
AGENDA
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) COMMITTEE
JUDGE E. MAURICE BRASWELL CUMBERLAND COUNTY
COURTHOUSE- ROOM 564
SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 1, 2024
10:30 AM

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
3. ITEMS OF BUSINESS
 - A. Consideration of Nonprofit Funding Recommendations
 - B. Consideration of Funding for a County Internship Program (Ignite) and Associated Budget Ordinance Amendment #B241112
 - C. Consideration of Request to Transfer Unencumbered Small Business Economic Assistance Program Funding to Public Sector Workforce: Freed Up Capacity & Affordable Housing Funding to Broadband and Associated Budget Ordinance Amendment #B241026
4. UPDATES
 - A. Small Business Economic Assistance Program
5. ADJOURN



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

MEMORANDUM FOR AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN COMMITTEE AGENDA OF APRIL 1, 2024

TO: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN COMMITTEE

FROM: TYE VAUGHT, CHIEF OF STAFF

DATE: 3/26/2024

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF NONPROFIT FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

BACKGROUND

Staff has reviewed applications from nonprofit organizations seeking financial assistance from the Assistance to Nonprofits Program. Staff has verified each applicant's eligibility to receive funding based on their public purpose and fiscal responsibility and is pleased to recommend approval for funding in FY2025.

Seventeen (17) nonprofits have been recommended for funding. These organizations serve a variety of public purposes, including providing health services, community development, youth development and education, and economic development.

Each application was thoroughly evaluated, and staff determined that all recommended applicants possess the necessary capacity to use the funding in a fiscally responsible manner while fulfilling their public purpose.

Staff's recommendations total \$655,971 and are contingent upon the successful execution of a contract with the County. If approved by the Committee and Board, each nonprofit organization approved for funding will receive a conditional award letter.

RECOMMENDATION / PROPOSED ACTION

Staff requests that these funding recommendations be forwarded to the April 11, 2024, Board of Commissioners Agenda Session as an Item of Consideration.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	Type
Nonprofit Assistance Program Recommendations	Backup Material

Non-Profit Funding Recommendations

(As of March 25, 2024, ARP Staff Committee Meeting)

1. Action Pathways, Inc. (Second Harvest Food Bank)

Founded: 1965

Mission and Activities: Action Pathways, Inc. is committed to helping families and individuals achieve economic security through a comprehensive approach. As a member of a national network of community action programs, it promises to change lives and improve communities. The Second Harvest Food Bank, under Action Pathways, distributes nutritious food to those facing hunger across Southeast North Carolina, serving as a critical part of their anti-poverty efforts.

Request: They seek to purchase a cargo van to enhance their ability to distribute food to remote partner agencies, especially during disasters, and to make bulk food purchases.

Requested Amount: \$50,000

Staff Recommendation: \$50,000

2. Airborne and Special Operations Museum Foundation

Founded: 1991

Mission and Activities: This Foundation supports the unique museum that honors the legacies of Airborne and Special Operations Soldiers. By combining education on military and world history, it has become a significant tourist attraction and an educational resource. The Foundation and museum staff, though separate entities, collaborate closely to ensure the museum's success and educational outreach.

Request: Funds are sought for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) and interactive materials to modernize the museum and enhance visitor engagement.

Requested Amount: \$50,000

Staff Recommendation: \$45,326

3. Child Advocacy Center, Inc.

Founded: 1993

Mission and Activities: The Child Advocacy Center provides a coordinated response to child abuse, offering a safe space for investigations and support. It plays a crucial role in preventing further trauma to victims and offers educational programs to prevent child abuse in the community.

Request: The funding will cover Child First Training, Child Abuse Prevention Training, utility upkeep, and general materials.

Requested Amount: \$41,368

Staff Recommendation: \$41,368

4. Community Health Interventions, Inc.

Founded: 2018

Mission and Activities: Serving Cumberland and surrounding counties, this organization addresses health disparities through primary care, specialty services, and health education. It plays a critical role in infectious disease management and health awareness.

Request: Requested funds are to support a Clinical Coordinator and utility upkeep, enhancing their capacity to provide essential health services.

