

# **Delaware County Commonwealth of Pennsylvania**

## **Recovery Plan**

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds 2023 Report



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#### 1.1 Executive Summary

This Project Report serves the joint purposes of meeting the requirements for the Recovery Plan submittal for the Year 2023 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 support economic, health, and operational requirements. The report provides the information specified and formats recommended by the US Treasury publication **Compliance and Reporting Guidance, State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**, 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 20<sup>-</sup> 2022 to review current commitments and receive community input. A second public meeting was held on May 22, 2023 to receive more community input. The proposed uses of all funds received under ARPA is summarized below:

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, not profit entities, business organizations, and individuals to identify qualifying uses for the \$24,003,588 in remaining funds. The County has also been continually receiving input through its website at <a href="mailto:delcopa.gov/ARPA">delcopa.gov/ARPA</a>.

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 2022. Council conducted a public meeting in June 2022 to review current commitments and receive community input. A second meeting was held on May 22, 2023 to receive additional community input. The proposed uses of all funds received under ARPA is summarized below:

Description		Amount	Distribution
Allocated but not Encumbered/Expended	•	\$ 59,178,885	22%
Encumbered/Expended	•	26,901,488	22/8
Unallocated	•	24,003,588	54%
TOTAL		\$110,083,960.83	24/6

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

Description		Amount	Distribution
Replace Lost Public Sector Revenues	•	\$40,123,618	32%
Public Health	•	27,237,127	
Administrative Costs	•	767,000	
Economic Impacts	•	17,920,128	20%
Infrastructure	•	32,500	0%
TOTAL		\$80,080,373	1%

1%



#### 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%
State and Federal Grants	•	94,006	3% 5%
Departmental Earnings		32,592	
Other Income		11,879	10%
Interest, Fees, Rentals, Licenses, and Transfers		10,939	
Commissions	•	5,457	000/
Reimbursed Expenses	•	5,450	28%
Court Costs and Fines	•	3,745	
TOT	AL	\$335,331	

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

- The County received most 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	Allo	cated	ended/ ımbered	nmitted ance
RoD – eRecords	\$	564,158	\$ 495,290	\$ 68,869
Child Care Professional Network		5,000,000	5,000,000	-
Greenways Capital Plan		1,907,375	-	1,907,375
WFD Digital Literacy		60,000	33,445	26,555
RoW – Remote Service Apps		150,000	-	150,000
WFD Back to Work Camp		100,000	100,000	-
Commerce – Holiday Village		714,875	714,875	-
VITA Tax Program		116,150	116,150	-
Lansdowne Theater		2,500,000	2,500,000	-
Library Services		675,000	321,122	353,878
Upland Park		1,329,127	486,485	842,642
Little Flower Park		1,134,755	-	1,134,755
Habitat for Humanity		608,688	-	608,688
Vison Zero Plan*		300,000	300,000	-
RDA Blight Fund		750,000	750,000	-
America 250		250,000	250,000	-
Park Police OT – Holiday Village		100,000	53,052	46,948
SEPTA Key		250,000	-	250,000
Family Support Line		910,000	910,000	-
TOTALS	\$1	7,420,128	\$ 12,030,418	\$ 5,389,710

<sup>\*</sup>All but \$106,000 is to be reallocated from Vision Zero Plan to other ARPA projects

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 2, 2022 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.

#### 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.

There is a \$5.0M balance of unallocated funds 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.

Currently the sole infrastructure project is an Upland Park hydrology study presented in Section 2.



#### **Other Qualifying Projects**

As of the date of this report, Delaware County still has \$24M 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 has been 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) has further heightened our commitment to equitable outcomes. 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 \$11.1M to-date has been allocated to the following projects in areas of greater economic need.



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 childcare to support job seekers.
Network		
Greenways Capital Plan	1,907,375	Encourage healthy lifestyles through open space
		connections
WFD Digital Literacy	60,000	Increase computer skills for job seekers.
WFD Back to Work	100,000	Provide childcare to support job seekers.
Camp		
Commerce – Holiday	714,875	Support local small businesses.
Village		
VITA Tax Program	116,150	Assist families in claiming tax credits.
Lansdowne Theater	2,500,000	Support redevelopment of the town center.
Alta Planning (RAISE	68,000	Reconnect Chester through transportation and
Grant)		infrastructure improvements.
Library Services	675,000	Provide digital connections/materials.



