



## Washoe County Recovery Plan

State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds – **2022 Report**

*Submitted July 2022*



## Washoe County, Nevada

### 2022 Recovery Plan

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## Executive Summary

Washoe County received \$91,587,030 in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in May 2021. To date, the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners has approved 35 unique projects amounting to \$55,592,293. The County’s strategy consists of a phased approach to determine funding priorities and uses of funds. The initial phase included a comprehensive assessment of regional master planning and capital improvement documents to identify commonalities and shared goals. Using these assessment results, departments were invited to submit projects and programs aligned with the common goals and that were eligible for ARPA-SLFRF funding.

Once urgent projects were identified and approved by the County Manager and Board of County Commissioners (BCC), the County entered its second phase of ARPA-SLFRF implementation – community-based initiatives. Project proposals are currently being considered under the Community Reinvestment Grant Program and will be publicly announced in October 2022. Following award of the community-based grants, the County will enter the second round of funding to consider internal projects and programs.

The County plans to maintain a contingency of funds to address potential increased costs for capital projects approved in the first round of funding to account for supply chain disruptions to the construction and building industry. Many currently funded projects continue to receive bids higher than the adopted budget of the project due to supply chain disruptions and inflation.

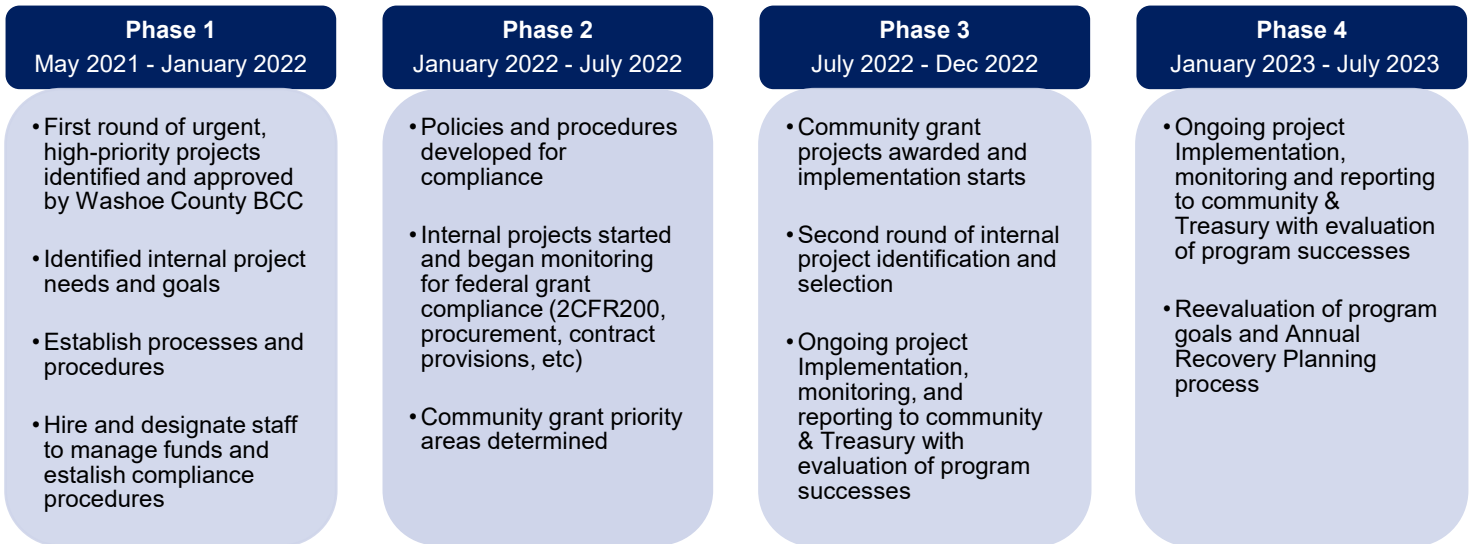


Figure 1: Washoe County ARPA-SLFRF Implementation Phases



## Regional Identity

Washoe County is located in northwestern Nevada and spans 6,600 miles from the southern boundary of Lake Tahoe and Carson City north to the California and Oregon borders. There are two incorporated cities, Reno and Sparks - both located in the Truckee Meadows Basin. The Sierra Nevada Mountain range is on the county's west side, and the smaller Virginia Range is on the east. The Truckee River flows out of Lake Tahoe on the west and runs through the valley's center before eventually entering Pyramid Lake to the northeast of Reno and Sparks, a desert terminus lake.

The population of Washoe County is 493,392. The racial makeup of the county is 83.9% white, 6.1% Asian, 2.9% Black or African American, 2.3% American Indian, 0.8% Pacific Islander, and 4.1% from two or more races.<sup>1</sup>

## COVID-19 Snapshot July 2022

COVID-19 continues to impact community members in Washoe County. As of July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the County has reported 115,805 cases, 1,264 deaths, and 1,325 weekly new cases. Approximately 62.9% of the population has been vaccinated and 30% have received a booster. 11.74% of positive tests have been from vaccinated individuals.<sup>2</sup> The presence of new variants continues to increase positive cases; however, the County, much like the national trend, has seen a decline in death and hospitalizations for COVID-19 symptoms.

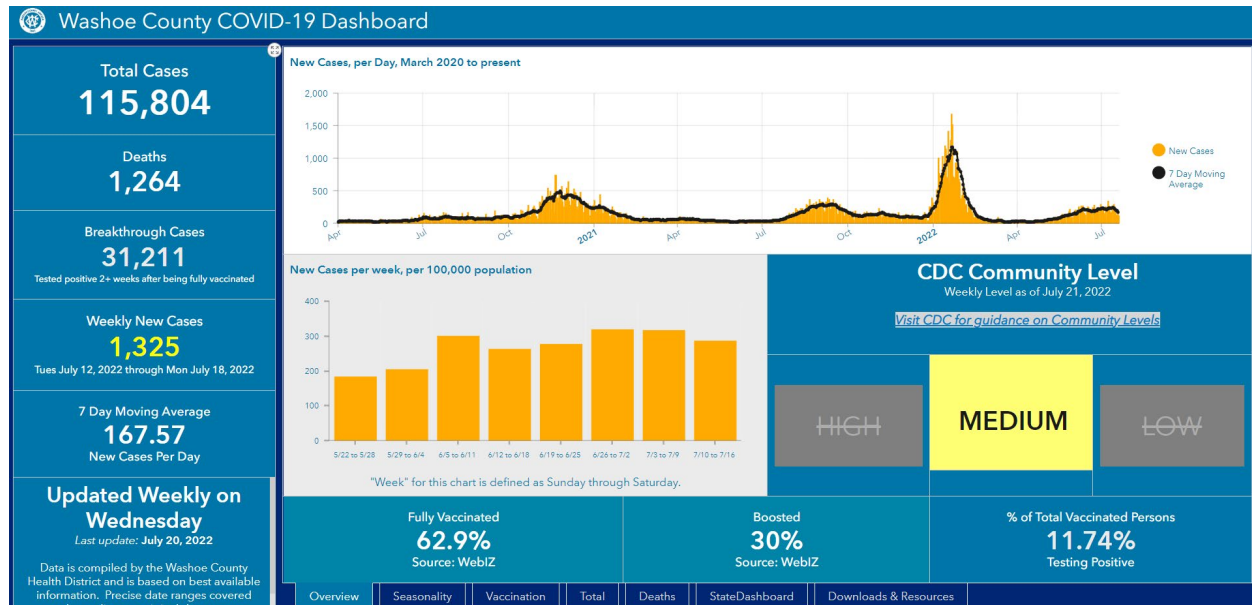


Figure 2. Washoe County COVID-19 Dashboard

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau (2020). Washoe County, Nevada QuickFacts. Retrieved from <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/washoecountynevada>

<sup>2</sup> Washoe County Health District (2022). Washoe County COVID-19 Dashboard <https://washoe.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/0db36fa8fa9c47758bc38210e4c23818>





## Uses of Funds

Washoe County’s process for determining eligible projects for ARPA-SLFRF funding included a comprehensive assessment of regional strategic and capital improvement plans by overlapping shared interests and goals. After this assessment, Washoe County requested project ideas for the most urgent and high-priority items that fell under eligible categories for ARPA-SLFRF funding and aligned with the County’s determined goals.

In support of a strong and equitable recovery in Washoe County, the following goals have been identified:

- **Address health disparities** known to directly influence social inequities in health through programs that target populations with higher incidents of disease.
- **Address the root causes of homelessness** to include collaborative solutions for mental health, substance abuse, and identifying pathways to independent living.
- **Bolster economic recovery** for community members to mitigate financial hardships, implement structural changes, or address other COVID-related issues.
- **Enhance childhood environments** with key partners in the community who deliver early learning and family support services.
- **Build stronger neighborhoods** with initiatives that preserve and expand upon affordable housing options for low- to mid-income earners in the community.

Washoe County department heads were invited to submit project ideas that reflected departmental needs and aligned with the identified goals. These project ideas were evaluated and the highest priority projects were awarded funding and approved by the Commission. The majority of identified projects that have been approved have been for internal Washoe County services such as renovations to existing facilities, construction of new facilities, and hiring of additional public health, public safety, and criminal justice staff.

