

Delaware County Recovery Plan

Delaware County Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Recovery Plan

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds 2022 Report



2.0

Table of Contents

1.0 General Overview

1.1	Executive Summary	3
1.2	Uses of Funds	5
1.3	Promoting Equitable Outcomes	10
1.4	Community Engagement	14
1.5	Labor Practices	16
1.6	Use of Evidence	17
1.7	Performance Report	18
Proje	ect Inventory	
2.1	Projects/Initiatives Approved and In-Progress	19

2.1	rejects/initiatives/approved and in regress	10
2.2	Projects/Initiatives Approved and Pending	28



1.1 Executive Summary

This Project Report serves the joint purposes of meeting the requirements for the Recovery Plan submittal for the Year 2022 and uses the US Treasury template for State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) and providing an update to the Delaware County community on how SLFRF are being used to continue supporting economic, health, and operational requirements. The report provides the information specified and formats recommended by the US Treasury publication <u>Compliance and Reporting</u> <u>Guidance, State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds</u>, Version 2.0.

Section 1.2 – Uses of Funds provides a general discussion of the current and potential allocations of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Delaware County has received its total of \$110,083,961 in funding as of the end of June. At that point, a total of \$40,500,991.76 of the initial tranche of \$55,041,981 (73.6%) has been allocated to qualifying projects and uses. The second tranche of \$55,041,980 was received in the month of June, and Council conducted a public meeting on June 20th to review current commitments and receive community input. The proposed uses of all funds received under ARPA is summarized below:

Description		Amount	Distribution
Replace Lost Public Sector Revenues		\$ 39,950,138	1% 5%
Administrative Costs	•	2,201,679	
Economic Impacts	•	37,846,720	24% 36%
Public Health	•	26,140,115	
Premium Pay to Workers	•	474,156	
Infrastructure	•	3,471,153	34%
TOTAL		\$ 110,083,961	

Section 1.3 – Promoting Equitable Outcome provides examples of income, differential outcomes in life expectancy, and vaccination status by ethnicity to identify how past practices have led to inequitable outcomes in the County. Delaware County has, as a primary objective for the use of ARPA funds for allowable expenses to address the conditions that have led to these outcomes, including a heavy investment in the Delaware County Health Department. The County's recent engagement of its first-ever Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer will also pay a significant role in ensuring ARPA funds are used to overcome historic inequities within the County.

Delaware County has and is continuing to conduct outreach to its communities, as presented in Section



1.4 – Community Engagement. County Council is continuing the engagement process with ongoing direct outreach to community groups, local units of government, non-profit entities, business organizations, and individuals to identify qualifying uses for the \$69,582,970 in remaining funds. The County has also been continually receiving input through its website at <u>delcopa.gov/ARPA</u>.

Delaware County's approach to labor is discussed in **Section 1.5 – Labor Practices**. The County's new initiatives and changes in its approaches to ensure workers on ARPA projects are paid prevailing wage and diversification of its contracting pool are provided.

Section 1.6 – Use of Evidence lays out how the County is migrating to use performance-based budgeting techniques throughout its operations.

The progress on active and proposed projects is presented in **Section 1.7 – Performance Report**. Complete project information is provided in **Section – Project Inventory 2**.



1.2 Uses of Funds

Delaware County is employing the \$110,083,961 it is receiving in American Rescue Plan Act funds in alignment with the goals of the community and in compliance with the guidance received from the US Treasury. The guidance provides for the following general categories: Public Health; Negative Economic Impacts; Premium Pay; Revenue Loss; and Investments in Water, Sewer and Broadband. The revised guidance issued in April 2022 provided further guidance on the use of ARPA funds for capital improvement projects. The County's ongoing and proposed uses for its ARPA funds are summarized below, and detailed in Section 1.7 – Performance Report.

Delaware County has received its total of \$110,083,961 in funding as of the end of June. At that point, a total of \$40,500,991.76 of the initial tranche of \$55,041,981 (73.6%) had been allocated to qualifying projects and uses. The second tranche of \$55,041,980 was received in the month of June, and Council conducted a public meeting on June 20th to review current commitments and receive community input. The proposed uses of all funds received under ARPA is summarized below:

Description		Amount	Distribution
Allocated but not Encumbered/Expended	•	\$ 29,412,765	
Encumbered/Expended	•	11,088,226	27%
Unallocated	•	69,582,970	62% 10%
TOTAL		\$110,083,961	63%

The distribution of allocations among the categories of allowable uses to date is shown below:

Description		Amount	Distribution
Replace Lost Public Sector Revenues		\$ 8,040,000	
Public Health	•	14,140,115	35%
Premium Pay for Workers	•	474,157	
Economic Impacts	•	17,846,720	1.15/
TOTAL		\$ 40,500,992	1% 44%



The potential uses for the balance of funds, which are subject to Council approval, are presented by category in the table below:

Description		Amount	Distribution
Replace Lost Public Sector Revenues		\$ 31,910,1	138
Administrative Costs	•	2,201,6	
Economic Impacts	•	6,300,0	
Public Health		12,000,0	000 7%
Infrastructure	•	5,000,0	17%
Other Qualifying Projects	•	12,171,1	
TOTAL		\$ 69,582,9	9% 3%

The table below depicts the consolidated program of all allocated and projected costs:

Description		Amount	Distribution
Replace Lost Public Sector Revenues		\$ 39,950,138	
Administrative Costs	•	2,201,679	5% 11%
Economic Impacts	•	24,146,720	<1%
Public Health	•	26,140,115	36%
Premium Pay to Workers	•	474,156	24%
Infrastructure	•	5,000,000	
Other Qualifying Projects		12,171,153	22% 2%
TOTAL		\$ 110,083,961	

Uses within each of these categories are described in greater detail in the following subsections:

Replace Lost Public Sector Revenues

Delaware County relies on several sources of income for its general government operations – local taxes, fees for services, state and federal grants, public-private partnerships, and others. The distribution of



these sources of income for the last base year (2019) unaffected by the COVID-19 is depicted in table below:

Category of Revenue		Amount (\$000)	
Real Estate Taxes		\$171,263	3% 2% 2% 1%
State and Federal Grants		94,006	3%
Departmental Earnings		32,592	
Other Income		11,879	10%
Interest, Fees, Rentals, Licenses, and Transfers		10,939	
Commissions		5,457	51%
Reimbursed Expenses	٠	5,450	28%
Court Costs and Fines	٠	3,745	
тот	\$335,331		

The largest areas of revenue risk to the County are identified below:

- The County received the majority of its revenues from real estate taxes. While the residential collections appear to remain strong, approximately 26% of the properties in the County are zoned as commercial. The future impacts of COVID on commercial properties are unknown, however the County has seen an increase in visible, vacant storefronts and retail outlets.
- Court earnings have been dramatically lowered due to the suspension of jury trials.
- Delaware County receives substantial combined income from airport, gaming, and gas tax receipts. 95COVID-related suspension of travel has seen these revenue sources dramatically reduced.
- Revenues to support Fair Acres, the County's nursing home and geriatric center, have decreased due to losses in occupancy.

In support of the calculation of lost revenues, the County engaged the accounting firm Maher Duessel to review revenues for years of 2020 and 2021, and calculate losses from the base year of 2019. The total claimed losses of \$39.95M are based upon actual, audited financials and meet ARPA standards for the calculation. Of that total, only \$8.04M has been used to date, however adjustments may be made in future years.

Administrative Costs

The US Treasury rules allow for 2% of the total amount of ARPA funds received to be used for administrative expenses, amounting to a total of \$2,201,679.



Negative Economic Impacts

Addressing the negative economic impacts of the pandemic is one of the largest uses of ARPA funds. Delaware County is reporting the current allocations and provided uses in this category:

Project/Initiative	Allocated	Expended/ Encumbered	Uncommitted Balance
RoD – eRecords	\$ 496,300	\$ 466,020	\$ 30,280
DA Gun Violence Reduction	1,000,000	88,899	911,101
Child Care Professional Network	5,000,000	2,000,000	3,000,000
Greenways Capital Plan	1,907,375	-	1,907,375
WFD Digital Literacy	60,000	49,831	10,169
WFD Sign on Small Business	250,000	-	250,000
WFD Back to Work Camp	100,000	100,000	-
Commerce – Holiday Village	449,075	449,075	-
VITA Tax Program	140,000	120,000	20,000
COVID-19 Impacts	2,500,000	836,577	1,663,423
Lansdowne Theater	2,000,000	-	2,000,000
PD – Partners for Justice	860,264	-	860,264
Alta Planning (RAISE Grant)	50,000	50,000	-
Library Services	600,000	35,350	564,650
Upland Park	1,308,150	-	1,308,150
Little Flower Park	1,374,755	-	1,374,755
Commerce Center Strategic Initiatives	6,300,000	-	6,300,000
TOTALS	\$24,395,919	\$ 4,195,752	\$ 20,200,167

These projects/initiatives are presented in **Section 2**.

Public Health

Public Health has been on the minds of County residents and businesses throughout the COVID pandemic. Delaware County was the most populated County in the US without its own health department. While the County has responded using its available resources combined with the support of neighboring Chester County and an extraordinary community volunteer effort, the need for a fully-recognized health department was clearly evident. The State Department of Health approved the operation of the Delaware County Health Department (DCHD) on April 2nd, and Council has allocated obligated \$12.8M for FY2021 and FY2022 qualifying costs to develop the response capability. If carried forward at the same level through 2024, the overall estimated allocation of ARPA funds would require and additional \$12.0M, for a total of \$24.8M. An additional \$1.3M in ARPA funds have been allocated to capital expenses necessary to start-up DCHD, bringing the total public health allocation to ~\$26.1M.



Premium Pay

The guidance states, "Premium pay may be provided retrospectively for work performed at any time since the start of the COVID-19 public health emergency. These premiums must be 'in addition to' wages and remuneration already received and the obligation to provide such pay must not have been incurred by the recipient prior to March 3, 2021." The County continues to staff and provide services under the conditions of the pandemic, and has paid out \$474,157 in premium pay to date.

Infrastructure: Investments in Water, Sewer, and Broadband

Delaware County's water and sanitary sewer systems are operated through a complex web of authorities and municipal agreements. The County may be able to reach out and participate in improvements, particularly in jurisdictions that do not have the local funds to address projects in their rights of way. Expansion of service to and into County facilities (e.g. parks and trails) may also be considered.

The storm water system is an area where the County is better positioned to participate in sewer system improvements. County lands provide opportunities for stormwater retention and water quality improvement, effectively reducing capacity requirements for downstream sewer sizes and treatment of non-point source pollutants. Effective stormwater management also overlaps with improving capacity of the sanitary sewer system by working with local authorities and municipalities on reducing infiltration and inflow into the wastewater collection and treatment system.

The County has initiated discussions with broadband providers in the area to determine where service coverage and access can be expanded, consistent with the goals of ARPA. Non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) are being put in place that will allow County officials to view proprietary maps of coverage areas, and work collaboratively to explore how ARPA funds can be used.

The \$5.0M balance of unallocated funds are currently targeted for stand-alone infrastructure projects that may not be included in Economic Recovery and Development projects. We reasonably expect this total to change as projects and initiatives are monitored for cost realism, new projects are introduced, and a small number of initiatives drop out of the program.

Other Qualifying Projects

As of the date of this report, Delaware County still has \$12.2M in funds available for other qualifying projects. Through the public engagement process, the County is working with potential partners on requests that have been received. Alternatively, a significant portion of these funds may be used to advance a qualifying capital project that is currently unfunded or underfunded.



