



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service
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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: *September 17, 2024*

DATE: Thursday, September 12, 2024

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Gabrielle Enfield, Community Reinvestment Manager
Office of the County Manager
genfield@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager
kathomas@washoecounty.gov

SUBJECT: Reconsideration of the approval to allocate American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) in the total amount of [\$3,197,900], for the following 12 projects awarded to government entities or nonprofit organizations created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes:

1. Tenancy Support Program providing case management for tenancy support and a shallow rental assistance subsidy to move people into independent housing and keep them stably housed, in the amount of \$790,000
2. Sheriff Office Staffing Study - Staffing study designed to determine the recommended commissioned and civilian staffing levels needed to create a safe facility for both the staff manning the proposed new 240 bed medical facility and the inmate population, in the amount of \$89,900
3. Community Art and Washoe Artrail in support of a Washoe ArTrail digital application to include an interactive augmented experience and the Gerlach trailhead art, in the amount of \$200,000. The funds will be used to commission and install art pieces in the Washoe County region including but not limited to, the Washoe Artrail, murals, and arts at Washoe County parks
4. Seven Magic Mountains – Relocation and Install, to support the relocation of the Seven Magic Mountains, large-scale site-specific public art installation from its current location south of the Las Vegas Strip along Interstate 15, to a location in Washoe County by the end of 2026, in the amount of \$500,000 and approve Resolution R23-181
5. Communities in Schools, in support of the expansion of the CIS program into four middle schools, in the amount of \$238,000 and approve Resolution R23-176. Communities in Schools (CIS) operates in 13 schools across Washoe County to provide an evidence-based, success-proven methodology for providing students with the services

AGENDA ITEM # _____

and resources they need to remove both academic and nonacademic barriers to their success.

6. Notables Accessibility, bridges the gaps between disability services, education, mental health, and the arts by providing innovative music therapy and inclusive music opportunities to the community. Award will improve accessibility by supporting window coverings, solar panels, ADA compliant doors and furniture to enhance therapeutic experience for all participants in their facility, in the amount of \$305,000 and approve Resolution R23-180
7. Courage House, to support Courage Worldwide bringing a Courage House to Northern Nevada supporting victims of sex trafficking and offering the most vulnerable children a refuge with trauma and survivor informed residential therapy, award will support purchase of a property in Washoe County where services will be provided in the amount of \$250,000 and approve Resolution R23-178
8. Truckee River Rangers, to expand the consistency of patrols, programming, and citizen engagement along the Truckee River Corridor in the amount of \$200,000 and approve Resolution 23-177
9. Northern Nevada Literacy Council, to support the continuation of the work of providing literacy programs and career pathways for 40 adult learners ages 16-24 leading to career pathways with sustainable living wages, in the amount of \$100,000 and approve Resolution 23-179
10. Rebuilding Together Northern Nevada, to support 20 households to be pre-qualified with home repairs and a site feasibility project in Gerlach, in the amount of \$75,000 and approve Resolution R23-183
11. Family Respite Care of Nevada, supporting children residing in Washoe County who are in foster or post-adoption care, in the amount of \$50,000 and approve Resolution R23-182
12. Tahoe Area Regional Transportation, in support of another year of improving alternative transportation options compared to personal vehicles and reducing congestion and improve traffic flow by reducing vehicles on the road, in the amount of \$400,000

Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

On August 20, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners voted to approve the allocation of ARPA-SLFRF to the 12 listed recipients. This matter comes before the Board on a request for reconsideration of that approval.

Washoe County has worked to identify community-based initiatives and regional programs to support community members in recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The 12 projects named in this report represent a \$3,197,900 investment in public health, children, housing security, and economic development in the community. Projects were selected in accordance with Washoe County strategic goals and objectives, Board ARPA-SLFRF Guiding Principles,

and ARPA-SLFRF eligibility. The Board of County Commissioners have authority to approve new ARPA projects over \$500,000 and approve sub-granting of funds to nonprofit organizations and governmental entities in accordance with NRS 244.1505.