#### 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 May 22, 2023. 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 non-profit 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 500 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 assisted families in filing income tax returns to take advantage of Child Tax Credits.
- The *Lansdowne Theater Project* provided \$2,500,000 to the Historic Lansdowne Theater Corporation, through the County's Public Works Department, to complete renovation of this 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. 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 childcare 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 good 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 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 and 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 more program goals	
Financial Performance	Completed within budget	Unit cost of services
	Change order control	Administrative costs <10%
	Attains competitive pricing	
<b>Technical Performance</b>	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	Complies with federal	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 Identification, Funds Allocated, Encumbrances/Expenditures, Responsible Agency and Category. Encumbrances/expenditures shown are as of the end of the reporting period.

#### 2.1 Digital Literacy

Project Identification: Digital Literacy (49-5854-630000)

Funds Allocated: \$60,000

**Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date**: \$33,445.03 **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.

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



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 was discontinued due to lack of response.

#### 2.2 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

Summer Camp Solution (\$100,000 Budget)

Unemployed caregivers were eligible to receive up to \$1,000 in summer cam services to allow them to search for work, interview, or begin work.

#### Summer 2021 operated July 1 to September 6, 2021.

<u>Summer camps</u> were invited to apply to be listed on the "Approved Camp List" that unemployed caregivers could select from. There was excellent participation on a short timeline.

- Boys & Girls Club of Chester 201 E. 7 Street, Chester, PA 19013
- Camp Garrett 395 Bishop Hollow Road, Newtown Square, PA 19073
- Camp Phoenix 301 E. 9th Street, Chester, PA 19013
- The Center for Learning Cooking Camp 452 S. New Middletown Road, Media, PA 19063
- The Creative Living Room 2274 West Chester Pike, Broomall, PA 19008
- Darlington Fine Arts Center, Inc. 977 Shavertown Road, Garnet Valley, PA 19060
- Delaware County Community College 901 South Media Line Road, Media, PA 19063
- Greenhorn Gardens Greenhouse in Arlington Cemetery 401 School Lane, Drexel Hill, PA 19026
- Hedgerow Theatre 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 Rd, Haverford, PA 19041
- The Media Theatre 104 East State Street, Media, PA 19063
- YMCA (Lansdowne) 2110 Garrett Rd., Lansdowne, PA 19050
- YMCA (Ridley Area) 900 South Avenue, Secane, PA 19018
- YMCA (Springfield) 194 W. Sproul Rd., Springfield, PA 19064

A survey was conducted of the participating camps at the conclusion of the project.

- 100% of the camps would like to participate if the program is offered during summer 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)

#### Summer 2022 operated from June 1 to September 6, 2022.

12 Camps were approved for the summer of 2022

- Boys & Girls Club of Chester 201 E. 7 Street, Chester, PA 19013
- Camp Garrett 395 Bishop Hollow Road, Newtown Square, PA 19073
- Camp Phoenix 301 E. 9th Street, Chester, PA 19013
- The Creative Living Room 2274 West Chester Pike, Broomall, PA 19008 (Chef Dads Table)
- Darlington Fine Arts Center, Inc. 977 Shavertown Road, Garnet Valley, PA 19060
- Delaware County Community College 901 South Media Line Road, Media, PA 19063
- Hedgerow Theatre School Summer Camp 64 Rose Valley Road, Rose Valley, PA 19063
- The Media Theatre 104 East State Street, Media, PA 19063
- Newlin Grist Mills/Nicholas Newlin Foundation 219 S. Cheyney Rd, Glen Mills 19342
- YMCA (Lansdowne) 2110 Garrett Rd., Lansdowne, PA 19050
- YMCA (Ridley Area) 900 South Avenue, Secane, PA 19018
- YMCA (Springfield) 194 W. Sproul Rd., Springfield, PA 19064

#### Participants:

- Fifty-one (51) unemployed caregivers were approved to participate in the program.
- Eighty-four (84) children participated.
- \$40,143 in funds were used to send unemployed caregivers' children to summer camp



#### Demographic information of the 51 Caregivers

•	Hispanic, Latino, Spanish	13	
•	Not Hispanic, Latino, Spanish	34	
•	Other	3	
•	Prefer not to Say	10	
•	American Indian or Alaska nativ	ve .	1
•	Asian		1
•	Black or African American		42
•	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacif	ic Island	0
•	White		4
•	prefer not to say		2
•	others		1

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

• 60% of respondents returned to work

1 caregiver has identity as homeless

#### Summer 2022 operated from June 1 to September 6, 2022.

12 Camps were approved for the summer of 2022

- Boys & Girls Club of Chester 201 E. 7 Street, Chester, PA 19013
- The Creative Living Room 2274 West Chester Pike, Broomall, PA 19008 (Chef Dads Table)
- Delaware County Community College 901 South Media Line Road, Media, PA 19063
- YMCA (Lansdowne) 2110 Garrett Rd., Lansdowne, PA 19050
- YMCA (Ridley Area) 900 South Avenue, Secane, PA 19018
- YMCA (Springfield) 194 W. Sproul Rd., Springfield, PA 19064
- Greater Philadelphia YMCA (Haverford)
- Media-Providence Friends School
- Upper Providence Twp
- Media Arts Council

As of July 3, 2023, Participants:

- Thirteen (13) unemployed caregivers were approved to participate in the program.
- Sixteen (16) children have been approved to participate.