1.3 Promoting Equitable Outcomes

The US Treasury Guidance recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic disproportionately affected historically underserved communities. Delaware County has specifically allocated its ARPA awards to these areas and our lower income families. The projects/initiatives discussed in this section underscore the County's commitment to promoting equitable outcomes through the American Rescue Plan Act.

A primary goal of the ARPA program is to address the differential health outcomes the COVID pandemic has highlighted. Delaware County, like many diverse political jurisdictions in the country, displays inequitable outcomes in health and quality of life. The maps on the following pages provide overlays and comparisons of socio-economic factors that underscore the disparities that exist and which have been exacerbated due to the pandemic.

As programs are developed using ARPA funds, County leadership will look to apply a significant amount of the \$110.1M it has received to address the inequities in health outcomes underscored by the sample of date presented above. One of the primary mechanisms to reduce these disparities in the development and launching of the Delaware County Health Department (DCHD). The County has allocated ~one quarter (\$23.7%/\$26.1M) of its available funds to the launch and initial operations of DCHD.

The County has also redefined the criteria used to prioritize its capital projects. The capital projects analysis revealed that past and present plans disproportionately benefit the wealthier communities in the County. As a corrective measure, factors that promote more equitable outcomes are being integrated into the scoring rubric. County decision-makers will take a similar, critical approach to the application of ARPA funds with the intent of addressing the historic and systemic inequities built into its investments.

While not funded through ARPA, the hiring of the County's first Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer (DEIO) will further heighten our commitment to equitable outcomes, even after the end of the ARPA program in 2026. The DEIO has been engaged in the identification, review and administration of programs and is developing an approach to increase diversity in contracting for goods and services. The DEIO will develop reporting mechanisms related to equitable outcomes to provide transparency and accountability into County operations.

County Council has also directed the use of ARPA funds to support the development of open spaces as they contribute to healthier lifestyles and better health outcomes. A total of \$1.9 to-date has been allocated to the following projects in areas of greater economic need, as shown on the map on page 12.



Delaware County Recovery Plan





Delaware County Recovery Plan





Delaware County has allocated funds to projects that address the economic impacts of the pandemic and the disproportionate impacts on the most at risk and underserved communities:

Project/Initiative	Allocated	Goals
Child Care Professional	\$ 5,000,000	Provide child care to support job seekers.
Network		
Greenways Capital Plan	1,907,375	Encourage healthy life styles through open space
		connections
WFD Digital Literacy	60,000	Increase computer skills for job seekers.
WFD Back to Work	100,000	Provide child care to support job seekers.
Camp		
Commerce – Holiday	449,075	Support local small businesses.
Village		
VITA Tax Program	140,000	Assist families in claiming tax credits.
Lansdowne Theater	2,000,000	Support redevelopment of the town center.
Alta Planning (RAISE	50,000	Reconnect Chester through transportation and
Grant)		infrastructure improvements.
Library Services	600,000	Provide digital connections/materials.
Commerce Center	6,300,000	Redevelopment distressed properties.
Strategic Initiatives		Support local business growth/recovery.
		Provide job opportunities



1.4 Community Engagement

County Council is committed to engaging the communities that comprise Delaware County in building an efficient, effective and equitable program for the use of its ARPA funds. Informal, one-on-one discussions have taken place, and public sessions have been held, most recently on June 20th of this year. The Executive Director and staff are conducting ongoing "listening" visits to each of the 49 municipalities in the County. Input has been sought and received from non-profit and community service organizations.

The County has established a web site providing information and a means for individual community members to submit plans and recommendations for uses of ARPA funds. Over 100 responses have been received to date. We will continue to use the web site post program and project updates and receive stakeholder feedback.

The County's community facing departments have engaged with nonprofit and community-based agencies to allocate funds to achieve County-wide goals. The projects cited below provide examples of these initiatives:



- The District Attorney's *Gun Violence Reduction Program* has resulted in decreased incidents of gunrelated crime, most notably in the City of Chester. Working in collaboration with local police agencies and the Courts, the program has been cited as a model approach.
- The partnership with the *Child Care Professional Network* has assisted struggling providers and families, resulting in over 630 families being served so the parents can return to work.
- The County's Workforce Development Department (WFD) has executed several partnership programs. The *Digital Literacy Program* is a collaboration with the Department and the Delaware County Literacy Council, and has served twenty-six individuals. WFD through its PA CareerLink program has assisted 14 caretakers and 22 children through the *Summer Camp Solution* initiative.
- The County's Commerce Department worked with Parks and Recreation to establish a *Holiday Village* for small, local businesses adjacent to the annual Festival of Lights in Rose Tree Park. Over half of the participating vendors represented minority-owned small businesses, and 40% of the vendors saw follow-up visits to their established places of business. In total, the event attracted ~29,000 visitors.
- The *Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program*, managed through the Community Action Agency of Delaware County (CAADC) provided assistance to families in filing income tax returns to take advantage of Child Tax Credits. There was also an outreach element to the VITA Program



administered by the Foundation of Delaware County through a network of non-profits and the J. Lewis Crozer Library educating residents of the Child Tax Credit program and how to claim the deduction.

- The *Lansdowne Theater Project* provided \$2,000,000 to the Historic Lansdowne Theater Corporation, through the County's Public Works Department, to complete renovation of this vacant property anchor in the downtown business district. The theater is a direct, local job creator, producing an estimated 51 direct and 80 secondary jobs in the community.
- With the help of ~\$1.9M in ARPA dollars, the *Greenways Capital* program awarded 43 open space and trail projects over the past year. The project spans 39 municipalities and non-profit agencies connecting the County by creating sustainable active transportation and recreation assets.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Office. In early 2022, the County engaged its first Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer (DEIO) and began development of the office. One of the DEIO's primary, outward facing roles is to ensure community participation – particularly in historically underserved parts of the County – in ARPA funding initiatives.

