

**American Rescue Plan State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds First
Recovery Plan Performance Report-Dane County Wisconsin Through
July 31, 2024**

Executive Summary

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) was adopted by Congress on March 10, 2021. The ARP included approximately \$350 billion for the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds program. These funds were distributed directly to states, counties and municipalities with a population of 250,000 or more. Funds were distributed to smaller municipalities through each state. Dane county was allocated \$106,189,095 in funding under the American Rescue Plan State and Local Fiscal Assistance Fund. All funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024 and all funds must be fully expended by December 31, 2026.

As of July 31, 2024, the county has initially allocated the funds as follows:

Uses of Funds

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Provider</u>
Food Bank Support	\$24,229,495	Second Harvest Food Bank
Small business Assistance	\$14,129,706	Dane Buy Local, Inc.
Non-profit Assistance	\$5,000,000	Madison Community Foundation
Artist Direct Support	\$1,000,000	N/A
Expo Center Air Purification	\$1,032,350	N/A
Grass Roots Assistance	\$5,000,000	Various
School Based Mental Health	\$1,367,634	Various
Badger Needs Network Facility	\$2,500,000	BP Needs Network
Hotel Sheltering	\$14,216,673	N/A
Rehousing Initiative	\$13,200,000	N/A
Tiny House Village	\$500,000	Occupy Madison
Centro Hispano Facility	\$2,000,000	Centro Hispano
Food Pantry Aid Program	\$2,000,000	Various
K-12 Mental Health	\$530,000	Various

Eviction Prevention	\$750,000	Tenant Resource Center
Women’s Homeless Sheltering	\$93,200	Salvation Army
Homeless Outreach	\$993,580	Catalyst for Change
UV Air Filtration	\$194,917	Various
COVID Testing Etc.	\$123,062	Various
Violence Prevention	\$300,000	Public Health MDC
The River Food Pantry Fac.	\$1,500,000	The River Food Pantry
Domestic Violence Intervention Ser.	\$1,000,000	Domestic Violence Inter. Services, Inc.
Bayview Community Center	\$1,000,000	Bayview Foundation, Inc.
Extended Hands Pantry	\$425,000	Extended Hands Food Pantry
Solace Friends	\$100,000	Solace Friends
Verona Arts House	\$250,000	Arthouse 360, Inc.
Birth Cost Recovery Outreach	\$41,000	Office for Equity and Inclusion
Food System Planning	\$62,500	REAP
Homeless Services Initiatives	\$557,005	City of Madison
Government Services	\$12,092,973	N/A

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

The county has targeted most of its allocation of ARP funds to programs designed to address the unequal impact of the pandemic’s economic impact on lower income households. By funding programs to provide food security, non-congregate sheltering, small business support, school based mental health, and creative assistance to households, the county believes that expenditures of ARP funding will reach those most disadvantaged in our community.

Community Engagement

The county has a robust system of county board committees and commissions that assure through their public meeting processes that the community is informed and engaged in the initiatives funded with ARP dollars.

Labor Practices

The county has prioritized the application of its ARP allocation on services within the community over investments in infrastructure. So, specific labor practices have not been considered. Further, Wisconsin

law does not allow for many preferred labor practices by local governments such as prevailing wage requirements, living wage requirements, equal benefit requirements or project labor agreements.

Use of Evidence

The county is not pursuing evidenced based interventions.

Table of Expenditures

Below is a table of obligations and expenditures by expenditure category as of June 30, 2024.

	Obligated	Expended
Food Bank Assistance	\$24,229,495	\$20,332,266
Small Business Assistance	\$14,129,706	\$14,129,706
Aid to Non-Profit Organizations	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
Artist Support	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Capital Improvements to address COVID	\$1,032,347	\$1,032,347
Grassroots Assistance	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
Mental Health Services	\$1,367,634	\$1,303,158
Badger Needs Network	\$2,500,000	\$2,000,000
Vulnerable Population/Isolation Quarantine	\$14,216,673	\$14,216,674
Hotels to Housing Program	\$13,200,000	\$9,682,207
Tiny House Project	\$500,000	\$0
Centro Hispano Facility	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
Food Pantry Aid	\$2,000,000	\$1,846,827
K-12 Mental Health	\$530,000	\$199,800
Eviction Prevention Legal Services	\$750,000	\$437,058
Salvation Army Shelter	\$93,200	\$93,200
Homeless Outreach Services	\$993,580	\$520,150
UV Filtration	\$194,917	\$194,917
Pandemic Response	\$126,062	\$123,062
Public Health Violence Prev.	\$300,000	\$0
The River Food Pantry Expansion	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
Domestic Abuse Intervention Services	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Bayview Community Center	\$1,000,000	\$150,000
Extended Hands Pantry	\$425,000	\$187,241
Solace Friends	\$100,000	\$0
Verona Arts House	\$250,000	\$224,000
Birth Cost Recovery Outreach	\$41,000	\$0
Food System Planning	\$62,500	\$20,000
Homeless Services Initiatives	\$557,005	\$35,456
Provision of Government Services	\$12,092,973	\$9,925,394

Project Inventory

The following is a brief inventory and description of projects initiated or in process as of the report date.

