STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS
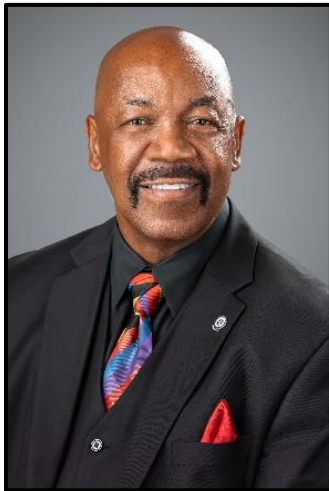
GUILFORD COUNTY
2023 RECOVERY PLAN

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# Letter from Guilford County Chairman Melvin "Skip" Alston

Guilford County is pleased to submit our annual Recovery Plan outlining the great work underway in our community thanks to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Guilford County is investing its allocation of $104.3 million in collaboration with our community, working together with our more than ten municipalities to rebuild the community connections lost during to the COVID-19 pandemic. From the urban centers of Greensboro and High Point to the small towns and rural farmlands of Guilford County – Guilford County Commissioners listened to our residents who shared their stories of perseverance and hope and told us how *they* envisioned a community revived and renewed after the global pandemic.

Guilford County residents joined us for community outreach events and online feedback forums in greater numbers than ever before to talk about ARPA, broadband access needs, and workforce and economic development priorities. Based on community feedback and needs, we are investing in improving infant mortality among minority populations; expanding access to behavioral health resources and evidence-based harm reduction practices; in getting healthy foods to more people; providing protection for seniors and children who experience abuse; and helping families and individuals maintain their housing. We are working with our municipalities to improve water access and fire prevention measures in small towns and rural areas of the county, and to build comprehensive community centers, parks, and sidewalks that improve accessibility to crucial services for more residents. ARPA is helping us address a broad range of opportunities for our community – allowing us to build back stronger, more resilient, and more equitable than we were before.

I am proud to say our staff and the community have made significant strides toward addressing the impacts of the global pandemic to provide community-oriented services and maintain essential county functions. We will continue to work together to build a better, more resilient, more connected **One Guilford**.

Executive Summary

Guilford County, North Carolina is the third most populous county in the state with an estimated population of 542,000 residents. Guilford is a diverse community with 48% of residents identifying at White, 36% as Black, 9% as Hispanic or Latino, 6% as Asian, and 4% as some other race. Home to NC A&T, UNCG, Bennet College, High Point University, Guilford College, Greensboro College, and GTCC, the county is a center for educational excellence. The median household income in the county is $55,577 and top employers include Cone Health and the Guilford County School System.

Guilford County, North Carolina
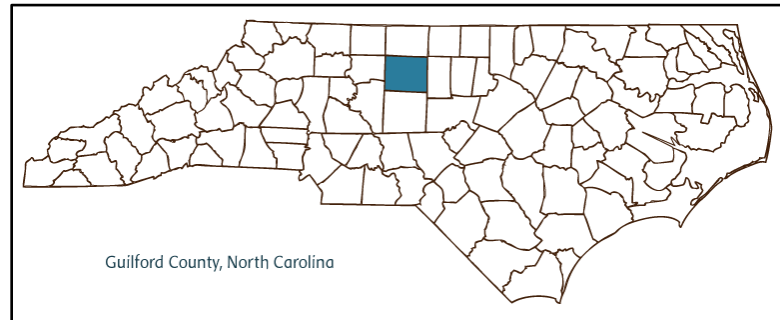
Guilford County received $104.3 million in CSLFRF funds, delivered in two tranches in July 2021 and July 2022. More than 2,200 Guilford County residents participated in community outreach events and online feedback forums to share their priorities for the investment of ARPA dollars.

Guilford County opened a Growth and Recovery Request for Ideas (RFI) process for CSLFRF on February 14, 2022. The RFI process was designed to collect collaborative project ideas and proposals to support the community's near and long-term growth and recovery and respond to COVID-19 and its negative economic impacts. Submissions were accepted through March 13, 2022. More information about this process can be found in the 2022 Recovery Plan, found here. Following the external RFI process, the County invited internal departments to submit idea proposals.

On March 18, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners identified the following priorities for expenditure of CSLFRF.

- Healthy Early Childhood Environments and Education
- Access to Healthcare
- Behavioural Health & Substance Use
- Small Business, Economy, and Workforce Development
- Broadband and Digital Inclusion
- Strong Community and Government

Further information about these how these priorities were determined can be found in the Board Retreat Report.

Over the past year, the BOCC considered community feedback and RFI project ideas, heard a series of presentations from community partners, and sought alignment with strategic priority areas as they made formal allocations of CSLFRF funds. The funding distribution by strategic priority area is outlined below.
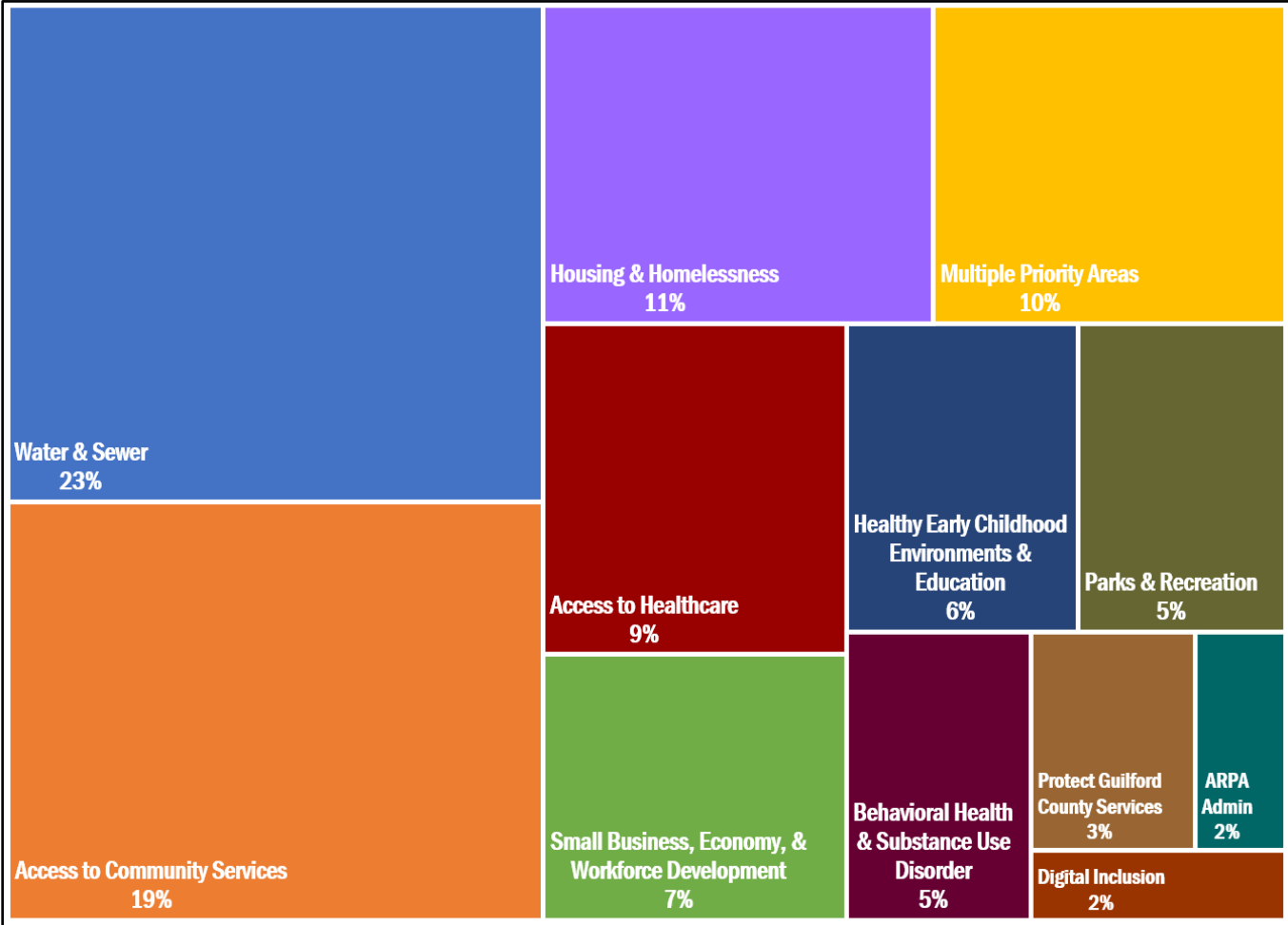
Through these funding allocations, Guilford County committed to deep collaboration with the community.

- 9 Municipal partners contracted to implement water/sewer & recreation programs.
- 43 Non-profit organizations contracted to lead programs or initiatives.
- 100+ Community Organizations engaged in programming or supporting with program implementation.

The County also balanced investments that built off existing county and regional efforts with investments in innovative concepts and pilot programs.

Over **$25 million** invested in innovative ideas and pilot programs.

Including integrated service delivery, recovery housing for pregnant women and women with children, school telehealth, and development of a food security network.

Approx. **$13 million** invested in projects also receiving state funding.

Including municipal water infrastructure and broadband infrastructure expansion.

Through the end of FY22, Guilford County has experienced $71,494,858 in total revenue loss based on the US Treasury formula outlined in the Final Rule. The county will calculate revenue loss one more time for FY23 once audited financial statements have been published. Using budgeted revenue estimates for FY23 it is anticipated that the county will have experienced $114,153,829 in total revenue loss from July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2023. These funds are being used to support projects that align with strategic priority areas for CSLFRF funding as well as for county operating expenses to free up other county funds for longer term strategic initiatives.

The following 2023 Guilford County Recovery Plan describes the county's CSLFRF investment strategy and provides details and status updates on all programs and projects utilizing county CSLFRF funding.

Uses of Funds

On July 15, 2021, the County Manager presented a CSLFRF Engagement and Investment Strategy to the Board of County Commissioners. The Strategy included several funding principles, for the County to commit to in the expenditure of CSLFRF across all expenditure categories and each phase of obligation and expenditure:

- **Center community voice** in decision-making.
- **Honor County values** of equity and inclusion, accountability, service excellence, and transparency/communication.
- **Build on foundation** of existing County and regional efforts.
- **Maximize funding** by cross-mapping initiatives against more restrictive funding streams and State and Federal opportunities.
- **Invest in best practices** by adding capacity, infrastructure, and expertise early.
- **Focus on sustainability** with one-time uses or by establishing a path to sustainability.

CSLFRF Investing Timeline

Below is an overview of the CSLFRF investing timeline, beginning in 2021 to the present. See press releases regarding funding allocations here, and learn more about each approved project in the Project Inventory and Performance Report section of this report.

July - October 2021: Community Engagement & ARPA Administration
Guilford County contracted with ETI Institute to conduct a community survey to assess the community's needs and desires for investment of CSLFRF. The work was completed in 2021, and survey results were presented to the Board of Commissioners. More information on the community survey can be found here.

October - December 2021: Emergency Funding
Funding allocations were made to emergency management personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies to support efforts to address the ongoing public health emergency.

February-March 2022: Request for Ideas & Investment Priorities
The County opened a Growth & Recovery Request for Ideas (RFI) process from February 14 - March 13, 2022. 75 submissions from external entities were collected, totaling over $260 million in funding opportunities. Internal departments were then invited to submit idea proposals.

Guilford County Board of Commissioners identified investment priorities as listed below and determined the governance structure for proposal consideration. More information

on the community feedback and investment priorities can be found in the [2022 Recovery Plan.](#)

- Access to Healthcare
- Small Business, Economy, & Workforce Development
- Health Early Childhood Environments & Education
- Behavioral Health & Substance Use Disorder

- Broadband & Digital Inclusion
- Housing & Homelessness
- Water & Sewer Infrastructure
- Access to Community Services
- Parks & Recreation
- Protect Guilford County Services
- ARPA Administration

May 2022-August 2022 – Project Presentations

The Board heard proposals for ARPA funding from internal departments, nonprofits, municipalities, and other community partners on a range of issues, including, but not limited to integrated service delivery, child and adult protective services, first responder training expansion programs, food security, recovery housing, water and infrastructure projects, and community development programs.

The Board of Commissioners approved CLFRF management policies developed by the Pandemic Recovery Team.

August-October 2022 – Funding Allocations

August 4, 2022, the board approved $4.3 million in funding for Children's Home Society, FJC/DSS Protective Services Team, Food Security Program, and EMT/Paramedic Academy Expansion and Fire Academy Launch.

August 9, 2022, the board approved funding to municipalities totaling $41 million for projects.

September 15, 2022, the board approved funding to municipalities High Point and Jamestown for a total in $8.3 million in projects.

October 6, 2022, the board approved allocation of remaining $37 million for projects related to Healthy Childhood Environments, Housing and Homelessness, Behavioral Health & Substance Misuse Resources, Access to Health Care, Small Business, Economic & Workforce Development, and the Town of Sedalia.

November 2022-Present – Contract Development & Initial Project Implementation

After all funding allocations were made, the Pandemic Recovery Team worked with community partners and county departments to create more detailed scopes of work and budgets for funded programs. Contracts with external agencies were taken back to the Board of Commissioners for approval.

The Pandemic Recovery Team developed implementation plans to aid organizations in compliance with the federal spending and monitoring requirements.

Quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports were submitted and can be found on the Guilford County ARPA website in the Reports section.

Alignment with CSLFRF Expenditure Categories

CSLFRF Funds were intended to make impacts in several key areas:
- Addressing the Public Health Emergency
- Responding to the Negative Economic Impacts of COVID-19
- Increasing Public Sector Capacity
- Investing in Local Infrastructure
- Replacing Lost Revenue

Guilford County's strategic priority areas were informed by the goals of this funding, and the county's allocations align with CSLFRF expenditure categories as outlined below.

Addressing the Public Health Emergency:
- $300k to emergency PPE & Cleaning Supply needs.

Responding to the Negative Economic Impacts of COVID-19
- $3.1M to programs supporting the needs of people experiencing homelessness through programs such as Eviction Mediation and the services of the Continuum of Care.
- $9M to access to healthcare program such as school-based telehealth, a food security initiative, and EMT/Fire Academy programs.
- $6.2M to small business, economy, & workforce development initiatives such as career development programs, infrastructure for a small business center, and business development support for arts organizations.
- $6.4M to healthy early childhood environments and education programs such as infant mortality collective impact work, young adult engagement programs, OBGYN navigation and referral services, and out of school learning programs.
- $4.8M to behavioral health programs such as recovery housing for mothers and pregnant women and emergency transitional foster care.

