STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS

GUILFORD COUNTY

2024 RECOVERY PLAN

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Executive Summary

"There's a saying. That you really don't know who you are until you have been tested during hard times. That same holds true to our local government. Over the last few years. The pandemic tested both our commitment and our community. And we excelled. I'm more optimistic today than ever before because each and every one of you in this room and watching online rose to the occasion to tackle every obstacle the pandemic put us through.

...

Like many other counties across our state. The pandemic exposed some cracks in our foundation. We were forced to take a hard look at major issues through different lenses, just like food insecurity, the state of our community's physical health and mental well-being, access to healthcare and childcare, and shortage in our housing, and the need to strengthen our schools and our economy so we are better prepared for any future crisis. We studied the impact. We learned, we not only passed the test, but we also surpass even our own expectations as a united community, building a better future for all our cities. By working together. We did develop a framework for our recovery and resilience plan. And then, in the last year, we leveraged federal, state and local dollars to fund dozens of community-based projects."

-Skip Alson, Chairman, Guilford County Board of County Commissioner
2023 State of the County Address

Guilford County, North Carolina is the third most populous county in the state with an estimated population of 542,000 residents. Guilford is a diverse community with 48% of residents identifying at White, 36% as Black, 9% as Hispanic or Latino, 6% as Asian, and 4% as some other race. Home to NC A&T, UNCG, Bennet College, High Point University, Guilford College, Greensboro College, and GTCC, the County is a center for educational excellence. The median household income in the county is $55,577 and top employers include Cone Health and the Guilford County School System.

Guilford County received $104.3 million in CSLFRF funds, delivered in two tranches in July 2021 and July 2022. More than 2,200 Guilford County residents participated in community outreach events and online feedback forums to share their priorities for the investment of ARPA dollars.

Guilford County opened a Growth and Recovery Request for Ideas (RFI) process for CSLFRF. The RFI process was designed to collect collaborative project ideas and proposals to support the community's near and long-term growth and recovery and respond to

COVID-19 and its negative economic impacts. More information about this process can be found in the 2022 Recovery Plan, found here.

On March 18, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners identified the following priorities for expenditure of CSLFRF.

- Healthy Early Childhood Environments and Education
- Access to Healthcare
- Behavioural Health & Substance Use
- Small Business, Economy, and Workforce Development
- Broadband and Digital Inclusion
- Strong Community and Government

Further information about these how these priorities were determined can be found in the Board Retreat Report.

Last year, the BOCC considered community feedback and RFI project ideas, heard a series of presentations from community partners, and sought alignment with strategic priority areas as they made formal allocations of CSLFRF funds. The funding distribution by strategic priority area is outlined below.
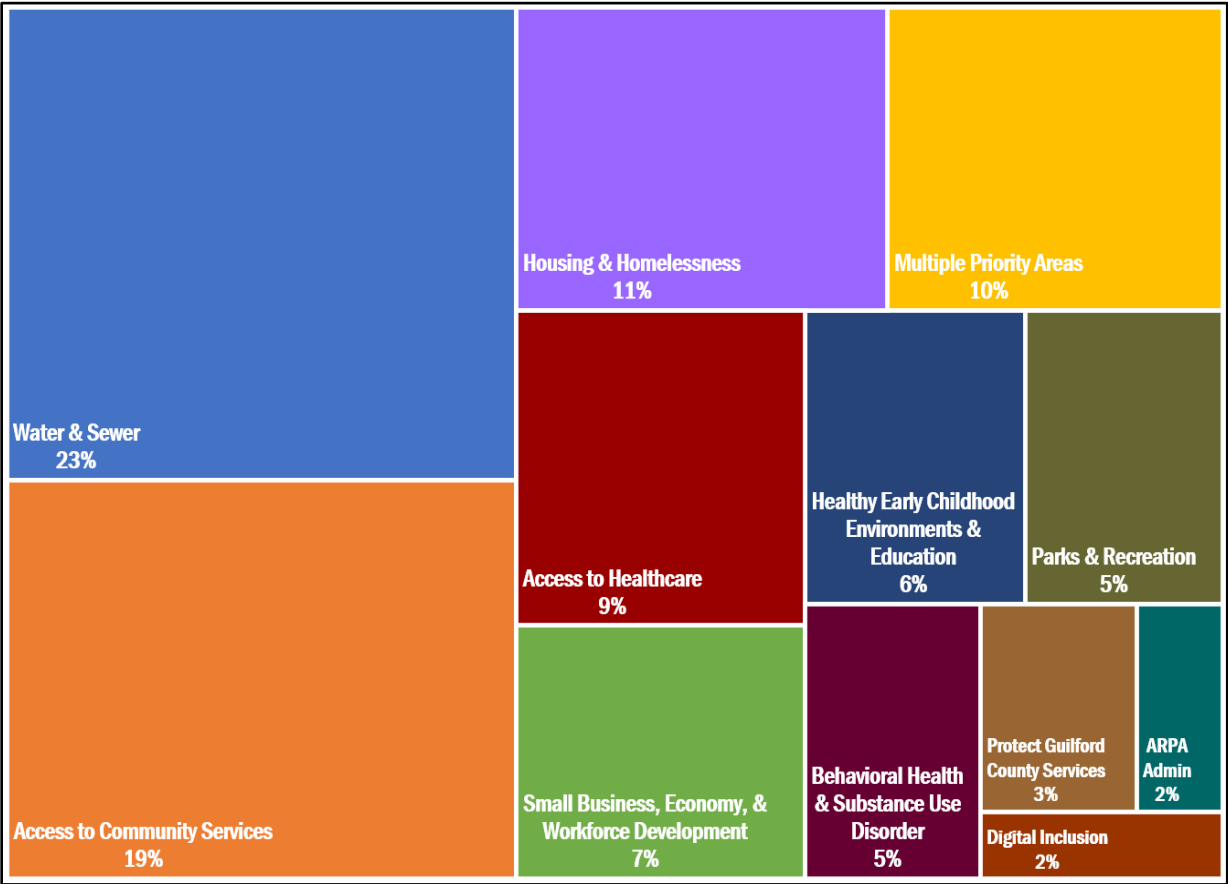
Through these funding allocations, Guilford County committed to deep collaboration with the community.

- 9 Municipal partners contracted to implement water/sewer & recreation programs.
- 43 Non-profit organizations contracted to lead programs or initiatives.
- 100+ Community Organizations engaged in programming or supporting program implementation.

The County also balanced investments that built off existing county and regional efforts with investments in innovative concepts and pilot programs.

Over **$25 million** invested in innovative ideas and pilot programs.

Including integrated service delivery, recovery housing for pregnant women and women with children, school telehealth, and development of a food security network.

Approx. **$29 million** invested in projects also receiving state funding.

Including municipal water infrastructure, broadband infrastructure expansion, and the Steelhouse construction.

Over the past year, we have continued to see major strides in community collaboration, dedication to improving the outcomes for our residents, and preparation of our county with strong infrastructure and partnerships to tackle future challenges.

Through the end of FY23, Guilford County has experienced $90,2033,144 in total revenue loss based on the US Treasury formula outlined in the Final Rule. These funds are being used to support projects that align with strategic priority areas for CSLFRF funding as well as for county operating expenses to free up other county funds for longer term strategic initiatives.

The following 2024 Guilford County Recovery Plan describes the county's CSLFRF investment strategy and provides details and status updates on all programs and projects utilizing county CSLFRF funding.

Uses of Funds

On July 15, 2021, the County Manager presented a CSLFRF Engagement and Investment Strategy to the Board of County Commissioners. The Strategy included several funding principles, for the County to commit to in the expenditure of CSLFRF across all expenditure categories and each phase of obligation and expenditure:

- **Center community voice** in decision-making.
- **Honor County values** of equity and inclusion, accountability, service excellence, and transparency/communication.
- **Build on foundation** of existing County and regional efforts.
- **Maximize funding** by cross-mapping initiatives against more restrictive funding streams and State and Federal opportunities.
- **Invest in best practices** by adding capacity, infrastructure, and expertise early.
- **Focus on sustainability** with one-time uses or by establishing a path to sustainability.

CSLFRF Investing Timeline

Guilford County Board of Commissioners identified investment priorities as listed below and determined the governance structure for proposal consideration. More information on the community feedback and investment priorities can be found in the 2022 Recovery Plan.

- Access to Healthcare
- Small Business, Economy, & Workforce Development
- Health Early Childhood Environments & Education
- Behavioral Health & Substance Use Disorder
- Broadband & Digital Inclusion
- Housing & Homelessness
- Water & Sewer Infrastructure
- Access to Community Services
- Parks & Recreation
- Protect Guilford County Services
- ARPA Administration

Below is an overview of the CSLFRF investing timeline, beginning in 2021 to the present. See press releases regarding funding allocations here, and learn more about each approved project in the Project Inventory and Performance Report section of this report.

July - October 2021: Community Engagement & ARPA Administration

Guilford County contracted with ETI Institute to conduct a community survey to assess the community's needs and desires for investment of CSLFRF. The work was completed in 2021, and survey results were presented to the Board of Commissioners. More information on the community survey can be found here.

October - December 2021: Emergency Funding

Funding allocations were made to emergency management for personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies to support efforts to address the ongoing public health emergency.

February-March 2022: Request for Ideas & Investment Priorities

The County opened a Growth & Recovery Request for Ideas (RFI) process from February 14 - March 13, 2022. 75 submissions from external entities were collected, totaling over $260 million in funding opportunities. Internal departments were then invited to submit idea proposals.

May 2022-August 2022 – Project Presentations

The Board heard proposals for ARPA funding from internal departments, nonprofits, municipalities, and other community partners on a range of issues, including, but not limited to integrated service delivery, child and adult protective services, first responder training expansion programs, food security, recovery housing, water and infrastructure projects, and community development programs.

The Board of Commissioners approved CLFRF management policies developed by the Pandemic Recovery Team.

August-October 2022 – Funding Allocations

August 4, 2022, the board approved $4.3 million in funding for Children's Home Society, FJC/DSS Protective Services Team, Food Security Program, and EMT/Paramedic Academy Expansion and Fire Academy Launch.

August 9, 2022, the board approved funding to municipalities totaling $41 million for projects.

September 15, 2022, the board approved funding to municipalities High Point and Jamestown for a total of $8.3 million in projects.

October 6, 2022, the board approved allocation of remaining $37 million for projects related to Healthy Childhood Environments, Housing and Homelessness, Behavioral Health & Substance Misuse Resources, Access to Health Care, Small Business, Economic & Workforce Development, and the Town of Sedalia.

November 2022-June 2023 – Contract Development & Initial Project Implementation

After all funding allocations were made, the Pandemic Recovery Team worked with community partners and county departments to create more detailed scopes of work and

budgets for funded programs. Contracts with external agencies were taken back to the Board of Commissioners for approval.

The Pandemic Recovery Team developed implementation plans to aid organizations in compliance with the federal spending and monitoring requirements. Quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports were submitted and can be found on the [Guilford County ARPA website](#) in the Reports section.

December 15, 2022, the board allocated a portion of ARPA funding to general county operating expenses and created the ARPA Enabled general fund department.

July 2023 – June 2024 – Project Implementation, Monitoring, & Data Collection

The past year has been characterized by ongoing implementation of funded projects, monitoring project progress and addressing challenges, and collecting output and preliminary outcome data. It has included groundbreaking for the Steelhouse, AT&T broadband expansion, and in multiple locations across the county for municipal water, sewer, and recreation projects. It has also seen growth in impactful programs such as an 80% increase in enrolled fellows for the Campus Greensboro Fellows Program and expansion to a total of 15 elementary schools with the Cone Health Telehealth program. Furthermore, projects still under development have taken critical steps toward implementation such as the release of a Request for Ideas process for transportation initiatives, the creation of a Board Subcommittee for Pregnant and Parenting Women's Residential Recovery, and the city and county collaboration on facility design for the Windsor Chavis Nocho Community Complex. More detailed information about project progress and data can be found in the project inventory section of this report.

Monitoring activities include quarterly expenditure and performance reporting and annual desk and onsite reviews as needed according to project partner risk assessments.

January 18, 2024, the board reallocated a portion of revenue replacement funds to general county operating expenses and increased the general fund allocation to ARPA Enabled project.

Collaboration

One of the defining features of how Guilford County is using its CSLFRF funds is the high level of collaboration involved in program development and implementation across all strategic priority areas. These funds have helped forge new relationships between the County and our municipal, non-profit, and private partners that are critical to the creation of strong and sustainable initiatives. Below are a few examples of the type of

collaboration we have seen in our project work and the impact it is having on our use of funds.

Pleasant Garden Municipal Water & Sewer. The Town of Pleasant Garden received funding to develop a preliminary water and sewer system in the town to support residents and the downtown business district. To develop this system, the town would need to connect into the City of Greensboro system and utilize staff expertise from the city to manage the project. At the time of funding allocation, the city had a policy against expansion of their system outside city limits that prevented this work for Pleasant Garden. Through months of collaborative conversations with the county, city, and town, the city was able to bring a recommendation to their board to change their current policy and initiate the development of an interlocal agreement with Pleasant Garden that would make this project possible. This collaboration furthermore helped bring an additional $5.5 million in funding from the state to the City of Greensboro to support this project.

Adult Residential Services Expansion. As part of our Opioid Settlement funding strategy, Guilford County contracted with Daymark to expand their adult residential services program to include use of medication assisted treatment (MAT). In kicking off this expansion, Daymark was able to collaborate with GCSTOP, an ARPA supported initiative, to use their existing infrastructure for prescribing MAT. GCSTOP can prescribe clients MAT and refer them to treatment with Daymark, where Daymark can maintain their MAT through the GCSTOP prescriber. Daymark has experienced delays in finding their own MAT prescriber, and therefore, this collaboration has allowed them to kick off expansion without delays and strengthen their referral network.