Food Bank Support

The county has used ARP funds to continue its support of the Second Harvest Food Bank to address the growth in food insecurity caused by the pandemic. The county used CRF funding through 2020 and the first seven months of 2021 to support the food bank's purchase of food for distribution to local pantries. The county extended the effort with \$10 million contract beginning in August of 2021 at a rate of \$833,333 per month through July 2022. This contract was further extended by \$3.75 million to allow support of \$750,000 per month for September 2022 through December 2022. The county extended the contract by an additional \$6,000,000 in 2023 and by an additional \$4,479,495 in 2024.

Small Business Support

The county used ARP funds to assist local small businesses through a partnership with Dane Buy Local, Inc. (DBL). The county previously used \$14,800,000 of CRF funding through the same type of partnership with DBL. The \$14.129 million in ARP funding was awarded through an open grant program managed by DBL. It was open to any small business operating within the county. Approximately 3,200 businesses were assisted through the program with an average assistance grant of \$7,200. This project is complete.

Non-profit Assistance

The county used ARP funds to assist local non-profit organizations through a partnership with the Madison Community Foundation (MCF). The county dedicated \$5 million for this initiative. MCF managed a grant program to award funds to local non-profits that experienced a reduction in revenue or increased expenses as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. MCF used developed an online application and conducted two webinars to explain the program. The program assisted 183 organizations with an average assistance grant of \$25,000. This project is complete

Artist Direct Support

The county used \$1 million of ARP funds to assist local artists who were negatively impacted by the pandemic. Many local artists in both the visual and performing realms were negatively impacted by social distancing guidelines due to galleries and venues being closed. Grants of up to \$2,500 were made to individuals through an online application process. Applications were to be reviewed by a committee organized by the county's Office of Cultural Affairs. This project is complete.

Expo Center Air Purification

The county operates an exhibition center campus, the Alliant Energy Center. In order to improve safety for attendees of events at the center, the county invested \$1,032,350 for the installation of ionization air purification equipment at the various buildings at the campus. This project is complete

Grass Roots Assistance

The county is using \$5 million of ARP funds to make grants to local community organizations that provide direct assistance to low income households. The county solicited grant proposals. Minimum grant amounts were \$50,000. Approximately 60 grants were awarded with an average grant of \$75,000. The initial distribution of funds was made in the fourth quarter of 2021. Additional distributions were made in the second quarter of 2022. Final distributions were made through 2022. This project is complete.

School Based Mental Health

The county is using \$1.3 million to award grants to local school districts to augment district resources available to address mental health challenges experienced by students as a result of the COVID pandemic. This project is nearly complete.

Badger Needs Network Facility

The county is using \$2 million to assist the Badger Prairie Needs Network, Inc. to expand its facility. The facility serves as a major food pantry to the southwestern portion of Dane County. The expansion will augment their capability to address food insecurity through the pantry. The expansion will also allow for expansion of regular congregate meals. In addition, the space will be used in an emerging job training initiative involving local employers and the Latino Academy of Workforce Development, Latino Chamber of Commerce, Verona and Fitchburg Chambers of Commerce and others. The project broke ground in the Fall of 2021 and was completed in 2022. In 2024, the county will contribute \$500,000 to a food warehouse addition to the facility.

Hotel Sheltering

Beginning in April of 2020, the county initiated a robust non-congregate sheltering program for persons experiencing homelessness. Throughout the pandemic, this effort has housed nearly 300 individuals and families in local motels. The effort involves renting lodging rooms in local facilities, providing food, medical isolation, security and case management. The effort also provides an isolation and quarantine center for those who have tested positive or had a direct exposure to COVID-19. CRF funding was used to support the effort through June 2021. The effort using ARP funds continued for the vulnerable population services through September 2022. The isolation and quarantine services were continued through March 2023. Both of these efforts are now complete.

Rehousing Initiative

The county is using \$13.2 million over two years to launch and maintain a rehousing initiative to transition households experiencing into permanent housing through concerted case management services and rental subsidies. The effort has focused on households that have been housed in local hotels and may expand to other homeless households. Approximately 175 household have secured housing through the program. This project continues and will be completed in 2024.

Tiny House Project

The County Executive's budget included \$500,000 to fund a grant to a non-profit to support the establishment of an additional tiny house village. The funds will be awarded through a grant process in 2022.

As of June 30, 2024, the grant awardee has secured necessary zoning approval from the City of Madison and has commenced improvements to the facility.

Centro Hispano Project

The County Executive's budget included \$2,000,000 to contribute towards Centro Hispano's efforts to rehabilitate and modernize their facility on Badger Road in Madison. Centro provides a wide range of community services at its facility that are targeted to populations disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. As of June 2024, project construction is complete.

