

ARPA Huddle Presentation

Prepared by the Greene County ARPA Team

For Greene County

April 4th, 2023



A special thanks to the Greene County Commission



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ARPA Executive Summary

- On March 11, 2021, Congress passed the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).
- Greene County is the direct recipient of \$56,928,520 through ARPA's State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund, which seeks to support state, local, and tribal governments as they respond to and recover from the COVID-19 public health emergency.
 - \$28,464,260 of Greene County's allocation arrived on May 19, 2021.
 - The remainder was received during the summer of 2022.

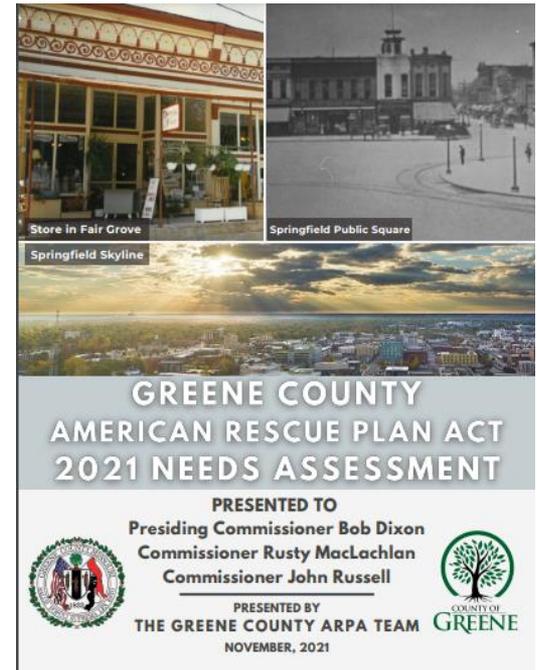
Greene County Needs Assessment

- During the months of August and September, 2021, the Greene County ARPA Team conducted a Community Needs Assessment process, which included a Community Survey completed by over 1,700 residents.
 - One component of the Needs Assessment were Nonprofit Listening Sessions.
 - The results of this assessment are accessible on Greene County's website.
- As Greene County continues to grow and diversify, it is important to recognize and address the unique needs of our citizens.
- The priority categories identified by the Needs Assessment process were used in conjunction with local, state, and federal guidance to inform the nonprofit application review process.

Needs Assessment Top Priority Categories

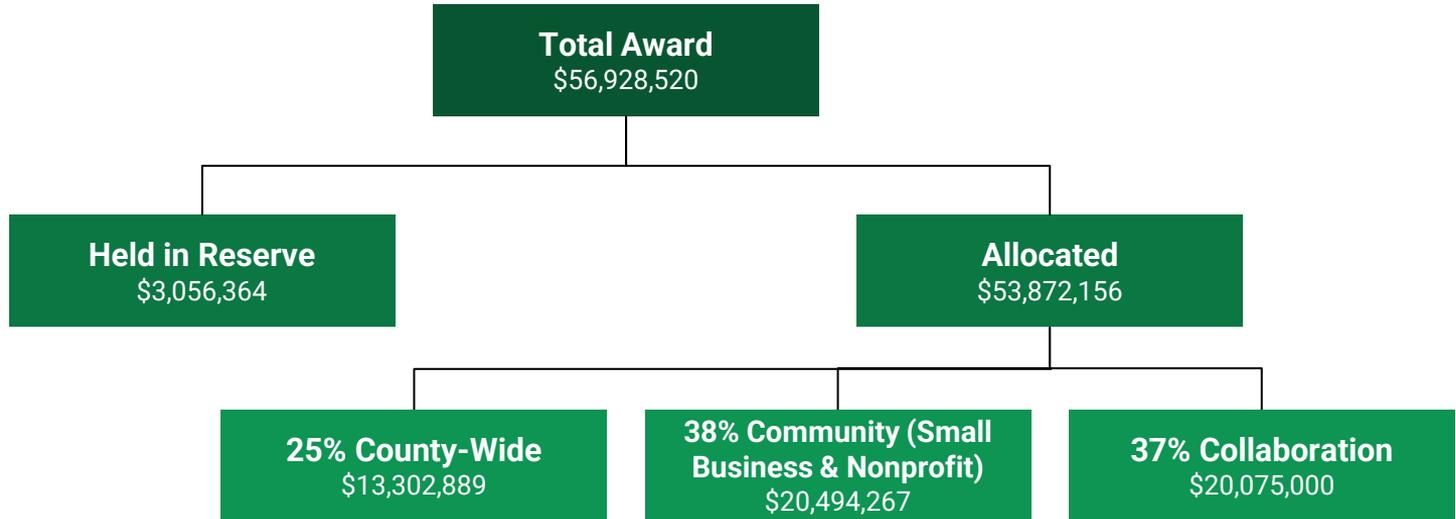
1. Mental Health Services
2. Affordable Housing
3. Services for Unhoused Persons
4. Small Business Economic Assistance
5. Assistance to Nonprofit Organizations
6. Household Food Programs
7. Broadband*
8. Childcare and Services to Foster Youth
9. Water and Sewer*
10. Substance Use Services
11. Aid to Tourism, Travel, and Hospitality Industry
12. Education Assistance to Early Learning

*Specific state initiatives address these areas



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American Rescue Plan (ARPA) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF)



*Interest earned on funds will help off-set administrative costs.

Community Impact Program

- In January 2022, Greene County created the Community Impact Program (CIP) to financially assist organizations pursuing long-term, transformational projects that would significantly impact the lives of county citizens.
- After much deliberation, 10 organizations were selected as CIP projects.
 - The total amount of recommended funding for these 10 organizations was \$22,860,670.