School Telehealth. With the expansion of the Cone Health Telehealth program in Guilford County Schools, there was a need to define roles and responsibilities between the telehealth program and the School Health Program run by Guilford Public Health Department. Through collaboration with the county, the schools, and Cone Health, the parties were able to develop an MOU that outlined the division of duties while also setting up practices and protocols allowing the programs to lean on each other while providing coordinated health services for students. [Learn more about this MOU by clicking on this link.](#)

Windsor Chavis Nocho Community Complex. Over the past year, the WCNCC project has been in the facility design stage. During this time, the City of Greensboro and Guilford County staff have been strong collaborators on designing what a shared space for the county in this facility could look like. This has involved staff from Public Health,

Social Services, Cooperative Extension, the County Manager's Office, Information Technology, and MWBE to develop a functional space in the facility that will allow the county to provide access to core eligibility services while also working effectively in the city's overall design for the space.

These are just a few of the exciting collaborations making our use of CSLRF funds successful. Read through the full project inventory section of this report to find out about collaborative work in other projects.

Alignment with CSLFRF Expenditure Categories

CSLFRF Funds were intended to make impacts in several key areas:

- Addressing the Public Health Emergency
- Responding to the Negative Economic Impacts of COVID-19
- Increasing Public Sector Capacity
- Investing in Local Infrastructure
- Replacing Lost Revenue

Guilford County's strategic priority areas were informed by the goals of this funding, and the county's allocations align with CSLFRF expenditure categories as outlined below.

Addressing the Public Health Emergency:
- $319k to emergency PPE & Cleaning Supply needs.

Responding to the Negative Economic Impacts of COVID-19
- $11M to programs supporting the needs of people experiencing homelessness through programs such as Eviction Mediation and the services of the Continuum of Care.
- $9M to access to healthcare programs such as school-based telehealth, a food security initiative, and EMT/Fire Academy programs.
- $6.2M to small business, economy, & workforce development initiatives such as career development programs, infrastructure for a small business center, and business development support for arts organizations.
- $6.4M to healthy early childhood environments and education programs such as infant mortality collective impact work, young adult engagement programs, OBGYN navigation and referral services, and out of school learning programs.
- $4.8M to behavioral health programs such as recovery housing for mothers and pregnant women and emergency transitional foster care.
- $1M to identifying and implementing pilot projects to address transportation access challenges across the county.

Increasing Public Sector Capacity
- $2.9M to protect employee retention in Guilford County's core services of emergency management and detention center operation.
- $1.7M to conduct community engagement and develop a pandemic recovery team to ensure the county effectively manages CSLFRF funding investments.
- $10M to develop a system and implement cohorts to integrate service delivery across county and community functions.

Investing in Local Infrastructure
- $23.7M to water and sewer infrastructure.
- $1.6M to broadband analysis and infrastructure.
- $20M to infrastructure projects focused on improving access to community services.
- $5.7M to improve recreation infrastructure.

Replace Lost Revenue
- $47.6M to county operating expenses which allowed for the investment in ARPA Enabled Projects. Funding amounts for ARPA Enabled projects were included in the expenditure category alignment sections above. Learn more about the funding strategy and goals for ARPA Enabled Projects below.

ARPA Enabled Projects

The ARPA Enabled Fund was created to budget and expend funds for ARPA Enabled Projects. ARPA Enabled Projects are defined as programs or activities funded by County general funds made available through use of ARPA Revenue Replacement funds for regular county operating expenses.

Guilford County received a total State and Local Fiscal Recovery ARPA award of $104.3 million. From the total award, the amount of funding eligible for use in the Revenue Replacement expenditure category is determined by an annual revenue loss formula which calculates the amount of revenue governments have lost due to the impacts of COVID-19. From FY21-FY23, Guilford County experienced a total revenue loss of $90,233,145.

According to the Final Rule issued by the U.S. Treasury, Revenue Replacement funds may be spent on the provision of government services, which can include general fund expenditures, operating expenditures, and administrative costs, among a broad range of spending authorities. Choosing to use Revenue Replacement funding for County operating expenditures then frees up County funds to support projects that align with

strategic funding priorities for CSLFRF funding but will require a longer timeframe to intentional develop programs and obligate funds than is allowed under the CSLFRF program. These projects have been termed "ARPA Enabled Projects."

The Pandemic Recovery Team analyzed each project, budget, and timeline within the County's $104.3 million federal American Rescue Plan Act award to best determine the proper eligibility category under guidance from U.S. Treasury. As ARPA Enabled Projects are funded via County funds, they will not be subjected to the obligation and expenditure deadlines of ARPA funding. Therefore, projects requiring long-term system changes were selected to be funded as ARPA Enabled Projects to ensure the County is thoughtful and inclusive in their approach to addressing systemic changes and programs will have the necessary runway to move towards desired outcomes. Guilford County requires ARPA Enabled Projects to have the same monitoring and project reporting requirements as ARPA projects. Our ARPA Enabled Projects include:

1. Homelessness Taskforce - $8 million
2. Integrated Data System Project - $10 million
3. Transportation Initiatives - $1 million
4. Windsor Chavis Nocho Community Complex - $15 million
5. Pleasant Garden Water/Sewer Infrastructure - $5.5 million
6. Pregnant and Parenting Women's Recovery Housing - $3 million
7. The Bridge - $2 million
8. Transitional Therapeutic Foster Care - $1.5 million
9. Broadband Initiatives - $391,880
10. Infant Mortality - $85,000
11. EMT/Paramedic Academy - $393,052
12. Food Security - $774,926

Conclusion

Guilford County is using its CSLFRF funding with a high level of intentionality in hearing community voice, focusing on addressing systems level issues, and making investments that will allow our community to grow successfully into the future.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

"Affirmatively advancing equity, civil rights, racial justice, and equal opportunity is the responsibility of the whole of our government. Because advancing equity requires a systematic approach to embedding fairness in decision-making processes, executive departments, and agencies (agencies) must recognize and work to redress inequities in their policies and programs that serve as barriers to equal opportunity.

By advancing equity across the Federal Government, we can create opportunities for the improvement of communities that have been historically underserved, which benefits everyone."[1]

US Treasury's Final Rule aligns the goals of the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Plan with this mandate through the emphasis on spending funds to address the negative health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on low-income and underserved communities. Pre-existing disparities in these communities exacerbated the effects of the pandemic and resulted in disproportionate outcomes such as higher COVID-19 mortality rates and unemployment.

Guilford County Board of Commissioners has highlighted Equity and Inclusion as a core value of the organization and have integrated this value into the development and implementation of the County's recovery plan.

Equity in Initial Emergency Response

Early pandemic recovery funding targeted immediate needs for responding to the public health emergency. During this emergency response stage, the county engaged the University of North Carolina-Greensboro (UNC-G) to help identify areas of high-need for recovery funding and ensure that programs were being distributed and accessed equitably across the county.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted gaps in the connection and service provision to different areas of the community. Guilford County thought we knew how to reach all communities in our county, but the pandemic highlighted that there were still populations and areas of our community we were not reaching effectively. This realization guided the County to pause, check our assumptions about how we provide services, and start doing the deep work of taking a broader look at how we operate and how we can more equitably serve our community going forward.

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[1] Executive Order 13985, ''Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government"

Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP): Extensive work was conducted with partners at UNC-G to identify areas of high poverty and housing cost burdens within the City of High Point for intensive ERAP education and outreach. This collaborative work resulted in nearly 70% of approved ERAP applications being received from and 63% of actual assistance being paid to residents from three high-priority zip codes that are in or adjacent to the Qualified Census Tracts (QCT's) in the City of High Point. Additional approved applications and assistance are associated with areas in or near other QCT's in the County.

COVID-19 Vaccination Equity: UNC-G supported an analysis of COVID-19 vaccination rates and causes for disparities in vaccination by race, ethnicity, national origin, sex and gender, disability.

Equity in Recovery Plan Development

As the County began to develop a comprehensive strategy for short- and long-term uses of the CSLFRF funds, community voice and equity continued to be a high priority.

Community Engagement: Contracted with a national survey firm for an initial broad-based community survey that will be demographically representative of County residents, allowing for the identification of pandemic-related issues and challenges at the QCT and other hyper-local levels.

Requests for Proposals: Specific requirements are built into our RFPs to identify and address equity concerns. For example, for our broadband study a requirement was incorporated for the vendor to conduct an analysis and assessment of the County's role and next steps in advancing digital equity and inclusion. Additionally, our economic analysis vendor was required to identify how the pandemic has negatively impacted different groups in our County.

Growth & Recovery Request for Ideas: During Request for Ideas (RFI) process, applicants were required to provide detailed information on the populations to be served by the proposed project. Additionally, applicants were asked to detail how they engage with and will ensure inclusive participation for the County residents served. As County staff reviewed project proposals, this information was used to ensure funding decisions were made with strong consideration for the populations served and the incorporation of equity and inclusion in project implementation plans.

Equity in Recovery Plan Implementation

Underserved communities are "populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to

participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life."[2] The Guilford County funding allocations made large investments in underserved communities by targeting both specific geographic areas of the county and underserved or disproportionately impacted populations.

Targeting Underserved Geographies

Several of the funding allocations were awarded to projects and programs targeting Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs), low-income zip codes, and locations without access to necessary services. These projects include the following:

- Winsor Chavis-Nocho Community Complex
- The Bridge
- Washington Street Enhancement Project
- The Steelhouse
- Tomorrow's Titans
- GREAT Grant Match

More information about each of these projects can be found in the project inventory section of this report. Two of these projects targeting underserved geographies are highlighted below.

Tomorrow's Titans: This program is run by the Welfare Reform Liaison Project with the goal of reducing violence among youth in High Point by providing skills training, case management, paid summer jobs, recreational activities, and other supportive services. The program is focusing on underserved geographies by targeting two QCTs in High Point (CT142 and CT143).

CT142 is predominantly African American (63%) with individuals under the age of 18 making up over 30% of the population. The median household income for the area is $31,524 and more than a third of households (38%) live on less than $25,000 annually. CT143 has a similar demographic makeup with 31% of the population being under the age of 18, a median household income of $27,102, and 50% of residents receiving means-tested assistance.

By identifying these underserved communities, Tomorrow's Titans can target program recruitment towards residents disproportionally impacted by rising rates of violence and ensure those most in need can learn about and access the services provided.

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[2] Executive Order 13985, ''Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government"

GREAT Grant Match: The Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) Grant is a competitive grant program that provides funding to private sector broadband providers to deploy last-mile broadband infrastructure to unserved areas of North Carolina. An unserved area is a "designated geographic area that is presently without access to broadband service" with broadband service defined as "terrestrially deployed internet access service with transmission speeds of at least 25 megabits per second (Mbps) download and at least 3 Mbps upload (25/3)."[3]

The GREAT Grant program encourages partnerships to maximize opportunities to leverage support for these infrastructure deployments. Projects proposing a partnership with the County, received additional points in the project scoring process. The County's commitment of matching funds to this program is an investment in digital equity with a geographic lens.

Targeting Underserved Populations

Funding allocations were also made to projects and programs targeting specific underserved populations of our community. These projects focus less on the location of service provision and more on the demographics of program participants or specific barriers faced by underserved populations in accessing services. These projects include the following:

- Infant Mortality
- Food Security
- Eviction Mediation
- Out of School Time & Social Emotional Learning
- School Telehealth
- New Creative Investment
- Emerging Talent Program
- Homelessness Taskforce
- Transportation Taskforce

More information about each of these projects can be found in the project inventory section of this report. Three of these projects targeting underserved populations are highlighted below.

Infant Mortality: "In 2021, Guilford County was one of the top five worst of 100 counties in North Carolina. Of the 5,974 babies born in Guilford County in 2021, 44 babies died before their first birthday. The county infant mortality rate was 7.6 per 1,000 births and over 10% higher than North Carolina's rate of 6.8 and over 40% higher than the national rate of 5.4.

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[3] N.C.G.S. 143B-1373(a)

More alarmingly, the infant mortality rate for African American infants is 2 to 6 times higher than the rate of White, Hispanic, and Asian infants in Guilford County. In Guilford County in 2021, for instance, the infant mortality rate (IMR) for Black babies was 12.3, while the IMR for white babies was 4.5. Black infant deaths make up 64% of total infant deaths in Guilford County. For every White baby that died before their first birthday, three Black babies died. In addition, Black women at every socioeconomic level have higher rates of infant death than white women who have not completed high school."

By understanding the disproportionate negative outcomes for African American mothers, Every Baby Guilford can use a racial equity lens to build a radically inclusive collective action movement that builds collaborative solutions, centers the community (people, parents, children, and families), and works together to disrupt longstanding racial disparities and health outcomes for Black mothers and their babies in Guilford County.[4]

Source: Guilford County Communications

Food Security: On June 19, 2024, Guilford County's Minority/Women Business Enterprise (MWBE) Department and the Guilford County Food Security Team joined the Triad Black Faith Leaders & Black Farmers Network for the Juneteenth Triad Black Farmers Market. The event highlighted efforts by local leaders to bring produce to areas that experts consider food deserts. The market was held in a Quality Census Tract. Over 3,000 people attended, and 10 farmers, 11 artisans and 8 community organizations were able to conduct business and community outreach activities.