Upon acceptance of the Treasury’s SLFRF funds, the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners gave authority to Eric Brown, the County Manager, to approve projects up to \$500,000, and anything over that must be approved by the BCC. As of July 2022, The Washoe County Board of County Commissioners and County Manager have approved funding for 38 projects totaling \$55,942,293.29, including four subgranted projects to nonprofits. The Community Reinvestment

Use of Funds by Expenditure Category

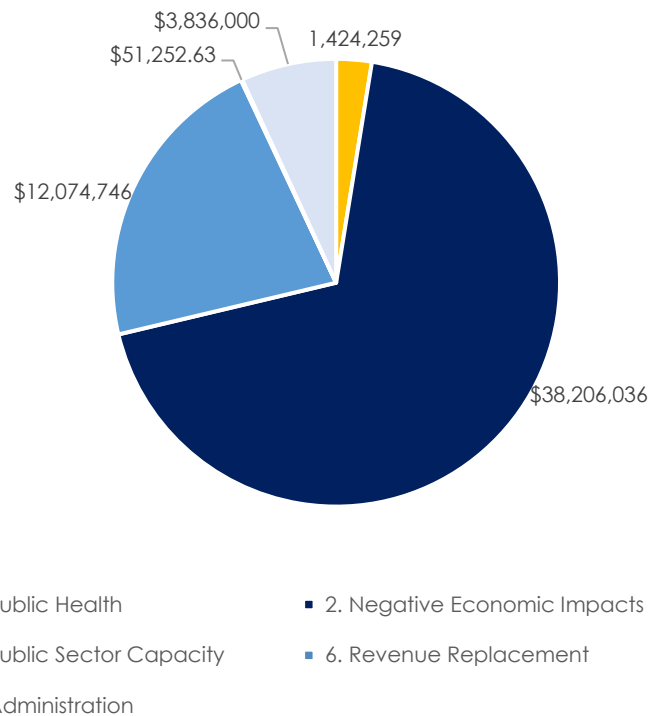


Figure 1 Use of Funds by Expenditure Category



Manager, Gabrielle Enfield, provides an update on SLFRF projects as necessary to bring forth new projects and to inform the board of projects approved by the Manger since the last update.

For more information on actions taken by the Washoe County Board of Commissioners, please visit: <https://www.washoecounty.gov/ARPA/quarterly-reporting.php>

Washoe County has set aside \$4 million for nonprofits that can aid in an equitable recovery for the community. The grant solicitation closed on July 15th, 2022, with over 75 applications. Final grant awards will be informed in August 2022, with the performance period starting in October 2022. All projects will be monitored and overseen by the Washoe County Community Reinvestment Division to ensure federal grant compliance and that projects meet the intended goals and objectives proposed in the application. The proposed projects that are not chosen will help Washoe County gauge the community's unmet needs and inform how Washoe County should allocate the remaining SLFRF funds.

For the remaining \$35,644,744.71, Washoe County plans to host a series of meetings with internal department leaders to identify long-term resilience projects that can propel Washoe County into the next phase of recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. In tandem with the County's annual budget cycle and capital improvement project process, Washoe County will choose projects based on strategic investments in the County and the community.

Washoe County participates in regular meetings with the City of Sparks and the City of Reno to collaborate on the best uses of the one-time SLFRF funds to strengthen the region.

### Washoe County Use of Funds by Expenditure Category

Category	Number of Projects	Adopted Budget	Cumulative Expenditures to Date	Cumulative Obligations to Date
1. Public Health	5	\$1,424,259	\$769,258.66	\$873,258.66
2. Negative Economic Impacts	12	\$38,556,036.00	\$2,040,447.32	\$11,194,932.44
3. Public Sector Capacity	17	\$12,074,746	\$1,622,146.72	\$2,848,428.66
4. Premium Pay	-	-	-	-
5. Water, Sewer, Broadband	-	-	-	-
6. Revenue Replacement	1	\$51,252.62	\$51,252.62	\$51,252.62
7. Administration	3	\$3,836,000.00	\$242,734.13	\$268,959.38

Figure 2. Use of Funds by Expenditure Category and Spent to Date



## Public Health

### **5 projects; \$1,424,259 allocated**

Washoe County approved funding for five projects totaling \$1,424,259 related to public health in our community. Many projects under the Public Health expenditure category are renovating existing County facilities to provide for additional social distancing and enhanced cleaning procedures. Various cleaning technologies have been purchased, such as new UVC sanitizing machines to be used at the County jail to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and the need for human-performed cleaning, which could lead to increased safety concerns and staff time. Additionally, personal protective equipment (PPE) has been purchased for the Regional Medical Examiner's Office to support the increased caseload and additional screening for whether patients have died from COVID-19 or non-COVID reasons.

For future resilience and outreach, the Washoe County Health District is purchasing a custom designed mobile outreach and command vehicle to be used for community health education in hard-to-reach areas of the region. The mobile outreach and command vehicle will allow for increased preventative health education services and help provide public health services to the community's vulnerable populations during times of crisis.

For mental health services, Washoe County subgranted funds to the Children's Cabinet, a local non-profit, to provide suicide prevention services to all Washoe County School District middle-school-aged students. Funding supported the Signs of Suicide program for the 2021-2022 school year. The program directly relates to the Washoe County Community Health Improvement Plan's strategic goal of reducing depression and suicidal behavior in adolescents and seniors over 65.

In collaboration with the City of Reno and the City of Sparks, Washoe County funded research conducted by the University of Nevada, Reno, to identify COVID variants within the regional wastewater system to understand the spread of the disease and to inform public health officials of patterns of infection. The University reports its findings to Washoe County health officials weekly, which informs policy decisions and strategic deployment of public health resources.

Mental and emotional health and wellbeing were identified as high-priority areas for funding through the Community Reinvestment Grant Program. The County hopes to fund various community projects under Public Health through this grant solicitation. Final subgrants will be announced in October 2022. The grant solicitation also garnered additional direction from community members on unmet needs that exist throughout the community.

Washoe County has not determined exactly how it will spend the remaining funds for public health purposes. However, in recognition of the introduction of new COVID-19 variants and other emerging public health concerns, Washoe County will set aside a portion of its SLFRF funds for public health-related supplies like personal protective equipment and sanitation supplies.



## Negative Economic Impacts

**12 projects; \$38,556,036 allocated**

Most of Washoe County's SLFRF funds have been dedicated to negative economic impacts experienced by some of the most vulnerable individuals in the community. Washoe County Board of Commissioners has approved 12 projects for \$38,556,036 under the Negative Economic Impact expenditure categories.

### ***Addressing the Housing and Homelessness Crisis***

During the assessment conducted for the 2021 Recovery Plan, Washoe County identified that addressing the root causes of homelessness, including collaborative solutions for mental health and substance abuse, and identifying pathways to independent living was a goal of its ARPA-SLFRF funds.

Nine of the twelve projects under the Negative Economic Impacts expenditure category focus on housing and homelessness, amounting to \$37,129,536. On July 1st, 2022, Washoe County Housing and Homelessness Services officially took over 100 percent of the region's operational and financial responsibility for individuals experiencing homelessness. To support this effort, Washoe County ARPA-SLFRF funds have been partially dedicated to constructing the Nevada Cares Campus, a 600-bed emergency shelter that opened in the Spring of 2021. The Campus provides shelter for men and couples experiencing homelessness. Funding is being used to improve the existing structure, constructing permanent restrooms, showers, and an on-site laundry facility.

ARPA-SLFRF funds have also supported the hiring of 18 case managers, five mental health counselors, one mental health counselor supervisor, and one medical billing specialist for eighteen months to assist in the development of operational support from the County's general fund resources and other grant opportunities as identified by the Housing and Homelessness Division. Funds have also been used to purchase temporary modular units at the Safe Camp portion of the Cares Campus, which provides basic services for individuals who demonstrate high potential for obtaining jobs and transitional housing. Additionally, funds have been dedicated to purchasing licenses and developing the County's homelessness tracking database to inform better policy decision-making and care options for individuals and families experiencing homelessness in the region.

For women experiencing homelessness, the County has dedicated over \$1.1 million for site enhancements to the Our Place campus and the development of a community garden on-site for the women staying at Our Place to learn how to grow their food and transitional skills. The community garden is supported by Soulful Seeds, a nonprofit dedicated to making nutritious food available to all. Soulful Seeds was awarded a \$50,000 subgrant to support operations of the Our Place Garden. Individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities experiencing homelessness are served at the Well Care facility, which has been awarded a little over \$1.2 million to provide services for two years.





## ***Promoting Healthy Childhood Environments***

To support the region's abused and neglected children, Washoe County dedicated an additional \$1,043,000 to Kids Kottage to reduce child-staff ratios. Kids Kottage is intended to provide temporary, protective care for children removed from their homes until alternative care options are identified. Children are provided with medical care, mental health services, and education evaluations to meet their needs. For cases that take additional time and resources, there are beds available for more extended stays.

ARPA-SLFRF funds have also been used to purchase nine vehicles for the Human Service Agency to add to its fleet for providing transportation for children and families involved with the Child Protective Services or other H.S.A. services.

## ***Economic Recovery***

Washoe County has awarded \$100,000 to the Great Reno Balloon Race, a local nonprofit that supports the Annual Balloon Races in Reno, Nevada. The event brings tourism to the community each year over the Labor Day weekend with spectacular views of hot air balloons throughout the sky.

As a result of the 2021 Recovery Plan assessment, Washoe County identified that bolstering economic recovery for small businesses to mitigate financial hardships, implement structural changes, or address other COVID-related issues was a top priority of ARPA-SLFRF funds.

Washoe County has not determined which expenditure categories to invest its remaining funds. However, many of the Negative Economic Impacts categories align with Washoe County's long-term strategic plans to bolster health, sustainability, and resilience in neighborhoods and communities. A significant portion of funds will probably be expended under this category.



## Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

**17 projects; \$12,074,746 allocated**

### ***Personnel to Increase Public Sector Capacity***

Washoe County has hired or is in the process of hiring 37 positions to address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic ranging from additional deputy sheriff positions to children's protective services support staff. Most positions are funded for a determined amount of time, like 24 months from the start or ending on a specified date.

Increasing Washoe County's public safety and human services capacity is essential for recovering from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and national labor trends. Washoe County has hired three full-time positions in the Children's Protective Services department to manage the increased demand for services. SLFRF will fund the positions through June 30, 2023. Additionally, the Washoe County Sheriff's Office hired 22 additional personnel to provide greater services to the community related to public safety and reducing response time. Given the increased violent crime nationally and the additional call loads produced by the Nevada Cares Campus, 20 new deputy sheriff's officers were trained and hired through the academy process. Funding for these positions ended June 30, 2022 and was absorbed by the general fund.

For criminal justice, Washoe County has hired five positions in the Public Defender's Office and six in the District Attorney's Office to address the court backlog. Each attorney hired on ARPA-SLFRF funds will dedicate their time to handling the increased casework caused by the closure of regional court systems.