Demographic information of the 51 Caregivers

Hispanic, Latino, Spanish 0Not Hispanic, Latino, Spanish 12



•	Other	1	
•	Prefer not to Say	0	
•	American Indian or Alaska nati	ve	1
•	Asian		1
•	Black or African American		8
•	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacif	ic Island	0
•	White		2
•	prefer not to say		0
•	others		0

A survey will be conducted of the unemployed caregivers at the conclusion of the project.

#### 2.3 VITA Tax Program

**Project Identification:** Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program (49-5851-659135)

**Funds Allocated**: \$116,149.93

**Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date**: \$116,149.93

**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 taxpayers were able to claim Child Care credits. 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. 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).

Delaware County's ARPA sponsored VITA Tax program was broken into two branches. The first was a volunteer income tax assistance (VITA) program assisting taxpayers prepare their income tax returns. The second rose awareness and educated low-income residents regarding the Child Tax Credit.

**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. Furthermore, 621 households were educated about the expanded credit. The VITA tax program was concluded at the end of the 2022 tax season with unused funds returned to Delaware County.

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#### 2.5 Delaware County Health Department (DCHD)

Project Identification: DCHD Operating Expenses (49-5852-635032)

**Funds Allocated**: \$12,780,800

**Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date**: \$1,900,945.97

**Responsible Agency**: DCHD **Category**: Public Health

TIME PERIOD: July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

**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, and a variety of other wellness services. ARPA funds have been used to assist in start-up operations, including a 24-hour call center, temp staffing, website and marketing development including public awareness messaging, equipment and materials, and Infrastructure/Construction support for the DCHD, as well as fleet/vehicle support.

**Use of Evidence:** The Health Department has an Administrative Support Division responsible for financial reporting which includes payroll and purchasing. The Personal Health Division is responsible for better managing of preventive care and overall health access for patients as well as reporting and demonstrating overall improved health outcomes for residents. The Population Health Division is responsible for tracking health outcomes and manages epidemiology. The Information gathered and investigated includes customer base, types of services provided, disease and public health demographic data, and health outcomes. The Environmental Health Division provides inspections of restaurants, food markets, public pools and other facilities throughout the County.

**Performance Report:** The use of ARPA dollars for critical infrastructure needs of the DCHD operations has demonstrated County commitment to obtain resources and support the DCHD to deliver to County residents an effective public health system. ARPA support by the County was effective to provide a DCHD dedicated call center which ensures that all public health information is streamlined and provides assurances to a positive path for County residents. This call center demonstrates to the community the commitment by the County of addressing community and clients' concerns by delivering a capability to provide accurate and timely 24-hour communication to residents. ARPA dollars have also been used to address a national public health crisis by way of aiding with DCHD response to shortages in public health staffing. GHR and Monarch temporary staff support of the DCHD has assisted to maintain programmatic stability as well as provide an essential staffing tool for public health work effectively assisting to expand the public health workforce. With the use of ARPA funding the County has been able to better use communication and marketing resources to effectively support health promotion and public health. The ARPA funds were targeted to support the need for an online presence and helped provide the DCHD's now established website and social media presence and continued development. ARPA funds have been used to optimize equipment availability as demand surges. By ensuring the availability of supplies and equipment ARPA has contributed significantly to the stability and sustainability of the DCHD. By supporting the supplies and equipment needs, the DCHD has maintained effectiveness and focus on the



long-term needs of the department. Being able to keep up with the demands of a rapidly growing health department helps improve workplace productivity, boosts employee morale, and ensures the DCHD can continue to adapt to the needs of the growing Health department. ARPA support of construction projects at the Yeadon Wellness Center assisted with DCHD's ability to be innovative and to develop to the appropriate needs of the community. The commitment by the County to the Yeadon construction has demonstrated that the County takes seriously the commitment to eliminating structural barriers to health equity. This path to improving the health of communities in needs is very apparent in the County's investment in the Yeadon Wellness Center which demonstrates County support targeting health care disparities. This is very evident in the work at Yeadon which has added areas of public health focus in maternal and child health, pediatric and life cycle support of immunizations, HIV/STI testing and preventive care, as well as TB prevention. The commitment to the Yeadon Wellness Center demonstrates one example of how investment in the community can help advance community health and promote greater health equity in economically challenged areas. ARPA support has also been critical for transportation, core logistics, and supply chain activities. The DCHD now has a fleet of (30) electric vehicles, as well as a custom mobile clinic on order. The ARPA support of the DCHD transportation needs has again demonstrated commitment by the County to improving health outcomes through health equity and removing barriers to health. In addition, the County support of alternative fuel vehicles or EVs can be an especially effective policy for sustainability and addressing the dual public health crisis of air pollution and climate change. The County use of ARPA dollars for use by the DCHD has demonstrated an overall commitment by the County to invest in public health infrastructure and expand on the County's overall capacity to protect and promote the health of all County residents and to stand out in the nation's public health system.