Increasing Public Sector Capacity
- $2.9M to protect employee retention in Guilford County's core services of emergency management and detention center operation.
- $1.7M to develop a pandemic recovery team to ensure the county effectively manages CSLFRF funding investments.

Investing in Local Infrastructure
- $23.7M to water and sewer infrastructure.
- $1.6M to broadband analysis and infrastructure.
- $20M to infrastructure projects focused on improving access to community services.
- $5.7M to improving recreation infrastructure.

Replace Lost Revenue
- $19M to county operating expenses which allowed for the investment in ARPA Enabled Projects. Learn more about the funding strategy and goals for ARPA Enabled Projects below.

ARPA Enabled Projects

The ARPA Enabled Projects department is a new General Fund department established on December 15, 2022. ARPA Enabled Projects are defined as program or activities funded by County general funds made available through use of ARPA Revenue Replacement funds for regular county operating expenses.

Guilford County received a total State and Local Fiscal Recovery ARPA award of $104.3 million. From the total award, the amount of funding eligible for use in the Revenue Replacement expenditure category is determined by an annual revenue loss formula which calculates the amount of revenue governments have lost due to the impacts of COVID-19. At the time of establishing the department, Guilford County's FY20, FY21, and FY22 combined revenue loss was estimated at $70,483,915.

According to the Final Rule issued by the U.S. Treasury, Revenue Replacement funds may be spent on the provision of government services, which can include general fund expenditures, operating expenditures, and administrative costs, among a broad range of spending authorities. Choosing to use Revenue Replacement funding for County operating expenditures then frees up County funds to support projects that align with strategic funding priorities for CSLFRF funding but will require a longer timeframe to intentional develop programs and obligate funds than is allowed under the CSLFRF program. These projects have been termed "ARPA Enabled Projects."

The Pandemic Recovery Team analyzed each project, budget, and timeline within the County's $104.3 million federal American Rescue Plan Act award to best determine the proper eligibility category under guidance from U.S. Treasury. As ARPA Enabled Projects are funded via County funds, they will not be subjected to the obligation and expenditure deadlines of ARPA funding. Therefore, projects requiring long-term system changes were

selected to be funded as ARPA Enabled Projects to ensure the County is thoughtful and inclusive in their approach to addressing systemic changes and programs will have the necessary runway to move towards desired outcomes. Guilford County requires ARPA Enabled Projects to have the same monitoring and project reporting requirements as ARPA projects. This department currently houses funding for three initiatives:

1. Homelessness Taskforce - $8 million
2. Integrated Data System Project - $10 million
3. Transportation Taskforce - $1 million

Conclusion

Guilford County is using it's CSLFRF funding with a high level of intentionality in hearing community voice, focusing on addressing systems level issues, and making investments that will allow our community to grow successfully into the future.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

"Affirmatively advancing equity, civil rights, racial justice, and equal opportunity is the responsibility of the whole of our Government. Because advancing equity requires a systematic approach to embedding fairness in decision-making processes, executive departments, and agencies (agencies) must recognize and work to redress inequities in their policies and programs that serve as barriers to equal opportunity.

By advancing equity across the Federal Government, we can create opportunities for the improvement of communities that have been historically underserved, which benefits everyone."[1]

US Treasury's Final Rule aligns the goals of the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Plan with this mandate through the emphasis on spending funds to address the negative health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on low-income and underserved communities. Pre-existing disparities in these communities exacerbated the effects of the pandemic and resulted in disproportionate outcomes such as higher COVID-19 mortality rates and unemployment.

Guilford County Board of Commissioners have highlighted Equity and Inclusion as a core value of the organization and have integrated this value into the development and implementation of the County's recovery plan.

Equity in Initial Emergency Response

Early pandemic recovery funding targeted immediate needs for responding to the public health emergency. During this emergency response stage, the county engaged the University of North Carolina-Greensboro (UNC-G) to help identify areas of high-need for recovery funding and ensure that programs were being distributed and accessed equitably across the county.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted gaps in the connection and service provision to different areas of the community. Guilford County thought we knew how to reach all communities in our county, but the pandemic highlighted that there were still populations and areas of our community we were not reaching effectively. This realization guided the County to pause, check our assumptions about how we provide services, and start doing the deep work of taking a broader look at how we operate and how we can more equitably serve our community going forward.

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[1] Executive Order 13985, "Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government"

Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP): Extensive work was conducted with partners at UNC-G to identify areas of high poverty and housing cost burdens within the City of High Point for intensive ERAP education and outreach. This collaborative work resulted in nearly 70% of approved ERAP applications being received from and 63% of actual assistance being paid to residents from three high-priority zip codes that are in or adjacent to the Qualified Census Tracts (QCT's) in the City of High Point. Additional approved applications and assistance are associated with areas in or near other QCT's in the County.

COVID-19 Vaccination Equity: UNC-G supported an analysis of COVID-19 vaccination rates and causes for disparities in vaccination by race, ethnicity, national origin, sex and gender, disability.

Equity in Recovery Plan Development

As the County began to develop a comprehensive strategy for short- and long-term uses of the CSLFRF funds, community voice and equity continued to be a high priority.

Community Engagement: Contracted with a national survey firm for an initial broad-based community survey that will be demographically representative of County residents, allowing for the identification of pandemic-related issues and challenges at the QCT and other hyper-local levels.

Requests for Proposals: Specific requirements are built into our RFPs to identify and address equity concerns. For example, for our broadband study a requirement was incorporated for the vendor to conduct an analysis and assessment of the County's role and next steps in advancing digital equity and inclusion. Additionally, our economic analysis vendor was required to identify how the pandemic has negatively impacted different groups in our County.

Growth & Recovery Request for Ideas: During Request for Ideas (RFI) process, applicants were required to provide detailed information on the populations to be served by the proposed project. Additionally, applicants were asked to detail how they engage with and will ensure inclusive participation for the County residents served. As County staff reviewed project proposals, this information was used to ensure funding decisions were made with strong consideration for the populations served and the incorporation of equity and inclusion in project implementation plans.

Equity in Recovery Plan Implementation

Underserved communities are "populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to

participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life."[2] The Guilford County funding allocations made large investments in underserved communities by targeting both specific geographic areas of the county and underserved or disproportionately impacted populations.

Targeting Underserved Geographies

Several of the funding allocations were awarded to projects and programs targeting Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs), low-income zip codes, and locations without access to necessary services. These projects include the following:

- Winsor Chavis-Nocho Community Complex
- The Bridge
- Washington Street Enhancement Project
- The Steelhouse
- Tomorrow's Titans
- GREAT Grant Match

More information about each of these projects can be found in the project inventory section of this report. Two of these projects targeting underserved geographies are highlighted below.

Tomorrow's Titans: This program is run by the Welfare Reform Liaison Project with the goal of reducing violence among youth in High Point by providing skills training, case management, paid summer jobs, recreational activities, and other supportive services. The program is focusing on underserved geographies by targeting two QCTs in High Point (CT142 and CT143).

CT142 is predominantly African American (63%) with individuals under the age of 18 making up over 30% of the population. The median household income for the area is $31,524 and more than a third of households (38%) live on less than $25,000 annually. CT143 has a similar demographic makeup with 31% of the population being under the age of 18, a median household income of $27,102, and 50% of residents receiving means-tested assistance.

By identifying these underserved communities, Tomorrow's Titans can target program recruitment towards residents disproportionally impacted by rising rates of violence and ensure those most in need can learn about and access the services provided.

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[2] [Executive Order 13985, ''Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government"](#)

GREAT Grant Match: The Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) Grant is a competitive grant program that provides funding to private sector broadband providers to deploy last-mile broadband infrastructure to unserved areas of North Carolina. An unserved area is a "designated geographic area that is presently without access to broadband service" with broadband service defined as "terrestrially deployed internet access service with transmission speeds of at least 25 megabits per second (Mbps) download and at least 3 Mbps upload (25/3)."[3]

The GREAT Grant program encourages partnerships to maximize opportunities to leverage support for these infrastructure deployments. Projects proposing a partnership with the County, received additional points in the project scoring process. The County's commitment of matching funds to this program is an investment in digital equity with a geographic lens.

Targeting Underserved Populations

Funding allocations were also made to projects and programs targeting specific underserved populations of our community. These projects focus less on the location of service provision and more on the demographics of program participants or specific barriers faced by underserved populations in accessing services. These projects include the following:

- Infant Mortality
- Food Security
- Eviction Mediation
- Out of School Time & Social Emotional Learning
- School Telehealth
- New Creative Investment
- Emerging Talent Program
- Homelessness Taskforce
- Transportation Taskforce

More information about each of these projects can be found in the project inventory section of this report at the page numbers listed. Two of these projects targeting underserved populations are highlighted below.

Infant Mortality: "In 2021, Guilford County was one of the top five worst of 100 counties in North Carolina. Of the 5,974 babies born in Guilford County in 2021, 44 babies died before their first birthday. The county infant mortality rate was 7.6 per 1,000 births and over 10% higher than the North Carolina's rate of 6.8 and over 40% higher than the national rate of 5.4.

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[3] N.C.G.S. 143B-1373(a)

More alarmingly, the infant mortality rate for African American infants is 2 to 6 times higher than the rate of White, Hispanic, and Asian infants in Guilford County. In Guilford County in 2021, for instance, the infant mortality rate (IMR) for Black babies was 12.3, while the IMR for white babies was 4.5. Black infant deaths make up 64% of total infant deaths in Guilford County. For every White baby that died before their first birthday, three Black babies died. In addition, Black women at every socioeconomic level have higher rates of infant death than white women who have not completed high school."

By understanding the disproportionate negative outcomes for African American mothers, Every Baby Guilford can use a racial equity lens to build a radically inclusive collective action movement that builds collaborative solutions, centers the community (people, parents, children, and families), and works together to disrupt longstanding racial disparities and health outcomes for Black mothers and their babies in Guilford County.[4]

School Telehealth: This program is a partnership with Cone Health and Guilford County Schools to expand telehealth programs into 20 schools with the goal of addressing absenteeism, improving access to pediatric medical care, and reducing unnecessary trips to emergency departments. This program takes an underserved population equity lens by deploying the programming to Title 1 schools starting with schools with the highest percentage of low-income families. "Guilford County has identified 83 Title I public schools for the 2022-2023 school year, and at least 52.61% of the families in each of these schools are identified as low income."[5]

As Guilford County moves further into program implementation, there will be a continued focus on equitable outcomes through tracking program performance, improving data collection capacity, and evaluating program outcomes.

Other Equity Initiatives in the Organization

The Guilford County 2022 Recovery Plan discussed the goal for the County to hire a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Manager. After developing the position, and beginning formal recruitment, Guilford County became aware that there was not complete understanding of the needs, both internal and external, that the position would be set to explore, engage, and solve. The County decided to pause on hiring the position to give itself time to garner a better understanding of the issues that surrounded DEI deficiencies. The decision was made to contract with a local DEI consulting expert to dissect the issues both internally and externally, that would give the County greater knowledge of what we need to fix, where our support is strong and can be used as pillars for the work to come

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[4] 4 The Issue - Infant Mortality | Guilford County, NC (guilfordcountync.gov)
[5] Title I / Title I Schools (gcsnc.com)

next, and how Guilford County can work better within its community to better serve our diverse populations. Once those guidelines are discovered and implemented, hiring for a DEI Manager will resume, and that position will work to better inform the County on how to be the best partner for both our staff and our community.

When we address DEI within our organization, we can then use an equity lens to review the work our do in the community and adjust to provide more equitable services. One example of how county departments are reviewing their service delivery with an equity lens now is the new child welfare support and early intervention team created in the FY24 annual budget. The team will support transformational change by collaborating with stakeholders, including families with lived experience, community leaders and houses of worship, and service providers, with a goal to create a nationwide model for providing primary preventive services to improve child safety and well-being, prevent foster care system involvement, and address disproportional representation of children and families of color in the child welfare system. The team will lead these partners in coordinating services, supporting underserved populations, and reimagining child protection as a preventive rather than a reactive process. By engaging with these families earlier, the team seeks to ensure that factors such as poverty, illness, or the need for mental health services aren't compounding barriers to the health and welfare of the family.

Community Engagement

The County has engaged in deep community engagement since August 2021 through community conversations, surveys, and focus groups. The County's aim has been to hear from a representative sample of Guilford County's population. Guilford County's engagement efforts have enabled us to build stronger relationships with county residents and stakeholders which allows the County to keep resident needs in mind and helps residents understand how the County is spending CSLFRF. These engagement efforts have helped the County to see areas for investment that cover the whole county as well as the needs of individual zip codes and community census blocks.

The County's community engagement efforts surrounding ARPA have received state and national recognition. The County was asked to present on these efforts at the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners Funding Strategy Summit, as well as the National Association of Counties 2022 Annual Conference.

The County's engagement process involved four different efforts, which are outlined in the image and sections below.

COMMUNITY SURVEY
ETC INSTITUTE

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS & LISTENING SESSIONS
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PARTNERS

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS
EMSI BURNING GLASS

DIGITAL INCLUSION ANALYSIS
GUIDEHOUSE & PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PARTNERS

Community Survey

In 2021, ETC Institute administered a community survey to residents of Guilford County to evaluate the impact the COVID-19 Pandemic had on the community and determined what support is most needed during County recovery efforts. The County exceeded its goal of collecting 1,600 surveys with 200 responses in each Commissioners district. Ultimately, 1,804 surveys were completed, illustrating the priorities outlined below.

Question 4. Priorities for Areas of Investment	
Sum % of top five choices > 51%	
Access to Healthcare	67.9%
Education	61.3%
Sum % of top five choices = 30-50%	
Small Business & Economy	44.4%
Behavioral Healthcare & Substance Abuse	44.3%
Healthy Childhood Environments	42.2%
Housing & Homelessness	39.2%
Safe & Reliable Drinking Water	36.4%
Differences in Health Outcomes	35.2%
Workforce & Employment	30.7%
Sum % of top five choices <30%	
High Speed Internet Access	19.3%
Neighborhoods & Communities	13.1%
Help for Tourism, Travel, Hospitality, Related Industries, and Business Districts	12.3%

Major survey findings included:

- Access to healthcare and Education are most important to County residents and their top two priorities for investment of CSLFRF.
- 25 percent of respondent's experience "severe daily disruption" in seven areas.
- One in ten respondents accessed unemployment and food assistance.
- Three out of five respondents received local COVID-19 information from television.
- The community feedback received through the survey helped the Board of County Commissioners identify priorities for expenditure of CSLFRF.