Community Impact Program

The funded CIP projects are listed below.

1. MSU Composite Braider Manufacturing Facility and ACM Workforce Training Initiative - \$1,455,000
2. Greene County Family Justice Center Community Collaborative Impact Preservation and Sustainment Project - \$855,670
3. Habitat Affordable Housing Program - \$475,000
4. Boys & Girls Clubs of Springfield Risdal Family Center for Great Futures - \$2,000,000
5. OTC Center of Excellence for Airframe and Powerplant Maintenance - \$750,000
6. Burrell Youth Behavioral Crisis Center - \$5,325,000
7. Ozark Empire Fairgrounds New Arena & Youth Education Center - \$5,000,000
8. Sankofa Affordable Housing and Business Incubator - \$4,500,000
9. Silver Springs Multi-Purpose Community Center - \$1,500,000
10. Council of Churches of the Ozarks (CCO) Levell Up Campaign - \$1,000,000

Small Business Assistance Program

- Beginning in April 2022, Greene County opened a small business grant program to identify businesses economically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - A small business was eligible if they met predetermined criteria.
 - A grant calculator was developed to provide standardized assistance.
- The Greene County Commissioners designated \$8,197,707 to the program, which was accessible from April 20, 2022 through May 31, 2022.
- As of April 2023, a total of \$3,657,893.46 has been awarded to 316 small businesses.
- Every awarded applicant was provided an end-of-year report to document how ARPA funds were expended.

2022 Small Business Program Testimonies

➤ Wells Tire & Auto

- Because of this grant we were able to have a cash flow in our bank account. This allowed us to get a lot of payables out in a timely manner. Thus, saving us late fees on those payables. Something that we hadn't been able to do since COVID hit. Once we got caught up we were then able to get a couple of much needed things done. The new ceiling heater has been a god send to the guys this winter. And the restriping of the parking lot really helped out everyday operations. Thank you so much for this grant. It really helped us get back on our feet.

2022 Small Business Program Testimonies

➤ **A Point Performing Arts**

- Our studio would have closed if we did not get the help of the county. Since COVID we went from 200 students to less than 100. This helped us continue to help students who need dance. We are an inclusive studio have children who are not accepted at other studios. They are in regular dance classes with teachers with Master's Degrees. Thank you for keeping us open. PS. Our management company also helped us by charging only half our rent at this time.

Initial Ideas for the 2023 Small Business Program

2023 Small Business Program Questions

- What will be the role of small business navigators in the 2023 funding program?
- **Recommendation: Continue navigator programs. We could work with additional community organizations to perform outreach to underserved small businesses.**



2023 Small Business Program Questions

- Can larger business (50+ employees) be eligible for assistance in 2023?
- **Recommendation: The next round allows businesses with up to 60 employees. Some businesses who received funding in the first round will not be eligible. The increased employee count eligibility will open up opportunity for additional businesses.**

Nonprofit Assistance Program

- Beginning in August 2022, Greene County opened a nonprofit grant program for community nonprofit organizations that were negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Greene County Commissioners designated \$5,910,780 to the program, which was accessible from August 24, 2022 through September 14, 2022.
- Applications were reviewed by an internal team and an appointed community advisory council.
- As of April 2023, a total of \$6,153,001.32 was awarded to 49 nonprofit organizations.
 - Approved organizations will enter into grant agreements with the Auditor's Office.

Initial Ideas for the 2023 Nonprofit Program

2023 Nonprofit Program Questions

- If a nonprofit received assistance in 2022, can they receive assistance in 2023?
- **Recommendation:** If an application was funded in 2022, they cannot apply in 2023. For nonprofits who applied for staffing purposes in the first round, there might be consideration to sustain those positions with second round funding.



2023 Nonprofit Program Questions

- Is there a specific nonprofit area (ex. Mental Health) that Greene County should prioritize in the 2023 funding program?
- **Recommendation: Consideration should be given to designating several key priority areas consistent with the Needs Assessment for the next round of nonprofit funding. Funding will not be exclusive to these categories, but consideration will be made for these proposal areas as a potential priority.**

County-Wide Program

- Beginning in January 2023, Greene County opened a county grant program to invest in organizations who were on the frontlines of the recovery and response efforts.
 - Eligible applicants included municipalities, first responders, quasi-governmental entities, and Greene County Offices and Departments.
- The application was delivered to applicants via email on January 24, 2023. Applicants were given until February 15, 2023 to send in a completed copy.
- At the end of the application window, a total of 35 applications from 26 organizations were submitted requesting a total of \$14,650,466.74.
 - Grant determinations will be made at a later date.

Funding for Greene County

- Greene County has benefited from the ARPA programs in a number of ways, including:
 - Purchasing 2-Way Radios
 - Investing in the Greene County Family Justice Center
 - Using earned interest to cover administrative expenses from 2021 and 2022
- Additionally, six Greene County Offices and Departments submitted applications for funding through the 2023 County Grant Program.

Equity in ARPA

- “While the pandemic affected communities across the country, it disproportionately impacted some demographic groups and exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines.”
- “The rules place an emphasis on spending these funds in low-income communities—including communities of color—by making such areas presumptively eligible for investments to rectify health, educational, and housing disparities exacerbated by COVID-19.”
- “When state and local governments report back on how they have used these funds, Treasury will ask them to discuss how their expenditures have advanced equity, in order to promote accountability for this critical objective.”

– *The American Rescue Plan: Centering Racial Equity in Policy Making*, US Dept of the Treasury

Q&A