Delaware County Health Department. As part of the establishment of the new County health department, the County has been reaching out to various stakeholders including meetings with municipal leaders in the County, listening sessions with various coalitions and organizations, in addition to, public think tanks on specific public health issues. The public input process with respect to the health department is expected to continue.



1.5 Labor Practices

Delaware County has a strong community of organized labor, and maintains strong and positive relationships with the bargaining units that represent a significant percentage of the County's workforce. Ten collective bargaining agreements (CBA) are currently in place. In partnership with its union partners, the County is currently renewing these agreements to incorporate market-based compensation (both pay and benefits), and incorporating new programs – including establishing paid parental leave practices. Wages are tracked relative to other jurisdictions in the state, using the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) as a benchmark.

Labor and the County share the common value of ensuring that direct hire staff and contracted labor are paid fair wages. Through its Workforce Development Department, the County and local unions are working to provide job training and apprenticeship programs. Council recently revised the Council's procurement ordinances to require formal apprenticeship programs and small, minority, woman, and disadvantaged business participation in its capital projects valued at over \$500,000. The County further requires prevailing wage be paid on its construction contracts. Furthermore, outreach efforts targeting historically underserved members of our community are being exercised. These efforts are also being extended to our "re-entry" programs for the incarcerated population.

The County has experience in successfully administering prevailing wage and other labor requirements through state and federal grant programs. These grant-funded contracts include services and infrastructure efforts. Projects undertaken using ARPA funding will comply with all federal labor requirements.

Delaware County has a residency preference for its staff, ensuring that the majority of hires it makes will come from our impacted communities. Local hiring preferences for our contracted work under ARPA will be incorporated to the extent allowed by state laws.

The County hires interns and temporary labor from the many local colleges in our area. These interns are generally local residents. The non-permanent nature of the ARPA programs and the need to add staff form a strong basis for introducing training (and re-training) work experiences to our communities.

The County has added its first Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer (DEIO) to its leadership team. The DEIO will serve as a connector between the County and its many stakeholders, especially in linking employers with the economically-disadvantaged members of our community through the ARPA programs. The DEIO will also be the leading force in developing greater opportunities for small, diverse, and disabled veteran to participate in County contracting.



1.6 Use of Evidence

Delaware County is moving toward a performance-based budgeting approach, which relies heavily on evidence-based metrics. In preparation for the 2023 budget, the County engaged the services of the firm PFM to assist in the process. Starting with the internal support functions (Executive Director's Office, Budget Management, Personnel, Information Technology, and Central Purchasing), the County will develop templates in 2023 that will be used more broadly across the County's General Fund agencies in 2024. Departments that rely principally on state and federal grant funding have reporting mechanisms in place to meet the evidentiary standards required by the grants. These same standards are and will be applied to uses of ARPA funding. Several examples are provided below, with details provided in **Section 2.0 – Project Inventory**.

- In support of the calculation of lost revenues, the County engaged the accounting firm Maher Duessel to review revenues for years of 2020 and 2021, and calculate losses from the base year of 2019. The total claimed losses of \$39.9M are based upon actual, audited financials and meet ARPA standards for the calculation.
- The award to the Child Care Professionals Network (CCPN) provides funding to offset increased costs qualified child care providers are encountering so that parents can return to work. CCPN's funding under ARPA has been awarded sequentially, based upon use factors including number of families served, family size, income levels, number of children served, children served by zip code and ethnicity.
- The award to the Community Action Agency of Delaware County (CAADC) to support the County's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program supported many low-income families in filing tax returns to ensure they received Child Tax Credit and other benefits allowable under the federal tax code. CAADC reported the number of families served in 2021 over 2020 as an evidentiary measure.
- Several awards were made for the procurement of services and equipment, including the Recorder of Deeds eRecords Management, Workforce Development's Digital Literacy, the Commerce Center's Holiday Village, COVID-19 Response, Library Digital Services, and the Planning Department's award to Alta Design to prepare the County's RAISE grant. The expenditure of these funds has been validated based upon receipts of goods and services.
- ARPA funds programmed for construction are measured against the schedules of values provided in the grant agreements and design and construction documents. Applicable projects include construction of facilities for the Delaware County Health Department and the award to renovate the historic Lansdowne Theater.



1.7 Performance Report

In this section, Delaware County is providing a description of how performance management is incorporated in its expenditure of ARPA funds. Specific information on each project is provided in Section 2.0, Project Inventory.

Consistent with the intent of the legislation, Delaware County's goals for the uses of ARPA funds include the following outcomes:

- Address the impacts of the COVID pandemic on public health and community well-being.
- Rebuild an inclusive, sustainable economy that works for all residents and communities.
- Restore stability to local government finances by capturing resources lost during the pandemic.
- Develop infrastructure to mitigate the impacts of future emergencies and build a sustainable environment.

The County, through both internal reviews and the community engagement process described in Section 1.4, is applying the funds it has received through ARPA to qualifying projects and initiatives. Projects/initiatives undertaken are generally either a project or a service. Projects are characterized by the delivery of a well-defined product – typically the construction of a capital project or the purchase of tangible goods. Success is defined in terms of cost, schedule, and quality of the product. Services are ongoing, and typically assist an individual or a group. Success in service delivery is more often defined by customer satisfaction, the client achieving an end state, and by measuring the number of persons properly served. The factors used to assess the effectiveness of the projects and services undertaken using ARPA are summarized in the table below:

FACTOR	PROJECT	SERVICE
Program Goals	Addresses one or n	nore program goals
Financial Performance	Completed within budget	Unit cost of services
	Change order control	Administrative costs <10%
	Attains competitive pricing	
Technical Performance	Complies with design specifications	Services meet contract goals
	Complies with relevant codes	Addresses health/economic needs
	Consistent with sustainability goals	
Project/Service Design	Supports at-risk populations	Supports at-risk populations
	Achieves sustainability goals	Builds local resource capacity
Procurement Compliance	and local requirements	



2.0 PROJECT INVENTORY

This section provides a description of each project undertaken, with the intent of reporting on how each initiative achieves the goals established in Section 1. The County's tracking system is tied to its financial system, assigning each project a unique account number. The presentation below follows the reporting methodology: Projects/Initiatives Approved and In-Progress and Projects/Initiatives Approved and Pending. Encumbrances/expenditures shown are as of the end of the reporting period.