Requested Amount: \$49,965

Staff Recommendation: \$12,650

5. Cool Springs Downtown District, Inc.

Founded: 2017

Mission and Activities: Administers Downtown Fayetteville's Arts and Entertainment and Municipal Service Districts to promote economic and cultural growth. Achievements include the introduction of new businesses, residential units, and significant construction projects, alongside efforts to enhance the district's appeal and engage the community through events and programs.

Request: Funds to support ambassador services, janitorial and grounds upkeep, and the implementation of software to track visitor habits for more effective use of resources.

Requested Amount: \$50,000

Staff Recommendation: \$50,000

6. Cora Sue Smith From the Heart

Founded: 2018

Mission and Activities: Dedicated to supporting students in underserved communities through scholarships and comprehensive support, focusing on those who have lost a parent or guardian to heart disease or diabetes. Aims to address not only educational but also nutritional needs, fostering holistic development.

Request: Funding for staff support, supplies, materials, and training, ensuring the continuation and expansion of services offered to students and their families.

Requested Amount: \$49,657

Staff Recommendation: \$49,657

7. Cut My City Foundation

Founded: 2019

Mission and Activities: Empowers children and instills pride through free haircuts, books, and resources. Originated from grassroots efforts to serve homeless individuals and has expanded to a broader mission of supporting children in learning environments. Request: Funds to operate a mobile unit and support training for apprentice barbers, extending their reach and impact.

Requested Amount: \$49,578

Staff Recommendation: \$22,548

8. Gate Beautiful

Founded: 2020

Mission and Activities: Gate Beautiful offers comprehensive support to individuals affected by human trafficking, prostitution, or addiction. Through rapid response, case management, and restoration planning, it provides a pathway to freedom for victims. Its direct engagement with survivors and specialized training programs enhances its understanding and response to human trafficking. The organization's collaboration with local law enforcement, including the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office and the Fayetteville Police Department, strengthens its ability to offer tailored support services and advocate effectively for survivors.

Request: Assistance with office supply, material costs, and occupancy, supporting their ongoing collaboration with local law enforcement and shelter services.

Requested Amount: \$40,000

Staff Recommendation: \$40,000

9. Greater Fayetteville Chamber

Founded: 2003

Mission and Activities: A key player in advancing economic development and education, advocating for business-friendly policies and providing programs that support business growth and workforce development. Leverages a rich history and community engagement to foster a thriving economic ecosystem.

Request: Funds for personnel, materials, supplies, and educational opportunities, aiming to enhance their support for the local business community.

Requested Amount: \$32,960

Staff Recommendation: \$17,567

10. Greater Life of Fayetteville, Inc. (GLOF)

Founded: 2006

Mission and Activities: Greater Life of Fayetteville, Inc., serves at-risk and behaviorally challenged youth with innovative programs that foster academic success, social skills, and moral growth. It provides critical support through suspension intervention, after-school care, STEM education tutoring, and a culturally rich summer program, alongside parental workshops on essential life skills.

Request: GLOF seeks funding to bolster its array of services, including educational programs, after-school care, and resources for parents and guardians, aiming to maintain a stable and supportive environment for the children's development.

Requested Amount: \$47,157

Staff Recommendation: \$47,157

11. Marius Maximus Foundation for Mental Health, Inc.

Founded: 2021

Mission and Activities: Dedicated to improving mental health awareness and support through peer support, resources, classes, and referrals. The foundation emphasizes education and community involvement to enhance quality of life for teens, veterans, and low-to-moderate income individuals and families, addressing issues such as suicide prevention and interpersonal communication.

Request: Seeking funds to supplement Peer Support Specialists, provide self-care bags for participants, and facilitate Wellness Recovery Action Plans (WRAP) training.

Requested Amount: \$50,000

Staff Recommendation: \$50,000

12. My Brother's Keeper Church

Founded: 2015

Mission and Activities: My Brother's Keeper Church is deeply committed to supporting the Murchison Road Corridor community, focusing on ensuring every school-aged child has access to essential resources for thriving. Their efforts span across food security, education, and community development. Notably, despite experiencing a total loss due to a devastating fire, the organization has resiliently continued its programs without interruption. This perseverance underscores their dedication to the community's well-being, especially in providing school supplies and developing skill opportunities for underserved individuals.

