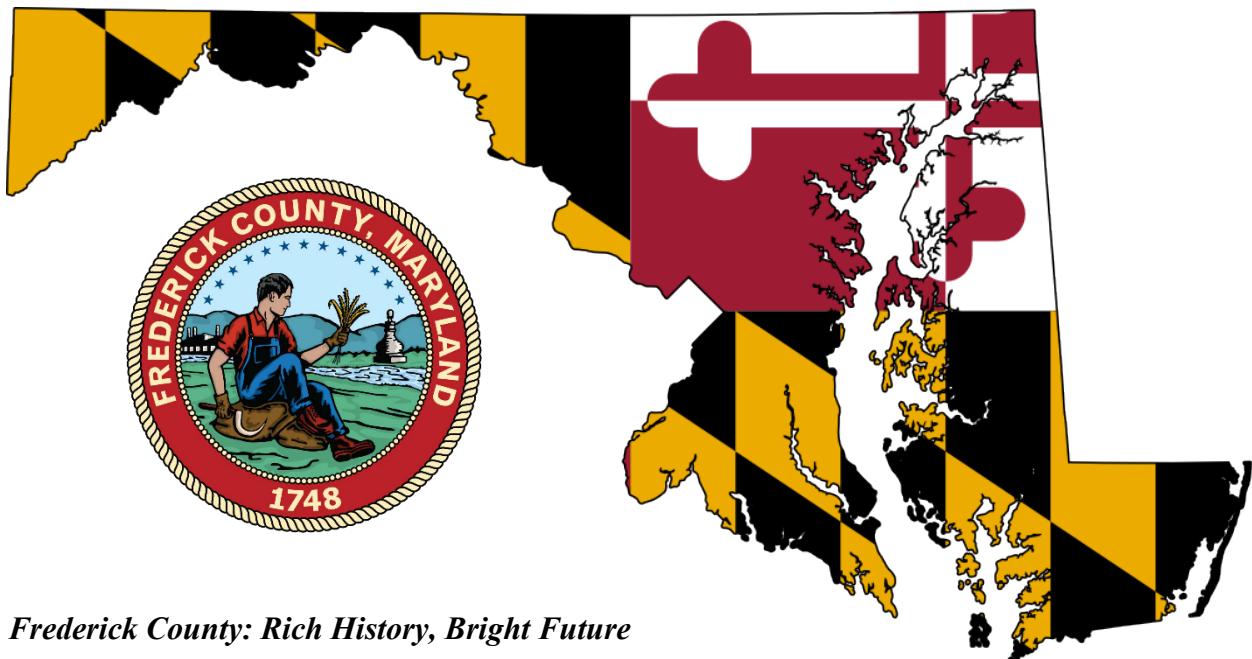


Frederick County, Maryland



Recovery Plan

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2024 Report

Frederick County, Maryland

2024 Recovery Plan

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

For over four years now, jurisdictions across the world have been wrestling with unprecedented health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. As of July 30, 2024, Frederick County has experienced over 62,210 confirmed COVID-19 cases, and 696 COVID-19-related deaths. ([Maryland COVID-19 Data website](#)) Frederick County appreciates the opportunity the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) provided through its Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funding (CSLRF) to provide much-needed aid to our community in its effort to recover from the effects of the on-going pandemic.

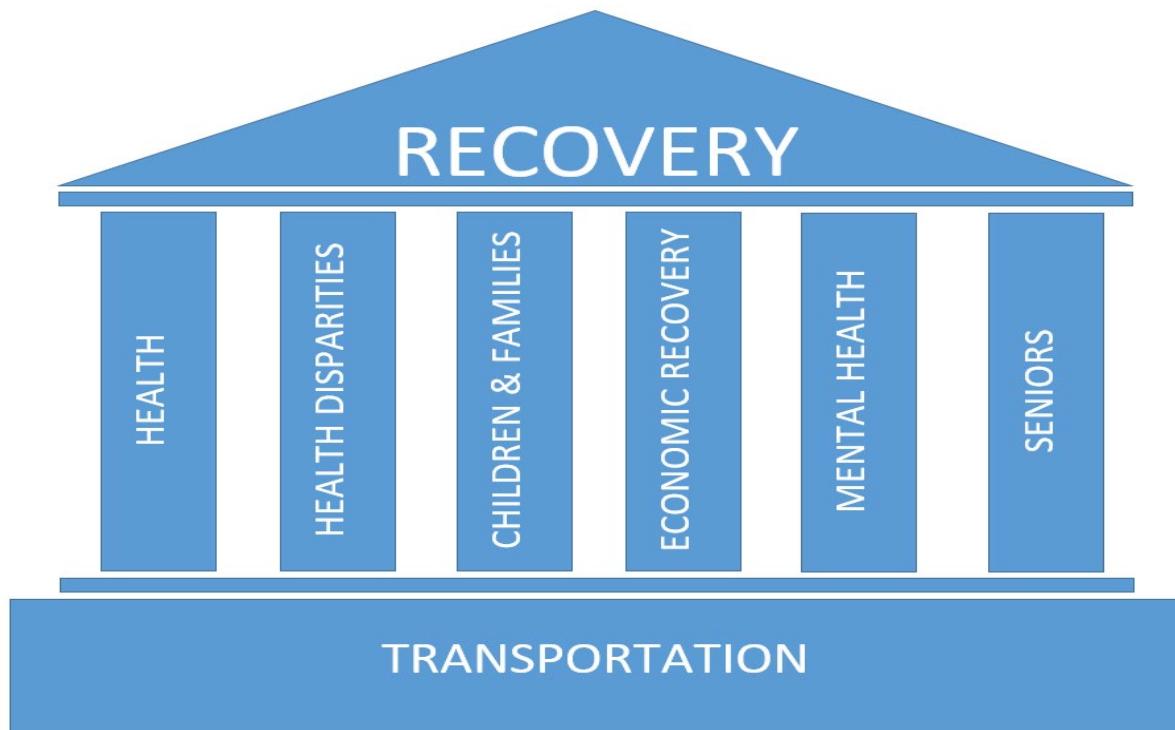
Frederick County was allocated \$50,413,962 in CSLRF funding by the U.S. Treasury in early CY 2021 and received its first tranche allocation, \$25,206,981, on May 21, 2021. Frederick County's second tranche and remaining funding allocation was received on June 9, 2022. Of the \$50,413,962 in total CSLRF funding allocated to Frederick County, \$50,005,097 was considered to be "revenue loss" according to the calculation and framework presented in the U.S. Treasury's Final Rule. Although, these "revenue loss" funds are eligible to generally be used for any service traditionally provided by a government, "government services", Frederick County has taken a different approach in its handling of these CSLRF-designated funding. To remain aligned with the spirit and intent of the CSLRF funding under ARPA, Frederick County has allocated the majority of these funds, to-date, toward projects that fit under one of the primary expenditure categories outlined in the U.S. Treasury's Final Rule. These expenditure categories include:

- Public Health
- Negative Economic Impacts
- Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity
- Premium Pay
- Infrastructure
- Revenue Replacement

This approach has afforded Frederick County with an opportunity to provide targeted relief to its community, while alleviating some of the more intricate requirements and nuances associated with this funding source in an effort to reduce the burden on project partners and produce a more equitable recovery for all.

When the American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law on March 3, 2021 and with it the creation of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, Frederick County began planning how best to deploy and utilize these once-in-a-lifetime funds for our organization and community through the usage of an internal workgroup. This county government-led workgroup was tasked with reaching out to residents, businesses, nonprofit organizations, healthcare providers, community leaders, and other stakeholders to identify ways to not only address the continued efforts surrounding the on-going pandemic response, but also recommend generational investments that lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery with meaningful and lasting change. In conjunction with the internal workgroup's efforts, Frederick County conducted a countywide survey July through August 2021 and held numerous roundtable discussions in September 2021 to help obtain the community's feedback, set the framework for the County's funding priorities, and refine focus areas related to CSLRF project spending.

Based on the community feedback, stakeholder input, and internal workgroup discussions, Frederick County narrowed down its funding priorities to seven key pillars identified to be the areas of greatest need within our community. These pillars include:



In an effort to maintain program integrity, and transparency, Frederick County decided to create an ARPA Project Review Committee made up of subject matter experts across various County agencies. This Committee was established to design a funding request and evaluation framework that incorporated not only the intended uses established under the CSLFRF Final Rule and Frederick County's targeted recovery pillars, but also ensure that projects advance equity and address systemic issues within our community.

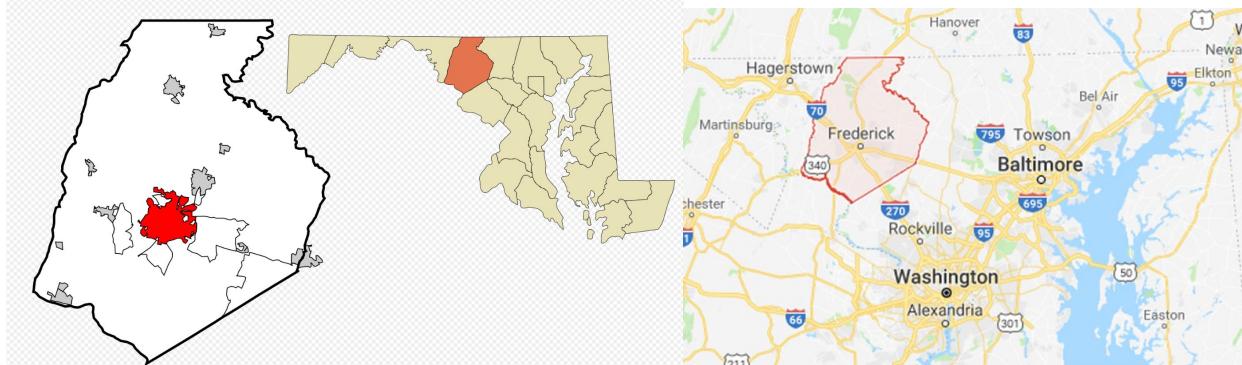
To-date, Frederick County has approved a variety of projects totaling \$50,227,025 of its CSLFRF funding to support our community with millions of dollars of projects currently still being considered. Each approved project is designated in one of Frederick County's priority outcome pillars listed below along with total funding allocated to that focus area so far. Most of these projects are still in their planning and launch phases, so there is not much progress to report yet, but there will be plenty of updates in future reports.

- Health = \$8,315,382
 - Goal = Ensure a robust response to protect public health from the impacts of COVID-19.
- Health Disparities = \$1,707,501
 - Goal = Advance equity in health outcomes by identifying and addressing disparities including a focused community-based effort to improve maternal health due to well-documented and alarming disparity evidence that exists in our community.

- Children & Families = \$13,987,279
 - Goal = Strengthen children and families by providing resources and support to improve family stability, reduce adverse childhood experiences, and ensure success in school.
- Economic Recovery = \$11,702,639
 - Goal = Support economic recovery for businesses and agriculture through innovation grants while ensuring equity through minority business outreach, training, and capital grant programs.
- Mental Health = \$928,000
 - Goal = Strengthen and expand behavioral health response to address growing community needs resulting from the pandemic including expanding crisis response efforts and implementing a crisis stabilization center.
 - Note – Frederick County is currently working through some major mental health initiatives being funded outside of CSLFRF, but that will have significant impact in our community.
- Seniors = \$10,944,689
 - Goal = In partnership with our non-profit human service agencies, ensure resources and support for seniors to live safe, healthy and productive lives.
- Transportation = \$2,391,535
 - Goal = Transportation is an integral piece to all facets of our recovery and affect all other priority outcomes. Considered the foundational pillar in our recovery plan.

Note – Due to the complexities with Federal grant requirements and compliance, Frederick County has partnered with outside audit firm Clifton, Larson, Allen (CLA) for not only its own grant administration and compliance support, but also to connect with the County's ARPA project partners to aid in their federal grant navigation and compliance as well. To support these activities, Frederick County has allocated \$250,000 of its CSLFRF funding to be used for grant compliance and administration costs.

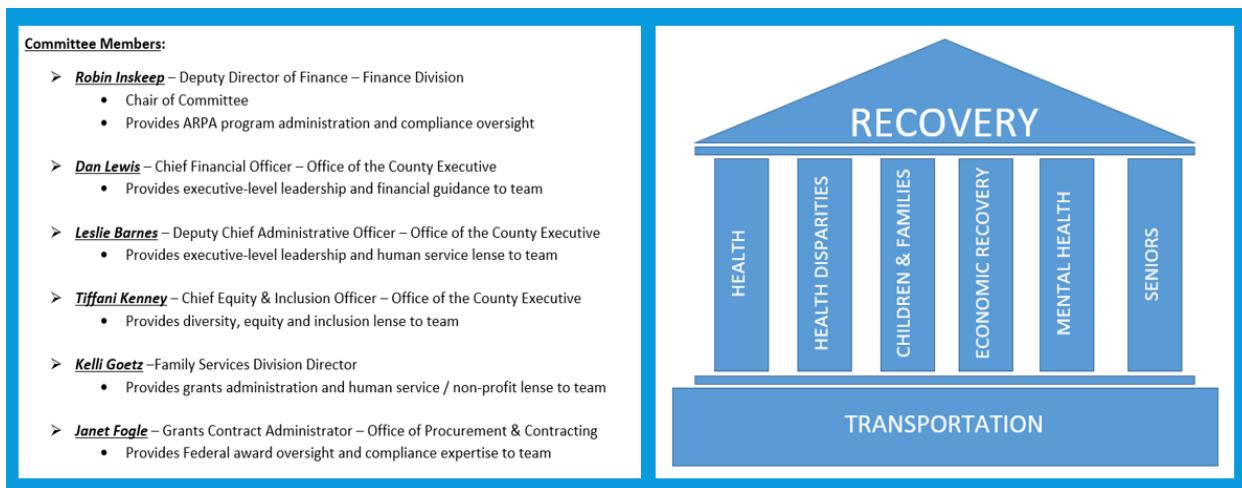
Uses of Funds



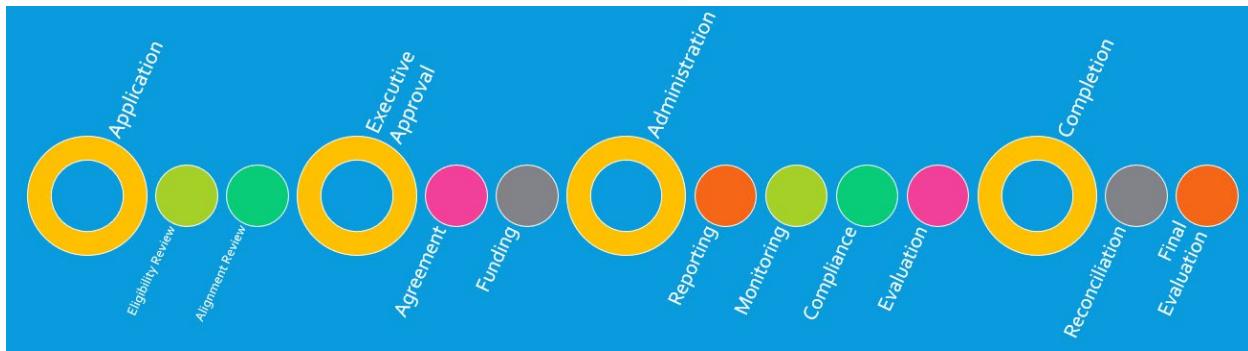
Frederick County is located in the north central part of Maryland, with an estimated population of 271,717. There are twelve incorporated municipalities within the County. The County seat and largest city is the City of Frederick, which has an estimated population of 78,171. The City of Frederick is located approximately 45 miles northwest of Washington D.C. and 45 miles west of Baltimore, Maryland.

When the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CSLFRF) program as part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) came into law, Frederick County began to immediately devise a plan on how best to move forward and aid our community in its pandemic response and recovery efforts. This effort included many communication efforts with residents, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and other key community stakeholders. This communication and corresponding feedback helped Frederick County develop its ARPA Priority Outcomes tailored to our community needs. It became abundantly clear that Frederick County needed a specific team of subject matter experts to lead the oversight of CSLFRF funding requests to ensure selected projects were aligned not only with the intended uses provided in guidance from the U.S. Treasury, but also support a strong and equitable recovery for our community. This seven-member team, the ARPA Project Review Committee, was created and tasked with providing a comprehensive review of Federal CSLFRF funding requests received by Frederick County that incorporate Federal ARPA guidance from the U.S. Treasury, and the County Executive's ARPA priority outcomes, while ensuring a timely, equitable, transparent and accountable process throughout.

The below graphic provides a closer look at Frederick County's APRA Project Review Committee and their specific role on the team along with the County Executive's ARPA Priority Outcomes.



To help in Frederick County's administration and oversight of CSLFRF funding and its selected projects, an end-to-end Project Lifecycle (below graphic) was created to demonstrate each step in the process a funding initiative would take in its journey to get approval and ultimately aid our community. This framework allowed each potential project partner to gain a better understanding of how a project would be treated by Frederick County and set clear expectations on what was required by all parties, while also keeping process integrity and transparency.



Some of the biggest hurdles a project faces when being considered for funding occur in the application phase where its Federal eligibility, based on guidance from the U.S. Treasury, and its alignment with Frederick County ARPA priorities are reviewed. Projects must remedy the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts directly or indirectly. Direct projects respond to effects that can be solely attributed to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The COVID-19 public health emergency is the only cause for direct projects. Indirect projects can also address the effects of the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts. Indirect projects are linked to the COVID-19 pandemic via direct effects or have more than one cause, of which, the COVID-19 pandemic is one.



Frederick County's ARPA Project Review Committee does a deeper dive of all funding requests. Each application is evaluated on its own merits throughout the entire process. In determining if a project should be recommended for approval and funding with the County Executive, the ARPA Project Review Committee will consider the following:

- urgency of the project,
- timeline for the project's completion,
- availability of other funding sources and if funding is needed one-time or on-going,
- if the project is new, or an enhancement/expansion of an existing program,
- how equity will be incorporated and advanced throughout the project's life,
- overall complexity of the project and the capacity for the requesting organization to implement the project and maintain all reporting requirements,
- project risks or challenges, and
- the possibility of existing similar projects or programs.

The ARPA Project Review Committee grades each project application using an evaluation matrix, as seen below, to ensure the same evaluation is performed for all applicants. Once each project application has been graded, the ARPA Project Review Committee provides its recommendations to the County Executive for final review and approval/denial decisioning.

