



Advocates for Ohio's Future

Webinar: The American Rescue Plan

May 14, 2021



Tara Britton

AOF Co-Chair

**Director of Public Policy and Advocacy for The Center for
Community Solutions**

Our Mission:

***Advocates for Ohio's Future promotes health and human service budget
and policy solutions so that all Ohioans live better lives.***

**the American
Rescue Plan Act**

**Recovery from
the ground up**



American Rescue Plan Act: Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund aid to Ohio

Wendy Patton

Senior Project Director

wpatton@policymattersohio.org

policymattersohio.org



Policy Matters Ohio is a nonprofit policy research institute that creates a more vibrant, equitable, sustainable and inclusive Ohio through research, strategic communications, coalition building and policy advocacy.



Follow us on Twitter

@PolicyMattersOH



Like us on Facebook

facebook.com/policymattersohio



Sign Up for our eNews

policymattersohio.org

Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund aid to Ohio:

- \$5.37 billion in ARPA funds coming into the state; half this year and half next year.
- To be obligated by December 31, 2024; Fully expended by December 31, 2026.
- Rules published early this past week – “Interim final rules’ from the United States Department of Treasury.
- Stringent reporting requirements and recovery plan reports on outcomes. State and large cities must have public-facing website on projects

Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund eligible uses

- **RECOVER:** Pay for measures that quell the pandemic and prevent outbreaks
- **REPAY:** Premium pay to essential employees or grants to their employers.
- **REBUILD:** Invest in water, sewer and broadband infrastructure.
- **RESTORE:** Pay for government services affected by loss of revenues caused by pandemic recession.

Ways Ohio's lawmakers could use ARPA funds

- Fund and implement the recommendations of the Minority Health Strike Force Blueprint
- Fund the public health system so it responds better in the next pandemic
- Reduce lead poisoning of children
- Ensure access to good, affordable wireless services
- Plan for improving the social determinants of health in low-income places (QCT) – and implement those plans.
- Provide navigators to help people find the assistance they need for housing, emergency assistance, health care
- Fix state information technology so it is fully capable in the next emergency
- Expand early education and other educational needs of students in low-income places
- End the transcript trap
- Build more affordable housing in places where people need it the most
- Establish grant funds for essential workers
- Provide emergency funding to Ohio's domestic violence programs

Getting involved

- Shovel-ready programs
- Coordination - Work together on ideas
- Tell lawmakers what you want and how to do it (its another budget opportunity – on a shorter timeframe)
- Prevent legislators using badly – some uses are forbidden; there will be bad ideas.
- Get involved on the local and state level:
Guidance emphasizes proper implementation and use depends on robust public participation.



THANK YOU!
Wendy Patton

wpatton@policymattersohio.org

(614)582-0048.



Follow us on Twitter

@PolicyMattersOH



Like us on Facebook

facebook.com/policymattersohio



Sign Up for our eNews

policymattersohio.org

American Rescue Plan Act - State and Local Government

Agenda

1. Sources of funding
2. Funding amount and distribution formula
3. Permitted uses
4. timeline and other rules

Assistance for State, Local, and Tribal Governments

Program	Total \$	Ohio \$	Guidance
State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund	\$350 B	~10.6 B	May 10, 2021
Capital Projects Fund	\$10 B	?	Stay tuned
Homeowner Assistance Fund	\$9.9 B	\$280.7 M	April 14, 2021
Emergency Rental Assistance Program	\$47.55 B	\$1.39 B	May 7, 2021
State Small Business Credit Initiative	\$10 B	\$114.9 M	Sort of
Coronavirus Relief Fund	\$150 B	\$4.5 B	January 15, 2021

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund

“The American Rescue Plan will deliver **\$350 billion** for eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments to respond to the COVID-19 emergency and bring back jobs.”

Unit of Government	National Total
States and D.C.	\$195.3 B
Counties	\$65.1 B
Metropolitan Cities	\$45.6 B
Tribal Governments	\$20 B
Territories	\$4.5 B
Non-Entitlement Units of Local Government	\$19.5 B

Ohio Counties

Methodology:

- Every County gets an allocation based on its population share of the total population of all counties

Total: \$2,270,470,641.00

Amount per County: See OPLC Spreadsheet or [Treasury Guidance](#)

Ohio Metropolitan Cities

- Definition:
 - A city with a population above 50,000
 - Fine Print: “The term “metropolitan city” means (A) a city within a metropolitan area which is the central city of such area, as defined and used by the Office of Management and Budget, or (B) any other city, within a metropolitan area, which has a population of fifty thousand or more.” 42 U.S.C 5302(a)(4)
- Methodology:
 - Based on the CDBG formula that estimates community need
 - Fine Print: “The CDBG Program provides annual grants on a formula basis to states, cities, and counties to address community development needs. Under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, CDBG allocations for metropolitan cities and urban counties are determined by a formula, which uses several objective measures of community needs, including the extent of poverty, population, housing overcrowding, and age of housing. Each of these measures examines a community’s needs in relation to all “metropolitan areas,” which is defined to include both metropolitan cities and urban counties.” 42 USC 5306(b)
- Total: **\$2,175,200,110.00**
- Per City: See OPLC Spreadsheet or [Treasury Guidance](#)

Non-Entitlement Units of Local Government (NEUs)

- Definition:
 - Every other unit of government where people live that is not a metropolitan city (population less than 50,000)
 - Distribution cannot exceed 75% of the NEUs most recent budget. Amounts in excess of such cap and therefore not distributed to the NEU must be returned to Treasury by the State or territory.(Interim Rule Page 109).
- Total: **\$843,726,939.00**
 - Per NEU: To be determined by the State
 - NEUs will receive their allocation from the state.