Request: Funding is sought for equipment and capital needs for feeding programs, back-to-school programs, and a bricklayer school, in addition to utility needs.

Requested Amount: \$50,000

Staff Recommendation: \$50,000

13. New Life in Christ Ministries, Inc.

Founded: 1996

Mission and Activities: Serves the communities of Cumberland Road, Fayetteville, Hope Mills, and surrounding areas by offering support services that address mental, physical, and spiritual needs. The organization's wide range of services includes food and clothing distribution, employment skills training, and transportation services, among others.

Request: The request is for funding to cover occupancy costs and supplement custodial/janitorial needs, ensuring the continued operation and maintenance of facilities used to provide community services.

Requested Amount: \$42,228

Staff Recommendation: \$30,000

14. Renaissance Classical Christian Academy

Founded: 2009

Mission and Activities: Provides a K-12th grade education that emphasizes logical reasoning, persuasive communication, and social grace. The academy prides itself on a rigorous curriculum that has led to students scoring above national averages across various academic levels.

Request: Funding to replace damaged or aged playground equipment, enhancing the physical activity and well-being of students.

Requested Amount: \$50,000

Staff Recommendation: \$50,000

15. Sandhills Family Heritage Association

Founded: 2001

Mission and Activities: Dedicated to improving the quality of life for families in the Sandhills Cumberland County area through a focus on social, economic, environmental, and cultural issues. The organization's core programs include cultural heritage preservation, land retention, economic opportunity, and community education.

Request: Funds to supplement personnel, cover travel expenses for food pickup and distribution, rent and utilities, food safety training and certification, and vehicle rental.

Requested Amount: \$50,000

Staff Recommendation: \$50,000

16. Sweet Tea Shakespeare

Founded: 2012

Mission and Activities: Engages communities through the magic of story, song, and stagecraft. By welcoming both newcomers and long-time locals, Sweet Tea Shakespeare aims to bridge community gaps through performances that celebrate the rich traditions of Shakespeare and other classic works. The company operates year-round in Fayetteville and Raleigh, offering a range of productions, workshops, and community events.

Request: Funds are requested to supplement personnel, materials, supplies, occupancy costs, and to contract educators for programs and workshops. This will enable the continuation and expansion of their diverse and inclusive programming.

Requested Amount: \$25,598

Staff Recommendation: \$25,598

17. The Soul Harvest Apostolic Church

Founded: 2021

Mission and Activities: Aims to address the immediate needs of low-income individuals, families, and seniors in the community by providing hot meals, groceries, and other essential services. It stands out for its consistent support before, during, and after the pandemic, highlighting its commitment to community care and support.

Request: The organization seeks funding to provide meals to homeless individuals and to conduct healthy living seminars, which will educate and support the community in achieving better health outcomes.

Requested Amount: \$24,100

Staff Recommendation: \$24,100

**Cumberland County Consideration for Non-Profit Funding
Recommendations**

#	Organization	Recommended Funding Amount
1	Action Pathways, Inc.	\$ 50,000.00
2	Airborne and Specials Operations Museum Foundation	45,326.00
3	Child Advocacy Center, Inc.	41,368.00
4	Community Health Interventions, Inc.	12,650.00
5	Cool Springs Downtown District, Inc.	50,000.00
6	Cora Smith From the Heart	49,657.00
7	Cut My City Foundation	22,548.00
8	Gate Beautiful	40,000.00
9	Greater Fayetteville Chamber	17,567.00
10	Greater Life of Fayetteville, Inc.	47,157.00
11	Marius Maximus Foundation for Mental Health, Inc.	50,000.00
12	My Brother's Keeper Church	50,000.00
13	New Life in Christ Ministries, Inc.	30,000.00
14	Renaissance Classical Christian Academy	50,000.00
15	Sandhills Family Heritage Association	50,000.00
16	Sweet Tea Shakespeare	25,598.00
17	The Soul Harvest Apostolic Church	24,100.00
	Total	\$ 655,971.00



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

MEMORANDUM FOR AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN COMMITTEE AGENDA OF APRIL 1, 2024

TO: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN COMMITTEE

FROM: TYE VAUGHT, CHIEF OF STAFF

DATE: 3/26/2024

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING FOR A COUNTY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (IGNITE) AND ASSOCIATED BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #B241112

BACKGROUND

Staff requests the American Rescue Plan Committee's consideration for an allocation of \$500,000 in funding towards the establishment and launch of a comprehensive internship program, named "Ignite," slated to pilot in Fiscal Year 2025. This initiative aims to provide a robust platform for 50 talented individuals - comprising both college students (graduate and undergraduate) and high school students - to gain valuable work experience and contribute to our County departments in meaningful ways.