Grading Criteria	Not Demonstrated	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations
Clearly describes project intentions and resulting community benefits	No clear intention was provided for usage of funds	Intent is unclear or anticipated benefits are unknown	Intent is clear and presents resulting project benefits	Intent is clear, presents resulting benefits, and aligns with CE's ARPA priorities
Project responds to COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts	No direct or indirect connection to COVID-19 pandemic	Indirect connection to COVID-19 pandemic, but project has limited response to the public health emergency	Direct or indirect connection to COVID-19 pandemic, and project provides response to mitigating its impact	Direct connection to COVID-19 pandemic and clearly provides mitigating response that correlates with ARPA priorities
Identifies and analyzes project and organizational risks	No risks identified or organization does not have the capacity to handle project and funding requirements as-is	Limited risks identified or organizational capacity is insufficient and additional resources are needed	Risks are identified and organizational capacity is evident to meet anticipated grant requirements	Risks are identified with plan for mitigation and organizational capacity is not in question
Describes success and provides valid performance measures	Success not adequately described or goal-based	Success described, performance measures not supported or do not tie to an outcome	Success is goal-based, performance measures are valid	Success is outcome-oriented, performance measures identified, sourced, accessible, and linked to outcome
Explains how project incorporates, advances and measures equity	No evidence that equity is addressed with project	Limited evidence that equity is addressed with project	Equity is incorporated into the project and can be measured	Equity is a central tenet of the project and easily measured
Outlines project funding needs	Project requires on-going funding with no identified funding source beyond ARPA grant funds to sustain things	Project requires on-going funding with limited information available on how to sustain initiative	Project uses either one-time funding or demonstrates a funding source for sustaining project beyond ARPA	Project clearly outlines current funding need with the ability to sustain its efforts well beyond ARPA grant funding
Leverages community and/or County government collaboration/partnership(s)	No evidence of any project collaboration or community partnership(s)	Limited evidence of project collaboration or community partnership(s)	Project partner(s) identified with clear expectations/rolls outlined for each party.	Multiple collaborators and external funding (or enhancement of existing funding) identified

To help provide an equal opportunity for success in the implementation of CSLFRF-funded projects, Frederick County has partnered with Clifton, Larson, Allen LLP for not only assistance with its own Federal grants administration, but also to aid in the grants administration for the project partners Frederick County approves for these efforts. One of Frederick County's main goals in its recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic is to make sure all projects and their partners are successful in handling Federal grant funds and remain in full compliance while providing meaningful and lasting recovery impacts in our community.

To-date, Frederick County has approved dozens of CSLFRF-funded projects, totaling over \$50 million, aimed at helping our community recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic. Some of these projects include:

- Maternal health disparity study, health equity through local health improvement plan process, home-based care for seniors, and staffing support for our local hospital (Public Health),
- Emergency family shelter support, universal nursing for newborns and families, food insecurity support, academic support for students and teachers, trauma informed care, small nonprofit support, Arts community support, and farmer relief program (Negative Economic Impacts),
- Public safety support, vaccine incentives and testing supplies (Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity),
- Home repairs, assistive devices and equipment installations, transportation support for senior nutrition programs, and investments in public transit to aid community services (Revenue Replacement).

All of these projects and others not mentioned above are intended to ensure a robust response to protect public health from the impacts of COVID-19; advance equity in health outcomes by identifying and addressing disparities; strengthen children and families by providing resources and support to improve family stability, reduce adverse childhood experiences, and ensure success in school; support economic recovery for businesses and agriculture through innovation grants while ensuring equity through minority business outreach, training, and capital grant programs; strengthen and expand behavioral health response to address growing community needs resulting from the pandemic; ensure resources and support are available for seniors to live safe, healthy, and productive lives; address transportation gaps in our community to enable everyone to participate in its recovery from the pandemic.

Frederick County is also working to integrate the CSLFRF funding with other Federal and State funding allocations, such as the Emergency Rental Assistance program, to ensure all applicable funds are utilized effectively, making a noticeable impact in our community, and ensuring there is no duplication of efforts amongst project partners.



Promoting equitable outcomes

On March 18, 2021, Frederick County Executive, Jan Gardner, Frederick County Council President, M.C. Keegan-Ayer, and Frederick County Health Officer, Barbara Brookmyer, issued a joint declaration that Racism and its intergenerational effects are a public health crisis in Frederick County ([Joint-Declaration-Racism-Public-Health-031821 \(frederickcountymd.gov\)](https://frederickcountymd.gov/Joint-Declaration-Racism-Public-Health-031821)). This joint statement supports policies that produce equitable outcomes and informs our public discourse on racism within the county, including:

- Racism is a public health crisis in Frederick County that affects all members of our community.
- It is incumbent upon Frederick County to continue creating internal policies and procedures to ensure racial equity is a core element of Frederick County, and in collaboration with other community partners, to be transparent and inclusive in conducting assessments and communicating results with the community.
- It will be the policy of Frederick County to continue identifying specific objectives to incorporate antiracism principles across County agencies, and increase diversity in leadership, staffing and procurement to produce a county government that represents the community it serves.
- It will be the policy of Frederick County to incorporate into organizational work efforts to address and dismantle racism, promote a more in-depth understanding of racism, and how racism affects individual and population health, and provide tools to assist members of the Frederick County community to engage actively and authentically with communities of color.
- Frederick County will advocate for relevant policies that improve health in communities of color and will support local, state, and federal initiatives that advance social justice, while also encouraging individual advocacy to dismantle systemic racism.
- Frederick County will expand its efforts to build alliances and partnerships with other governmental agencies and organizations that are confronting racism, and will encourage other local, state and national entities to recognize racism as a public health threat.

CSLRF funding was specifically designed to meet the public health and economic needs of those impacted by the pandemic, and address longstanding health and economic disparities, many of which were amplified in disproportionately impacted communities due to the pandemic. While the pandemic impacted millions of American households and businesses, some of its most severe impacts fell on low-income and underserved communities, where pre-existing disparities exacerbated the impact of the pandemic and where the most work remains to reach a full recovery.

Frederick County continues to work at promoting equitable outcomes in all phases of the CSLRF grant implementation, including: planning, project evaluation and selection, communication and community engagement, and individual project design. Frederick County's Office of Equity & Inclusion and its associated leadership team have provided their on-going guidance and goals to aid in promoting equitable outcomes through the projects being considered and the distribution of these funds. As the graphic below shows, Frederick County has made determined efforts to address how it views and incorporated equity into its overall operating framework.

<u>Frederick County's Previous Approach to Awarding Federal and County Funds:</u>	<u>Our New Approach is to Apply an Equity Lens when Awarding Federal and County Funds:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operated with assumptions that the playing field was level • Failure to evaluate community impact upon our decisions • Failure to recognize the cumulative affect of our decisions • We relied upon our good intentions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We publicly embrace the grant awarding process as an opportunity to lead the way in creating a more equitable Frederick County • We ask hard questions of grant applicants • We educate members of our grant review committee in evaluating equity impact of applicant's programs • We review and make changes to our internal processes to help ensure that we are not producing unintended outcomes

During the initial planning phase related to CSLFRF, Frederick County staff reviewed health assessment information readily available within the Frederick County Health Department to identify areas where significant gaps in community outcomes already existed. Frederick County also reviewed data on the COVID-19 pandemic's effect on underrepresented businesses and on the results of an economic impact survey on minority business owners. Based on this review, Frederick County has used a more targeted approach in determining how projects or programs funded by CSLFRF help reduce gaps in services provided to all members of our community and ensure equal opportunities exist for everyone.

Also, Frederick County created a seven-member ARPA Project Review Committee to provide a comprehensive review of all Federal CSLFRF funding requests to ensure they incorporate equity throughout. This team includes Frederick County's Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer to aid our Committee's efforts on ensuring true equity is not only incorporated into each project approved for funding, but that equity as a whole is understood by the project partner we are connecting with. Part of this Committee's project evaluation includes a variety of questions specifically focused on equity. These include:

- Are intended outcomes focused on closing gaps, reaching universal levels of service or disaggregating progress by race, ethnicity, and other equity dimensions where relevant for the project's objective? If so, please explain.
- What population(s) will be served? Are there historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups the project intends to serve?
- How will the project incorporate and advance equity? How will you measure equity at each stage of your program?
- How was the project/program developed, adapted and/or implemented with equity in mind?
- Explain your efforts to make residents and businesses aware of the services offered?
- Are there differences in level of access to benefits and services across groups?
- Have you ensured that administrative requirements do not result in disparities in the ability to complete applications or meet eligibility criteria? If so, how is this accomplished?
- How do you propose to draw upon diverse perspectives in the community or field that your program will serve?

Knowing that equity is a central tenet throughout the framework of the American Rescue Plan Act, it is Frederick County's goal to fund projects with that same set-up built into every aspect. Not only is equity the highest targeted area in all project evaluations, but there is a desire and focus to ensure most CSLFRF-funded projects support our community's Qualified Census Tract (QCT) areas where the most impacted and vulnerable members of our community reside.

Most of Frederick County's approved projects funded by CSLFRF are still underway. As these projects progress in their efforts to promote equity, additional qualitative and quantitative data will be available to measure how well each project promoted equitable outcomes and progressed against Frederick County's equity goals.

Community Engagement

Frederick County has deployed a variety of communication strategies since the American Rescue Plan Act went into law and continues to engage and seek input from our community to ensure there is a robust and equitable recovery. The initial framework by which Frederick County identified the areas of greatest need in our community was by feedback from residents, businesses, community-based organizations, municipal officials, and other key stakeholders. Communication was initiated with both internal and external audiences to ensure the direction being taken reflected the needs and priorities of our community. The three main avenues of community engagement include:

	Frederick County's ARPA Website:	www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/ARPA Many more updates coming!
	Round Table Discussions:	Human Service Health Business Recovery / Economic Impact
	Frederick County Issued ARPA Survey:	Community input on where need is and how to respond

Executive Leadership Team:

Early on in the pandemic response, an internal workgroup made up of key leadership from the Office of the County Executive along with various County division directors was established and served as a central hub of discussion and decision-making. When the CSLFRF funding was first allocated, this team reached out to gather input from residents and groups within the community, such as businesses, nonprofits, healthcare providers, and community influencers, in addition to County government staff to gauge where efforts should be focused and provide a path for moving forward. In addition to direct communications, the workgroup gathered data from existing business surveys, human needs assessments and plans developed by community organizations. This includes our triennial community health assessment, behavioral health statistics, and data specific to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the people who

live and work in Frederick County. Although this team has seen its role be reduced as things transitioned primarily to Frederick County's ARPA Project Review Committee and grants team, they still gather input and insights from various stakeholder communities, and the public as part of their day-to-day operations at Frederick County Government.

County-wide ARPA Survey:

A countywide survey was conducted starting in July 2021 and ran through August 2021. The online survey, found at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/ARPA, included people who live or work in Frederick County, those who serve the residents of Frederick County, and had the ability to be translated into 100+ languages to facilitate outreach to non-English speaking communities. These efforts were used to help set Frederick County's CSLRF funding priorities and to receive additional feedback on where the greatest needs existed in our community. In addition, the countywide survey was made available to anyone with a connection to Frederick County and advertised heavily, including a Public Information Briefing by the County Executive, posts on all social media platforms, news release by all media outlets covering Frederick County, and a TV spotlight played on Frederick County's local public television channel. Information was collected on each respondent's role in the community, as well as any organizational affiliation and their thoughts on priority of spending.

Roundtable Discussions:

In September 2021, Frederick County leadership hosted three virtual roundtable events to discuss how Frederick County should invest its CSLRF allocation. Each roundtable focused on a different topic area: human services, health, and economic impact. During the roundtable events, community stakeholders reviewed the county ARPA survey results and discussed proposals to help meet the needs of Frederick County residents and businesses. To inform our plan, Frederick County sought out individuals, businesses, community coalitions, and leadership teams that focus on the needs of disadvantaged populations within our community that experienced a disproportionate impact from the pandemic. Specifically, we worked with those who represent and serve minority communities; seniors; children and families, particularly those with low incomes; individuals with behavioral health needs; people who face housing instability; those with potentially unmet health needs; and small business owners, among others. These roundtable discussions provided the public with another opportunity to be engaged in Frederick County's on-going CSLRF plans and are a good example of open and transparent government.

Frederick County ARPA Website:

Frederick County established a public-facing website, www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/ARPA to provide our community with on-going updates and information related to the American Rescue Plan and its progress in aiding our community's recovery efforts. For now, the website includes an overview of Frederick County's CSLRF allocation from the U.S. Treasury, active project list, project lifecycle diagram, funding request application, updates to our County Council, resources, and community engagement efforts. There are many other plans for this website that will be rolled out over the coming year to provide even more information and transparency to our community.

ARPA Project Review Committee:

Frederick County established a seven-member team to provide a uniform process of project review and overall project evaluation. This team consists of various subject matter experts from across County

agencies, each providing a key aspect to the team and Frederick County's overall review process. This team's role is to provide a comprehensive review of Federal CSLRF funding requests received by Frederick County that incorporate Federal ARPA guidance from the U.S. Treasury, and County Executive's ARPA priority outcomes, while ensuring a timely, equitable, transparent and accountable process throughout. All funding requests are thoroughly vetted by this team before any recommendation is made for County Executive consideration.

Frederick County has and will continue to listen when our community has reached out to inform us of gaps in our various services. With their help, Frederick County has explored ways to close those gaps using evidence-based best practices and to develop novel solutions to these complex challenges. Stakeholders have clearly stated that the pandemic revealed many unmet and complicated needs for our vulnerable individuals, communities and businesses and Frederick County intends to do everything it can to create an equitable recovery for everyone.

Labor Practices

Frederick County has not yet provided any CSLRF funding toward infrastructure projects or capital expenditures and has no current plans to use funds in this manner. However, if Frederick County does embark upon a project or program that utilizes CSLRF funding on infrastructure and/or capital expenditures in the future, we will be sure to follow all required labor standards set forth under Federal, State, and local guidance.

Use of Evidence

Frederick County strongly believes in and promotes the use of evidence-based practices. However, Frederick County is in a somewhat unique situation where the vast majority of its CSLRF funding is considered revenue replacement under the U.S. Treasury's Final Rule and does not carry with it the same evidence-based requirements and reporting that other expenditure categories do. Due to this fact, Frederick County has the flexibility to utilize CSLRF funding for "government services" as it deems necessary, but still has a desire to fund projects using the spirit and intent of ARPA while ensuring as many projects as possible are supported with evidence-based interventions. Many of the projects listed below are leveraging prior research and evidence to support their initiative. As projects are designed or evaluated, Frederick County is looking for research and literature, best practices, similar projects in peer jurisdictions, and evidenced-based support where possible to ensure data-driven initiatives are used to support our community in our on-going recovery.

Performance Report

Frederick County appears to be in a somewhat unique position regarding its CSLRF funding. Since the majority of its CSLRF award is considered revenue replacement, it has the ability to utilize the funding for any projects or initiatives considered "government services". The use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services. However, it is Frederick County's intent to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

Most of Frederick County's approved projects being funded under CSLFRF are still in progress so limited final performance data is available. Frederick County plans to further build out its ARPA website (www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/ARPA) to include project updates, performance measurements, and information graphics to better paint a picture of how the CSLFRF-funded projects are impacting our community and its recovery efforts.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project G6752.001: Tourism Council of Frederick County – Aid to Severely Impacted Tourism Industry

Funding amount: \$810,395

Project Expenditure Category: 2.35 - Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Project Overview

The Tourism Council of Frederick County, Inc. (the Tourism Council) is a nonprofit corporation organized to encourage, foster, and stimulate tourism in Frederick County, Maryland, to obtain and distribute reliable information about tourist attractions in Frederick County, Maryland, and to stimulate, encourage and promote cooperation and friendly exchanges between businesses, organizations and tourist attractions both in and out of Frederick County, Maryland.

The Tourism Council is largely supported by a 5% hotel rental tax collected in Frederick County. Frederick County Government collects a hotel rent tax for sleeping accommodations not exceeding 90 consecutive days from all hotels located in Frederick County, Maryland, and remits the tax collections, net of the County's expenses to collect, monthly to the Tourism Council.

Due to the COVID-19 public health pandemic and the ensuing reduction in travel and tourism that resulted, hotel tax revenues have been substantially reduced since March 2020. Hotel tax revenue was down over 15% for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2020 and an additional 24% year-over-year for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2021. Hotel tax revenues account for over 2/3rds of Tourism Council's operating revenue.

These Federal funds were provided to the Tourism Council in October 2021 to be used to off-set the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic to hotel tax collections in Frederick County, Maryland and in the Tourism Council's advertising efforts to encourage future visitation to our community and all the amenities it offers.

The website for Visit Frederick is <https://www.visitfrederick.org/>.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 2.35 - Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality.

Performance Report

The goal of this project was to provide much-needed financial support to Frederick County's primary tourism hub due to the substantial revenue declines experienced in the tourism, travel and hospitality industries during the on-going pandemic and allow the Tourism Council to continue to do what it does best; attract visitors to Frederick County and encourage spending within our community.

This project was funded in full in October 2021.

Project G6752.002: Frederick County Health Department – Maternal Health Disparity Study and Health Improvement Plan

Funding amount: \$294,515

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Frederick County Health Department is leading a two-phased approach to improve maternal and infant outcomes for underserved populations in Frederick County. Phase 1 of this project includes a health disparity study of Black/African-American women and their pregnancy and birth outcomes in Frederick County. Black/African-American women in Frederick County experience worse pregnancy and birth outcomes than their White Frederick County counterparts. The disparity has been well documented for years, and these health issues can impact children's health for their entire lifespan. The contributing factors for these outcomes are complex and each woman's experience gives insight into the overall issue. The resulting information from this study will provide insight into the variety of perspectives and experiences in Frederick County and allow the Frederick County Maternal and Child Health Collaborative to tailor interventions for this underserved population and inform their strategic health improvement planning.

Phase 2 of this project includes the build-out of a strategic community health improvement plan focused on improving maternal and infant outcomes. The goal would be to improve engagement and health outcomes for these populations through educational communication to providers and improvements to the health services access and engagement continuum.

Use of Evidence

Although the use of evidence is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, this project uses evidence-based support for its framework as detailed below.

Phase 1 – Health Disparity Study:

- A. The integration of aggregated and disaggregated quantitative data gathering; qualitative data gathering from the affected population's characteristics, needs, values and preferences; looking into environmental context to gather an objective picture of the factors influencing Black maternal child health in Frederick aligns with Jacobs, Jones, Gabella, Spring and Brownson's tools for implementing an [Evidence-Based Approach in Public Health Practice](#).

B. Community Engagement has proven successful in a wide array of community health endeavors as seen Morgan and Lifshay's [Community Engagement in Public Health](#).

Phase 2 – Strategic Community Health Improvement Plan

A. Utilizing the [Results Count Path to Equity Framework](#) will ensure that the work will remain grounded in equity at each stage. The entire purpose of the project is to impact health equity. In addition to the Results Count Path to Equity Framework, using pre-identified equity strategies to address the root causes of inequities, we can comprehensively address social and structural determinants of health.

- Empowering people in the communities of focus through the planning, implementation and evaluation will build power and advocacy.
- Building human capital in the community of focus such will be the result of social engagement and support systems.
- Developing the skills of persons in the community will promote sustainability in positive environment change.
- Creation of a data platform that can be used by a variety of partners to promote collective impact, transparency and accountability.
- Creating opportunities for dialogue that can lead to changing the narrative around why health disparities exist, and how eliminating them will benefit the entire community.

B. Community Readiness/Needs Assessment uses evidence-based measures from Tri-Ethnic Center for Prevention Research and can determine different levels of community preparedness for action.

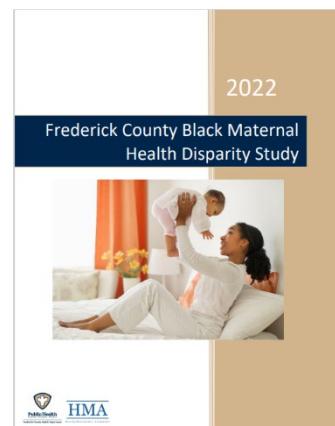
C. The approach follows the National Association of County and City Health Officials social justice framework for community health improvement planning is a recognized model approach for community health improvement planning conducted by local health departments.