Permitted Uses

Four Categories

- A. To respond to the public health emergency and its negative economic impacts,
- B. To provide premium pay to essential workers,
- C. To provide government services to the extent of eligible governments' revenue losses, and
- D. To make necessary water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure investments

[U.S Department of the Treasury Interim Final Rule RIN 1505-AC77 \(May 10, 2020\)](#)

A. Public Health and economic impact

- **Eligible public health uses**
 - COVID-19 Mitigation and Prevention
 - Medical Expenses
 - Behavioral Health Care.
 - Public Health and Safety Staff
 - Expenses to Improve the Design and Execution of Health and Public Health Programs.
- **Eligible Uses to Address Disparities in Public Health Outcomes.**
 - Funding community health workers to help community members access health services and services to address the social determinants of health,
 - Funding public benefits navigators to assist community members with navigating and applying for available Federal, State, and local public benefits or services;
 - Housing services to support healthy living environments and neighborhoods conducive to mental and physical wellness;
 - Remediation of lead paint or other lead hazards to reduce risk of elevated blood lead levels among children; and Evidence-based community violence intervention programs to prevent violence and mitigate the increase in violence during the pandemic.

A. Public Health and economic impact

- **Responding to Negative Economic Impacts**
 - Assistance to Unemployed Workers
 - State Unemployment Insurance Trust Funds
 - Assistance to Households
 - Assistance to households or populations facing negative economic impacts due to COVID-19 is also an eligible use. This includes: food assistance; rent, mortgage, or utility assistance; counseling and legal aid to prevent eviction or homelessness; cash assistance; emergency assistance for burials, home repairs, weatherization, or other needs; internet access or digital literacy assistance; or job training to address negative economic or public health impacts experienced due to a worker's occupation or level of training.
 - Expenses to Improve Efficacy of Economic Relief Programs. State, local, and Tribal governments may use payments from the Fiscal Recovery Funds to improve efficacy of programs addressing negative economic impacts, including through use of data analysis, targeted consumer outreach, improvements to data or technology infrastructure, and impact evaluations
 - Small Businesses and Nonprofits.
 - Rehiring State, Local, and Tribal Government Staff.
 - Aid to Impacted Industries.
 - Addressing Educational Disparities
 - Promoting Healthy Childhood Environment
 - Building Stronger Communities through Investments in Housing and Neighborhoods.
 - Services to address homelessness such as supportive housing, and to improve access to stable, affordable housing among unhoused individuals;
 - Affordable housing development to increase supply of affordable and high-quality living units;
 - and Housing vouchers, residential counseling, or housing navigation assistance

B. Premium Pay

“Fiscal Recovery Funds payments may be used by recipients to provide premium pay to eligible workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency or to provide grants to third-party employers with eligible workers performing essential work. These are workers who have been and continue to be relied on to maintain continuity of operations of essential critical infrastructure sectors, including those who are critical to protecting the health and wellbeing of their communities” Interim Final Rule page 45

Such workers include:

- Staff at nursing homes, hospitals, and home care settings;
- Workers at farms, food production facilities, grocery stores, and restaurants;
- Janitors and sanitation workers;
- Truck drivers, transit staff, and warehouse workers;
- Public health and safety staff;
- Childcare workers, educators, and other school staff; and
- Social service and human services staff.

C. Revenue Loss

“Recipients may use payments from the Fiscal Recovery Funds for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the COVID-19 51 public health emergency... the Act allow recipients facing budget shortfalls to use payments from the Fiscal Recovery Funds to avoid cuts to government services and, thus, enable State, local, and Tribal governments to continue to provide valuable services and ensure that fiscal austerity measures do not hamper the broader economic recovery. ” Interim Final Rule Page 51

D. Investments in Infrastructure

“To assist in meeting the critical need for investments and improvements to existing infrastructure in water, sewer, and broadband, the Fiscal Recovery Funds provide funds to State, local, and Tribal governments to make necessary investments in these sectors. The Interim Final Rule outlines eligible uses within each category, allowing for a broad range of necessary investments in projects that improve access to clean drinking water, improve wastewater and stormwater infrastructure systems, and provide access to high-quality broadband service.”

Interim Final Rule Page 62.

Restrictions on use of funds

1. Cannot be used to directly or indirectly offset a reduction in net tax revenue resulting from a change in law, regulation, or administrative interpretation.
1. Cannot be used to shore up pension funds.
1. Payments from the Fiscal Recovery Funds are also subject to pre-existing limitations provided in other Federal statutes and regulations and may not be used as non-Federal match for other Federal programs whose statute or regulations bar the use of Federal funds to meet 96 matching requirements.

Timeline for Use of Fiscal Recovery Funds on use of funds

1. Funds may be used for costs incurred beginning on **March 3, 2021**
2. Funds must be obligated (not spent) by **December 31, 2024.**
3. Period of performance will run until **December 31, 2026**

Payments in Tranches to Local Governments and Certain States

1. Local government funding will be distributed in two tranches, the second occurring 12 months after the first (May 2022).
2. States will receive funds in two tranches if their unemployment rate is 2% higher than pre-pandemic levels. (most states)

The purpose of this policy is to encourage governments to adapt to changing circumstances.

