



# ARPA QUARTERLY UPDATE

MAY 20, 2024

# ARPA BACKGROUND

Award, Project Identification Process

# ARPA BACKGROUND

---

- The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) was signed into law in March 2021
- ARPA established the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CSLFRF)
- The U.S. Department of Treasury (Treasury) is the federal agency responsible for overseeing the implementation of the CSLFRF program
- On January 6, 2022, Treasury issued the Final Rule, which governs the eligible uses of CSLFRF
- CSLFRF or “ARPA” funds are also governed by Uniform Guidance, or the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, which is a framework for managing federal grants set by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget

# WHAT CAN ARPA BE SPENT ON?

---



Supporting public health expenditures and addressing negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency



Replacing lost public sector revenue by expending CSLFRF on general government services using either the \$10 million standard allowance, or the formula approach for pandemic revenue loss.



Providing premium pay for essential workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency. (category expired April 2023)



Making necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure

# CHATHAM'S ALLOCATION

---

- Allocated a total of **\$14,464,924**
- Grant period of March 3, 2021, to December 31, 2026
- **December 31, 2024, is the obligation deadline** – recipients must “obligate” or “incur expenses” to continue **spending until 2026**.
- States, schools, health departments received separate funds and many county departments have received pass-through ARPA funding from the State.
- Expenditures for ARPA must meet organization policies, NC law, federal law (uniform guidance), and be allowable under the grant

# CHATHAM'S ALLOCATION

---

- Allocated a total of **\$14,464,924**
  - **\$10,000 ARPA “Enabled”**
  - **\$4,464,924 “Straight ARPA”**
- Through the “Revenue Loss” category, Treasury allows recipients to claim the **“Standard Allowance”**.
- The “Standard Allowance” allows \$10M of an award to be used on “general government services:.”
- This pathway allowed the County to reimburse itself for salary and benefit costs for the Sheriff’s Office, Emergency Communications, and Emergency Management Staff.
- The \$10M reimbursement allowed the County to set aside \$10M of general fund dollars for use on ARPA projects without the same rules and regulations surrounding federal dollars.

# IDENTIFYING PROJECTS

---



Collaborative Impact  
Teams (CITs)



Public Input at Board of  
Commissioner  
Meetings



8 “Community  
Conversation” Sessions  
Across the County



Online Survey  
(Over 900 Responses)

# PUBLIC INPUT THEMES

Housing

Homelessness

Mental Health

Public Health

Education

Recreation

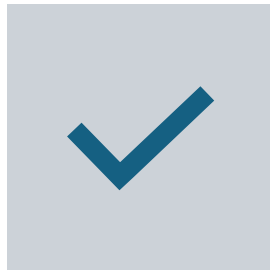
Broadband

Water & Sewer

Small Business  
Support



# PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA



**FEASIBILITY**



**TRANSFORMATIONAL**



**DISPARITY  
REDUCTION**



**FISCAL FORESIGHT**

# PRIORITIZED PROJECT LIST

High
Affordable Housing Development
ARPA Community Engagement
COVID-19 Detention Center Modifications
Diversion Programs
DSS Housing Assistance
Early Childhood Assessment
Emergency Housing Support
County Fiber Extension to Siler City
GREAT Grant Match
Homelessness Service Navigator
Housing Division
Nonprofit Grants
Parker's Ridge Park
Transitional Housing Units/Shelter
Staff Vaccine Incentive

Medium
Community Resource Location
Hydrant Repair Project
Domestic Violence Shelter
Public Health Response Needs
Compliance and Audit Costs

Low (Not Funded)
Justice Center A/V
Premium Pay
Septic Tank Repair Program
Wastewater Monitoring

Required
Audit and Compliance Costs

# ADDED PROJECTS/EXPENSES

---

- **CAB Grant matching funds \$2,500,000**
- **WEBB Squared contract for operationalizing inclusive economic development for BIPOC entrepreneurs through an entrepreneurial training program \$79,244**
- **United Way Admin Fee for Homelessness & Housing Instability Working Group \$14,950**
- **UNC Fellows Program Intern \$7,500**
- **Supplies/Computers for some ARPA funded positions \$4,013**

