

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding

Information for Community Members

Our recovery from the hardships of the COVID-19 pandemic will show how we move forward together — or whether we leave the most vulnerable people and communities behind. Thoughtfully allocating ARPA funds can make a difference.

1. How can Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery funds be used?

Five main categories:

- Support public health expenditures
- Address negative economic impacts of COVID-19
- Replace lost public sector revenue
- Provide premium pay for essential workers
- Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure



2. How can ARPA dollars fund an equitable recovery?

- Direct resources to people and communities most adversely affected
- Support disproportionately impacted populations: workers with low wages, people of color, and families and individuals with low income
- Dedicate funds to the greatest needs in our communities: general assistance, housing and homelessness supports, food and fuel assistance, opioid recovery and harm reduction, child care, health care outreach and vaccination



See bit.ly/ARPA-equity on funding an equitable recovery & how much money communities are receiving.

3. How are other communities spending ARPA funds to advance equity?

- York County — \$1.5 million for new teen center; \$750,000 for a new resource hub for social services and affordable housing
- Cumberland County — \$4.5 million for new homeless shelters; \$11.8 million for nonprofits
- City of Portland — Growing Childcare Grant to help increase availability of child care



Get Involved!

- ✓ Contact your **county** and local elected officials
- ✓ Ask about the status of ARPA spending, opportunities for community input, and spending priorities
- ✓ Advocate for funding an equitable recovery: write a letter to the editor, submit public comment, talk to friends and neighbors, share on social media
- ✓ Share this information with organizations working in your community that may be eligible for ARPA funding