One way that Washoe County is working to address the impacts of the labor market shifts and compete with private sector employment is by creating the Washoe County Recruitment Incentive Program. The program awards one-time bonus payments to hard-to-hire and retains positions like nurses, mental health professionals, and other critical roles to address the pandemic. To date, 28 staff have received retention payments, and four have been recruited using the funds – including three mental health counselors and a deputy public defender. Washoe County does not foresee additional hiring of public sector employees to use its remaining ARPA-SLFRF funds. The hiring of additional personnel will be considered in the County's traditional budget process.

### ***Facility Improvements to Increase Public Sector Capacity***

Many county-owned facilities have been identified as spaces where ARPA-SLFRF funds could be used to better the delivery of county services to community members. For instance, the Environmental Health Services and Air Quality Management Divisions are purchasing new technology to simplify the permitting and inspection process for Health District data and compliance. The Washoe County Sheriff's Office is also updating security control systems for the jail and court locations where inmates are transferred throughout the County.



## *Courtroom Access*

Improvements to various courtrooms and court buildings are currently underway in Washoe County. Many of the technology systems used in the courts were severely unfit to handle the transition to remote hearings and sentencing. The Sparks Justice Court, Reno Justice Court, and Second Judicial District Court are installing audio-visual technology to allow additional court proceedings for remote hearings. The Reno Justice Court has also begun improvements to Courtroom A to comply with a Nevada state unfunded mandate to expand the size of a justice court from six to twelve (Nevada Assembly Bill 42). All court-related capital projects will allow for greater access to the judicial system especially for individuals with Limited English Proficiency and those who are hard of hearing.

## *Self Help Center*

The Self Help Center is located at the Reno Justice Court. It allows community members to self-represent or meet with local legal aid organizations if they cannot afford representation. Self-represented litigants can use the space to, among other things, oppose a residential eviction, oppose a debt collection proceeding, seal a criminal record, or file/oppose a small claims case. After the space was completed, the Reno Housing Authority entered a contract with a legal aid organization, Washoe Legal Services, to assist individuals with eviction-related legal matters. Washoe Legal Services has provided assistance to 172 unique individuals in 185 legal matters since May 2022.

As Washoe County transitions into the next phase of project identification, internal departments will have an opportunity to propose programs and projects for funding that will assist in resilience and recovery efforts. Many programs may fall under categories that improve the effectiveness of delivering public services.

## Premium Pay

**0 projects, \$0 allocated**

Washoe County has not allocated any funds for premium payments to its workers or other employers. It does not anticipate allocating any funds for this category with the remainder of its ARPA-SLFRF funds.

## Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure

**0 projects, \$0 allocated**

Although the Washoe County 2021 Recovery Plan heavily emphasized broadband infrastructure as a high priority for the jurisdiction, alternative funding sources have been presented since Washoe County submitted the plan in August 2021. As identified in the 2021 Recovery Plan, broadband access is a need in the community in various places, specifically in underserved and rural areas. Washoe County does not anticipate using any of its ARPA-SLFRF dollars on water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure projects. Other sources of recovery funding will be sought for these needs. During the past year a project was initiated utilizing E-rate funding of \$2,397,884 to bring broadband to the rural community of Gerlach.



## Revenue Replacement

### **1 project, \$51,252.63 budget allocated**

Washoe County opted for the standard \$10 million revenue replacement allowance. As noted in the 2021 Recovery Plan, Washoe County had identified up to \$11.2 million in revenue loss from January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020, using the Treasury's guidance and formula and GFOA Revenue Loss Calculator.

To date, \$51,252.63 has been expended for eligible Revenue Replacement projects to support a modest wellness center for employees at the Washoe County complex.

Future uses of Revenue Replacement funds will depend on identified needs. Ideally, Washoe County would like to use its ARPA-SLFRF funds under other eligible categories whenever possible.

## Administration

### **3 Projects, \$3,836,000 budget allocated**

To administer the ARPA-SLFRF funds, Washoe County has created a small team under the newly formed Community Reinvestment Division in the Office of the County Manager. The Community Reinvestment team comprises one Manager level position, an Analyst, and a Fiscal Compliance Officer. These three positions spend the majority of their time on ARPA-SLFRF and are primarily funded by ARPA-SLFRF. Beginning in September of 2022 a half-time Program Coordinator to assist with the Community subgrants. The team allows Washoe County to create processes and procedures for complying with federal grant laws and the Treasury's Final Rule. Each project identified for ARPA-SLFRF funding is monitored by this team and ensures proper procurement and contracting occurs for the use of funds. Community Reinvestment conducts all monitoring and reporting of Washoe County's SLFRF allocation. For the lifetime of the grant funding, Washoe County has budgeted \$2.8 million for salaries, benefits, workstations and supplies for these employees.

Additionally, the County has budgeted \$286,000 in funding for a part-time temporary accountant to assist with the increased workload for the Comptroller's Office. Due to the numerous capital projects funded by the ARPA-SLFRF funds additional administrative funding has been budgeted to address the increased workload for the Community Services Department Capital Project Division. Washoe County has budgeted \$750,000 for Architecture and Engineering services needed to implement these projects.



## Promoting Equitable Outcomes

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Many of the community's most vulnerable populations, including the unhoused, low-income workers, rural residents, and people of color have experienced disproportionate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and negative economic impacts. While developing Washoe County's framework for identifying eligible projects, equity has been a major priority and will be a top priority in the next phase of project selections including community-based nonprofit projects.

### Washoe County Demographics

The population of Washoe County is 493,392. The racial makeup of the county is 83.9% white, 6.1% Asian, 2.9% Black or African American, 2.3% American Indian, 0.8% Pacific islander, and 4.1% from two or more races.<sup>3</sup>

The unhoused population is a demographic with significant equity concerns for Washoe County. The Northern Nevada 2022 Point in Time Count was conducted on February 24th, 2022, showing that there were 1,605 total unhoused people in Washoe County. This is a 10.3% decrease compared to the 2021 PIT count and a 30.3% increase compared to the 2020 PIT count highlighting the economic impacts of the pandemic.<sup>4</sup>

### Designing Washoe County's Equity Framework

For internal applicants, projects are asked to describe how the project promotes equitable outcomes or was designed with equity in mind. For external subrecipients, applicants are asked how the proposed project addresses systemic equity issues in the community. Scoring of these questions is based on how well the applicant describes the population being served by the program and how reasonable the proposed action can be done.

To ensure that SLFRF funded projects deliver equitable outcomes and address the needs of disproportionately impacted communities, Washoe County will embed equity-related objectives throughout community outreach, program selection, implementation, monitoring, and the program reporting processes.

*Community Outreach:* To track success toward achieving equity outcomes, gathering a baseline understanding of needs by the County's underserved communities is incorporated into community outreach. This is done by surveying the community, leveraging community partnerships with organizations who work with underserved populations, and optimizing communication strategies with program-owners to best reach these communities. This is also achieved by acting as a resource to community members during the grant solicitation process. Washoe County allowed for nonprofits to schedule one on one time with the Community Reinvestment Division to answer questions for anyone who asked. This brought up additional feedback around equity that was incorporated into the grant program as the solicitation period progressed.

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<sup>3</sup> U.S. Census Bureau (2020). Washoe County, Nevada QuickFacts. Retrieved from <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/washoecountynevada>

<sup>4</sup> Washoe County (2022). Point in Time Count 2022. Retrieved from [https://www.washoecounty.gov/homeless/CoC/point\\_in\\_time\\_count-pit.php](https://www.washoecounty.gov/homeless/CoC/point_in_time_count-pit.php)





*Program/Project Selection:* With needs understood and defined, an analysis of the most relevant economic, social, or civic community indicators will be identified to monitor and track program progress. Reporting upon these key metrics will determine which programs will qualify for SLFRF funding. As part of the application process, potential recipients will be required to identify how their program/project will promote equitable outcomes. Specifically, applicants will be evaluated regarding of their response to the following questions: *Describe how your program will promote equitable outcomes. How was it designed with equity in mind?*

## **Implementing Washoe County’s ARPA Equity Framework**

*Equitable Outcomes Technical Assistance:* As a component of program oversight and monitoring, technical assistance will be provided to all program/project owners to encourage, facilitate, and ensure equitable outcomes for underserved communities.

*Reporting Requirements:* Programs receiving SLFRF funds are required to report key metrics according to the populations, households, or geographic areas served. The County will aggregate programmatic-level data into broader health, economic, or social indicators by identified demographics. These aggregations will serve to track broader equity outcomes for populations that are being disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. This focus in reporting will also inform needed program shifts as COVID impacts may evolve.

Both static and interactive reporting is made available to all stakeholders, program owners and the community-at-large throughout the SLFRF public dashboard and community engagement process. Static reporting delivered to the U.S. Treasury are posted on [www.washoecounty.us/recovery](http://www.washoecounty.us/recovery) and the interactive reporting dashboard will be made available after program selection begins and key data points have been identified.



## Community Engagement

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Washoe County identified a series of community engagement strategies in the 2021 Recovery Plan. This four-pronged approach includes: 1) Collection of input, and gathering data to understand and prioritize needs in the community; 2) Engage with targeted stakeholder groups that serve disproportionately impacted communities and identify key areas to expand/prioritize services; and 3) Launch outreach and awareness campaigns for funded projects; and 4) Maintain accountability and transparency through continued reporting upon key program metrics to reflect services delivered and fulfillment of equity outcomes.

### **1) Collection of data to understand and prioritize needs**

Washoe County released a community survey that received 23 responses in December 2021. The survey was open to the public and requested guidance on how Washoe County should allocate its funding. There were minimal responses, but the results helped to guide the framework for internal project requests. Given that the response rate was low for the Washoe County survey, we requested survey results from the State of Nevada's community engagement survey to see if there were additional responses or trends. There were 272 responses to the State of Nevada survey directly referencing Washoe County and the region. Using these responses, Washoe County determined additional priority areas for the Community Grant Program, including childcare and mental health.

As Washoe County decides how it intends to spend its remaining funds, the County will include community members by conducting outreach at various Community Advisory Board meetings.

