

Clayton County Board of Commissioners

Recovery Plan

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds 2023 Report

Note: The Recovery Plan Performance Report will provide the public and Treasury information on the projects that recipients are undertaking with program funding and how they are planning to ensure program outcomes are achieved in an effective, efficient, and equitable manner. While this template includes the minimum requirements for the Recovery Plan, each recipient is encouraged to add information to the plan that they feel is appropriate to provide information to their constituents on efforts they are taking to respond to the pandemic and promote an equitable economic recovery.

Each jurisdiction may determine the general form and content of the Recovery Plan, as long as it meets the reporting requirements, and recipients are encouraged to tailor this template to best meet their needs. Use of infographics, tables, charts, pictures, case studies, and other explanatory elements are encouraged.

**Clayton County Board of Commissioner’s
2023 Recovery Plan**

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Coronavirus (COVID-19) has taken the world by surprise. It has caused businesses, communities, tourism, and the government (federal, state, and local) to review how they operate, while many states called for a “declaration of emergency.” On March 13, 2020, Clayton County Government/ Administrative offices and courts announced closure for two weeks, which began March 16, 2020. This closure activated the County Emergency Operations Plan and our Continuity of Operations Plan during this pandemic. The County’s closure (with a review every two weeks) was necessary to help reduce the risk of potential contraction or transmission of the Coronavirus (COVID19) for our employees, their families, and our citizens. Our full-time Medical Director remained in continuous consultation with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH), our Emergency Management Agency, and county leaders to make decisions that will prevent the spread of the virus. She recommended ways to protect our employees, customers, and constituents. The County canceled all programs, services, events for Parks and Recreation, Senior Services, Community Development, and Youth Services as a precautionary measure. Our Public Safety (Fire/EMS, Police, Sheriff’s Office, and Corrections), Information Technology, and Court services continued to provide essential operational services to the staff and the community, while our local constituents and business struggled.

Clayton County has developed and implemented high standards during this pandemic that has shown results second to none, in comparative results. Throughout this pandemic, the Board of Commissioners reviewed operations and how the County respond to the public health crisis. Departments immediately made operational changes that aligned with CDC guidelines as well as a more stringent approach to protecting the Clayton County community and employees. The American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) was approved to establish much-needed relief to State, Local and Tribal Governments. This funding has allowed these entities to support the public health response and create a sustainable economic foundation. Clayton County supports the Department of Treasury in the aid to its internal and external stakeholders within the County by addressing the following:

- Support urgent COVID-19 response efforts to continue to decrease the spread of the virus and bring the pandemic under control
- Replace lost revenue for eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments to strengthen support for vital public services and help retain jobs
- Support immediate economic stabilization for households and businesses
- Address systemic public health and economic challenges that have contributed to the inequal impact of the pandemic

The Board of Commissioners (BOC) reviewed the six allowable spending categories and prioritized them to the needs of Clayton County. In the order of priority are the categories in which the BOC approved:

- Public Health Response
- Negative Economic Impact
- Replace Loss Revenue
- Broadband Infrastructure
- Premium Pay for Essential Workers
- Water/Sewer Infrastructure