School Telehealth: This program is a partnership with Cone Health and Guilford County Schools to expand telehealth programs into 20 schools with the goal of addressing absenteeism, improving access to pediatric medical care, and reducing unnecessary trips to emergency departments. This program takes an underserved population equity lens by deploying the programming to Title 1 schools starting with schools with the highest percentage of low-income families. "Guilford County has identified 83 Title I public schools for the 2022-2023 school year, and at least 52.61% of the families in each of these schools are identified as low income."[5]

As Guilford County continues with program monitoring, there is a continued on equitable outcomes through tracking program performance, improving data collection capacity,

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[4] The Issue - Infant Mortality | Guilford County, NC (guilfordcountync.gov)
[5] Title I / Title I Schools (gcsnc.com)

and evaluating program outcomes. A prototype for testing Point of Care has been developed in the last fiscal year and is being implemented at telehealth sites across the County. Protocols are developed using the evidence-based CDC Health School Model and are continually evaluated through collaboration between Guilford County Schools and the Guilford County Health Department. More information on the project can be found in the project inventory section of this report.

Other Equity Initiatives in the Organization

The Guilford County 2022 Recovery Plan discussed the goal for the County to hire a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Manager. After developing the position, and beginning formal recruitment, Guilford County became aware that there was not complete understanding of the needs, both internal and external, that the position would be set to explore, engage, and solve. The County decided to pause on hiring the position to give itself time to garner a better understanding of the issues that surrounded DEI deficiencies. The decision was made to contract with a local DEI consulting expert to dissect the issues both internally and externally, that would give the County greater knowledge of what we need to fix, where our support is strong and can be used as pillars for the work to come next, and how Guilford County can work better within its community to better serve our diverse populations. Once those guidelines are discovered and implemented, hiring a DEI Manager will resume, and that position will work to better inform the County on how to be the best partner for both our staff and our community.

When we address DEI within our organization, we can then use an equity lens to review the work our do in the community and adjust to provide more equitable services. One example of how county departments are reviewing their service delivery with an equity lens now is the new child welfare support and early intervention team created in the FY24 annual budget. The team will support transformational change by collaborating with stakeholders, including families with lived experience, community leaders and houses of worship, and service providers, with a goal to create a nationwide model for providing primary preventive services to improve child safety and well-being, prevent foster care system involvement, and address disproportional representation of children and families of color in the child welfare system. The team will lead these partners in coordinating services, supporting underserved populations, and reimagining child protection as a preventive rather than a reactive process. By engaging with these families earlier, the team seeks to ensure that factors such as poverty, illness, or the need for mental health services aren't compounding barriers to the health and welfare of the family.

Community Engagement

The County has engaged in deep community engagement since August 2021 through community conversations, surveys, and focus groups. The County's aim has been to hear from a representative sample of Guilford County's population. Guilford County's engagement efforts have enabled us to build stronger relationships with county residents and stakeholders which allows the County to keep resident needs in mind and helps residents understand how the County is spending CSLFRF. These engagement efforts have helped the County to see areas for investment that cover the whole county as well as the needs of individual zip codes and community census blocks.

The County's community engagement efforts surrounding ARPA have received state and national recognition. The County was asked to present on these efforts at the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners Funding Strategy Summit, as well as the National Association of Counties 2022 Annual Conference.

The County's engagement process involved four different efforts, which are outlined in the image and sections below.

COMMUNITY SURVEY	COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS & LISTENING SESSIONS	ECONOMIC ANALYSIS	DIGITAL INCLUSION ANALYSIS
ETC INSTITUTE	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PARTNERS	EMSI BURNING GLASS	GUIDEHOUSE & PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PARTNERS

Community Survey

In 2021, ETC Institute administered a community survey to residents of Guilford County to evaluate the impact the COVID-19 Pandemic had on the community and determined what support is most needed during County recovery efforts. The County exceeded its goal of collecting 1,600 surveys with 200 responses in each Commissioners district. Ultimately, 1,804 surveys were completed, illustrating the priorities outlined below.

Question 4. Priorities for Areas of Investment	
Sum % of top five choices > 51%	
Access to Healthcare	67.9%
Education	61.3%
Sum % of top five choices = 30-50%	
Small Business & Economy	44.4%
Behavioral Healthcare & Substance Abuse	44.3%
Healthy Childhood Environments	42.2%
Housing & Homelessness	39.2%
Safe & Reliable Drinking Water	36.4%
Differences in Health Outcomes	35.2%
Workforce & Employment	30.7%
Sum % of top five choices <30%	
High Speed Internet Access	19.3%
Neighborhoods & Communities	13.1%
Help for Tourism, Travel, Hospitality, Related Industries, and Business Districts	12.3%

Major survey findings included:

- Access to healthcare and Education are most important to County residents and their top two priorities for investment of CSLFRF.
- 25 percent of respondent's experience "severe daily disruption" in seven areas.
- One in ten respondents accessed unemployment and food assistance.
- Three out of five respondents received local COVID-19 information from television.
- The community feedback received through the survey helped the Board of County Commissioners identify priorities for expenditure of CSLFRF.

Overall, the results were statistically valid with a margin of +/- 2.5 percent at the 96 percent confidence level. The randomized sample of respondents were representative of Guilford County's actual age, race/ethnicity, and household income demographics.

More information regarding the survey and its findings can be found here.

Listening Sessions
The Guilford County Board of Commissioners hosted a series of Listening Sessions and an accompanying online survey in September and October of 2021. The purpose of the meetings and survey was to provide residents with the opportunity to reflect on how the pandemic has impacted them personally. It also gathered initial reactions on how community members think American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding should be prioritized.

Each Listening Session was held in a different County Commissioner district to ensure a wide cross-section of residents had the opportunity to participate. The meetings were complemented by an online and paper survey. The survey results were compiled into the Phase 1 Outreach Summary.

Through the Community Conversations, the County engaged with individuals and community organizations around the County, but targeted Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs). Over 60 individuals attended across the six meetings. Attendees (and those who may not have been able to attend) were asked to complete a survey, and the County collected over 150 surveys. The Community Conversations and its associated survey helped us to put color to some of the data in the Community survey; more clearly defining what each of the areas meant that were found in the ETC survey.

The County took the Community Conversations one step further by hosting Growth and Recovery staff conversations across six meetings. In these meetings with County staff, the Pandemic Recovery team gave insight into community findings and had conversations with staff about how feedback matched with what they were hearing and seeing on the ground.

More information regarding the Community Conversations can be found [here](#).

Workforce Skills Analysis

Guilford County partnered with a labor market analytics firm, Emsi Burning Glass, to conduct a workforce skills analysis. The analysis sought to identify employer-talent skill gaps; to connect high-pay, high demand skills to workers from demographic groups; and provide upskilling and reskilling opportunities to regional stakeholders. The analysis is built on 18 billion data points in Labor Market Info.; over 100 million job postings; over 110 million profiles and resumes; and 30,000 Emsi open-sourced skills.

Overall, the analysis showed that great opportunities exist in Guilford County within the healthcare industry. This industry may serve as one opportunity for upskilling and reskilling across different skill sets and demographic groups (particularly in communities of color).

Further, outlined in the analysis agreement, the County received 15 license seats to the Emsi Burning Glass Skillscape tool, which the County has shared with key workforce development institutions to better leverage data for the creation of collaborative action steps. Some of the entities using these license seats include Guilford County Schools, Guilford Works, Greensboro Chamber of Commerce, Business High Point, and the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro.

More information regarding the analysis can be found [here](#).

Broadband Analysis

In late 2021 and early 2022, Guilford County engaged in the development of a broadband strategy to match potential broadband projects to recommended funding sources, including American Rescue Plan Act and other federal funding. This process also included stakeholder and public engagement via a survey about broadband reliability, and an infrastructure analysis report that assessed broadband availability and reliability in Guilford County. The analysis found that 30 percent of the population in Guilford County resides in a census tract with low availability (i.e., broadband is not available at an adequate speed necessary for school or work). Further, 22 percent of the population cannot afford the broadband speeds they have available.

Through the analysis, three typologies were created related to availability, affordability, and adoption. These typologies address three core questions:

- Is broadband available at a sufficient speed for work or school?
- Are the available speeds at an affordable price point?
- Could households successfully use broadband if it was available and affordable?

The following strategic methods have been recommended to the Board of Commissioners to increase broadband accessibility:

- Dedicate a centralized broadband resource.
- Encourage ISP expansion to improve internet access.
- Launch pilot programs and iterate on successful program designs.
- Collaborate with other local governments on advocacy efforts.
- Explore developing public-provided, open access fiber infrastructure.

The Board of Commissioners has added Broadband & Digital Inclusion as a priority area for ARPA funding and is in process of allocating resources towards the strategic methods listed above.

More information regarding the analysis can be found [here](#).

OneGuilford

In addition to the community engagement efforts outlined above, the County has worked to develop a OneGuilford framework. This interorganizational initiative aims to build a new level of collaboration across entities to share resources and effectively address join interests for long-term and equitable recovery. In particular, the initiative seeks to address

issues that cross-jurisdictional boundaries and create innovative partnerships that can enhance an entity's capacity for amplified impact.

Results from a series of conversations and meetings with elected officials and their staff in 2021 generated the following municipal investment priorities:

Summary of Municipal Investment Priorities

Safe and Reliable Water and Sewer Infrastructure	Connected & Sustainable Transportation Infrastructure
Revenue Replacement for Lost Municipal Fees	Housing Access and Affordability
Enhancing Recreation and Tourism for Economic Development	Age-Friendly Growth and Development
Affordable and Reliable High-Speed Internet	Safe and Modern Schools
Small Business Support	Non-Profit Support

These conversations and priorities guided decision making as local jurisdictions presented projects to the board and commissioners made funding allocations to local municipalities.

Using Community Engagement Findings

The extensive community engagement and collaboration efforts of the County guided the development of the board's strategic priority areas for CSLFRF investment. As the County collected ideas through the RFI process, the priority areas and the community engagement data helped the board evaluate ideas for strategic alignment with community needs and interests. Priority areas guided all board funding discussions and ultimately allowed the BOCC to make funding decisions based on a comprehensive understanding of how individual project allocations came together into high level priority area investments.

Beyond major funding decisions, the deep community engagement work has continued to inform county work in various ways. For example, since the publication of the Guilford County Broadband Strategy, the county has worked at the State level with NCDIT and locally with the cities of Greensboro and High Point, Guilford County Schools, UNCG, NC A&T, and other community partners to address Broadband Equity and Inclusion challenges related to availability, affordability, and adoption of broadband. Last year,

county staff utilized the broadband analysis to inform a submission of staff comments on the N.C. Department of Information Technology's (NCDIT's) Division of Broadband and Digital Equity draft five-year plan for investing $1.5 billion in federal Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) funding.

Ongoing Project-Based Community Engagement

Over the past two years, Guilford County shifted from making funding allocations to implementing recovery projects. At this phase, community engagement efforts have shifted to focus on how residents can help inform the design and implementation of specific projects. Project-based engagement helps take high level insights and recommendations from initial engagement efforts and work collaboratively with residents to drill down into the details of next steps and deployment of solutions. Additionally, it allows for deeper relationship building with communities served by CSLFRF funding. Examples of this project-based community engagement are outlined below.

Integrated Service Delivery Design Session: As Guilford County considered a funding allocation of $10 million for Integrated Service Delivery, we engaged in collaborative design work to further understand and support the project concept. In August 2022 approximately 40 people representing nonprofits, hospital systems and cities attended an initial design session. Community

partners participated in design activities such as developing problem statements and personas to inform the areas of need for service and data integration across the county.

US Digital Response Research: The broadband analysis work discussed above identified public housing authority (PHA) communities as a key area for investment to help reduce inequities in broadband availability, affordability, and adoptability. To better understand

the gaps in knowledge and experiences in accessing the internet for Greensboro and High Point PHA residents, Guilford County partnered with U.S. Digital Response (USDR) - a non-profit, nonpartisan organization facilitating research and technical support - to align on priorities, project scope, research questions, participant recruitment, and final deliverables. Over a 16-week period, the county and UDSR collaborated to conduct 14 in-depth interviews with residents to better understand their current experiences, behaviors, and barriers in accessing the internet. The insights and recommendations from this study will inform future solutions and facilitate partnerships to expand internet access for High Point and Greensboro residents.

Homelessness Taskforce & Transportation Stakeholder Group: Two important areas of need highlighted in the community engagement work were, (1) housing and homelessness and (2) transportation. The BOCC wanted to make these areas priorities for CSLFRF funding but knew that addressing these systems issues would require further collaboration and engagement with community partners already doing work in these areas as well as residents with lived experience. Through the development of a Homelessness Taskforce and a Transportation Stakeholder Group, commissioners brought together elected officials from local municipalities, staff experts from the county, community organizations, and other public and private partners. These conversations have helped partners gain a more wholistic understanding of the issues and begin developing ideas and solutions.

The ***Homelessness Taskforce*** used the collaborative conversations to recommend projects to the County BOCC for funding. Examples of these funding recommendations include Coordinated Entry and HMIS support for Continuum of Care agencies and program and facility expansion support for the Center for Hope and Healing project led by Open Door Ministries. Read more about the work of the Homelessness Taskforce in the project inventory section of this report.

The ***Transportation Stakeholder Group*** has held numerous listening sessions, gathered community survey input, and collaborated with local officials from the cities of Greensboro and High Point and the Piedmont Authority of Regional Transit (PART) to identify areas of concern with regards to public transportation. Issues fall under the categories of getting people to work, accessing public human services (i.e. Social Services, Public Health), and accessing behavioral health services. In May of 2024, Guilford County issued an RFI (Request for Ideas) for the Transportation Pilot Program, in which applicants provide ideas to address at least one of the issues listed above. The Transportation Taskforce is currently reviewing applications, and further information can be found here.