Who does the American Rescue Plan help? American families

\$1,400 checks

\$424 billion

**State and local aid
(prevent layoffs and service cuts)**

\$350 billion

Unemployment insurance

\$246 billion

**Veterans
\$17 billion**

**Restaurant and bars
\$25 billion**

**Renters and homeowners
\$40 billion**

**Other
\$45 billion**

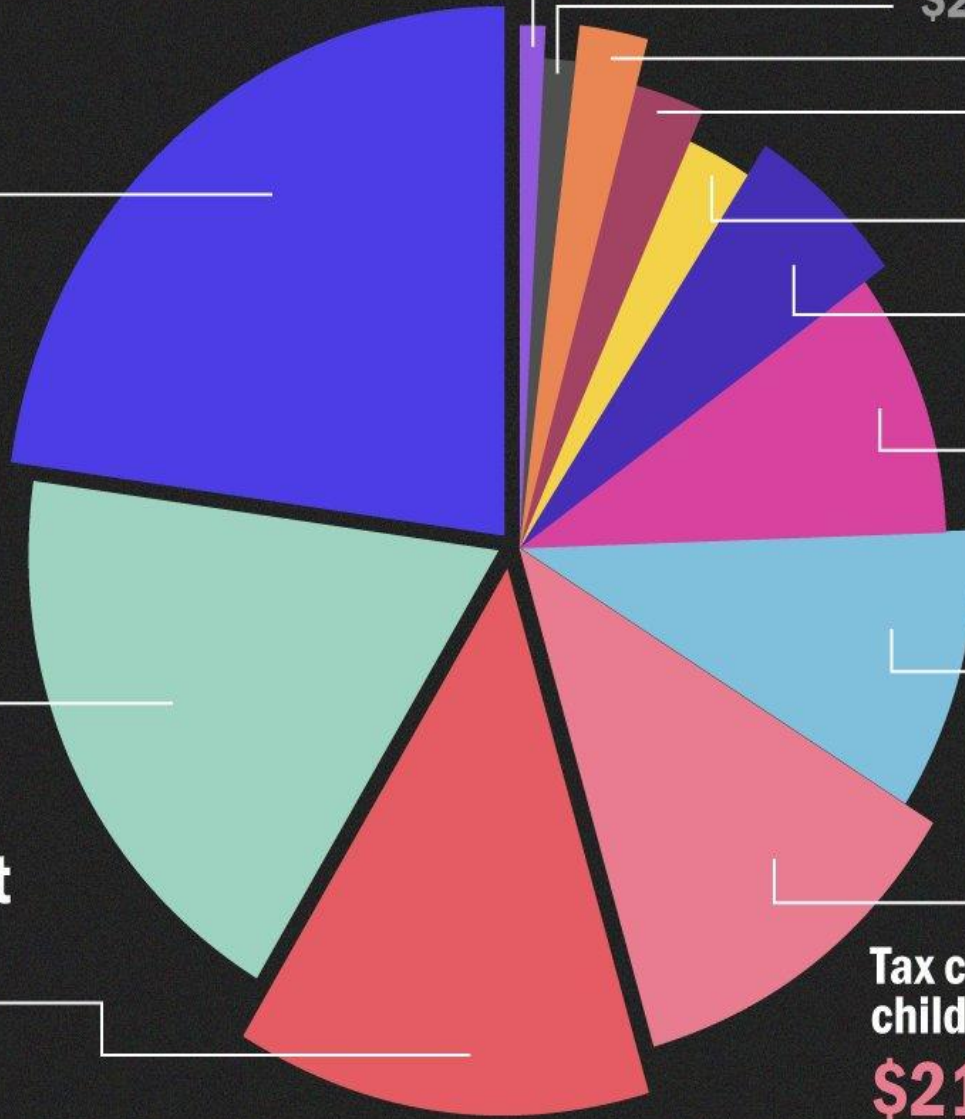
**FEMA disaster relief
\$47 billion**

**Farmers, small businesses, and other vital industries
\$109 billion**

**Vaccinations and health care
\$176 billion**

**Reopen schools and higher education
\$178 billion**

**Tax credits, aid, and child care for families
\$219 billion**



Housing funding in American Rescue Plan

- **\$21.5 billion** for Emergency Rental Assistance adds to \$25 billion provided in December and also administered by Treasury
- **\$5 billion** through the HOME program formula to help jurisdictions secure housing for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness administered by HUD
- **\$5 billion** in emergency housing vouchers and administered by HUD
- **\$5 billion** to cover home energy and water costs and arrears, administered by HHS
- **\$10 billion** to help homeowners avoid foreclosure through the Homeowner Assistance Fund administered by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.
 - NLIHC's analysis of the housing and homelessness provisions in the bill at: <https://tinyurl.com/hh8sdjsy>
 - NAEH blog: <https://endhomelessness.org/help-is-on-the-way-the-american-rescue-plan-act-becomes-law/>



The Ohio Poverty Law Center's mission is to reduce poverty and increase justice by protecting and expanding the legal rights of Ohioans living, working and raising their families in poverty.

Susan Jagers

sjagers@ohiopovertylaw.org

614-824-2501

ARPA and Broadband

Sec. 602 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund

Sec. 603 Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund

Sec. 604 Capital Projects Fund

Sec. 3206 Homeowner Assistance Fund

Sec. 7402 Emergency Connectivity Fund

Sec. 2023 Institute of Museum and Library Services

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund

One of four Eligible Purpose outlined in the Act is to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or *broadband services*

Interim Rule/Guidance:

Broadband infrastructure

- Investments in currently unserved and underserved areas
 - Lack wireline connection that reliably delivers 25 Mbps down, 3 Mbps up
- Encouraged to prioritize projects that achieve last-mile connections to households or businesses
- Infrastructure should deliver services offering reliable 100 Mbps down, 100 Mbps up speeds unless impracticable.

Related programs

- Funds may be used to provide digital literacy training and other programs that promote access to the Internet.

Capital Projects Fund

\$10 billion for Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund to aid in carrying out capital projects, directly enabling work, education, and health monitoring.

- A minimum of \$100 million will be appropriated to each state
- Leftover funding will be reserved and allocated based on population, rurality, and household income.

The focus of the Capital Projects Fund on the continuing need for connectivity in response to the COVID-19 pandemic complements the broader range of uses, including for broadband infrastructure, of the American Rescue Plan's separate \$350 billion Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.

The Capital Projects Fund allows for investment in high-quality broadband as well as other connectivity infrastructure, devices, and equipment. In addition to supporting broadband, it also provides flexibility for each state, territory, and Tribal government to make other investments in critical community hubs or other capital assets that provide access jointly to work, education, and health monitoring.

Homeowner Assistance Fund

Qualified expenses for eligible entities for the purpose of preventing homeowner mortgage delinquencies, defaults, foreclosures, loss of utilities or home energy services, and displacements of homeowners experiencing financial hardship.

Allows payment assistance for internet service, including broadband internet access service.

Funding for E-Rate support for emergency educational connections and devices/Emergency Connectivity Fund

\$7.17 billion to the Federal Communications Commission to help schools and libraries ensure that our nation's schoolchildren can fully participate in remote learning, even as schools look to reopen safely.

This funding will be distributed to public and private schools and public libraries to purchase Internet access and connected devices (including hotspots, routers, modems and computers) for students, educators and library patrons who lack home Internet access, a connected device, or both.

Schools and libraries would be eligible to purchase eligible services and equipment for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic plus at least one year. They will be reimbursed through the program for 100% of the costs associated with the eligible services and equipment.

The FCC issued program rules on May 11, 2021

<https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-21-58A1.pdf>

Institute of Museum and Library Services

\$200 million to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for the necessary expenses to carry out museum and library services.