Overall, the results were statistically valid with a margin of +/- 2.5 percent at the 96 percent confidence level. The randomized sample of respondents were representative of Guilford County's actual age, race/ethnicity, and household income demographics.

More information regarding the survey and its findings can be found here.

Listening Sessions

The Guilford County Board of Commissioners hosted a series of Listening Sessions and an accompanying online survey in September and October of 2021. The purpose of the meetings and survey was to provide residents the opportunity to reflect on how the pandemic has impacted them personally. It also gathered initial reactions on how community members think American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding should be prioritized.

Each Listening Session was held in a different County Commissioner district to ensure a wide cross-section of residents had the opportunity to participate. The meetings were complemented by an online and paper survey. The survey results were compiled into the Phase 1 Outreach Summary.

Through the Community Conversations, the County engaged with individuals and community organizations around the County, but targeted Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs). Over 60 individuals attended across the six meetings. Attendees (and those who may not have been able to attend) were asked to complete a survey, and the County collected over 150 surveys. The Community Conversations and its associated survey helped us to put color to some of the data in the Community survey; more clearly defining what each of the areas meant that were found in the ETC survey.

The County took the Community Conversations one step further by hosting Growth and Recovery staff conversations across six meetings. In these meetings with County staff, the Pandemic Recovery team gave insight into community findings and had conversations with staff about how feedback matched with what they were hearing and seeing on the ground.

More information regarding the Community Conversations can be found here.

Workforce Skills Analysis

Guilford County partnered with a labor market analytics firm, Emsi Burning Glass, to conduct a workforce skills analysis. The analysis sought to identify employer-talent skill gaps; to connect high-pay, high demand skills to workers from demographic groups; and provide upskilling and reskilling opportunities to regional stakeholders. The analysis is built on 18 billion data points in Labor Market Info.; over 100 million job postings; over 110 million profiles and resumes; and 30,000 Emsi open-sourced skills.

The full analysis will be publicly shared in the next Recovery Plan. Overall, the analysis showed that great opportunity exists in Guilford County within the healthcare industry. This industry may serve as one opportunity for upskilling and reskilling across different skill sets and demographic groups (particularly in communities of color).

Further, outlined in the analysis agreement, the County received 15 license seats to the Emsi Burning Glass Skillscape tool, which the County has shared with key workforce development institutions to better leverage data for the creation of collaborative action steps. Some of the entities using these license seats include Guilford County Schools, Guilford Works, Greensboro Chamber of Commerce, Business High Point, and the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro.

More information regarding the analysis can be found [here](#).

Broadband Analysis

In late 2021 and early 2022, Guilford County engaged in the development of a broadband strategy to match potential broadband projects to recommended funding sources, including American Rescue Plan Act and other federal funding. This process also included stakeholder and public engagement via a survey about broadband reliability, and an infrastructure analysis report that assessed broadband availability and reliability in Guilford County. The analysis found that 30 percent of the population in Guilford County resides in a census tract with low availability (i.e., broadband is not available at an adequate speed necessary for school or work). Further, 22 percent of the population cannot afford the broadband speeds they have available.

Through the analysis, three typologies were created related to availability, affordability, and adoption. These typologies address three core questions:

- Is broadband available at a sufficient speed for work or school?
- Are the available speeds at an affordable price point?
- Could households successfully use broadband if it was available and affordable?

The following strategic methods have been recommended to the Board of Commissioners to increase broadband accessibility:

- Dedicate a centralized broadband resource.
- Encourage ISP expansion to improve internet access.
- Launch pilot programs and iterate on successful program designs.
- Collaborate with other local governments on advocacy efforts.
- Explore developing public-provided, open access fiber infrastructure.

The Board of Commissioners has added Broadband & Digital Inclusion as a priority area for ARPA funding and is in process of allocating resources towards the strategic methods listed above.

More information regarding the analysis can be found [here](#).

OneGuilford

In addition to the community engagement efforts outlined above, the County has worked to develop a OneGuilford framework. This interorganizational initiative aims to build a new level of collaboration across entities to share resources and effectively address join interests for long-term and equitable recovery. In particular, the initiative seeks to address

issues that cross-jurisdictional boundaries and create innovative partnerships that can enhance an entity's capacity for amplified impact.

Results from a series of conversations and meetings with elected officials and their staff in 2021 generated the following municipal investment priorities:

Summary of Municipal Investment Priorities

Safe and Reliable Water and Sewer Infrastructure	Connected & Sustainable Transportation Infrastructure
Revenue Replacement for Lost Municipal Fees	Housing Access and Affordability
Enhancing Recreation and Tourism for Economic Development	Age-Friendly Growth and Development
Affordable and Reliable High-Speed Internet	Safe and Modern Schools
Small Business Support	Non-Profit Support

These conversations and priorities guided decision making as local jurisdictions presented projects to the board and commissioners made funding allocations to local municipalities.

Using Community Engagement Findings

The extensive community engagement and collaboration efforts of the County guided the development of the board's strategic priority areas for CSLFRF investment. As the County collected ideas through the RFI process, the priority areas and the community engagement data helped the board evaluate ideas for strategic alignment with community needs and interests. Priority areas guided all board funding discussions and ultimately allowed the BOCC to make funding decisions based on a comprehensive understanding of how individual project allocations came together into high level priority area investments.

Beyond major funding decisions, the deep community engagement work has continued to inform county work in various ways. For example, since the publication of the Guilford County Broadband Strategy, the county has worked at the State level with NCDIT and locally with the cities of Greensboro and High Point, Guilford County Schools, UNCG, NC A&T, and other community partners to address Broadband Equity and Inclusion challenges related to availability, affordability, and adoption of broadband. Recently,

county staff utilized the broadband analysis to inform a submission of staff comments on the N.C. Department of Information Technology's (NCDIT's) Division of Broadband and Digital Equity draft five-year plan for investing $1.5 billion in federal Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) funding.

Ongoing Project-Based Community Engagement

Over the past year, Guilford County shifted from developing its funding strategy and priorities into making funding allocations and implementing recovery projects. At this phase, community engagement efforts have shifted to focus on how residents can help inform the design and implementation of specific projects. Project-based engagement helps take high level insights and recommendations from initial engagement efforts and work collaboratively with residents to drill down into the details of next steps and deployment of solutions. Additionally, it allows for deeper relationship building with communities served by CSLFRF funding. Examples of this project-based community engagement are outlined below.

Integrated Service Delivery Design Session: As Guilford County considered a funding allocation of $10 million for Integrated Service Delivery, we engaged in collaborative design work to further understand and support the project concept. In August 2022 approximately 40 people representing nonprofits, hospital systems and cities attended an initial design session. Community partners participated in design activities such as developing problem statement

and personas to inform the areas of need for service and data integration across the county.

US Digital Response Research: The broadband analysis work discussed above identified public housing authority (PHA) communities as a key area for investment to help reduce inequities in broadband availability, affordability, and adoptability. To better understand the gaps in knowledge and experiences in accessing the internet for Greensboro and High Point PHA residents, Guilford County partnered with U.S. Digital Response (USDR) - a non-profit, nonpartisan organization facilitating research and technical support - to align on priorities, project scope, research questions, participant recruitment, and final deliverables. Over a 16-week period, the county and UDSR collaborated to conduct 14 in-depth interviews with residents to better understand their current experiences, behaviors, and barriers in accessing the internet. The insights and recommendations from this study will inform future solutions and facilitate partnerships to expand internet access for High Point and Greensboro residents.

Homelessness Taskforce & Transportation Planning Group: Two important areas of need highlighted in the community engagement work were, (1) housing and homelessness and (2) transportation. The BOCC wanted to make these areas priorities for CSLFRF funding but knew that addressing these systems issues would require further collaboration and engagement with community partners already doing work in these areas as well as residents with lived experience. Through the development of a Homelessness Taskforce and a Transportation Planning Group, commissioners brought together elected officials from local municipalities, staff experts from the county, community organizations, and other public and private partners. These conversations have helped partners gain a more wholistic understanding of the issues and begin developing ideas and solutions.

The Homelessness Taskforce used the collaborative conversations to recommend projects to the County BOCC for funding. Examples of these funding recommendations include Coordinated Entry and HMIS support for Continuum of Care agencies and program and facility expansion support for the Center for Hope and Healing project led by Open Door Ministries. Read more about the work of the Homelessness Taskforce in the project inventory section of this report.

Other Ongoing Engagement & Collaboration
Statewide CSLFRF Administration Collaboration: North Carolina has an extremely valuable backbone of organizations supporting the work of local jurisdictions. The UNC School of Government (SOG), North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC), and the North Carolina League of Municipalities (NCLM) have provided a high level of education and technical support to local governments on spending their recovery

funds since initial allocations were made. These support systems have allowed NC local governments to slow down, build expertise in their jurisdiction on federal funding requirements, and develop strategic approached to their use of funds. Guilford County has been highly engaged in supporting and learning from this statewide collaborative support by helping teach about federal reporting in SOG ARPA courses, leading conversation about contract management and monitoring during an NCACC webinar, speaking on a panel about ARPA at the North Carolina Local Government Budget Association conference, and generally staying engaged with other jurisdiction's ARPA work across the state.

Budget Town Halls: The County also successfully hosted four public town halls to receive feedback on the FY 2023-24 budget process. In those meetings, more than 100 community members from across the county shared experiences and feedback with Commissioners and staff. This feedback was used to help craft the Board's service vision statements and recommendations included in the FY24 budget. Additionally, these town halls helped residents have a better understanding of the County's role in providing public services, the current investments were making with both CSLFRF funds and general county dollars, and the decision-making process for how we choose to invest in the community.

Conclusion

The extensive community engagement work at the forefront of the County's CSLFRF investment as well as the ongoing engagement and collaboration over the past year has been one of the most robust engagement efforts the county has ever conducted. This work has brought a wide variety of entities to the table and opened conversation channels between the County and community stakeholders that did not previously exist. The significant increase in community engagement and partnership development has improved trust and understanding between local and state partners, and it is our intention and goal to continue building upon this foundation in the coming years.

Labor Practices

As of July 30, 2023, no infrastructure projects are being undertaken that require labor practice reporting.

Project Inventory

Between the award date and June 30, 2023, Guilford County has obligated $60,531,713.85 and expended $30,656,701.62 of its total CSLFRF allocation. Obligations and expenditures by expenditure category are outlined in the table below. Any project that is eligible for use of CSLFRF funds under other expenditure categories may also be funded under the revenue replacement category to the extent of revenue loss the County has experienced. The County has chosen to fund many projects under the revenue replacement expenditure category because of availability of revenue loss, however, the County is continuing to monitor these projects akin to those funded in other expenditure categories. This is to support the County's efforts to ensure the performance and effectiveness of all CSLFRF projects is monitored and used in future decision making.

Expenditure Category	Obligations	Expenditures
1: Responding to the Public Health Emergency	**$2,853,253.66**	**$795,606.93**
1.11 Community Violence Interventions	$2,533,915.00	$476,268.27
1.13 Substance Use Services	$0	$0
1.5 Personal Protective Equipment	$289,622.06	$289,622.06
1.7 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses	$29,716.60	$29,716.60
2: Responding to Negative Economic Impacts	**$7,325,017.67**	**$1,143,814.24**
2.1 Household Assistance: Food Programs	$513,481.87	$37,049.55
2.13 Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth/Families Involved in Child Welfare System	$350,000.00	$111,572.97
2.18 Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	$561,535.80	$350,341.72
2.24 Addressing Educational Disparities: Aid to High-Poverty Districts	$2,200,000.00	$0
2.36 Aid to Other Impacted Industries	$2,500,000.00	$644,850.00
2.37 Economic Impact Assistance: Other	$1,200,000.00	$0
3: Public Sector Capacity	**$230,417.83**	**$210,417.83**
3.4 Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery	$230,417.83	$210,417.83
5: Infrastructure	**$500,000.00**	**$500,000.00**
5.21 Broadband: Other Projects	$500,000.00	$500,000.00
6: Revenue Replacement	**$47,132,523.69**	**$27,463,148.81**
6.1 Provision of Government Services	$47,132,523.69	$27,463,148.81
7: Administration	**$2,490,501.00**	**$543,713.81**
7.1 Administrative Expenses	$2,490,501.00	$543,713.81

Projects listed in the project inventory have been identified and approved by the Guilford County BOCC to be funded as of June 30, 2023. Projects are organized in the following pages by the eleven major priority areas:

Strategic Priority Area	Budget	Obligation	Expenditure
Access to Healthcare	$8,956,083	$6,989,725	$4,028,056
Healthy Childhood Environments & Education	$6,366,901	$5,176,915	$1,345,841
Access to Community Services	$20,000,000	$0	$0
Water & Sewer Infrastructure	$23,728,038	$12,728,038	$0
Behavioral Health & Substance Use Disorder	$4,750,000	$235,733	$235,733
Housing & Homelessness	$11,077,706	$1,340,377	$579,819
Parks & Recreation	$5,715,000	$3,415,000	$65,000
Small Business, Economy, & Workforce Development	$7,195,000	$6,195,000	$1,348,750
Broadband & Digital Inclusion	$1,600,000	$500,000	$500,000
Protect Guilford County Services	$3,203,848	$3,203,848	$3,203,848
ARPA Administration	$1,747,077	$1,747,077	$349,655
Multiple Priority Areas	$10,000,000	$0	$0

Find more information about each project in the sections below including a performance update and discussion of use of evidence where relevant to the project.

Access to Healthcare

This strategic priority area was identified with the objectives of advancing health equity in Guilford County by expanding hyperlocal access to care, developing, and expanding the talent pipeline to increase the healthcare workforce, and fueling intention collaboration through identification of service area gaps.

Total Funding Allocation: $8,956,082.51

Projects:

- Detention Center Medical & Mental Health Services
- School Telehealth
- EMT and Paramedic Academy Expansion
- Fire Academy
- Triad Food Outreach Project
- Food Security Program

Detention Center Medical and Mental Health Services

Project ID: 3100-530100-601

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $4,327,000

Timeline: March 1, 2022 – June 30, 2024

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Law Enforcement, Guilford County Juvenile Detention

Project Description: This project continues to expand the detention center medical and mental health services contract to include mental health support and MAT program at Greensboro and High Point Detention Centers and for Juvenile Detention. Additionally, the contract will be expanded to include additional FTEs to meet staffing needs for effective service delivery. The contract was amended to cover necessary increases in staffing costs due to an escalating labor market.

