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Bentoncountyor.gov

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Negative Economic Impact 17% Public Health 6% Water, Sewer, & Broadband 11%

Benton County's Allocation of Funds by Category

Benton County received almost \$18.1 million from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds of which 78% (\$14 million) has been allocated to address the following critical needs in the County:

Addressing Negative Economic Impact

Projects consist of aiding basic human needs (food, housing, and utilities), childcare services, support for houselessness, and additional supports for students and youth.

Responding to Public Health Issues

Projects provide services to the community in all manners of health such as physical clubs for those with disabilities; mental health facilities; additional vehicles to provide services to those who could not transport themselves; and the ability for care providers to fulfill staffing needs due to the additional demand.

Maintaining and Improving Water, Sewer, & Broadband Infrastructure

Projects are aimed at ensuring County water districts have well-maintained infrastructure that safely and effectively serve its community members.

Filling the Gaps Created by Lost Public Sector Revenue

Projects are designated to help support critical County programs, services and/or initiatives that have been either impacted negatively by the pandemic through reduced revenues or lack sufficient resources to effectively deliver intended outcomes.

With the additional \$4.1 million of remaining ARPA resources the County intends to allocate these resources to help further community programs and/or projects that address one or more of the critical needs listed above.



Summary of Resource Allocation

In May 2022 Benton County awarded just over \$2.5 million in grants. These investments enabled non-profit, governmental, and community based organizations to receive resources to support facilitating access to health and social services; address housing insecurity, lack of affordable housing, and homelessness; mitigate the impacts of the pandemic to education and healthy childhood environments; support the recovery of small businesses, non-profits, or specifically impacted industries; and provide assistance to households that have endured negative economic impacts from the pandemic.

Summary of May 2022 Community Grant Awards

ABC House

Provides funding for the expansion of services to address the increasing number of Benton County children in the Trauma Counseling Program. Services include abuse assessments, medical consultations and family support services. Programming ensures children receive the expert, timely care they need to have the best chance of overcoming their trauma.

Arc of Benton County, The

Funding will support the development of the physical club location to provide support services to people with developmental disabilities in gaining a sense of belonging, developing resilience, and recovering from isolation after the pandemic.

Boys & Girls Club of Corvallis

K-8 Childcare & Enrichment is an existing program that combines the successful experience serving youth during pandemic school closures with a point-proven strategy of equitable support, academic enrichment, social-emotional learning, reduced fees and scholarships, nutrition, and access to medical/dental/mental-health services in an on-site youth-centric medical home. This funding will be used to provide subsidy support for low-income youth and their families.

Casa Latinos Unidos

Funding will be used to develop a culturally appropriate community health worker program to support the Latinx community from within and comprehensively, by building resilience and capacity to prioritize needs and find solutions. The program will strengthen the current Enlaces Community Health Worker program by adding additional staff and retaining the current team working in Benton County.

CASA Voices for Children

Funding will enable the development of a framework for a pilot program that works with marginalized communities and at-risk families by fostering belonging through the Independent Living Program and Cultural Advocate Partners and participation in All Children-All Families.

City of Corvallis

Provides funding for six strategies focused on a Revolving Loan Fund focused on businesses that were forced to close due to the pandemic, as well as businesses, industries and populations that were most severely impacted by the pandemic.

Community Outreach, Inc.

Provides funding to maintain the capacity of existing non-profit organizations with negatively economic impact due to increased wages in the post-pandemic labor condition. Current services help meet the basic needs of vulnerable people in Benton County through a transformational housing program by providing families and individuals who are experiencing homelessness with wrap-around services to ensure success as they transition from temporary or chronic homelessness to stable housing. Services include medical and dental care, substance abuse and mental health counseling, food and kitchen facilities, information and referral services, workforce development, and life skills classes.

Corvallis Daytime Drop-in Center

Funding will maintain and expand existing services of providing basic needs, navigation, street outreach, employment supports, and data collection. It will also enable the part-time hire of a new Basic Needs Navigator who would specifically focus on supporting people of color in the population served.

Corvallis Housing First

Funding will provide for expanded and additional case management services at Unity Shelter Sites (including Third Street Commons) to focus mainly on getting more individuals housed. This is

complemented with \$118,390 of funding for temporary rent support, deposits, application fees, and move in expenses.

Corvallis Sustainability Coalition

Funding will provide additional support to community members living with low or no-income by providing gift cards to receive food assistance either through local food business owners, local food producers, and/or cooperatively managed independent grocery stores.

DevNW

Funding will provide rent, mortgage, and utility assistance for low-income residents impacted by reduced income and/or increased expenses caused by the pandemic and subsequent health measures. In addition, resources will support providing resident services to individuals and families in affordable housing units to help recover from the isolation and impacts of the pandemic. This would include a variety of social opportunities, including spring gardening, pizza and movie nights, and programming for young people.

Jackson Street Youth Services

Funding will expand existing capacity to support mental health services and staff training across the continuum of services for Benton County youth ages 10–24. The service expansion will be for the current 24/7 shelter for youth; outreach program; and transitional housing and job/skill training program for young adults.