Allocated on a population-based formula: Ohio libraries will receive \$4,547,789

State libraries will distribute funding to local libraries according to state priorities, to maintain and enhance library operations and services, including:

- offering greater access to technology, including through expanding digital networks and connectivity, purchasing hotspots, computers and digital content;
- establishing mobile digital labs;
- enhancing workforce development and jobseeker programming; and
- ensuring training and technical support for libraries, including to assist with the safe handling of materials.

Priority Use of Funds

Complement the state's new Residential Broadband Expansion Grant Program

All Hands-on-Deck approach to expand access

Government, quasi-governmental entities, regional councils

Nonprofits

Private internet service providers

Focus on affordability as well as infrastructure

Use experience of temporary assistance programs to create permanent

internet affordability programs



Support for child care in the American Rescue Plan

Will Petrik, Budget Researcher

The American Rescue Plan - Federal relief will make a difference for families and child care providers

- Provides significant investments in child care
 - \$499 million for expanded child care assistance
 - \$800 million to help stabilize child care providers

Stabilization grants for child care providers (\$800 million)

Can be used to help child care providers pay for:

- personnel costs / wages of the child care workforce;
- rent, utilities, facility maintenance, insurance;
- personal protective equipment (PPE) and COVID-related supplies,
- goods and services needed to resume providing care;
- mental health supports for children and early educators; and
- reimbursement of costs associated with the current public health emergency

Timeline for stabilization grants in Ohio

- Dec. 11, 2021 – The federal guidance strongly encourages the lead agency in Ohio to obligate half of the funds by December 11, 2021.
- Sept 30, 2022 – all stabilization funds must be obligated
- Sept 30, 2023 – all stabilization funds must be liquidated

Expanded child care assistance (\$499 million)

Can be used to:

- expand access to subsidized child care to more working families;
- make child care affordable for more working families;
- make wages more competitive;
- improve the quality of child care; or
- enhance child care provider rates

Timeline for spending expanded child care assistance funds in Ohio

- Sept 30, 2023 – all stabilization funds must be obligated
- Sept 30, 2024 – all stabilization funds must be liquidated

The American Rescue Plan - stimulus and tax credits will make a difference for families

- Provides unprecedented resources for children and families
 - **\$1,400 stimulus checks per person** (one-time stimulus)
 - **\$3,000 per child** (Child Tax Credit) for each child age 6-17
 - **\$3,600 per child** (Child Tax Credit) for each child under age 6
 - Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit – the max credit has been increased from **\$1,050 to \$4,000 for one child** and **\$2,100 to \$8,000 for two or more children.**

The American Rescue Plan – how one family would benefit

- Mary and John have two children (ages 4 and 7) and together make \$100,000 annually. They plan to spend \$4,000 for summer camp for their 7-year old and \$5,000 for child care for the 4-year old this year.
- Mary and John's family would be eligible for the following support:
 - \$5,600 - \$1,400 one-time stimulus payment for each family member
 - \$6,600 (\$550 per month) - Child Tax Credit payment
 - \$3,600 for the 4-year old (under age 6) and \$3,000 for the 7-year old
 - \$4,500 – Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit payment
 - 50% of \$4,000 (\$2,000) and 50% of \$5,000 (\$2,500)

100 East Broad Street
Suite 501
Columbus, OH 43215

T 614-221-4336
F 614-221-4338
ohiofoodbanks.org

Food Security & the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021



Greater Cleveland
Food Bank



mid-ohio food
collective

foodbank | farm | farmacy | kitchen | market



Second
Harvest
Food Bank

Champaign • Clark • Logan



Ohio's largest charitable response to hunger, representing
Ohio's 12 Feeding America foodbanks
and 3,600 member
agencies

“We cannot, will not, let people go hungry... We have to act now. It's not just to meet the moral obligation to treat our fellow Americans with the dignity and respect they deserve. We must act decisively and boldly to grow the economy for all Americans, not just for tomorrow, but in the future.”

President Joe Biden, January 22, 2021

By EO/admin authority prior to ARPA

- Began seeking approval from DOJ to expand SNAP Emergency Allotments authorized by Congress to reach households with little to no net income during remainder of state & federal emergency declarations – households previously left out of SNAP EAs
- Indexed Pandemic EBT benefits to match 15% boost to SNAP authorized by Congress in late 2020
- Initiated process for revising the Thrifty Food Plan to better reflect the cost of a healthy basic diet
- Extension of waivers (free take-home summer meals for all kids)

Included in ARPA

- Extended **15% boost to maximum SNAP household benefit** (authorized by Congress in late 2020) through **September 2021**
 - Avg. \$28/Ohioan/month increase
 - Addt'l \$122 million for Ohio for 3 months
- **Pandemic-EBT extended for summer 2021 & duration of public health emergency**
 - States must seek plan approval for students eligible for free/reduced-price meals & non-student kids under 6 in SNAP HHs to get Summer P-EBT (Ohio est. value = \$370.5 million)



Included in ARPA

- SNAP Administrative Funds: \$1.135 billion in 100% federal funding as they respond to the increased demand for SNAP
- Ohio's share = nearly \$35 million over three years, including \$7.5 million in this fiscal year

Sign-on to support user-centered principles for SNAP Administrative Dollars in Ohio

The 2021 American Rescue Plan includes important investments in nutrition programs, including \$1.135



United States Department of Agriculture

DATE: April 29, 2021

SUBJECT: SNAP State Administrative Funding – American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

TO: All State SNAP Agencies
All Regions

On March 11, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (the Act). This legislation provides support for American families, State governments, and communities to rebuild and respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Today, I write to you to discuss the road ahead and how we can work together to implement the Act by helping Americans to put food on their tables.

Included in ARPA

- \$490 million for more fruits & vegetables in the WIC benefit (*Ohio WIC customers must physically go to WIC office to load benefits onto card*) – available for 4 months (*April – July in Ohio*)
- \$390 million for WIC modernization, innovation, & outreach (no guidance yet)





Questions?