School Telehealth

Project ID: 90005088

Eligibility Category: 2.24 Addressing Educational Disparities: Aid to High-Poverty Districts

Funding Amount: $2,200,000

Timeline: March 1, 2023- December 31, 2026

Lead Organization(s): Cone Health

Source: Cone Health

School nurse at telemedicine console

Project Description: This project supports Cone Health to operate 10 school-based telehealth clinics in rank ordered Title One elementary schools by the end of the 2023-24 school term. 10 additional clinics will be deployed by the 2024-25 school year.

Source: Cone Health

Schools that will have the program implemented by the end of the 2023-24 school term include Bessemer Elementary, Bluford STEM Academy, Cone Elementary, Fairview Elementary, Gillespie Park, Parkview Village Elementary, Peck Elementary, Washington Montessori, and Wiley Elementary. Additional schools for the 2024-25 school term will be determined by Cone Health as the project progresses.

Use of Evidence: Early dismissal and absenteeism are major causes of lost instructional opportunity. Since 2019, more than 15,000 elementary students have been seen in the Emergency Department for simple conditions that could have been met by a telehealth visit. A major goal of the school-based telehealth program is to return as many children as possible to the classroom. A pilot school-based telehealth program was opened at Bessemer Elementary School in April 2021. Since implementation of that program, over 90% of the students seen in the clinic return to learning the same day. Cone Health is building off evidence gathered from this pilot program to implement an expanded school telehealth system. Ongoing performance tracking will continue to build the evidence for this program's effectiveness.

Access to Healthcare

Performance Update: Cone Health presented on the project to organizations including NC Hospital Association, Ready for School, Ready for Life, and will present to NCHICA in September. No funds have been expended for this program as of June 30, 2023, therefore, performance goals have been listed and performance outputs and outcomes will be reported in future recovery plans once program spending has begun.

Performance Measure	Goal by Project Completion
Percent reduction in chronic absenteeism	10-25% Reduction
Percent reduction in non-scheduled early dismissals that require parents to travel to school	25-30% Reduction
Percent increase in number of students with a medical home	10% Increase
Percent increase in power school scores for mid-year and end of year performance ratings for participating and non-participating students	TBD

Partnering Organizations:
- Guilford County Schools
- Carolina School Based Telehealth Learning Collaborative
- TAPM
- Cone Health Medical Group

Learn More About the Program:
- [Cone Health brings telehealth services to Guilford County Schools - YouTube](#)
- https://www.conehealth.com/news/news-search/2023-news-releases/telemedicine-makes-the-grade-in-guilford-county-schools/

Access to Healthcare

EMT and Paramedic Academy

Project ID: ARPA00110

Eligibility Category: 2.19 Negative Economic Impacts: Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers

Funding Amount: $400,000

Timeline: April 2022 – June 2023

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Emergency Services

Source: Guilford County Emergency Services

Project Description: The number of candidates for employment within EMS has steadily declined over the past several years, and recruitment has nearly stopped during the pandemic. This has been paired with unprecedented attrition within healthcare, and specifically EMS. As such, EMS has recently started an EMT academy, and hiring candidates without credentials and putting them through in-house training. This has placed increased demand on space, training staff, and equipment. This also have validated the need to expand the current paramedic academy to increase prehospital providers at both the EMT and Paramedic level.

"Our EMT Academy graduates are more prepared for their job as an EMT than the students we get from local community colleges."

-EMT Academy Trainer

"I feel these [clinical experiences] are super beneficial as it's a great learning tool throughout the academy. Allows you to put into practice skills you're learning along the way."
-EMT Academy Candidate

We are also using this "training academy" concept to continue focused work on increasing workforce diversity. The current cost of EMT or Paramedic training at community colleges is expensive and requires students to attend at night and on weekends. This is a major limitation for those that are balancing other full-time commitments. This program allows

Guilford County to employee candidates first and then put them through the training academy, which opens opportunities for employment for those who would not have otherwise been able to afford the time and cost of community college trainings.

Use of Evidence: This program is building evidence for the effectiveness of this employee recruitment and training strategy. Evidence is currently being built through ongoing performance tracking and this program will be considered for further evaluation as the Guilford County Pandemic Recovery team develops its program evaluation strategy and capacity in the coming year.

Performance Update:

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of EMT Academy Cohorts	2 Cohorts
Number of EMT Academy Candidates Hired	26 Candidates (46% Female, 54% Male; 58% White, 31% Black, 11% Hispanic)
Number of Candidates Completing the Program	17 Candidates
Percent of Candidates Completing the Program	65% Completion Rate
Percent of Candidates Still Employed with Guilford County	62% Retention Rate
Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs *(mandatory US Treasury measure)*	0 *(not applicable to this program)*

Fire Academy

Project ID: ARPA00109

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $1,125,000

Timeline: January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Emergency Services Guilford County Rural Fire Departments

Source: GTCC Live Burn Training Event

Project Description: The County Fire Departments are non-profit 501C3 or 501C4 organizations that all started as volunteers and have migrated to paid departments with a volunteer compliment. Volunteer decline accelerated dramatically during the pandemic. The loss of volunteer support is pushing Fire Departments to increase staff, but the applicant pool has shrunk.

The Fire Departments in Guilford County are a major part of the EMS system of care for first response. At times during the pandemic, they responded solo to medical calls due to extremely limited EMS resources, and assisted with public health responses including vaccine clinics, testing set up, and other community needs.

This project will allow the Fire Departments to select candidates for inclusion in a Guilford County Fire Academy program. Guilford County funds will be used to cover certain wages for candidates as they complete Fire and EMT training at Guilford Technical Community

Source: Guilford County Emergency Services

College. The candidates will be employed by the Rural Fire Departments before beginning their training at the academy, and once candidates have completed training, they will remain employees of the Rural Fire Departments.

Learn More About the Program: Fire Academy (gtcc.edu)

Performance Update:

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of candidates sponsored for the GTCC Fire Academy	10 Candidates
Number and percent of candidates successfully completing the GTCC Fire Academy	10 Candidates; 100% Completion Rate
Number and percent of candidates remaining employed with the sponsoring Fire Department six months, one year, eighteen months, and two years after successful completion of the GTCC Fire Academy	To be reported in next recovery plan
Number and percent of candidates remaining employed with any Guilford County Fire Department six months, one year, eighteen months, and two years after successful completion of the GTCC Fire Academy	To be reported in next recovery plan

Access to Healthcare

Triad Food Outreach Project

Project ID: ARPA00092

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $18,949.51

Timeline: October 2022 – January 2023

Lead Organization(s): Triad Food Pantry

Source: Food Pantry of the Triad

Project Description: This project supports the continuation of the Triad Food Outreach Project. Triad Food Pantry conducts food pick-up 7 days a week from over 15 different grocery and convenient stores. This food is distributed in the form of outreach deliveries on specific days of the week, providing mobile food delivery to housing authority communities, churches, seniors, schools through the backpack program, and nonprofit agency partners. Volunteers and agency partners provide food to those in boarding houses, camping under bridges, on the streets of depressed regions in High Point and Greensboro, and in delivering meals to the sick, disabled, and shut in.

Learn More About the Program:

Food Pantry of the Triad

Food Security Program

Project ID: ARPA00127

Eligibility Category:
2.1 Household Assistance: Food Programs

Funding Amount: $885,133

Timeline: August 2022 – June 2026

Lead Organization(s):
Guilford County Cooperative Extension

Source: NC Cooperative Extension

Project Description: The project aims to work collectively with community partners to encourage collaboration and capacity-building throughout Guilford County to improve overall food security throughout the county. The work involves improving access to food and building the capacity of existing organizations that connect people to food.
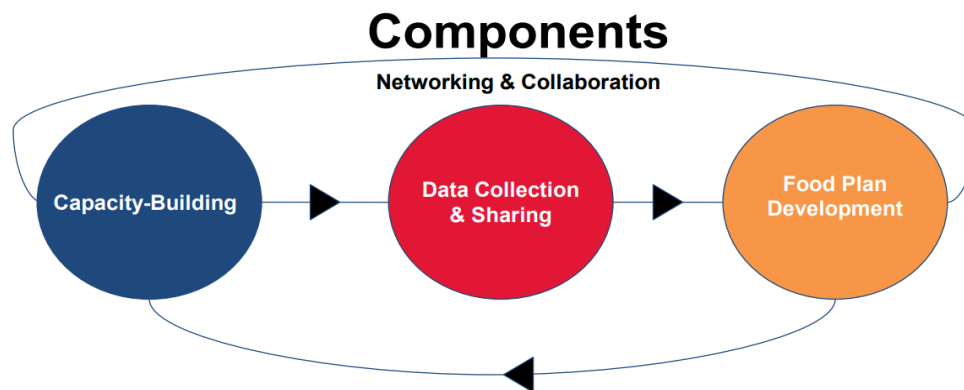
Use of Evidence: About one in five Guilford residents experience food insecurity. The county has seven identified food deserts and ranks 14th in the entire country for food insecurity. This data informed the need for this program. The work will be guided by the established best practices recommended by USDA, by the research-based knowledge around food security of faculty members at NC State University and NC A&T State University, and by the knowledge of local organizations who are already serving community needs in Guilford County (such as The Weaver Foundation, Second Harvest, High Point University, and the Greensboro Food Task Force, among others). Project managers will also work in conjunction with the food security coordinators in Durham, Wake, and Buncombe Counties to ensure alignment with other efforts going on at the state level and to share learning amongst participating counties. Evidence will be built through performance tracking and this program will be considered for evaluation as the

Access to Healthcare

Guilford County Pandemic Recovery team develops its program evaluation strategy and capacity in the coming year.

Performance Update:
- As of June 9th, Cooperative Extension has met with several community partners, as well as the Food Working Group, the Black Farmers Network, and City of High Point
- As of June 2023, 75 individuals, including faith leaders and farmers have attended workshops
- Gathering information via the Greater High Point Food Finder mobile app
- Additional meetings to develop community-based relationships have been held, with organizations expressing interest and support in the program. Agencies include:
  - Second Harvest Food Bank
  - UNCG LEAP
  - Greensboro Dept. of Sustainability
  - NC A&T State University
  - Farmers & community gardeners
  - New Hope Development
  - Cottage Grove Collaborative
  - Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL team)
  - East Greensboro Now
  - Guilford County Minority Women Business Enterprise Department
  - St James Presbyterian Church Social Justice Ministry
  - Guilford County Public Health Dept.
  - Saint Phillips AME Zion Church
  - Christian Churches of Disciples Division of Overseas Ministries

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of households served	542

Other Partnering Organizations:
- AmeriCorps VISTA
- The F.S Program Advisory Committee:
  - One Step Further
  - Piedmont Triad Regional Council
  - Greater High Point Food Alliance
  - Local Farmers
  - Guilford County Health Dept.
  - Black Faith Leaders & Black Farmers Network
- City of High Point
- Weaver Foundation
- The Food Gaps Working Group:
  - Guilford County Schools
  - Cone Health Foundation
  - Guilford County Food System
  - One Step Further
  - Backpack Beginnings
  - A Simple Gesture

Learn More About the Program:
- Food Security | Extension Marketing and Communications (ncsu.edu)
- https://guilford.ces.ncsu.edu/food-security/

Access to Healthcare

Healthy Early Childhood Environments & Education

This strategic priority area was developed with the objectives of reducing community disparities, increasing family support systems and early childhood intervention for at-risk families, and promoting an integrated service delivery to expand data sharing, navigation services, and access.

Total Allocation: $6,366,901

Projects:

- Out of School Time and Social Emotional Learning
- Educational Continuum of Care
- Expand Navigation Services
- FJC/DSS Protective Services Team
- Increasing Availability of Foster Families
- Tomorrow's Titans
- Infant Mortality
- Public Health Salaries

Out of School Time and Social Emotional Learning

Project ID: ARPA00137

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $500,000

Timeline: January 2023 – August 2024

Lead Organization(s):
YWCA of High Point

Project Description: A total of $5.5 million was allocated to the City of High Point to support three community projects. One of these projects is the YMCA of High Point Out of School Time and Social Emotional Learning Program, an after school and summer program for kids aged 5-16.

Source: Chavis YMCA

From games and sports to outdoor adventure and technology, the program offers kids a chance to regain many of the learning losses due to the pandemic. The program implements Social and Emotional Learning skills, to help youth manage emotions and make responsible decisions.

The program will offer mentorship, tutoring, as well as physical enrichment activities such as nature excursions, art activities, and sports activities.

Performance Update: The project is in process of developing program capabilities, with more information on project progress in the 2024 Annual Report.

The YMCA of High Point estimates that 50% of participants will come from low-moderate income households, with 40% of participants from minority populations.

Using assessment data, they estimate that 65% of participants will grow in at least one SEL capacity, including academic self-efficacy, positive identity, and social skills.

Learn More About the Program: https://www.hpymca.org/

Educational Continuum of Care

Source: Shift Education

Project ID: ARPA00018

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $500,000

Timeline: July 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Shift Education

Project Description: The project will address barriers impacting student success from birth through a career by using an Educational Continuum of Care approach. In partnership with key education nonprofits and Guilford County Schools (GCS), this approach aims to create an evidence-based talent pipeline that positively impacts individuals, communities, and industries located in Guilford County.

Main areas of focus include:

- Increasing the percentage of elementary students who read proficiently by the end of third grade.
- Increasing the percentage of middle school students who are exposed to Career and Technical Education programs.
- Helping high school students be career and college ready by graduation.
- Helping post-secondary students graduate with 2- or 4-year degrees or certifications.

"In the world of education and workforce development, we hear a lot about a 'skills gap' or 'talent gap' for jobs in our community.

The data shows, our students don't have a talent gap, we have an exposure gap."

Amanda Rosemann
Chief Impact Officer

Performance Update: shift_ed has held several community engagement events, including student orientations, a World of Work CTE exposure event with Guilford County Schools, and an education convening called Lawyers on the Lawn to leverage partnerships between key educational nonprofit organizations.

Performance Measure	Goal by End of Project (2026)
Percent increase in the total number of students served by shift_ed (beginning baseline of 15,000 students)	10% Annual Increase
Number of 9th-grade students participating in the newly created SEO Scholars cohort program	50 Students

Program performance goals also include the following:
- Partner with Cisco for the second year to provide students with a high aptitude for STE(A)M-related careers access to the Cisco Summer Emerging Talent Mentor Program
- Leveraging partnerships between the local community college, GTCC, and NC A&T, shift_ed will host quarterly career access events connecting high school students who are interested in a direct-to-career track to the existing NetAcads at both GTCC and NC A&T

Learn More About the Program:
- shift-ed.org/
- Annual Report
- Education Continuum of Care process

Source: Shift Education

Expand Navigation Services

Project ID: 90005035

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $1,500,000

Timeline: March 2023 -December 2026

Lead Organization(s):
Ready for School, Ready for Life

On the Journey with Guilford County Families

- Supports children prenatal through age 3
- Navigates network of community resources
- Supplements Medical Provider Care
- Connects family to community

Project Description: This agreement will support 4 Community Navigators in OB/GYN and pediatric practices in Guilford County. The Navigators support young families and increase access to resources that support the healthy growth and development of babies and young children with the goal of kindergarten readiness.