Cone Health Telehealth Collaboration: Cone Health works in partnership with the Guilford County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Guilford County Schools to expand telehealth into Guilford County Schools. In April 2024, Secretary Kody Kinsley of North Carolina's DHHS, alongside members of the State Board of Education, visited Washington Montessori Elementary of Greensboro to learn about the telehealth program and its efforts to

Source: edunc.org

reduce chronic absenteeism. The officials observed how easier access to care allows children to avoid missing school to attend medical appointments. DHHS and Guilford County schools will continue to implement mental and physical health support with continued governmental support. More information on the program can be found in the project inventory section of this report.

Sedalia Park Community Meetings: The Town of Sedalia continues to work towards constructing its first Community Park and walking trail, along with sidewalks and crosswalks to increase community access to the park. The Sedalia Park Committee has taken suggestions from citizens via surveys and community meetings and has used that input in the design of the project. Planning services have been conducted through Foothills Planning & Design and the Piedmont Triad Regional Council. More information can be found in the project inventory section of this report.

ARPA Dashboard

Guilford County additionally wants to ensure that all residents can stay informed about the progress of ARPA funded initiatives. The maintenance of a public dashboard sharing spending and performance data helps communicate our ongoing ARPA work. This dashboard can be found here: ARPA COVID Recovery Funding | Guilford County, NC (guilfordcountync.gov).

Other Ongoing Engagement & Collaboration

Statewide CSLFRF Administration Collaboration: North Carolina has an extremely valuable backbone of organizations supporting the work of local jurisdictions. The UNC School of Government (SOG), North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC), and the North Carolina League of Municipalities (NCLM) have provided a high level of education and technical support to local governments on spending their recovery funds since initial allocations were made. These support systems have allowed NC local governments to slow down, build expertise in their jurisdiction on federal funding

requirements, and develop strategic approaches to their use of funds. Guilford County has been highly engaged in supporting and learning from this statewide collaborative support by helping teach about federal reporting in SOG ARPA courses, leading conversation about contract management and monitoring during an NCACC webinar, speaking on a panel about ARPA at the North Carolina Local Government Budget Association conference, and generally staying engaged with other jurisdiction's ARPA work across the state.

Budget Town Halls: The County also successfully hosted four public town halls to receive feedback on the FY 2024-25 budget process. In those meetings, community members from across the county shared experiences and feedback with Commissioners and staff. This feedback was used to help craft the Board's service vision statements and recommendations included in the FY25 budget. Additionally, these town halls helped residents have a better understanding of the County's role in providing public services, the current investments were making with both CSLFRF funds and general county dollars, and the decision-making process for how we choose to invest in the community.

Conclusion

The extensive community engagement work at the forefront of the County's CSLFRF investment as well as the ongoing engagement and collaboration over the past year has been one of the most robust engagement efforts the county has ever conducted. This work has brought a wide variety of entities to the table and opened conversation channels between the County and community stakeholders that did not previously exist. The significant increase in community engagement and partnership development has improved trust and understanding between local and state partners, and it is our intention and goal to continue building upon this foundation in the coming years.

Labor Practices

As of July 30, 2024, no infrastructure projects are being undertaken that require labor practice reporting.

Project Inventory

Between the award date and June 30, 2024, Guilford County has obligated $102,467,587.67 and expended $66,887,517.15 of its total CSLFRF allocation. Obligations and expenditures by expenditure category are outlined in the table below. Any project that is eligible for use of CSLFRF funds under other expenditure categories may also be funded under the revenue replacement category to the extent of revenue loss the County has experienced. The County has chosen to fund many projects under the revenue replacement expenditure category because of availability of revenue loss, however, the County is continuing to monitor these projects akin to those funded in other expenditure categories. This is to support the County's efforts to ensure the performance and effectiveness of all CSLFRF projects is monitored and used in future decision making.

Expenditure Category	Obligations	Expenditures
1: Responding to the Public Health Emergency	**$2,868,239.66**	**$1,167,947.40**
1.11 Community Violence Interventions	$2,548,901.00	$848,608.74
1.5 Personal Protective Equipment	$289,622.06	$289,622.06
1.7 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses	$29,716.60	$29,716.60
2: Responding to Negative Economic Impacts	**$7,439,346.33**	**$3,898,345.10**
2.13 Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth/Families Involved in Child Welfare System	$350,000.00	$349,943.82
2.18 Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	$1,189,346.33	$1,023,876.95
2.24 Addressing Educational Disparities: Aid to High-Poverty Districts	$2,200,000.00	$697,110.79
2.36 Aid to Other Impacted Industries	$2,500,000.00	$1,521,949.23
2.37 Economic Impact Assistance: Other	$1,200,000.00	$305,464.31
3: Public Sector Capacity	**$230,417.83**	**$220,417.83**
3.4 Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery	$230,417.83	$220,417.83
5: Infrastructure	**$500,000.00**	**$500,000.00**
5.21 Broadband: Other Projects	$500,000.00	$500,000.00
6: Revenue Replacement	**$88,939,082.85**	**$60,041,489.10**
6.1 Provision of Government Services	$88,939,082.85	$60,041,489.10
7: Administration	**$2,490,501.00**	**$1,059,317.72**
7.1 Administrative Expenses	$2,490,501.00	$1,059,317.72

Projects listed in the project inventory have been identified and approved by the Guilford County BOCC to be funded as of June 30, 2024. Projects are organized in the following pages by the eleven major priority areas. The numbers reported in the table below are reflective of ARPA and ARPA Enabled Projects and exclude federal funding spent directly on Guilford County operating expenses.

Strategic Priority Area	Budget	Obligation	Expenditure
Access to Healthcare	$8,956,082.51	$7,125,243.67	$5,528,554.66
Healthy Childhood Environments & Education	$6,366,901.00	$6,281,900.99	$2,913,467.23
Access to Community Services	$20,000,000.00	$5,000,000.00	$410,000.00
Water & Sewer Infrastructure	$23,728,038.00	$18,228,038.00	$1,272,126.60
Behavioral Health & Substance Use Disorder	$4,750,000.00	$249,580.89	$249,580.89
Housing & Homelessness	$11,077,706.00	$8,124,161.78	$6,886,411.68
Parks & Recreation	$5,715,000.00	$5,715,000.00	$179,900.59
Small Business, Economy, & Workforce Development	$7,195,000.00	$6,200,000.00	$2,776,089.08
Broadband & Digital Inclusion	$1,600,000.00	$1,208,119.70	$688,700.29
Protect Guilford County Services	$3,203,847.92	$3,203,847.92	$3,203,847.92
ARPA Administration	$1,747,076.83	$1,747,076.83	$657,377.16
Multiple Priority Areas	$10,000,000.00	$127,810.81	$108,385.81

Find more information about each project in the sections below including a performance update and discussion of use of evidence where relevant to the project.

Access to Healthcare

This strategic priority area was identified with the objectives of advancing health equity in Guilford County by expanding hyperlocal access to care, developing, and expanding the talent pipeline to increase the healthcare workforce, and fueling intention collaboration through identification of service area gaps.

Total Funding Allocation: $8,956,082.51

Projects:

- Detention Center Medical & Mental Health Services
- School Telehealth
- EMT and Paramedic Academy Expansion
- Fire Academy
- Triad Food Outreach Project
- Food Security Program

Detention Center Medical and Mental Health Services

Project ID: 3100-530100-601

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $4,327,000

Timeline: March 1, 2022 – June 30, 2024

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Law Enforcement, Guilford County Juvenile Detention

Project Description: This project continues to expand the detention center medical and mental health services contract to include mental health support and MAT program at Greensboro and High Point Detention Centers and for Juvenile Detention. Additionally, the contract will be expanded to include additional FTEs to meet staffing needs for effective service delivery. The contract was amended to cover necessary increases in staffing costs due to an escalating labor market.

School Telehealth

Project ID: 90005088

Eligibility Category: 2.24 Addressing Educational Disparities: Aid to High-Poverty Districts

Funding Amount: $2,200,000

Timeline: March 1, 2023- December 31, 2026

Lead Organization(s): Cone Health

Source: Cone Health

Project Description: This project supports Cone Health to operate 15 school-based telehealth clinics in rank ordered Title One elementary schools by the end of the 2023-24 school term. 10 additional clinics will be deployed by the 2024-25 school year.

Schools involved in 2023-24 school term included:
- Bessemer Elementary
- Bluford STEM Academy
- Cone Elementary
- Fairview Elementary
- Gillespie Park Elementary
- Kirkman Park Elementary
- Oak Hill Elementary
- Parkview Village Elementary
- Peck Elementary
- Rankin Elementary
- Union Hill Elementary
- Vandalia Elementary
- Waldo Falkner Elementary
- Washington Montessori
- Wiley Elementary

Source: Cone Health

Additional schools for the 2024-25 school term will be determined by Cone Health as the project progresses.

Use of Evidence: Early dismissal and absenteeism are major causes of lost instructional opportunity. Since 2019, more than 15,000 elementary students have been seen in the Emergency Department for simple conditions that could have been met by a telehealth visit. A major goal of the school-based telehealth program is to return as many children as possible to the classroom. A pilot school-based telehealth program was opened at

Bessemer Elementary School in April 2021. Since implementation of that program, over 90% of the students seen in the clinic return to learning the same day. Cone Health is building off evidence gathered from this pilot program to implement an expanded school telehealth system. Prototype POC testing has been successful thus far and will be implemented in 14 sites. Ongoing performance tracking will continue to build evidence for program effectiveness.

Performance Update: The program has received a $1,000,000 grant from UHC to advance behavioral health, allowing a sustainable path for the next 2 years. Pathways to partner closely with school nurses have been established and regular collaboration meetings are occurring. Future statistical analyses illustrating program impact will be highlighted in the 2025 Recovery Plan.

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Percent reduction in chronic absenteeism	20% Reduction
Percent reduction in non-scheduled early dismissals that require parents to travel to school	95% Reduction
Percent increase in number of students with a medical home	90% Increase
Percent increase in power school scores for mid-year and end of year performance ratings for participating and non-participating students	Statistical analysis will be provided in the 2025 Recovery Plan.

Partnering Organizations:
- Guilford County Schools
- Guilford Education Alliance
- Carolina School Based Telehealth Learning Collaborative
- TAPM
- Cone Health Medical Group

Learn More About the Program:
- Cone Health brings telehealth services to Guilford County Schools - YouTube
- https://www.conehealth.com/news/news-search/2023-news-releases/telemedicine-makes-the-grade-in-guilford-county-schools/
- https://www.conehealthphilanthropy.org/giving/giving-values/giving-stories/school-based-telehealth-takes-off/
- https://www.ednc.org/telehealth-is-helping-this-school-district-fight-chronic-absenteeism-and-improve-mental-health/

EMT and Paramedic Academy

Project ID: ARPA00110

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $400,000

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Timeline: April 2022 – June 2025

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Emergency Services

Project Description: The number of candidates for employment within EMS has steadily declined over the past several years, and recruitment nearly stopped during the pandemic. This has been paired with unprecedented attrition within healthcare, and specifically EMS. In response to this challenge, Guilford County EMS started an EMT academy, hiring candidates without credentials and putting them through in-house training. Program success led to increased demand for space, training staff, and equipment and validated the need to expand the current paramedic academy to increase providers at both the EMT and Paramedic level.

"Our EMT Academy graduates are more prepared for their job as an EMT than the students we get from local community colleges."   -EMT Academy Trainer

"I feel these [clinical experiences] are super beneficial as it's a great learning tool throughout the academy. Allows you to put into practice skills you're learning along the way."
                                        -EMT Academy Candidate

The training academy concept also continues focused work on increasing workforce diversity. The current cost of EMT or Paramedic training at community colleges is expensive and requires students to attend at night and on weekends. This is a major limitation for those balancing other full-time commitments. This program allows Guilford County to employee candidates and then put them through the training academy, which opens opportunities for employment for those who would not have otherwise been able to afford the time and cost of community college training.

Performance Update:

Academy training spaces have begun undergoing upfit work including clean up and paint. In the coming year, this upfit will continue and will include flooring and AV upgrades. Additionally, new training equipment will be purchased including a high-fidelity manikin.

Source: Guilford County Emergency Services

Source: Guilford County Emergency Services

There have not been additional EMT academy cohorts since the 2023 Recovery Plan due to previous cohorts helping the department meet their employment goal of being fully staffed. The Paramedic academy continues to operate on an annual basis. Time between academy offerings will be utilized for ongoing training facility upfits.

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of EMT Academy Cohorts Since August 2022	2 Cohorts
Number of EMT Academy Candidates Hired	26 Candidates (46% Female, 54% Male; 58% White, 31% Black, 11% Hispanic)
Number of Candidates Completing the Program	17 Candidates
Percent of Candidates Completing the Program	65% Completion Rate
Number of Candidates Still Employed with Guilford	16 Candidates
Percent of Candidates Still Employed with Guilford	62% Retention Rate
Number of Paramedic Academy Cohorts Since Aug 22	3 Cohorts
Number of Paramedic Academy Candidates Hired	29 Candidates (59% Female, 41% Male, 83% White, 14% Black, 3% Asian)
Number of Candidates Completing the Program	14 Completed; 12 In-Progress
Percent of Candidates Completing the Program	82% Completion Rate
Number of Candidates Still Employed with Guilford	16 Candidates
Percent of Candidates Still Employed with Guilford	94% Retention Rate
Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs *(mandatory Treasury measure)*	0 *(not applicable to this program)*

Access to Healthcare

Fire Academy

Project ID: ARPA00109

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $1,125,000

Timeline: January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2026

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Emergency Services, Guilford County Rural Fire Departments

Source: Guil-Rand Fire Department

Project Description: The County Fire Departments are non-profit 501C3 or 501C4 organizations that all started as volunteers and have migrated to paid departments with a volunteer compliment. Volunteer decline accelerated dramatically during the pandemic. The loss of volunteer support is pushing Fire Departments to increase staff, but the applicant pool has shrunk.