### **2) Engage with targeted stakeholder groups that serve disproportionately impacted communities**

Washoe County has engaged in discussions with various stakeholders throughout the implementation of the ARPA-SLFRF allocation. Washoe County will include \$300,000 in SLFRF funding to the Communications Division to conduct a county-wide audit of communication platforms such as the county website. The communications project also intends to increase the county's website translation services to provide information in multiple languages to Washoe County. The ARPA-SLFRF pages and information will also benefit from these services.

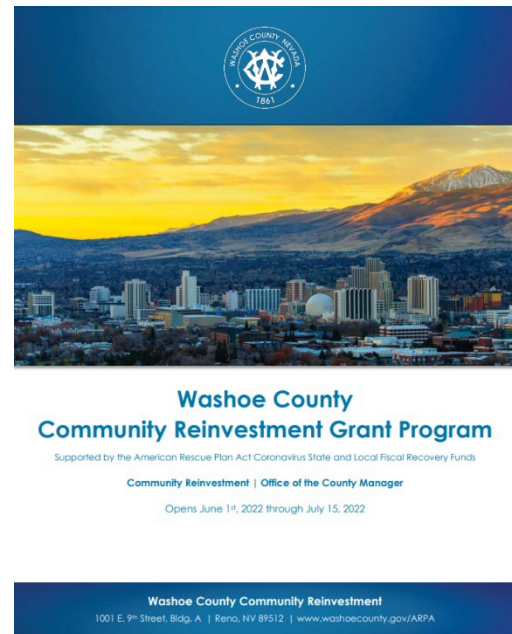


## Community Reinvestment Grant Program

Released on June 1, 2022, the [Community Reinvestment Grant Program](#) will provide \$4 million to local nonprofits that can aid the region in recovering from the COVID-19 public health emergency and negative economic impacts. As part of Washoe County's commitment to community outreach, the grant program allows local partners to submit funding applications. The funding requests not only shed light on the areas of need in the community but also offer insight into the potential strategies the community would like to see explored.

The grant program application process closed on July 15, 2022, receiving over 75 grant applications for more than \$22 million in funding requests. Over the next few weeks, Washoe County will evaluate the proposed projects and score them based on how well the proposal addresses community problems, alignment with the identified priority areas, and how well the project aligns with existing Washoe County services and offers areas of collaboration with Washoe County departments or divisions. The priorities of the grant program are:

- Childcare.
- Mental and emotional health.
- Community violence prevention.
- Internet access
- Outdoor recreation and trails
- Programs that assist individuals in gaining skills that will bolster their economic potential.



The applications received through the grant solicitation gave Washoe County more significant access to community organizations. The solicitation was advertised through traditional media sources such as the local news, social media, and press releases. Additionally, the communications team marketed the grant program through new channels, such as identifying all nonprofit vendors registered currently with the County and was included in other local newsletters. All subscribers to the Washoe ARPA-SLFRF webpage also received notice of the grant program through the ARPA-SLFRF listserv.

### 3) Launch outreach and awareness campaigns for funded projects

Outreach and awareness campaigns for funded projects will continue to be a central focus for Washoe County. Now that a significant portion of the funding has been allocated and standardized policies and procedures for project evaluation and selection have been implemented, the County has additional bandwidth for creating visually appealing informational items.



### Project Dashboard

In June 2022, Washoe County published its Washoe County ARPA-SLFRF Project Dashboard, complete with project status, spending to date, expenditure categories, and a brief description of each project. There is also a mapping function showing the geographic location of each project funded. Staff will update the dashboard monthly to ensure accurate project descriptions and new projects are added accordingly. Cumulative expenditures will be updated after the Quarterly Project and Expenditure Report is submitted to the Treasury Department.

Future dashboard modifications will include metrics for reporting on community grants and programmatic success stories for each project. For up-to-date information on the dashboard please visit: [ARPA Projects and Dashboard](#)

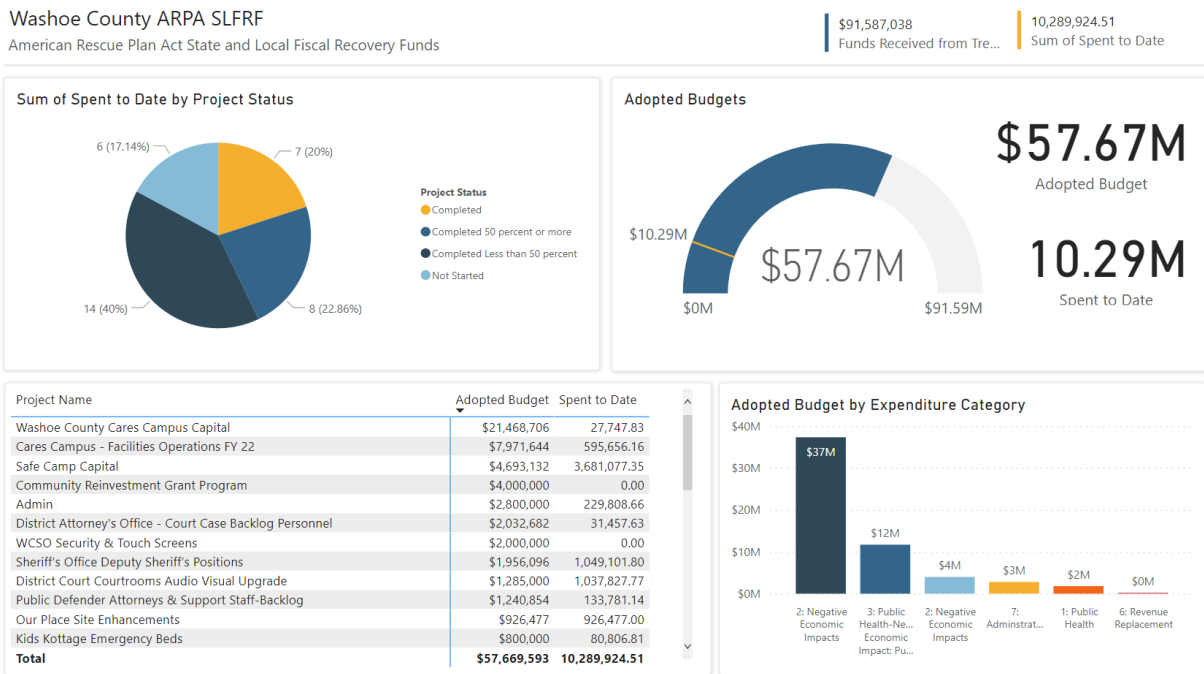
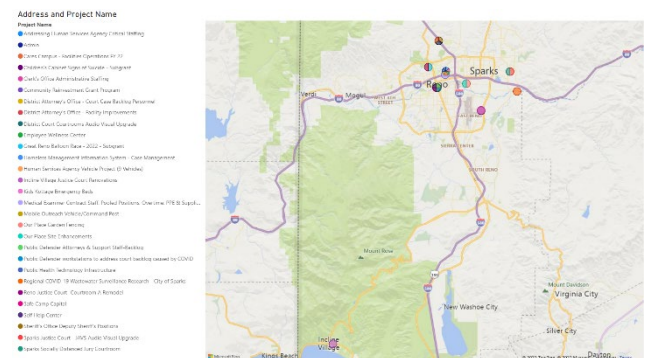


Figure 3. Washoe County ARPA-SLFRF Project Dashboard

Project Name	Adopted Budget	Spent to Date	Description	Project Status	Details
Washoe County Cares Campus Capital	\$21,468,706	27,747.83	The Nevada Cares Campus is a new self-sustaining project in our region. The project includes significant property improvements including, landscaping, bathrooms, showers, laundry, pet facilities, and the addition of a serving laboratory/deli, case management/training space, construction of 45 units of single bedrooms, and other site improvements for residents.	Completed Less than 50 percent	2.7K items
Cares Campus - Facilities Operations FY 22	\$7,971,644	595,656.16	The Nevada Cares Campus is a transitional housing facility for unsheltered individuals in Washoe County. The project includes the addition of 28 staff members to implement evidence-based approaches to the Nevada Cares Campus. These staff members include one medical billing specialist, one mental health counselor supervisor, three case manager supervisors, 18 case managers, three mental health counselors, and two mental health coordinators. This project increases facilities capacity and additional positions to ensure more robust and effective emergency homeless shelter services and case management. Positions will be funded through 18 MRF grant funding only for the period of January 1, 2022, through June 30, 2022. Ongoing funding beyond the grant will need to be secured via the County's annual budget cycle.	Completed Less than 50 percent	2.1K items
Safe Camp Capital	\$4,693,132	3,681,077.35	The Washoe County Safe Camp is a space for unsheltered individuals to have access to a safe location for sleeping with basic facilities including restrooms, handwashing facilities, and trash disposal. The project expands on previous work by the Washoe County homeless services department to create a safe location with 100 modular temporary housing pods to replace current tents, add a covered walkway structure, and build a small structure to serve as a multi-purpose building for individuals' needs, including a day center or case management office space.	Completed 50 percent or more	2.7K items
Community Reinvestment Grant Program	\$4,000,000	0.00	The Washoe County Community Reinvestment Grant Program offers \$4,000,000 in funding to eligible nonprofits that provide services in Washoe County that are in a strong and equitable recovery. The County requests proposals for projects or programs to help the community recover from COVID-19, align with the priorities of ASRS-19 RFR funding, and further the County's strategic goals.	Not Started	7.5K items
Admin	\$2,800,000	229,808.66		Not Started	2.1K items
District Attorney's Office - Court Case Backlog Personnel	\$2,032,682	31,457.63	The Washoe County District Attorney's Office will hire three deputy district attorneys, investigators, and two legal secretaries to address court backlog created by the COVID-19 pandemic.	Completed Less than 50 percent	3.2K items
WCSO Security & Touch Screens	\$2,000,000	0.00	The Washoe County Sheriff's Office Detention Facility and Washoe County Courts #1 South Street and 75 Court Street have recently updated systems that have been discontinued, and need and of the vendor support or will by October 2022. These systems allow Sheriff's Office support personnel to monitor and control system to some of the most critical and sensitive locations in the entire county. Currently, the software and	Not Started	2.6K items
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$57,669,593</b>	<b>10,289,924.51</b>			





## **Washoe County ARPA-SLFRF Newsletter**

The next phase of outreach and awareness of Washoe County’s use of SLFRF funds will be a quarterly newsletter to people who have signed up for the ARPA-SLFRF listserv. These quarterly updates will include project success stories, new projects that have been approved, and potential ways for community members to provide additional feedback. As necessary, Washoe County Communications will submit press releases to the media listserv and pitch success stories to local news outlets. These media stories will be included on the Washoe County ARPA Website for community members and other jurisdictions to reference.