[Performance Report](#)

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to procure a consultant to facilitate, develop, and deliver a strategic community health improvement plan focusing on Black/African-American women who currently live in Frederick County and identify priorities and set goals to drive tailored interventions to improve maternal and infant health in our community.

The Frederick County Black Maternal Health Disparity Study was completed in April 2023 and is available on County website at [Frederick County Black Maternal Health Disparity Study \(frederickcountymd.gov\)](#).



The workgroups and steering committee are now prioritizing initiatives identified in the study and health improvement plan, to move forward with implementation. Initiatives will be funded under our Health Disparities project G6752.7052.23 below.

Project G6752.003: Rebuilding Together Frederick County – Home Repairs for Low-Income Senior, Veteran, and Disabled Homeowners

Funding amount: \$350,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Rebuilding Together Frederick County (RTFC) provides health and safety-related rebuilding and repair of homes for low-income Frederick County senior, veteran, and disabled homeowners so that they may remain in the homes they love and avoid displacement. Annually, RTFC rebuilds and repairs 15-35 homes using a large cadre of volunteer support and assistance from qualified contractors for such rehabilitations as roofing, plumbing, electrical, and code-related work. The organization assembles diverse and multiple resources of funding, volunteer work groups, and donations and purchases of materials, to accomplish the home rebuilding and repairs. Each home selected for work is assigned a house captain who determines the scope of work, need for materials, cost, and provides oversight of the project through to the homeowner's satisfaction. RTFC takes pride in its ability to help homeowners in need remain comfortable in their homes with the benefits of well-executed health and safety rehabilitation and repairs.

The COVID pandemic severely affected the organization's ability to conduct home rehabilitations in 2020 and 2021. Volunteers were unavailable to support the projects and workers' close proximity to vulnerable homeowners caused many interior home repairs to be deferred entirely. Some exterior projects were accomplished but a significant backlog of deferred rebuilding and repair work developed.

Funding for this initiative has a timeline ending in June 2025 and will enable RTFC to address two years of backlogged home repairs (2020-2021) deferred during the pandemic and address those homes selected for rehabilitation in 2022-2024.



The website for Rebuilding Together Frederick County is <http://www.rebuildingtogetherfrederick.org/>.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's

intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to provide much-needed home repairs to low-income senior, veteran, and disabled homeowners in our community to ensure they can remain safely in their homes into the future.

As of June 30, 2024, home repairs have been completed for 50 homeowners. Of the 50 unduplicated homeowners, 88% were for senior homes.

Project G6752.004: Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs – Emergency Family Shelter Fit-Out

Funding amount: \$146,258

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services



Project Overview

Since 2014, the Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs (RCENH) has operated the only Emergency Family Shelter in Frederick County to help families in need. Originally, this shelter operated using a congregate living model relying on local congregations to provide necessary space causing continual movement from building to building. This set-up could only accommodate approximately 15 individuals at a number of scattered sites. The COVID-19 pandemic dealt the shelter program several challenges over the last two years and the usage of congregate facilities was entirely halted during the State of Maryland pandemic-related restrictions. Due to this, the RCEHN was forced to seek alternate methods of shelter, which included campsite and hotel usage.

RCEHN began construction of a new emergency family shelter in April 2021 on a building that had been donated by the City of Frederick. In March 2022, with the help of the Frederick community, RCEHN successfully opened its new Emergency Family Shelter. The new shelter provides temporary housing and supportive services for up to ten families at a time, offering private suites with personal bathrooms, laundry rooms, a community kitchen, a living and dining area, counseling rooms, and a children's playroom. The new facility has the capacity to house at least 50 individuals, including families. Families are eligible to stay for 90 days, with extensions possible. In addition, compassionate staff provide integrated case management and support to assist families in achieving their goals of securing permanent housing and a road map out of poverty.

Funding for this initiative has allowed RCEHN to perform the entire fit-out of the new Emergency Family Shelter. These funds were used to purchase all bedding, furniture, appliances, supplies and so much more for the facility.

The website for RCEHN's Emergency Family Shelter is <https://thereligiouscoalition.org/give/beyond-shelter-campaign/>.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to provide vulnerable families in our community facing housing instability with emergency shelter and wrap-around services to aid in their goal of securing permanent housing and a framework for a stable future.

Project G6752.005: Bell Court – Major Component Replacements at Low-Income Senior Apartment Community

Funding amount: \$360,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Bell Court Senior Apartments is a County-owned and managed 28-unit rental community occupied by very low-income seniors. Bell Court is required to be financially self-sufficient. Rents must stay below 30% of tenant income. This limited rental income is the only revenue source available for on-going maintenance and upkeep of the property. Originally constructed in 1996, major components have exceeded their useful life and are overdue for an upgrade before disrepair causes emergencies. Addressing the overdue facility upgrades to the County-owned Bell Court Senior Apartments is considered a top priority and appropriate usage of Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused an increase in the cost of building materials and contractor pricing. It has restricted the residents to their homes. Upgrading this senior living facility now would alleviate the funding barriers presented by an aging facility with very limited project income, while the updates to residents' units and common areas will increase the quality of life of the County's vulnerable seniors.

Funding for this initiative has a timeline ending in November 2024 and will allow the senior apartment facility to upgrade its siding, windows and doors, replace its Community Center patio, install new water heaters, toilets and tub facets for each senior living unit, purchase all new washers for the facility's laundry area and refurbish the entire interior for the facility's Community Room.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report



Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to provide facility repairs and major component replacements for the County-owned Bell Court Senior Apartments to ensure the low-income senior residents living in this community have a quality facility to reside and age in well into the future.

Repairs and renovations to the bathrooms and kitchens were completed. A contract was executed in May 2024 for the replacement of windows, exterior doors and siding. Project is expected to be completed by December 2024.

Project G6752.006: Citizens Care and Rehabilitation Center – Operations Support due to Pandemic-Related Revenue Loss

Funding amount: \$5,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

As the premier skilled nursing facility in Frederick, Maryland, Citizens Care and Rehabilitation Center of Frederick (CCRC) provides compassionate and personal skilled care 24 hours a day. CCRC specializes in providing rehabilitation services onsite to help its residents regain their independence and return to their homes.

Established in 1870, Montevue Assisted Living (MAL) is a licensed assisted living facility located in Frederick County, Maryland. MAL's new facility offers private rooms for 75 residents and has a long history of providing excellent care to the senior citizens it serves. MAL serves residents who can privately pay for care who are in need of assistance with activities of daily living. MAL's mission is to pursue the promotion, maintenance, and restoration of the health and well-being of its residents. It strives to enhance life satisfaction and to preserve self-determination for each resident as it provides a comprehensive plan of care encompassing the physical, emotional, cognitive, social, spiritual, and cultural needs of each person in its care.

Both the Citizens Care and Rehabilitation Center and Montevue Assisted Living facility were required to drastically reduce their services due to the severe restrictions placed on congregate facilities during the pandemic. As a result, these nursing homes could no longer offer semi-private rooms for their clients, elective surgeries and procedures were essentially halted and limited rehabilitation services could be provided for an extended period of time. Eliminating any of these service areas by itself would cause significant revenue harm, but the combination of them all proved to be especially harmful to the nursing homes' incoming revenue.

As part of Frederick County's Revenue Replacement usage under the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, addressing the significant revenue loss experienced by the County-owned Citizen Care and Rehabilitation Center and Montevue Assisted Living nursing home facilities due to the on-going pandemic was considered a top priority and good usage of funds.

Funding for this initiative spanned two fiscal years (2022 and 2023) and allowed operations to continue uninterrupted as congregate facilities continue to navigate and recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County’s intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community’s efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County’s intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project was to provide a much-needed infusion of support to Frederick County-owned nursing home facilities in an effort to fully recover from the severe limitations the pandemic has placed on congregate facilities. This project has been completed.

Project G6752.007: Frederick County Government Employee Vaccine Incentive Program

Funding amount: \$2,059,629

Project Expenditure Category: 1.1 – COVID-19 Vaccination

Project Overview

On September 30, 2021, County Executive Gardner announced a vaccine incentive program for Frederick County Government employees. The goal of this program was to encourage employees to get vaccinated to ensure a safe workplace and to protect the public, as well as vulnerable employees who may be immunocompromised or have vulnerable people in their households. All full-time employees who provided proof of vaccination were paid a \$1,000 incentive bonus. Part-time employees, as defined in the Vaccine Incentive Policy, were paid a \$500 incentive payment. Those employees already vaccinated were eligible for this payment, as were those who completed their vaccine regimen and provided documentation no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, December 30, 2021.

Employees are considered “*fully vaccinated*” for COVID-19 once they have received the requisite number of doses of a COVID-19 vaccine that has either (a)(i) been approved or (ii) authorized for emergency use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or (b) has been listed for emergency use by the World Health Organization. An employee who received the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine is considered “*fully vaccinated*” after he/she received the second dose. An employee who received the Johnson and Johnson (J&J)/Janssen vaccine is considered “*fully vaccinated*” once he/she received a single-dose.

“*Proof of vaccination*” means a copy of (a) the COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card or (b) immunization records from a public health or state immunization information system (such as Maryland MyIR <http://www.md.myir.net>).

Funding for this initiative ran from the program’s announcement on September 30, 2021 through December 30, 2021 to encourage as many Frederick County Government employees as possible to get fully vaccinated in an effort to ensure a safe workplace, and help further protect our community.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 1.1 – COVID-19 Vaccination.

Performance Report

The goal of this project was to encourage and incentivize Frederick County Government employees to get vaccinated to help ensure our workforce remained healthy and stable so we could continue providing vital services to the public, while also best protect those vulnerable in our community from COVID-19 transmission.

This project was completed in January 2022 and here is the Key Performance Indicator collected:

1. Number of eligible Frederick County Government employees getting fully vaccinated = 1,994 (out of 2,457 eligible employees).

Project G6752.008: Broadband Expansion and IT Support Initiatives for Community

Funding amount: \$1,962,270

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

To provide a more focused effort for Frederick County Government rural broadband initiatives, the County's Interagency Information Technologies (IIT) Division was granted approval to establish a Broadband Office (Office of Broadband and Enterprise Projects). This unit within the IIT Division will continue to pursue and administer Federal and State grant opportunities to provide and expand broadband services to unserved and underserved areas in Frederick County until every member of our community has the broadband connectivity access it needs to succeed.

To-date, Frederick County has partnered with Comcast and Shentel Corporation on various priority projects to extend broadband service to remote areas within Frederick County that are currently not served or have limited access to high-quality and affordable internet connectivity.

Also, in keeping with the National Institute of Standards and Technology's model framework of 'Protect, Detect, Respond, and Recover,' IIT will be rolling out various support initiatives to better align with accepted industry best practices and risk mitigation opportunities.

Funding for this initiative spans two fiscal years (2022 and 2023) and has allowed Frederick County IIT Division to establish its Office of Broadband and Enterprise Projects and institute other technology industry best practices moving forward.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to be ready for and actively pursue all available broadband expansion grant opportunities and build out the County's current broadband infrastructure to serve all households in our jurisdiction with reliable internet access while incorporating other information technology best practices into Frederick County's technology framework.

Project G6752.009: COVID Memorial at Utica District Park

Funding amount: \$314,830

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services



Project Overview

On April 1, 2021, Frederick County issued a community-wide survey for citizens to provide input on the establishment of some type of memorial to honor the lives lost and the healthcare heroes and essential workers who risked their safety to care for our community during the COVID-19 pandemic. The majority of survey results showed support for a COVID memorial at a local County-owned park. After several discussions with internal County agencies and reviews of design ideas, the County settled on memorial walkway at Utica District Park.

Funding for this initiative was relatively short (project was completed in July 2022) and allowed for the COVID Memorial's design and installation at Utica District Park. The COVID Memorial was dedicated by local government officials and opened for public viewing on Saturday, July 23, 2022.

The website for the COVID Memorial at Utica District Park is <https://www.recreater.com/862/COVID-19-Memorial>.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to honor the lives lost due to COVID-19 and recognize those who risked their safety to care for our community.

Project G6752.010: ARPA Nonprofit Community Health & Recovery (ANCHR) Grant Program

Funding amount: \$725,749

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services



Project Overview

Frederick County maintains a strong commitment to supporting the local nonprofits that provide much needed and valuable services and programs to vulnerable populations within the community. In continued work of mitigating the impact of COVID-19 on its citizens, Frederick County invested American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in its nonprofit community. The Frederick County ARPA Nonprofit Community Health and Recovery (ANCHR) grant program will allocate approximately \$1,000,000 in funding to provide awards to eligible nonprofit 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(19) organizations impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impact. The ANCHR program is designed to support organizations, programs and activities that benefit Frederick County residents, and that address public health and economic challenges caused by the pandemic, including those that have contributed to the unequal impact of the pandemic in Qualified Census Tracts.

Based on our community engagement and public feedback, our organization has seen that smaller nonprofit organizations were largely left out of many pandemic-related support programs both locally and at the Federal and State levels. The ANCHR grant program specifically targeted smaller nonprofit organizations in our community by capping the annual operating budget level for eligible applicants at \$500,000. This program was also designed to provide a substantial infusion of resources to smaller nonprofit organizations by setting a standard 10% award amount based on the organization's annual operating budget. This enabled the resources dedicated to this initiative

to be spread equal proportionately amongst the smaller nonprofits located in our community.

Other requirements surrounding the ANCHR grant program include:

- The organization's alignment with one or more of the County Executive's ARPA Priority Outcomes including:
 - Health
 - Health Disparities
 - Children & Families
 - Economic Recovery
 - Mental Health
 - Seniors
 - Transportation
- Demonstrated impact from the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts, such as:
 - Decreased revenue (i.e., from donations or fees for service)
 - Financial insecurity
 - Increased costs (i.e., increased demand for service)
 - Capacity to weather financial hardship
 - Challenges covering payroll, rent or mortgage, and other operating costs
 - Downsizing of staff and/or business services

Funding for this initiative was earmarked by Frederick County in late CY 2021, and the grant application period ran from May 9, 2022 through June 9, 2022. Awardees will be able to utilize these support funds for a demonstrated need of operational expenses (resulting from revenue gaps/shortfalls and/or expense increases), or to expand or create programs to serve the community as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Thirty-four local nonprofits received ANCHR grants. They include groups that serve veterans, provide job and life skills training, support recovery from addiction, offer daycare to families with limited income, introduce people to arts, and promote economic development. The amount of each grant ranges from \$5,000 to \$50,000, capped at 15% of the organization's annual budget.

Final grant reporting was received by all recipients in FY2024. All recipients fully spent their awards on eligible expenditures.

The website for Frederick County's ANCHR program is <https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/ANCHR>.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to support local small nonprofit organizations that provide much-needed and valuable services and program to vulnerable populations within our community and who were largely left out of much of the COVID-related relief funding previously provided by governing authorities.

Project G6752.011: Frederick Health – Family Connects Universal Nurse Visiting Program for Newborns and their Families

Funding amount: \$8,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Frederick County has long had a desire to identify and address disparities in our community. This is even more evident when it comes to health disparities for vulnerable populations in our community. One such disparity is evident in maternal health and infant outcomes among varying races in Frederick County. In an effort to eliminate this disparity, Frederick Health, Inc. has partnered with Family Connects International to bring a universal home visiting program to Frederick County.

Frederick Health, Inc. is in the early stages of implementing the Family Connects universal newborn home visiting model for all 2,800 newborns born annually to Frederick County families. Family Connects Frederick County will provide 1-3 nurse home visits to all Frederick County families with newborns within 3-12 weeks of birth. Family Connects is universal, so recently pregnant persons and their newborns, as well as newborns in kinship, foster and adoptive families, are also eligible for services.

Frederick Health Hospital (FHH) births 75% of the approximately 2,800 babies born annually to Frederick County residents. As the primary provider of labor and delivery services to Frederick County families, FHH is well positioned as the clinical and administrative home of Family Connects Frederick County and to shift maternal child health outcomes.

The Family Connects Frederick County Initiative has three components – Plan & Recruit, Execute and Sustain.

Plan & Recruit (Year 1): Frederick Health will contract consultants, partner agencies, an evaluator to develop the recruitment and implementation plans. Frederick Health will contract with Family Connects International to hold a learning academy for key stakeholder engagement, conduct listening sessions with Frederick County families, develop partnership agreements with local community organizations for key components, develop an implementation plan with SMART goals, and create the systems for documenting performance. Frederick Health will also hire its initial staff for this program.

Execute (Year 2 –4): Frederick Health will hire clinical staff and develop workflow protocols and technology infrastructure for each step of the program implementation. Frederick Health will offer visits to families and achieve model fidelity. The project will document and report against all performance metrics.

Sustain (Year 3-4): Frederick Health will seek additional funding through grants and reimbursement systems with its payer network enabling it to be self-sustaining into the future.

Funding for this initiative is multi-year in nature with a timeline ending in December 2025. This funding will enable Frederick Health, Inc. to create and fully implement an evidence-based universal nurse home visiting program for all newborns and their families across Frederick County's community and ensure uniform access to care is provided accordingly.

Use of Evidence

Although the use of evidence is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, this project uses evidence-based support for its framework as detailed below.

During the research and development of this Program by Frederick Health, Inc., it utilized evaluation criteria to determine that the Family Connects Program is the desired home care visitation model to implement in Frederick County. As a program of Duke University's Center for Child and Family Policy, the Family Connects International model is an evidence-based approach to support all newborns and their families. They work with communities to plan for the model's implementation and sustainability, help establish community networks, train the nurses who will conduct the home visits, and provide screening and assessment tools. Family Connects International also conducts rigorous research and evaluation of the model, as well as innovative research on early childhood well-being and parent-child relationship. The Family Connects model is also recognized by HOMVEE (Home Visiting Evidence of Effectiveness) as an evidence-based model that improves child wellbeing, reduces emergency department costs, and reduces child abuse and neglect at the population level.

In conjunction to the newborn home visitation aspect of this program, the project also aims to address prenatal risk factors that are documented to be critical to postpartum outcomes and health disparities according to the scientific literature, Maryland State Integrated Health Improvement Strategy (SIHIS) goals, and the findings of the 2019 and 2018 Maryland Maternal Mortality Review Commission. These risk factors include prenatal care, low birth weight, gestational diabetes, maternal pre-pregnancy and gestational hypertension, Cesarean section, and infant mortality. The 2019 and 2018 Maryland Maternal Mortality Review Commission Reports documented the critical importance of the early postpartum period: "Deaths in the early postpartum period, before the traditional six-week postpartum visit, were much more frequent among pregnancy-related deaths compared to non-pregnancy-related deaths." [\[Health-General Article, §13-1207, Annotated Code of Maryland - 2019 Annual Report – Maryland Maternal Mortality Review.pdf\]](#). By offering families a visit in the early postpartum period with a nurse who conducts a maternal wellness check, Family Connects Frederick County will provide an intervention to reduce maternal mortality – which affects African-American women at more than 3 times the rate of white women.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFR funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to implement and evidence-based universal nurse home visiting program for all newborns and their families across Frederick County's community and ensure uniform access to care is provided accordingly.