#### 2.6 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:** \$1,029,051.33

Responsible Agencies: DCHD/Public Works

Category: Public Health

TIME PERIOD: July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

**Overview**: The Yeadon Wellness Center located at 125 Chester Avenue, Yeadon, opened its doors in February 2021 in the height of the COVID pandemic serving as a testing and vaccination site. In October 2021, under the direction of key Health Department officials and County leadership and the architectural/construction services of Linn Architects/Paolella Construction the expansion of the Wellness Center "Phase 2" was completed in May 2022. In late 2022, \$2,681,855.55 in ARPA funds were allocated to begin the design/construction of "Phase 3" which is scheduled to be completed in Fall of 2023 and expand DCHD footprint an additional 6,000 sq ft. (total Wellness Center over 19,000 sq ft).



**Use of Evidence**: The Yeadon Wellness Center, serves as the main facility for the Division of Personal Health Services and in Fall of 2023 the main facility for the Division of Population Health.

The Personal Health Division provides Delaware County residents specific health services to protect against communicable diseases (including vaccine-preventable diseases), promote the health and well-being of women and children, mitigate the effects of children's environmental exposures to lead, and ensure accessibility to quality health care. The Wellness Center is equipped with specialized tuberculosis (w/negative air pressure ventilation) and bariatric exam rooms; dedicated specimen collection room; lab and pharmacy; secure records room, and a multipurpose meeting room to function as the Health Department EOC.

The Division of Population Health coordinates with community partners, agencies, and healthcare institutions to address "upstream" social determinants of health that impact individuals and community health. Key services include Community Health Assessment; health education and resources for chronic disease prevention; pandemic emergency preparedness, (including COVID response), the Delaware County Health Department Wellness Call Center, and health equity promotion.

#### **Performance Report:**

The Personal Health Division has provided services to over 2000 individuals, including but not limited to Tuberculosis testing and treatment, Sexually Transmitted Infections/HIV testing and treatment, Immunization for uninsured children and adults, and homebound vaccination program for residents with physical limitations. Furthermore, in late January, the Division of Personal Health was instrumental to identify, test and provide ongoing clinical support to individuals effected by the tuberculosis finding at the Penn Wood Middle School in Darby, PA.

The Population Health Division partners with community and health partners throughout the County including Jefferson Health, Keystone First, Drexel University, Personic, SEPTA, DELCO DHS, DES and Office of Services for the Aging/senior centers, among others. This past year alone, the Division has participated in over 30 community events including Stride for Autism Awareness Walk, Jefferson Health Mammogram and Prostate Screening (held @ Yeadon Wellness Center ground) and Chester City Hall Toys for Tots, to name a few. Additionally, the Division sponsors part-time contract nurses at 10 public school districts in the county to enhance preparedness, relationship building, and support communicable disease response and reporting. Furthermore, year to date the Wellness Call Center has received over 2000 call assisting the community with their healthcare needs.

#### 2.7 eRecords Management

**Project Identification**: eRecords Management (49-5851-659132)

Funds Allocated: \$496,300



**Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date**: \$495,289.50

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 was to examine and determine file integrity for all historical documents prior to 1981. The documents primarily consist of 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.

**Use of Evidence**: The primary project tasks involved the grouping of multiple images into one document as well as to then index the book and page associated with each document. The summation of this project resulted in full online accessibility for the Office's more than 5 million records. Now that 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 was concluded in December of 2022. In all, 4.9 million historical images have been validated, paginated and marked with corresponding book and page locators.

#### 2.8 Child Care Assistance

**Project Identification**: Child Care Professional Network (49-5851-635028)

Funds Allocated: \$5,000,000

**Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date:** \$5,000,000

**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 childcare.

**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 April 30, 2022, the Child Care Professionals Network has subsidized childcare for 434 families, 105 licensed childcare providers and 50 service days of children's childcare. In total 565 children coming from 28 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	\$32,689	\$38,624	\$40,540	\$42,450	\$44,361	\$41,375	\$23,734	N/A
Income								

#### 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				

#### 2.9 Holiday Village at Festival of Lights

**Project Identification**: Holiday Village (49-5854-659117)

**Funds Allocated**: \$714,875.00

**Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date**: \$714,875.00

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.