### **Get Updates on Washoe County’s American Rescue Funds Program**

A screenshot of a web form for subscribing to the Washoe County ARPA listserv. It features a text input field with the placeholder "EMAIL", a small text instruction below it, and a dark blue "SUBSCRIBE" button.

EMAIL

Provide your email address to subscribe. For e.g abc@xyz.com

**SUBSCRIBE**

*Figure 4. Washoe County ARPA Listserv*

#### **4) Maintain accountability and transparency through continued reporting**

Washoe County submits quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports to the Treasury Department. Once these reports have been submitted, the Community Reinvestment Manager takes highlights from the report to the Board of County Commissioners to share updates on projects, introduce any new ARPA projects under \$500,000, and share strategic direction information. Once the board has been briefed, the information is included in the following press release highlights that the Communications team writes and publishes.

Information included in the Quarterly Reports is updated on the ARPA Projects Dashboard as necessary but taking no longer than each quarter. All action taken related to the County’s ARPA-SLFRF allocations by the Board of County Commissioners is uploaded directly to the [Washoe County ARPA Reporting webpage](#).





## Labor Practices

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Most of Washoe County’s phase one SLFRF-funded projects are capital projects to modify existing facilities or build new county-owned facilities. The most notable project which requires additional reporting metrics because it is over \$10 million is the Nevada Cares Campus.

Washoe County uses the Nevada State Prevailing Wage requirements for Public Works projects. NRS 338.020. Every contract to which a public body of this State is a party, requiring the employment of skilled mechanics, skilled workers, semi-skilled mechanics, semi-skilled workers, or unskilled labor in the performance of public work, must contain in express terms the hourly and daily rate of wages to be paid each of the classes of mechanics and workers. The hourly and daily rate of wages must not be less than the prevailing wage in the region; the rate must be included in the contract and posted on-site; payment of overtime; wages paid following jurisdictional classes recognized in the area.

Washoe County’s construction contracting and bid procedures do not currently include additional workforce practices beyond what is federally required through 2 CFR 200 and other federal labor laws. These practices do not have project labor agreements, community benefit agreements, and local hiring preferences.

## Use of Evidence

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Most of Washoe County’s approved projects do not require evidence-based reporting because the projects are for capital expenses including construction. The programs that do have evidence-based interventions and/or program evaluation elements are Well Care, Kids Kottage, Signs of Suicide, Homeless Management Information System, and the Regional COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Project.

For projects that are being piloted, such as Well Care, detailed demographic and usage data will be collected to understand the impacts of the services for program participants. A more detailed breakdown of each project’s evidence-based interventions is outlined below in the [Project Inventory](#).



## Performance Report

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Given the nature of Washoe County's first year approach to allocating ARPA-SLFRF, performance measures are mostly based on the receipt of equipment bought and renovations made. Most projects are capital improvement projects and as such, performance is based on the actual construction or renovation of facilities. The Community Reinvestment team works with the Washoe County Community Services Department to establish federally compliant construction projects and procurement procedures.

In the next phase of project identification, Washoe County expects more program-based projects which will lead to a more performance management techniques being introduced. Among the performance measures to be considered are quarterly reports detailing the number of community members served, hours dedicated to reducing backlog, caseload ratios, usage of facilities, etc. The next round of projects will be evaluated based on the outcomes and outputs proposed by the project application. The application process for both internal projects and external subgrants now includes a section on performance measurements for proposed projects to be evaluated on.

The Project Dashboard will eventually include metrics to monitor subrecipient progress and performance to be shared with the public.

## Project Inventory

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### **Safe Camp Capital (1-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$4,693,132**

**Expenditure Category: 2.16: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons**

**Website: <https://www.washoecounty.gov/homeless/Cares-Campus/Safe-Camp/index.php>**

The Washoe County Safe Camp is a space for unhoused individuals to have access to a safe location for camping with basic facilities including restrooms, handwashing facilities, and trash disposal. The project expands on previous work by the Washoe County Homeless Services Division to create a safe location with 50 modular temporary housing pods to replace current tents, add a covered shade structure, and build a small structure to serve as a multi-purpose building for individual's needs, including a day center a case management office space. The project will be complete by the end of 2022. The goals of the project are to provide modular spaces for unhoused people with identified good behavior and potential for transitioning into housing.

#### Use of Evidence

Washoe County Safe Camp implements several evidence-based interventions and other identified best practices for providing homeless and housing services that use multi-interdisciplinary approaches that target at-risk populations. Those interventions and practices include: the Housing First service provision model, low barrier model emergency shelter trauma informed care, and person-centered case management including motivation interviewing and the creation of individualized housing plans. ARPA-SLFRF funds are being used for construction and purchase of equipment so a program evaluation will not be conducted and the amount of funds for evidence-based interventions is \$0. However, the greater programmatic items of the Safe Camp program follow the interventions and practices outlined previously.

#### Performance Report

Washoe County Housing and Homelessness Services maintains detailed records on the number of individuals using the Safe Camp space. For more detailed information on usage of Safe Camp please visit the dashboard: [Shelter Census Dashboard](#)

#### Treasury required key indicators:

- Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): Zero
- Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: Zero



## **Nevada Cares Campus Capital (2-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$21,468,706**

**Expenditure Category: 2.16: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons**

**Website: <https://www.washoecounty.gov/homeless/Cares-Campus/index.php>**

The Nevada Cares Campus is a new and dynamic project in the region. The project includes significant property improvements including, landscaping, bathrooms, showers, laundry, pet facilities, and the addition of a serving kitchen/cafeteria, case management/training space, construction of 50 units of bridge housing, and other site improvements/redesigns. The Nevada Cares Campus is designed to provide a low-barrier and housing-focused shelter for people experiencing homelessness. The first phase was completed by the City of Reno and funded by the City of Reno, City of Sparks and Washoe County; it included the land purchase, Sprung building, restrooms and showers, initial site and utility work. With Phase I of the construction project complete, the following scope of the Campus design and construction is projected to be completed in the phases. To view the project phases, please visit the [Cares Campus Construction page](#). Funding is budgeted through 2026.



### Use of Evidence

Given that this is a capital project, there are no evidence-based interventions to report on.

### Performance Report

Washoe County Housing and Homelessness Services maintains detailed records on the number of individuals using the Cares Campus. For more detailed information on usage please visit the [Shelter Census Dashboard](#)

### Treasury required key indicators:

- Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): Zero
- Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: Zero





## ***Cares Campus Facilities Operations (3-000)***

***Funding Amount: \$7,971,644***

***Expenditure Category: 2.16: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons***

***Website: <https://www.washoecounty.gov/homeless/Cares-Campus/index.php>***

The Nevada Cares Campus is a regional emergency shelter facility, and Safe Camp for unhoused individuals in Washoe County. The project includes the addition of 28 staff members to implement evidence-based approaches at the Nevada Cares Campus. These staff members include one medical billing specialist, one mental health counselor supervisor, three case manager supervisors, 18 case managers, three mental health counselors I, and two mental health counselors II. This project increases facilities capacity and additional positions to ensure more robust and effective emergency homeless shelter services and case management. Funding for this project is budgeted through the end of 2023.



### *Use of Evidence*

Housing-first, person-centered care, low-barrier emergency shelter, appropriate staff-participant ratios and mental health counseling are all evidence-based interventions used at the Cares Campus and Safe Camp. Since these are new programs and services, a program evaluation will be conducted later in the process once capital construction is complete.

### *Performance Report*

Caseload ratios and numbers will be reported annually to determine the effectiveness of case managers and staff at the Cares Campus. In addition, the County will be using the Homelessness Management Information System to track the number of individuals who transition from being unhoused to housing.

Washoe County Housing and Homelessness Services (HHS) maintains detailed records on the number of individuals using the Cares Campus. For more detailed information on usage please visit the [Shelter Census Dashboard](#). As a part of the Washoe County's commitment to addressing root causes of homelessness, the County's goal is to lead the community to build a system that is capable of housing people experiencing homelessness, so that it's rare, brief, and non-reoccurring. The target of HHS is to measure the number of actively homeless people, recidivism rate measured at 6 months, 1 year, and 2 years), length of time to be housed, exits to permanent housing, number of programs reporting into HMIS database, number of affordable housing units (10% AMI, 30% AMI), and number of permanent supportive units. See [Washoe County's Regional Homelessness Strategic Plan](#)

### *Treasury required key indicators:*

- Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): Zero
- Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: Zero





## ***Homeless Management Information System Case Management (4-000)***

***Funding Amount: \$250,000***

***Expenditure Category: 2.16: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons***

The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a database tool that collects comprehensive data about community members experiencing homelessness. This tool is designed to coordinate services and housing referrals among providers throughout the community. Most community members who will benefit from this project live below the federal poverty line. This project will increase the capacity of the County's HMIS by expanding the number of licenses for community partners and establishing a case management module to better track case outcomes. This project supports the regional Built for Zero effort. The HMIS system should be implemented by June 2023 at the Cares Campus.

### *Use of Evidence*

A Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a local information technology system used to collect client-level data and data on provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and persons at risk of homelessness. Each Continuum of Care (CoC) is responsible for selecting an HMIS software solution that complies with HUD's data collection, management, and reporting standards. The HMIS system for Washoe County is being designed to incorporate evidence-based interventions such as housing-first and person-centered care.