Family Connects Frederick County achieved certification as a Family Connects International (FCI) Community Partner in December 2023.

The website for the Family Connects program can be found at [Family Connects | Healthcare Services in Frederick County, MD \(frederickhealth.org\)](https://frederickhealth.org).

Project G6752.012: Community Foundation of Frederick County – Feeding Frederick Public Awareness Campaign – Connecting Free Food Resources to those in Need

Funding amount: \$89,200

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Already an existing problem for many Frederick County families, the COVID-19 pandemic has made food insecurity even more prevalent. More families are seeking assistance from a variety of nonprofit and governmental providers of food throughout the county. Many residents experiencing food insecurity often do not know where, when, and how to obtain free and available food from the many food providers offering this support.

The Community Foundation of Frederick County, in collaboration with Frederick County Government, Ausherman Family Foundation, and other community partners, is leading a public awareness campaign to help food insecure households learn where to obtain food and other assistance. This campaign is based on the [Frederick County Food Distribution Map](https://frederickcountymd.gov/food-distribution-map).

The initial campaign kicked off in April of 2021 with the website and ad campaigns launching in June 2021. This project extends the existing campaign for an additional year with the help of Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.

Since its launch, the website and map have seen an increasing number of visitors. In June 2021, there were 316 visits to the map and by October 2021, that number rose to 798 visits. Advertising and social media are driving visitors to the map. In October 2021, the website had 3,671 visitors and social media messaging has been served to nearly 200,000 users across the different channels. Additionally, the Frederick Rescue Mission reports that it has seen an increase in need for food since the pandemic began – in 2019 they distributed approximately 1.7 million pounds of food, in 2020 it rose to 2.8 million pounds of food and as of October 31, 2021, they had already distributed more than 2 million pounds of food with two months left in 2021. Reporting on this initiative has a lag based on all of the community partners

participating in this effort, however, for the first quarter in CY 2022, over 85,000 meals and/or food items had been served by this program to vulnerable members of our community in need.

Funding for this initiative began on January 1, 2022 and had an initial coverage period ending on June 30, 2022 with an option to renew the funding for the program for another six-month period ending on December 31, 2022.

The website for the Feeding Frederick Public Awareness Campaign is <https://feedingfrederick.com/>.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to link food insecure individuals and families in our community to available and free resources through Frederick County's Food Distribution Map and other communication and advertising avenues.

Project G6752.013: Frederick Health – Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) – Feasibility Study of Bringing PACE to Frederick County

Funding amount: \$48,420

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Frederick Health, Inc., in collaboration with Advocates for the Aging of Frederick County, are seeking to conduct a feasibility study to determine whether a PACE program would provide valuable social and medical services to the frail, dually eligible seniors of Frederick County. This project would support the engagement of a PACE consulting team responsible for conducting the feasibility study as well as completing the State of Maryland Request For Proposal (RFP), which is complex and will likely have an aggressive turnaround, to bring a PACE program to Frederick County. Johns Hopkins Bayview has operated the only PACE program in Maryland, but the State of Maryland recently announced that it will be approving additional PACE program sites across the state later this year and into the future. This is an exciting opportunity for Frederick County and its vulnerable seniors to competitively bid for a local PACE program in our community. The feasibility study will provide valuable information for the RFP process, as

well as provide insight as to the long-term sustainability of the program in Frederick County. Even if Frederick County is not successful in being awarded once the State's commissioned PACE programs, the results of the feasibility study will guide Frederick Health, Inc. in its future decisions on whether or not to embark on a PACE-like program to support the growing senior population in Frederick County.

The frail and vulnerable seniors in our community have experienced a high rate of physical and psychological decline during the pandemic as a result of long-term social isolation, traumatic falls/injuries, reduced access to medical and social/emotional support programs, etc. In addition, seniors and their families have increasingly declined long-term care placement options as a result of growing fears associated with COVID-19 and its associated outbreaks at congregate facilities. As a result, seniors and their families struggle to meet the needs of declining health. A PACE program would provide for much needed medical and social services while allowing the most vulnerable county residents to remain safely in their homes.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to have a feasibility study completed for Frederick County and determine the viability of a PACE program for our community. This type of program would focus its efforts on providing care and services to vulnerable low-income, frail and dually eligible seniors within our community.

The feasibility study was completed in January 2024.

Project G6752.014: Advocates for the Aging – Assistive Devices and Equipment to Support Seniors Remaining in their Homes

Funding amount: \$550,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Frederick County's overall senior population is growing at approximately three times the rate of the county's overall population and is living longer, trending toward a growing population of those 80 years old and older. In addition, recent studies have shown that poverty among persons 65 years old and older living alone in the county is nearly triple that of those living with family. These trends will likely lead to an increase in the number of seniors needing on-going financial assistance and other related services in the

future. The County's Seniors First report references seniors as being in one of three interactive groups: healthy and active, isolated and at risk, and frail. Seniors will move between these three designations as they age or have life experiences and individuals who reach age 85 will have some period of frailty as they continue to age.

Aging combined with low-income means individuals have little options if they develop conditions that make it difficult to remain in their homes. Assisted living or consistent home care are not options for many of the seniors in our community as there is little or no payment mechanism for these services. Assisted living costs can be thousands of dollars each month placing a tremendous financial burden on seniors and their families. Admission to a nursing home requires the individual be dependent in at least two activities of daily living such as bathing and dressing or have cognitive impairment. This option is not something most of us envision for a quality of life and it is a very expensive option for society.

Multiple studies and surveys continue to reveal that most seniors want to remain in their own home for as long as possible. This project is focused on providing various types of assistive devices or equipment needed to help ensure seniors can remain in a safe home environment for as long as possible. Advocates for the Aging of Frederick County, Maryland, Inc. (AAFC) will undertake the following activities for this project:

- 1) Contacting frail, older adults within Frederick County to set up an in-home visit from an occupational therapist;
- 2) Oversee occupational therapist assessment of the senior's home environment and assistive devices and equipment recommendations that may help improve the safety of the home for the senior; and,
- 3) Provide materials, supplies, and contracted labor needed to install devices identified by the occupational therapist. These include, but are not limited to: ramps, grab bars, raised toilet seats, electric lifting chairs, transfer boards, tub transfer benches, medical alert systems, and shoes for assistance with moving stairs and certain medical conditions.

Funding for this initiative is multi-year in nature with a timeline ending in December 2026. This funding will enable Advocates for the Aging of Frederick County, Maryland, Inc. to provide up to \$5,000 in assistive devices and equipment to each low-income senior it serves in our community. AAFC anticipates providing some level of assistive device and/or equipment to hundreds of vulnerable seniors throughout Frederick County through this program.

The website for Advocates for the Aging of Frederick County, Maryland, Inc. is <https://advocatesforaging.org/>.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County’s intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community’s efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County’s intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to close gaps in one component of safety for low-income and ethnically diverse seniors in our community and ensure seniors will have a safe home environment that will reduce their risk of falls, especially falls with injury, helping to keep them in their homes. This outcome is housed in a proper assessment of risk and need, the proper equipment and its installation, and follow-up assessments to ensure proper utilization of all provided equipment and devices.

This project began in May 2022, and Key Performance Indicators for the project as of June 2024 reporting:

1. Number of participant homes assessed by Occupational Therapist = 841
2. Number of participant homes with devices installed = 779
3. Total number of devices installed = 1,855

All participant homes assessed and had devices installed to date are low-income households.

Project G6752.015: Frederick County TransIT Services Division – Invest in Updated Technology

Funding amount: \$600,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services



Project Overview

TransIT Services of Frederick County is Frederick County’s public transportation system providing local and commuter bus service and demand response paratransit services as well as offering commuter assistance and employer outreach information.

The COVID-19 public health emergency placed enormous strain on TransIT Services workers, worsened an ongoing driver shortage, and created problems with supply chain issues for vehicle parts and software support. Due to massive restructuring at Transit Services’ automatic vehicle location (AVL) software vendor resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, TransIT Services staff have been manually collecting and reporting data across disparate systems, including spending hours manually typing in odometer and ridership data. TransIT Services can no longer gain access to the text for next bus feature, automatic vehicle locations, or data reporting with any consistency. This massive uptick in manual data entry, coupled with parts shortages and insufficient technical support from the vendor, have resulted in the inability to easily and accurately record federally compliant data while providing world-class customer service.

This project will enable TransIT Services to purchase and upgrade its automatic vehicle location (AVL) software and the associated hardware to improve efficiencies in data collection, tracking, and reporting, including easier access and assignment for operators, and the ability to track vehicles in real-time internally and public-facing. This effort will unify the disparate and nonfunctional tracking systems

currently in use. With upgraded technology, TransIT Services is also able to incorporate an adjacent project, automated vehicle annunciators (AVA). The efficiencies gleaned by completing the two projects concurrently will result in reduced costs and implementation time for both projects as well as significantly enhanced customer experience and staffing efficiencies.

Funding for this initiative began in July 2022 and will run through December 2024 enabling Frederick County TransIT Services to get its technology back on track and continue offering award-winning public transit services to our community.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to support enhancements to Frederick County's public transportation system through the Frederick County TransIT Services Division. Throughout all of our community engagement with the public and community stakeholders, transportation was a common issue with no easy or cost-effective solutions readily available. Transportation was slated as the foundational pillar in Frederick County's path to recovery from the pandemic and any opportunity to develop improvements to available solutions is key for our community moving forward.

Project G6752.016: Frederick County TransIT Services Division – Bus Network Redesign & Transit-Plus Integration

Funding amount: \$100,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services



Project Overview

TransIT Services of Frederick County is Frederick County's public transportation system providing local and commuter bus service and demand response paratransit services as well as offering commuter assistance and employer outreach information.

TransIT Services is committed to providing timely, reliable service to the residents of Frederick County. The COVID-19 pandemic dramatically changed commuting patterns, trip generators, and how people travel throughout the County. The pandemic has forced a complete review of the existing fixed-route

public transit and provide a once-in-a-generation opportunity to redesign the bus system to reflect the change in the community's needs.

While Transit Services undertakes a Transit Development Plan (TDP) every five years and identifies potential opportunities for realignment and service models, there is no associated funding with moving the project from planning to design and implementation, creating a series of TDPs spanning more than a decade that have been unable to fully implement recommendations. This effort would be the first step in overcoming the barrier to implementation.

Some key areas that will be reimagined as part of this project include:

- Reconfiguring schedules to address deficiencies in shift-work;
- Better structure operator breaks and shift times;
- Optimize bus stop locations across Frederick County;
- Identify opportunities to better serve areas of growth in the county;
- Create and track updated system performance metrics;
- Engage the community through vigorous outreach;
- Address capital elements of a bus network redesign, including bus priority treatments;
- Create an implementation plan; and,
- Identify opportunities to integrate and streamline Transit-Plus operations.

Funding for this initiative began in July 2022 and will run through December 2024 enabling Frederick County TransIT Services to reimagine its entire fixed-route framework and realign it with the needs of our community now and looking into the future.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to support enhancements to Frederick County's public transportation system through the Frederick County TransIT Services Division. Throughout all of our community engagement with the public and community stakeholders, transportation was a common issue with no easy or cost-effective solutions readily available. Transportation was slated as the foundational pillar in Frederick County's path to recovery from the pandemic and any opportunity to develop improvements to available solutions is key for our community moving forward.

Project G6752.017: Frederick County TransIT Services Division – Better Bus Stops and Transfer Facilities

Funding amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services



Project Overview

TransIT Services of Frederick County is Frederick County's public transportation system providing local and commuter bus service and demand response paratransit services as well as offering commuter assistance and employer outreach information.

As a result of the pandemic, many Frederick County residents have been forced to reexamine how and where they travel. Workplaces may have changed, doctors' visits may be more frequent and necessary, and access to critical services such as grocery stores and pharmacies is more important than ever. Parts of Frederick County, specifically parts of the Golden Mile and communities nearby, have experienced a history of underinvestment in mobility infrastructure, especially when it comes to paths of travel to and from transit stops and stations. While all TransIT buses are accessible, areas connecting to and from bus stops are critical to providing riders with a safe, accessible, and dignified transit experience from origin to destination. Bus shelters and enhanced passenger amenities are often identified in the Transit Development Plan (TDP) as one of the most necessary improvements to TransIT Services. This project will aid in enhancing bus stops and transfer facilities through the addition of benches, shelters, improved signage and lighting (where feasible), and other necessary amenities.

Bus shelter implementation program includes:

- Concrete boarding pads to improve passenger experience and safety boarding and alighting the bus
- Engaging with community partners and the City of Frederick to enhance pedestrian infrastructure near key stops, including bus bulbs and/or curb extensions
- Improving quality and upkeep of existing shelters
 - Implementing an Adopt a Stop program with local businesses to improve visibility of transit and engage new partners
- Installing shelters at new locations

Other improvements include tactile pavement, solar lighting, benches, and other treatments. TransIT Services also plans on enhancing its transfer facilities to ensure there are not only safety provisions, but also amenities to improve the overall experience by public transit customers in our community.

Funding for this initiative began in July 2022 and will run through November 2024 enabling Frederick County TransIT Services to implement noticeable improvements to its bus stops and transfer facilities showcasing clean and safe public transit in Frederick County. This initiative also supports the County's Vision Zero effort to ensure safer pedestrian and transit interactions in our community.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to support enhancements to Frederick County's public transportation system through the Frederick County TransIT Services Division. Throughout all of our community engagement with the public and community stakeholders, transportation was a common issue with no easy or cost-effective solutions readily available. Transportation was slated as the foundational pillar in Frederick County's path to recovery from the pandemic and any opportunity to develop improvements to available solutions is key for our community moving forward.

Project G6752.018: Frederick County Division of Fire and Rescue Services – COVID-Related Holdover Pay Adjustments for Firefighters

Funding amount: \$47,145

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Frederick County Division of Fire and Rescue Services (DFRS) provides critical life safety services to the citizens and visitors of Frederick County. DFRS employs 450 uniformed personnel, 16 civilian personnel and partners with hundreds of volunteer responders to serve more than 270,000 citizens of Frederick County that reside in the 664 square miles of our jurisdiction.

Since the start of the COVID-19 public health emergency, public safety agencies, including the Frederick County Division of Fire and Rescue Services, have been called upon to be the first line of defense in fighting the on-going pandemic. When the Omicron variant to the coronavirus hit our community in late 2021/early 2022, staffing at DFRS were tirelessly called upon to provide life-saving measures amongst a huge surge in persons testing positive for COVID-19 and needing emergency services.

Due to the strain placed on DFRS staff during this significant spike in COVID activity in our community, the County instituted a slight shift in its holdover pay structure to encourage and support our public safety personnel. Holdover pay is additional pay made to firefighters who need to stay on active duty after their schedule because an employee on the next shift is not available, either due to staffing shortages, or sick time. The County's standard practice is to pay the employee's regular rate of pay for holdover pay. This funding expanded that to provide a temporary increase to holdover pay.

Funding for this initiative began in January 2022 and only ran until mid-February 2022. This initiative enabled Frederick County to demonstrate its support and appreciation for the Division of Fire and Rescue Services and all of the efforts its staff made to help combat the Omicron variant surge that hit our community.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project was to support public safety staff in our Division of Fire and Rescue Services Division during the largest COVID-19 spike in our community and ensure adequate coverage was available to meet the needs of the community as they arose.

Project G6752.019: Frederick County Division of Emergency Management – Purchase of COVID Antigen Test Kits

Funding amount: \$700,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

In late CY 2021/early CY 2022, like many jurisdictions across the country and the world, Frederick County experienced a tremendous increase in COVID cases related to the Omicron variant. At the time, there were significant shortages of available antigen (rapid) test kits for our community to utilize and help stem the rising tide of infections.

Frederick County partnered with a secure supply chain provider of COVID antigen test kits and began to rapidly obtain and disburse these kits across our community to help in the pandemic fight. In early February 2022, the County provided multiple test kits to each County employee to ensure it maintained a safe and healthy workforce and was able to continue providing much needed and relied upon services to our community. Frederick County also partnered with the Frederick County Public Library system to better coordinate and disburse both COVID antigen test kits and KN95 masks to anyone in the public who needed them.

Funding for this initiative began in January 2022 and was completed in the first quarter of CY 2022 and allowed for wide accumulation and distribution of much needed rapid test kits to our community.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to procure and distribute much-needed COVID-19 antigen tests throughout our community to aid in the on-going fight against the pandemic and ensure our community remains safer moving forward.

Project G6752.020: Frederick County Office of Economic Development – Agricultural Innovation Grant Program

Funding amount: \$524,383

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Frederick County Office of Economic Development along with the County Executive created the Agriculture Innovation Grant Program in January 2021. Two rounds of the grant program originally awarded just over \$500,000 to 24 organizations to diversify their operations and grow their agriculture business in Frederick County. The intention of the grants is to improve economic viability of the agriculture industry by encouraging Frederick County's agricultural producers to expand or diversify their business operations. Eligible applicants must be a crop or livestock producer, value added producer, agricultural cooperative, seafood processor, or primary or secondary timber products processor. Applicants can receive grants for research and development, production buildings, major fixtures, and processing facilities.

USDA's most recent forecast for farm income for 2020, projected that producers would receive \$31 billion less in 2020 in cash receipts compared to pre-COVID income forecasts from February 2020. Farmers have learned during the COVID-19 pandemic the importance in diversifying their operations to stay viable. Starting in March 2020, farmers have seen an increased demand for consumers wanting to purchase locally grown and produced products. While farmers have tried to transition, it requires a large amount of overhead and staffing to make this switch from selling wholesale into the national markets to growing fruits, vegetables or meats for local consumption. Throughout 2020 and 2021 many Frederick County farms have tried to transition to selling locally through farmers markets, Community Supported Agriculture, on farm stores or other avenues. However, it can take several years to transition an operation to a new product.

Funding for this grant program ran from March 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022 and provided nine agricultural organizations with an additional \$524,000 in total awards. This funding will enable local farmers and agricultural producers to add jobs to their organizations or make capital investments needed to diversify their product offerings and continue the viability of their operations into the future.

The website for the Frederick County Office of Economic Development's Agriculture Innovation Grant program is https://www.discoverfrederickmd.com/ag_innovation_grant.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to help farmers and other agricultural producers, of all demographics in our community, diversify their operations to ensure viability long into the future. Agriculture plays a huge role not only in Frederick County, but across our nation and throughout the world. Providing opportunities to innovate this industry and help its long-term success is of paramount importance for everyone.



Project G6752.021: Frederick Health – Comprehensive Home-Based Care for Low-Income Seniors

Funding amount: \$1,070,000

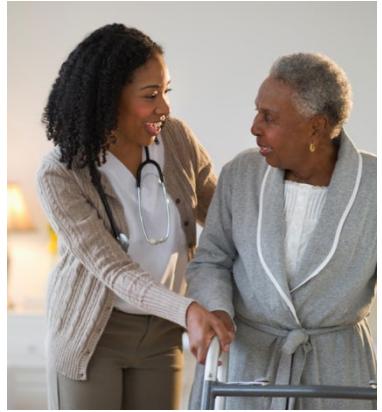
Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

This project will begin to reorient current systems of care for low-income seniors in Frederick County to:

- Reduce and resolve the loss of care and support experienced by seniors as a result of the ongoing COVID pandemic;
- Help low-income seniors age in place in their current homes;
- Lower and better manage the County's emergency management service costs related to senior care and the costs to the overall health care system and public support system; and,
- Maintain and improve the quality of life for low-income and frail seniors in the community.