#### 2.10 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)

Project Identification: RAISE Grant Application (Alta Planning and Design) (49-5850-63000)

Funds Allocated: \$18,000 Responsible Agency: Planning Category: Economic Impact

**Overview**: Preparation of a RAISE grant application for the City of Chester to identify community concerns related to transportation issues and safety in the City. After the concerns were identified solutions and pilot projects would be completed.

**Use of Evidence**: Alta Planning and Design was awarded the Vision Zero contract and work is starting on the community engagement piece of the project.

Project Report: Project is complete. RAISE grant application submitted February 2023.

#### **2.11 COVID Response – 2022**

Project Identification: COVID-19 Response (49-5853-630103)

Funds Allocated: \$2,500,000.00

Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date: \$771,075.08

Responsible Agency: Health Department

**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 <a href="www.health.pa.gov">www.health.pa.gov</a>. 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 4<sup>th</sup> highest of the state's 67 counties. These efforts have enabled the County to remain in the low-to-moderate transmissivity range.

#### 2.12 Surrey Center

**Project Identification**: Surrey Center

Funds Allocated: \$378,400

**Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date:** \$378,400

Responsible Agency: Category: Public Health

**Overview:** Surrey Services for Seniors (Surrey) is a leader in providing aging-in-place services to help older adults in Chester and Delaware Counties navigate and thrive in each of the transitional phases of older life. Surrey inspires and enables all of us, as we age, to live with independence and dignity, and as engaged members of the community. Surrey holds as its vision to create a leading, dynamic community for aging adults by developing groundbreaking programs, services and activities that encourage and support older adults to live well longer.

**Use of Evidence**: Delaware County awarded a grant for renovation and equipping a new senior center in Broomall, Pa which responds to the Covid-19 public health emergency by helping mitigate its effects on the senior population.

Performance Report: The new center opened in March 2023

#### 2.13 Library Services Local Library Assistance:

**Project Identification**: Library Services (49-5851-659136)

Funds Allocated: \$675,000

**Expenditures to Date**: \$321,121.90

Responsible Agency: Library Department

**Category**: Economic Impact

Overview: Library Services will apply the \$675,000 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

**Use of Evidence:** Library Services collects usage and circulation data daily/weekly/monthly/yearly to assemble data on increased public demand for services.

**Project Report**: Still in progress

#### 2.14 District Attorney's Gun Violence Prevention Program

**Project Identification**: Gun Violence Prevention (49-5851-635032)

Funds Allocated: \$1,000,000

**Expenditures to Date**: \$553.688.39 **Responsible Agency**: District Attorney

**Category**: Public Health

**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**: Four detectives have been hired.

#### 2.15 Lost Revenues to Local Government



Project Identification: Revenue Loss (49-5851-635032)

**Funds Allocated:** \$40,123,618

**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 and \$29,062,348 in lost revenues in 2023 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.

**Project Report:** The remaining sum of \$3,021,270 is allocated to Medical Examiner and DCHD capital improvement (\$2,901,270) as well as Criminal Investigations Department premium pay (\$120,000).

#### 2.16 Greenways Capital Plan

**Project Identification**: Greenways Capital Plan (49-5856-659131)

Funds Allocated: \$1,907,375 Responsible Agency: Planning Category: Economic Impact

**Overview:** The Delco Green Ways program, now entering its fourth round in five years, supports the development of trails and parks and the preservation and stewardship of green spaces throughout the County, contributing to economic development, public health and sustainability. Since 2019, the County has awarded 97 grants totaling \$16.9 million. These County grants are expected to leverage an additional \$33.72 million state and federal funds and private/non-profit foundations. Council allocated \$1.9 in ARPA funds for Round 2 of the County's Green Ways grant program in 2021. No additional ARPA funding has been used in this ongoing grant program. The \$1.9 M in ARPA funding allocated primarily addresses projects in the more urbanized and less affluent parts of the County.

#### 2.17 Historic Lansdowne Theater Renovation

**Project Identification**: Lansdowne Theater (49-5851-659134)

Funds Allocated: \$2,500,000

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 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. Kick off meeting occurred in July 2023.