***Joree Novotny, Director of
External Affairs***

jnovotny@ohiofoodbanks.org





Advocates for Ohio's Future

Pandemic Emergency Assistance Funds TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) in The American Rescue Plan Act

May 14, 2021

Kelsey Bergfeld, Director | kbergfeld@communitysolutions.com



Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund

- The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 established the **\$1 Billion** Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund (PEAF)
- The PEAF provides funding to states (which includes the District of Columbia), tribes administering a **TANF** program, and five U.S. territories to assist needy families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Grantees may use funds to provide certain non-recurrent, short term (NRST) benefits
- **Ohio's allocation: \$33,945,583 million**
- Timeframe: Dollars must be expended between April 1, 2021, to September 30, 2022, the end of fiscal year 2022



Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund

Allowable Costs

These dollars must be designed to deal with a specific crisis situation or episode of need, must not be intended to meet on-going needs, must not extend beyond four months, and must only include expenditures such as:

- emergency assistance and diversion payments (including one-time retention payments)
- emergency housing and short-term homelessness assistance
- emergency food assistance
- short-term utilities payments
- burial assistance
- clothing allowances (i.e. work allowances) and
- back to school payments



Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund

Unallowable Costs

The use of funds may not include:

- tax credits
- child-care
- transportation
- short-term education
- training
- on-going needs
- cannot extend beyond four months



Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund

Ohio's Actions

- All of these funds are being provided to the county agencies to support county PRC (Prevention, Retention & Contingency) programs
 - County agencies will not be required to modify their existing PRC plans to use these funds.
- Fifteen percent (15%) of the allocation may be used for administration.
- Funding will be allocated to the county job and family service agencies using the TANF Regular and TANF Administration allocations formula in OAC.
- *May 5: Full ~\$34 million allocation was amended into SB 109 PANDEMIC RELIEF-BUSINESS, CHILD CARE, VETERANS (Manning, Rulli), and passed by the House and Senate*



THE CENTER FOR EST. 1913
COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS
RESEARCH • ANALYSIS • ACTION

The American Rescue Plan Act & Medicaid

Loren Anthes

May 14, 2021

Introduction

Loren Anthes, MBA, CSSGB
William C. and Elizabeth M. Treuhaft Chair for Health Planning
Public Policy Fellow, Center for Medicaid Policy
The Center for Community Solutions
lanthes@communitysolutions.com
@lorenanthes | @communitysols



ARPA Medicaid Review: Topic Areas

- Coverage
- Benefits
- Finance



When you see this, it means we have more on this topic at www.communitysolutions.com

Coverage

POLICY CONCEPTS

- Medicaid Expansion Incentive
 - 5% FMAP bump for non-expansion states
- Postpartum Coverage
 - 5 year availability starting 4.1.22
 - Extends to 12 months from current standard of 60 days

OHIO IMPACT



- Postpartum
 - Current law in Ohio is 60 days
 - aw change is required, may need an appropriation
 - Can be accomplished through state plan amendment (SPA)
 - LSC Analysis (inclusive of SUD)
 - 14k women
 - 15m, state share

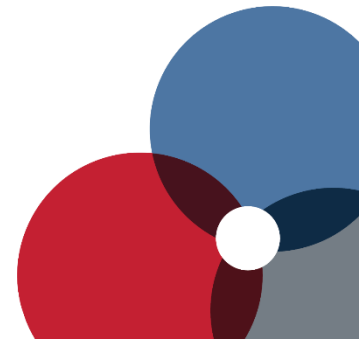
Benefits

POLICY CONCEPTS

- Vaccines 100% covered
- Mobile Crisis
 - Option with 85% match for first 3 years, available for 5
 - \$15M grants
- 10% increase in FMAP for HCBS
 - “Supplement, not supplant”
 - Implement or expand one or more activities
- \$900M for NFs to address quality, PPE, etc.
 - \$250M for NF strike teams to address covid-19
- \$80M for pediatric mental health services
- \$3.5B in block grants for BH workforce

OHIO IMPACT

- What *IS* Ohio considering?
 - Not sure what the state is currently pursuing
- HCBS Estimate
 - Using historic data, a 10% increase would be over \$500m



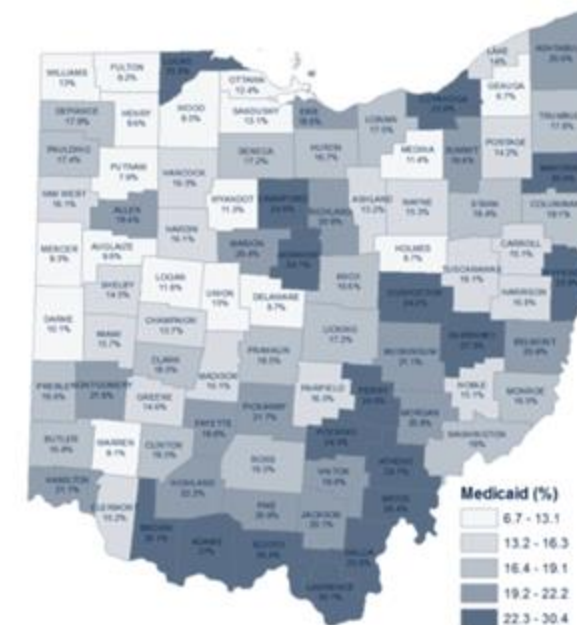
Finance

POLICY CONCEPTS

- Rebate Cap Eliminated
 - MACPAC Recommendation
 - Payments that go to states based on average manufacturer price (AMP), which is capped at 100%
 - 2019: \$134M in rebates
 - CCS estimates \$304M over 10 years
- DSH recalculation to account for eFMAP
- \$8.5B for rural providers

OHIO IMPACT

- Cap Elimination
 - \$304M over 10 years



Questions?

Loren Anthes, MBA, CSSGB

William C. and Elizabeth M. Treuhaft Chair for Health Planning

Public Policy Fellow, Center for Medicaid Policy

The Center for Community Solutions

lanthes@communitysolutions.com

@lorenanthes | @communitysols





THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) ACT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH OVERVIEW

Soley Hernandez, LISW-S
Associate Director

The Ohio Council of Behavioral Health & Family Services Providers (the Ohio Council) is a statewide trade association representing over 150 community-based mental health and addiction treatment service providers throughout Ohio.

Ohio Council members offer services to children, adults, and families through prevention, school-based intervention, treatment, and recovery support services.

The Ohio Council strategically pursues effective policy solutions that address the overdose epidemic and meet the rising demand for community-based mental health and addiction treatment services so all Ohioans may experience health, recovery, and wellness.