Meeting these needs demands innovation and better collaboration among service providers. Advocates for the Aging of Frederick County, Maryland, Frederick Health, Inc., and the Housing Authority of the City of Frederick, have been partners in creating a new experimental structure for the needed change. ARPA funding presents Frederick County Government with an unprecedented opportunity to embark upon this innovation at a scale needed to meet the need, to directly address the costs of the rising service demand placed on emergency management services, and to address the complex Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) that determine 80% of an individual's overall health. Frederick County has long prided itself on a commitment at every level to the quality of life for all residents. This is an opportunity to put that ideal into practice for vulnerable seniors in our community.



The COVID pandemic literally shut the door on seniors living on their own throughout Frederick County, forcing individuals to isolate in fear for their lives. That isolation intensified a myriad of other concerns for low-income and frail seniors, including a lack of access to regular medical care, minimal human contact and less mental stimulation, and a lack of motivation to eat and exercise. For these seniors, there was (and is) little access to technology beyond the phone, and chronic illnesses limited opportunities to get outside and exercise. Concerns about having food delivered, or about preparing what was delivered, was an important issue, and reminds us of the complexity of assisting seniors to age in place. Being unable to go to the bank, the unreliability of the postal service in delivering mail and prescriptions were additional worries that made the isolation harder to bear. Feelings of helplessness, anger, and despondency were common among seniors and had a tremendous impact on long term mental health and longevity.

Funding for this initiative has a timeline ending in June 2024 and will allow community partners working collaboratively on this project to:

1. Continue the current Service Coordination for Low-Income Seniors Living in Single-Unit Housing project for two additional years. As of August 2021, the project was entering its second, and last year, under another grant funding opportunity and is both collecting data on senior needs and currently serving 50 clients of the projected 100 by the end of the two-year grant period. All of these clients are low-income seniors utilizing Housing Choice Vouchers to live in single unit housing in the county. The majority are minority, have chronic health care conditions, and have experienced high levels of isolation during the pandemic. Another key component of the project is utilizing a Community Health Worker (CHW) on the team. A CHW comes from the community being served, is culturally competent, has an equity focus on the history and background of the clients being served, and is trained to integrate the SDOH with the physical, mental, and emotional health needs of the client.
2. Through the project's navigation services, data collection and review, we have found that a subset of this client base requires additional regular medical attention that can be provided most economically and competently through home visits by medical personnel, avoiding unnecessary EMS calls or waiting too long to care for a minor problem that results in escalation and ultimately emergency, and perhaps inpatient, services. This is a paradigm shift in thinking about senior care, and the Supportive & Geriatric Care program at Frederick Health, Inc. is on the cutting edge of

demonstrating the benefits of this proactive approach. By funding two years of this extended home coverage to a proposed 200 low-income seniors currently being served through the Service Navigation project and the Adult Evaluation & Referral Services (AERS) program of the Frederick County Health Department, Frederick County Government will facilitate the change that will drive costs down, improve care and quality of life, support family caregivers, and provide an opportunity for other grant funding and potential billing sources to sustain the initiative into the future.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services. However, health equity for our community's low-income and vulnerable seniors is the foundation for this effort. The best place to start is understanding what health equity is, and what it is not. Health equity has been defined as the attainment of the highest level of health for all people. It also has been described as a situation in which everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible.

Health equity is not the same as health equality, where everyone gets the same opportunities for health. Health equity requires a concerted effort to increase opportunities for everyone to be healthier, including those for whom obstacles are the greatest. This means that efforts must encompass individuals facing poverty, discrimination or its consequences, and those who lack access to good jobs with fair pay, quality education, food, housing and health care.

Health equity also is not the same as health disparities. Health disparities reflect differences in health status between populations — for example, a higher burden of illness or mortality experienced by one group relative to another. Health disparities adversely affect groups of people who have systematically experienced greater obstacles to good health based on their race, ethnicity, religion, socioeconomic status, gender, age, mental health, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other characteristics historically linked to discrimination or exclusion. As a result, we can make progress toward health equity by identifying and addressing health disparities in our community.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to support low-income seniors in our community by closing gaps in the social determinants of health, general health care and medical care.

As of June 30, 2024, there has been a total of 754 Home visits performed for 138 unduplicated clients.

Project G6752.022: Frederick County Public Schools – Workforce Retention Incentive and Support Program.

Funding amount: \$3,885,750

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Frederick County Government has a long-standing and supportive relationship with its local school system (Frederick County Public Schools). As has been seen in many jurisdictions across the country, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused tremendous staffing issues with organizations with school systems seeming to feel the brunt of the situation. Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) have been no different and has struggled to retain its workforce.

To address this, the Frederick County Board of Education (BOE) has discerned that it is paramount to provide a retention and support incentive for all benefitted and non-benefitted staff who work a set schedule. The BOE has directed staff to accomplish this in a collaborative manner with broad community government support. The aim of the incentive is to help stabilize the FCPS workforce through the end of the school year and ensure continuity of instruction and related services to all of its over 45,000 students enrolled in FCPS.

The BOE requested to partner with Frederick County Government on a joint incentive for all FCPS employees hired on or before February 1, 2022 and are actively employed through the last day of the 2021-2022 school year. The incentive was paid in the June 30, 2022 pay for employees. An anticipated 7,000+ FCPS employees were be eligible for this incentive based on the end of the current school year.

Funding for this initiative ran from June 1, 2022 through July 31, 2022 and provided a retention and support mechanism for over 7,000 FCPS employees to ensure stability in the FCPS workforce and all services remained operational through the end of the 2021-2022 school year.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to support Frederick County Public School staff and help stabilize the workforce to ensure continuity of instruction and related services to all enrolled students remained uninterrupted.

Number of employees who received the support incentive = 6,285

Project G6752.023: Frederick Health Hospital – Staffing Stabilization and Support Program

Funding amount: \$2,560,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Healthcare workers are in an extreme shortage across the nation with hospitals paying excessive dollars for premium labor to ensure the safest possible staffing to care for hospitalized patients during these unprecedented times. This has been compounded with a surge of hospitalized COVID positive patients across the entire state of Maryland, with Frederick Health Hospital now consistently providing care for over 100 COVID positive patients per day.

Hospitals, including Frederick Health Hospital, have been required to extend their dedicated employees to their fullest by asking for additional hours, expanding patient assignments, and increasing physical demands due to PPE and increased patient care requirements. This has affected nurses, respiratory therapists and nursing assistants most significantly.

Frederick Health Hospital has been a tremendous partner of Frederick County in the on-going battle against the COVID-19 pandemic and will institute several employee support programs to aid in its mission of providing critical healthcare services to the community and provide various incentives for bedside caregivers and hospital workers who have and will continue to bear the greatest physical and mental demands due to the crisis staffing levels in the acute care setting. These programs include:

- Market Adjustment - Funding in this category may be used to offset the costs of increasing the hourly wages for employees in the Registered Nurse and Nursing Assistant roles to help retain existing employees and attract new hires to help fill over 170 vacancies that currently exist.
- Free Meals - Funding in this category may be used to provide free meals for all of the hospital's employees, medical staff, and volunteers via Frederick Health Hospital cafeteria for two weeks helping address morale and burnout of all hospital workers and encouraging staff to step away from their area of response to take a short break and decompress.
- Additional paid time off (PTO) - Funding in this category may be used to provide eligible Hospital Designated Direct Care Support Personnel employees with at least one additional installment of their individual PTO accrual rate equating to at least one day off.
- Appreciation Bonus – Funding in this category may be used to provide \$200 to every Frederick Health employee in appreciation for all that Frederick Health has done throughout the pandemic. This includes employees for all Frederick Health sites within Frederick County, Maryland.

Funding for these initiatives ran January 1, 2022 through December 2022 and offered mechanisms for Frederick Health Hospital to stabilize its staffing, attract talent to its workforce and provide much-needed support to its front-line employees facing the effects of the pandemic on a daily basis.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to support Frederick Health in its mission of providing critical healthcare services to the community. Specifically, it will allow the hospital to provide premium pay and incentives for bedside caregivers and hospital workers who have and will bear the greatest physical and mental demands due to crisis staffing levels in the acute care setting.

This project began in January 2022, below are the Key Performance Indicators for the project as of this June 2024 reporting:

1. Number of employees receiving market adjustment = 696
2. Number of employees receiving PTO adjustment = 697
3. Number of employees receiving appreciation bonus = 2,577

Project G6752.024: Salvation Army – New Day Center Support

Funding amount: \$78,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Salvation Army of Frederick County, Maryland (Salvation Army) operated a day shelter for the homeless at a rent free location through a partnering organization. Due to the pandemic and its required safety protocols and restrictions, that free location was no longer considered a viable option and the Salvation Army was required to change locations, resulting in additional costs for rent.

The Downtown Safety and Services Initiative created the idea of a New Day Center and its on-going operation by the Salvation Army. This center was designed to alleviate the issue of homeless individuals not having a place to go during the day since most shelters close in the morning and do not reopen until the evening. The New Day Center goes beyond just providing a space for the homeless to congregate, but also offers access to human services, builds relationships, provides training and advocacy toward independence and much more.

The Salvation Army has entered into a rental agreement with Grace United Church of Christ to provide facility space for the New Day Center. The County has agreed to reimburse the Salvation Army up to \$500.00 per week over three years to aid in the rental costs associated with the New Day Center.

Funding for this initiative began on September 1, 2021 and will run through August 31, 2024 and provide the Salvation Army with operating support for its New Day Center to aid homeless members of our community navigate the services intended to help them moving forward.

The website for the Salvation Army's New Day Center is <https://www.aushermanfamilyfoundation.org/support-for-the-salvation-army-new-day-center/>.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to provide universal levels of service to all homeless members, a largely marginalized group in our community, without discrimination and find opportunities to refer participants for housing or treatment and out of crisis.

This project began in September 2021, and the Key Performance Indicators for the project as of June 2024 reporting:

1. Number of guests finding housing = 59
2. Number of guests finding employment = 91
3. Number of guests referred to mental health treatment = 3
4. Other = 50

Project G6752.025: Housing Authority of the City of Frederick – Academic Accelerators in Public Housing

Funding amount: \$400,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Housing Authority of the City of Frederick currently provides programs and services to members of our community living in public housing. Over 65% of the families residing in their public housing facilities

are of minority race and all are considered extremely low or low-income households. Many of these families are caught in a cycle of generational poverty. The most vulnerable population in the public housing communities are the children in kindergarten to 8th grade. Without intervention to this segment of the community, there is little hope that the cycle of generational poverty will ever be broken.

On top of the normal day-to-day struggles children in public housing communities face, the COVID-19 pandemic and the immediate shift to virtual learning exacerbated those challenges and put these children further behind in their academic and social progress. To aid in limiting the devastating impacts on the children, the Housing Authority of the City of Frederick quickly pivoted to on-site learning hubs providing students with a variety of learning tools including high-speed internet, tutors, and summer programs. Although these stop-gap learning tools were great in helping the students try to keep pace early on in the pandemic, many students still fell behind in their learning and struggled to remain on track for their grade level.

To take their aid for students within public housing a step further, the Housing Authority of the City of Frederick created the Academic Accelerator Program. This program is designed to provide a total of 100 children over four years with afterschool, Saturday, and summer academies that include individualized and group instruction. This instruction will be a collaborative effort, utilizing school and community connections, parent engagement and support and education/enrichment staff to ensure each child has every opportunity to be successful as he/she navigates through the foundational grades in school. This targeted, highly skilled and easy access option for students will focus on both basic and accelerated math and reading skills, confidence building and study skills. The Housing Authority of the City of Frederick's goal with this new program is to ensure students from long-term low-income families and neighborhoods have access to a pipeline of innovative strategies and academic enrichment programs to springboard them into productive and successful members of society and help end generational poverty.

Funding for this initiative began in April 2022 and will run through June 2026 enabling the Housing Authority of the City of Frederick to dramatically expand learning intervention efforts for students in low-income public housing, and better prepare students for the future with a determination to end the cycle of generational poverty within our community.

Use of Evidence

Although the use of evidence is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, this project uses evidence-based/data metrics to support its framework and design as detailed below.

According to the Maryland State Department of Education's (MSDE) report card data site (<https://reportcard.msde.maryland.gov/>), less than 25% of all economically-disadvantaged students attending schools serving Housing Authority of the City of Frederick elementary students achieved proficiency in math or English language arts. The MSDE's 2019-2020 Readiness Matters data show that children living in poverty are less likely to demonstrate foundational literacy and math skills in PreK than children who are not living in impoverished households, putting them at a disadvantage from the very start. These data also show that only 38% of kindergarteners who are "direct certified" (meaning families

receiving SNAP or TANF) demonstrated readiness for kindergarten compared to 57% of “non-direct certified” kindergarteners.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County’s intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community’s efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County’s intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to close gaps in educational disparities for low-income students living in public housing.

The Key Performance Indicators for the project:

1. Measure MCAP math and ELA proficiency scores at the start and end of each year of the 4-year project for each participating student. Changes will be tracked over time as students move forward each year.
 - a. Source: School data, access through parents/school collaboration. Goal of 80% of participants meeting grade level reading proficiency by the end of grade 3 and math proficiency by the end of grade 5.
2. Track report card grades for each participating student during the 4-year project with the goal of increasing letter grades in math and science to A's and B's by the end of the 4th marking period (end of first year) and maintaining those grades through the second year (terms 5-8).
 - a. Source: Schools through FCPS/parent releases with Housing Authority.
3. Assess kindergarten and 1st grade participants' age-appropriate literacy, numeracy and developmental milestones at start of 4-year project, then track milestones/proficiency through the 8 or 16 terms of the project, depending on whether they begin the first or second cohort.
 - a. Source: CDC and school milestone/proficiency guides and marking term expectations/proficiency; access through schools/FCPS/parent releases with Housing Authority.
4. Measure improvements in study skill acquisition/deployment for long term academic success in grades 3-5 with initial assessment at start of project and then tracking each term through reassessment.
 - a. Source: purchased study skill training tool/assessment; access through project.

As of June 30, 2024, the program has served over 70 students, K-10th grade in over 2,300 sessions.

Note - Project G6752.026 was originally earmarked for CSLRF funding but was moved to another available funding source that was better

suited for the initiative. This project number is no longer applicable for CSLFRF reporting.

Project G6752.027: Frederick Health – Achieving Health Equity through the Local Health Improvement Planning Process

Funding amount: \$600,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated existing health disparities in Frederick County. Minority populations are more likely to be working in jobs without the ability to work from home and are overrepresented in low-income populations according to the ALICE Report (<https://www.unitedwayfrederick.org/challenge>) and the COVID-19 Impact Survey for Frederick County (<https://www.unitedwayfrederick.org/COVIDSurvey>). These factors have highlighted the unequal burden that many in our community face regarding negative health outcomes and the lifelong economic costs associated with them. Whether it is measured in lives lost, negative health outcomes or economic loss there is no scenario in which a path to full recovery could include the continued increase in health disparities in our community. The pandemic has shown the dangers of inaction and this project is an opportunity to ensure the recovery Frederick County experiences from the pandemic is a recovery for all Frederick County residents.

A Local Health Improvement Plan (LHIP) is more than just a document. It provides the central framework for accountability, local action, and public engagement among the major public health stakeholders in the community – Frederick County Health Department and Frederick Health Hospital and a variety of County agencies and community nonprofits -- to advance the health of all Frederick County residents. Positive health outcomes provide the foundation for a thriving community and economy. As a new Community Health Needs Assessment process concludes, and creates a new LHIP for Frederick County, there is an opportunity to utilize these tools to address health equity systemically and reduce health disparities in our community into the future.

Frederick Health, Inc. has chosen to oversee the Local Health Improvement Process (LHIP) project for Frederick County in collaboration with The Coalition for a Healthier Frederick County (FCHCC) towards addressing a critical health crisis in our county and to establish the foundation from which future change would be possible by accomplishing the following:

- Infusing the lens of health equity throughout the LHIP and workgroup implementation plans for addressing the recently identified public health priorities of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), Type 2 Diabetes and Mental Health.
- Providing greater opportunities for diverse parts of our community to participate in the health planning process at all levels from the board to the workgroups.
- Ensuring that the LHIP Public Health Priority Workgroups and the FCHCC board are using effective and research-tested strategic communications.

- Providing critical administrative support and implementation funds for each LHIP Public Health Priority Workgroup.
- Preparing and executing a mass marketing and communications plan for ensuring Frederick County residents are aware of and have access to the health solutions produced by the LHIP Public Health Priority Workgroups.

At the core of this cycle's LHIP process will be a focus/emphasis on using a trans-sector approach to health equity that considers societal/environmental conditions in addition to medical ones, working collaboratively both with health and non-health organizations towards reducing health disparities in ACEs, type 2 diabetes, and mental health.

Funding for this project began in January 2022 and concludes in December 2026 enabling the FCHCC to enhance and expand the LHIP to purposefully address health disparities in Frederick County towards achieving health equity for all residents. FCHCC will accomplish this through a focus on populations most impacted by health disparities which include historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected groups. In addition, this project would purposefully include representation from historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected groups to amplify their voices in this work.

The website for Frederick County current Local Health Improvement Process is <https://health.frederickcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/7572/Coalition-Overview-Slides-042022?bidId=>

Use of Evidence

Although the use of evidence is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, this project fully intends to utilize evidence-based/data metrics to support its framework and design as detailed below.

Health equity will/must be a component of all LHIP Public Health Priority Workgroups (WG) recommendations, and by extension, all Frederick County policies and programs affecting people at risk for or with ACEs, Type 2 Diabetes and/or mental health issues. The WG action plans will also make recommendations for the collection and use of data to assess impact of the WG actions/programs on health disparities and modify activities/programs as needed to decrease health disparities. The WG action plans will make evidence-based recommendations at the general population level, for prevention approaches among those at high-risk, and for treatment/control of complications among those living with these health issues.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFR funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The overarching goal for this project is to improve wellness and resiliency to equitably impact the lifelong health of all Frederick County residents at risk for or living with ACEs, Type 2 Diabetes and/or Mental Health issues. Other focuses of this project include:

Employing an All-of-Frederick County approach, the 2022-2024 Frederick County LHIP process will address the following three priority health issues over the next three years (2022-2024):

- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
- Type 2 Diabetes
- Mental Health

High-level goals for these three priority Frederick County LHIP health issues are as follows:

- Promote increased awareness and prevention of ACEs, type 2 diabetes and mental health issues among Frederick County residents
- Reduce the number of Frederick County residents developing ACEs, type 2 diabetes and mental health issues
- Promote earlier detection of ACEs, type 2 diabetes and Mental Health issues within Frederick County
- Reduce occurrence of complications and improve quality of life among Frederick County residents living with ACEs, type 2 diabetes and mental Health issues
- Reduce the impact of ACEs, type 2 diabetes and mental health issues within high-risk and vulnerable groups, in particular, in Frederick County
- Strengthen and improve access to resources, services and supports for residents living with or at risk for ACEs, type 2 diabetes and mental health issues, working collaborative with health and non-health Frederick County entities.

