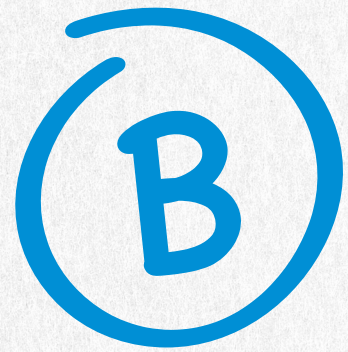


SAN DIEGO COUNTY



HIGHLIGHTS: San Diego County has acted swiftly to allocate its ARPA funds to provide a range of services with an equity lens. However, the county has fallen short in continuing to adequately and transparently communicate and engage with its communities in the SLFRF decisions.

Total ARPA SLFRF allocated: **\$648,431,468**

First tranche received in 2021: **\$308,420,471.5**



CATEGORY	BEST EFFORTS	GAPS AND LIMITATIONS	GRADE
Use of Funds	<p>As of February 2022, San Diego County has adopted a robust ARPA spending framework for the entire SLFRF allocation and has spent or allocated significant funds towards ongoing COVID-19 responses, mental health, food, housing, homelessness assistance, childcare, broadband, grants to non-profits and small business, and direct cash assistance to low-income communities.</p> <p>The county also prioritizes working with hundreds of community health workers and navigators to serve communities in 26 languages and 6 regions.</p>	<p>The county did allocate significant SLFRF towards supporting personnel in the criminal-legal system through payroll, benefits, and premium pay, missing the opportunity to pilot or fund community-based, non-punitive public health and mental health responses.</p>	
Promoting Racial Equity	<p>The county aims to prioritize racial and gender equity in its fund use. For example, its housing programs prioritize services to unhoused LGBTQ+ individuals.</p> <p>Particularly, the county is using the Healthy Place Index (HPI) to prioritize underserved neighborhoods. There is a specific emphasis on testing with the South region of the County which has been disproportionately affected by COVID-19 and has a high Latino/a/x population.</p>	<p>The county fell short in leveraging its ARPA funds to address systemic racial and social inequities across programs and beyond its COVID-19 efforts.</p> <p>It is worthwhile for the county to incorporate community lived experience, stories and expertise to compliment the use of a quantitative data tool like the HPI.</p>	

CATEGORY	BEST EFFORTS	GAPS AND LIMITATIONS	GRADE
Community Engagement	In March 2021, the county hosted five virtual community workshops to solicit input from the public on ARPA funds. These workshops were interpreted in Arabic, Chinese, Filipino, Spanish, and Vietnamese and reached a total of 386 individuals. The county also proposed to further connect with various stakeholders through public meetings, focus groups, and print and online media.	Despite the county's initial efforts in March 2021, it is unclear how communities, especially directly impacted communities and non-profit organizations have been able to continue to engage with the county's ARPA spending decisions and progress.	
Transparency, Accessibility and Accountability	The county posted its 2021 recovery plan and a spending framework through the auditor's page.	The county did not set up a dedicated webpage to share ARPA reports and information. It is unclear how the public can locate this information, or further provide comments or input for the county's decisions.	

RELEVANT LINKS

- County website: www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/auditor/reports.html
- 2021 Recovery Plan Performance Report: www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/auditor/pdf/2021COSDRRecoveryPlanPerformanceReport.pdf
- 2021 Interim Report: apps-treas.my.salesforce.com/sfc/p/t0000000TZbC/a/t00000001emYv/uw0Jj1W5bK6s3yvK70O6Q6JTq96_c2Y9ZEvSyDgUabo
- 2022 January Project and Expenditure Report: app.box.com/s/c7eu4e7tbbcb2z5kwtm5qltd7bwn4sbl
- County ARPA framework: www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/auditor/pdf/COSDARPAFramework.pdf

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) Scorecard for San Diego County

For more information, visit www.CPEHN.org/ARPAscorecards



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HEALTH NETWORK**