### *Performance Report*

Washoe County Housing and Homelessness Services maintains detailed records on the number of individuals using the Cares Campus. For more detailed information on usage please visit the [Shelter Census Dashboard](#)

### *Treasury required key indicators:*

- Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): Zero
- Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: Zero



## ***Well Care Living Supports and Services Pilot Project (5-000)***

***Funding Amount: \$1,255,200***

***Expenditure Category: 2.16: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons***

Washoe County's Well Care facility serves community members with severe mental illness, or intellectual or developmental disabilities who have not been able to access the supportive housing resources they need due to COVID-19. The project provides supportive housing of persons unable to live independently. The services include access to comprehensive case management and continuum of care for those who would otherwise remain or become homeless due to their medical, physical, intellectual, or mental health condition. Funding for the project lasts until June 2023.

### *Use of Evidence*

This is a new program supported by Washoe County. It is not evidence-based but is an urgent need for the community. Eventually, a program evaluation will be conducted using information regarding intake data collected.

### *Performance Report*

- Washoe County will manage performance for the following key indicators:  
Caseloads/ratios, number of individuals staying at Well Care

### *Treasury required key indicators:*

- Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): Zero
- Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: Zero



## ***Kids Kottage Emergency Beds (6-000)***

***Funding Amount: \$1,403,000***

***Expenditure Category: 2.13: Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System***

The operations of the Kids Kottage supports children experiencing abuse and neglect in the community that have been removed from their homes. Many of these children have been disproportionately impacted by the hardships imposed by the pandemic such as lost wages in their home, school closures, and lost access to community resources throughout the pandemic – including medical and mental health resources. The closure of pediatric psychiatric units in the community led to an increased demand for emergency beds at Kids Kottage. The only alternative would be to use inpatient hospital bed-holds at traditional medical hospitals which has proven to be ineffective as this competes with beds used for COVID patients. Additionally, there is a shortage of in-home foster care and in-home emergency foster care beds in the community due to an inability to recruit and retain qualified foster parent providers. The program will be funded through June 2023.

### *Use of Evidence*

This is not an evidence-based intervention. A program evaluation will be scheduled later in the process of implementing the project.

### *Performance Report*

- Washoe County will track number of children served, calculate case ratio, and hours of services provided to the children who stay at Kids Kottage.

### *Treasury required key indicators:*

- Number of children served by childcare or early learning: NA
- Number of families served by home visiting: NA

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## ***Addressing Human Services Agency Critical Staffing (7-000)***

***Funding Amount: \$527,133***

***Expenditure Category: 3.1: Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers***

The Washoe County Child Protective Services Division has identified three positions as critical for managing the increased demand on staff caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The project will hire three positions (one Runner, one Intake Screener, one Assessment Case Worker) to administer services directly to support children in foster care and the children or families involved in the Child Welfare System. Positions are funded through June 2023.

### *Use of Evidence:*

Not applicable.

### *Performance Report*

Washoe County monitors caseload for CPS workers. To evaluate the effectiveness of grant-funded staff, Washoe County will maintain detailed reports on number of children served by case workers.



## **Human Services Agency Vehicles (8-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$283,500**

**Expenditure Category: 2.13: Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System**

Washoe County Human Services Agency identified a need for nine vehicles to add to its fleet to assist with the transportation needs of the population served. This need is a result of the increased caseloads resulting during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The resulting stressors of the pandemic (such as COVID fatigue, loss of employment, and reduced access to childcare coupled with increased demands of exclusions and restrictions) has led to a positive correlation in child abuse and neglect intake referrals and assessment cases. Vehicles have high passenger capacity, ability to safely fit multiple car seats, all-wheel drive ability, and overall easy accessibility for younger children and those with physical and mental disabilities. Vehicles will be used to address increased caseload for young children and families involved with the foster system to be transported to appointments, visitations, school, and other required essential services. Vehicles have been purchased and will be delivered in the next few months.

### Use of Evidence

Given that this a capital project, there are no evidence-based interventions to report on.

### Performance Report (Treasury Requirements)

- Number of children served by childcare and early learning (pre-school/pre-K/ages 3- 5): Not applicable at this time.
- Number of families served by home visiting: Not applicable at this time.

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## **Our Place Site Enhancements (9-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$926,477**

**Expenditure Category: 2.16: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons**

**Website: [https://www.washoecounty.gov/hsa/adult\\_services/our\\_place/index.php](https://www.washoecounty.gov/hsa/adult_services/our_place/index.php)**

The Washoe County Our Place campus is a facility for women and families experiencing homelessness. The campus has been designed to meet COVID social distancing recommendations. The project intends to complete on-site fencing, landscaping, and miscellaneous repairs, and interior/exterior finishes on existing buildings. Addressing the landscaping, fencing, and painting needs of the campus will ensure safe ingress and egress for the residents on the campus, particularly in winter. In addition, it will ensure the buildings are protected from damage caused by drainage, foot traffic, weather, etc. which ensures all space can remain available to clients still following social distancing guidelines. The project intends to be completed by December 2022.

### Use of Evidence

Given that this a capital project, there are no evidence-based interventions to report on.

### Performance Report

- Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): Not applicable
- Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: Not applicable



***Our Place Garden Fencing (10-000)***

***Funding Amount: \$164,377***

***Expenditure Category: 2.16: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons***

***Website: <https://www.soulful-seeds.com/upcoming-events>***

The project at the Our Place campus includes installing fencing around the 2.6-acre community garden and mini-farm on the property. The project will support the fencing around the perimeter of the garden to secure the garden space. Including activities like gardening and farming at the Our Campus facility works to increase the success of individuals. Women and families will be able to learn to grow food and provide for themselves while feeling safe in a fenced-in environment. The project intends to be completed by December 2022.

*Use of Evidence*

Given that this a capital project, there are no evidence-based interventions to report on.

*Performance Report (Treasury Requirements)*

- *Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): Not applicable*
- *Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: Not applicable*



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***Public Defender Workstations (11-001)***

***Funding Amount: \$75,341***

***Expenditure Category: 3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery***

The Washoe County Public Defender is hiring three attorneys and two support staff for a period of 24 months to address COVID-19 pandemic-imposed backlog. The project will include workstations for these new staff members and COVID-19 related facility enhancements to allow for a safe client-attorney meetings and work.

*Use of Evidence*

Given that this a capital project, there are no evidence-based interventions to report on.

*Performance Report*

Outcome: workstations for grant-funded employees addressing court backlog.





## **Public Defender Attorneys & Support Staff (11-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$1,240,854**

**Expenditure Category: 3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery**

The Washoe County Public Defender's project aims to hire three attorneys for 24 months. Each attorney will receive an average of 255 cases per year and is expected to close an average of 259 cases per year. The three attorneys will be able to provide representation to clients and close 1,530 cases over the term of the grant. This will close the cases received/cases closed disparity. This will positively impact the criminal case backlog within the courts. Restoring balance to the Public Defenders case received case closed ratio will benefit the court system, the criminal justice system and most importantly the vulnerable and indigent population whose communities have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Use of Evidence

Not applicable.

### Performance Report

Tracking grant-funded staff caseloads and number of cases closed per year

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## **District Attorney's Office Court Case Backlog Personnel (12-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$2,032,682**

**Expenditure Category: 3.2: Public Sector Workforce: Rehiring Public Sector Staff**

The Washoe County District Attorney's Office will hire three deputy district attorneys, investigator, and two legal secretaries to address court backlog created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Use of Evidence

Not applicable

### Performance Report

Tracking grant-funded staff caseloads and number of cases closed per year



## ***District Attorney's Office Facility Improvements (12-001)***

***Funding Amount: \$390,732***

***Expenditure Category: 3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery***

The Washoe County District Attorney is hiring three attorneys and two support staff for a period of 24 months to address COVID-19 pandemic-imposed backlog. The project will include workstations for these new staff members and COVID-19 related facility enhancements to allow for a safe client-attorney meetings and work. The project makes renovations to the building's sixth and seventh floor to allow for additional offices and conference rooms for client-attorney meetings.

### *Use of Evidence*

Given that this a capital project, there are no evidence-based interventions to report on.

### *Performance Report*

Outcome: workstations for grant-funded employees addressing court backlog.

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## ***Sparks Justice Court Socially Distanced Jury Courtroom (13-000)***

***Funding Amount: \$380,900***

***Expenditure Category: 3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery***

Sparks Justice Court requested ARPA-SLFRF funds to create a new courtroom that will accommodate fourteen jurors and provide equitable distancing, thus providing a safer operating environment. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Sparks Justice Court ceased all jury trials scheduled from March 2020 and did not resume jury trials until July 2021. The court was backlogged over 20 jury trials due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Additionally, virtual hearings conducted because of the COVID-19 public health emergency take much longer and require additional staffing resources, creating further delay in adjudicating cases. The new courtroom will provide an opportunity to contract with Pro Tempore's and temporary staff to move cases forward to mitigate further backlog. The project is scheduled to be completed June 2023.

### *Use of Evidence*

Given that this a capital project, there are no evidence-based interventions to report on.

### *Performance Report*

Not applicable.



## **Sparks Justice Court JAVS Audio Visual Upgrade (14-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$138,638**

**Expenditure Category: 3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery**

Sparks Justice Court installed updated audiovisual technology throughout the court. The project meets the growing demand for remote access to justice for public safety, expedited processing of case backlog due to the COVID-19 pandemic and addresses the negative impact of low-quality audiovisual technology on Limited English Proficiency (LEP) individuals and those who are hard of hearing. Additionally, this project addresses the quality of evidence sharing with onsite and remote parties and the preservation of such records within the certified recording system. Currently, the court experiences many issues in evidence cart connections and shared quality due to the outdated use of video graphics arrays and multiple down/up scalers to transmit the proceedings into the recorder, witness stand, and public visual display. These are critical fixes needed to continue virtual hearings and ensure every court user receives a quality experience. The project was completed in June 2022.

### Use of Evidence

Given that this a capital project, there are no evidence-based interventions to report on.

### Performance Report

Not applicable.

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## **Reno Justice Court Courtroom A Remodel (15-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$500,000**

**Expenditure Category: 3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery**

The Reno Justice Court is modifying an existing courtroom to accommodate for additional jury members and members of the public to allow for social distancing and to comply with Nevada Assembly Bill 42, which expanded the size of a justice court jury from six to twelve. The renovations will also allow for additional social distancing ability for in-person court proceedings. The project is expected to be completed in summer 2023. No evidence-based interventions are necessary for this project given that it is a capital investment.