2.1 Projects/Initiatives Approved and in Progress

The Projects/Initiatives County Council has approved and where work is in progress is provided in this section. "In-progress" is defined as an item where costs have been encumbered or expended and are recognized in our financial system.

2.1.1. Digital Literacy

Project Identification: Digital Literacy (49-5854-630000) Funds Allocated: \$60,000 Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date: \$49,830.54 Responsible Agency: Workforce Development Category: Economic Impact

Overview: Free digital literacy workshops were offered in low-income communities in Delaware County. The Delaware County Literacy Council developed and has been delivering the curriculum at the following locations:

- J Lewis Crozer Library, 620 Engle St, Chester, PA 19013 (session 1 only)
- Upper Darby Library Primos-Secane Branch, 409 Ashland Ave, Secane, PA 19018
- Upper Darby Township Library Sellers Memorial Branch, 76 South State Road, Upper Darby, PA 19082
- Upper Darby Township Library Municipal Branch, 501 Bywood Ave, Upper Darby, PA 19082
- PA CareerLink[®] Chester City, 701 Crosby Street, Suite B, Chester, PA 19013
- Delaware County Literacy Council, 2217 Providence Ave, Chester, PA 19013

Classes were 3 hours long for six-week sessions. 6 sessions were conducted for the program year 2021-2022. The skills addressed are Basic Computer Literacy; Communication Basics; Internet Literacy; Information Literacy; CWDS; Social Network Literacy; and Advanced Workplace Skills/Google Suite. The proficiency levels of most participants were low and there was a need for personal attention from the instructor. Having open enrollment and being able to work at their own pace was successful.

Promotion of these projects was coordinated with the County's PR Department and included social media, press releases, and fliers.



Use of Evidence: Data is being collected on the attendance at the classes. **Performance Report**: Attendance results to date are reported below:

Performance Outputs	Actuals
Individuals attend at least one stackable training module	95 unduplicated
Individuals attend five or more stackable training modules	16
Individuals attend more than one class	44
Individuals improve the skill covered in the training module they attend	64

Performance Report: The program is discontinued due to lack of response.

2.1.2 Back-to-Work Summer Camp Solution

Project Identification: Summer Camp Solution (49-5854-659119) Funds Allocated: \$100,000 Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date: \$100,000 Responsible Agency: Workforce Development Category: Economic Impact

Overview: Unemployed caregivers were eligible to receive up to \$1,000 in summer camp services to allow them to search for work, interview or begin work. Summer camps were invited to apply to be added to the "Approved Camp" list from which unemployed caregivers could select. The program operated from July 1 through September 6 in 2021 and is being conducted from June 1 to September 6, 2022. The following camps are participating:

Camp/Program	2021	2022
Boys & Girls Club of Chester, 201 E 7 th Street, Chester, PA 19013	•	•
Camp Garrett, 395 Bishop Hollow Road, Newtown Square, PA 19073	•	•
Camp Phoenix, 301 E 9 th Street, Chester, PA 19013	•	•
The Center for Learning, 452 S New Middletown Road, Media, PA 19063	•	
The Creative Living Room, 2274 West Chester Pike, Broomall, PA 19008	•	•
Darlington Fine Arts Center, 977 Shavertown Road, Garnet Valley, PA 19060	•	•
Delaware County Community College, 901 S Media Line Road, Media, PA 19063	•	•
Greenhorn Gardens Greenhouse, 401 School Lane, Drexel Hill, PA 19026	•	
Hedgerow Theater School Summer Camp, 64 Rose Valley Road, Rose Valley, PA 19063	•	•
Inspire Me Learning Academy, 140 N Lansdowne Ave, Lansdowne, PA 19050	•	
Main Line Art Center, 746 Panmure Road, Havertown, PA 19041	•	
The Media Theater, 104 E State Street, Media, PA 19063	•	•
YMCA (Lansdowne), 2110 Garrett Road, Lansdowne, PA 19050		•
YMCA (Ridley Area), 900 South Avenue, Secane, PA 19018	•	•



Camp/Program	2021	2022
YMCA (Springfield), 194 W Sproul Road, Springfield, PA 19064	•	•
Newlin Grits Mills/Newlin Foundation, 219 s Cheyney Road, Glen Mills, PA 19342		•

Use of Evidence: Evidence to support the outcomes of the project through surveys and the collection of demographic and performance data.

Performance Report: The following outcomes are reported:

A survey was conducted of the participating camps at the conclusion of the project, with 100% of the camps that participated in 2021 expressing interest to participate in 2022.

<u>Unemployed caregivers</u> were invited to apply through a brief application. Staff confirmed the caregivers' eligibility and then communicated to the selected camp about the interest of the family.

- 14 unemployed caregivers were approved to participate in the program.
- 22 children were covered by their caregiver's eligibility.
- \$10,451 in funds were used to send unemployed caregivers' children to summer camp

A survey was conducted of the unemployed caregivers at the conclusion of the project.