ARP HIGHLIGHTS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

The National Council for Mental Wellbeing (formerly the National Council for Behavioral Health) provided an [overview of funding](#) from the ARP relevant to behavioral health organizations.

- **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Block Grants:** Provides \$3 billion for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment block grant and the Community Mental Health Services block grant (\$1.5 billion each).
- These funds will be allocated to the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services and then will be dispersed to county boards and providers.

ARP HIGHLIGHTS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- **Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs):** Provides \$420 million to SAMHSA to fund CCBHC Expansion Grants.
 - Ohio providers have been awarded 11 CCBHC expansion grants, 9 of them were awarded after \$250 million was earmarked for CCBHCs through the CARES Act.
 - We anticipate additional Ohio providers will receive CCBHC grants from this funding.

ARP HIGHLIGHTS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- **Provider Relief Funds:** \$8.5 billion in new money to the Provider Relief Fund for providers in rural areas and those serving rural communities.
 - Behavioral health organizations are able to apply for these funds depending on the specific criteria. There have been several rounds of these funds available previously for various provider types that behavioral health organizations in Ohio have been able to access.

ARP HIGHLIGHTS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- **Other Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Funding:** Provides more than \$450 million in additional funding for SAMHSA and Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) programming including funding for mental health and addiction services, workforce education and training, suicide prevention and public education campaigns.

ARP GUIDANCE

- The [U.S. Department of Treasury released guidance](#) for State and Local funds on Monday 5/10/21, including a helpful [fact sheet](#).
 - Funds can be used flexibly to meet local needs.
 - Local governments should expect to receive funds in two tranches, with 50% provided beginning in May 2021 and the balance delivered 12 months later.
 - Ohio [cities](#) and [counties](#) will receive \$6.6 billion
 - States that have experienced a net increase in the unemployment rate of more than 2 percentage points from February 2020 to the latest available data as of the date of certification will receive their full allocation of funds in a single payment; other states will receive funds in two equal tranches.
 - Ohio will [receive approximately \\$5.4 billion](#) in two payments.

ARP GUIDANCE

- Funds can be used to support public health expenditures, by funding COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, **behavioral healthcare**, and certain public health and safety staff.
 - Mental Health Treatment
 - Substance Use Treatment
 - Other Behavioral Health Services
 - Hotlines & Warmlines
 - Crisis Intervention
 - Outreach services to promote access to care
- Providing premium pay to essential workers

ARP GUIDANCE

- MH and SAPT block grant funds and guidance from SAMHSA to OhioMHAS have not yet been released.
- The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has not yet announced guidance for new allocations of provider relief funds.
- [Timelines](#)
 - State & Local funds can be expended through December 31, 2024.
 - MH & SAPT block grant, CCBHC, and provider relief funds are available until expended.

ARP FUNDING IDEAL USES FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Crisis Continuum
 - Mobile Response and Stabilization Services
 - Crisis Call Centers/9-8-8 Implementation
- CCBHCs
- Direct funding to behavioral health organizations
 - Workforce
 - COVID response
 - Telehealth
 - Outreach




THANK YOU!

Soley Hernandez, LISW-S

Associate Director

hernandez@theohiocouncil.org



The American Rescue Plan's Impact on People with Disabilities and Home and Community-Based Services and Supports

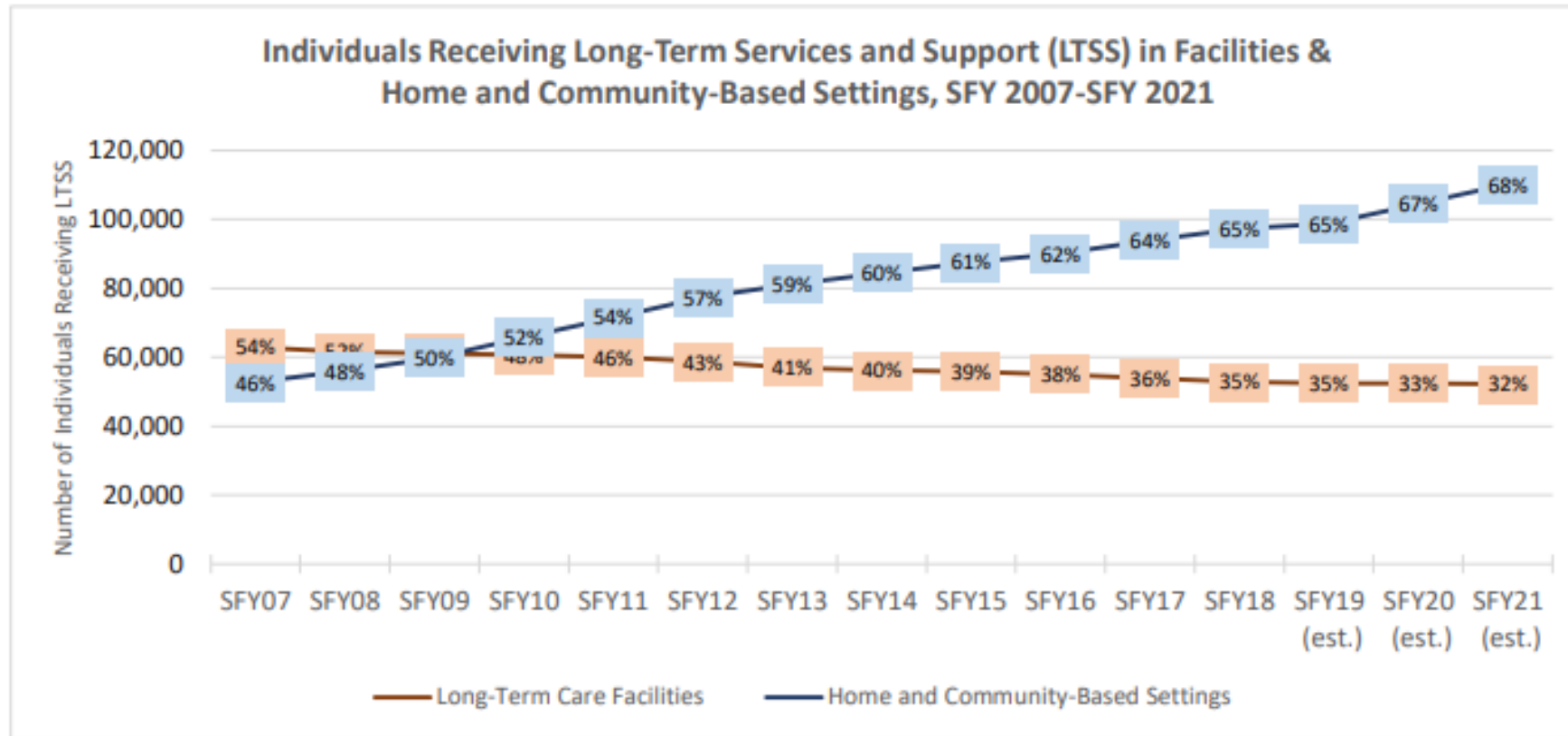
Jordan Ballinger,
Policy Director



**Disability
Rights** OHIO

We have the
legal right of way.