The Fire Departments in Guilford County are a major part of the EMS system of care for first response. At times during the pandemic, they responded solo to medical calls due to extremely limited EMS resources, and assisted with public health responses including vaccine clinics, testing set up, and other community needs.

This project allows the Fire Departments to select candidates for inclusion in a Guilford County Fire Academy program. Guilford County funds are used to cover certain wages for candidates as they complete Fire and EMT training at Guilford Technical Community

College. The candidates will be employed by the Rural Fire Departments before beginning their training at the academy, and once candidates have completed training, they will remain employees of the Rural Fire Departments.

Learn More About the Program: Fire Academy (gtcc.edu)

Performance Update:

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of participating fire departments	8 Departments
Number of candidates sponsored for the GTCC Fire Academy	24 Candidates
Number of candidates currently in the GTCC Fire Academy	5 Candidates
Number and percent of candidates successfully completing the GTCC Fire Academy	18 Candidates 95% Completion Rate
Number and percent of candidates remaining employed with the sponsoring Fire Department	18 Candidates 100% Remaining Employed
Number and percent of candidates remaining employed with any Guilford County Fire Department	18 Candidates 100% Remaining Employed

Source: GTCC Live Burn Training Event

Triad Food Outreach Project

Project ID: ARPA00092

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $18,949.51

Timeline: October 2022 – January 2023

Lead Organization(s): Triad Food Pantry

Source: Food Pantry of the Triad

Project Description: This project supports the continuation of the Triad Food Outreach Project. Triad Food Pantry conducts food pick-up 7 days a week from over 15 different grocery and convenient stores. This food is distributed in the form of outreach deliveries on specific days of the week, providing mobile food delivery to housing authority communities, churches, seniors, schools through the backpack program, and nonprofit agency partners. Volunteers and agency partners provide food to those in boarding houses, camping under bridges, on the streets of depressed regions in High Point and Greensboro, and in delivering meals to the sick, disabled, and shut in.

Learn More About the Program: www.thefoodpantryofthetriad.com

Access to Healthcare

Food Security Program

Project ID: ARPA00127

Eligibility Category:
2.1 Household Assistance: Food Programs

Funding Amount: $885,133

Timeline: August 2022 – June 2026

Lead Organization(s):
Guilford County Cooperative Extension

Source: NC Cooperative Extension

Project Description: The project aims to work collectively with community partners to encourage collaboration and capacity-building throughout Guilford County to improve overall food security throughout the county. The work involves improving access to food and building the capacity of existing organizations that connect people to food.
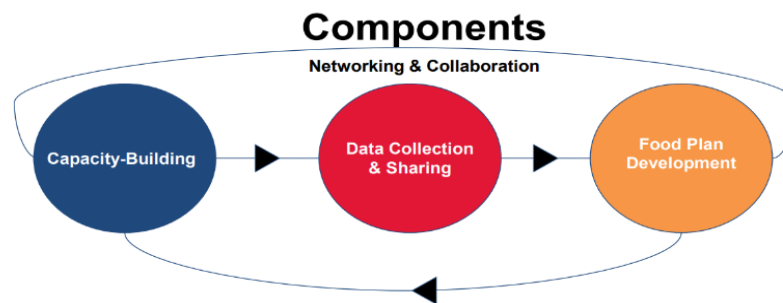
Use of Evidence: About one in five Guilford residents experience food insecurity. The county has seven identified food deserts and ranks 14th in the entire country for food insecurity. This data informed the need for this program. The work will be guided by the established best practices recommended by USDA, by the research-based knowledge around food security of faculty members at NC State University and NC A&T State University, and by the knowledge of local organizations who are already serving community needs in Guilford County (such as The Weaver Foundation, Second Harvest, High Point University, and the Greensboro Food Task Force, among others). Project managers will also work in conjunction with the food security coordinators in Durham, Wake, and Buncombe Counties to ensure alignment with other efforts going on at the state level and to share learning amongst participating counties. Evidence will be built through performance tracking and this program will be considered for evaluation as the

Access to Healthcare

Guilford County Pandemic Recovery team develops its program evaluation strategy and capacity in the coming year.

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Individuals impacted by food security work over the life of the grant	9,000 screen views and 5,000 engagements, with 17 people on the Steering Committee

Performance Update:

- Cooperative Extension has met with several community partners, as well as the Food Working Group, the Black Farmers Network, and City of High Point
- As of June 2024, 750 individuals, including faith leaders, farmers and community partners have attended workshops
- Gathering information via the Greater High Point Food Finder mobile app
- The Development of the Steering Committee comprised of individuals from all over Guilford County who have agreed to a one-year commitment of performing coordinated efforts within their communities
- Additional meetings to develop community-based relationships have been held, with organizations expressing interest and support in the program.

Partnering Agencies:

- AmeriCorps VISTA
- Second Harvest Food Bank
- UNCG LEAP
- Greensboro Dept. of Sustainability
- NC A&T State University
- Farmers & community gardeners
- New Hope Development
- Cottage Grove Collaborative
- Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL team)
- East Greensboro Now
- Guilford County Minority Women Business Enterprise Department
- St James Presbyterian Church Social Justice Ministry
- Guilford County Public Health Dept.
- Saint Phillips AME Zion Church

- Christian Churches of Disciples Division of Overseas Ministries
- The F.S Program Advisory Committee:
- One Step Further
- Piedmont Triad Regional Council
- Greater High Point Food Alliance
- Local Farmers
- Guilford County Health Dept.
- Black Faith Leaders & Black Farmers Network
- City of High Point
- Weaver Foundation
- The Food Gaps Working Group:
- Guilford County Schools
- Cone Health Foundation
- Guilford County Food System
- One Step Further
- Backpack Beginnings
- A Simple Gesture

Learn More About the Program:

- [Guilford County Food Security](#)
- [Guilford Food Security 6-Month Updated](#)
- [Greater Guilford Food Finder App](#)

Healthy Early Childhood Environments & Education

This strategic priority area was developed with the objectives of reducing community disparities, increasing family support systems and early childhood intervention for at-risk families, and promoting an integrated service delivery to expand data sharing, navigation services, and access.

Total Allocation: $6,366,901

Projects:
- Out of School Time and Social Emotional Learning
- Educational Continuum of Care
- Expand Navigation Services
- FJC/DSS Protective Services Team
- Increasing Availability of Foster Families
- Tomorrow's Titans
- Infant Mortality
- Public Health Salaries

Out of School Time and Social Emotional Learning

Project ID: ARPA00137

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $500,000

Timeline: January 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): YWCA of High Point

Source: Chavis YMCA

Project Description: The YMCA of High Point Out of School Time and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Program is an after school and summer program for kids aged 5-16.

Source: Chavis YMCA

From games and sports to outdoor adventure and technology, the program offers kids a chance to regain many of the learning losses due to the pandemic. The program implements Social and Emotional Learning skills, to help youth manage emotions and make responsible decisions. The program offers mentorship, tutoring, as well as physical enrichment activities such as nature excursions, art activities, and sports activities.

Performance Update: As of January 2024, The YMCA of High Point has implemented a new Social-Emotional Learning Curriculum during a daily learning block in the afterschool program. The program has been well received by staff and students. Participant demographics and enjoyment ratings growth in SEL capacities are currently being gathered and will be shared in the 2025 Recovery Plan.

| Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of youth participants in after school programs	200
Number of youth participants in summer programs	Data will be available in 2025 Recovery Plan
Percent of participants aged 5-16 who come from low to moderate income households	50%
Percentage of participants from minority populations	40%

Educational Continuum of Care

Project ID: ARPA00018

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $500,000

Timeline: July 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Shift Education
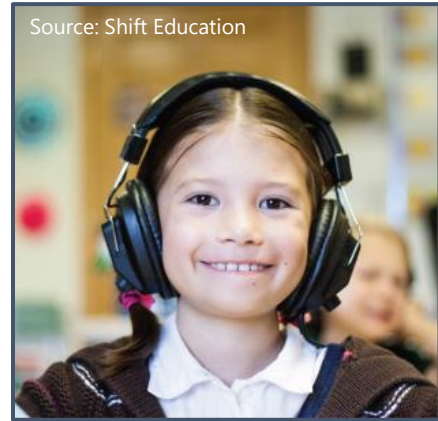
Project Description: The project addresses barriers impacting student success from birth through a career by using an Educational Continuum of Care approach. In partnership with key education nonprofits and Guilford County Schools (GCS), this approach aims to create an evidence-based talent pipeline that positively impacts individuals, communities, and industries located in Guilford County.

Main areas of focus include:

- Increasing the percentage of elementary students who read proficiently by the end of third grade.
- Increasing the percentage of middle school students who are exposed to Career and Technical Education programs.
- Helping high school students be career and college ready by graduation.
- Helping post-secondary students graduate with 2- or 4-year degrees or certifications.

"In the world of education and workforce development, we hear a lot about a 'skills gap' or 'talent gap' for jobs in our community.

The data shows, our students don't have a talent gap, we have an exposure gap."

Amanda Rosemann
Chief Impact Officer

Performance Update: shift_ed has partnered with Cisco for the second year to provide students with a high aptitude for STE(A)M-related careers access to the Cisco Summer Emerging Talent Mentor Program. shift_ed has also leveraged partnerships with GTCC and NC A&T to host quarterly career access events connecting high school students who are interested in a direct-to-career track to the existing NetAcads at both colleges.

held several community engagement events, including:

- A World of Work CTE exposure event with Guilford County Schools
- Educational convention Lawyers on the Lawn to leverage partnerships between key educational nonprofit organizations
- Student orientations for SEO Scholars at Southern Guilford High School and NC A&T University

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Total number of students served by shift_ed (beginning baseline of 12,000 students)	15,800 students served
Total number of elementary school students who read proficiently by the end of third grade	3,474 1:1 fluency tutoring sessions have been held with 133 students participating
Percentage increase of middle school students who focus on career and technical education programs	4,610 middle school students have taken their career aptitude assessment
Amount of post-secondary students who receive monetary awards from shift_ed and then go on to graduate with 2–4-year degrees	2 Two-Year Colleges: $18,351.90 awards total; 22 total students served 4 Private Schools: $84,140 awards total; 40 total students served 15 Four-Year Colleges: $444,247.30 awards total; 429 total students served

Learn More About the Program:
- shift-ed.org/
- Annual Report
- Education Continuum of Care process

Expand Navigation Services

Project ID: 90005035

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $1,500,000

Timeline: March 2023 -December 2026

Lead Organization(s):
Ready for School, Ready for Life

On the Journey with Guilford County Families

3 — Supports children prenatal through age 3

Navigates network of community resources

Supplements Medical Provider Care

Connects family to community

Project Description: This agreement supports 4 Community Navigators in OB/GYN and pediatric practices in Guilford County. The Navigators support young families and increase access to resources that support the healthy growth and development of babies and young children with the goal of kindergarten readiness.

"Our goal is to be available to every pregnant individual and every family with children birth to age 3 in Guilford County. Additional funding would support further scaling of the program to meet more of the need. Last year, Community Navigation reached nearly 2000 pregnant individuals in Guilford County; serving about one third of all births in the community."

- Rebecca Starnes, Chief Program Officer, Children's Home Society

Performance Update:

The Navigator positions aid in the ongoing Routes to Ready program, which has developed 4 partnerships with community organizations, creating 85 jobs, collaborating over 3,000 hours to create more than 20 cross program integrations to make services more seamless for families.

Currently Route to Ready partners is established in 15 OB/GYN sites and 14 pediatric/family medicine sites across the

County. New strategies are being implemented to engage families and complete the full program with them, including new protocols to quickly serve clients who enter prenatal care late. The program is also developing new tools to engage families at the start and individualize the plans to ensure continuity of care. It is anticipated that CHS will hire a fourth navigator position this year.

 Ready Ready is utilizing a third-party evaluator to analyze the success of the community initiative. Preliminary data from an implementation study of prenatal Community Navigation showed very high rates of connection to resources for identified needs (88%). Additionally, in partnership with Children's Home Society and Duke University, a randomized control trial is being conducted to analyze the community navigation for prenatal services. Findings will be shared in the 2025 Recovery Plan.

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of navigator positions embedding in OB/GN practices	3 Positions
Number of Basics Guilford Health Education Kits	360 Kits
Percentage of Guilford County families with children who receive navigation from a Routes to Ready partner	Prenatal population: 30% Newborn population: 40% Children aged 0-3: 35%
Percentage increase in the number of families with identified needs who receive an appropriate referral	68% Increase

Learn More Here: https://getreadyguilford.org/

FJC/DSS Protective Services Team

Project ID: ARPA00108

Eligibility Category: 1.11
Community Violence
Interventions

Funding Amount: $1,548,901

Timeline: January '23 – June '26

Lead Organization(s):
Guilford County Department of
Social Services (DSS); Guilford
County Family Justice Center
(FJC)

Project Description: Create a
specialized protective services

Family Justice Center Partners, including DSS,
participate in a Horses and Healing team building
program to enhance staff well-being and to mitigate
burnout.

team at Family Justice Center locations in Greensboro and High Point to support adults
and children who may have been subjected to abuse. The Family Justice Center offers
several comprehensive services, including safety planning, shelter placement, emergency
protective orders, child advocacy and support, legal services, and medical care. More
about the available services can be found on their website.