- 100% of respondents complete an online job search
- 40% of respondents registered at PA CareerLink[®]
- 80% of respondents went to an interview
- 80% of respondents returned to work (60% full-time and 20% part-time)

As of May 31, 2022, 25 unemployed caregivers were approved to participate in the program - 40 children are expected to participate. Demographic information of the 25 Caregivers is as follows:

Hispanic, Latino, Spanish
Black or African American
Prefer not to Say
White
Identified as Homeless
Prefer not to say
1

2.1.3 VITA Tax Program

Project Identification: Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program (49-5851-659135)
Funds Allocated: \$140,000
Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date: \$120,000
Responsible Agency: Community Action Agency of Delaware County (CAADC)
Category: Economic Impacts



Overview: The VITA program assisted low-income families in Delaware County in filing their federal income tax returns to ensure eligible tax payers were able to claim Child Care credits. Delaware County's ARPA sponsored VITA Tax program was broken into two branches. The first was administered by the Community Action Agency of Delaware County (CAADC) who has been operating the VITA program for over 15 years and completes approximately 1,000 state and federal tax returns each year. Additionally, the Foundation for Delaware County rose awareness and educated low-income residents regarding the Child Tax Credit through a network of non-profits. CAADC is currently operating free tax sites from three locations including J. Lewis Crozer Library in Chester, PA, CAADC office in Darby, PA and at CAADC social services office in Boothwyn, PA. CAADC and VITA staff have been actively engaged with the Child Tax Credit Task Force in Delaware County in an effort to increase applications for the Child Tax Credit. The ARPA funding allowed CAADC to open two additional sites (Media, Upper Darby).

Use of Evidence: The number of returns were tracked and reported.

Performance Report: The additional funding enabled CAADC to experience a 277% year over year growth completing 855 returns in 2021 as compared to 308 in 2020.

2.1.4 Premium Pay to Health Care Workers

Project Identification: PASNAP Bonuses (49-5854-659119) Funds Allocated: \$474,157.08 Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date: \$474,157.08 Responsible Agency: Personnel Category: Premium Pay to Workers

Overview: Delaware County operates the Fair Acres Geriatric Center as part of the County's community safety net, providing senior living care for residents who may have no other options. The staff of nurses and assistants has provided care and kept the residents safe during the pandemic, and the County is providing incentive pay to ensure continued support of the facility.

Note: The County is reviewing this charge to re-examine its allocation, and may transfer the charges to County revenues at a later date.

2.1.5 Delaware County Health Department (DCHD)

Project Identification: DCHD Operating Expenses (49-5852/49-5852-63502) Funds Allocated: \$12,780,800 Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date: \$5,237,866.88 Responsible Agency: DCHD Category: Public Health



Overview: Prior to the founding of DCHD in April 2022, Delaware County was the most populous county in the nation without a dedicated health department. On August 4, 2021, County Council voted to establish Delaware County's first ever Health Department to provide a holistic approach and ways and means to residents seeking health, wellness, testing, vaccination, mental health and a variety of other wellness services. ARPA funds have been used to assist in start-up operations, including staffing, equipment, materials, and public awareness messaging.

Use of Evidence: The Health Department has a Population Health Division responsible for tracking outcomes and epidemiology. Information to be tracked include customer base, types of services provided, disease and public health demographic data, and health outcomes. The Environmental Health Division will provide inspections of restaurants, food markets, public pools and other facilities throughout the County. These results will be reported and dashboards prepared.

Performance Report: Using ARPA dollars to startup the Health Department, the County was able to purchase a fleet of (29) electric vehicles for their Homebound program, in addition, to a Mobile Response RV unit to host onsite mobile health and wellness event Additionally, 60 new jobs were created by the Health Department since its formation. The official kickoff was April 3, 2022.

2.1.6 Delaware County Wellness Center

Project Identification: Center Construction (49-5852)/ Yeadon Phase II Change Order (49-5852-704001)
Funds Allocated: \$1,350,114.98
Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date: \$1,180,450.29
Responsible Agencies: DCHD/Public Works
Category: Public Health

Overview: The Delaware County Wellness Center Health Departments main address is located in Yeadon adjacent to two qualified census tract zones, and serves as a primary point of service to the community. The facility hosts the Population Health and clinical services functions of the department. Work in progress will add space for wellness education and community support.

Performance Report: The Wellness Center was constructed under an expedited schedule. Work started on Phase 1 in November 2020 and was completed in January 2021. Work is in progress on Phase 2, which will add space for additional staff and public health education. Phase 3 is in design.

2.1.7 eRecords Management

Project Identification: eRecords Management (49-5851-659132)
Funds Allocated: \$496,300
Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date: \$466,020.10
Responsible Agency: Recorder of Deeds



Category: Economic Impact

Overview: With the responsibility of maintaining all land records and documents recorded in Delaware County in perpetuity, the Recorder of Deeds Office offers crucial servicing to residents and the financial service needs that support their transactions. Indexing and archiving of all documents is the Office's primary function and making them available during the pandemic posed quite a challenge. The focus of this project is to examine and determine file integrity for all historical documents prior to 1981. These documents included deeds, mortgages, satisfactions of mortgages, financial statements, veteran discharge papers, notary public commissions, elected officials' bonds, subdivision plans, powers of attorneys, assignments and releases of mortgages to name a few of the types of documents.

Use of Evidence: The Kofile software acquired will have many features of improvement such as grouping multiple images into one document and be able to index the book and page associated with a file document. The summation of this project, expected to wrap up in late December 2022, will allow full online accessibility for the Office's more than 5 million records. When the project is completed, should pandemic-like shutdowns or slowdowns occur in the future, this Office will have implemented all practicable measures to assure the sustainability and resiliency of the services it provides to the public.

Performance Report: Work is in progress on implementation. When completed, 4.9 million historical images will be validated, paginated and marked with corresponding book and page locators.