"Our goal is to be available to every pregnant individual and every family with children birth to age 3 in Guilford County. Additional funding would support further scaling of the program to meet more of the need. Last year, Community Navigation reached nearly 2000 pregnant individuals in Guilford County; serving about one third of all births in the community."

- Rebecca Starnes, Chief Program Officer, Children's Home Society

Performance Update:
The Navigator positions aid in the ongoing Routes to Ready program, which has developed 4 partnerships with community organizations, creating 85 jobs, collaborating over 3,000 hours to create more than 20 cross program integrations to make services more seamless for families. Additional information on the impact of the newly added navigator positions will be provided in the next Annual Report.

Performance Measure	Performance Goal by 2026
Number of navigator positions embedding in OB/GN practices	4 Positions
Number of Basics Guilford Health Education Kits	360 Kits
Percentage increase in Guilford County families with children who receive navigation from a Routes to Ready partner	50% Increase
Percentage increase in the number of families with identified needs who receive an appropriate referral	68% Increase

FJC/DSS Protective Services Team

Project ID: ARPA00108

Eligibility Category: 1.11 Community Violence Interventions

Funding Amount: $1,548,901

Timeline: January 2023 – June 2026

Lead Organization(s):
Guilford County Department of Social Services; Guilford County Family Justice Center

Source: Family Justice Center

Project Description: Create a specialized protective services team at Family Justice Center locations in Greensboro and High Point to support adults and children who may have been subjected to abuse. The Family Justice Center offers several comprehensive services, including safety planning, shelter placement, emergency protective orders, child advocacy and support, legal services, and medical care. More about the available services can be found on their website. 8 specialty positions have been hired for the protective services team, including a Supervisor, Dual CPS/APS investigators, and Social Workers who aid in administrative and intake support.

Key goals of the program:

- Reduce Duplicative referrals.
- Increase collaboration including joint investigations with FJC partners.
- Reduce staff turnover and burnout at the Family Justice Center and Department of Social Services

"This is how it should work! Together, we are navigating complex cases and developing innovative solutions. Our community is safer because of this new collaboration with DSS. We are thankful!" — Sonya Desai, FJC Manager

"Over the last two months, there has been significant improvement in communication and cohesive investigations. This collaboration is what the FJC is all about!" -Sgt. Dale, Nix Greensboro Police Department

Healthy Early Childhood Environments & Education

Use of Evidence:

Guilford County Department of Social Services collects data on number of child and elder abuse cases reported and accepted. From 2019 to 2022 there was a 21% increase in child abuse reports and a 30% increase in the cases accepted. Across the same time, there was an 11% increase in elder abuse reports and a 24% increase in cases accepted. Guilford County DSS investigator caseloads were 120% over the state average when this project was proposed. Additionally, COVID-19 impacted the complexity of child abuse and elder abuse cases with an increased need for multi-agency response. Using this data as well as existing state-mandated and evidence-based practices for investigating child and adult protective services, Guilford County DSS developed this collaborative team design.

Performance Update:

The below table includes data collected by the FJC/DSS team as well as listing the mandatory performance measures from US Treasury for this expenditure category. However, due to the specifics of this program design, the mandatory performance measures are not applicable to the implementation of this program. The program will gather further data from clients receiving services throughout the period of performance, and from annual surveys to FJC partners.

Performance Measure	Performance Data (January – June 2023)
Number of Connected Partner Agencies	18 Agencies
Number of Multidisciplinary Team Meetings Held	34 Meetings
Number of Collaborations with FJC Partners	618 Collaborations
Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs *(mandatory US Treasury measure)*	0 *(not applicable to this program)*
Number of workers completing job training programs *(mandatory US Treasury measure)*	0 *(not applicable to this program)*
Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs *(mandatory US Treasury measure)*	0 *(not applicable to this program)*

Learn More About the Program:

- Family Justice Center Outreach Video[Family Justice Center website](#)
- [Guilford County Department of Social Services Contact information](#)
- [Family Justice Center Outreach Video](#)

Increasing the Availability of Foster Families

Project ID: ARPA00043

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

Funding Amount: $350,000

Timeline: November 2022 – June 2024

Lead Organization(s): Children's Home Society

Project Description:

The pandemic reduced the number of licensed foster families in Guilford County, while the number of children in foster care increased during the pandemic. Before the pandemic, CHS placed 30% of referrals, but in 2021 only placed 16% of referrals. As a result, children are placed in other communities, group settings, or are lingering at DSS, adding to the trauma that vulnerable children face while in need of care.

CHS will grow the network of licensed foster families in Guilford County through an extensive targeted marketing campaign. The campaign includes direct outreach with churches, family-oriented community locations, as well as advertising on social media, radio, billboards, and television.
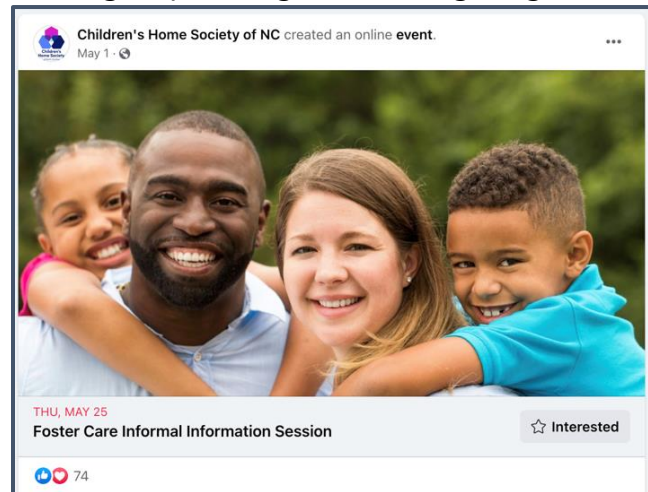
Use of Evidence:

Children's Home Society conducted a similar foster family campaign a few years prior and was able to secure 50 new licensed foster families. CHS is utilizing successes and lessons learned from prior campaigns to inform decision making for this project.

Performance Update:

The below table includes data collected by CHS as well as the mandatory performance measures from US Treasury for this expenditure category. Due to the specifics of this program design, the mandatory performance measures are not applicable to the implementation of this program, however, they are listed for reporting transparency.

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of marketing activities	614 Activities
Number of inquiries	78 Inquiries
Number of families that completed applications	32 Applications
Number of families that have completed licensures	11 Licensures
Number of children served by childcare and early learning services *(mandatory US Treasury measure)*	0 *(not applicable to this program)*
Number of families served by home visiting *(mandatory US Treasury measure)*	0 *(not applicable to this program)*

Learn More About the Program:
- Sunshine 5K & Family Festival 2023
- CHS 2022 Annual Report

Tomorrow's Titans

Project ID: 90005141

Eligibility Category: 1.11 Community Violence Interventions

Funding Amount: $1,000,000

Timeline: May 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Welfare Reform Liaison Project (WRLP)

Project Description: WRLP will utilize methods to support mental, physical, social, and overall safety and well-being for youth ages 14-24. The program aims to decrease violence among youth, reduce the number of youth and young adults entering and re-entering the detention and criminal justice systems, and encourage skills training and full-time employment that provides a living wage and benefits for young adults.

Use of Evidence: As we work to implement this program, Guilford County will partner with WRLP to ensure evidence-based practices and procedures are utilized to further the mission and progress of the program. Tomorrow's Titans will primarily be working to build the evidence base for the effectiveness of this program design at addressing community violence. Evidence will be built through performance tracking and this program will be considered for evaluation as the Guilford County Pandemic Recovery team develops its program evaluation strategy and capacity in the coming year.

Performance Update:
Program activities have not yet started. The performance goals for the program are listed below to outline what this program hopes to achieve. Actual program outputs and outcomes will be reported in future recovery plans.

Performance Measure	Performance Goal
Number of youth enrolled in the FY23/24 program	80 Youth w/ 40 transitioning to young adult program
Number of young adults enrolled in FY23/24 program	40 Young Adults w/ 20 each subsequent year
Number of summer jobs created and filled for youth ages 14-18	150 Summer Jobs w/ 40 new youth enrolled each subsequent year

Infant Mortality

Project ID: 2100-601-Infant

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $500,000

Timeline: July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2024

Lead Organization(s):
Guilford County Public Health Department, Every Baby Guilford

Board of County Commissioners Chair Melvin "Skip" Alston

People have been trying to eliminate disparities *for* communities but not *with* communities. Every Baby Guilford changes that.

Project Description: To support a collective action movement building collaborative solutions that centers and works together with the community to disrupt longstanding health outcomes and racial disparities in addressing infant mortality. Funds enable the following opportunities:

- Centering infants and birthing people
- Crafting a radically inclusive community-driven planning and design process
- Designing innovations with intentional considerations of racial/ethnic disparities
- Filling the gaps in current coordination of services
- Facilitating opportunities for lifelong and holistic care

These opportunities will help lift Guilford County out of its high rates of infant mortality. Priority areas for the initiative include:

- To advance health equity by addressing systemic racism and implicit bias within the continuum of care for maternal and infant health.
- Center community with radically inclusive community engagement to collectively create equitable solutions.
- Strengthen the continuum of care of reproductive health for equitable access to quality care.
- Promote infant wellness and positive child development.

Performance Update:
Capacity Support - Root Cause organized our capacity support for Implementation Year 2 in four work streams:

- Reinforced the backbone entity structure.
- Built partnerships and community engagement by managing core implementation partnership and advisory groups.

- Designed, piloted, and assisted with management of interventions.
- Developed Collective Action Performance Measurement Processes and Systems.
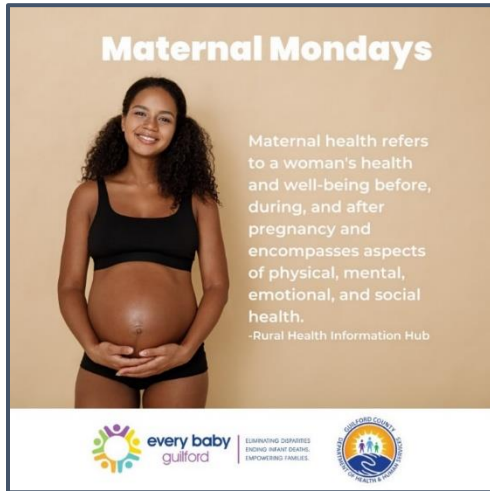
Communications - Hey Awesome Girl (HAG) served as the Communications Partner, providing an expert communications strategy that widely promotes perinatal health.

Stakeholder Support - RIOTT For Change partnered with EBG to help provide local institutions with the structure, processes, and accountability to help meet the goal of decreasing racial disparities in infant deaths by 50% by 2026 and to eliminate them by 2031.

Health Ambassador Program - Every Baby Guilford worked with 13 community members who served as social influencers through a Health Ambassador program. Everyone was trained in perinatal health topics and asked to share perinatal health information within their personal networks through either one on one or group engagement, or social media posts. They hosted 13 events to over 100 attendees.

Race Equity Trainings - We were unable to contract with REI for FY 22/23 due to the bidding process. We will re-implement the process in FY 23/24 to re-establish race equity trainings for maternal health stakeholders. In Year 1 of implementation, 13 trainings were provided to 614 stakeholders.

Source: Every Baby Guilford

Recognition - Awarded NACo Achievement Award for Best in Category for Health

Learn More About the Program:

- Every Baby Guilford | Guilford County, NC (guilfordcountync.gov)
- 2023 Crucial Conversations: The State of Infant Mortality in Guilford County (guilfordcountync.gov)
- EBG Accomplishments HD 1 - YouTube

Public Health Salaries

Project ID: 9211021001-PH

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $468,000

Timeline: July 2022 – October 2022

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Public Health Department

Project Description: To cover salaries and covered benefits for specific personnel (Nursing Services Manager, Nursing Services Consultant, DHHS IT Manager, Public Health Director, PH Physician/Medical Director, Assistant Health Director, PH Program Manager, Community Health Educator, and Epidemiologist) in public health supporting the COVID-19 public health response. Allocating said funds will enable the Public Health department to further support infant mortality through Every Baby Guilford.

Access to Community Services

This strategic priority area captures municipal and non-profit programs and infrastructure developments that are designed to offer increased access to recreation, health and wellness, workforce development, and other community services with the overall goal of improving the quality of life for Guilford County residents.

Total Allocation: $20,000,000

Projects:

- Washington Street Enhancement Project

- The Bridge

- Windsor Chavis Nocho Community Complex

Washington Street Enhancement Project

Project ID: ARPA00137

Eligibility Category:
6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount:
$3,000,000

Timeline:
January 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s):
City of High Point; D-Up Inc.

Source: D-UP

Project Description: Revitalize historic Washington Street into a thriving district to support youth and families. Develop year-round STEM, gymnasium complex, and arts facility for all ages and abilities at a central location to bring communities and visitors together for high quality fitness, recreation, education, arts, and culture. Develop 500 Washington Street into the Blackbox Theater, as a retail space for small business owners and events.

This project will increase the capacity of students served in the Washington Street Enrichment Program will increase from 50 to 175 students. Metrics for other facility usage will be determined after project design phase.

Performance Update: D-UP, Inc. is currently in a progress billing agreement with contractors for the design development phase of the project. More information on project progress will be available in the 2024 Annual Recovery Plan.

Learn More about the Program: https://www.itstime2dup.com/

The Bridge

Project ID: ARPA00137

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $2,000,000

Timeline: January 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s):
City of High Point; Hayden-Harman Foundation

Project Description: Develop a comprehensive community-based center designed to increase access to healthy foods, health services, job skills training, agribusiness development, and youth development. This project will be implemented with two key partners:

1. *Growing High Point*: will facilitate the development of a model farm to sell produce, and a paid apprentice program to train urban farmers in agribusiness.
2. *Resilience High Point:* will offer access to health services in partnership with community organizations, including:
   - Health services with High Point University's physician assistant and pharmacy programs
   - Group fitness and social activities coordinated with Open Door Ministries, Leslie's House, and Salvation Army's Center of Hope Family Shelter
   - Youth activities at the Morehead Recreation Center of High Point, including STEM activities, career exploration, and SEL programs through partnerships with youth-serving organizations.