Food Pantry Aid

This program included \$2 million in funding that is being distributed to various local food pantries to assist with the purchase of food and enhancements to infrastructure such as racks, coolers, vehicles and other items to maintain and enhance services. This program will continue in 2024 and be completed by the end of 2024.

Building Bridges Expansion

The county has allocated \$500,000 per year for 2022-2024 to expand this popular school based mental health initiative. This project will be completed in 2024

Eviction Prevention Legal Services

In late September 2021, the County Board approve 2021 RES-115 which allocated \$50,000 to provide legal assistance to prevent evictions. In addition, the County Executive's 2022 budget included \$250,000 per year for 2022-2024 for this purpose. A request for proposals has been issued for a three year contract. The Tenant Resource Center was the successful respondent to the RFP. This project commenced in 2022 and is ongoing in 2024.

Salvation Army Sheltering

The County Executive's 2022 budget included \$93,200 for 2022 to assist the Salvation Army fund 24/7 operations if its women's shelter on East Washington Ave. in Madison. This project was completed in 2022.

Homeless Outreach

The County Executive's 2022 budget included \$300,000 per year for 2022-2024 for this purpose. A request for proposals was issued for a three year contract. This project commenced in 2022 and is ongoing and is ongoing in 2024.

UV Filtration

The county has allocated \$521,300 to install UV filtration systems at various county facilities. These systems provide protection from viral contagions within buildings by using UV light within the central air handling systems.

This initiative was approved in September 2021. This project is complete.

Pandemic Response

This program applied ARP resources for personal protective equipment and COVID-19 testing for county departments. This program was completed in 2023.

Public Health Violence Prevention

The county budgeted \$300,000 in 2022 to allow Public Health for Madison and Dane County to expand violence prevention initiatives. The funding will allow public health to strengthen violence prevention partnerships. The agreement between the county and public health was executed in 2024 and the effort will continue into 2025.

The River Food Pantry

The River Food Pantry is pursuing a replacement and expansion of their pantry facility on the north side of Madison. The 2023 county budget included \$1,500,000 to help support this project. As of June 30, 2024, the organization has demonstrated full funding for the project and funds have been disbursed.

Domestic Violence Intervention Services

The county's 2023 budget included a \$1,000,000 operating grant for Domestic Violence Intervention Services, Inc. (DAIS). During the pandemic DAIS saw an increase in service demands along with a reduction in community fundraising support. The grant allows them to continue sustained operations as the primary shelter in Dane County. As of June 2024, the agreement for this support had been approved and the funds disbursed.

Bayview Community Center

The county's 2024 budget allocated \$1 million to assist the Bayview Foundation to complete construction on its community center building. The agreement has been approved by the County Board and the project is scheduled to be completed by mid-2025.

Extended Hands Food Pantry

The county's 2024 budget included \$425,000 to assist Extended Hands Pantry with the purchase of food and infrastructure to help meet increased demand. The project is underway and will conclude by mid-2025.

Solace Friends

The county's 2024 budget included \$100,000 to assist Solace Friends to establish their facility on Monona Drive. The facility is dedicated to providing end of life housing and support for persons who have been experiencing homelessness.

Verona Arts House

The county's 2024 budget included \$250,000 to assist Arthouse 360 to convert a vacant school building in the City of Verona to a community arts center. The project is also supported by the City of Verona

along with various grants and donations. The rehabilitation of the building is nearing completion as of June 2024.

Birth Cost Recovery Outreach

The county's 2024 budget allocated \$41,000 in the county's Office for Equity and Inclusion to conduct outreach regarding the county's initiative to cease collection of Medicaid birth costs through the county's Child Support Agency. There are many cases at various stages of collection and this effort is designed to provide outreach to those who might carry a birth cost recovery debt to help refer them to the CSA to extinguish their debts.

Food Systems Planning

The COVID-19 pandemic showed that various elements of the food system in Dane County are in need of reinforcement. Forces such as the economic dislocation and supply chain disruptions experienced during the pandemic are being analyzed in an effort to anticipate current and future weaknesses in the system and method in which they might be addressed. The county's 2024 budget included \$62,500 to supplement grant funding to further this effort.

Homeless Services Initiatives

The county's 2024 budget included \$557,005 to assist the City of Madison on two areas of homeless services. A portion is dedicated to assist the city to continue operation of the temporary men's overnight shelter. The other portion is dedicated to assisting the city in the costs to operate the facilities at Dairy Drive.

Providing Government Services

The county experienced substantial losses in revenue due to the pandemic. Based on the formula in the Interim Final Rule, the county's losses total \$34,419,517 in fiscal year 2020. The County Board has authorized \$4,000,000 for information technology investments related to the pandemic under this permitted use. These investments will allow for the upgrade of county meeting rooms to facilitate hybrid meetings, fund licenses for Zoom meetings, offset costs for cybersecurity upgrades, purchase equipment to facilitate hybrid work arrangements, and the cost of an information technology staff position.

The county has allocated additional funding to support 911 center and Medical Examiner Office operations among support for other services.

Performance Report and Programmatic Data

Performance data is limited at this time. Future reports may include such data.