This report represents the allocation of the majority of the remaining ARPA-SLFRF funds received by Washoe County. Additional allocations will be submitted to the Board of County Commissioner for approval on September 10, 2024. County has reserved a modest contingency of the remaining SLFRF funds for potentially necessary amendments until the Treasury's obligation deadline of December 31, 2024.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Fiscal Sustainability, Economic Impacts, Vulnerable Populations, and Innovative Services

PREVIOUS ACTION

On August 20, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners approved allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) in the total amount of [\$3,197,900], for the following 12 projects awarded to government entities or nonprofit organizations created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes:

1. Tenancy Support Program, in the amount of \$790,000
2. Sheriff Office Staffing Study, in the amount of \$89,900
3. Community Art and Washoe Artrail, in the amount of \$200,000.
4. Seven Magic Mountains, in the amount of \$500,000
5. Communities in Schools, in the amount of \$238,000
6. Notables Accessibility, in the amount of \$305,000
7. Courage House, in the amount of \$250,000
8. Truckee River Rangers, in the amount of \$200,000
9. Northern Nevada Literacy Council, in the amount of \$100,000
10. Rebuilding Together Northern Nevada, in the amount of \$75,000
11. Family Respite Care of Nevada, in the amount of \$50,000
12. Tahoe Area Regional Transportation, in the amount of \$400,000

On June 25, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners approved a modification to an existing project titled Second Judicial District Court – Family Peace Center changing the Family Peace Center Coordinator position which was funded part-time to a full-time position. This resulted in a net-zero impact.

On May 28, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners approved the subaward with resolution for a newly funded ARPA project for the Emergency Eviction Prevention Program of Nevada (EEPPN) for \$200,000 to assist 300-320 households at risk of homelessness through housing stabilization advisory and resource navigation, preservation of rental history and preservation of relationships between landlords and tenants.

April 23, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners approved additional allocations in the amount of \$326,696 for a total amended award of \$451,696 to the following existing projects amendments: Behavioral Health Crisis Response plan; to support a coalition of community

partners and facilitation of strategic planning and implementation of a sequential intercept model (SIM) in Washoe County and implementation and transition for the behavioral health crisis response system project management to Washoe County.

On March 19, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners approved additional allocations in the amount of \$303,197; to the following new projects, Human Services Agency GenArete Pilot Program (\$49,500), which will utilize a dynamic tool to create high quality, individualized learning plans for children with developmental disabilities; Permanent Supportive Housing – Supportive Services Needs Assessment (\$28,000), which will provide funds to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment for supportive services in Northern Nevada; and approved an increased allocation to the previously approved project: for the District Attorney’s Office – Court Case Backlog Personnel Workstations by \$225,697 for a total of \$616,429 to cover fire and seismic requirements as well as increased construction costs.

For all Board of County Commissioner actions related to the American Rescue Plan Act Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds between July 20, 2021 through July 2024 visit the [Washoe County ARPA webpage](#).

BACKGROUND

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law, and established the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. Washoe County was awarded a grant of \$91,587,038 in State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF).

New ARPA-Funded Projects

| Housing and Homeless Services | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|-----------|----------------------|
| | Tenancy Support Program | \$790,000 | Approval Recommended |
| Description: | This program will provide case management for tenancy support and a shallow rental assistance subsidy to move people into independent housing and keep them stably housed until their name comes up on the Housing Authority Assistance wait list freeing up capacity the in the shelters. Clients will pay 30% of their income until they transfer to a Housing Authority program. The funds will be used to pay for contracted or temporary case management staffing and to pay shallow rental assistance subsidies for individuals on fixed-extremely low incomes to enable people to be housed. This program will provide significant cost savings to the community by keeping clients stably housed and keeping them out of the shelter, criminal justice and emergency medical systems. | | |
| Category | 2.16: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons | | |

| Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) | | | |
|--|---|----------|----------------------|
| | SO Staffing Study - Infirmery | \$89,900 | Approval Recommended |
| Description: | These funds will be used to support a staffing study designed to determine the recommended commissioned and civilian staffing levels needed to create a safe facility for both the staff manning the proposed new 240 bed medical facility and the inmate population. | | |
| Category | 3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery | | |

| Nevada Museum of Art | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------|----------------------|
| | Seven Magic Mountains - Relocation & Install | \$500,000 | Approval Recommended |
| Description: | <p>The large-scale site-specific public art installation by internationally renowned Swiss artist Ugo Rondinone, Seven Magic Mountains, will need to move from its current location ten miles south of the Las Vegas Strip along Interstate 15 by the end of 2026. Moving Seven Magic Mountains is required to make way for a major Harry Reid International Airport expansion. Comprised of seven towers of colorful, stacked boulders carved from Nevada limestone and standing more than thirty feet high, Seven Magic Mountains is "an expression of human presence in the landscape." Seven Magic Mountains was produced by the Nevada Museum of Art and Art Production Fund at a cost of \$3.5 million and opened on May 11, 2016. Due to its popularity and the significant international attention Seven Magic Mountains continues to garner; the artist has expressed a desire to explore opportunities to keep the artwork in the state of Nevada. Currently, Seven Magic Mountains receives more than 1,000 visitors daily and has become a colorful visual icon for Nevada. However, the sculpture must find a new home. This presents a unique opportunity for the Nevada Museum of Art to partner with Washoe County to: 1) Identify a new home for the installation within Washoe County, 2) Financially support the deinstallation, transportation, and installation of the sculpture in Washoe County prior to December 2026, and 3) Along with other governmental entities increase cultural tourism in the region.</p> | | |
| Resolution | R23-181 | | |
| Category | 2.34: Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted) | | |

| Courage Worldwide | | | |
|--------------------------|--|-----------|----------------------|
| | Courage House | \$250,000 | Approval Recommended |
| Description: | <p>Courage Worldwide has been meeting the unique needs of minor victims of sex trafficking since 2010 in their trauma and survivor informed residential therapeutic safe houses called Courage House. Courage House is not just a structure or a building, a program or approach; it is a place where hope is given, healing is offered and lives are restored. This program offers a comprehensive, culturally relevant, holistic approach, encompassing each resident's own unique physical, mental, emotional and spiritual needs. Each campus is a safe house - a community where survivors can learn how to have and participate in health relationships - which are critical to their healing and future. Due to the severe lack of safe houses and resources for this vulnerable population in Nevada, this funding will support Courage Worldwide to bring a Courage House to Northern Nevada offering our most vulnerable children a safe place to heal. A property for the home has been identified for this facility. The plan is for this facility to open early to mid 2025. This award will support the purchase of a property in Washoe County where services will be provided.</p> | | |
| Resolution | R23-178 | | |
| Category | 2.34: Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted) | | |

| City of Reno | | | |
|---------------------|--|-----------|----------------------|
| | Truckee River Rangers | \$200,000 | Approval Recommended |
| Description: | <p>The City of Reno Park/River Rangers purpose is “To ensure a high quality of life and sense of community by providing a safer and more enjoyable environment for all visitors to our parks and recreational facilities.” This funding would expand consistency of patrols, programming, and citizen engagement along the Truckee River Corridor by increasing patrol frequency along the path through additional staffing, increasing program activation in River Parks and Plazas, ensuring better cleanliness through receptacle changes and resource engagement, connecting human services to individuals in need, and supporting special events in downtown park and river spaces.</p> | | |
| Resolution | R23-177 | | |
| Category | 3.1: Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers | | |

| Northern Nevada Rave Family Foundation | | | |
|---|---|----------|-------------------------|
| | Family Respite Care of Nevada | \$50,000 | Approval Recommended |
| Description: | This funding will be specifically aimed at supporting children residing in Washoe County who are in foster or post-adoption care. In FY24, Family Respite Care served 83 foster children and 19 post-adoption children. For FY25, they aim to serve a minimum of 102 children in these categories. The data collection shows a significant increase in demand for our services over the years and the requested \$50,000 will be used to cover the enrollment costs and 30% of the service costs for these children, ensuring that services can continue without imposing fees on families, which would otherwise pose a significant barrier to many. | | |
| Resolution | R23-182 | | |
| Category | 3.4: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery | | |

AMENDMENTS

| Office of the County Manager | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|------------------------|
| | Arts and Culture | \$300,000 (original) | Approved 07-11-2023 |
| Description: | Washoe Arts and Culture funds will support the enhancement of arts and culture in Washoe County through purchasing art installations and hosting community outreach. The funds will be used to commission and install art pieces in the Washoe County region including but not limited to, the Washoe ArTrail, murals, and arts at Washoe County parks. | | |
| Amendment: | Additional Funding for Washoe Artrail to support an augmented reality experience to enhance community participation in the Artrail, and Gerlach trailhead art. | \$200,000 | Recommend Approval |
| Description: | Funds will be used to create an augmented reality experience along the Washoe Artrail to encourage and enhance participation at the 20 identified artistic, cultural and historic sites along the 200-mile Artrail experience. Additionally, funding will be used to complete the final Artrail trailhead art in the Gerlach area. | | |
| | Total Project Costs | \$500,000 | |

| Communities in Schools of Western Nevada | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------|------------------------|
| | Integrated Student Supports in Washoe County | \$740,512 (original) | Approved 12-13-2022 |
| Description: | As a result of the pandemic, the need for mental health services, social-emotional health, and trauma-informed practices has significantly increased for Washoe County students. Communities in Schools (CIS) operates in 13 schools across Washoe County to provide Integrated | | |

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| | <p>Student Supports (ISS). ISS is an evidence-based, success-proven methodology for providing students with the services and resources they need to remove both academic and nonacademic barriers to their success. The wraparound services include social-emotional learning opportunities, hunger prevention, physical and mental health services, before and after-school tutoring, and college and career readiness programs. Washoe County support services including Child Protective Services, Housing and Homeless Services, Juvenile Services, the Sheriff's Office, and Human Service Agency collaborate with Site Coordinators to provide a "community in the school". The funding would provide partial funding for 17 Site Coordinators who will support over 9,000 students with school-wide services and about 650 students with direct case management each year.</p> | | |
| Amendment: | Additional funding to support the expansion of the CIS program into four middle schools. | \$238,000 | Recommend Approval |
| Description: | <p>The additional funds will support the expansion of the program into four new middle schools in Washoe County for the 2024-2025 school year. This expansion would partially fund the salaries of seven Site Coordinators to schools not receiving services. These funds will ensure over 4,000 students have access to the support and services they need to succeed in and outside school. Through the program model, Site Coordinators can refer students across schools, share notes and student history with new Site Coordinators, and provide continued relational support for students from when they walk into their kindergarten room to when they walk across the graduation stage.</p> | | |
| Resolution: | R23-176 | | |
| | Total Project Costs | | \$978,512 |

| Note-Able Music Therapy Services | | | |
|---|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| | Addressing Community Health Needs through Expansion of Music Therapy Services | \$255,506 (original) | Approved 12-13-2022 |
| Description: | <p>Note-Able Music Therapy Services (NMTS) bridges the gaps between disability services, education, mental health, and the arts by providing innovative music therapy and inclusive music opportunities to the community. Services are provided by board-certified and state licensed music therapists and instructors specializing in adaptive music and dance. Funds will help the organization expand to serve the residents of Washoe County in two ways: 1) by assisting with building renovation through the purchase of acoustic ceiling tiles to provide crucial soundproofing of spaces, and 2) by supporting staff to facilitate music therapy and adaptive music groups for children, adults, and seniors in partnership with local agencies.</p> | | |
| Amendment: | Additional funding to support music therapy services infrastructure to make it ADA compliant. | \$305,000 | Recommend Approval |

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|--------------|---|--|------------------|
| Description: | Additional funding to support the following: 1) high quality window coverings throughout the building to assist with both HIPAA compliance (blocking street view of sessions), environmental control (blocking sun), and sensory processing issues (minimizing distractions for participants with sensory challenges). 2) installation of new solar panels to increase building efficiency and sustainability, 3) purchase of sensory-friendly, ADA-accessible furniture and wall/classroom items to enhance the therapeutic experience for all participants, and 4) installation of ADA accessible doors and hardware for the back entrance to the building. All of these items will help increase the quality of our services along with enhancing accessibility, safety, and sustainability. | | |
| Resolution | R23-180 | | |
| | Total Project Costs | | \$560,506 |