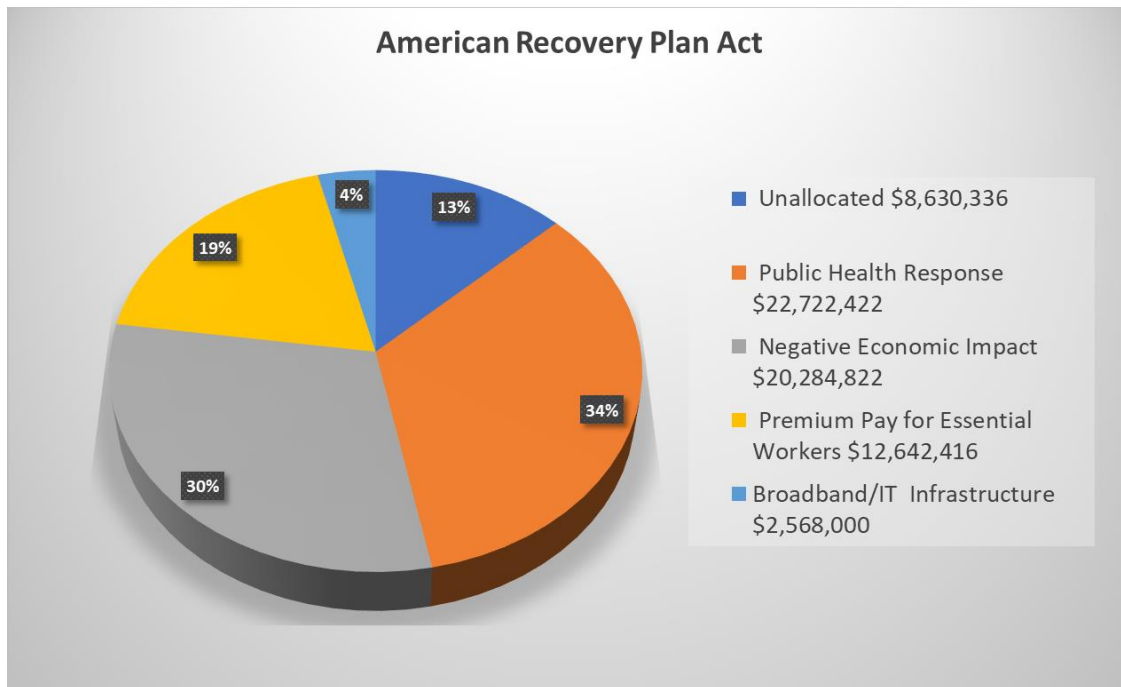
In July 2021, we held a public information session about ARPA and the county's intentional use of the funds. In addition to the information session, a county-wide survey was provided to residents and businesses of Clayton County for input on how the ARPA funds should be allocated. Residents reported that housing, utilities, food, and employment are still a priority in the community. Businesses reported that small grants or low-interest business loans should be considered to support the negative economic impact as an immediate priority (see *attached results: Covid19 Survey*). A website was created for residents to get information and assistance from the County due to COVID. The website <https://arpa.claytoncountyga.gov/> provides Clayton County residents with assistance for rental, mortgage, utility, and information on the County's intentional use of ARPRA funding.

The County reached out to external and internal stakeholders to request proposals to address the public health crisis due to COVID in Clayton County. A sample PowerPoint deck was provided to stakeholders to address the County's priority categories of allowable expenses. The County received a request of \$135,299,444, which was over the total allocation the County received from the Department of Treasury (\$66,847,996). To be fair to all stakeholders, the County created a formula to prioritize recommendations to the BOC.

Formula to prioritize recommendations to the BOC

Interim rule - ineligible stakeholders Projects + chairman's priority= recommended project

In August 2021, project recommendations were presented to the BOC and \$58,217,660 of the allocated \$66,847,996 was approved to assist with the negative economic impact to Clayton County. See the total allocation listed in the pie chart below.



The County is working with internal/external stakeholders to finalize goals and objectives. Each stakeholder is provided a sample logic model that is required for performance measure reporting and before distribution of funds. For external stakeholders, a memorandum of understanding (MOU) is being finalized. The MOU's will include a scope of work that will include programmatic impact and equitable outcomes. The County's goal is to have funding distributed by mid-September to external stakeholders

Uses of Funds

The majority of the allocated funding is for public health response and negative economic impact. Our goal is to get funds to the citizens of Clayton County to offer immediate relief. The BOC wanted to ensure citizens that our process of allocations was fair and transparent in its approach to support a strong equitable recovery. Clayton County obligated funding but has not distributed funding to have expenditures. Clayton County has allocated funding that can be placed in selected obligated categories; however, no money has been spent. Internal and external stakeholders have selected categories based on how they will address the economic impact in their day-to-day operations.

a. **Public Health: (EC 1)**

Clayton County Sheriff's Office has and continues to experience some challenges in healthcare, particularly in institutions with residents in close confines, such as jails and prisons. The Sheriff's Office has experienced significant cost increases, with supply demands. The number of inmates housed in the jail is consistently greater than the 1800 projected census of the current contract. More importantly, the number of HIV inmates has almost doubled, from 20 to nearly 40. HIV pharmacy costs are above \$2,000 per inmate,

per month. Insurance carriers have exited the market for law enforcement-related coverages. The cost for professional liability insurance in correctional healthcare has quadrupled. Clayton County is supporting the Sheriff's Office with increase insurance costs for inmates to support prevention in congregates settings. (1.4) (\$2,865,600)

Clayton County Community Services Board (CSB) provides services that minimize the impact of mental illness, developmental disabilities and substance abuse in the lives of persons served and their families while supporting their inclusion in the community. The CSB has requested COVID PPE to help support staff while clients access services during the pandemic. (1.5) (\$274,322)

Clayton County BOC approved to purchase public vending machines to provide mask to reduce exposure to issuing masks to the general public for meetings of government. (1.5) (\$33,266)

The Clayton County Police department implemented new initiative to provide rapid response for AED devices in police patrol vehicles. Law Enforcement Officers are often the first to arrive on medical calls and the long-term effects of COVID are currently unknown. This initiative would allow for the rapid deployment of AED to increase possibilities of saving a life. The Police Department has requested 250 AED units to aid in saving lives. (1.7) (\$500,000)

Clayton County Fire/EMS team implemented a COVID testing and vaccination campaign around the county since the onset of the pandemic.