Success for this project would mean that the health priorities selected for the LHIP would include documentation of health disparities, establish clear goals to address these disparities and achieve progress towards reducing existing health disparities. The successful implementation of this project will strengthen the LHIP process for years to come and provide enhanced data and identify solutions to reduce health disparities in Frederick County.

As of June 2024, one initiative has been approved to move forward under the Type 2 Diabetes workgroup recommendation. The Diabetes Prevention Program requested funding to cover the cost of fees for at-risk community members who do not have insurance or who have insurance, but the Diabetes Prevention Program is not covered. This funding provides scholarships to approximately 160 participants and wrap around services for the participants to attend. One of the specific targeted populations of this initiative is the Hispanic population.

The scholarship program is expected to start in August 2024.

Project G6752.028: Frederick County Senior Services Division – Transportation Sustainability of Senior Nutrition Support Programs

Funding amount: \$120,927

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Frederick County Senior Services Division (SSD) offers four tiers of nutrition support: Meals on Wheels (MOW), Home Delivered Meals (HDM), Groceries For Seniors (GFS), and Emergency Meal Assistance, each with different eligibility criteria and service provided. During the COVID-19 pandemic, SSD received additional Federal, State and County funding to boost food assistance programs to meet the growing need in our community. Frederick County Fleet Services provided five decommissioned vehicles to address the growing transportation needs. As a result of the increase in food, staff and vehicles, SSD more than doubled the number of clients served and meals provided by increasing the number of routes, territory covered, and creating programmatic efficiencies. This allowed the expansion of the above nutrition programs into all portions of Frederick County, with no wait list, though resulted in an increase in one-time and ongoing expenses.

Nutrition Program Data:

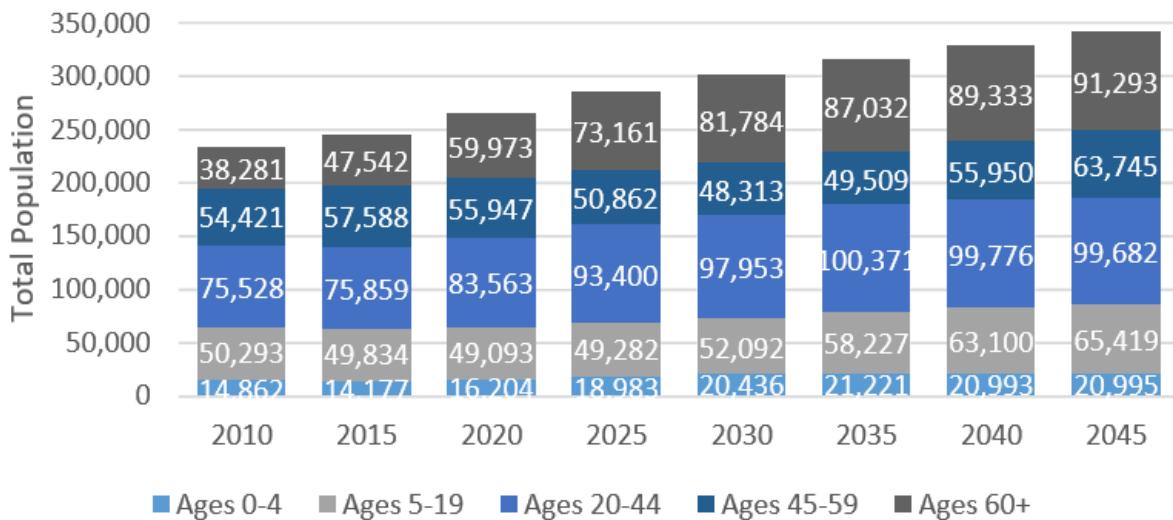
MOW & HDM	FFY'19	FFY'20	FFY'21
Total # of Delivered Meals Served:	86,152	103,061	132,395
Total # of Unduplicated Clients Served:	391	523	943
Groceries For Seniors	FFY'19	FFY'20	FFY'21
Estimated Pounds of Food Distributed	24,000 lbs.	364,000 lbs.	124,000 lbs.
Estimated Households Served	100 (1x p/m)	300 (2 x p/m)	300 (1x p/m)
	FFY'22		
Total MOW & HDM meals served:	106,527		
Total Unduplicated clients served:	1021		
Estimated pounds of food distributed:	126,000 lbs		
Estimated households served:	378 (1x p/m)		

As the nutrition programs remain in high demand and the older adult cohort is increasing in volume, longevity, and financial insecurity, creating a plan to respond to the current and future needs as well as ensure sustainability, is imperative.

Growing in Volume:

- The 60+ older adult cohort represents 23% of the population in Frederick County, almost 60,000 strong, and growing about 3 times the rate of the county's overall population.

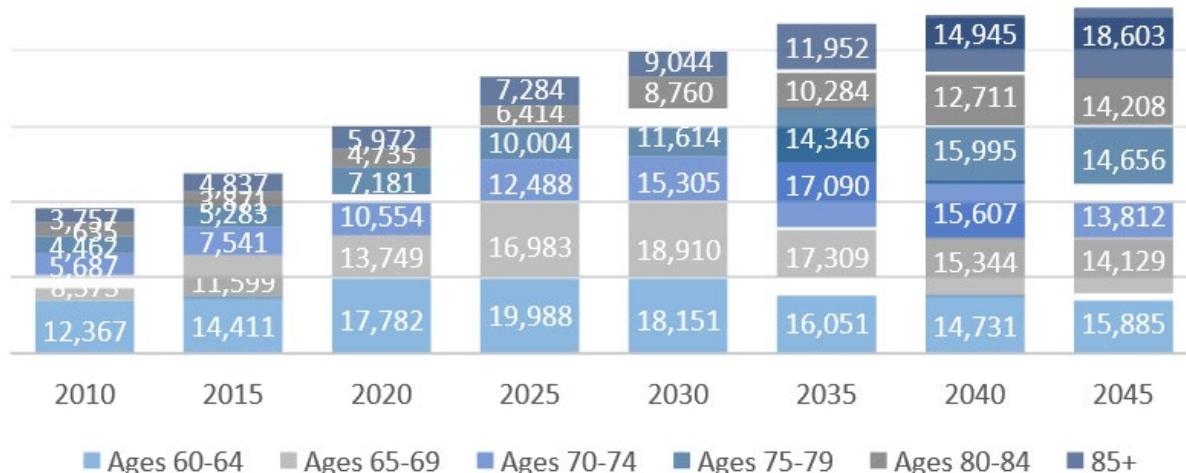
Frederick County Population by Age 2010 To 2045



Growing in Longevity:

- The 85+ population is expected to triple in size over the next 25 years in Frederick County.

FREDERICK COUNTY SENIOR POPULATION 2010 TO 2045



The need for nutritional support has more than doubled during the pandemic and continues to grow. The older adult cohort has, and does, experience the most severe impact of the virus due to the extent of comorbidity issues. Through the provision of nutrient dense meals, along with fresh produce and shelf

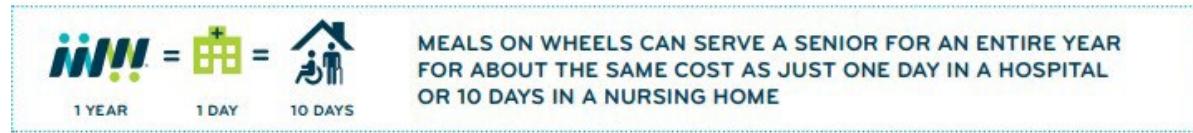
stable food support, at risk older adults have been able to limit their exposure to others while remaining healthy, and reducing the need of emergency assistance and/or hospitalization. Additionally, as food prices continue to rise due to inflation and supply chain issues, the SSD's nutrition programs can, and do, mitigate the economic impact experienced by the older adult population who typically rely solely on a fixed income.

Funding for this initiative began in March 2022 and allowed the Frederick County Senior Services Division to continue to support the transportation sustainability of its senior nutrition programs by purchasing four new vehicles. These new vehicles will replace the older decommissioned vehicles that Frederick County Fleet Services reassigned to the Division as a stopgap measure during the initial COVID response and allow this program to continue to support vulnerable seniors in our community. All four vehicles were delivered and in service by September 2023.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

9 OUT OF 10 RECIPIENTS say Meals on Wheels received at home improves their health



Information data sources available at www.mealsonwheelsamerica.org/facts. © September 2020 Meals on Wheels America

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County's intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of the Frederick County Senior Services Division's (SSD) nutrition programs is to ensure food availability to those seniors who are most vulnerable by virtue of malnutrition, food insecurity, limited physical and/or cognitive function, as well as limited income. The nutrition programs support food accessibility for vulnerable seniors with meals served in an appropriate form: ready-to-eat, prepared, as well as specialty diets. Additionally, some senior households are provided fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as shelf-stable foods, so that they can prepare meals for themselves. SSD's nutrition programs create a means for low-income seniors at greatest risk to have access to healthy, nutritious meals based on need alone, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, etc.

All four vehicles have been delivered and are currently in service.

The Frederick County Senior Services Division currently collects all of the above performance measures to satisfy the Maryland Department of Aging's and Administration for Community Living's funding requirements.

Project G6752.029: Habitat for Humanity – Home Repair Program

Funding amount: \$750,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Habitat for Humanity of Frederick County, Maryland, Inc. (Habitat) partners with local families who need assistance to complete necessary repairs or modifications to their homes. Each project is specific to the needs of the homeowner and their home in order to increase their quality of life and safety at home. To qualify for Habitat's Home Repair Program, homeowners must have:

- 1) A need for repairs that they cannot complete themselves;
- 2) Ownership and occupancy of the home as their primary residence for at least 1 year and plans to stay in the home for at least 3 years; and,
- 3) A total household income not more than 80% of Frederick County's annual median income.

Families are dealing with great loss due to the pandemic - loss of life, loss of family, loss of employment, loss of what we used to know as normal. And, based on history, it is likely that the negative economic effects of the pandemic will be disproportionately borne by low-income individuals and families. These families are always hit the hardest, and it will take a significant amount of time to get them back on their feet. Habitat can help these families deal with any maintenance issues or repairs they are unable to perform themselves or afford. It can also help fix problems that, if left unattended, can lead to health problems, safety concerns, and poor quality of life overall. Habitat Home Repairs are always needed, but are even more critical now as we help our neighbors build strength, stability and self-reliance.

Through its Home Repair Program, Habitat works with homeowners to make critical home repairs, and if needed, help bring their home into compliance with their homeowner's association, local governing authority and/or homeowner's insurance provider. Habitat is also committed to helping local residents find the resources they need if their particular home needs fall outside of its typical scope of work. This program also provides aging-in-place modifications to local seniors and individuals with disabilities to foster safe, livable homes and communities to improve their quality of life.

Funding for this initiative began in March 2022 and will continue until December 2024 affording Habitat for Humanity of Frederick County, Maryland, Inc. the opportunity to provide much-needed home repairs to hundreds of veteran, disabled, senior and low-income households in our community.

The website for Habitat's Home Report Program is <https://www.frederickhabitat.org/programs/habitathomerepairs/>.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County’s intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community’s efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner. It is also Frederick County’s intent to collect and track all projects using various forms of performance measurements as deemed appropriate.

The goal of this project is to provide a hand up related to home repairs to vulnerable households in our community.

Key Performance Indicators for the project as of June 30th, 2024:

1. Number of individuals served (collected through applications, approvals, contracts)- 148
2. Number of repairs/modifications completed (tracked through program management)- 75
3. Homeowner satisfaction of completed repairs & Habitat interaction (collected through post-repair survey)

Project G6752.030: I Believe in Me – Transportation Support and Library/Activity Center Fit-Out for Youth Mentoring Program

Funding amount: \$97,867

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

I Believe in Me, Inc. (IBM) is a youth development and empowerment organization for underprivileged and at risk youth between the ages of 6 and 16. IBM aims to inspire and challenge youth through mental, physical, and social activities that fosters self-respect and respect for the world around them. IBM offers its youth and their family mentoring services and various resources at no cost.

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a steady increase in program referrals. There are currently 62 youth participants in the IBM program with many others on a waitlist. IBM provides youth with educational assistance throughout the school year, as well as a summer enrichment program. All youth are provided access to free transportation to and from the mentoring facility, and to special events and opportunities, picking up youth directly from their school or home environment. The program has grown so much over the last couple of years that a third 15-passenger van is necessary to continue offering adequate transportation to the youth who need it while participating in this program.

IBM is also looking to establish an on-site library and activity center to support participants in its youth mentoring program both academically and recreationally. This investment would include new books, book shelves, and various other fit-out materials and furniture for the library space, along with the opportunity to provide similar books, board games and supplies for the youth’s home.

Funding for these initiatives began in July 2022 with was completed in June 2023, Funding allowed IBM to further bolster its transportation program for youth participants in its programs to meet the growing demand and offer a safe and inviting library and activity center to further its youth development and empowerment activities.

The website for IBM's Youth Development and Empowerment program is <https://www.ibelieveinme.com/>.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The primary goal of IBM's programs are to close achievement gaps and end generational cycles of struggle in marginalized communities. This initiative provided fit-out of IBM's library and activity center to support IBM's mission and the purchase of a fifteen passenger van.

Project G6752.031: Frederick Arts Council – Grants to Artists Program

Funding amount: \$200,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Frederick Arts Council (FAC) is Frederick County's umbrella arts organization, a resource and advocate for all local artists, creatives, and culturally-minded community members. FAC gives grants to individuals and organizations, provides programming, and serves as a liaison for the arts with all levels of government. Whether you're engaged in the arts as an audience member, patron, educator, or artist, the Frederick Arts Council is your arts ally. Its purpose is to foster an environment where the arts may flourish in our community through grants and scholarships, robust programs, arts advocacy, and links to essential resources.

The Arts are a unique asset in Frederick County and beyond, and are vital to the quality of life that all of us enjoy. Arts are a driver of hospitality, tourism and local spending in our community and across our nation. The Arts are an \$878 billion industry that supports over five million jobs nationally and represents approximately 4.5% of our nation's economy; larger than the agriculture, transportation and tourism sectors [AFTA 2020].

The COVID-19 pandemic has been hard on all areas of our community, but it has been especially harsh for our Arts community. According to the U.S. Treasury's CSLFRF Final Rule, "among nonprofits that collect fees for services, the median revenue amount collected from such fees fell by 30 percent from 2019 to 2020, with arts organizations experiencing a 50 percent decline." To help stabilize our local Arts community in Frederick County, the Frederick Arts Council will be running an artist relief grant program that will provide \$1,000 awards to local artists severely impacted by the on-going pandemic.

As of June 2024, there have been two rounds of grant awards announced, supporting 101 artists.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The primary goal of FAC's grant program is to get much-needed relief funding to local artists, some of which were the hardest hit during the height of the pandemic, to help recover not only that segment of our community, but the broader community overall since Arts play such a vital role in our local economy.

Note - Project G6752.032 was originally earmarked for CSLFRF funding but has been cancelled. This project number is no longer applicable for CSLFRF reporting.

Note - Project G6752.033 was originally earmarked for CSLFRF funding but has been cancelled. This project number is no longer applicable for CSLFRF reporting.

Project G6752.034: Frederick Arts Council – Sky Stage Program Expansion

Funding amount: \$135,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services



Project Overview

The Frederick Arts Council (FAC) is Frederick County's umbrella arts organization, a resource and advocate for all local artists, creatives, and culturally-minded community members. FAC gives grants to individuals and organizations, provides programming, and serves as a liaison for the arts with all levels of government. Whether you're engaged in the arts as an audience member, patron, educator, or artist, the Frederick Arts Council is your arts ally. Its purpose is to foster an environment where the arts may flourish in our community through grants and scholarships, robust programs, arts advocacy, and links to essential resources.

The Arts are a unique asset in Frederick County and beyond, and are vital to the quality of life that all of us enjoy. Arts are a driver of hospitality, tourism and local spending in our community and across our nation. The Arts are an \$878 billion industry that supports over five million jobs nationally and represents approximately 4.5% of our nation's economy; larger than the agriculture, transportation and tourism sectors [AFTA 2020].

The COVID-19 pandemic has been hard on all areas of our community, but it has been especially harsh for our Arts community. According to the U.S. Treasury's CSLRF Final Rule, "among nonprofits that collect fees for services, the median revenue amount collected from such fees fell by 30 percent from 2019 to 2020, with arts organizations experiencing a 50 percent decline." The Arts community's gig workers bore the brunt during the early stages of the pandemic due to lockdown scenarios and cancelled events at venues. The FAC events at Sky Stage, a local open-air performance venue, have started to make a comeback, but need a boost to get back to pre-pandemic levels. This program offers the ability for FAC to expand and enhance their current Sky Stage performance offerings to the public at no cost. These non-ticketed performances will continue to draw more and more patrons to our local Arts venue while providing opportunities for local performing artists to showcase their skills. Once these new events are established, FAC will begin ticketing them so the program eventually becomes self-sustaining moving forward.

Funding for this initiative is multi-year in nature and started in Summer 2022 allowing the Frederick Arts Council to expand and enhance the programming offered at Sky Stage to reach artists and audiences from all walks of life. As more and more performances are transitioned from free to ticketed, the funding will decrease accordingly and wrap up completely in Summer 2024.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The primary goal of FAC's Sky Stage program expansion is to provide a paid opportunity for local emerging and professional artists to come together to share and grow their talents with the community.

As of June 30, 2024, 350 additional performances has taken place at the Sky Stage.

Note - Project G6752.035 was originally earmarked for CSLRF funding but has been cancelled. This project number is no longer applicable for CSLRF reporting.

Project G6752.036: Frederick County Office of Economic Development – Farmer Relief Program

Funding amount: \$1,547,792

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Frederick County maintains a strong commitment to supporting local farmers and agriculture crop producers that provide invaluable products and services to our community and beyond. In continued work of mitigating the impact of COVID-19, Frederick County is investing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in its local farming and agriculture crop-producing community. The Frederick County ARPA Farmer Relief grant program will allocate approximately \$2,400,000 in funding to provide awards to eligible farmers and agriculture crop producers impacted by the steep increases in input costs brought on by the COVID-19 public health emergency and its negative economic impact. The on-going pandemic has caused severe supply chain issues in the farm and agriculture crop-producing areas of our community causing significant price increases on necessary input costs and ever-increasing price pressures on the production of locally grown crops. To help off-set these skyrocketing input costs and offer some relief to our local crop-growers, Frederick County will be providing an estimated \$20 per fertilized and harvestable acre.

Eligible farmers and agriculture crop producers will be able to apply for \$20 for every acre that produces crops to help cover the cost of fertilizer. To be eligible, an applicant:

- Must be a full-time farmer and have earned a majority of their income during the past two years from farming;
- Must own or lease land located in Frederick County;
- Have planted, or plan to plant crops during this calendar year. Farms are also eligible if they grow crops that are not planted annually yet require the outlay of fertilizer;
- Must have purchased fertilizer since January 1, 2022; and,
- Must allow the County to work with the local Farm Service Agency to verify information about planted acreage.

Funding for this initiative was earmarked by Frederick County in early CY 2022, and the grant application period ran from June 15, 2022 through July 15, 2022. There were 115 award recipients totaling \$1,546,118.75 in much needed assistance.

The website for Frederick County's Farmer Relief program is <https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/farmerrelief>.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to provide much-needed input cost relief to Frederick County's farming and agriculture producing community and encourage the continued production of locally-grown food. Crop production is such a vital aspect of not only Frederick County residents, but also our nation and world.