# PROJECT STATUSES

Completed, In-Progress, Not Started

# PROJECTS COMPLETED

---

- **Costs for community engagement meetings: \$1,365**
- **County employee Vaccine Incentive: \$72,917**
- **Early Childhood Assessment: \$100,000**
- **United Way Admin Fee for Homelessness & Housing Instability Working Group: \$14,950**
- **WEBB Squared Contract: \$79,244**
- *Substantially Complete: GREAT Grant Match: \$536,579*
- *Substantially Complete: UNC Fellows Program Intern: \$7,500*

# PROJECTS IN-PROGRESS

---

- **CAB Grant Match:** \$2,500,000
- **Diversion Programs Allocation:** \$500,000
  - Parenting Educator & Substance Abuse Counselor (Family Treatment Drug Court)
  - Reentry Case Manger (Recommended for FY 2025)
- **Nonprofit Grant Funding:** \$1,000,000
  - One award [\$59,115] requires reallocation
- **DSS Housing Assistance:** \$255,000
  - Emergency Housing Assistance Program (EHAP)
- **Housing Division:** \$1,000,000
  - Housing & Community Development Officer
  - Emergency Housing Coordinators (2)

# PROJECTS IN-PROGRESS (CIP)

---

- **Detention Center Buildout:** \$2,000,000
- **County Fiber Extension to Siler City:** \$1,000,000
  - Additional extension to Siler City Health building utilizing Health department grant funds
- **Parker's Ridge Park:** \$3,000,000
- **Hydrant Repair Project:** \$1,000,000
  - Purchasing some hydrants for repair by Utilities staff, majority of cost for outside vendor to repair hydrants

# PROJECTS NOT STARTED

---

- **Affordable Housing Development**  
\$1,000,000
- **DV Shelter** \$300,000
- **Homelessness Service Navigator**  
\$201,317
- **Transitional Supportive Housing  
Units/Shelter** \$500,000
- **Community Resource Location**
- **Compliance and Audit Costs**  
\$100,000
- **Public Health Response Needs  
(PPE)** \$100,000



# PROJECTS NOT STARTED

- **Affordable Housing Development**  
\$1,000,000
- **DV Shelter** \$300,000
- **Homelessness Service Navigator**  
\$201,317
- **Transitional Supportive Housing Units/Shelter** \$500,000

- Turnover slowed the development of these projects
- Discussed a housing shelter with Love Chatham. The nonprofit partnered with a private homebuilder.
- The amount allocated for shelters could support the purchase of a facility or assist with operational expenses but would result in long-term funding once ARPA ends (fiscal cliff).
- The Homelessness Service Navigator functions are incorporated into housing division duties.

# PROJECTS NOT STARTED

- Community Resource Location discussed, but funding was not allocated.
- Compliance and Audit Costs is something the County already pays for due to other federal awards.
- Public Health Response - the pandemic has waned over time. PPE can still be purchased or devices such as AEDs could also be put in place in county facilities.

- **Community Resource Location**
- **Compliance and Audit Costs**  
\$100,000
- **Public Health Response Needs**  
(PPE) \$100,000

# PROJECT STATUSES

Completed
ARPA Community Engagement
Early Childhood Assessment
GREAT Grant Match
Staff Vaccine Incentive
UNC Fellows Program Intern
Webb Squared Contract for inclusive economic development

In-Progress
CAB Grant Match
Diversion Programs
<i>Parenting Educator</i>
<i>Substance Abuse Counselor</i>
<i>Reentry Case Manager (FY 25 Rec.)</i>
DSS Housing Assistance
<i>EHAP Program</i>
Housing Division
<i>Housing &amp; Community Development Officer</i>
<i>Emergency Housing Coordinators (2)</i>
Nonprofit Grants
Detention Center Buildout
County Fiber Extension to Siler City
Parker's Ridge Park
Hydrant Repair Project