2.1.8 Child Care Assistance

Project Identification: Child Care Professional Network (49-5851-635028) Funds Allocated: \$5,000,000 Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date: \$2,000,000 Responsible Agency: Child Care Professional Network (CCPN) Category: Economic Impact

Overview: With a network of nearly 1000 Early Childhood professionals, the majority in Delaware County, Child Care Professional Network's connections are key to helping families find quality, affordable and accessible childcare. Using \$5,000,000 in ARPA funds, this non-profit is focusing on providing supplemental childcare funding for families who are slightly above the threshold for the Child Care Works program. The project goals of this grant agreement are to 1) continue to support families as they recover from the economic distress caused by COVID-19, 2) support families and assist them in transitioning to ELRC, if eligible, and 3) assist families in finding quality child care.

Use of Evidence: The agreement with CCPN requires detailed reporting on family data and demographics, as presented below under Program Report.



Performance Report: Since late February 2022 and as of June 30,2022, the Child Care Professionals Network has subsidized childcare for 630 families, 111 licensed childcare providers and 94 service days of children's childcare. In total 849 children coming from 31 zip codes (the majority in Delaware County) have benefited by the program. Demographic data is provided below:

Family Data

Data Type	Report Month	Total
Number of Families Subsidized	118	630

Family Size	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10
Average Income	\$32,689	\$38,624	\$40,540	\$42,450	\$44,361	\$41,375	\$23,734	N/A

Children Data

Data Type	Total
Total Number of Service Days of Child Care Subsidized	94
Number of Children Subsidized	849
Average Number of Children Subsidized per Child Care Provider	7.63
Number of Children Subsidized by Race:	
Asian	5
Black/African American	626
Multi-Racial	61
Prefer Not to Say	7
White	147
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	2
American Indian or Alaska Native	1

2.1.9 Holiday Village at Festival of Lights

Project Identification: Holiday Village (49-5854-659117) Funds Allocated: \$449,075 Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date: \$499,075.00 Responsible Agency: Commerce Center Category: Economic Impact

Overview: The COVID 19 pandemic uncovered so many disparities and inequality and left so many feeling isolated and alone. As well, Delaware County has an estimated \$2B leakage in retail sales annually, despite many great retailers and makers located here. Through the collaboration of the Holiday Village and Festival of lights we were able to address these issues from a few different ways: The electrical upgrades and outside assistance in decorating at Rose Tree Park increased the attractiveness of this annual outdoor



event and facilitated the ability to host local Holiday Market Nights. Delaware County Parks Department was historically limited to staff decorating and stringing the light displays in our County's largest park for over a decade. With professional assistance the County produced a very attractive and professional display that brought people outdoors to walk the park in higher numbers than ever before for this event. We hosted six Holiday Market nights providing over 80 vendor opportunities at the Holiday Market in partnership with the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce. The goal was to bring together small, diverse businesses in Delaware County and give them to the opportunity to showcase and sell their products and expand upon their customer base during the holiday season.

Use of Evidence: The Chamber is in process of following-up with those vendors with an informal survey.

Performance Report: To date over half of the Holiday Market vendors have responded of which 70% are diverse owners. Their responses indicate a minimum \$25,000 was spent in Delaware County at the Holiday Village and 40% of those respondents saw sales or business from village customers after their Market Night as a result of vending at Rose Tree Park. Tracked by Park Police and the Chamber the Market Nights saw a combined total of 29,000 visitors over the six nights.

2.1.10 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)

Project Identification: Alta Planning & Design (49-5850-630000) Funds Allocated: \$50,000 Encumbrances/Expenditures: \$50,000 Responsible Agency: Planning Category: Economic Impact

Overview: Delaware County engaged Alta Planning & Design to assist in the preparation of its RAISE grant application. The project, entitle Reimagining Chester, seeks a \$5M grant to develop project scopes and preliminary analyses for projects to address mobility equity in the City of Chester.

Use of Evidence/Performance Report: The application has been submitted to the US Department of Transportation and we are awaiting a determination.

2.1.11 COVID Response - 2022

Project Identification: COVID-19 Response (49-5853-630103) Funds Allocated: \$2,500,000 Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date: \$836,577.11 Responsible Agency: Emergency Services Category: Economic Impact



Overview: County Council approved \$2.5M in the FY2022 budget to address the lingering impacts of COVID-19 and its variants. The allocation is allowing the County to acquire materials and equipment to properly staff both permanent and pop-up sites and conduct in-home visits with skilled and certified staff.

Use of Evidence: Vaccination and COVID case data are tracked through the Pennsylvania Department Health. The state maintains data sets and dashboards at <u>www.health.pa.gov</u>. Data can be sorted by age, gender, and ethnicity.

Performance Report: Delaware County has vaccinated 86.3% of its population (72.3% fully vaccinated), which is the 4th highest of the states 67 counties. These efforts have enabled the County to remain in the low-to-moderate transmissivity range.

2.1.12 Library Services Local Library Assistance:

Project Identification: Library Services (49-5851-659136) Funds Allocated: \$600,000 Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date: \$35,350.00 Responsible Agency: Library Department Category: Economic Impact

Overview: Library Services will apply the \$600,000 in ARPA funds towards the following:

Technology infrastructure (equipment) upgrades at all 28 public library locations and Delaware County Library Services Headquarters. Improvements include:

- micro servers needed for hosting public Internet reservation systems and public print functions
- larger monitors for the public use computers and member library staff
- uninterruptable power supply protectors to maintain integrity of all equipment in case of catastrophic event
- laser printers for public and member library staff use
- environmentally friendly and quiet thermal receipt printers for circulation software
- upgraded circulation scanners able to read mobile barcodes
- laptops for Library Services staff to meet the varied informational and support needs of member libraries and the public

Several other items will also be purchased in order to reach unserved/underserved populations:

- Patron facing circulation mobile app to reach mobile use only populations
- ADA compliant website to serve all residents
- eBooks and audio books



2.1.13 District Attorney's Gun Violence Prevention Program

Project Identification: Gun Violence Prevention (49-5851-635032)
Funds Allocated: \$1,000,000
Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date: \$88,899.45
Responsible Agency: District Attorney
Category: Economic Impact

Overview: The District Attorney (DA) for Delaware County, in collaboration with local law enforcement, has launched an initiative to address gun violence among young adults. The funding will be used to increase detectives and investigators.