Historic Overview



Ohio Department of Medicaid. Medicaid Community Living. 2019.

Home and Community-Based Services and Supports



- Increase in the FMAP for HCBS by 10%
- To “implement, or supplement the implementation of, one or more activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen”
- This increase is effective through March 31, 2022
- States can use this funding through March 31, 2024
- Ohio will be receiving an estimated \$434,450,000

Ohio's Plan

- The Ohio Department of Medicaid has not released a plan for drawing the funding or how the enhanced match will be spent;
- ODM has been waiting, along with several other states, on guidance from CMS;
- Guidance from CMS was released May 13, 2021.

COVID-Related HCBS Needs



- Provide new or additional HCBS waivers to reduce risk of institutionalization;
- Increase provider rates for home health agencies;
- Increase wages for direct care worker;
- Payment to providers for hazard pay, overtime pay, and PPE costs incurred during the pandemic;
- Increase services for individuals transitioning out of institutions and into the community;
- Increase funding to case management services for those most at-risk of institutionalization;
- Increase funding to transition coordination services; and
- Increase rates for behavioral health providers for mental health services and supports;

Capacity Building

- Provide new or additional Medicaid HCBS services;
- Expedited eligibility processes for access to HCBS;
- Increase waiver slots to reduce number of individuals waiting to receive a waiver;
- Expand community transitions;
- Expand provider capacity by increasing rates and wages long-term;



American Rescue Plan: Older Adults

Beth Kowalczyk
Chief Policy Officer
Ohio Association
of Area Agencies
on Aging





Federal Response to COVID-19: Older Americans Act

- **COVID-19 Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) funds:**
 - Title III C-1 Congregate Meals and C-2 Home Delivered Meals - \$8.8 million
- **Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act):**
 - Title III-B Supportive Services, III-C1 and C2 Meals and III-E Family Caregiver Support - \$31,848,221
- **Consolidated Appropriations Act:**
 - Title III C1 and C2 Meals: \$6,137,000

Ohio's Area Agencies on Aging COVID-19 Response by the Numbers

March 2020 through July 2020



48,217 people received 4,044,449 home-delivered and shelf-stable meals directly in response to COVID-19



445,216 grab and go/carry out meals were provided



64,258 personal care/wellness kits delivered (with significantly more to go out in August and September)



68,336 requests for assistance



3,107 people participating in online training (e.g. wellness; Medicare)



81,766 individuals reached with telephone reassurance and check in calls



6371 caregivers received support

www.ohioaging.org



Prepared by
BETH KOIWALCZYK
CHIEF POLICY OFFICER

LARKE RECCHIE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

1263 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio
www.ohioaging.org



Ohio's Area Agencies on Aging

Vaccine Outreach and Assistance

Ohio's Area Agencies on Aging are:

- Educating their communities on the importance of vaccination
- Helping older adults navigate complicated online and phone vaccine sign-up systems
- Assisting with transportation and other support
- Assisting at vaccination clinics



Call 1-866-243-5678 to be connected to the area agency on aging serving your community or visit ohioaging.org



American Rescue Plan: Older Americans Act

Ohio Total OAA: \$50,782,556

- to carry out the Older Americans Act of 1965
 - to remain available until expended
 - Match requirements are not waived for B,C, and E
-
- Title IIIB Supportive Services = \$16,719,580
 - Title IIIC Meals = \$27,260,185
 - Title IIID Prevention and Wellness = \$ 1,599,264
 - Title IIIE National Family Caregiver = \$ 5,203,527

<https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/about-acl/2021-05/FY%202021%20ARP%206%20Programs%204-30-21%20Values%20Only%20version%202.pdf>

Fiscal FAQ: https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/2021-05/ARP%20Fiscal%20FAQ_4_30_2021.pdf

Program FAQ: https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/2021-05/ARP%20Programs%20FAQ_5_3_2021.pdf



American Rescue Plan: OAA Title II B

- including for—
 - (A) supportive services of the types made available for fiscal year 2020;
 - (B) efforts related to COVID–19 vaccination outreach, including education, communication, transportation, and other activities to facilitate vaccination of older individuals; and
 - (C) prevention and mitigation activities related to COVID–19 focused on addressing extended social isolation among older individuals, including activities for investments in technological equipment and solutions or other strategies aimed at alleviating negative health effects of social isolation due to long-term stay-at-home recommendations for older individuals for the duration of the COVID–19 public health emergency



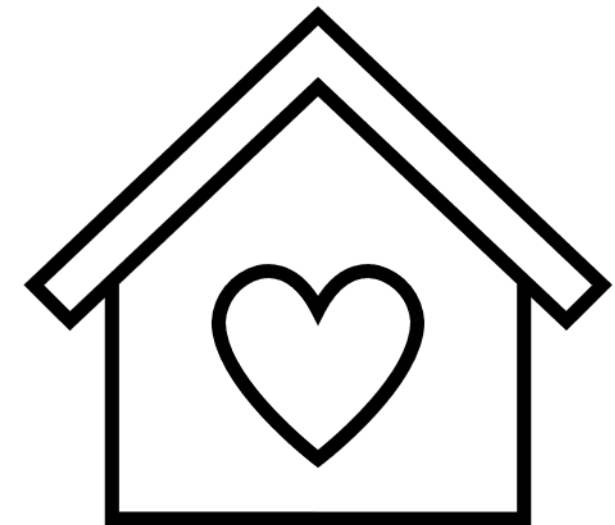
National Disaster Declaration

Triggers Section 310(c) of Older Americans Act which permits states to use any portion of the funds made available under any and all sections of the Act for disaster relief for older individuals. Both existing grant awards and the emergency funding.