The vaccination campaign for the general public will continue by expanding programming to high-risk communities within the county. Fire/EMS has requested the purchase of a public health mobile treatment to monitoring the spread of COVID-19 variants, understanding the impact of these variants (especially on vaccination efforts), developing approaches to respond to those variants, and monitoring global COVID-19 trends to understand continued risks to Clayton County. (1.7) (\$1,539,250)

With the increasing number of deaths due to COVID in Clayton County, a Medical Examiner Infrastructure implementation will focus on building infrastructure to house department that includes space for lab, surgery center, and offices. It will also evaluate current needs and prior operational support from GBI and vendors to support COVID response. (1.7) (\$5,000,000)

The CSB has requested to expand Mental Health, Substance Use, and Developmental Disabilities Treatment Services for the County. The request is for operating revenues to hire additional staff to support Mental Health Expansion in Clayton County (Clinicians and Nurse Practitioners). They will collaborate with the Police Department to offer mobile mental health response as well as ET3- Alternative Destination for Clayton County Fire and EMS team. Clayton Center as an Alternative Destination Partner, will furnish Covered Services to ET3 Beneficiaries. (1.9) (\$1,500,000)

CSB has requested mental health/hardship assistance to implement a program that would allow new and current individuals who are self-payors to apply for a hardship to cover their initial cost of treatment. In addition to helping with self-payors, CSB will also implement a program that would assist current and new HMO-insured individuals who are experiencing a hardship with assistance with any applicable deductibles & co-pays not covered by their insurance or State Contracted Services. (1.10) (\$160,000)

Southern Regional hospital has requested funds to assist with retention plans and hiring bonuses to keep units open to assist with increasing numbers of patients experiencing COVID. (1.7) (\$5,032,500)

b. *Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2)*

Clayton County Water Authority has requested funds to assist with the Debt Relief of customers with a 90 day past due balance. The program will increase assistance from \$200 to \$400 and increase the number of qualifying customers to 175% of the federal poverty level. (2.2) (\$1,504,000)

Development Authority of Clayton County has requested funding for Job Training Programs.

***Construction Ready** - Development two (2) sites in Clayton County that offer a 20-day construction training program with a 97% higher rate.

***Goodwill of NG** - Create a second Goodwill Training Center at the Hwy 138 Donation Center.

***Atlanta Area Technical School** - Create a CDL, Forklift & Truck Driving School

***Accession Distribution Training Center** - Expand the Re-Entry Program for truck drivers, forklift operators & heavy equipment operators. The center will also expand the Private Sector Program for truck drivers, forklift operators, diesel mechanics & heavy equipment operators. (2.7) (1,175,000)

Clayton County Chamber of Commerce has requested funds to support an Entrepreneur Training Program for small businesses, startups, and existing businesses that focuses on achieving sustainable growth. (2.9)

Clayton County Economic Development Department has requested funding to support small business grants. (2.9) (\$5,075,000)

Clayton County BOC will provide grants to aid non-profit agencies to support their mission for Clayton County residents. (2.10) (\$1,000,000)

Clayton County BOC approved for court backlog. The goal is to fund the courts to reduce the case backlog and provide equitable treatment due to the pandemic. Funding can be allowed to purchase (2.13) (\$6,000,000):

- Ø *Part-time hires to provide additional resources to reduce the court backlog*
- Ø *Contracted employees to provide additional resources to reduce the court backlog*
- Ø *Technology enhancements to allow for remote court activity were allowed*
- Ø *Rent for additional locations to provide a safe environment to hear court cases*
- Ø *Overtime worked to reduce case backlog (Timekeeping records required)*
- Ø *COVID related expenses*

Alzheimer's Services Center (ASC) is facing financial peril due to Covid-19 Pandemic. This financial peril has led to the ASC not being able to bring participants back into the building. Once the deferred maintenance issues are resolved due to COVID-19 Pandemic, this will allow the ASC to bring the participants back into the building 3 days a week to provide Adult Day Care Services. (2.10) (\$90,000)