Project G6752.037: Frederick County Office of Procurement & Contracting – Disparity Study and Evaluation of Frederick County's Procurement Processes

Funding amount: \$1,250,050

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Frederick County is currently in the process of seeking proposals from qualified Contractors to develop and conduct a disparity study of the County's procurement processes and awards which shall assess if and to what extent, if any, disparities exist in County procurement practices and procedures regarding the award and utilization of Small Business Enterprises (SBEs) and Minority and Women owned Business Enterprises (MWBEs) and to identify remedial measures to address the effects of any such discrimination.

This study will include, at a minimum, the following items:

- A comprehensive analysis of the County's contracting and procurement data with utilization analysis of SBEs, MWBEs, and non-minority firms in the procurement of goods, services, and construction.
- A review of the County contracting practices and procedures using quantitative analysis to determine whether SBEs and MWBEs may be underutilized in County contracting compared with the actual impact and role of such organizations in the County's economy.
- An examination of whether any unintentional institutional, procedural, or financial barriers may exist in County contracting for SBEs and MWBEs.
- The actual utilization compared to the availability of qualified SBEs and MWBEs on County contracts.
- Determination of the current landscape for SBEs and MWBEs in Frederick County in terms of actual capacity and qualifications to be awarded County contracts by different commodity and service types as well as their actual utilization on County contracts.
- Identification of the availability of certified SBEs and MWBEs that are ready, willing, and able to do business with the County in the relevant market areas.
- Assessment of whether a statistically significant disparity may exist between the availability of ready, willing, and able SBEs and MWBEs and the utilization of such firms on County contracts (whether as prime contractors, subcontractors, or suppliers).
- If analysis concludes disparities may exist, the Contractor must include the following in its analysis:
 - Identify what barriers to contracting may exist for underutilized firms.
 - Assess the root cause of identified barriers and include an assessment of whether there are systemic discriminatory practices within specific markets or industries.
 - Determine the extent to which other barriers unrelated to race or ethnicity may

Funding for this initiative began on July 1, 2022 and is expected to be completed by December 2024 to enable the full end-to-end study and review of Frederick County's procurement practices to be thoroughly examined and solutions identified.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County’s intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community’s efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to perform a thorough analysis of Frederick County’s procurement practices to see if any unintentional disparities exist and find practical solution to address any such disparities to create an equitable process moving forward.

Project G6752.038: Frederick County Office of Children & Families – Child Care Market Analysis

Funding amount: \$830,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The long-term economic success of our County depends on a healthy, skilled and reliable workforce which includes all members of our community. Developing and sustaining this workforce depends on child care. Workers who also happen to be parents of young children need supportive, nurturing places for their children to learn, play and grow while their parents or caregivers work. Decades of science have shown us that high-quality child care promotes positive development – building healthy brains for lifelong learning and wellbeing. The disappearance of child care, when parents needed it most, has been one of the most pressing social and economic issues of our time.

Child care is not a new “pandemic problem.” For decades, child care providers have been overworked and underpaid; the need for care has far exceeded available spots; and tuition costs have surpassed what most parents can pay. What this means is that some families in our community miss out on high quality child care and the positive development for their children. And our local economy misses out on the full potential of these workers.

Frederick County families have been burdened by the high cost of child care and very limited capacity for some time as demonstrated by growth in the percentage of ALICE (asset-limited income-constrained employed) families in recent years. This study was initially discussed before the pandemic in an effort to look for local solutions that could reduce the impact of toxic levels of stress on families. Child care providers and families left the market during the pandemic further destabilizing the entire child care ecosystem. The pandemic’s disruption of the child care market showed how fragile the current child care system is and how essential it is to current and future economic prosperity.

Multiple community assessments have documented the need for more affordable and accessible quality childcare in Frederick County. However, there has not been one comprehensive assessment or study

within the County to illustrate the picture of our current child care market (i.e. costs, location, slots, etc.) and the needs, values and constraints of families.

- The Interagency Early Childhood Committee prospectus on child care completed in 2021 identified an access gap in the market. Frederick County's access gap, the difference between population size and regulated child care capacity, was 10,800 child care seats prior to the pandemic. Since the IECC's prospectus on child care was completed, the access gap has grown because more providers closed businesses than started businesses during the pandemic.
- The United Way of Frederick County's ALICE reports in 2018 and 2020 showed that families have been burdened by the high cost of child care and very limited capacity for some time as demonstrated by growth in the percentage of ALICE (asset-limited income-constrained employed) families in recent years. The increased cost of child care is a primary driver of the increase in ALICE families.
- The Community Foundation's 2018 Human Needs Assessment stated that families with children need improved access to quality childcare and out-of-school time activities and supervision; the cost of childcare is a heavy burden for families.
- According to a Procare report, child care utilization in Maryland dropped to among the lowest in the Country: median daily attendance in January 2022 was 61% of the attendance in February 2020. The pandemic's disruption of the child care market has shown how fragile the current child care system is and how essential it is to current and future economic prosperity.
- The Maryland State Department of Education's Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) demonstrates that during the pandemic when utilization of child care fell across the County, the KRA scores from the fall of 2021 show just 50% of all children are ready, 28% of LatinX children and 11% of English as a Second Language students. Reduced access to high quality child care has implications for kindergarten readiness and disparities that persist for 3rd grade reading proficiency. Third grade reading success is predictive of high school graduation and college attainment.

The market study is meant to create a picture of the child care supply within the County and community specific demand and identify potential solutions to bolster Frederick County's child care market.

Funding for this initiative began in Summer 2022 and last up to three additional years to allow OCF and their project partners to thoroughly evaluate Frederick County's current child care landscape and build in solutions to not only link current providers with those seeking child care, but also further support and enhance the county's overall child care framework to encourage a better overall recovery for our community in the years ahead.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

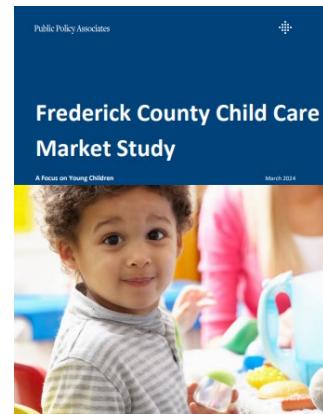
Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County’s intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community’s efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to perform a three-phased analysis over a period of about 18 months that includes a landscape of current child care in Frederick County, and economic analysis on the net social return on investment in child care and a detailed population study of trends of family need, and finally, a qualitative study that listens to family voices and values. The research and analysis will help our community identify innovative solutions that can be implemented to support and enhance child care resource that meet everyone’s needs in our community.

The County has launched a website that provides the Frederick County Child Care Market Study, interactive map that outlines where childcare is needed and where childcare providers are located along with a survey for Frederick County citizens. The website will be updated on going as initiatives are evaluated, approved and implemented.

The County website can be found at [Child Care for Frederick County - PublicInput \(frederickcountymd.gov\)](https://childcare.frederickcountymd.gov).



Project G6752.039: Heartly House – Community Based Services Satellite Location

Funding amount: \$266,071

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Heartly House recently launched its new community based service model to improve access to victim services for survivors of intimate partner violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and child abuse. The first satellite site for Heartly House Community Based Services (CBS) began in February 2022 and this project would offer a second satellite CBS office to be established in our community.

Heartly House’s CBS satellite services are meant to respond to the needs of victims in imminent danger and for those struggling due to the trauma of victimization. Heartly House crisis services include in-person or virtual appointments to help a victimized person

1. process their traumatic experiences,
2. learn about the impact of abuse/violence/trauma (ACEs) on themselves and their children,
3. receive assistance developing personalized physical and emotional safety planning strategies,
4. receive information on how to access Heartly House’s continuum of services including the 24-hour hotline, medical accompaniment to the hospital, emergency shelter, counseling, legal, etc.,

5. affirm/communicate that what they are experiencing is not their fault,
6. receive referrals to other community-based resources, and
7. receive other empowerment focused, personal coping skills to deal with their circumstances.

All Heartly House services are provided through a trauma informed practice (TIP) model which recognizes that everyone has experienced some form of trauma in their lives and that traumatic experiences can impact their behavior, thoughts, and emotions in unique ways for each individual. TIP is based upon the guiding principles of safety, trustworthiness/transparency, peer support, collaboration/mutuality, empower/voice/choice, and humility plus responsiveness.

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in increased stress and trauma for families. Its impact has included economic, scholastic, interpersonal, and emotional distress for adults and children. These are traumas that can and often lead to increased abuse and violence within families. Heartly House staff have seen the number of incidents of violence increase and the severity of violence severely worsen since the start of the pandemic. This includes the increased use and threat of deadly weapons and the act of strangulation perpetrated upon victims. The presence of these indicators demonstrate the highest level of risk for a victim and his/her children. Last fiscal year, Heartly House and its partners identified over 600 high risk victims through the administration of the Lethality Assessment Program. They anticipate by placing Heartly House staff in community based settings and through extensive outreach that it will identify an even greater number of high risk individuals who have never reached out to us before. Ideally, through its CBS Department, it will reach these victims sooner and with earlier intervention which can help be a catalyst for increased safety, reduced trauma, and improved family stability. Through its CBS model, Heartly House can reach out to isolated victims sooner and reduce their risk for serious harm and the long term impacts of trauma. It can also connect them to other Heartly House and community-based services as appropriate.

Funding for this initiative is multi-year in nature beginning in July 2022 and ending in June 2026 and will enable Heartly House to add an additional satellite CBS office to its service framework and help victims of abuse within our community seek assistance and be provided treatment and support.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to establish a second Community Based Support office in Frederick County to improve access to victim services for vulnerable members of our community. In May 2024, the

agreement was amended to expand the program to include referrals from other Community Based Schools located in Frederick County and not just the additional satellite CBS office.

Key Performance Indicators for the project as of March 2024:

1. Number of clients engaged in satellite services- 9
2. Number of client contacts- 217
3. Number of times individualized safety planning is completed- 31
4. Number of times referrals are provided to other resources including Heartly House services- 286
5. Number of clients successfully engaged in additional Heartly House services such as counseling, emergency shelter, legal, medical accompaniment- 5

Project G6752.040: Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs – Motel Placement Program

Funding amount: \$600,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs (RCEHN) has been a tremendous partner in our community for many decades. Since 2002, RCEHN has operated the Alan P. Linton, Jr. Emergency Shelter. This shelter is an 88-bed facility that offers homeless adults a safe place to sleep, shower, and receive laundry assistance and is open year-round. During the on-set of the COVID-19 pandemic and all of the mandated restrictions placed on congregate facilities, RCEHN knew it had to pivot its support for our homeless community and came up with an alternative plan in an effort to continue to provide shelter to the homeless in our community while keeping as many people safe and healthy as possible. This new plan included partnering with many local government agencies and motel operators.

RCEHN has been maintaining 70+ emergency shelter clients within various motels in Frederick County since the onset of the pandemic. This was done in efforts to lessen the congregate living concentration of shelter residents, to allow for both social distancing and to minimize potential COVID cross infection. The unexpected surge of COVID isolation placements in early 2022 has put further pressure this program being continued until it is safe for all program participants to return to using the congregate shelter facility.

This project has been vital in keeping the homeless population as minimally affected by the pandemic as possible. Along with decentralizing the shelter's concentration of residents, it has also allowed the hospital, the health dept and partner service agencies, the ability to responsibly isolate those who are awaiting results or who have become infected with COVID and need to recover.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County’s intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community’s efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to continue providing emergency shelter for our community’s homeless population while also providing an opportunity for RCEHN to wind down the usage of motel placements and return program participants back to congregate facilities once safe enough to do so.

Key Performance Indicators for the project to date:

1. Number of Homeless housed- 459
2. Number of COVID isolation patients housed- 10
3. Number of homeless residents transitioned to either permanent or semi-permanent housing- 45

Project G6752.041: United Way of Frederick County – Ride United Program

Funding amount: \$350,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

United Way of Frederick County had established a discounted ride program, Ride United, providing free and discounted transportation to Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (“ALICE”) households in Frederick County; and they desire to continue the Ride United program while establishing a network of transportation providers, Ride United Network (“RUN”), to reduce gaps in service, gather data about transportation needs within the County, and determine future financial sustainability for the program. RUN is a collective impact project designed to bring safe, affordable, and flexible transportation solutions to local underserved communities, including low-to-moderate income households and communities of color. RUN will be a collaboration of ride providers serving ALICE households, rural communities, seniors, youth and those seeking a safe ride home.

The United Way of Frederick County Ride United program website can be found at <https://www.unitedwayfrederick.org/rideunited> .

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County’s intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of

the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to bring safe, affordable, and flexible transportation solutions to local underserved communities, including low-to-moderate income households and communities of color.

The RUN program launched in March 2023 and has been growing each month since then.

Key performance indicators as of May 2024 are the following...

1. Number of ride requests made- 13,498
2. Number of ride requests fulfilled- 13,371
3. Type of service riders access- 9 % of rides were for education, 24% of rides were for Health related appointments and 47% of rides were for employment

Project G6752.042: Frederick Innovative Technology Center, Inc. (FITCI)

– The Edge @321 Program

Funding amount: \$750,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

This funding request is aimed at assisting FITCI in completing renovation costs, including the new 2,500 sq. ft. community space, outfitting, and technology that will advance programming, client companies, and income; thus, supporting acquisition of the building beginning with ownership of 25% of the building that will house the new center, with the option to own more in the future. The ultimate goal of the FITCI's new center is to have FITCI become a self-sustaining operation. Currently, FITCI relies on yearly funding from both the City of Frederick and Frederick County. Given that elected leadership changes over the years, this money is not always a guarantee. Becoming self-sustaining is FITCI's one chance to secure its future and the lasting legacy its founders envisioned and have helped create every step of the way over the last 18 years.

The funding provided by the County for the Edge@321 will allow FITCI to develop and implement comprehensive programming and space that will:

- Serve more founders, inventors, and innovators from diverse backgrounds,
- Expand affordable, professionally equipped lab space,
- Nurture cutting edge life science enterprises,
- Support public initiatives that enhance economic development,
- Augment cooperative opportunities and diverse, on-site resources,
- Boost dynamic collaboration between members and industry leaders,
- Facilitate pathways to good jobs in the life sciences,
- Attract and retain new life science businesses and enterprises to the region,
- Modulate environmental factors,
- Foster interest, passion, and opportunity for our next generation of life science entrepreneurs and employees,
- Create long-term financial stability, and
- Make FITCI a self-sustaining force for economic health, with Frederick at its epicenter.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

As of June 30, 2024, FITCI's EDGE @321 has completed the renovations.

Project G6752.043: Maryland Deaf Community Center – Property Improvement Program

Funding amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

MDCC purchased property on East Street in August 2022. The property has an existing old house and a warehouse. These structures will need to be removed due to their current condition and to make room for a new community center and offices to be constructed.

The funding request is to demolish the current house and warehouse on the property and to reconfigure the property's set-up to prepare for the upcoming construction of the new community center on the same location. This is phase one of the project. Future plans are to build a 6,000 sq ft to 10,000 sq ft build with recreational, offices and meeting space. This is phase 2 of the project.

County funding has been approved for:

- Fixing and reconfiguring the entire pavement, sidewalk, and grass set-up at the recently purchased property including new asphalt paving, striping and signage to ensure most practical and efficient layout for the new Deaf Community Center.
- Extending existing utilities outside for the new facility needs and to establish outside lighting for safety purposes around the property.
- Demolishing warehouse, house and little garage structures on property to eliminate safety and potential health hazards on the property and to allow MDCC to maximize its other funding on its new center instead of costly retrofitting of an existing structure.
- The installation of a ramp and button for the door opener for wheelchair users along with special strobe lights for the alarm/warning systems to ensure all participants in the new facility have adequate access based on their needs.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to provide the needed funding to prepare the site for the new Maryland Deaf Community Center. As of June 2024, the demolition has been completed and the recipient is currently waiting on building permits.

Project G6752.044: Frederick County Division of Fire and Rescue Services– Improvement to Fire Safety and Safety Oversight Support Initiative Program

Funding amount: \$2,016,288

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Frederick County Division of Fire and Rescue Services established the External Safety Review Panel to conduct a thorough review of a tragic incident that occurred on August 11, 2021. The panel was charged to gather facts and information to access all factors that contributed to the incident. The external panel made 137 recommendations. County Executive Gardner announced through a press release on September 23, 2022, that a portion of the Frederick County's Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery funds will address almost three dozen recommendations from the external panel. These mostly one-time expenses include additional training, improved markings on equipment and apparatus, purchase of additional thermal cameras, antidote kits to reverse the effects of smoke inhalation, reprogramming of radio consoles along with the creation of a health and safety office within the Frederick County Division of Fire and Rescue Services.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of

the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to improve the safety at the Division of Fire and Rescue Services to prevent or minimize the impact of future, similar incidents.

As of June 30, 2024, approved training covered under this funding has been completed for staff and safety office staff positions have been filled. Majority of the one time purchases have been made for the recommended equipment and supplies.

Project G6752.045: Love for Lochlin Foundation, Inc. – Mobile Community Support Response Unit Program

Funding amount: \$313,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Love for Lochlin Foundation (L4L) was created to help prevent, educate, and drive awareness to the deadly impacts of infectious diseases. It's core focus is preventing Sepsis and subsequent death. In fact, it was the first mobile unit to provide testing and vaccinations during the pandemic. The organization quickly became and, continues to be, one of the premier providers of COVID testing and vaccinations in Frederick County when the pandemic crisis began. L4L provides testing, flu vaccinations, COVID vaccinations, healthy culturally applicable foods, weather appropriate clothing, and education to those in the community who are most at risk - taking the program to them, in their neighborhood. The mission of L4L fits seamlessly with each of the ARPA Grant priorities.

This project intends to provide L4L with a mobile unit to better equip the organization in reaching underserved members of our community with the medical and educational services they need. This project will also supply L4L with a large quantity of supplies to disburse into the community at the various clinics it attends and runs in Frederick County. These supplies include various household cleaners and disinfectants, masks, hand sanitizer, etc.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to continue operating clinics, providing vaccinations, medical, and educational services in alignment with current service offerings within underserved areas of Frederick County.

Key Performance Indicators for the project as of March 2024:

1. Number of Vaccines Administered- 1,901
2. Number of Test Kits Supplied- 55,662
3. Number of Clinics Held- 195

The mobile unit has been purchased, fitted out to meet mobile clinic standards and in-service.



Project G6752.046: Student Homelessness Initiative Partnership (SHIP) of Frederick County – Drivers Education and Car Ownership for Youth Experiencing Homelessness Program

Funding amount: \$395,240

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Transportation is a significant obstacle youth face when attempting to access education, employment, physical and mental health services, and nutritious food. Access to reliable transportation has been identified by youth experiencing homelessness in Frederick County as one of the top two issues they face on a daily basis. SHIP's unique approach to removing barriers supports providing education and resources that are sustainable for students long after they've left school. With that in mind, SHIP's ideal way to remove the transportation barrier is to support students in obtaining a driver's license. Part of the planning that the case management team will do with students, is to identify their next steps toward regularly using a vehicle. For some, this may be purchasing a car and budgeting for insurance. For others, this could mean using the car of a family member and paying to be added to their insurance plan. With the addition of ARPA funding, SHIP will be able to expand the program to include car purchasing and insurance assistance for youth who complete the driver's education portion of the program. These youth will be eligible for up to one year of car insurance assistance, up to \$3,500 in vehicle purchase assistance, and a monthly gas stipend issued based on recorded mileage within Frederick County.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to remove the transportation barrier by supporting students in obtaining a drivers license.