#### 2.18 Partners for Justice

**Project Identification**: Partners for Justice (49-5851-635033)

Funds Allocated: \$860,264 Expenditures to Date: \$860,264 Responsible Agency: Public Defender

**Category**: Public Health

**Overview:** Partners for Justice builds capacity of public defense offices through collaborative partnership that seeks to secure better outcomes for impoverished persons in the criminal justice system. They provide holistic support services to poor people facing criminal charges while helping us divert public defense clients to social systems, mitigate criminal and collateral consequences of convictions, and protect the constitutional rights of those accused with the goal of disrupting cycles of poverty and overincarceration.

Use of Evidence: In collaboration with the Delaware County Office of the Public Defender, Partners for Justice maintains a data dashboard to track the number of cases on which the advocates collectively and individually work, the average number of days it takes to resolve the referrals, the nature of the referrals, and the percentage of cases in which the identified services goals (ie: find housing, link to subsistence benefits, mitigate sentencing, obtain vital documents, etc.) are achieved. While it can be difficult to quantify reductions in incarceration rates against hypothetical possible alternative outcomes, the available data provides tracking and accountability of the services provided and demographic data. In the first quarter of 2023, for example, the data demonstrates that over 72% of the referrals that were completed by advocates met their identified service goals (298 referrals out of 413). That is consistent with the nationwide average of 73% across the thirteen public defense offices where such data is available. In many instances, service goals are not obtained because the needed services are simply not available. The data can and will also be used to identify areas of high need within the targeted service population, as well as barriers to getting those needs met.

#### **Project Report**:

Five non-attorney advocates have been embedded in the Office of the Public Defender since July of 2022. Between July 1, 2022 and March 31, 2023, Delaware County's Partners for Justice advocates provided



direct services to 479 individuals who, collectively, have a median annual income of below \$10,000. The nature of the services provided included referrals for housing, benefits, financial subsistence, access to health services, and mitigating criminal sentences. Over fifty percent of those served in 2022 and the first quarter of 2023 are people of color. Over 10% self-reported as unhoused. In the first quarter of 2023, 48% of those served were unemployed. The advocates and their public defense leadership also engaged in training with other advocates and public defenders throughout the nation.

#### **Little Flower/Upland Parks**

**Project Identification**: Little Flower/Upland Parks (TBD)

**Funds Allocated**: \$2,682,905

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: Upland Park completed July 2023

#### 2.20 Electronic Filing for the Register of Will and Orphan's Court

Project Identification: Register of Will Remote Services (49-5851-659113)

Funds Allocated: \$150,000

Responsible Agency: Register of Wills

**Category:** Economic Impact

**Overview**: The Delaware County Register of Wills and Orphans' Court, unlike other counties in the Commonwealth, only permits the filing of select petitions and documents in-person and by U.S. mail. This project will permit the electronic filing of select petitions and documents, automate routine responses, reduce the need for storing physical files, and save labor hours due to increased efficiency.

**Use of Evidence**: The signed agreement with software provider Kofile provides that payment will be made consistent with rollout of the program and training of the staff.

**Performance Report**: An orientation and kickoff has been held and we anticipate the first stage of the process to commence within the next calendar quarter.



#### 2.21 Advanced Life Support/Medical Consultant Services

Project Identification: Advanced Life Support/Medical Consultant Services (49-5851-635039)

**Funds Allocated**: \$169,865.00

**Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date**: \$20,391.25

Responsible Agency: Executive Director

Category: Public Health

**Overview:** Delaware County communities have historically been covered for advanced life support/medical transport services through the availability of several service providers, including local area hospitals, township supported services, and volunteer networks. The loss of hospital providers may create gaps in coverage areas and excessive response times-both of which result in loss of life or serious and permanent injury. The shift of responsibility from health care providers who are discontinuing ALS services to units of local government may also result in extraordinary costs placed on the taxpayers of these jurisdictions.

**Use of Evidence**: Delaware County has hired PFM consultants to provide a detailed report on the current status and plan for future needs for ALS/Medical Transport services throughout the County.

**Performance Report**: Work in progress

2.22 Zencity Community Outreach

**Project Identification**: Zencity Community Outreach (49-5851-659114)

Funds Allocated: \$199,000

**Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date**: \$199,000

**Responsible Agency**: Planning

Category: Administrative

**Overview**: Delaware County launched a new public engagement platform, Zencity, to better understand local priorities and concerns on a wide range of County services and resources and to better understand the overall quality of the lives of residents. The launch included 3 tools: a revolving community survey



where the onus was on Zencity to gather an official sample from a wide range of residents to gather meaningful and actionable insights; an engagement platform to create smaller targeted surveys and webpages to involve the community; and an organic dashboard where certain initiatives and events can be gauged for public sentiment across public social media sites.