Not Started
Affordable Housing Development
Community Resource Location
Compliance and Audit Costs
DV Shelter
Homelessness Service Navigator
Public Health Response Needs
Transitional Supportive Housing

# PROJECT IMPACTS

Current Impacts, Expected Impacts

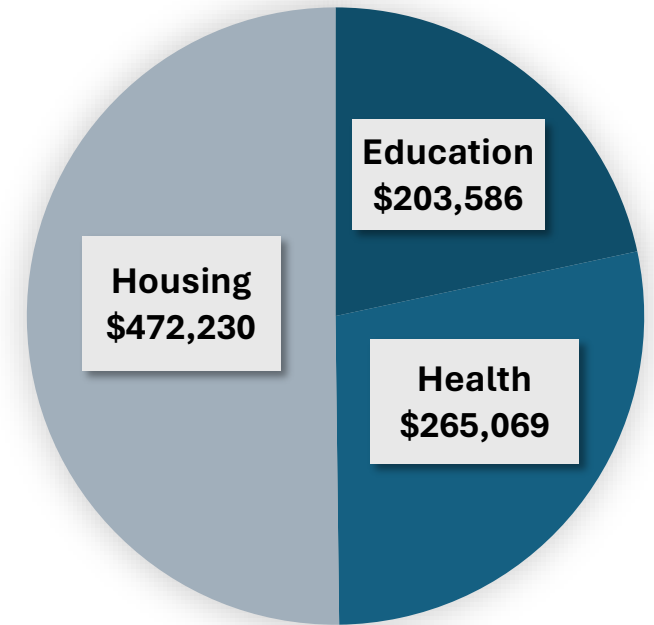
# PROJECT IMPACTS

---

- 407 employees participated in the vaccine incentive program.
- Partnership for Children conducted an early childhood community assessment and created an Early Childhood Action Plan for Chatham County.
- Through the NCDIT GREAT Grant, Chatham partnered with the State, AT&T, and BrightSpeed with plans to install fiber to 2,472 homes and 68 businesses.
- A UNC Fellows Graduate Student is working with DSS on housing programs and initiatives.
- Contracted with Webb Squared for operationalizing inclusive economic development for BIPOC entrepreneurs through an entrepreneurial training program
- Expanded diversion programs capacity through an additional Parenting Educator
- Substance Abuse Counselor tackling drug abuse in partnership with Schools
- Provided 1M dollars in additional funding to local nonprofits.

# NONPROFIT PROGRAMS

Agency/Program	Award
CPCA: Rapid Rehousing	\$41,908
Arts Council: Arts for Resilient Kids	\$49,804
Cares Community Pharmacy: Pharmacy Cares	\$27,848
Chatham Literacy: Transforming Lives Through ESOL	\$54,414
Partnership for Children: Early Learning Workforce Capacity	\$118,209
Partnership for Children: Empowering Parents as First Teachers	\$12,312
Partnership for Children: Strengthening Family Connections	\$9,796
Habitat for Humanity: Repair & Renovation Pilot Program	\$17,852
Outreach Alliance: CORA Food Pantry	\$71,401
Communities in Schools: Chatham F.I.R.S.T.	\$18,651
El Futuro: Child and Family Mental Health Treatment Program	\$44,779
Hispanic Liaison : Orgullo Latinx Pride Youth Program	\$23,332
Hispanic Liaison: Community Empowerment & COVID-19 Response	\$38,109
Love Chatham	\$54,749
United Way: Chatham Housing Collective (CHC)	\$357,721



- \$59,115 de-obligated.

# NONPROFIT PROGRAMS

---

## **Partnership for Children** *Empowering Parents as First Teachers*

- 3 weekly playgroups meeting in Pittsboro, Siler City and Bear Creek for 17 weeks.
- 48 caregivers attended playgroups.
- 67 children attended playgroups.

