

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

DATE: November 16, 2022

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

FROM: COVID-19 Mitigation Subgroup

SUBJECT: ARPA COVID-19 Subgroup Requests the remaining \$3,000,000 in COVID-19 Mitigation funds

REQUEST

Requesting the remaining \$3,000,000 within the COVID-19 Mitigation Expenditure Category for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to allocate for internal efforts to reduce the ongoing risk of COVID-19 to employees and the people we serve in County facilities.

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

The COVID-19 Mitigation Subgroup was established to to make recommendations to use ARPA funds to efficiently manage communication and mitigation efforts in response to fluctuations in local data.

To date, the subgroup has reviewed 24 requests for COVID-19 mitigation funds and approved \$2,157,045 in expenses of the \$2,500,000 COVID-19 Mitigation allocation approved by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors. The COVID-19 Mitigation funds are requested by department and office leads to purchase personal protective equipment, testing, physical changes to facilities, and other mitigation efforts. Focusing on internal COVID-19 mitigation improves the County's ability to proactively prepare the county to continue providing services throughout the ongoing pandemic and to stabilize staff needed for pandemic responses in County service areas. This request is designed to ensure that there is continuity of funding for COVID-19 response activities when the allocation of \$2,500,000 is fully expended.

RECOMMENDATION

The COVID-19 Mitigation Subgroup recommends authorization of \$3,000,000 in ARPA funds for Milwaukee County COVID-19 mitigation strategies within the COVID-19 Mitigation Category.

PREPARED BY:

Bess Earl, Senior Grant Analyst, Office of Strategy, Budget & Performance

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

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

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

3B: Enhance the County's fiscal health and sustainability

3C: Dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities

ATTACHMENTS:

N/A