The tool enables the County to understand local neighborhood issues and enhance the County's responsiveness to community priorities more holistically. The confidential feedback survey asks residents to rate their experience with different aspects of life in Delaware County including affordable housing, employment, public health, open space, transportation, access to services, public safety, and other topics. No personal identifiable information is being collected in the survey.

**Use of Evidence/Performance**: The Community Survey report is provided to the county every 3 months with a comparison to counties with similar demographics.

The engage platform is currently being used by the Planning Department, Division of Sustainability and the Health Department as well as for current county council initiatives. It has been used for 19 projects as of July 2023 which include the Delaware County Health Assessment, the New Part Master Plan, Sustainability Conference and Plan, a Transportation Survey for county staff, an Opioid Survey for the Town Halls, and the Improving Safety along Route 291 project.

The organic dashboard has been used for feedback on county meetings, townhalls, environmental events, and feedback on county policies and workflows. There are currently 32 projects giving feedback on public sentiment.

#### 2.23 Firehouse Relief

Project Identification: Firehouse Relief (\$49-5851-635036)

Funds Allocated: \$1,750,000

**Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date**: \$1,564,974.15

Responsible Agency: EMS

Category: Economic Impact

#### Overview:

Delaware County Council authorized using up to \$1,750,000 in American Rescue Plan funds to provide grants to local fire departments across the county. More than 60 active fire companies were eligible for grants worth up to \$25,000 for their operational needs. The funds were designed to replace lost revenues and supplement fund-raising efforts adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Use of Evidence:

Fire companies agree to expend grant funds for equipment or training.



**Project Report**:

All eligible fire companies have received grants.

2.24 Liberty Resources Inc.

**Project Identification**: Liberty Resources Inc. (49-5851-635035)

Funds Allocated: \$700,000

Encumbrances/Expenditures: \$700,000

**Responsible Agency**: Housing and Community Development

Category: Public Health

**Overview**: The Project will give people with disabilities access to affordable accessible housing as an alternative to institutional congregate living. Liberty will identify, purchase, and rehabilitate six (6) integrated community-based accessible housing units with at least one of the units intended to be reserved for temporary transitional housing.

**Use of Evidence**: Increase the supply of affordable housing units for households that experienced impacts from of the pandemic.

**Performance Report**: The contract has been executed and the grantee is evaluating potential residential sites for purchase and rehabilitation.

#### 2.25 Habitat for Humanity Montgomery and Delaware Counties

Project Identification: Habitat for Humanity Montgomery and Delaware Counties (49-5856-659115)

Funds Allocated: \$608,688

**Encumbrances/Expenditures** \$608,688

Responsible Agency: Housing and Community Development

**Category:** Economic Impacts

**Overview:** The Project will provide new construction of two (2) "twin" residences resulting in four (4) 2-story homes.



**Use of Evidence**: Increase the supply of affordable housing units for households that experienced impacts from of the pandemic.

**Performance Report**: The contract has been executed and the project is under construction.

#### 2.26 Family Support Line

**Project Identification:** Family Support Line (49-5851-635043)

Funds Allocated: \$910,000

Encumbrances/Expenditures: \$910,000

**Responsible Agency**: Human Services

**Category:** Economic Impacts

**Overview**: Grant to Family Support Line for costs of equipping and transitioning to a new space.

**Use of Evidence**: The grantee provides a continuum of services to help survivors of child abuse and their loved ones get the assistance they need to be safe, heal, break the cycle of abuse and thrive.

**Performance Report**: There has been a significant increase in demand for these services as a result of the Covid-19 public health emergency.

#### 2.27 Upland Hydrology Study

**Project Identification:** Upland Hydrology (49-5856-659139)

Funds Allocated: \$32,500

**Encumbrances/Expenditures**: \$32,500

Responsible Agency: Public Works

**Category**: Infrastructure



**Overview**: Grant to the borough of Upland to fund a Hydrologic and Flood Risk Assessment report for the Chester Creek area between Kerlin Street Bridge and Dutton Mill Road Bridge which has a history of span blockages during major storms causing flooding.

**Use of Evidence**: This is a water and sewage infrastructure project for the management of stormwater which helps restore and bolster public sector capacity by addressing administrative needs caused or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Performance Report: The project will be completed in the fall of 2023

#### 2.28 Vision Zero Plan

**Project Identification:** Vision Zero Plan (49-5851-659137)

Funds Allocated: \$69,000 (Original allocation was for \$300,000, \$231,000 was reallocated to other

projects.)