| Northern Nevada Literacy Council | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------|------------------------|
| | Washoe County Literacy Project | \$345,485 (original) | Approved 12-13-2022 |
| Description: | Northern Nevada Literacy Council provides Adult Basic Education (ABE) programs addressing the literacy needs of Washoe County residents. The NNLC Washoe County Literacy Project will offer the following literacy programs at no cost to participants: High School Equivalency Classes and examination preparation, English Literacy Classes, Citizenship Classes, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Out-of-School Youth Program, Family Literacy Program, and Literacy Assessments. | | |
| Amendment: | Additional funding to support the continuation of the work of providing literacy programs. | \$100,000 | Recommend Approval |
| Description: | Additional funding to support the continuation of the work of providing literacy programs and career pathways for 40 adult learners ages 16-24 leading to career pathways with sustainable living wages. | | |
| Resolution | R23-179 | | |
| | Total Project Costs | | \$445,485 |

| Rebuilding Together Northern Nevada | | | |
|--|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| | Senior and Veteran Housing Rehabilitation | \$200,000 (original) | Approved 7-18-2023 |
| Description: | ReBuilding Together Northern Nevada (RTNNV) provides housing rehabilitation and repair services for vulnerable community members. RTNNV uses a set of 360 specifications for common repairs to assess health and safety hazards in homes. These funds prioritize homes of low-income veterans and individuals 60 years and older who may need ramp installation, roof repairs, energy efficiency upgrades, accessibility modifications, etc. Funding will support approximately 20 to 25 home repairs in the community. | | |

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|----------------------------|--|------------------|--------------------|
| Amendment: | Additional funding to support housing rehabilitation and repair services for vulnerable community members. | \$75,000 | Recommend Approval |
| Description: | Additional funding to support an additional 20 households, and Gerlach specific outreach & assessment. | | |
| Resolution | R23-183 | | |
| Total Project Costs | | \$275,000 | |

| Tahoe Area Regional Transportation | | | |
|---|--|----------------------|--------------------|
| | Tahoe Micro Transit – TART Connect | \$400,000 (original) | Approved 7-18-2023 |
| Description: | The North Lake Tahoe Micro Transit Program has been a pilot program since 2021 that provides on-demand shuttle services for the Incline Village and Crystal Bay communities with a focus on local workforce commuters to alleviate parking congestion in the area. The funding will support additional service operation in Zone 3 serving Incline Village and Crystal Bay which accounts for nearly 40% of the regional ridership for the Micro Transit Program. The funds will allow the shuttles to operate for 14 hours during Fall and Spring (an increase from 4-6 hours previously) and maintain 16 hours per day during summer and fall. | | |
| Amendment: | Additional funding to support TART alternative transportation options, for an additional year. | \$400,000 | Recommend Approval |
| Description: | Additional funding to support a second year of the Tahoe Micro Transit program implemented by TART to improve alternative transportation options compared to personal vehicles or traditional single occupancy transportation networking companies through competitive or reduced travel times, convenience, cost effectiveness and improved overall trip experience. This will reduce congestion and improve traffic flow by reducing vehicles on the road and implement a free to the rider micro transit service in coordination with TART free to the rider fixed route service. | | |
| Total Project Costs | | \$800,000 | |

FISCAL IMPACT

The total fiscal impact of this allocation is \$3,197,900. Should the board approve this project as submitted, no additional budget adjustments are necessary.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation, in accordance with NRS 244.1505, to approve allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) in the total amount of [\$3,197,900], approve associated resolutions, and authorize the County Manager to sign necessary award documents, for the following 12

projects awarded to government entities or nonprofit organizations created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes:

1. Tenancy Support Program providing case management for tenancy support and a shallow rental assistance subsidy to move people into independent housing and keep them stably housed, in the amount of \$790,000
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11. Family Respite Care of Nevada, supporting children residing in Washoe County who are in foster or post-adoption care, in the amount of \$50,000 and approve Resolution R23-182
12. Tahoe Area Regional Transportation, in support of another year of improving alternative transportation options compared to personal vehicles and reducing congestion and improve traffic flow by reducing vehicles on the road, in the amount of \$400,000

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: *"move to approve to approve allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) in the total amount of [\$3,197,900], approve associated resolutions, and authorize the County Manager to sign necessary award documents, for the following 12 projects awarded to government entities or nonprofit organizations created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes:*

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