The primary goal of "Ignite" is to foster a symbiotic relationship between students and our County departments, where students can apply their academic knowledge in real-world settings, and departments can benefit from the fresh perspectives and energy that young talent brings. By doing so, we aim not only to enhance students' readiness for their future careers but also to cultivate a pipeline of skilled individuals who might serve as potential future employees for the County.

"Ignite" is designed to be flexible, matching students with departments based on the students' areas of study and interests as well as the specific needs of the departments. This ensures that each internship position is both relevant and beneficial to both parties. We plan to onboard 25 college students and 25 high school students in the first year, carefully selected through a competitive application process to ensure that we are investing in candidates who show the most promise and motivation.

The requested \$500,000 will tentatively be used for:

- Program Development and Administration
- Stipends for Interns

- Operational Costs

Investing in "Ignite" offers numerous benefits, including:

- Talent Development
- Innovation and Fresh Perspectives
- Community Engagement
- Recruitment Pipeline

"Ignite" presents an opportunity for the County to lead by example, showing a commitment to the professional development of its youth and to the continuous improvement of its departments through fresh perspectives and innovation.

RECOMMENDATION / PROPOSED ACTION

Staff requests that the funding recommendation and Associated Budget Ordinance Amendment #B241112 be forwarded to the April 11, 2024, Board of Commissioners Agenda Session as an Item of Consideration.



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

MEMORANDUM FOR AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN COMMITTEE AGENDA OF APRIL 1, 2024

TO: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN COMMITTEE

FROM: TYE VAUGHT, CHIEF OF STAFF

DATE: 3/26/2024

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST TO TRANSFER UNENCUMBERED SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FUNDING TO PUBLIC SECTOR WORKFORCE: FREED UP CAPACITY & AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUNDING TO BROADBAND AND ASSOCIATED BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #B241026

BACKGROUND

The ARP Small Business Economic Assistance Program was designed to provide critical financial support to small businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. After two phases, a portion of the funds budgeted for the program remain unencumbered. Staff requests the American Rescue Plan Committee's approval to transfer \$268,872 of these unencumbered funds to Public Sector Workforce: Freed Up Capacity. Staff also requests the ARP Committee's approval to transfer \$2.8M in funds budgeted for ARP Affordable Housing to Broadband to be utilized for the CAB Program.

RECOMMENDATION / PROPOSED ACTION

Staff requests that these recommendations and Associated Budget Ordinance Amendment #B241026 be forwarded to the April 11, 2024, Board of Commissioners Agenda Session as an Item of Consideration.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	Type
ARPA Grant Project Ordinance Amendment #B241026	Backup Material