## **Partnership for Children** *Strengthening Family Connections*

- 14 classrooms participating in Raising a Reader Program.
- 202 children taking home high-quality books each week in the Raising a Reader program.
- Each month 1760 children have received a book from Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

## **Partnership for Children** *Rebuilding Early Learning Workforce Capacity*

- 2 teachers and 3 assistant teachers participated in the LENA Grow pilot and will be LENA certified.
- Classrooms in the pilot program have increased the average number of conversational turns children are engaging in throughout the day.
- 15 students in the pilot program, another 64 in the next iteration.

# NONPROFIT PROGRAMS

---

## **Communities In Schools**

*Youth F.I.R.S.T. (Finding Integrated Resources for Students Together)*

- 15/16 have met or made progress toward their attendance goal (94%).
- 29/33 have met or made progress toward their coursework goal (88%).
- 51 total students have been matched with a caring adult through mentoring, lunch buddies, reading buddies, and tutors.

## **Love Chatham**

*Love Chatham*

- Has not utilized ARPA dollars yet but have been working towards utilization.
- Started a transitional housing program and are serving 4 women and 2 children.
- Operating a White Flag Shelter over winter.

## **United Way**

*Chatham Housing Collective*

- Weekly meetings of service providers to discuss systems and client cases.
- New technical support and capacity building grant secured, leveraging ARPA funding as local match.
- Funded a Full Time Street Outreach Coordinator (increased from part-time).
- Systems mapping to identify gaps in programming.



# NONPROFIT PROGRAMS

---

## **Chatham Outreach Alliance (CORA)** *Food Pantry*

- 166 children served.
- 21,779 meals distributed.

## **El Futuro** *Child and Family Mental Health Treatment Program*

- Total number of Latino clients served: 218.
- Total number of treatment sessions provided: 851.
- Number of clients served by case management services: 24.
- Number of referrals made by case management services: 64.

## **Chatham County Literacy Council** *Transforming Lives Through ESOL*

- Chatham Literacy was honored as the Small Business of the Year in 2022 (award presented in 2023) by NC Vocational Rehabilitation.
- Chatham Literacy is piloting Spanish Literacy, for individuals not literate in their native Spanish language.

# NONPROFIT PROGRAMS

---

## Central Piedmont Community Action

### *Rapid Rehousing Breaking Barriers*

- Housed 23 households of the 32 that were enrolled in the RRH program from July 2023 - December 2023.
- Engaged 2 new landlords who have agreed to work with our RRH program.
- Served 57 individuals.

## Habitat for Humanity

### *Repair & Renovation Pilot Program*

- 5 total home preservation projects completed.
- Partnering with Aging Services and RTT to support homeowners.

## Arts Council

### *Arts for Resilient Kids*

- Utilizing funds to support and expand their Arts for Resilient Kids Program

# NONPROFIT PROGRAMS

---

## **Hispanic Liaison Community Empowerment & COVID-19 Response**

- 294 adults and children were vaccinated against COVID and/or the flu.
- 274 people received \$20 gift cards for getting vaccinated, totaling \$5,480 distributed in cash incentives to low-income families.
- Distributed 8,544 test kits, 4,236 masks, and 3,748 educational flyers
- 112 poultry plant workers received \$600 each in COVID financial relief funds.

## **Hispanic Liaison Orgullo Latinx Pride Youth Program**

- Increased program enrollment from 75 to 81 youth.
- 94% (76 youth) are on track to advance to the next grade level or graduate from high school.
- Offered 200 hours of weekly after-school programming and tutoring.
- Offered 120 hours of individualized academic and social-emotional coaching.

## **Chatham Cares Community Pharmacy Pharmacy Cares**

- Served 183 unique clients during July to December.
- Filled 3,173 prescriptions in over 526 visits to the pharmacy.
- Assisted 18 new clients to the pharmacy.