Performance Measure	Performance Goal
Pounds of produce produced annually from the model farm	15,000 Lbs.
Retail sales annually from model farm	$50,000 Annually
Number of jobs created for trained farmers	25 Jobs by end of 2026
Number of seniors helped with Medicare enrollment annually	90 Seniors Annually
Percent reduction in emergency room visits for seniors who are assisted with medication management	30% Reduction
Number of youths who join partnering organizations annually	100 Youth Annually

Windsor Chavis Nocho Community Complex

Project ID: TBD (*project to be included in future Project & Expenditure Report*)

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $15,000,000

Timeline: TBD

Lead Organization(s): City of Greensboro

Project Description: Funding to supports the next phase of project development for the Windsor Chavis Nocho Community Complex which, when completed, will offer access to recreation, health/wellness, a library, and other government services. This project is in the program development stage. More information on project activities and performance will be reported in future recovery plans.

Source: EVOKE Studio

Water and Sewer

Investment in water and sewer infrastructure was a key priority area identified by the federal government for use of CSLFRF funds. In alignment with this intended use of funds, Guilford County prioritized water and sewer projects to improve water flow, increase storage capacity, and extend critical water lines for local municipalities. For many of these municipalities, this funding will support the initial development of what will become new municipal water systems.

Total Allocation: $23,728,038

Projects:

- Jamestown Stormwater System

- Stokesdale Water System

- Oak Ridge Water Infrastructure

- Gibsonville Water Tank

- Gibsonville Highway 61 Connector
- Southwest Water Supply for Fire Service
- Summerfield Water Infrastructure
- Pleasant Garden Water/Sewer Infrastructure

Jamestown Stormwater System

Project ID: 90005025

Eligibility Category:
6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $210,000

Timeline: March 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Town of Jamestown

Source: Jamestown Park Golf

Project Description: The Town of Jamestown will replace a crucial stormwater infrastructure feature at the Jamestown Park Golf Course, preventing the failure of a small dam adjacent to a major water supply lake.

"The stormwater project is something that will correct an issue that has recently come to light. By using the funds to focus on this area, we will continue to provide irrigation for the golf course, and it will help control the runoff and the health of the nearby lake."

-Rebecca Ashby, Grants Administrator for Town of Jamestown

Performance Update:
- In bid process, currently undergoing survey work.
- Preparing construction documents to administer contract.

Stokesdale Water System

Project ID: ARPA00128

Eligibility Category:
6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $3,113,038

Timeline: January 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Town of Stokesdale

Source: Town of Stokesdale

Project Description: This project will address four needs related to the Town of Stokesdale's water infrastructure. These needs are:

1. Construct a dual water main into the Town of Stokesdale.
2. Add a diffuser/stirrer on the elevated tank located at 8025 US HWY 158 in Stokesdale NC to reduce THM (trihalomethanes) levels and improve water quality.
3. Add an electronic altitude control valve that will regulate how much water is stored in our elevated water tank as means of quality control and customer satisfaction.
4. Extend water lines to loop local areas of the system to improve water age and fire flow protection.

Performance Update:
- In bid process, currently undergoing survey work.
- Preparing construction documents to administer contract.

Oak Ridge Water Infrastructure

Project ID: ARPA00091

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $3,265,000

Timeline: January 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Town of Oak Ridge

Project Description: This project will support development of the backbone infrastructure for the Town of Oak Ridge's developing municipal water system. This involves construction of a new water tank and a twelve-inch water main with up to fifteen fire department access points.

"County ARPA funding is making it possible for Oak Ridge to construct the necessary infrastructure for its first municipal water system. Providing safe and reliable town water will strengthen the reputation of both our town and our county as highly desirable places to live and work. The new system will also provide critical, on-site access to water that will enhance our local fire department 's ability to respond to fires throughout northwest Guilford."

-Oak Ridge Mayor Ann Schneider

Learn More About the Program: Town of Oak Ridge | Planning for a Municipal Water System

Gibsonville Water Tank

Project ID: ARPA00041

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $2,800,000

Timeline: January 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Town of Gibsonville

Source: Town of Gibsonville
© Above the Trees Photography

Project Description:

The new water tank will provide increased fire flow throughout the Town's system. This new tank will double the storage capacity of water for the town and eliminate both existing tanks.

Performance Update:

Town will sign engineering contract in August 2023. The Town will be signing one contract with Hazen and Sawyer for Water Modeling and Site Selection and one with Black and Veatch for water tank design services. The estimated project timeline is as follows:
- November 2023: Engineer will complete site analysis.
- May 2024: Complete surveying of site.
- August 2024: Town will fully secure site and engineering design of waterline improvements will be completed.
- November 2024: Water permits will be secured, and project advertised for bidding.
- August 2026: Construction completed.

Gibsonville Highway 61 Connector

Project ID: ARPA00046

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $3,140,000

Timeline: January 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Town of Gibsonville

Project Description:
The new Water Line will improve water quality in the historically underserved northwest part of town. This new 12" waterline will provide more consistent water pressure and increased fire flow for residents on the western side of Gibsonville.

Performance Update:
Town will sign engineering contract in April 2023. The estimated project timeline is as follows:

- October 2023: Surveying completed.
- April 2024: Engineering design of waterline improvements completed.
- October 2024: Easements acquired.
- May 2024: Water permits secured, and project advertised for bidding.
- May 2026: Construction completed.

Southwest Water Supply for Fire Service

Project ID: 90005425

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $200,000

Timeline: January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023

Lead Organization(s): City of High Point, Pinecroft Sedgefield Fire District

Source: Pinecroft Sedgefield Fire District

Project Description:

This funding was granted to the City of High Point to install eleven (11) fire hydrants on to the existing water line that runs from the Randleman Lake to the City of High Point. These hydrant locations were strategically placed in an area of the Pinecroft Sedgefield Fire District that currently has no pressurized water source. Currently, when then is a fire in this area that needs more water than carried on the fire apparatus, it must be drafted from the nearest pond. The addition of these fire hydrants will drastically improve the water supply operation in the event of a fire in this area.

Water & Sewer

Summerfield Water Infrastructure

Project ID: TBD (*project to be included in future Project & Expenditure Report*)

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $5,500,000

Timeline: TBD

Lead Organization(s): Town of Summerfield

Project Description:
The Town of Summerfield does not have its own water system, and 11,000 residents use private or community wells and septic systems. District fire departments rely on available water points and external hydrants. The Town was recently allocated $1.1M from the State to support water infrastructure. This project will expand the Town's water and connectivity by completing a required Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) to assess route(s), connection(s), & provider, as well as design and permitting. Depending on costs determined in the initial phase of the project and availability of other funding, this project would begin construction, make initial connections, build a pump station, and install 1 or more miles of water line. Further, the project would build an elevated tank sourced by ground water. Project details are still being developed and updates will be reported in futured recovery plans.

Pleasant Garden Water Infrastructure

Project ID: TBD (*project to be included in future Project & Expenditure Report*)

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $5,500,000

Timeline: TBD

Lead Organization(s): Town of Pleasant Garden

Project Description:
This project will build water and sewer infrastructure into the Pleasant Garden business district. Project details are still being developed and updates will be reported in futured recovery plans.

Behavioral Health

This strategic priority area is focused on assisting Guilford County residents currently suffering from substance use disorder (SUD) to find relief and recovery options to benefit their lives, and the lives of those in their community.

Total Allocation: $4,750,000

Projects:
- GCSTOP
- Recovery Housing
- Transitional Therapeutic Foster Care

GCSTOP

Project ID: 9211021001-GCSTOP

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $250,000

Timeline: July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2023

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Emergency Services, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Project Description: Guilford County Solution to the Opioid Problem (GCSTOP), is a set of programs built around the community collaboration of non-traditional partners to prevent opioid overdose deaths in Guilford County. The GCSTOP program is administered through the Department of Social Work in the School of Health and Human Sciences at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. One of the unique aspects of GCSTOP as a harm reduction organization is that its structure is based on a field unit model that utilizes undergraduate and graduate social work students to support program service provision. The field unit is overseen by the GCSTOP program director who is a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) and licensed clinical addiction specialist (LCAS). Students go through an intensive orientation and training process with the GCSTOP program director and other content experts preparing them for their roles that include direct service provision, program development, program evaluation, advocacy, and community education. Content experts include clinicians that are specialized in motivational interviewing and cognitive behavioral therapy, representatives from the local drug user union, and the evaluator of GCSTOP.

GCSTOP personnel/staff work collaboratively with a broad array of community service providers that interface with people who use drugs (PWUD) and may have experienced an overdose. GCSTOP operates from a person-centered perspective and the process of assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation are all informed by people who are directly impacted by drug use. An essential component of GCSTOP has been being an intermediary between the local drug user union and the more traditional stakeholders of drug use intervention such as government, law enforcement, public health, and service providers. The GCSTOP program staff incorporates harm reduction and recovery-oriented systems of care (ROSC) when considering the needs of people who use drugs. This hybrid type of program is a novel concept with early evidence emerging in locations across the country.

Use of Evidence: GCSTOP has applied programming rooted in evidence-based practices and harm reduction principles. The organization is most active in the following CDC evidence-based interventions:

- Ten Evidence-Based Strategies for Preventing Opioid Overdose
- Targeted Naloxone Distribution
- Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- Naloxone Distribution in Treatment Centers and Criminal Justice Settings
- MAT in Criminal Justice Settings and Upon Release
- Syringe Services Programs

Performance Update: The below performance data covers the period from July 2022 to June 2023.

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of unduplicated individuals served	848
Number of contacts with program participants	2,552
Number of individuals successfully engaged in treatment for SUD	154
Number of overdose reversal kits distributed	5,712
Number of separate opioid overdose incidents reversed using kits provided by GCSTOP	1,044
Number of sterile syringes distributed to help prevent Hepatitis C and HIV infection	343,480
Number of used syringes collected and sent for proper disposal	257,610

Partnering Organizations: Guilford County EMS, Cone Health, UNCG, GC Health Dept, My Pharmacy, GSO Police, GC Sheriff's Office, FSP

Recognition:
GCSTOP has received the National Association of Counties (NACO) award in the Risk and Emergency Management category.

Learn More About the Program:
- GCSTOP.org
- Media Appearances:
  - Naloxone Prevents Overdose Deaths in GC
  - Jails Running Out of Narcan

Recovery Housing

Project ID: TBD (*project to be included in future Project & Expenditure Report*)

Eligibility Category: 1.13 Substance Use Services

Funding Amount: $3,000,000

Project Description: Program will implement and expand substance use disorder treatment and transitional housing services for pregnant women and women with children, with treatment person-focused and evidence based. Recently, a Guilford County Assistant County Manager, two County Commissioners, and Pandemic Recovery Office Program Manager visited two sites around North Carolina to gain a better perspective of the Recovery Housing program. With visits to Robeson County Health Center in Pembroke to view the Our House program, as well as the Mary Benson House in Asheville, attendees were able to witness firsthand the objectives and successes of each program and gain knowledge on how and what successfully replicating the core of each program in Guilford County would entail.

Performance Update: This project is in the program development stage. As we work to implement the program, Guilford County will partner with the agency chosen to lead this work to ensure evidence-based practices and procedures are utilized to further the mission and progress of the program. More information on project activities and performance will be reported in future recovery plans.

Transitional Therapeutic Foster Care

Project ID: TBD (*project to be included in future Project & Expenditure Report*)

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

Funding Amount: $1,500,000

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Department of Social Services

Project Description: Funding to support therapeutic services for foster youth who are experiencing persistent mental illness. The goal is to improve placement stability for youth requiring higher needs while awaiting transition to a higher level of care.

Performance Update: This project is in the program development stage. More information on project activities and performance will be reported in future recovery plans.

Housing and Homelessness

This strategic priority area focuses on initiatives to address housing instability and other issues leading to experiences of homelessness in Guilford County. Objectives include:

- Increasing assistance to local partners working to prevent housing instability for individuals and families.
- Increasing staff capacity to provide technical assistance to community agencies working with people experiencing homelessness.

Total Allocation: $11,077,706

Projects:
- Evictions Diversion
- Continuum of Care Staffing
- Homelessness Taskforce
(*find in ARPA Enabled Projects section*)

Evictions Diversion

Project ID: 9021-537100-218

Eligibility Category: 2.18 Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance

Funding Amount: $2,298,864

Timeline: November 2022 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Project Description: UNC Greensboro Center for Housing and Community Studies (CHCS), in partnership with Legal Aid, address the needs of vulnerable, low-income communities experiencing housing instability and potential evictions through the TEAMs clinic. The services provided through the clinic include resource navigation, eviction mediation, and legal services, among other services. The goal is to help clients avoid eviction judgements, which often prevent them from finding habitable and affordable housing elsewhere, and when possible, to enable clients to stay in their homes. The program provides courthouse-based services in Greensboro and High Point, including legal information and assistance, mediation services, and information regarding applications for rental assistance.

"I witnessed the convergence of professionals from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines skillfully and thoroughly address a variety of barriers-beyond impending evictions- facing those who visited the clinic. I look forward to what the future holds for the TEAM project, and how it will likely be replicated by additional municipalities in the future."

-Emergency Rental Assistance Program Coordinator

"I received legal services for free and it really felt like I had a lifeline."   *- TEAM client*

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of households served across eviction mediation, rental assistance, and referrals to other services	2,280 Households
Number of Landlord Engagements	258 Engagements
Number of evictions on the court docket on days when the clinic was present in court	6,278 Evictions
Percent of evictions dismissed by the court or the landlord	37% Dismissed
Percent of evictions delayed by being continued to a later date	18% Delayed

Partnering Organizations: Legal Aid of NC, Guilford County Continuum of Care

Learn More About the Program: May 2023 TEAM Presentation

Continuum of Care Core Staffing

Project ID: 9211021001-2050-701

Eligibility Category: 7.1 Administrative Expenses

Funding Amount: $778,842

Timeline: July 2022 – June 2026

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Department of Health and Human Services Administration

Project Description: This project will fund the Continuum of Care Core Staffing positions which include:

1. Compliance Coordinator
2. Community Support & Engagement Coordinator
3. Compliance Coordinator/Engagement Coordinator

The goal of this team is to help facilitate collaboration and support allocation of funds in alignment with County priorities. This team will also provide technical assistance and data entry capacity.

Parks and Recreation

Through the ETC Community Survey, Guilford County residents indicated that increased planning, funding, and attention to outdoor spaces is essential for community well-being. The Parks and Recreation strategic priority area is focused on planning, programming, and maintaining parks, open space, and other recreational facilities with the intended purpose of creating a more interconnected park, trails, and recreational system that provides better access for residents and supports the environmental goals of the community.