2024 Updates: The project has made substantial progress in eliminating duplicative
referrals and improving collaboration through carrying out joint investigations with FJC
partners. This unified strategy has resulted in better outcomes for vulnerable families, as
indicated by comments from team members and partners. Additionally, the project has
focused on lowering staff turnover and burnout, resulting in a more stable and effective
team.

From January to March 2024, the FJC/DSS team collaborated with multiple partners and
attended multidisciplinary sessions to address the unique needs of vulnerable families.
During this time, the team interacted with 19 partner agencies, establishing the
collaborative climate required to meet these requirements. The team held 10
interdisciplinary team sessions, which facilitated the exchange of crucial information and
strategies. Collaborations with FJC partners numbered 680, indicating considerable
efforts to provide comprehensive support.

Performance Metrics

Performance Measure	Performance Data (April 2024 – June 2024)
Number of Connected Partner Agencies	19 Agencies
Number of Multidisciplinary Team Meetings Held	7 Meetings
Number of Collaborations with FJC Partners	733 Collaborations

"Having Pam Bright and her team onsite at the FJC has been invaluable to the Cone Health Child Medical Exam Clinic as we are able to reach out to them for contact information for case workers as well as supervisors. We have had Pam assist us in understanding policies or procedures within DSS. Everyone on the team is kind, friendly and eager to help in any way. They have never made us feel that we are bothering them when we have requests and questions. We are very appreciative of Pam and her team and the collaboration with DSS."
– Kassina Wyrick- Cone Health Child Medical Exam Clinic Nurse

"We collaborate daily with the FJC DSS team. They assist in conducting investigations to ensure the safety of minor children involved in domestic violence cases. Without this collaboration at the FJC, DSS resources would not be as easily accessible. Teamwork like this is the reason the FJC! – Sgt. Tara Gilchrist, Guilford County Sheriff's Office"

Learn More About the Program:
- Family Justice Center Outreach Video[Family Justice Center website](#)
- [Guilford County Department of Social Services Contact information](#)
- [Family Justice Center Outreach Video](#)

FJC Elder Justice Committee Partners accept the Elder Abuse Awareness Proclamation at the June 13th Board of Commissioners meeting.

Increasing the Availability of Foster Families

Project ID: ARPA00043

Eligibility Category: 2.13 Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System

Funding Amount: $350,000

Timeline: November 2022 – June 2024

Lead Organization(s): Children's Home Society

Source: Children's Home Society

Project Description:

The pandemic reduced the number of licensed foster families in Guilford County, while the number of children in foster care increased during the pandemic. Before the pandemic, CHS placed 30% of referrals, but in 2021 only placed 16% of referrals. As a result, children are placed in other communities, group settings, or are lingering at DSS, adding to the trauma that vulnerable children face while in need of care.

CHS grew the network of licensed foster families in Guilford County through an extensive targeted marketing campaign. The campaign includes direct outreach with churches, family-oriented community locations, as well as advertising on social media, radio, billboards, and television.

Source: Children's Home Society

Use of Evidence:

Children's Home Society conducted a similar foster family campaign a few years prior and was able to secure 50 new licensed foster families. CHS is utilizing successes and lessons learned from prior campaigns to inform decision making for this project.

Performance Update:

The below table includes data collected by CHS as well as the mandatory performance measures from the US Treasury for this expenditure category. Due to the specifics of this program design, the mandatory performance measures are not applicable to the implementation of this program, however, they are listed for reporting transparency.
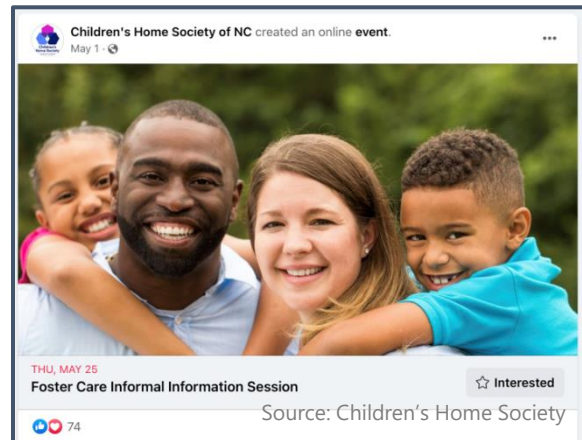
Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of marketing activities	1,735 Activities
Number of inquiries	226 Inquiries
Number of families that completed applications	113 Applications
Number of families that have completed licensures	29 Licensures
Number of children served by childcare and early learning services *(mandatory US Treasury measure)*	0 *(not applicable to this program)*
Number of families served by home visiting *(mandatory US Treasury measure)*	0 *(not applicable to this program)*

Learn More About the Program:
- Sunshine 5K & Family Festival
- CHS 2024 Magazine

Tomorrow's Titans

Project ID: 90005141

Eligibility Category: 1.11 Community Violence Interventions

Funding Amount: $1,000,000

Timeline: May 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Welfare Reform Liaison Project (WRLP)

Project Description: WRLP utilizes methods to support mental, physical, social, and overall safety and well-being for youth ages 14-24. The program aims to decrease violence among youth, reduce the number of youth and young adults entering and re-entering the detention and criminal justice systems, and encourage skills training and full-time employment that provides a living wage and benefits for young adults. Participants come from Title 1 schools, who live in highly marginalized neighborhoods with most living below 100% of the federal poverty level. The program continues to work to ensure not only students, but families are successful.

Use of Evidence: Guilford County has implemented monitoring procedures with WRLP to ensure evidence-based practices and procedures are utilized to further the mission and progress of the program. The program is evaluated through gathering data on performance measures on a quarterly basis, as seen in the table below. Guilford County will continue to measure performance and capacity of the program throughout the award period.

Performance Update:
Tomorrow's Titans completed the 23-24 school year with 31 graduating seniors and have transitioned to a summer program with weekly sessions and skills training classes. The program has partnered with Commander Peace Academy to provide a podcast competition for Summer 2024, in which youth work on community awareness, life skills training, and personal development.

On June 29th ,2024, The Home Economics program sponsored a grooming and hygiene class that saw

Source: Tomorrow's Titans

30 participants attend. The event highlighted personal hygiene training. The event was a great success with over 15-20 parents joining the activity with their youth.

Restoration Services, an in-school mentoring program, has played a significant role in Central High School, Andrews High School, and Welborn Middle School. The program will help prevent suspensions from school, improve academic and behavioral in the class and at home. Further data will be shared in future reports.

The Titans program will continue to offer services including mentoring, tutoring, job searching, and employment training to participants and their families.

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of youth enrolled in the FY23/24 program	272
Number of young adults enrolled in FY23/24 program	30
Number of summer jobs created and filled for youth ages 14-18	28

Learn More Here: Tomorrow's Titans

Infant Mortality

Project ID: 2100-601-Infant

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $500,000

Timeline: July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2024

Lead Organization(s):
Guilford County Public Health Department, Every Baby Guilford

Board of County Commissioners Chair Melvin "Skip" Alston

People have been trying to eliminate disparities *for* communities but not *with* communities. Every Baby Guilford changes that.

every baby guilford

Project Description: To support a collective action movement building collaborative solutions that centers and works together with the community to disrupt longstanding health outcomes and racial disparities in addressing infant mortality. Funds enable the following opportunities:

- Centering infants and birthing people
- Crafting a radically inclusive community-driven planning and design process
- Designing innovations with intentional considerations of racial/ethnic disparities
- Filling the gaps in current coordination of services
- Facilitating opportunities for lifelong and holistic care

These opportunities will help lift Guilford County out of its high rates of infant mortality. Priority areas for the initiative include:

- To advance health equity by addressing systemic racism and implicit bias within the continuum of care for maternal and infant health.
- Center community with radically inclusive community engagement to collectively create equitable solutions.
- Strengthen the continuum of care of reproductive health for equitable access to quality care.
- Promote infant wellness and positive child development.

Performance Update:

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of Community Members Attending Events	700
Number of Mothers Connected to Prenatal Care	230
Number of Referrals Made to Other Community Services	260
Number of Events Hosted	29
Number of Accounts Reached through Social Media Outreach	91,792
Number of New Programs Launched	3 Community Doula Program Postpartum Support Group Breastfeeding Collaborative
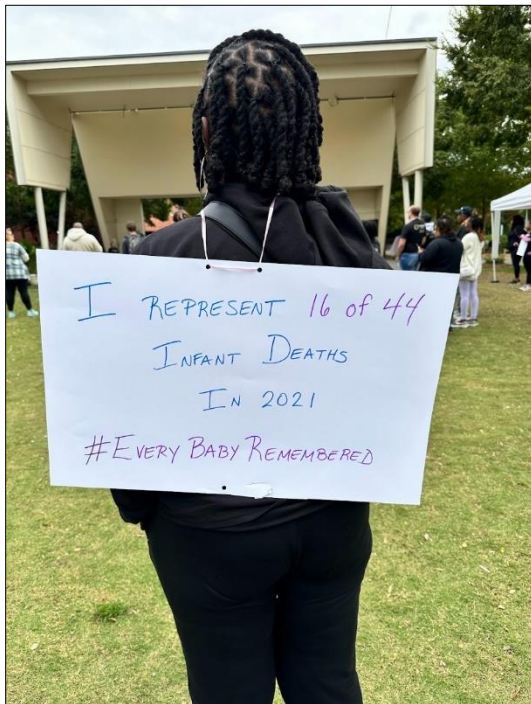
Advancing Health Equity
- Implemented change management training
- Conducted two impactful Health Equity Impact Assessments
- Developed a comprehensive training manual for maternal healthcare providers
- Facilitated two race equity trainings

Centering Community
- Reviewed 20 death records for Fetal & Infant Mortality Review, generating 39 actionable recommendations for better outcomes
- Launched the Guilford Breastfeeding Collaborative and initiated events aimed at identifying and addressing gaps in breastfeeding support

- Achieved increased community event attendance & increased social media engagement with the community
- Perinatal Health Ambassadors program reached over 18,000 individuals and fostered meaningful dialogues through 26 direct message conversations

Strengthening Continuum of Care

• Implemented successful peer education and advertising initiatives, involving 2 college programs and 52 partners (students, health ambassadors and health workers) leading to engagement of over 650 community members

• Completed 318 Reproductive Life Plans

• Launched a Community Based Doula Program

- Established partnership with Triad Adult and Pediatric Medicine to incorporate their Diabetes Management model across Guilford County Public Health Primary Clinics

Promoting Infant Wellness

- Facilitated access to prenatal care leading to improved birth outcomes with at least 95% of 5.5-lb birth weight at term
- Purchased 260 pack-n-plays for distribution through a county-wide Safe Sleep Collaborative, promoting infant safety and wellness.

"Relationships move at the speed of trust" I will be using that quote in my life and in my work. Darneshia inspired me to create a more thorough feedback loop with the referrals we receive as an organization and to continue forming a leadership counsel of parents who are enrolled in our programs to give them a space to voice their needs so we can refine what we do to best serve them."

Recognition - Awarded NACo Achievement Award for Best in Category for Health

Learn More About the Program:
- [Every Baby Guilford | Guilford County, NC (guilfordcountync.gov)](guilfordcountync.gov)
- [2023 Crucial Conversations: The State of Infant Mortality in Guilford County (guilfordcountync.gov)](guilfordcountync.gov)
- [EBG Accomplishments HD 1 - YouTube](#)

Public Health Salaries

Project ID: 9211021001-PH

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $468,000

Timeline: July 2022 – October 2022

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Public Health Department

Project Description: To cover salaries and covered benefits for specific personnel (Nursing Services Manager, Nursing Services Consultant, DHHS IT Manager, Public Health Director, PH Physician/Medical Director, Assistant Health Director, PH Program Manager, Community Health Educator, and Epidemiologist) in public health supporting the COVID-19 public health response. Allocating said funds will enable the Public Health department to further support infant mortality through Every Baby Guilford.

Access to Community Services

This strategic priority area captures municipal and non-profit programs and infrastructure developments that are designed to offer increased access to recreation, health and wellness, workforce development, and other community services with the overall goal of improving the quality of life for Guilford County residents.

Total Allocation: $20,000,000

Projects:

- Washington Street Enhancement Project

- The Bridge *(ARPA Enabled Projects)*

- Windsor Chavis Nocho Community Complex *(ARPA Enabled Projects)*

Washington Street Enhancement Project

Project ID: ARPA00137

Eligibility Category:
6.1 Revenue Replacement:
Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount:
$3,000,000

Timeline:
January 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s):
City of High Point; D-Up Inc.

Source: D-UP

Source: D-UP

Project Description: Revitalize historic Washington Street into a thriving district to support youth and families. Develop year-round STEM, gymnasium complex, and arts facility for all ages and abilities at a central location to bring communities and visitors together for high quality fitness, recreation, education, arts, and culture. Develop 500 Washington Street into the Blackbox Theater, as a retail space for small business owners and events.

This project will increase the capacity of students served in the Washington Street Enrichment Program will increase from 50 to 175 students. Metrics for other facility usage will be determined after project design phase.

Performance Update: The project is currently in the design development phase, having completed the demolition and disposal of the old building in January 2024. The project is on track to finalize construction plans by September 2024. Construction will begin in October of 2024. Project pitch deck, capital campaign information and videos, and information about future tours can be found on D-UP's website.

Learn More about the Program:
https://www.itstime2dup.com/, Carolina Cares Show, High Point Discovered Podcast

Access to Community Services

Water and Sewer

Investment in water and sewer infrastructure was a key priority area identified by the federal government for use of CSLFRF funds. In alignment with this intended use of funds, Guilford County prioritized water and sewer projects to improve water flow, increase storage capacity, and extend critical water lines for local municipalities. For many of these municipalities, this funding will support the initial development of what will become new municipal water systems.