Oregon State University

Provides funding to support a combination of summer camps and an Outreach Leadership Initiative that will work with youth in Benton County from grades 3 to 12 to help develop leadership skills and self-confidence, as well as provide supports as they recover from the impacts of the pandemic.

Oregon Valley Futbol (OVF) Alliance

Funding provides support and access to free programming (TOP Soccer, after school programming, and rural soccer camps) for Benton County youth that have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

Pathfinder Clubhouse

Provides for the acquisition of a 15-passenger van and an ADA-compliant wheelchair accessible sport utility vehicle (SUV) to increase equitable access for adults living with mental illness that were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

Philomath Youth Activities Club

Funding will increase capacity to existing after school and summer childcare programs and for those children with additional behavioral health needs. In addition, the funding will be used to increase personnel cost in order to maintain staffing.

Trillium Family Services

Funding will support the establishment of a position to address healthcare workforce shortages that supports mental and behavioral health through a more aggressive recruitment strategy that includes a focus on diversity and equity. The position will be a dedicated recruiting professional who can engage passive candidates with Trillium's mission of building brighter futures.

Unity Shelter

Funding will support the staffing and operational costs of two programs – SafePlace and Third Street Commons – that have developed and rapidly expanded as a direct response both to the ongoing crisis of homelessness in Benton County and the impact of the pandemic. These programs provide non-congregate shelter to men and women experiencing homelessness in the County and provides supportive services to include trauma-informed case management, food supports, referral, and navigation support for connections to services.

Vina Moses Center

Funding will provide financial assistance and material goods to low-income and underserved communities that have been impacted by the pandemic. Assistance will be in the form of financial assistance with utilities, rental, food, and other basic needs for low-income and underserved populations.

Summary of Benton County ARPA Funded Improvement Projects

ARPA Administration

Allows administration to cover cost associated with accountability and oversight for ARPA Funding

Corvallis Housing First

Benton County partnered with Corvallis Housing First to provide shelter for those who are in need. Transitioning community members from being houselessness to having designated housing.

Data Center Cooling & Humidity

This system is designed to cool down and keep dry our server rooms to ensure the best service from our hardware.

Employee Recognition

Replace lost government revenues to recognize and compensate the additional time and effort of County employees throughout the pandemic.

Facility Remodels

There are a couple of facilities within the County that were in need of updating to provide enough space for productive and efficient public service. The Kalapuya Remodel Project is the remodeling of a facility acquired by the County in 2019 to address critical space needs and the centralizing of customer services in a convenient and accessible location.

Fuel System

This project will upgrade the gasoline component system and complete the diesel upgrades, along with other operational changes.

Home, Opportunity, Planning, and Equity (HOPE)

The HOPE Advisory Board provides policy recommendations for a coordinated homelessness response system. As part of this work, the Board has adopted foundational recommendation around organization capacity, funding, and legislative advocacy that will work collective in supporting the goal of transitioning people out of homelessness. This project aims to support organizational capacity related to project management, research, coordination and outreach, land use planning, and grants management (particularly related to writing grants for additional funding). In addition,

a portion of the project will target growing the capacity of local service providers to provide increased housing and supports to unhoused individuals and families.

Justice System Improvement Program (JSIP) Land Acquisition

The acquisition of land for the justice services improvement program in Benton County. It will be the future site of the Justice Service Campus.

Loss of Revenue – Program Support Projects

Due to the pandemic a couple programs suffered from a loss of revenue usually gained through the public. Those organizations are as follows:

- **NAPE**: Fair was cancelled due to the pandemic along with many other revenue generating events. This created a need for supplemental funds which were provided through ARPA.
- **Benton Area Transportation (BAT)**: Ensuring County is able to meet the ongoing public transportation needs for seniors and individuals with disabilities.
- **Fleet**: Provide resources to mitigate the impacts of COVID from reduced external fleet needs that resulted in a deficit situation for the program. This support provides for a balanced budget for the 2019-21 biennium.

Ring Topology

The topology of our network can be described as a star, with individual end points connect back to a central hub. If an individual leg of the star were to be inoperable, the node at the end of the star will have very limited network capabilities. The plan is to enhance the County's WAN infrastructure by creating an intelligent ring, which can fold back on itself in the event of a failure on any one segment of the network to provide a layer of redundancy for our most critical network nodes.

Website Redesign

Upgrade the legacy website so that it is unified throughout all County organizations. It should also provide efficiency and better user faces for the public.

Water, Sewer, & Broadband

Benton County oversees five utility districts, the infrastructure of each of which is aging and at varying levels of deterioration condition. A 2023 preliminary design report identified critical systems component improvements needed in four districts: Alpine Sewer, Alsea Sewer, Alsea Water, and Hidden Valley water. These districts are located in rural, low-income, unincorporated cities with very strained resources. These funds combined with other grants and County matching funds, will ensure these communities have safe and resilient infrastructure for decades to come.