### Use of Evidence

Given that this a capital project, there are no evidence-based interventions to report on.

### Performance Report

Not applicable.



## ***Reno Justice Court Self Help Center (16-000)***

***Funding Amount: \$90,675***

***Expenditure Category: 3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery***

The Reno Justice Court is currently constructing a physical space to house a self-help center. The project will furnish the space with computer terminals, workstations, chairs, and modular walls/doors for conference rooms. Once this area is furnished, self-represented litigants will be able to use the space to, among other things, oppose a residential eviction, oppose a debt collection proceeding, seal a criminal record, or file/oppose a small claims case. Self-represented litigants will be able to obtain assistance with registering for the Court's electronic filing system, and the Court will allow representative from local legal aid organizations to use the space to provide advice and counsel to these individuals. The project completed in June 2022.

### *Use of Evidence*

Given that this a capital project, there are no evidence-based interventions to report on.

### *Performance Report*

Although this project is for the purchase of furniture, the Self Help Center tracks usage data. The Reno Justice Court uses this information to make strategic decisions regarding additional hours, capacity, and new options for service.

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## ***Washoe County Sheriff's Office Deputy Sheriff's Positions (17-000)***

***Funding Amount: \$1,956,096***

***Expenditure Category: 3.1: Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers***

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office used APRA funding to hire 20 Deputy Sheriff's and two Sergeants to address the increased criminal activity in service areas. From increased high-risk calls for service such as domestic violence to the expanded mental health needs of individuals housed in the Detention Facility, the workload placed on Deputies has increased exponentially. Sheriff's Office deputies are the first responders to emergency calls from both the Nevada Cares Campus and the Washoe County Safe Camp. These calls will involve more time and complexity. The project includes the equipment needed to onboard these 22 positions including: radios, tasers, Ballistic vests, weapon allowance, four (4) vehicles, and recruitment costs. Personnel charges ended in June 2022; the vehicles are estimated to arrive later this year.

### *Use of Evidence*

No evidence-based interventions are funded with the County's ARPA-SLFRF funds.

### *Performance Report*

Tracking grant funded personnel.



## **Washoe County Sheriff's Office UVC Sanitizing Program (18-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$140,000**

**Expenditure Category:** 1.4: *Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, Childcare facilities, etc.)*

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office will install UVC Light Sanitizing equipment to eliminate exposure to contagious diseases by killing bacteria or viruses prior to cleaning the inmate cells or housing units. This project will reduce costs for cleaning supplies because the equipment will sanitize the Detention Facility instead of personnel routinely cleaning it to eliminate the bacteria or viruses by wiping handrails, high touch areas, etc. The towers have been purchased and are awaiting delivery.

### Use of Evidence

Given that this project is to purchase equipment, there are no evidence-based interventions to report.

### Performance Report

Outcome: reduction in staff cleaning time.

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## **County Clerk's Office Administrative Staffing (19-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$58,895**

**Expenditure Category:** 3.3: *Public Sector Workforce: Other*

This project at the County Clerk's Office is to hire one assistant staff member to support the homelessness board and Clerk for six months. Personnel charges ended in June 2022.

### Use of Evidence

There are no evidence-based interventions to report on.

### Performance Report

The position was hired in June 2022 and placed onto the General Fund in July 2022. There will not be additional indicators to track for this project.





## **Medical Examiner Contract Staff, Pooled Positions, Overtime, PPE & Supplies (20-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$190,000**

**Expenditure Category: 1.5: Personal Protective Equipment**

The caseload for the Medical Examiner's Office increased by more than 16% between 2019 and 2020 and is projected to increase by a total of 22% between 2019 and 2021. Due to the significant increase in deaths in the region, the Medical Examiner's Office needs additional funding for personnel to handle the caseload increase. The ME's Office must investigate and conduct additional testing on other deaths as potential COVID-related deaths (cases in which COVID had not been diagnosed but in which similar symptoms are present). Many of these deaths do not end up being COVID-related but additional time and effort are used to make that determination which increases the workload for employees. The Medical Examiner's Office also needs additional supplies to perform its mandated duties. This funding will allow the purchase of additional lab supplies (such body bags, scalpels, etc.) that are required for the office as well as personal protective equipment (PPE) for employees. During the pandemic, there has been (and continues to be) significant supply chain shortages. The Medical Examiner's Office had to exhaust its normal supply reserves due to the lack of availability of supplies and has yet to recover. The project is funded through June 2023.

### Use of Evidence

Not applicable.

### Performance Report

Not applicable.

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## **Second Judicial District Court Courtrooms Audio Visual Upgrade (21-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$1,285,000**

**Expenditure Category: 3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery**

The Washoe County District Court will increase audio-visual technology to allow for additional court proceedings for remote courts. The District Court will install the cameras, microphones and media carts necessary to have true audio-visual capabilities in each court room. The project meets the growing demand for remote access to justice for public safety, expedited processing of case backlog due to the COVID-19 pandemic and addresses the negative impact of low-quality audiovisual technology on Limited English Proficiency (LEP) individuals and those who are hard of hearing. Additionally, this project addresses the quality of evidence sharing with onsite and remote parties and the preservation of such records within the certified recording system. This project also includes a new Audio-Visual Technician for 24 months.

### Use of Evidence

Given that this a capital project, there are no evidence-based interventions to report on.

### Performance Report

Not applicable.



## **Mobile Outreach Vehicle/Command Post (22-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$490,000**

**Expenditure Category: 1.14: Other Public Health Services**

The Health District will develop plans for and purchase a mobile outreach vehicle that will also serve as a central command post in emergencies. The vehicle will allow for targeted outreach focusing on highly socially-vulnerable zip codes. A mobile outreach vehicle/command post will allow training and education to healthcare partners in the community, increasing WCHD's ability to provide medical services and mass vaccinate through targeted outreach. In addition, the vehicle will be utilized at Public Health Preparedness exercises of a varying types thus increasing public health and healthcare response in the region. The vehicle will be setup with an exam room to provide clinical services to help close the gap of health outcomes by going to underserved zip codes, specifically zip codes of high social vulnerability index as noted above, including multiple ethnic groups, with low vaccine rates and low access to health care. By increasing access to healthcare preparedness and access to clinical services, Washoe County Health District would be mitigating the economic, social and health impact of COVID-19 on the underserved and vulnerable populations. It is estimated that the vehicle will be fully assembled and delivered to Washoe County within the next few years. The RFP was released in Spring 2022.

### Use of Evidence

Given that this a capital project, there are no evidence-based interventions to report on.

### Performance Report

Not applicable.

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## **Public Health Technology Infrastructure (23-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$300,000**

**Expenditure Category: 3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery**

The Environmental Health Services and Air Quality Management Divisions project will contract with a vendor to implement the following: 1) Simplify the public facing processes to increase functionality and use and 2) Automate all processes including all permits and inspections. By updating the public health technology system, focusing on customer ease of use, ensuring all processes are automated and efficient, and reporting is easy and comprehensive, the Health District will be able to meet the public health needs more rapidly in Washoe County. This project will also improve the technology infrastructure to assist in meeting the current backlog and assist in the prevention of future backlogs. The project is funded through June 2024.

### Use of Evidence

Given that this a capital project, there are no evidence-based interventions to report on.

### Performance Report

Outcome: streamlined technology for permitting and reporting.



**Children's Cabinet Signs of Suicide (24-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$100,000**

**Expenditure Category: 1.12: Mental Health Services**

**Website: <https://www.childrencabinet.org/who-we-serve/i-am-a-youth/signs-of-suicide/>**

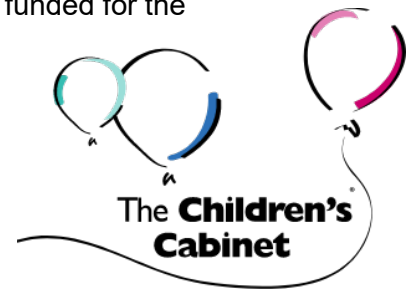
The Signs of Suicide (SOS) prevention program is a nationally recognized, evidence-based, program for middle and high school-age students. SOS fulfills a critical need in the community as Cabinet staff work directly with middle school students in Washoe County, this includes students in the Washoe County School District as well as young people in charter and private schools, to identify signs of depression and symptoms that are consistent with suicide risk. We are all aware of the stressors the pandemic has placed on nearly every segment of the population, and youth are no exception. Fortunately, SOS helps identify young people in need of additional supports, provides immediate resources and assistance to identified youth and their families, and also gives youth tools to ask for help when facing difficult life experiences. The subgrant will be used for operating expenses to ensure the program is fully funded for the 2021-2022 school year. The funding concluded in June 2022.

Use of Evidence

The Signs of Suicide Prevention Program is an evidence-based intervention program for middle and high school students.

Performance Report

Intended outcomes: reduction in suicidal thoughts and tendencies in Washoe County School District.



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**Great Reno Balloon Race 2022 Event Support (25-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$100,000**

**Expenditure Category: 2.35: Aid to Tourism Travel or Hospitality**

**Website: <https://renoballoon.com/>**

The subgrant to the Great Reno Balloon Race will be used towards operational expenses for the Great Reno Balloon Race of 2022 and ensure future sustainability of the event. The Great Reno Balloon Race is the world's largest free hot-air ballooning event. The project supports event logistic costs such as parking, tent rentals, and bathrooms.

Use of Evidence

Not applicable.

Performance Report

Outcomes: The annual event is held.





***Recruitment & Retention Incentive Program (26-000)***

***Funding Amount: \$150,000***

***Expenditure Category: 3.3: Public Sector Workforce: Other***

The Washoe County Recruitment & Retention Incentive Program is used to assist with the recruitment and retention of employees in difficult to fill positions in the County that are impacted by a shortage of qualified labor in the region and/or to assist with the recruitment of positions into the County where the private sector has a competitive advantage with salary and retention incentive opportunities through three programs: Recruitment Incentive; Employee Referral Incentive; Retention Incentive. The program will last until the \$150,000 has been awarded.