Total Allocation: $23,728,038

Projects:

- Jamestown Stormwater System

- Stokesdale Water System

- Oak Ridge Water Infrastructure

- Gibsonville Water Tank

- Gibsonville Highway 61 Connector
- Southwest Water Supply for Fire Service
- Summerfield Water Infrastructure
- Pleasant Garden Water/Sewer Infrastructure *(ARPA Enabled Projects)*

Jamestown Stormwater System

Project ID: 90005025

Eligibility Category:
6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $210,000

Timeline: March 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Town of Jamestown

Source: Jamestown Park Golf

Project Description: The Town of Jamestown has replaced a crucial stormwater infrastructure feature at the Jamestown Park Golf Course, preventing the failure of a small dam adjacent to a major water supply lake.

"The stormwater project is something that will correct an issue that has recently come to light. By using the funds to focus on this area, we will continue to provide irrigation for the golf course, and it will help control the runoff and the health of the nearby lake."

-Rebecca Ashby, Grants Administrator for Town of Jamestown

Performance Update:
As of April 2024, the project has been completed. Repair was made to a 50-year-old storm drain that was in the process of collapsing, preventing the area from flooding and providing safety for the residents and visitors of Jamestown.

Stokesdale Water System

Project ID: ARPA00128

Eligibility Category:
6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $3,113,038

Timeline: January 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Town of Stokesdale

Source: Town of Stokesdale

Project Description: This project will address four needs related to the Town of Stokesdale's water infrastructure. These needs are:

2024 Project Update:

This project is on the right track, with several major advances made. The Town of Stokesdale completed engineering building designs and filed permission applications. An interlocal agreement with Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Utilities for water supply was signed. The project is scheduled to go to bid in the coming months, with completion expected in April 2026.

In the first quarter of 2024, the town worked to finalize design plans and submit permit applications for the water tank and main. The Town Council accepted the engineered plans for the elevated water storage tank, and permit applications were filed with the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ).

Performance Metrics:

The Water System project will improve fire safety by providing extra water access points for the fire department while also supplying reliable drinking water to a growing sector of the population. This will improve the town's health, welfare, and economic development.

Metric	Target Value
Submission of RFQ for engineering services	Completed March 2023
Engineering contracts signed	September 2023
Survey completion	October 2023
Engineering designed completion	30% completed
Number of fire department access points	15 new hydrants planned
Citizens served by new water system	Up to 200 customers upon completion

Oak Ridge Water Infrastructure

Project ID: ARPA00091

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $3,265,000

Timeline: January 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Town of Oak Ridge

Project Description: This project will support development of the backbone infrastructure for the Town of Oak Ridge's municipal water system. This involves construction of a new water tank and a twelve-inch water main with up to fifteen fire department access points.

2024 Project Updates:

The project is progressing on schedule. The Town of Oak Ridge has made significant strides, including finalizing engineered construction plans and submitting permit applications. The interlocal agreement with Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Utilities for water supply was signed. The project is on track to go to bid for construction within the next few months, with anticipated completion by December 2026. In the first quarter of 2024, the town continued to finalize design plans and submit permit applications for the water tank and main. The engineered plans for the elevated water storage tank were approved by the Town Council, and permit applications were submitted to the NC Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) and the NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT). On July 9, the Town received three bids for construction of the elevated water tank, and pending Town Council deliberations, a decision on an award is likely to be made by August 1, 2024.

Performance Metrics:

Metric	Target Value
Submission of RFQ for engineering services	Completed March 2023
Engineering contracts signed	August 2023
Survey completed	October 2023
Engineering designed completion	Ongoing, with 30% plans completed
Elevated water tank constructed	To begin after permit approvals
Number of fire department access points	15 new hydrants planned
Citizens served by new water system	Up to 200 customers upon completion

The Oak Ridge Water Infrastructure project will enhance fire safety by providing additional water access points for the Oak Ridge Fire Department. It will also offer reliable potable

water to a growing segment of the population, contributing to the health, welfare, and economic development of the town and surrounding areas.

Learn More About the Program: [Planning for a Municipal Water System](#)
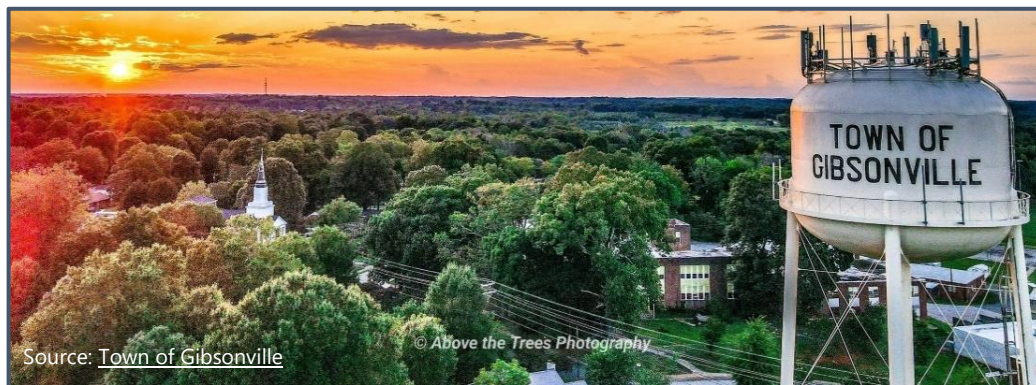
Gibsonville Water Tank

Project ID: ARPA00041

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $2,800,000

Timeline: January 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Town of Gibsonville

Source: Town of Gibsonville
© Above the Trees Photography

Project Description: The Gibsonville Water Tank project involves constructing a new 500,000-gallon water tank to improve fire flow, stabilize customer pressures and increase storage capacity in the town. This new tank will double the storage capacity, replace two outdated tanks, and enhance water pressure stability and quality for residents.

Performance Update: The project is on track with several key milestones achieved. In August 2023, the Town of Gibsonville signed contracts with Hazen and Sawyer for water modeling and site selection, and with Black & Veatch for the water tank design services. The Town has selected a preferred *site* and initiated negotiations with the developer. The site is projected to be fully secured, and the engineering design *will be completed* by August 2024. Water permits are expected to be secured by November 2024, with construction projected to be completed by August 2026.

The Gibsonville Water Tank project will significantly improve water pressure stability and quality for 4,054 households. It will enhance fire flow, supporting public safety and accommodating future growth in the town. By replacing two outdated tanks, the project will reduce maintenance costs and ensure more reliable water service for residents.

Metric	Target Value
Submission of RFQ for engineering services	March 8, 2023
Engineering Contracts Signed	August 22, 2023
Survey Completion	May 2024
Engineering Design Completion	August 2024 (Projected)
Water Permits Secured	November 2024 (Projected)
Construction Completed	August 2026 (Projected)
Households Receiving Improved Water Pressure and Quality	4,054 by end of project
Increased Fire Flow for Western Residents	Completion by end of project

Challenges and Solutions:

The project faced challenges in securing engineering service bids. An initial RFQ process yielded no bids, but a second attempt brought three bids. The project team addressed these challenges by thoroughly reviewing and selecting the most qualified firms to ensure the project's success.

Gibsonville Highway 61 Connector

Project ID: ARPA00046

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $3,140,000

Timeline: January 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Town of Gibsonville

Project Description: The new Water Line will improve water quality in the historically underserved northwest part of town. This new 12" waterline will provide more consistent water pressure and increased fire flow for residents on the western side of Gibsonville.

Performance Update: The Town signed an engineering contract in April 2023, and surveys were completed in October 2023. Engineering design of waterline improvements remains ongoing. The estimated project timeline is as follows:
- October 2024: Easements acquired.
- May 2024: Water permits secured, and project advertised for bidding.
- May 2026: Construction completed.

Southwest Water Supply for Fire Service
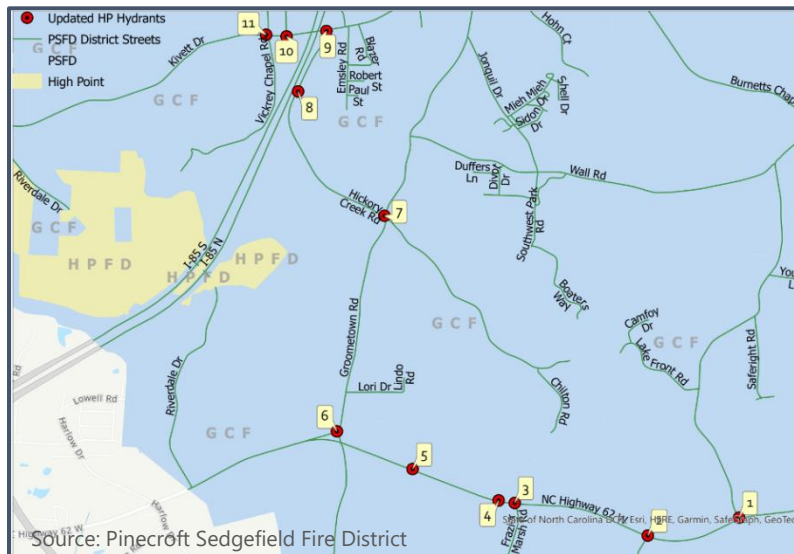
Project ID: 90005425

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $200,000

Timeline: January 1, 2023 – May 31, 2024

Lead Organization(s): City of High Point, Pinecroft Sedgefield Fire District

Source: Pinecroft Sedgefield Fire District

Project Description:

This funding was granted to the City of High Point to install eleven (11) fire hydrants on to the existing water line that runs from Randleman Lake to the City of High Point. These hydrant locations were strategically placed in an area of the Pinecroft Sedgefield Fire District that currently has no pressurized water source. Currently, when then is a fire in this area that needs more water than carried on the fire apparatus, it must be drafted from the nearest pond. The addition of these fire hydrants will drastically improve the water supply operation in the event of a fire in this area.

Performance Update:

Installation of eleven fire hydrants was completed in April 2024.

Source: Pinecroft Sedgefield Fire District

Source: Pinecroft Sedgefield Fire District

Water & Sewer

Summerfield Water Infrastructure

Project ID: 90005839

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $5,500,000

Timeline: July 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Town of Summerfield

Project Description:

The Town of Summerfield does not have its own water system, and 11,000 residents use private or community wells and septic systems. District fire departments rely on available water points and external hydrants. The Town has always relied upon groundwater and the underlying aquifer(s), but this is not without problems and areas of concern. Identified contaminated wells are one such example and another is water pressure as more development spreads water usage "thin" at peak times. During times of drought or overuse, residents report that community wells run low and or even dry.

In early 2022, the Town's contracted engineers (Freese and Nichols) explored the feasibility of water lines that would serve strategic points within Town limits with the potential to connect outside the limits. A 2022 assessment estimated approximately $27M to accomplish such a system for clean, safe, potable water with the expectation that water would be sourced from external, surface water. Those opportunities proved challenging, therefore the phase 1 approach that will be pursued with this funding is:

1. Construct an elevated tank sourced by ground water.
2. Construct approximately two miles of water mains.

This project will also be supported by a $1.1M allocation from the State of North Carolina.

Performance Update:

Metric	Status
Completion of Preliminary Engineering Report	In-Progress
Presentation of findings to Town Council	In-Progress
Final Design & Permitting	In-Progress
Acquisition of Needed Easements	Not Started
Advertising, bidding, and award	Not Started
Construction	Not Started

Behavioral Health

This strategic priority area is focused on assisting Guilford County residents currently suffering from substance use disorder (SUD) to find relief and recovery options to benefit their lives, and the lives of those in their community.

Total Allocation: $4,750,000

Projects:
- GCSTOP
- Recovery Housing (*ARPA Enabled Projects*)
- Transitional Therapeutic Foster Care (*ARPA Enabled Projects*)

GCSTOP

Project ID: 9211021001-GCSTOP

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $250,000

Timeline: July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2024

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Emergency Services, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Project Description: Guilford County Solution to the Opioid Problem (GCSTOP), is a set of programs built around the community collaboration of non-traditional partners to prevent opioid overdose deaths in Guilford County. The GCSTOP program is administered through the Department of Social Work in the School of Health and Human Sciences at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. One of the unique aspects of GCSTOP as a harm reduction organization is that its structure is based on a field unit model that utilizes undergraduate and graduate social work students to support program service provision. The field unit is overseen by the GCSTOP program director who is a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) and licensed clinical addiction specialist (LCAS). Students go through an intensive orientation and training process with the GCSTOP program director

and other content experts preparing them for their roles that include direct service provision, program development, program evaluation, advocacy, and community education. Content experts include clinicians that are specialized in motivational interviewing and cognitive behavioral therapy, representatives from the local drug user union, and the evaluator of GCSTOP.

GCSTOP personnel/staff work collaboratively with a broad array of community service providers that interface with people who use drugs (PWUD) and may have experienced an overdose. GCSTOP operates from a person-centered perspective and

the process of assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation are all informed by people who are directly impacted by drug use. An essential component of GCSTOP has been being an intermediary between the local drug user union and the more traditional stakeholders of drug use intervention such as government, law enforcement, public health, and service providers. The GCSTOP program staff incorporates harm reduction and recovery-oriented systems of care (ROSC) when considering the needs of people who use drugs. This hybrid type of program is a novel concept with early evidence emerging in locations across the country.