# EHAP IMPACTS

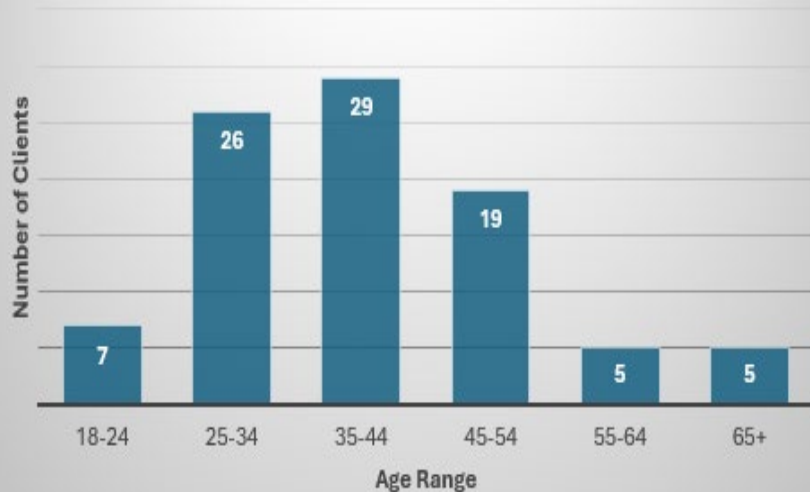
- DSS EHAP Program
- Through January 2024, **96** households approved for program.
  - **\$148,745** spent, average of **\$1,549 per family**.
  - Project Budget at **66%**
- Clients experienced difficulties in keeping up with rent due to:
  - Increases in cost of rent
  - Being cost-burdened by rent (notably for those who are on a fixed income)
  - Job loss or jobs that have periods of no pay (i.e. school-system jobs)
  - Unforeseeable extenuating circumstances (i.e. hospitalizations, death in family, car issues)
  - Having to take time off work for childcare

# EHAP IMPACTS (cont.)

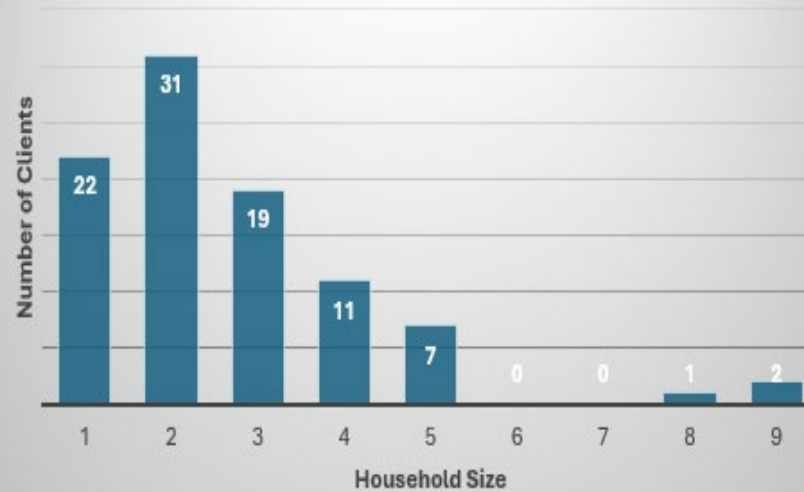
## Average Program Satisfaction:

Scale of 1 (strongly dissatisfied) to 5 (strongly satisfied): **4.92**

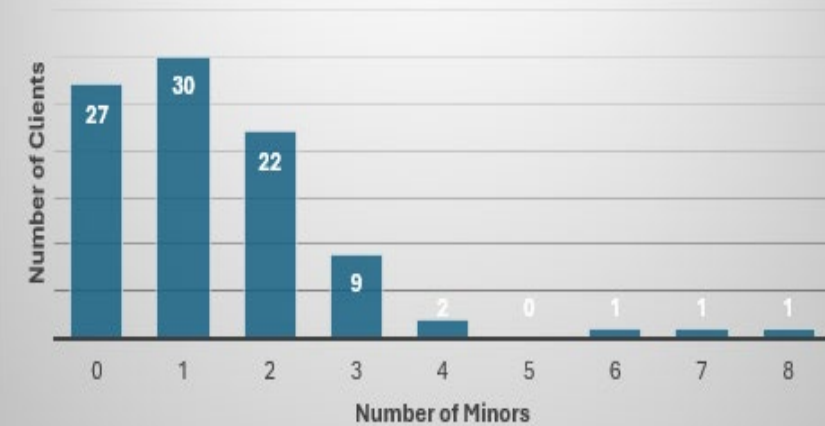
### Clients by Age Group



### Clients by Household Size

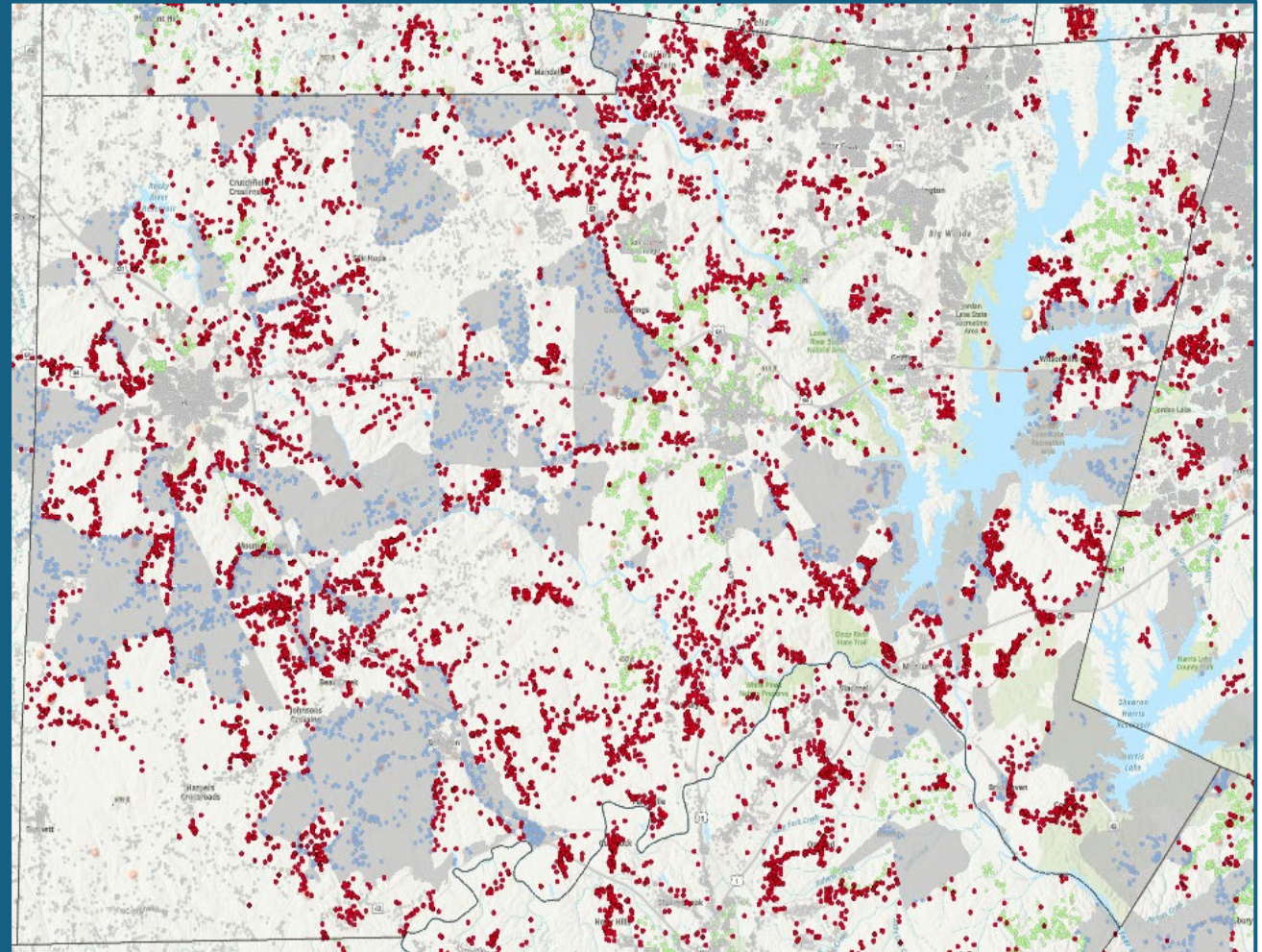


### Number of Minors in Client Household



# CAB IMPACT

- As part of the Completing Access to Broadband (CAB) program, the County intends to contribute **\$2,500,000** in matching funds to NCDIT.
  - The 35% match provided can result in a max total project cost of \$7,142,857.
  - This project, larger than the GREAT Grant, should provide broadband to even more households and businesses.



*CAB Eligible Locations*

# **EXPENDITURES**

Jan-Mar 24 Expenditures, Projected Expenses

# EXPENDITURES JAN-MAR 2024

---

- Personnel: **\$98,614**
  - Housing Division
    - *Community Development Manager*
    - *Emergency Housing Coordinators*
  - Diversion Programs Positions
    - *Parenting Counselor*
    - *Substance Abuse Counselor*
- DSS Emergency Housing Assistance Program (EHAP): **\$32,792**
- **Total: \$131,406**



# PROJECTED EXPENDITURES

“Straight” ARPA Projected	\$4,725,848
CAB Grant Match (Straight)	\$2,000,000
CIP: Hydrant Repair Project	\$1,000,000
Housing Division Positions	\$751,109
Diversion Programs Positions	\$675,457
DSS Housing Assistance	\$225,000
Vaccine Incentive	\$72,917
Community Engagement for ARPA	\$1,365

ARPA “Enabled” Projected	\$8,183,171
CIP: Parker's Ridge Park	\$3,000,000
CIP: Detention COVID-19 Facility Modifications	\$2,000,000
CIP: Expansion of Fiber Network to Siler City	\$1,000,000
Nonprofit Grants	\$940,885
Great Grant Match	\$536,579
CAB Grant Match (Enabled)	\$500,000
Early Childhood Assessment	\$100,000