Use of Evidence: The DA's Office will assemble data on an annual basis to show year-over-year improvements.

Project Report: Hiring of additional staff is in progress.

2.2 Projects/Initiatives Approved and Pending

Projects/Initiatives under this heading are actions County Council has approved, but for which no expenses have yet been experienced.

2.2.1 Back-to-Work Bonus for Small Businesses:

Project Identification: Sign-On Bonus Small Business (49-5854-659118) Funds Allocation: \$250,000 Expenditures to Date: \$0 Responsible Agency: Workforce Development Category: Economic Impact

Overview: The program was designed to help small businesses be more competitive in hiring during summer 2021 by accessing \$250 to pass along to up to 5 new hires before September 30, 2021. Businesses with up to 25 Full-time Equivalent staff are eligible. Employees over 18 must earn \$15/hr. Employees under 18 may earn minimum wage.

Use of Evidence: No employers used this program.

2.2.2 Lost Revenues to Local Government

Project Identification: Revenue Loss (49-5851-635032)Funds Allocated: \$8,040,000 (pending increase to \$39,950,138)



Responsible Agency: Budget Management Category: Lost Revenue

Overview: The COVID-19 resulted in significant lost revenues to Delaware County. Revenues related to Court operations, airport and gaming fees, and nursing home operation were especially significant. County Council approved an initial allocation of \$8.04M in lost revenues for the 2022 budget, pending a further review.

Use of Data: The County engaged the accounting firm of Maher Duessel to examine revenues as allowed under the US Treasury Rules. Compared to 2019 (the last year not impacted by COVID), the total sum of allowable lost revenues was actually \$39,950,138.

Project Report: The remaining sum of \$31,910,138 will be presented to Council for approval and transfer to the County's fund reserves.

2.2.3 Greenways Capital Plan

Project Identification: Greenways Capital Plan (49-5856-659131)
Funds Allocated: \$1,907,375
Responsible Agency: Planning
Category: Economic Impact

Overview: Council has allocated \$1.9M in ARPA funds for Phase 2 of the County's Greenways program. The program supports the development of trails, parks and green spaces throughout the County, contributing to economic development, public health and sustainability. The County has 74 grant applications totaling \$13M in hand. The \$1.9M in ARPA funding allocated primarily addresses trails in the more urbanized and less affluent parts of the County.

Use of Evidence: Grants are awarded using the criteria developed by the Green Space Task Force and as described in the County's <u>Users' Guide</u>.

2.2.4 Historic Lansdowne Theater Renovation

Project Identification: Lansdowne Theater (49-5851-659134)
Funds Allocated: \$2,000,000
Responsible Agency: Historic Lansdowne Theater Corporation/County Public Works Department
Category: Economic Impact

Overview: The Historic Lansdowne Theater Corporation (HLTC), a private non-profit corporation was established to purchase and rehabilitate the vacant Lansdowne Theater as a place of public entertainment. The reopening of the 1,280-seat theater will catalyze the revitalization of Lansdowne's



historic business district and make the arts, especially live music, more accessible to patrons from throughout the Philadelphia region.

Use of Evidence: The agreement with the HLTC requires payments to be made based upon the status of design and construction.

Project Report: The HLTC anticipates a 2023 reopening. Construction will commence once all funding is secured.

2.2.5 Partners for Justice

Project Identification: Partners for Justice (49-5851-635055)
Funds Allocated: \$860,264
Responsible Agency: Public Defender
Category: Economic Impact

Overview: Partners for Justice provides collaborative support services to people facing criminal charges, while helping public defenders protect people from incarceration and other criminal penalties.

Project Report: The contract agreement with PFJ has been executed and work will commence in the next calendar quarter:

2.2.6 Little Flower/Upland Parks

Project Identification: Little Flower/Upland Parks (TBD)
Funds Allocated: \$2,442,905
Responsible Agency: Public Works Department
Category: Economic Impact

Overview: Little Flower and Upland Parks are part of the County park system, and are located in qualifying census tracks. The plans call for upgrades in play equipment, landscaping and accessibility.

Project Report: Construction is scheduled for start in 2023

2.2.7 Commerce Center Strategic Initiatives

Project Identification: Economic Development Initiatives (TBD)
Funds Allocated: \$6,300,000
Responsible Agency: Commerce Center
Category: Economic Development



Overview: The County's Economic Development Oversight Board, which is part of the Commerce Center developed and presented an Economic Development Strategic Plan to Council. The following strategic initiatives contained within the plan are eligible for ARPA funding:

Economic Development Strategic Plan Initiatives Funded Through ARPA	
3.2 Collaborate on Transit Oriented Development Strategies	\$ 300,000
4.3 Expand County and Authority Funding to Support Commercial Corridors	1,500,000
5.1 Technical Support to Strengthen Small Businesses	300,000
5.2 Support Local Businesses Through Leveraged Procurement Opportunities	250,000
5.3 Support and Strengthen International, Immigrant and Minority Businesses	250,000
6.1 Grow Accelerators for Key Sectors in Disadvantaged Communities	3,000,000
6.2 Leverage County Resources to Support Green Businesses and Energy Transitions	500,000
7.2 Support Delaware County Internships to Build Workforce of the Future	200,000
TOTAL	\$ 6,300,000



Delaware County Recovery Plan

[END of REPORT]