

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

DATE: May 5, 2022

TO: Shawn Rolland, Co-Chair, Ricardo Diaz, Co-Chair,
American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) Task Force

FROM: Community Support Service Area Subgroup – Household Assistance

SUBJECT: ARPA Community Support Strategy Recommendations

REQUEST

Requesting recommendation of the following projects within the Community Support Expenditure Category for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding consideration.

POLICY

Milwaukee County Board file 21-555: “A resolution to create a Task Force to review and recommend funding allocations to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors for monies received by the County in the Federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021”

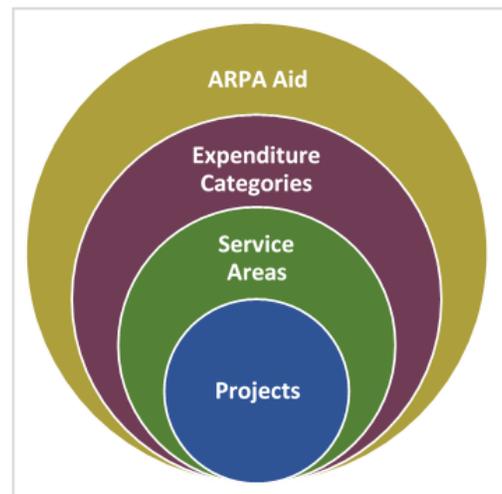
BACKGROUND

Milwaukee County will directly receive \$183 million between 2021-24 in federal ARPA aid. Approximately \$37 million has been allotted for Community Support projects.

The Community Support Service Area subgroup was established to generate project-level allocation recommendations to respond to economic harms to workers, families, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector in Milwaukee County.

The Household Assistance subgroup was formed with subject matter experts following the Community Support Service Area Subgroup Charter. Membership includes the following individuals:

Diagram A: Illustration of Terms



Name	Role & Title	Organization
Maricela Gaona	Lead Facilitator, Program Manager	Milwaukee County
Michelle Gore	Lead Facilitator, Program Manager	Milwaukee County
Cleopatra Echols	Lead Facilitator, Program Manager	Milwaukee County
Jim Mathy	Member, Housing Administrator	Milwaukee County
Gina Stilp	Partner, Executive Director	Zilber Family Foundation
Lamont Smith	Partner, Program Manager	The Nature Conservancy

In April 2022 the subgroup met to systematically review a comprehensive package of projects received from internal and external sources, review local data, and research best practices to support Milwaukee County’s recovery in this service area. The subgroup followed the criteria set by the task force on September 2, 2021 to produce a list of high priority projects for recommendation.

PRIORITIZED PROJECTS

The highest-ranking project in this service area are listed below for recommendation. Please also note the attached project summaries and criteria scoring rubric for each project which provides further detail.

Project Name	Description	Budget
Affordable Housing Development	The focus of this project would be to increase the supply of affordable housing in Milwaukee County’s suburban municipalities. This project would be operated in a similar fashion to the County’s existing HOME Program operated by the Housing Division. ARPA funds would primarily be used as gap financing for projects that have identified other sources of funding to be used as leverage including Low Income Housing Tax Credits. The Housing Division continues to have a rolling Request for Proposal for qualified real estate developers. The Division will primarily use this list to assist in the development of projects and will also prioritize the use of developers of color.	\$15,000,000
Foreclosure Rehabilitation	Rehabilitate foreclosed properties that Milwaukee County controls due to tax delinquencies. The Housing Division is proposing a partnership with the Milwaukee County Treasurer, and the Milwaukee County Economic Development Division to rehabilitate these properties and prioritize the sale once completed to first time homebuyers. This initiative would ensure anyone who loses their home in foreclosure will receive housing assistance and basic needs assistance as a part of the foreclosure process. Families would receive a housing subsidy and assistance with finding alternative affordable housing. The Housing Division would also expand its Opportunity Knocks program which pairs residents of the House of Corrections with contractors to receive on the job training.	\$3,000,000

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the recommendation of prioritized projects within the Community Support Expenditure Category.

PREPARED BY:

Bess Earl, Senior Grant Analyst

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Describe how the item aligns to the objectives in the strategic plan:

2A: Determine what, where, and how we deliver services to advance health equity

2C: Apply a racial equity lens to all decisions

3A: Invest “upstream” to address root causes of health disparities

3C: Dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – Affordable Housing Development Project Proposal

Attachment B – Foreclosure Rehabilitation Project Proposal

Attachment C – Service Area Subgroup Review Summary Household Assistance Project Recommendations

Attachment D – ARPA Proposal Review Criteria – Community Support Programs