Webb Squared Contract	\$79,244
Homelessness & Housing Instability Working Group	\$14,950
UNC Fellows Program	\$7,500
Computers/Supplies for ARPA Positions	\$4,013

- Projected to spend 100% of “Straight” ARPA funds based on current projects.
- Projected to have **\$1.8M** remaining in ARPA “Enabled”
- Projects Not Started: **\$1.9M**
  - Not including Compliance Costs and Homelessness Service Navigator

# **NEXT STEPS**

Obligation Deadline, Remaining Funds

# Obligation Deadline

---

- Treasury has eased their restrictions for the Obligation Deadline (December 31, 2024)
  - Salaries and Benefits are currently allowed to be expended after the deadline as long as a position is filled by December.
- However...
  - The Obligation Final Rule has not been released.
  - A group of U.S. Senators has proposed an act to not allow counties to spend on personnel costs and reduce overall flexibility in spending after the obligation deadline.
    - NCACC believes there may not be enough votes, but changes to flexibilities are possible.

# Remaining Funds

---

- If the current rules around the Obligation Deadline hold, then the County will be able to fully expend “straight” ARPA dollars by the December 31, 2026 spending deadline.
- As for ARPA “enabled” funds, there is a projected \$1.8M remaining.
- Potential Options for utilizing remaining funds:
  - Support projects that have not been started.
  - Support housing initiatives through the Housing Trust Fund.
  - Support DSS EHAP program above the \$225,000 allocated for the project.
  - *Ideally, utilization of the remaining funds should go towards projects that align with themes heard from public input and the goals of the ARPA program.*