

# STANISLAUS COUNTY

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Stanislaus County has developed broad categories for SLFRF uses heavily focused on infrastructure and economic development, although specific projects are yet to be developed as of early 2022. The county did not have any explicit or overarching racial and social equity framework across its ARPA programs, despite demands from community organizers. Overall, the county failed to publicly and transparently inform, educate and engage with its community residents and groups in its SLFRF decisions.



Total ARPA SLFRF allocated: **\$106,959,250**

First tranche received in 2021: **\$53,479,625**




CATEGORY	BEST EFFORTS	GAPS AND LIMITATIONS	GRADE
Use of Funds	<p>Stanislaus County <b>approved</b> and earmarked broad categories for the entire SLFRF allocation as early as May 2021 with a heavy focus on infrastructure improvement (\$50 million) and economic growth and job creation (\$30 million). As of April 2022, tangible projects are yet to be set up under these categories.</p> <p>In October 2021, the <b>county allocated \$5 million to establish a new non-profit organization, the Stanislaus Equity Partners, Inc</b> (S.E.P., Inc), aimed to increase affordable housing units and pathways to homeownership for communities of color with low income.</p> <p>As of March 1, 2022, the county has <b>approved contracts</b> between its Community Services Agencies and multiple local non-profit organizations to provide multilingual navigation and case management for county-run health and social programs.</p>	<p>The county <b>stated</b> that it is “a global center for agribusiness” with 47% of its population being Latino/a/x. However, the county failed to prioritize its ARPA funds to address the health and social disparities within the county for its Latino/a/x communities and agricultural workers through federally permitted SLFRF programs such as food and cash assistance. Latino/a/x communities <b>have had a disproportionately higher number of COVID-19 cases relative to their population in the state.</b></p> <p>Besides working with the Family Resource Centers, the county failed to invest in existing grassroots community-based organizations (CBOs) who provide direct services for the county’s underserved communities.</p>	



CATEGORY	BEST EFFORTS	GAPS AND LIMITATIONS	GRADE
Use of Funds		The county also failed to invest in other federally permitted uses such as strengthening language access and demographic data collection, creating community based crisis response as alternatives to policing, etc.	
Promoting Racial Equity	In the specific <b>agreement</b> to establish the S.E.P., Inc, Stanislaus County acknowledged the disparities for “low-income and minority groups” prior to and during the pandemic, and stated a vision to “increase number of Latin-x, BIPOC, minority-owned homeowners.”	<p>Despite some program-level equity concerns, the county did not create an overarching racial equity framework, track disaggregated population data, or identify equity targets or outcomes for the entirety of its ARPA SLFRF implementation.</p> <p>The county also ignored <b>requests</b> from the <b>California Rural Legal Aid Foundation</b>, an advocacy organization present in Stanislaus <b>to create an Office of Equity and advance a Racial Equity and Social Justice Initiative across departments leveraging ARPA funds.</b></p>	
Community Engagement	The county's 2021 recovery plan loosely mentioned plans to incorporate “community and partner input” for ARPA funded programs.	Stanislaus county did not host any public educational workshops, listening sessions or community surveys to proactively educate and solicit feedback from its community residents and CBOs in its SLFRF decisions.	



CATEGORY	BEST EFFORTS	GAPS AND LIMITATIONS	GRADE
<b>Community Engagement</b>		The county has failed to collaborate and consult with existing grassroots organizations who serve communities of color of low income and other disproportionately impacted communities during COVID-19, while developing the new S.E.P., Inc aiming to serve these very communities.	
<b>Transparency, Accessibility and Accountability</b>	The county posted its 2021 recovery plan on its auditor-controller's website.	The county did not set up a dedicated webpage to share ARPA reports and information. It is unclear how the public can easily find ARPA related information, ask questions, or further engage with the county's SLFRF decisions.	

## RELEVANT LINKS

-  County website: [www.stancounty.com/auditor/financial-reports.shtm](http://www.stancounty.com/auditor/financial-reports.shtm)
-  2021 Recovery Plan Performance Report: [www.stancounty.com/auditor/pdf/SLFRF-Recovery-Plan-Performance-Report.pdf](http://www.stancounty.com/auditor/pdf/SLFRF-Recovery-Plan-Performance-Report.pdf)
-  2021 Interim Report: [apps-treas.my.salesforce.com/sfc/p/t0000000TZbC/a/t0000001emSd/aimn4AK5FXmEFgiXztdaaR6RMr.LpG70EhCPn\\_OIDs](https://apps-treas.my.salesforce.com/sfc/p/t0000000TZbC/a/t0000001emSd/aimn4AK5FXmEFgiXztdaaR6RMr.LpG70EhCPn_OIDs)
-  2022 April Project and Expenditure Report: [app.box.com/s/sv8rhrrsb41trs26ejzkq0b3vhvsml79i](https://app.box.com/s/sv8rhrrsb41trs26ejzkq0b3vhvsml79i)

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

For more information, visit [www.CPEHN.org/ARPAscorecards](http://www.CPEHN.org/ARPAscorecards)



**California Pan-Ethnic  
HEALTH NETWORK**