Total Allocation: $5,715,000

Projects:
- Jamestown Parks Accessibility
- Jamestown Sidewalks
- Sedalia Community Park & Sidewalk
- Oak Ridge Town Park
- Summerfield Bandera Farms Park

Jamestown Parks Accessibility

Project ID: 90005027

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $315,205

Timeline:
March 1, 2023-December 31, 2025

Lead Organization(s):
Town of Jamestown

Source: Town of Jamestown

Project Description: This project will improve Jamestown Park with the addition of two shelters, a dog park, relocating the sand volleyball area, developing a natural play area and trail, and renovating the basketball court and sidewalks. New play equipment will also be installed with funds from an AFP grant. The new play equipment will be upgraded for all accessible usage to benefit individuals of all abilities and ages.

"The parks are overdue for an upgrade and with two schools in our jurisdiction that serve differently abled youth, having all accessible play equipment will be a huge benefit. The schools don't have a lot of resources and while they do have play areas for the children, they don't have a lot of equipment. By having a public park with accessibility play areas, it will increase the opportunities for these children in and out of school."

-Rebecca Ashby, Grants Administrator for Town of Jamestown

Performance Update:
- Currently in bid process, will enter design phase in coming months.
- Project manager met with school personnel to discuss specific park play equipment for children of different abilities.
- Visited local accessible parks, getting feedback from other Parks supervisors on maintenance needs of new equipment.

Jamestown Sidewalk Project

Project ID: 90005026

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $2,294,795

Timeline:
March 1, 2023-December 31, 2026

Lead Organization(s):
Town of Jamestown

Project Description: The Jamestown sidewalk system saw a significant increase in use during and since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. This project will complete gaps in the pedestrian network in Jamestown to connect critical public locations at Guilford Technical Community College, CJ Greene Education Center, and Hanes-Inman Education Center.

Performance Update: Jamestown is currently in the bid and design process and will have more information on the development of the project to share in the 2024 Annual Report.

"This funding will be a tremendous asset to the community. Jamestown is a very walkable town and has prided itself on having quality walkways to keep its citizens active and safe. The sidewalk project will benefit nearly all Jamestown residents by putting safe sidewalks in areas currently without."

-Rebecca Ashby, Grants Administrator for Town of Jamestown

Sedalia Community Park & Sidewalk

Project ID: 90005071

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $500,000

Timeline: March 1, 2023- December 31, 2026

Lead Organization(s): Town of Sedalia

Project Description: This project will support the design and construct the Town of Sedalia's first public park and walking trail. Additionally, it will allow the town to install sidewalks and crosswalks along Blue Lantern Road to increase community access to the park. The project will provide opportunities to preserve ecosystems of the site, and will provide exercise and community activities for Town of Sedalia residents.

Performance Update:

- Currently in bid process with consultants to lead community engagement and project design.
- Ongoing community involvement includes the park master plan steering committee which will hold workshops to set priorities for park uses, and minimal hand-son activities to clear trails.

Source: Town of Sedalia

Learn More About the Program: http://www.sedalianc.org/

Parks & Recreation

Oak Ridge Town Park

Project ID: ARPA00093

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $305,000

Timeline: January 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Town of Oak Ridge

Project Description: Renovation of the historic Redmon House to include over 1,000 square feet of meeting space, a prep kitchen, handicap accessible bathrooms, storage, and entry areas, as well as parking and wheelchair access to the building. Additionally, the house will include a 400 square foot deck leading to an outdoor area that will include hardscapes, landscaping, and other improvements.

"Restoring this historic farmhouse to serve as a community rental space will serve area families, nonprofits, and businesses of all kinds. Its location on a prominent corner of our Town Park, built on 80 acres of historic farmland, will also help tell the story of our once-rural community and of the tenant farmers who once lived in this modest Craftsman-style house."

-Oak Ridge Mayor Ann Schneider

Summerfield Bandera Farms Park

Project ID: TBD (*project to be included in future Project & Expenditure Report*)

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $2,300,000

Lead Organization(s): Town of Summerfield

Project Description: A 115-acre site along Bunch Road, I-73, and Reedy Fork Creek has been purchased as part of a multi-jurisdictional conservation effort. The property has long been called Bandera Farms and it will be a critical part of the future Piedmont Greenway that's expected to connect Greensboro and Winston-Salem. The site will be developed as an equestrian-focused trails preserve and will create additional buffers along Reedy Fork Creek, which supplies Greensboro's drinking water.

Performance Update: This project is in the program development stage. More information on project activities and performance will be reported in future recovery plans.

Small Business, Economy, & Workforce Development

This strategic priority area was identified as an opportunity to continue to build upon a robust environment of existing partnerships and programs and intentionally focus on reducing the barriers to workforce participation and business development. The specific priorities identified for this funding were:

- Strengthen work readiness, retaining talent and home-grown graduates, and re-engaging disconnected workers.
- Invest in developing long-term sustainability and equity in the Guilford arts and culture community.
- Support for entrepreneurship to create a small business-friendly environment.
- Address barriers and work readiness for disproportionately impacted populations

Total Allocation: $7,195,000

Projects:

- Emerging Talent Career and Professional Development Programs
- New Creative Investment
- Expanding Sustainable Impact at The Forge
- Forging Equitable Opportunities for Equal Outcomes at The Steelhouse
- Workforce Analysis
- Transportation Taskforce
  (*find in ARPA Enabled Projects section*)

Emerging Talent Career and Professional Development Programs

Project ID: 90005033

Eligibility Category: 2.37 Economic Impact Assistance: Other

Funding Amount: $1,200,000

Timeline: February 1, 2023 – December 31, 2026

Lead Organization(s): Action Greensboro

Project Description: This project provides funding to Action Greensboro to conduct four career and professional development programs.

Campus Greensboro Fellows Program: This program works to bring industry awareness, internships, and community engagement opportunities to students. The program provides a paid internship, customized leadership training, 10+ professional networking/ development opportunities and the opportunity to experience Guilford County as a young professional.

Refresh Learning Series: An annual community learning series. Events will be open to students, young professionals and community members and provide training in critical business needs identified by the local business community. Series will include four community learning events annually.

synerG Career Seeker Cohort: CSC is a three-month cohort style program that incorporates skill-discovery activities and guided facilitations. Participants navigate the job search together with the help of career and industry experts. Each cohort receives feedback from a resume reviewer, a career aptitude testing package, facilitated workshops and skills building presentations.

synerG Young Professional Educators Academy: Educators participating in synerG's YPEA engage in professional development and skill building sessions over the course of five weeks. Activities include discussion and presentation with local workforce development experts, a diversity and inclusion workshop, a session on local resources and grant writing, a STEM learning workshop, and an educational professional's leadership training. Past participants have used their experience in the program to grow their careers within GCS and become better leaders in their classrooms.

Performance Update:

Talent & Workplace Survey: To inform Action Greensboro's emerging talent efforts as well as community stakeholders, policymakers and employers, Action Greensboro conducted and announced the results of the inaugural Talent & Workplace Survey in May 2023. The comprehensive survey gathered responses from over 600 Guilford County organizations on factors including local talent and recruitment in the healthcare, financial services/insurance, and automotive industries. A full copy of the 2023 Talent and Workplace Survey can be found here.

2023 Campus Greensboro Fellow Program: For 2023, the Fellows Program has 95 Fellows (students) interning at 36 unique intern sites throughout the county. Details and demographic data on this year's applications and selected Fellows cohort are below.

Source: Action Greensboro

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of Posted Openings	149
Number of Applications	1,443
Average Internship Pay	$18.26
Number of Enrolled Fellows	95 (25% increase)
Number of Mentors	67 (34% increase)
Number of Unique Employer Sites	36
Percent of Fellows identifying as First-Generation Students	27%
Percent of Fellows receiving a Pell Grant or other Financial Aid	59%
Percent of Fellows attending a local Higher Education partner	54%
Percent of Fellow who graduated high school in Guilford County	34%

New Creative Investment

Project ID: ARPA00034

Eligibility Category: 2.36 Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Funding Amount: $2,500,000

Timeline: February 1, 2023 – December 31, 2026

Lead Organization(s): United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro

Project Description: Utilizing funds from Guilford County ARPA, the United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro will work across the county to provide a framework for a new, more sustainable arts sector.

Specific program areas, goals, and activities are outlined below:

- *Organizational Sustainability* - Working with organizations within a cohort model, build board and staff capacity to focus on long-term sustainability and resiliency within the arts ecosystem. The strategic 5-year plan to support organizations' boards, staff, and other stakeholders in understanding what must occur today to ensure an organization can successfully achieve its mission while being financially strong.
- *Small Business Development for Creatives* - Create a mechanism by which creatives can access professional development opportunities to build or strengthen their small business operating model for long-term sustainability. Facilitate workshops, scholarships, and underlying studies to outline and promote living wages for creatives.
- *Title-one Schools Artists-in-Residence Pilot* - Pilot an integrated curriculum with artist-in-residence third-grade title one classrooms working alongside teachers to achieve better outcomes as measured by end-of-year testing.
- *Robust Marketing Awareness Campaign* - Launch a multi-channel, robust marketing campaign, "Arts Across Guilford," at the local, regional, and tri-state area. The purpose is to create broad-based awareness of the breadth and depth of the creative community across Guilford County and beyond.

Performance Update:

Organizational Sustainability: Three Matrix Mapping Session Conducted (2 In-Person & 1 Virtual) *with* 65-74 Attendees per session representing 26 Arts Organizations

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"The Matrix Map (and process) was an incredible learning tool for our (relatively young) nonprofit organization. Working alongside board members to determine the strategic course we need to consider was a huge help to us. We have relied heavily on earned income, which has been both an advantage and a cause for concern. Our new strategic plan emphasizes the need to diversify our revenue streams. The Matrix Map provided us with the "know how" to plan programming based on the true costs, impact, and profitability that will set us up for success."

Small Business Development for Creatives: The first artist workshop series was held in early June with Houston Odon, a professional artist and owner of Activate Entertainment. Houston hosted a 3-workshop series covering the topics of Writing a Business Plan, Marketing and Branding, Networking and Partnerships, and Funding.

"Thank you for coordinating this event! I learned a great deal and look forward to implementing my ideas."   *-Serena Bey, artist and workshop attendee*

Arts Across Guilford (Marketing Awareness Campaign): The first phase of this rollout has included the first ever comprehensive directory of over 95 nonprofit arts organizations offering programming in Guilford County. Additionally, we have created a calendar of arts events that spans the innumerable arts and culture events happening throughout Guilford County.

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of organizational participants in the matrix process	26
Number of organizational recipients for technology and capacity support	17
Number of participants in professional development programs	9
Number of arts directory copies distributed	1,000

Learn More About the Program:

- Events | The ACGG
- Directory | The ACGG

- The Arts Across Guilford
- Arts-Impact_COVID-19

Expanding Sustainable Impact at The Forge

Project ID: 90005024

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $300,000

Timeline:
March 1, 2023- December 31, 2026

Lead Organization(s):
The Forge Greensboro

Source: Forge Greensboro

Project Description: Forge Greensboro is a community makerspace for artisans, entrepreneurs, inventors, artists, and tinkerers to make, collaborate, ideate, and learn. Members pay for 24/7 access to woodshop, machining, welding, 3D printers, laser engraver, cnc routers, sewing, and ceramics equipment.

ARPA funding allows Forge Greensboro to improve the training and mentoring capacity of the organization, supports equipment purchase, repair and maintenance as program pilots are developed, and prepares the organization to move to a larger facility.

Performance Update:
- In process of purchasing computers and saw-stop table for community maker space
- Consulting with members on usage needs and future partnerships

Performance Measure	Performance Goal by Project End
Number of entrepreneurial/workforce participants	225
Number of youth participants introduced to STEM curriculum	750
Number of jobs created and filled due to Forge	40

Forging Equitable Opportunities for Equal Outcomes at The Steelhouse

Project ID: 90005032

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $2,000,000

Timeline: March 2023 - December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Nussbaum Center for Entrepreneurship (NCFE)

Project Description: "The Steelhouse" will create a unique center of urban manufacturing and innovation as part of a vital cluster site in the long under-utilized former Carolina Steel factory at 1431 S Elm-Eugene Street. Located in an Opportunity Zone and a Qualified Census Tract (113), over 50% of all households have an income less than 60% of the Area Median Income. The Steelhouse's 15-acre campus offers minimal access barriers for wide-ranging opportunities in an institutionally historically marginalized neighborhood. Along with 20,000 square feet of adaptable workspace, The Steelhouse will house local retail and eating establishments. The Steelhouse will have an ongoing farmer's market where fresh, nutritious, locally produced food can be accessed with opportunities for nutrition and health education programs. There will also be artist studios and various meeting spaces.

Source: NCFE

Guilford County funding will be utilized by NCFE to begin improvements on the section of The Steelhouse designated as Phase 2. They will create an insulated shell (roof, walls, and floors) and upfit bathrooms to accommodate tenants in The Steelhouse.

Upon Steelhouse project completion, performance will be tracked for the following:
- Number of Small Businesses Served
- Number of Jobs Created/Retained
- Percent Occupancy in the Steelhouse

Learn More About the Program:
The Steelhouse – The Nussbaum Center for Entrepreneurship (nussbaumcfe.com)

Workforce Impact and Recovery Analysis

Project ID: 9211021001-90003476

Eligibility Category: 3.4-Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

Funding Amount: $195,000

Timeline: October 2021 – October 2023

Lead Organization(s): Emsi Burning Glass

Project Description: The Workforce Recovery Analysis helped our community better understand the global pandemic's short-term and long-term impacts on Guilford County's economy, workforce, and industrial base. This project used relevant data to identify how the pandemic has negatively impacted employment and career trends to inform reemployment strategies and identify the skills, competencies, and training necessary for residents to return to work or transition to in-demand roles. The deliverables of this analysis will be used to inform investment and workforce development strategies to help those residents most impacted by the pandemic. Objectives included:

- Identifying employer-talent skill gaps
- Connecting high-pay, high demand skills to workers from various demographic groups
- Provide upskilling and reskilling opportunities to regional stakeholders through an economic analysis of labor market information, job postings, profiles and resumes, and open-sourced skills.

During the peak of the pandemic, the unemployment rate in the Greensboro-High Point MSA rose 12 percent from pre-pandemic levels. The rate was 16 percent in April 2020 and four percent in January 2020. Rates have gradually made their way back to pre-pandemic levels at 4.2% in January 2022. The analysis will help County residents and the economy better withstand future economic shocks and fallout.