Key Performance Indicators for the project as of June 2024:

1. Number of students enrolled in driver's education- 98
2. Number of students completing driver's education- 56
3. Number of students obtaining driver's license- 30
4. Number of students receiving insurance assistance- 5
5. Number of students receiving vehicle purchase assistance- 5

Project G6752.047: Frederick County Office of DEI – Frederick County Government's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) Employee Program

Funding amount: \$299,500

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

This project's purpose is to aid in building institutional capacity for creating a workforce that is diverse in its make-up, inclusive in its practices, and effective in achieving equitable outcomes for all employees and the constituents that are served. Funding will cover a national speaker series, coaching, conferences, trainers, and events.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of

the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to expand County staff training on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging to promote a more diverse and equitable workforce.

The training consultant was procured, and the contract was executed by June 2024. Training for all County staff is being scheduled for August through the end of October 2024.

Project G6752.048: Frederick County – Crisis Stabilization Center Program

Funding amount: \$850,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

This project will provide funding for the renovation of an existing County property for use as a Crisis Stabilization Center. When it opens in the Summer of 2023, the center will provide immediate care to people experiencing a behavioral health emergency, such as substance use disorder or mental health concern, and connect patients to ongoing community-based care. The Mental Health Association of Frederick County will operate the center under the direction of the Frederick County Health Department. The Mental Health Association plans to move its existing walk-in clinic to the center and offer services around the clock. The Frederick County Crisis Stabilization Center will provide an alternative to hospital services and reduce the burden on first responders and the local emergency department.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to provide an alternative to hospital services and reduce the burden on first responders and the local emergency department.

The center was open for service on October 26, 2023.

Between October 26 through December 31, 2023, the facility served 430 individuals, of which 256 (60%) were first time visitors. Ninety-one visits were outside of previously available hours, with 9am being the busiest hour. Additionally, 122 individuals (28%) reported they would have gone to emergency department if the Crisis Care Center services



weren't available. During the month of December alone, 191 individuals were served, which is a 47% increase of the same time last year.

Project G6752.049: Frederick County Government – Montevue Assisted Living Renovation Program

Funding amount: \$2,815,270

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Established in 1870, Montevue Assisted Living (MAL) is a licensed assisted living facility located in Frederick County, Maryland. MAL's new facility offers private rooms for 75 residents and has a long history of providing excellent care to the senior citizens it serves. MAL serves residents who can privately pay for care who are in need of assistance with activities of daily living. MAL's mission is to pursue the promotion, maintenance, and restoration of the health and well-being of its residents. It strives to enhance life satisfaction and to preserve self-determination for each resident as it provides a comprehensive plan of care encompassing the physical, emotional, cognitive, social, spiritual, and cultural needs of each person in its care.

The County-owned Montevue Assisted Living facility will shift from an institutional model to a service coordination model, providing services to more seniors.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.



The goal of this project is to provide more services to Frederick County seniors through a service coordination model.

Project G6752.050: Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs – Prevention and Retention Rental Assistance Program

Funding amount: \$2,800,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

This award will provide funding for a rental eviction prevention and lease retention program. RCEHN will identify renters in Frederick with financial difficulties making rent payments. This program will provide a rent subsidy for up to one year including potential utility assistance. During the subsidy period, individuals will receive case management to aid in financial counseling and to help find housing that is financially sustainable for the individual.

Eligible Recipients:

Prevention:

Those facing eviction proceedings for non-payment of rent who:

- Are low-income 50% or below AMI **or;**
- Current Section 8 voucher recipients/Public Housing **or;**
- Senior Citizens **or;**
- Has one or more disabled tenants **and**
- Can prove acute financial hardship demonstrating inability to pay rent **and**
- Can demonstrate ability to maintain rent payments after assistance is rendered.

Lease Retention:

Those with landlords who are legally refusing to renew leases for residents who:

- Are low-income 50% or below AMI **OR;**
- Current Section 8 voucher recipients **OR;**
- Senior Citizens **OR;**
- Has one or more disabled tenants **AND**
- Have resided for more than 1 year **AND**
- Are not currently facing Tenant Holding Over or Breach of Lease Evictions.

Utility Assistance:

- Those with past due utility bills* with a threat of disconnection who:
- Have a Gas, Electric, Water or Internet disconnection notices **AND**
- Are low-income 50% or below AMI **or;**
- Current Section 8 voucher recipients/Public Housing **or;**
- Senior Citizens **or;**
- Has one or more disabled tenants **and**
- Can prove acute financial hardship demonstrating inability to pay utilities **and**
- Can demonstrate ability to maintain payments after assistance is rendered.

* Evaluation of payment history will be conducted

Service delivery:

Prevention:

Prevention is applied mirroring existing rental assistance programming that is granted in lump sum payment toward arrearage or provided by way of short-term subsidy for prospective hardship.

- Prevention maximum allowed benefit to be set at \$5000 and can be applied to arrearages ranging from 1-6 months or by way of subsidy not to exceed award maximum.
- Repeat applicants are only permitted when new hardship occurs, continuation of originating hardship will not be funded through this program
- Prevention case management will work to calculate the end of the hardship, making all attempts to ensure self-sufficiency after assistance is applied.

Lease Retention:

Retention services are applied when an applicant can show that the landlord or property company has legally notified and executed an intent to end the current lease.

- Applicants must be able to show the inability to pay the increased rental amounts.
- Retention case managers will work with the tenant and property company/landlord to create an agreement allowing the resident to continue paying the same rental amount, while the Coalition provides gap funding for a term of up to one year, not to exceed \$5000 in total award. Retention services can be used in combination with prevention services in cases where eviction proceedings for non-payment of rent are underway along with a legally notified and executed, impending end of lease.
- If services are combined the total of award will not exceed \$5000.

Utility Assistance:

Utility services are applied when the applicant meets the eligibility criteria and can demonstrate self-sustainability after assistance is applied. Utility maximum award to be set at \$500.

- As with housing assistance, the income to debt ratio will be evaluated and compared to stated hardship. If RC staff determine a valid hardship has occurred, payment history will be evaluated for further eligibility.
- Case dependent, if no payment history is present, assistance eligibility may not be met.
- Important to note, that due to heavy federal assistance regarding utilities payment, the current burden is unknown once those subsidies end.

Assistance Follow-Up:

Coalition case management will follow up with recipients of either service at 3, 6, 9 & 12 months. Case management assisting retention recipients (assuming the lease is extended for an additional term) will work to locate alternate housing prior to the new lease termination date. Due to housing inventories and known challenges, the percentage of presumed successful transition is unknown at this time.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of

the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to provide rental assistance with the flexibility to address the known challenges to renters in Frederick County. A multi-purpose program, it intends to provide rental arrearage funding to those facing eviction or a short-term subsidy to those in danger of being priced out of their homes. It additionally allows for utility assistance.

Outcome Measures:

- 100% of eligible recipients will receive case management care and will be offered financial counseling.
- 80% of those receiving prevention or retention services will remain in their homes at 3-, 6-, and 12-month follow-up intervals.
- 70% of retention recipients will engage case management services 8-10 months after initial assistance to create transition plans for the end of the subsidy.
- Unknown % of retention recipients will be able to locate more affordable or appropriate housing at lease end.

As of June 30, 2024, Religious Coalition has had 339 unique households receive rental assistance and other case management services in the program. It is projected that this initiative will be completely closed out in summer of 2024.

Project G6752.051: Maryland Deaf Community Center – Community Deaf Education Program

Funding amount: \$197,500

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The primary language of approximately 4,800 residents of Frederick County is American Sign Language. Deaf and Hard of Hearing people identify as a linguistic minority who speak a visual language. For this segment of our community, information is obtained predominately through visual-spatial mode and much less by auditory means.

With the occurrence of COVID-19, and the ensuing mask mandates, access to visual communication on the face has been denied. And, for those who depend on residual hearing to augment understanding of spoken messages, masks garble most utterances rendering them useless.

Incidental learning afforded to people who can hear and understand English (radio in the car, passing conversations, overhead announcements, etc.) is not a readily available information avenue for deaf people. Historically, members of the ASL using community are socially collective and look out for each other's best interests. Information gleaned by one member is openly and often rapidly shared with the community. Nonetheless, delayed access to information has resulted in countless missed opportunities. In the age of COVID-19, however, not having direct access to information can be deadly. More than ever, programs that encourage fellowship, sharing and togetherness, in one's native language, help to ensure

that members of the community, especially vulnerable ones, receive valuable, life sustaining information that is accurate and from a trusted source.

MDCC has been awarded funding to start-up and establish an educational program to serve Deaf, and Hard-of-hearing Frederick County residents (and hearing residents who wish to communicate better with them.) Seed monies are to be used to hire a full-time education program developer/administrator and ASL instructors, purchase six desk top computers and two printers, procure high speed internet connection, technical support to set-up video announcement program, get software for room reservations and sign up classes, cover supply costs associated with class materials, provide for guest speaker honorariums, and establish a transportation fund.

The Education Program Administrator will implement ASL classes by hiring ASL teachers, advertising classes to people who wants to learn sign language and setting up online registration. Also, will implement seminars/programs for deaf seniors. S/he will be developing list of referrals for the public who needs information related to deafness. Exploring the possibilities of setting up public announcement in ASL/video messages and work with Transit department for the deaf community.

The focus of the Deaf Community education Program is five pronged.

- Deaf Senior Citizens - Offering seminars on quality of life topics such as health and safety, financial planning, end-of-life issues, medical conditions and care, and more. Computer class for seniors will increase independence with the goal of allowing them to remain longer in their homes and in the community. Also offering classes focused on exercise (i.e. yoga), arts and crafts, nutrition, and recreation in order to improve and maintain mental & physical health, social contact, and quality of life.
- American Sign Language classes – Providing classes, and one-on-one sessions, for families, service providers, first responders, interpreting students, and the general community.
- Online Job Application assistance – Giving access to a computer and the internet and assistance in navigating applications that are oft times complex and prohibitive to people whose first language is not English.
- Urgent public announcements in ASL/Video messages. – Set –up and maintain a video announcement system where important messages are produced in ASL and broadcast to Deaf and Hard of Hearing residents via email/video texts/video messaging. Set up room reservations and sign up for classes on line.
- Transportation

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to establish an educational program to serve Deaf, and Hard-of-hearing Frederick County residents.

Key Indicators will be the following...

1. Number of ASL classes offered- 33
2. Number of Individuals attending ASL classes- 426
3. Number of individuals requiring transportation to ASL classes- 0
4. Number of Senior Quality of Life classes offered- 18
5. Number of Individuals attending Senior Quality of Life classes- 1,321
6. Number of individuals requiring transportation to Quality of Life classes- 0
7. Number of individuals who receive assistance on job applications and referral services- 408

Project G6752.052: Frederick County Health Department – Health Disparity Solutions Program

Funding amount: \$300,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The proposed funding will be utilized to implement the findings and recommendations from phase 2 of the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Disparities initiative. Phase 1 focused on developing a greater understanding of the local context and contributing factors to the undesirable and the desirable experiences of Black women before, during and after pregnancy. Phase 2 will draw from that deep-dive to develop a local health improvement strategic plan to address the findings. Phase 3, which this proposal focuses on, will be the implementation phase. There is currently no funding identified to address the recommendations that will be forthcoming later this FY. While it is expected that there will be multisector interest in responding to the findings and implementing the selected recommendations, it is doubtful that all the recommendations will be picked up by the private sector. It also may not be appropriate or feasible for the private sector to adequately fund some of the recommendations.

The Health Department will utilize the funding to implement recommendations directly, through mini-grants, or through a contractual arrangement. This is part of an intentional effort to make sure that the intended beneficiaries of the well-intentioned government and system change/improvements are at the table with a voice in all aspects of the analysis of the “problem,” identifying potential solutions, implementing solutions, and evaluating the impact.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County’s

intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

This program is still in its planning phase, as it is based on the Maternal Health Study and health improvement plan, and will have more activity in fall of 2024. The workgroups and steering committee are now prioritizing initiatives identified in the study and health improvement plan, to move forward with implementation.

Key Indicators are expected to be the following...

1. Number of persons participating in the strategic planning
2. Number of persons participating in at least 75% of the strategic planning meetings
3. Percentage of persons participating who return an experience evaluation at the conclusion of process
4. Number of goals identified
5. Number of SMART objectives per goal
6. Number of strategies identified per objective
7. Number of persons and/or organizations committed to working on strategies

Note - Project G6752.053 was originally earmarked for CSLFRF funding but has been cancelled. This project number is no longer applicable for CSLFRF reporting.

Project G6752.054: Frederick County Health Department –Vision Screening Equipment Program

Funding amount: \$17,490

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The School Health Services staff perform vision screening per Maryland regulations at specified grade and school entry times in all public schools and private schools with a specific approved certificate of education. The equipment used is the same equipment used for the last 20 years. The technology has advanced and a local foundation brought in a Johns Hopkins associated Vision to Learn program to screen the all the students in 2 schools, and provide eyeglasses, if indicated. We learned that the Hopkins team uses a device that requires minimal cooperation and takes about 10 second compared to our equipment which requires considerable cooperation and takes about 5 minutes to screen. The time savings is what is making it feasible for the Hopkins Vision to Learn Team to screen a whole school and what we would benefit from in our screening of the ~15,000 students annually. The funding will be used to purchase 2 Welch Allyn SPOT Visions Screener devices and associated add-ons.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project was to purchase two vision screener devices to update needed technology for the School Health program.

This project has been completed as two machines were purchased and delivered in April 2023.

Project G6752.055: Frederick County Health Department – Community Mobile Service Unit Program

Funding amount: \$199,986

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Health Department's Community Health Services Division provides outreach, education as well as services and goods to the Frederick County Community. The Frederick County community would benefit from an increased ability for the HIV program to test clients where they live and work.

The funding would be used to purchase a mobile clinic vehicle with customization such as locked storage, a power outlet, and the ability to have a climate controlled mobile space i.e., air conditioning and heat when the vehicle is off, then services, such as HIV testing, can be provided without being hampered by weather or location.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to increase the number of clients served and expand current services. The mobile unit purchase allows services to be brought to clients at various events and locations. The vehicle has been purchased and currently in-service.

Project G6752.056: Community Foundation of Frederick County – Food Insecurity Grant Program

Funding amount: \$350,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

In Frederick County, food insecurity impacts all aspects of the lives of our residents, from mental and physical health to school and work performance. The Community Foundation plans to administer a grant program to support food insecurity alleviation programs. Programs that help to provide dignity and security to those households in our community facing hunger and help to mitigate the long-term effects food insecurity can have for individuals, families, and communities. Awardees would detail how their program alleviates food insecurity, identify project or service outcomes, and identify evaluation tools and processes. Grants would be for a minimum of \$1,000 for July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

The grant application period ran from April 1- April 30, 2023. Community Foundation has made recommendation to fund 13 applicants with various awards totally \$350,000. Grant agreements have been executed.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to provide a grant program to support food insecurity alleviation programs.

Key Performance Indicators for the project:

1. Number of grant awards made- 13
2. Total amount awarded- \$350,000
3. Grantee expense reports reviewed and accepted- Interim subrecipient reporting has been received and reviewed. Final grant reporting is due from recipients in August 2024.

Project G6752.057: Safe Ride Foundation, Inc. –Rides for All Program

Funding amount: \$247,500

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The ability to experience the full benefits of living, learning, and enjoying the privileges and opportunities available is essential to all who live in Frederick County. Consistent with Frederick County Government's Equity and Inclusion Summary that acknowledges that barriers exist which have prevented equitable outcomes for our residents, transportation mobility within Frederick County is often cited as a major barrier for those in need of options. Many need a safe, reliable way to a doctors' appointment, to the supermarket, even to a job.

To supplement the current transportation system and expand options for those in need, Safe Ride Foundation ("SRF") is proceeding to implement a reliable, affordable, user-centric ride-matching network connecting Frederick County residents adversely impacted by COVID-19 to the people and services that matter most.

Under this model (and following best practices established by the National Volunteer Transportation Center and the Community Transportation Association of America), volunteer drivers are recruited who then use their own vehicles to provide transportation services organized and coordinated by SRF. Volunteer ride-sharing programs have become increasingly prevalent across Maryland and US as a form of micro transit that provides options and flexibility for those not able to access public transit and other options.

The project will replicate Howard County's NeighborRide (www.neighborride.org) program that connects vetted and trained volunteer drivers to pre-screened passengers needing to:

- Connect with community services
- Attend medical appointments
- Shop for food and groceries
- Participate in social outings and faith activities
- Attend classes and volunteer activities
- Meet with Frederick County Workforce Services, and/or work

Unlike the NeighborRide program, the Frederick County project will not be limited to Seniors, but all adults who need door-to-door transportation and not able to utilize other transportation options.

Use of Evidence

This project does not utilize evidence-based interventions and are not a requirement for projects funded under Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services.

Performance Report

Although the use of Key Performance Indicators is not a reportable requirement under the Revenue Replacement Project Expenditure Category 6.1 – Provision of Government Services, Frederick County's intent with CSLFRF funding is to continue to support projects that follow the heartbeat and framework of

the American Rescue Plan Act to aid in our community's efforts to recover from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic in an equitable manner.

The goal of this project is to provide reliable, safe, and convenient transportation to vulnerable households and those with limited transportation options in our community.

The Rides for Good program launched on February 1st 2024.

Key Performance Indicators for the project:

1. Number of ride requests made/ # of ride requests fulfilled- 381 ride requests have been received and of those 301 have been fulfilled.
2. Total number of riders served- 206
3. Total number of volunteer riders recruited, trained and active- 43
4. Types of services riders are accessing through the project- Most of the rides provided to date were related to employment or medical related rides.

Project G6752.800: Grant Administration Support Expenditures

Funding amount: \$250,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 – Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Part of the County's on-going requirements with the U.S. Treasury involves providing detailed quarterly Project and Expenditure reports demonstrating how these ARPA funds have been spent for each successive quarter and annual Recovery Plan reports showing how the County is using these funds to aid in the community's recovery from the pandemic. Frederick County considers compliance with Federal guidelines of utmost importance.

Many of the County's project and program partners are considered subrecipients and therefore require on-going monitoring by County staff to ensure all Federal requirements are being adhered to throughout the life of the award. Due to the complexities with Federal grant requirements and compliance, Frederick County has partnered with outside audit firm Clifton, Larson, Allen (CLA) for not only its own grant administration and compliance support, but also to connect with the County's ARPA award partners to aid in their Federal grant navigation and compliance as well. We want to see all ARPA-funded projects and programs be successful end-to-end along with the partners running them.

As part of this Federal grant award, the County has the opportunity to earmark 10% (or over \$5M) to be utilized for the administration of the grant over its life. However, Frederick County's long-time philosophy on grants has been to push as much of the award toward those it intends to benefit, so it only earmarked \$250,000 (or 1/20th of our allowed limit) for this purpose.

Use of Evidence

Not applicable

[Performance Report](#)

Not applicable