*Use of Evidence*

This program is not evidence-based but has already shown to be an effective marketing tool for recruiting new employees.

*Performance Report*

Key performance indicators for this program will be the number of employees retained after one year of employment in their current role after receiving a bonus.

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***ARPA-SLFRF Administration (27-000)***

***Funding Amount: \$2,800,000***

***Expenditure Category: 7.1 Administrative Expenses***

Washoe County has hired a small team housed under the Office of the County Manager to administer and manage SLFRF funding. There is one Program Manager, one Analyst, and one Fiscal Compliance Officer. Budget includes workstations for staff members and office supplies to administer grants to subawards and comply with SLFRF reporting requirements.





## ***Wilbur D. May Museum Operations (28-000)***

***Funding Amount: \$200,000***

***Expenditure Category: 3.3: Public Sector Workforce: Other***

***Website: <https://www.washoecounty.gov/parks/maycenterhome/index.php>***

This SLFRF allocation will provide support for the Wilbur D. May Museum to implement programming and continue normal operations as it recovers from the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Museum was required to close its doors when COVID-19 public health emergency hit but was still required to provide payment to the vendor for a previously purchased exhibit. The Museum also lost revenue for wedding reservations, large events, small events, art shows and the Museum collection. This resulted in a significant revenue loss. The SLFRF support will allow for recovery as the Museum returns to self-sustainability. The Museum has been self-sustained since 2009, relying on and operating from exhibit revenues, facility reservation revenues until COVID-19. The funding for this project completed in June 2022.

### ***Use of Evidence and Performance Report***

There will not be evidence-based interventions included in this project or key performance indicators because this project is intended to provide funds for operational expenses to prevent gaps in service for the May Museum.



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## ***Washoe Wellness Center (29-000)***

***Funding Amount: \$51,252***

***Expenditure Category: 6.1: Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services***

To provide Washoe county employees with a fitness center on site to promote healthy work-life balance and living healthier lifestyles. The Employee Wellness Center at the 9th and Wells Complex includes adjustments to existing facilities to increase airflow and the purchase of fitness equipment. The fitness center opened in June 2022, completing the project. There will not be evidence-based interventions included in this project.







**ARPA Accountant – Admin (30-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$286,000**

**Expenditure Category: 7.1 Administrative Expenses**

Washoe County has hired a part-time temporary accountant to assist with managing Washoe County ARPA-funded projects.

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**Incline Village Justice Court Renovations (31-000)**

**Funding Amount: \$747,800**

**Expenditure Category: 3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery**

Incline Justice Court renovations allow a temporary use for the Incline Village Justice Court to occupy the space for short term duration of approximately 3-5 years. The Incline Justice Access Project will include renovations to the Incline Community Center, to house the court room, offices, and technological enhancements to improve access to court proceedings for the public. The pandemic has driven innovation for remote access that will be long term solutions. Audio/video technology with a 360 degree in courtroom camera, distributed speakers, and IP based source systems will enable opportunities for remote access for those not physically located in the courtroom. Distributed Wi-fi access throughout the courthouse will be provided for public and counsel access. Additionally, the project will provide dedicated public workstations with access to case files and online forms. The project includes physical renovations to meet ADA requirements at the Incline Community Center. The project performance period for this project runs from June 2022 through Spring of 2023.

Use of Evidence

Given that this is a capital project, there will not be evidence-based interventions included in this project.

Performance Report

Outcomes: Greater access to criminal justice in Incline Village and avoids closure of public facilities until a more permanent solution can be identified.



## ***Soulful Seeds Operations (32-000)***

***Funding Amount: \$50,000***

***Expenditure Category: 2.16: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons***

***Website: <https://www.soulful-seeds.com/>***

Soulful Seeds provides healthy, sustainable, fresh food to the most vulnerable populations in the Washoe County community. In 2021, Soulful Seeds and Washoe County partnered to create a garden/farm located on the campus of Our Place, with a women's shelter and a family shelter operated by the County. This project includes operation expenses such as staff time, garden supplies, and purchase of 100 fruit trees for the campus. The women and families who stay at Our Place will have the opportunity to learn how to grow their own food, cook, and develop better nutrition habits while gaining job skills. Project performance will occur over the 2022 calendar year. No evidence-based interventions will be considered in this project.

### *Use of Evidence*

Not applicable.

### *Performance Report (Treasury Reporting Requirements)*

- Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): None
- Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: None



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## ***Washoe County Sheriff's Office Security Upgrade (34-000)***

***Funding Amount: \$2,000,000***

***Expenditure Category: 3.4 Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery***

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office Detention Facility and Washoe County Courts at 1 South Sierra and 75 Court Street have security control systems that have been discontinued. These systems allow Sheriff Support Specialists to monitor and control access to some of the most secure and sensitive locations in the entire county. Currently, the software and hardware components operate poorly and are prone to intermittent failures that require repairs and impede the safe and timely flow of traffic through these facilities. An upgrade and replacement of components will ensure the continued reliable operation of these areas well into the future. There will not be evidence-based interventions included in this project. This project includes the multiple funding sources and will go out to bid later this summer. The period of performance for this project is expected to occur until the end of 2026.

### *Use of Evidence*

Given that this a capital project, there are no evidence-based interventions to report on.

### *Performance Report*

Intended impact: increased safety for Sheriff's Office personnel and the public



***Regional COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Research (35-000)***

***Funding Amount: \$504,258.66***

***Expenditure Category: 1.7 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)***

The City of Sparks administers the regional contract with the University of Nevada Reno to conduct a regional investigation of SARS-CoV-2 presence in wastewater and community prevalence monitoring due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This research is to conduct environmental surveillance of wastewater at the Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (TMWRF) and in the collection systems by monitoring of SARS-COV2 Marker during the pandemic in the Truckee Meadows region. Data is used to develop models that can indicate community prevalence of COVID19 in the population.

***Use of Evidence***

The University of Nevada, Reno, Water Innovation Center oversees the implementation of the research project. The project seeks to provide evidence for the presence of COVID-19 in regional water systems.

***Performance Report***

The University research team provides status updates to regional partners monthly.



## Appendix A: Community Outreach Plan – Approach, Fidelity, Plan

<b>Initialization and Prioritization</b> <i>August 2021 – September 2021</i>		
<b>Approach</b>	<b>Fidelity</b>	<b>Modifications/Plans</b>
Collect feedback from WC staff and leadership regarding potential funding areas.	Round 1 of internal project funding included project proposals submitted by WC department leaders and was evaluated by WC leadership to	Round 2 of internal project funding will overlay project requests that align with ARPA-SLFRF eligible uses, BCC priorities, and were not funded in the County’s annual budget cycle or capital improvement project selection.
Establish community outreach survey and outreach channels	Survey completed by small number of community members. Received project proposals through the Community Grant process.	Work more with local media to cover stories on project success. Collection of success stories to be included on website/newsletter.
Select software services for the collection, aggregation, and reporting of outreach efforts	Washoe County currently contracts with eCivis to provide subrecipient management services. All subgrants are maintained within the system.  Outreach is centralized on the Washoe County ARPA webpage	No additional software is being considered at this time.
Establish how equity will be addressed in outreach and engagement activities.	Washoe County identified Qualified Census Tracts and regions with low access to broadband in the first phase of ARPA-SLFRF implementation. This informs the County on pockets of disadvantaged community members.	Translation services are being considered for Washoe County webpages which will strengthen the opportunities for community members to be aware of the use of ARPA-SLFRF funds.
Create engaging messaging and copy for website and collateral needs	Worked with Washoe County Communication to determine messaging around ARPA-SLFRF website, grant program, and identified communication challenges such as Community Advisory Boards, Nextdoor, and Facebook	Increasing public outreach in the form of quarterly newsletters and social media posts via Facebook, LinkedIn, and Nextdoor
<b>Validate Direction through Outreach and Engagement</b> <i>September 2021 – December 2024</i>		
<b>Approach</b>	<b>Fidelity</b>	<b>Modifications/Plans</b>
Raise awareness about funding and gather input on needs at community meetings and events.	Sought strategic direction from Board of County Commissioners at Regional Strategic Planning meeting.	Additional public outreach should be conducted through Washoe County established Community Advisory Boards and in collaboration with regional partners.
Create content for distribution to promote survey release.	Creation of copy for survey.	No plans for additional community input surveys.

# Washoe County Recovery Plan

State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds – 2022 Annual Report



Design questions for community survey to validate key areas of need and inform desired program outcomes.	Survey completed. Community Grant included project proposals which will increase understanding of high priority needs from community leaders.	No plans for additional community input surveys.
<b>Transparency and Reporting</b> <i>August 2021 – December 2026</i>		
<b>Approach</b>	<b>Fidelity</b>	<b>Modifications/Plans</b>
Ensure all Recovery Fund program owners have a clear understanding of program reporting requirements, processes, and deadlines	Washoe County has hired a small team within the Office of the County Manager to ensure federal grant compliance, reporting requirements, and deadlines for ARPA-SLFRF compliance and to deliver community outreach and reporting data.	One additional half FTE staff member will be hired to help with the administrative requirements of ensuring ARPA-SLFRF compliance and support community based nonprofit projects.
Maintain awareness regarding program progress, expenditures, and outcomes directly to local media, stakeholder groups and other key community, regional and state partners.	Community Reinvestment Division established, to complete this requirement	Additional time dedicated to outreach and data visualizations will be possible once initial lift of creating standard practices is complete.
Establish a public-friendly, accessible way to learn about APRA-funding programs and projects that also includes a visualization of fund investments and progress	Washoe County APRA Website includes information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- About ARPA</li> <li>- ARPA Projects and Dashboard</li> <li>- ARPA Reporting</li> <li>- Community Reinvestment Grant Program</li> </ul>	Continue to proactively make website edits. Consider public presentations at community organizations or hosting a regional ARPA-SLFRF webinar update with the City of Reno and City of Sparks.
Broadly distribute Treasury reports to local media, key stakeholder groups and make available on public-facing webpage.	Published on website immediately after submission to the Treasury department per grant requirements.	No modifications.