Broadband and Digital Inclusion

Broadband infrastructure was highlighted by US Treasury as a key area for investment of ARPA funds. For Guilford County, this priority area was selected to focus on identifying the current landscape of digital accessibility, affordability, and adoptability for county residents. The results of the initial Digital Inclusion Analysis informed additional strategies for this priority area which include:

- Collaborating with public and private partners to support broadband expansion in the County.
- Supporting a centralized community resource for broadband and digital inclusion development and management.

Total Allocation: $1,600,000

Projects:

- GREAT Grant
- Digital Inclusion Analysis
- FirstNet for Rural Fire

GREAT Grant

Project ID: TBD (*project to be included in October 2023 Project & Expenditure Report*)

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $99,761

Timeline: July 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): North Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Office, Guilford County, Internet Service Providers (AT&T and Lumos)

Project Description: The Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) Grant is a competitive grant program that provides funding to private sector broadband providers to deploy last-mile broadband infrastructure to unserved areas of North Carolina. The program is administered by the Broadband Infrastructure Office (BIO) in the N.C. Department of Information Technology (NCDIT). The current round of the GREAT program received $350 million in funding from them state allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars. The GREAT Grant program encourages partnerships to maximize opportunities to leverage support for these infrastructure deployments. Projects proposing a partnership with the County, received additional points in the project scoring process.

Guilford County entered MOUs with three GREAT Grant applicants, committing up to $1,100,000 in ARPA funds for the third-party match portion of the grants.

Performance Update: GREAT Grants were awarded to two Guilford County ISP applications.

1. AT&T (Bellsouth Telecommunications) to serve 252 total locations which includes 249 households and 3 businesses.
2. NorthState (Lumos) to serve 287 locations.

County funds will be combined with the state grant funding and matching requirements from the ISP providers to make a collective investment of over $2 million in Guilford County broadband infrastructure.

Learn More About the Program: GREAT Grant (Federal) | ncbroadband.gov

Broadband Gaps and Needs Infrastructure Analysis

Project ID: 9211021001-90003440

Eligibility Category: 5.21 Broadband: Other Projects

Funding Amount: $500,000

Timeline: October 2021 – June 2023

Lead Organization(s): Guidehouse Inc.

Project Description: The analysis identified broadband infrastructure gaps and needs to inform more impactful strategy, action, and investment in broadband availability, affordability, and adoption across Guilford County. Deliverables included:

- Comprehensive understanding of the broadband access and adoption landscape across the county and QCTs
- Asset inventories
- Community stakeholder engagement activities Understanding of resident access and adoption needs and issues
- Establishment of an inter-agency task force to mobilize county-wide activities directed at broadband development
- Strategy to address access and adoption barriers and needs and to improve digital equity and inclusion.

FirstNet for Rural Fire

Project ID: TBD (*project to be included in October 2023 Project & Expenditure Report*)

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $608,359

Timeline: July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2026

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Emergency Services, Guilford Rural Fire Districts

Project Description: This project will allow the rural fire protection districts to have access to the FirstNet, which allows them to access the dedicated Band 14 infrastructure supported by the US Government as a post 9/11 recommendation. Many of these districts were invested in other cellular technology or simply lacked the funding to have access to mobile computer terminals, and this funding will allow them to switch to FirstNet hardware and pay for three (3) years of service. FirstNet offers the following features:

- Reliable, interoperable, high-speed LTE network core dedicated to public safety communications. The network connects first-responder organizations.
- Priority and preemption with First Priority®. This gives first responders first-in-line access during network congestion.
- Available end-to-end security. Features redundancy, dedicated support, and highly secured, reliable applications for first responders.
- Deployables, such as satellite cell trucks, for increased capacity. These are dedicated exclusively for public safety use during both planned activities and disaster recovery.
- Local control and visibility over network status, user and device management, device activation, billing, and application management.
- Public safety ecosystem to manage full array of Internet-connected devices, from vehicles to mobile apps. Includes real-time network intel and diagnostics, automation, security, alerts, performance monitoring, and cost management.

Protect Guilford County Services

This priority area was identified to improve County operational resiliency through addressing issues caused or exacerbated by COVID-19. Looking forward, funding in this area also focuses on evaluation of county operations and staff ratios to build necessary capacity to increase resiliency and the county's ability to respond to future crisis situations.

Total Allocation: $3,203,847.66

Projects

- Retention Incentive
- Law Enforcement BDA/DAS
- Emergency Management Cleaning Supplies
- Emergency Management PPE

Detention and Paramedic/EMT Incentive Program

Project ID: 9211021001-510900-601

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $2,670,000

Timeline: May 2022 – December 2024

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Law Enforcement, Guilford County Emergency Services

Project Description: Attraction and retention incentive program to fill in the gap of 70 vacancies in law enforcement detention and address the 12 percent vacancy rate in the Emergency Services department in specified positions. The structured incentive program is intended to assist with maintenance of existing staff in a primary role in EMS field operations to provide medical care to the community and in detention services. The retention program was directed at hard to fill positions and is also intended to recruit credentialed applicants for Guilford County to fill existing vacancies. Both initiatives are intended to increase the number of staffed unit hours with full time staff.

High-level requirements for Recruitment Incentives:

- Must be hired for a full-time position after May 5, 2022, within the department.
- Recruitment incentive payments will be made in installments after a designation amount of time of employment.

Performance Update:

Performance Measure	Performance Level at Start of Program	Performance Level Now
Vacancy rate in Emergency Services department in specified positions	12%	0%
Percent reduction in vacancy rate in Emergency Service department in specified positions	N/A	100%
Number of vacancies in Law Enforcement Department	70	75
Percent change in number of vacancies in Law Enforcement Department	N/A	7% Increase

Law Enforcement BDA/DAS

Project ID: 3100-553100-601

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $214,509.26

Timeline: March 2022 – June 2023

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Law Enforcement

Project Description: An active equipment refresh for the existing 800MHz Public Safety DAS and the 850 MHz Verizon Cellular DAS at Guilford County Jail and Courthouse. The BDA/DAS unit is critical for the communication between detention officers and supervision in the Greensboro Jail, the inmate transport tunnel which connects this jail to the Greensboro Courthouse and the deputies (bailiffs) and supervision working in this courthouse. This communication is vital for the safety of all Sheriff's Office personnel. Without it there is no ability to communicate with other personnel in times of crisis or in the daily operations of either the jail or courthouse. This equipment will be used by officers of the Guilford County Sheriff's Office in the performance of their duties.

"This was hands-down the most critical piece of equipment I've ever been responsible for purchasing in my career!"

– Master Corporal Jimmy Ray, Guilford County Sheriff's Office

Emergency Management – Cleaning Supplies

Project ID: 9211021001-20220975

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

Funding Amount: $29,716.60

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Emergency Services

Project Description: Disinfection sprayers and chemicals were purchased to disinfect areas where COVID-19 positive individuals had been and to prevent the spread of the virus. This project provided for high-level surface disinfection of County facilities and public safety agencies to reduce risk of cross contamination between employees and clients.

Source: Scott Muthersbaugh, Guilford County Emergency Services

Emergency Management – PPE

Project ID: 9211021001-20220910

Eligibility Category: 1.5 Personal Protective Equipment

Funding Amount: $289,622.06

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Emergency Services Department

Project Description: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was used to support safe county operations and prevent the spread of COVID-19. PPE includes gloves, N95 respirators, surgical masks, gowns, and other protective items. The need for PPE was exacerbated by the pandemic. PPE was purchased to provide for at least a 90-day supply on the shelf given significant supply chain disruptions and limitations. PPE was made available to County staff and public safety agencies. This allowed for centralized ordering and distribution of PPE to critical infrastructure. This benefitted the County in that the request was of higher quantity and gave the county priority in allocations and afforded the county with better pricing.

Source: Scott Muthersbaugh, Guilford County Emergency Services

ARPA Administration

The allocation of LFRF funds to Guilford County is an opportunity to make a historic and transformational impact on our community. The county identified ARPA Administration as a funding priority area to ensure funding allocations were strategic and community informed and project implementation was professionally managed.

Total Allocation: $1,747,076.83

Projects:
- Community Engagement
- Pandemic Recovery Team
- Guilford County Operating Expenses
  (amount not included in total allocation above)

Community Engagement for ARPA Investment Strategy

Project ID: 9211021001-90003475

Eligibility Category: 3.4 Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

Funding Amount: $35,417.83

Timeline: October 2021 – September 2022

Lead Organization(s): Public Participation Partners

Project Description: A comprehensive public engagement process was conducted to solicit and receive resident, non-profit, for-profit, and other stakeholder feedback. Engagement conversations focused on the pandemic's impact on our community and residents and ideas for the strategic use and investment of American Rescue Plan Act's (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. Deliverables included:

- Creation and implementation of an engagement strategy
- Production and distribution of marketing and outreach materials and activities
- Facilitation of community conversations (in-person, virtual)
- Obtaining and analyzing quantitative and qualitative data from surveys and conversations
- Identifying pandemic impacts and prevalent recovery needs
- Prioritization of community recovery needs along with cohesive and intentional strategy and investment recommendations.
- Special attention given to soliciting and receiving feedback from areas most impacted by the pandemic.

Pandemic Recovery Team

Project ID: 9211021001-staff

Eligibility Category: 7.1 Administrative Expenses

Funding Amount: $1,711,659

Timeline: December 2021 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Manager's Office

Project Description: These funds provide for central support of ARPA Fund Management The pandemic recovery team will coordinate funded projects, manage federal compliance and reporting, respond to Commissioners requests, and evaluate programs.

Performance Update: Originally this project included the development of a social innovation team that would develop detailed project charters and implementation plans. The position for a Social Innovation Director was developed and posted, however challenges during the recruitment process left the county with no interested candidates for the position. Additionally, Cone Health, the partnering organization for the development of this team, pivoted their strategy by decision to no longer hire any social innovation team members in their organization and to no longer invest in a co-location space for the team. Due to the original MOU no longer being upheld and the recruitment delays, the county decided to no longer move forward with the social innovation team concept.

County Operating Expenses

Project ID: 9211021001-601 AEP

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $19,000,000

Timeline: July 2022 – June 2023

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County

Project Description: This project covered general operating expenses of the county as outlined below:

- Animal Services - $651,122 (Salaries and Benefits, Utilities, Fuel)
- Behavioral Health - $4,040,709 (Remittance to Authorities)
- Court Services - $265,048 (Salaries and Benefits)
- Culture & Libraries - $2,239,116 (Professional Services)
- Recreation - Parks - $1,346,649 (Salaries and Benefits, Utilities, Fuel)
- Law Enforcement - $6,610,889 (Salaries and Benefits, Utilities, Fuel)
- Planning & Development - $246,202 (Salaries and Benefits)
- Public Health - $1,358,073 (Salaries and Benefits)
- Social Services - $2,242,192 (Human Services Assistance)

Learn more about the funding strategy for this allocation in the Use of Funds: ARPA Enabled Projects section of this report.

ARPA Enabled Projects

ARPA Enabled Projects are defined as program or activities funded by County general funds made available through use of ARPA Revenue Replacement funds for regular county operating expenses. Due to being funded with county funds, the below listed projects are not included on the Project and Expenditure Report, however, they are included here because of their connection to ARPA initiatives. Learn more about the funding strategy for these projects in the Use of Funds section of this report.

Projects:

- Homelessness Taskforce
- Integrated Data System Project
- Transportation Taskforce

Homelessness Taskforce

Funding Amount: $8,000,000 (*included in funding amount for Housing & Homelessness*)

Lead Organization(s): Multiple Entities, including Guilford County, City of Greensboro, City of High Point, and Guilford County Continuum of Care

Project Description: Funding to support the new interagency taskforce charged with identifying and enacting initiatives to address housing instability and other issues leading to experiences of homelessness in Guilford County. Funding will assist with expanding access and reach of County Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), expansion of Coordinated Entry (CE), and more social workers and case managers on the ground and in the field assisting individuals experiencing homelessness to attain local community resources and assist in finding affordable housing.

Performance Update: The Homelessness Task Force has made a series of funding recommendations to the Guilford County BOCC for ARPA Enabled Funds to be used. The below table outlines the allocations made by the county from the total $8 million budgeted for Homelessness Taskforce initiatives.

Project	Amount Allocated
Partners Ending Homelessness	$372,272
YWCA	$223,600
Salvation Army	$52,000
West End Ministries	$50,000
Room at the Inn	$150,830
Servant Center	$73,750
Tiny Houses	$55,000
FSP	$50,000
Center for Hope & Healing	$2,000,000
Erwin School	$175,000
CHS Strategic Planning	$498,786

These projects are in program development or early program implementation stages, and further information about the programs and their impact will be provided in future reports.

Transportation Taskforce

Funding Amount: $1,000,000
(*included in funding amount for Small Business, Economy, & Workforce Development)*

Lead Organization(s): Multiple Entities, including Guilford County, City of Greensboro, City of High Point, and Piedmont Area Regional Transit (PART)

Project Description: Funding to convene and support a new interagency planning group to identify transportation challenges and enact initiatives to support transportation improvements for Guilford County's growing workforce and underserved communities.

Performance Update: This project is in the program development stage. More information on project activities and performance will be reported in future recovery plans.

Integrated Service Delivery

Funding Amount: $10,000,000

(supports multiple strategic priority areas – not included in section totals)

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County

Project Description: Across all strategic priority areas, Guilford County demonstrated a firm commitment to strengthening service delivery to support the County's most vulnerable residents. As a multidisciplinary funding priority, the County is seeking to improve integrated service delivery referrals, access, and sustained engagement of clients to improve the health, well-being, sustained recovery, and self-sufficiency of the County's most vulnerable residents.

The primary objectives for this project are:
- Develop and implement a strategy and governance plan to coordinate services and reduce duplication of services.
- Develop an integrated data system to support care coordination across County government and to more seamlessly integrate with our community partners who have already started their journey towards integrated data and integrated service delivery.
- Improve the systems of referrals, access, and sustained engagement with clients.

Performance Update:

On August 9, 2022, program and agency executives met in an Executive Design Think Tank Workshop to illustrate how the data integration project could help residents navigate social services in the county. Common themes identified the need to share client data across industries, and to support and guide clients through the overwhelming maze of services and requirements.

Guilford County is currently in the process of recruiting for an Integrated Services Director to lead the work of this initiative.

Learn More About the Program:
Come Together: $10M project could help Guilford residents access social services

Thank you to all of our program partners for their work implementing CSLFRF funded initiatives and their support in gathering information for this report.

Guilford County
2023 Recovery Plan