Alzheimer's Services Center (ASC) is facing financial peril due to Covid-19 Pandemic. Clayton County B&M department will provide needed repairs to allow for the expansion of Alzheimer's respite care impacted during the pandemic. (2.13) (\$365,000)

c. *Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC 3)*

Clayton County Community Development has partnered with Clayton County Housing Authority to offer the following:

- Down payment Assistance (3.12) (\$425,000)
- Community Housing Development Organization (development of new affordable housing) (3.10) (\$4,000,000)
- Housing Repair Program not permitted under HUD program (3.12) (\$575,000)

d. *Premium Pay (EC 4)*

Clayton County CSB has requested to provide Incentives and staff recognitions for essential workers due to increasing work hours to respond to the COVID crisis. (4.2) (\$400,000)

Clayton County BOC approved premium to pay for essential workers for Public Safety personnel (4.1) (\$10,657,942)

e. *Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure (EC 5)*

Clayton County Information Technology Department has requested funds to assist with increase online programming, telework request, and other day-to-day department operations due to COVID. Increase efforts for cyber security to protect County operations. IT has also requested funds to offer county-wide fiber optic internet services. (5.17) (\$2,568,000)

f. *Revenue Replacement (EC 6)*

Clayton County received loss revenue of \$10 million.

g. *Administrative and Other (EC7)*

Office Performance Management (OPM) will provide administrative support on ARPA award and performance against funding. Track projects and insure recipient's compliance. These positions will also help internal/external stakeholders understand the expectations of receiving their funding and adhering to all federal requirements. (7.2) (\$530,822)

Clayton County Board of Commissioners Office of Communications will roll out a plan to inform, educate and encourage constituents to receive the COVID-19 vaccinations. The Office will collaborate with all internal and external stakeholders that received ARPA funding. (7.1) (\$75,000)

Clayton County has received ERA1 and ERA2 funding to assist County residents with rental assistance and housing stability. Clayton County has secured two vendors to provide program administration. One vendor, Africa's Children's Fund works directly with Magistrate Court to handle all dispossession issues to avoid evictions. The second vendor, Hearts 2 Nourish Hope handles all other rental assistance to increase stabilization in the Clayton County community. We have bi-weekly meetings with both vendors to ensure continuity of services for all.

In meetings, we discuss challenges, best practices, and suggestions on improving the efficient processing of applications and services.

Promoting equitable outcomes

Clayton County utilize Envisio (a web-based reporting system) for internal and external stakeholders to report objectives, performance measures, expenditures, and outcomes to promote equity. The Office of Performance Management provides ongoing training with internal and external stakeholders to ensure accurate reporting and review logic models and objectives based on the guidelines (please see *Envisio report: Appendix A*).

Memorandum of Understandings have been completed for 7 of the 8 external stakeholders. An MOU with the 8th stakeholder will be complete once the housing performance measures and other program objectives are finalized. The County will measure equity at the various stages of the program, including:

- a. Goals: Are there particular historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups that you intend to serve?
- b. Awareness: How equal and practical is the ability for residents or businesses to become aware of the services funded by the SLFRF?
- c. Access and Distribution: Are there differences in levels of access to benefits and services across groups? Are there administrative requirements that result in disparities in ability to complete applications or meet eligibility criteria?
- d. Outcomes: Are intended outcomes focused on closing gaps, reaching universal levels of service, or disaggregating progress by race, ethnicity, and other equity dimensions where relevant for the policy objective?

Clayton County continues to review and assess the use of funds priorities, economic and racial equity as a goal by reviewing the current unemployment rate, number of COVID-related deaths, number of businesses requesting assistance, and review of vaccination programming. These are just a few measures the county will review to prioritize economic equity. Do to these assessments some stakeholders have presented to the BOC requesting reallocation of approved funding to meet the need of the community.

Community Engagement

Clayton County continues to engage citizens through community surveys that are conducted quarterly. Clayton County believes that being transparent builds community trust. Envisio offers citizens a public dashboard where they can review reporting in real-time on the County's relief website. Clayton County will provide written communication and information sessions to provide updates and answer questions from the Clayton County residents. The Communications department will also provide materials in several languages to provide residents information.

Labor Practices

Clayton County Central Services Department is responsible for external stakeholder contracts. When a project requires construction acquisition, those projects with costs exceeding \$100,000.00 must be procured pursuant to the Georgia Local Government Public Works Construction Law, O.C.G.A. §§ 36-91-1 through 36-91-95. Public works construction projects

with costs up to \$100,000.00 shall be procured by competitive sealed bidding or competitive sealed proposals presented in section 2-113 and section 2-114, respectively. As projects are developing the scope of work, details of labor practices will be included. This includes if labor practices are being utilized: project labor agreements, community benefits agreements, prevailing wage requirements, and local hiring.