ARPA GRANT PROJECT ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #B241026

ARPA GRANT PROJECT ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #B241026				as of February 19, 2024		April 15, 2024		
ARPA Reporting Code	Fund 240 Expenditure Category	Project Description	Cost Object	Appropriation of CSLFRF Funds	Project Allocation Total	Appropriation of CSLFRF Funds	Appropriation of CSLFRF Funds as revised	Project Allocation Total
1.1	Public Health (2404551)	COVID19 Vaccinations - Cumberland County's self-funded claims costs for vaccinations	Claims	\$ 78,000	78,000	\$ -	\$ 78,000	\$ 78,000
1.2	Public Health (2404551)	COVID19 Testing - Cumberland County's self-funded claims for COVID19 Testing	Claims	166,000	166,000	-	166,000	166,000
1.6	Public Health (2404551)	Medical expenses - Cumberland County's self-funded claims costs for COVID19 treatment	Claims	956,000	956,000	-	956,000	956,000
1.8	Public Health (2404551)	COVID19 Assistance to Small Business (1.8)	Contracted Services	2,655,886	2,655,886	(286,872)	2,369,014	2,369,014
2.2	Negative Economic Impacts (2404552)	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid Rental Assistance: Make funding available to assist renters at risk of eviction	Contracted Services	500,000	500,000	-	500,000	500,000
2.10	Negative Economic Impacts (2404552)	Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers: Trade job training program in partnership with FTCC, Mid-Carolina COG - Workforce Development, and Cumberland County Schools	Contracted Services	2,000,000	2,000,000	-	2,000,000	2,000,000
2.15	Negative Economic Impacts (2404552)	Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing - New construction of a multi-family housing development in the Shaw Heights neighborhood (QCT 24.01)	Engineering/Construction	12,700,000	12,700,000	(2,800,000)	9,900,000	9,900,000
3.2	Public Sector Capacity (2404553)	Public Sector Workforce: Rehiring Public Sector Staff - Salary and benefit costs to restore employment to prepandemic levels	Salaries/ Benefits	14,435,245	14,435,245	286,872	14,722,117	14,722,117
5.5	Infrastructure (2404555)	Clean Water: Other Sewer Infrastructure - Construction of a sanitary sewer system to be located in the Shaw Heights neighborhood (QCT 24.01)	Engineering/Construction	9,300,000	9,300,000	-	9,300,000	9,300,000
5.15	Infrastructure (2404555)	Drinking Water: Other Water Infrastructure - Construction of a water system to be located in the Gray's Creek Water and Sewer District	Engineering/Construction	10,000,000	10,000,000	-	10,000,000	10,000,000
5.21	Infrastructure (2404555)	Broadband: Other projects - Broadband expansion into underserved areas in partnership with the State of NC, and a vendor selected through a competitive RFP process	Contracted Services	283,987	283,987	2,800,000	3,083,987	3,083,987
6.1	Revenue Replacement (2404556)	Provision of Government Services - Salaries and benefit costs of Public Safety Personnel	Salaries/ Benefits	10,000,000	10,000,000	-	10,000,000	10,000,000
7.1	Administration (2404557)	Administrative Expenses - 3.5 full time County positions and allocated portions of several staff to manage CSLFRF programs and compliance requirements. ARPA allows up to 10% of total reward			2,093,572			2,093,572
			Salaries	1,321,348			1,321,348	
			Benefits	389,281			389,281	
			Operating	125,335			125,335	
			Unassigned	257,608			257,608	
				\$ 65,168,690	\$ 65,168,690	\$ -	\$ 65,168,690	\$ 65,168,690



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TO: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN COMMITTEE

FROM: TYE VAUGHT, CHIEF OF STAFF

DATE: 3/26/2024

SUBJECT: SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

BACKGROUND

Staff is providing an update concerning the modifications to the Small Business Economic Assistance Program's reimbursement process, as directed by the committee during the ARP Committee's meeting held on January 25, 2024. The Committee's direction was to revise the reimbursement payment structure to include lump sum payments for verified expenses incurred by program recipients during the performance period.

At the ARP Committee meeting, staff were tasked with modifying the reimbursement structure of the Small Business Economic Assistance Program. The aim was to facilitate lump sum reimbursements for expenses that program recipients could substantiate as having been incurred within the stipulated performance period. This directive was intended to streamline the process, making it more efficient and responsive to the needs of small businesses grappling with the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

To date, staff have diligently worked on identifying businesses that meet the revised criteria for lump sum reimbursements. We have successfully identified 22 businesses that qualify under the new guidelines. For these businesses, we are in the process of, or have already amended, contracts to incorporate the new reimbursement structure along with a claw back provision. This provision is designed to protect the program's integrity by allowing for the recovery of funds in cases where post-payment reviews reveal discrepancies or non-compliance with program requirements.

To manage risks associated with this revised payment structure, staff conducted thorough risk assessments of all program recipients. The assessments were aimed at determining the suitability of businesses for lump sum payments, quarterly reimbursements, or retention within the original monthly reimbursement schedule. Factors considered in the risk assessment included the businesses' financial stability, the accuracy and reliability of their reporting mechanisms, and their adherence to program guidelines.

RECOMMENDATION / PROPOSED ACTION

For informational purposes only, no action required.