% no
  - Race/ethnicity: White: 41%; Black/African American 29%; Hispanic/Latino: 21%; Multiracial: 5%, Other: 4%
Rehousing Supports

Grant ID: GR00002221, GR00003190, & GR00003194 | Funds: $3,505,864
Expenditure Category: 2.15 | Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Project Overview
The Department of Housing Stability will target permanent housing services to an additional 225 shelter guests, by providing time-limited financial assistance and supportive services until the household is able to maintain the rents on their new lease independently.

Use of Evidence
The Denver Basic Income Project (DBIP) is a 12-month program providing unconditional cash transfers to unhoused people living in Denver. Studies of recent Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) pilots show positive outcomes. A randomized controlled trial in Canada tested the impact of a $7,500 CAD payment to individuals who had experienced homelessness and were living in transitional housing. The study reports that participants who received the cash benefit moved into stable housing faster than those in the comparison group, spent fewer days experiencing homelessness, and retained over $1,000 in savings during the 12 months (New Leaf, 2020). The study also reports that participants in the treatment group had a 39% reduction in spending on alcohol, cigarettes, and drugs (New Leaf, 2020).

Performance Report

Outputs
• Number of households served
• Number of households housed
• Number of households that maintain or increase income and benefit

Outcomes
• Increased number of households served
• Increased number of households housed
• Increased number of households that maintain or increase income and benefit

KPIs
• Served an additional 225 shelter guests
• Other KPIs to be determined

Performance
• 225 households served
*Data on households outcomes will be available after household cohorts complete program
Rent and Utility Assistance

Grant ID: GR00003192 | Funds: $8,600,000
Expenditure Category: 2.2 | Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid

Project Overview
The Department of Housing Stability will use funds to provide Temporary Rental and Utility Assistance (TRUA) to eligible households, with rent assistance provided for a period of up to 6 months in a 12-month period and utility assistance provided for a single occurrence per utility.

Use of Evidence
N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number of households served

Outcomes
- Increased number of households served

KPIs
- 1,328 households served

Performance
- 918 households served
- 62% female; 33 male; households served; 5% other
- 38% Black/African American; 30% White; 20% Other/Multiracial; 15% declined to answer
- 32% Hispanic/Latino; 60% Not Hispanic/Latino; 8% Other
- 67% 0-30% AMI; 21% 31-50% AMI; 10% 51-80% AMI; 2% Other

Safe Outdoor Parking + Continuation

Grant ID: GR00002218 & GR00002664 | Funds: $350,000 *Funds reduced and reallocated as Denver’s needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted.
Expenditure Category: 2.16 | Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons

Project Overview
The Department of Housing Stability will pilot a Safe Parking program to provide a consistent and service-enriched environment where connections can be made to exit homelessness. Similar to Safe Outdoor Spaces, Safe Parking Programs identify people not accessing facility-based entry points for care such as shelters.

Use of Evidence
N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number of households served
- List of non-congregate shelter addresses

Outcomes
- Increased number of households served
- Comprehensive list of non-congregate shelter addresses

KPIs
- Number of households served
- List of non-congregate shelter addresses

Performance
- 61 households served
- 2 locations in operating status
Safe Outdoor Space Expansion + Continuation

Grant ID: GR00002217 & GR00002663 | Funds: $11,200,000
Expenditure Category: 2.16 | Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons

Project Overview
The Department of Housing Stability will provide for a hygienic and organized structure to encampment alternatives for people who will not or cannot access facility-based programming. The investment will support ~400 households.

Use of Evidence
N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number of households served
- List of non-congregate shelter addresses

Outcomes
- Increased number of households served
- Comprehensive list of non-congregate shelters

KPIs
- 400 households served

Performance
- 3 Operating locations
- 553 households served
- 70% male; 28% female, 1% other
- 84% single adult; 16% multiple household types
- 18 to 24:4%; 25 to 34: 12%; 35 to 44: 27%; 45 to 54:27%; 55 to 64:24%; 65+: 5%
- Disability status (yes/no): 88% yes; 12% no
- Mental health status (yes/no): 70% yes; 30% no
- Race/ethnicity: White: 33%; Hispanic/Latino: 27%; American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous: 18%; Black/African American: 13%; Multiracial: 7%; Other: 2%

Tiny Home Capacity Building

Grant ID: GR00002219 | Funds: $750,000
Expenditure Category: 2.16 | Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons

Project Overview
The Department of Housing Stability will expand the city’s Tiny Home Villages to serve an additional 40 households; providing a wider path to stability through an alternative shelter reducing unsheltered homelessness.

Use of Evidence
N/A

Performance Report

Outputs
- Number of households served
- List of non-congregate shelter addresses

Outcomes
- Increased number of households served
- Comprehensive list of non-congregate shelter addresses

KPIs
- Serve 40 additional households
- Other KPIs to be determined

Performance
- 42 households served up to 12/31/2022
- 39 households served beyond 12/31/2022
**Project Overview**

The Shelter Resiliency Improvements project will strengthen Denver’s shelter system by improving facilities’ conditions and preparedness for emergencies. Denver’s network of congregate and non-congregate shelters includes more than 2,500 beds for persons experiencing homelessness. Through this project, Denver will identify and address needed capital improvements and invest in resources to help facilities stay open during weather-related and other emergencies.

**Use of Evidence**

N/A

**Performance Report**

**Outputs**

- Number of shelters assessed
- List of shelter names and addresses
- Number of assessments completed
- Number of assessment recommendations made

**Outcomes**

- Number of assessments completed
- Number of assessment recommendations made

**KPIs**

- Assessment completion
- Recommendation completion

**Performance**

- Assessments were completed for 6 shelters, resulting in a total of 690 recommendations
Life Safety Improvement Rec Centers

Grant ID: GR00002229 | Funds: $124,894.39 *Funds reduced and reallocated as Denver’s needs in recovering from the pandemic shifted.

Expenditure Category: 2.18 | Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance

Project Overview

The Department of Housing Stability will enable emergency sheltering at three recreation centers through life safety improvements. This project will further strengthen Denver’s ability to meet the needs of persons experiencing homelessness in the event of an emergency. While recreation centers often have suitable space that can be quickly mobilized to provide additional shelter options in the event of an emergency, Denver’s recreation centers require life safety improvements to do so. Improvements may include fire/carbon monoxide detection, sprinkler systems, resiliency items (e.g., generator quick connects), and other building systems. This funding will support the design and/or improvements at up to three recreation centers, each of which can shelter at least 50 guests per night.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

 Outputs

- Number recreation centers with life safety improvements made
- List of recreation center names and addresses with life safety improvements made
- Number of assessments completed
- Number of assessment recommendations made

 Outcomes

- Increased life safety improvements made to recreation centers
- Increased shelter capacity

 KPIs

- Ability to shelter at least 50 guest/night at each recreation center
- Other KPIs to be determined

 Performance

- Assessments completed for three recreation centers (Glenarm, La Alma, and St. Charles)
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