American Rescue Plan: HCBS E-FMAP

- Increases the federal matching rate (FMAP) for spending on Medicaid home and community-based services by 10%
- Spending from April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022 qualifies
- States required to maintain state spending levels as of April 1, 2021.
- Cannot supplant existing funding
- On top of the regular EFMAP
- Estimates for Ohio from 3rd parties: range from \$434,450,000 to \$1.6 billion in federal funding





American Rescue Plan: HCBS E-FMAP

Qualifying Spending

- Home health care
- Personal care services
- Program for All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
- HCBS waiver services Case management services
- Rehabilitative services, including those related to behavioral health
- Other such services defined by Secretary of HHS





American Rescue Plan: HCBS E-FMAP

“The State shall implement, or supplement the implementation of, one or more activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen home and community-based services under the State Medicaid program.”





American Rescue Plan: Other Programs

- OAA Title VII Long Term Care Ombudsman = Ohio receives \$10,000,000
- USDA Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) = \$37 million (national)
- Elder Justice Act = \$276 million (national)
- Section 5310 Funding for transportation for older adults and people with disabilities = \$50 million (national)



Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER I and II) *Allowable Activities**

- a. Activities authorized under ESEA, IDEA, Perkins, McKinney-Vento subtitle B, Adult Education and Family Literacy Acts.
- b. Coordinate preparedness and response efforts of LEA with state, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments and other relevant agencies to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19.
- c. Activities to address unique needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, foster youth.
- d. Develop and implement procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of LEA.
- e. Training and PD for staff of LEA on sanitation and minimizing spread of infectious diseases.

Darold Johnson
Director of Legislation
and Political Action
Ohio Federation of Teachers

K-12 Education and the American Rescue Plan



g. Planning for and coordinating during long-term closures (meals, technology, IDEA, and other educational services provided consistent with Federal, state, local requirements).

h. Purchase educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students served by LEA, including low-income and IDEA.

i. Provide mental health services and supports.

j. Plan and implement summer learning and supplemental afterschool activities.

k. Addressing learning loss by: administering and using high-quality assessments to assess students' academic progress and meet students' academic needs, including through differentiating instruction; implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students; providing information and assistance to parent and families on how they can effectively support students, including in a distance learning environment; and/or tracking student attendance and improving student engagement in distance education.

l. School facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs.

Darold Johnson
Director of Legislation
and Political Action
Ohio Federation of Teachers

K-12 Education and the American Rescue Plan

m. Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including mechanical and nonmechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, filtering, purification and other air cleaning, fans, control systems, and window and door repair and replacement.

n. Provide principals and other school leaders with resources necessary to address needs of their individual schools.

o. Other activities necessary to maintain the operations and continuity of services in the LEA and continuing to employ existing staff of the LEA.

For ESSER I or II questions, please contact your federal programs consultant or email the Office of Federal Programs at federalprograms@education.ohio.gov.

**Note that the “additional” LEA allowable uses of funds under ESSER II in the CRRSA Act (addressing learning loss, preparing schools for reopening, and testing, repairing, and upgrading projects to improve air quality in school buildings) were already permitted under the CARES Act.*



Darold Johnson
Director of Legislation
and Political Action
Ohio Federation of Teachers

K-12 Education and the American Rescue Plan



OHIO WORKFORCE COALITION

Growing Ohio's Economy with a Skilled Adult Workforce

www.ohioworkforcecoalition.org

Advocates for Ohio's Future

Learn more about OWC at
www.ohioworkforcecoalition.org

Workforce Development in ARPA

1. How much money is Ohio set to receive?

- ARPA does not specify specific investments in workforce development.
- There is the possibility of workforce programming being connected to the priority areas tangential to workforce:
 - \$3 billion to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) at Department of Commerce.
 - Variable amounts based upon funding to states and municipalities for infrastructure projects & how they deploy them.

Workforce Development in ARPA

2. Timeline for spending.

- Various timelines based upon primary funding mechanism of each project or investment.
- EDA dollars must be spent in just over a year.

Workforce Development in ARPA

3. Federal Guidance on dollars?

- Treasury's Interim Final Rule just came out this week
- A lot to process and consider but a few pieces stand out:
 - Focus on creation of good jobs and support for them—including grants to employers to offer premium pay
 - Notes that Treasury will be asking for workforce plans for water, sewer, and broadband projects.
 - Allows for public sector hiring to reinforce and restore government workforces

Workforce Development in ARPA

4. Are there Rumors about how Ohio plans to spend these dollars?

- Prior to guidance, I was told at the state level Ohio expects to focus ARPA funds on the unemployment system and childcare—this is consistent with ARPA goals.
- Real opportunities to impact how funds are deployed for workforce will come through the investments in water, sewer, and broadband.

Workforce Development in ARPA

5. What are the ideal uses?

- Focus on support to businesses also including quality standards for jobs—beyond wages to include predictable schedules, benefits—and ARPA to support workers through wage premiums or extended UI
- Establish systems that improve accountability for expenditures of these funds—specifically set target dates for when departments/projects must share outcomes data that is disaggregated by race and use this to guide a strategy to address disparities across Ohio.

STILL TO COME!!!

- The American Jobs Plan and the American Families Plan are where workforce development comes up.
- Include Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act and Trade Adjustment Act funding.
- National Skills Coalition expects these to pass later this year.



**OHIO WORKFORCE
COALITION**

Rebecca Kusner
614-404-3882

rebeccak@ohioworkforcecoalition.org
Ohio Workforce Coalition



Steve Wagner
AOF Co-Chair

Executive Director of the Universal Health Care Action Network
of Ohio

Our Mission:

Advocates for Ohio's Future promotes health and human service budget and policy solutions so that all Ohioans live better lives.



Questions?

Sign up for Weekly Newsletter & Events: [HERE](#)

Follow us on Twitter: @Advocates4OH

[AOF Steering Committee](#) | www.advocatesforohio.org

kbergfeld@communitysolutions.com