

City of Columbus
Recovery Plan

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2021 Report

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The City of Columbus and Columbus residents continue to suffer from the fallout of the global pandemic, and no one has been more negatively impacted than young people in this community. Columbus's first investment of American Rescue Plan dollars will help youth regain some of what they lost with opportunities for programming, education and employment through city departments as well as through community partners

Columbus is advancing a bold plan to put significant initial funding into area non-profits focused on keeping kids safe while helping them catch up. This initial package of ARP projects are critical to getting Columbus past the brutal challenges brought onto neighborhoods by COVID-19 restrictions and frustrations. Together with local partners, the City is helping make sure folks can get back to work, back into classes and back to living their lives safely. Columbus will partner with non-profit organizations that provide youth programming centered on addressing educational disparities and/or promoting healthy childhood environments.

The city is developing a process to determine how to best invest ARP funding to meet the community's near- and long-term needs, informed in part by the work of the joint City-County Recovery and Resiliency Committee as well as direct input received from the public via the City's American Rescue Plan portal.

To incentivise residents who have not yet received the COVID-19 vaccine, Columbus has developed and implemented a plan to partner with community vaccine clinics and facilitate the distribution of gift cards.

Uses of Funds

The City is continuing its effort to develop and finalize a comprehensive use strategy for its allocation of the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund ("SLFRF"). The strategy will prioritize the needs of our community and provide for equitable impact and outcomes among residents and between neighborhoods.

At this preliminary stage, the current and planned expenditures in each expenditure category can be summarized as follows:

- Public Health
 - Since March 3, 2021 Columbus has encumbered \$765,830 to be distributed to residents as part of a Vaccination Incentive Program. As of July 31, 2021 \$599,830 has been spent in this program.
- Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities
 - Since March 3, 2021 Columbus has encumbered \$9,092,767 to be used as part of the Youth Programming Initiative, which addresses educational setbacks due to COVID19, provides social and recreational opportunities, and offers job training and professional development for Columbus youth. As of July 31, 2021 \$3,222,825 has been spent on this program.

Promoting equitable outcomes

The City is continuing to develop a plan that provides for economically and racially equitable outcomes for our residents.

Community Engagement

A Request for Proposals has been posted on the City's Vendor Services portal to solicit proposals for projects to benefit the City and its residents. Additionally, the city is developing a process to determine how to best invest ARP funding to meet the community's near- and long-term needs, informed in part by the work of the joint City-County Recovery and Resiliency Committee. Community organizations seeking financial support for proposals utilizing American Recovery Plan funding are encouraged to submit proposals online utilizing a standard form that includes a budget and description of how the funds will be used.

Labor Practices

As of August 31, 2021, the City is not pursuing any infrastructure projects using the SLFRF monies. Should that option be considered in the future, Columbus will engage strong labor standards to promote economic recovery through strong employment opportunities for workers.

Use of Evidence

Evidence based interventions are currently being evaluated for inclusion in City programs moving forward. The programs which have been already funded through the SLFRF have not been designed to create an evidence building strategy.

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health		
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination	\$ 599,830	\$ 599,830
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities		
3.9.	Healthy Childhood Environments: Other	3,222,825	3,222,825

Project Inventory

CW401: Youth Programming

Funding amount: \$ 9,077,767

Project Expenditure Category: 3.9 Healthy Childhood Environments: Other

Project overview

- *Youth Programming is designed to provide access to educational and social activities, job training, and violence prevention programs for Columbus youth, who were one of the populations experiencing the most negative impacts of the COVID19 pandemic.*

Use of Evidence

- *The goal of this project is to provide access to education and professional development for as many young people in the community as possible. No evidence based interventions are currently being used, and a program evaluation has not yet been designed.*

CW403: Public Health

Funding amount: \$ 765,830

Project Expenditure Category: 1.1 COVID19 Vaccination

Project overview

- *The Public Health Project is designed to incentivize Columbus residents who have otherwise not received the vaccination through the distribution of \$100 giftcards at community vaccination clinics.*

Use of Evidence

- *The goal of this project is to ensure that as many Columbus residents have received the COVID19 vaccination as possible, to reduce the spread of the virus in our community, particularly in the most vulnerable neighborhoods. Data is currently being collected regarding the number of residents vaccinated and the impact on specific population.*

Performance Report

- The City is currently working on a plan to clarify goals and key performance indicators for current and upcoming projects.