Responsible Agency: Planning Category: Economic Impact

**Overview:** The Delaware County Planning Department will be working on a county-wide Vision Zero Action Plan to help build a safer transportation system in the county. Vision Zero is a fundamentally different way to approach traffic safety by establishing a "Strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all". To fulfill the goal of Vision Zero, the Action Plan will identify a High Injury Network (HIN) based on PennDOT crash data to identify the areas with safety concerns. As part of developing the Action Plan, there will be robust community engagement and collaboration with County residents. The plan will design a toolbox of actionable strategies based on "Safe System Principles" with the goal to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries. Such tools cover everything from creating safe streets, ensuring safe speeds, traffic safety education, and the development and implementation of transformative policies to get to zero.

**Use of Evidence:** Alta Planning and Design was awarded the Vision Zero contract and work is starting on the community engagement piece of the project.

**Project Report:** The Plan is anticipated to be completed in early 2024.

#### 2.29 Route 291 Road Diet

Project Identification: Route 291 Road Diet

Funds Allocated: \$25,000 (reallocation of Vision Zero funds as per June 20th Council Meeting)



Responsible Agency: Planning

Category: Economic Impact

Overview: Additional funding needed will cover request from PennDOT for additional detail on economic

development in the City of Chester.

**Use of Evidence:** Kittleson was contracted to complete this work

**Project Report:** The project is anticipated to be completed late 2023.

2.30 Darby Creek Trail Phase II Final Design Project

Project Identification: Darby Creek Trail Phase II Final Design Project

Funds Allocated: \$100,000 (reallocation of Vision Zero funds as per June 20th Council Meeting)

Responsible Agency: Planning Category: Economic Impact

Overview: Funds will assist with completing the Final Design Phase of the Darby Creek Trial Phase II project

located in an EJ community.

Project Report: Waiting on additional grant money to begin project.

2.31 Vision Zero Early Action Plan

**Project Identification:** Vision Zero Early Action project

Funds Allocated: \$300,000 (reallocation of Vision Zero funds as per June 20th Council Meeting)

**Responsible Agency:** Planning

**Category:** Economic Impact

**Overview:** Future funding for an early action project that comes out of the Vision Zero Plan, located in a

disadvantaged community and to be subject to further Council approval

**Project Report**: Project to be identified after the Vision Zero Plan is completed.



#### 2.32 Septa Key Advantage Program

**Project Identification:** SEPTA Key Advantage Program (49-5851-635043)

Funds Allocated: \$250,000

**Responsible Agency: Planning** 

**Category:** Economic Impact

Overview: Starting with Media based employees, test SEPTA Key Advantage for one year, with potential

roll-out to all eligible county employees in the future.

Use of Evidence: Program coordination is on-going with SEPTA.

**Project Report**: The Program is attentively anticipated to be rolled out early 2024.

#### 2.33 Administrative Services

Project Identification: Administration (49-5850-630000)

Funds Allocated: \$500,000

**Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date**: \$15,822.50

Responsible Agency: County of Delaware

**Category:** Administration

**Overview**: Administration is not to exceed 2% of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) award. In the case of Delaware County this totals \$2,201,679. Maher Duessel was contracted as a consultant to provide external guidance in managing American Rescue Plan Act dollars. This contract is ongoing. Services through June 30, 2023 have totaled \$15,822.50.

#### 2.34 Park Police OT-Holiday Village

Project Identification: Park Police Overtime-Holiday Village (49-5850-wages)

Funds Allocated: \$100,000



**Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date**: \$53,051.84

Responsible Agency: Park Police

Category: Economic Impacts

**Overview**: Funds used to pay for Park Police overtime to support the Holiday Village Project 2022/2023. Remaining funds will be used for Park Police overtime towards Holiday Village Project 2023/2024.

#### 2.35 America 250

**Project Identification:** America 250 (49-58-659138)

**Funds Allocated:** \$250,000,00

**Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date:** \$250,000,00

Responsible Agency: Economic Development Oversight Board

Category: Economic Impacts

**Overview:** Funding for seed money to support travel, tourism and hospitality in Delaware County. For America 250. Staff will be hired for programming, marketing and sponsorship of events with local municipalities.

#### 2.36 Redevelopment Authority Blight Fund

Project Identification Number: RDA Blight Fund (49-5855-659116)

**Funds Allocated**: \$750,000.00

**Encumbrances/Expenditures to Date**: \$750.000.00

Responsible Agency: Delaware County Chamber of Commerce

Category: Economic Impacts



**Overview**: Funding to seed fund applications and pilot programs to transition grey vacant and contaminated properties into healthy community and economic contributors. The funds support establishing a bundle of redevelopment programs, including advancing applications for EPA Brownsfield Assessment and Loan Funding, an application for DCED Keystone enterprise zone, an evaluation of establishing a countywide Land Bank and to continue to work on establishing a Countywide ACT135 program.



[END of REPORT]