Use of Evidence

Evidence-based interventions are practices or programs that have peer-reviewed, documented empirical evidence of effectiveness. Evidence-based interventions use a continuum of integrated policies, strategies, activities, and services whose effectiveness has been proven or informed by research and evaluation. Clayton County continues to assess internal and external stakeholders evidence-based programs ensure that the programs are listed on their logic model as a part of the performance measures requirements.

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

In this section, list the amount of funds used in each Expenditure Category. The table should include cumulative expenses to date within each category, and the additional amount spent within each category since the last annual Recovery Plan.

Jurisdictions may modify the table as needed by deleting unused rows where they have not expended any funds or by adding columns to more clearly characterize their program expenditures over time.

For the initial Recovery Plan, the amounts listed for “Cumulative expenditures to date” and “Amount spent since last Recovery Plan” will be equal.

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health		
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination		
1.2	COVID-19 Testing		
1.3	COVID-19 Contact Tracing		
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.)	\$1,450,440.40	\$629,318.690
1.5	Personal Protective Equipment	\$33,265.20	\$33,265.20
1.6	Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)		
1.7	Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency	\$8,150,457.89	\$1,652,132.54
1.8	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)		
1.9	Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19	\$1,074,322.00	\$0.00
1.10	Mental Health Services		
1.11	Substance Use Services		
1.12	Other Public Health Services		
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts		
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs	\$216,000	\$216,000
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid		
2.3	Household Assistance: Cash Transfers		
2.4	Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs		
2.5	Household Assistance: Eviction Prevention		
2.6	Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers		

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
2.7	Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)	\$1,175,000	\$1,175,000
2.8	Contributions to UI Trust Funds*		
2.9	Small Business Economic Assistance (General)	\$175,000	\$175,000
2.10	Aid to nonprofit organizations	\$90,000	\$90,000
2.11	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality		
2.12	Aid to Other Impacted Industries		
2.13	Other Economic Support	\$1,025,484.93	\$378,308.41
2.14	Rehiring Public Sector Staff		
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities		
3.1	Education Assistance: Early Learning		
3.2	Education Assistance: Aid to High-Poverty Districts		
3.3	Education Assistance: Academic Services		
3.4	Education Assistance: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services		
3.5	Education Assistance: Other		
3.6	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care		
3.7	Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting		
3.8	Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System		
3.9.	Healthy Childhood Environments: Other		
3.10	Housing Support: Affordable Housing		
3.11	Housing Support: Services for Unhoused persons		
3.12	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	\$73,666.84	\$37,782.00
3.13	Social Determinants of Health: Other		
3.14	Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators		
3.15	Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation		
3.16	Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions		
4	Expenditure Category: Premium Pay		
4.1	Public Sector Employees	\$6,128,074.44	\$0.00
4.2	Private Sector: Grants to other employers		
5	Expenditure Category: Infrastructure		
5.1	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment		
5.2	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance		

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
5.3	Clean Water: Decentralized wastewater		
5.4	Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows		
5.5	Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure		
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater		
5.7	Clean Water: Energy conservation		
5.8	Clean Water: Water conservation		
5.9	Clean Water: Nonpoint source		
5.10	Drinking water: Treatment		
5.11	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution		
5.12	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution: lead remediation		
5.13	Drinking water: Source		
5.14	Drinking water: Storage		
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure		
5.16	Broadband: "Last Mile" projects		
5.17	Broadband: Other projects	\$110,000	\$110,000
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement	\$3,333,333.33	\$3,333,333.33
6.1	Provision of Government Services		
7	Administrative and Other		
7.1	Administrative Expenses	\$14,271.28	\$0.000
7.2	Evaluation and data analysis	\$50,928.19	\$19,333,84
7.3	Transfers to Other Units of Government		
7.4	Transfers to Nonentitlement Units (States and Territories only)		

Project Inventory

Clayton County has a total of 27 internal and external stakeholders with projects and programs that have been approved by the BOC to support the public health response due to COVID (*please see Envisio report: Appendix A*).

Ineligible Activities: Tax Offset Provision (States and territories only)

For the initial reporting year, States and territories will report the following items related to the Tax Offset Provision 31 CFR 35.8. Baseline revenue or revenue-increasing covered charges are not required at this time.

Item	Amount
a. Revenue-reducing Covered Changes	\$