Use of Evidence: GCSTOP has applied programming rooted in evidence-based practices and harm reduction principles. The organization is most active in the following CDC evidence-based interventions:

- Ten Evidence-Based Strategies for Preventing Opioid Overdose
- Targeted Naloxone Distribution
- Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- Naloxone Distribution in Treatment Centers and Criminal Justice Settings
- MAT in Criminal Justice Settings and Upon Release
- Syringe Services Programs

Partnership Highlight:

Starting in February 2024, the Guilford Residential Treatment Facility, operated by Daymark Recovery Services, expanded its collaboration with GCSTOP to improve access to MAT for those seeking residential treatment. Prior to this collaboration, Daymark was unable to keep clients on MAT during their time in the program due to lack of available funding. With Guilford County funding for MAT expansion, Daymark entered a partnership with GCSTOP to facilitate access. GCSTOP sets individuals up with a MAT provider and refers them to the residential treatment program. While individuals are in treatment, they can continue MAT with the GCSTOP provider. This collaboration improved

the referral pipeline to residential treatment and had allowed for immediate MAT expansion while Daymark works to set up their own MAT provider.

Performance Update:

Performance Measure	2023	2024
Number of unduplicated individuals served	848	1,552
Number of contacts with program participants	2,552	3,472
Number of individuals linked with substance use treatment	154	216 - *34 PORT 182 Justice Involved*
Number of overdose reversal kits distributed	5,712	5,654
Number of separate opioid overdose incidents reversed using kits provided by GCSTOP	1,044	1,733
Number of sterile syringes distributed to help prevent Hepatitis C and HIV infection	343,480	530,250
Number of used syringes collected & sent for disposal	257,610	238,850
Number of unduplicated individuals served by the GCSTOP Post-Overdose Response Team (PORT)	n/a	67
Number of PORT contacts with individuals referred by Guilford County EMS	n/a	184
Number of unduplicated individuals served by the Medication of Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) Clinic	n/a	258
Number of doses of Suboxone provided at no cost through MOUD Clinic	n/a	116,820
Number of overdose deaths of active clinic participants	n/a	0
Number of unduplicated individuals served in GCSTOP's Justice Involved Program	n/a	312
Number of contacts in Guilford Detention Centers	n/a	411

Recognition: GCSTOP received a 2023 National Association of Counties (NACO) award in the Risk and Emergency Management category.

Learn More About the Program:
- GCSTOP.org
- Naloxone Prevents Overdose Deaths in Guilford County
- Jails Running Out of Narcan

Housing and Homelessness

This strategic priority area focuses on initiatives to address housing instability and other issues leading to experiences of homelessness in Guilford County. Objectives include:

- Increasing assistance to local partners working to prevent housing instability for individuals and families.
- Increasing staff capacity to provide technical assistance to community agencies working with people experiencing homelessness.

Total Allocation: $11,077,706

Projects:
- Evictions Diversion
- Continuum of Care Staffing
- Homelessness Taskforce
(*ARPA Enabled Projects*)

Evictions Diversion

Project ID: 9021-537100-218

Eligibility Category: 2.18 Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance

Funding Amount: $2,298,864

Timeline: November 2022 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Project Description: UNC Greensboro Center for Housing and Community Studies (CHCS), in partnership with Legal Aid, addresses housing instability and potential evictions through the TEAMs clinic. The clinic offers resource navigation, eviction mediation, and legal services to help clients avoid eviction judgments, which often prevent them from finding habitable and affordable housing elsewhere. Services are provided in courthouses in Greensboro and High Point, offering legal information, mediation, and assistance with rental assistance applications.

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of households served across eviction mediation, rental assistance, and referrals to other services	3,556 Households
Number of Landlord Engagements	700 Engagements
Number of evictions on the court docket on days when the clinic was present in court	10,020 Evictions
Percent of evictions dismissed by the court or the landlord	37% Dismissed
Percent of evictions delayed by being continued to a later date	18% Delayed

The TEAMs clinic has significantly improved housing stability for vulnerable households, preventing evictions and providing essential legal services. Positive client feedback and collaborative efforts with landlords have resulted in new voucher-accepting properties, enhancing housing options for low-income residents.

". . .This 5-star legal work of the 3 attorneys and under the advice and direction of Janet is and has been stellar and my life has value, quality, and is worth living because of these 4 attorneys seeing me as a person and not as a male to female transgender who's beneath the law and unworthy protections and deemed beneath the law as society see fit." - TEAM client

Learn More About the Program: [May 2023 TEAM Presentation](#)
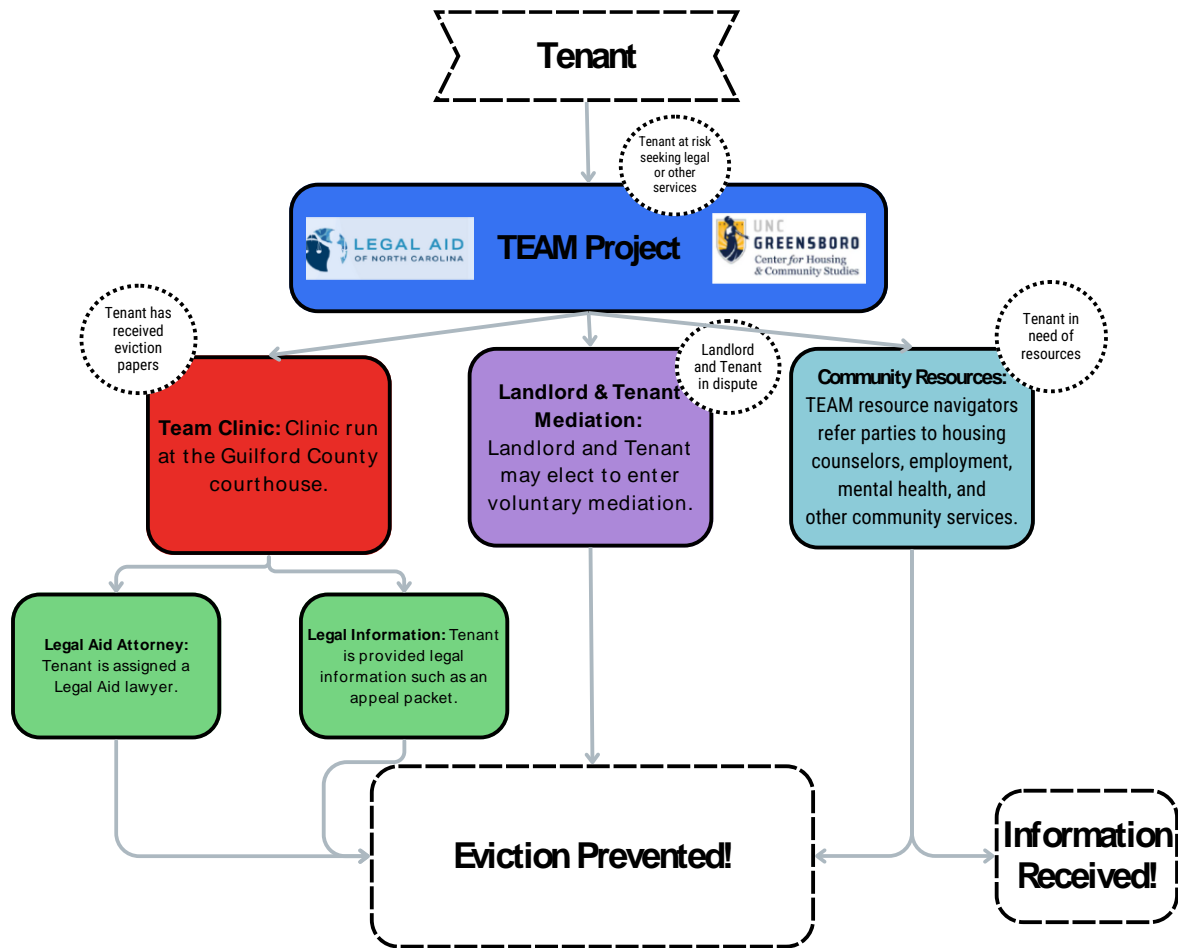
Continuum of Care Core Staffing

Project ID: 9211021001-2050-701

Eligibility Category: 7.1 Administrative Expenses

Funding Amount: $778,842

Timeline: July 2022 – June 2026

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Department of Health and Human Services Administration

Project Description: This project will fund the Continuum of Care Core Staffing positions which include:

1. Compliance Coordinator
2. Community Support & Engagement Coordinator
3. Compliance Coordinator/Engagement Coordinator

The goal of this team is to help facilitate collaboration and support allocation of funds in alignment with County priorities. This team will also provide technical assistance and data entry capacity.

Parks and Recreation

Through the ETC Community Survey, Guilford County residents indicated that increased planning, funding, and attention to outdoor spaces is essential for community well-being. The Parks and Recreation strategic priority area is focused on planning, programming, and maintaining parks, open space, and other recreational facilities with the intended purpose of creating a more interconnected park, trails, and recreational system that provides better access for residents and supports the environmental goals of the community.

Total Allocation: $5,715,000

Projects:
- Jamestown Parks Accessibility
- Jamestown Sidewalks
- Sedalia Community Park & Sidewalk
- Oak Ridge Town Park
- Summerfield Bandera Farms Park

Jamestown Parks Accessibility

Project ID: 90005027

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $315,205

Timeline:
March 1, 2023-December 31, 2025

Lead Organization(s):
Town of Jamestown

Source: Town of Jamestown

Project Description: This project will improve Jamestown Park with the addition of two shelters, a dog park, relocating the sand volleyball area, developing a natural play area and trail, and renovating the basketball court and sidewalks. New play equipment will also be installed with funds from an AFP grant. The new play equipment will be upgraded for all accessible usage to benefit individuals of all abilities and ages.

"The parks are overdue for an upgrade and with two schools in our jurisdiction that serve differently abled youth, having all accessible play equipment will be a huge benefit. The schools don't have a lot of resources and while they do have play areas for the children, they don't have much equipment. By having a public park with accessibility play areas, it will increase the opportunities for these children in and out of school."
-Rebecca Ashby, Grants Administrator for Town of Jamestown

Performance Update:
- The site plan is nearing completion; the new septic system has been installed and leach lines have been moved, making way for the relocation of the volleyball courts
- Waterlines to the dog park have been installed
- Old playground equipment has been removed and the ground has been leveled
- Jamestown is in process of executing a contract for the construction of new shelters
- Jamestown is in process of gathering direct quotes for renovating the basketball court and improving the natural play area

Jamestown Sidewalk Project

Project ID: 90005026

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $2,294,795

Timeline:
March 1, 2023-December 31, 2026

Lead Organization(s):
Town of Jamestown

Project Description: The Jamestown sidewalk system saw a significant increase in use during and since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. This project will complete gaps in the pedestrian network in Jamestown to connect critical public locations at Guilford Technical Community College, CJ Greene Education Center, and Hanes-Inman Education Center.

Source: Town of Jamestown

Performance Update:
Design work has been completed for three smaller sidewalks and RFPs were published in April 2024. The Town is in the process of executing the contracts for the design firm handling the E. Main Street at Ragsdale sidewalk and the three smaller sidewalk contracts have been awarded. The contracts are being executed this month and work will be underway soon. More information will be available in the 2025 Recovery Plan.

"This funding will be a tremendous asset to the community. Jamestown is a very walkable town and has prided itself on having quality walkways to keep its citizens active and safe. The sidewalk project will benefit nearly all Jamestown residents by putting safe sidewalks in areas currently without." -Rebecca Ashby, Grants Administrator Town of Jamestown

Sedalia Community Park & Sidewalk

Project ID: 90005071

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $500,000

Timeline: March 1, 2023- December 31, 2026

Lead Organization(s): Town of Sedalia

Project Description: This project will support the design and construction of the Town of Sedalia's first public park and walking trail. Additionally, it will allow the town to install sidewalks and crosswalks along Blue Lantern Road to increase community access to the park. The project will provide opportunities to preserve ecosystems of the site and will provide exercise and community activities for Town of Sedalia residents.

Performance Update:

The Town of Sedalia has received planning services through Foothills Planning & Design and the Piedmont Triad Regional Council, including:

Source: Town of Sedalia

- Preparing project base maps
- Composing a draft site plan
- Completing on-site design
- Submitting documents to the Technical Review Committee regarding a Watershed Development Plan as they relate to the dam and pond on site

A Landscape & Architecture class through A&T State University designated the Sedalia Park Project for a class assignment, and presented data to the Sedalia Town Council, including suggested design elements and preliminary cost estimates.

Based on ideas and suggestions submitted by the Town and the Sedalia Park Committee, several design concepts were created by the towns contracted planner, Foothills Planning & Design. This resulted in the development of the final Concept D design and the Sedalia Community

Source: Town of Sedalia

Park Master Plan and was adopted by the Sedalia Town Council at a regularly scheduled open meeting on Monday, April 29, 2024. A concept map as shared by the Town is seen below.

CONCEPT D

- Future Park Development Area
- Existing Stormwater Culvert
- Existing Pond & Wetlands Area
- Fishing / Paddling Floating Dock
- Picnic Tables, Grill & Trash Can
- Gravel Parking & Walkway (3)
- 8' Woodchip Trail
- Existing Open Lawn Area
- Gravel Parking & Walkway (5)
- Stormwater Catch Basin & Overflow
- Kiosk & Concrete HC Parking (2)
- 6' Compacted Gravel Trail
- Picnic Shelter (16' x 20')
- Exercise Pavilion (20' x 20')
- Memorial (Windchime Tower)
- 30' Octagonal Pavilion & Plazas
- Park Entrance Sign
- Retaining Walls & Plantings
- Portable Restrooms
- 6' Concrete Sidewalk
- Woodchip Playground
- Kiosk & Concrete HC Parking (2)
- Stormwater Catch Basin & Overflow
- 6' Compacted Gravel Trail
- Gravel Parking & Walkway (5)
- Picnic Tables, Grill & Trash Can
- 6' Woodchip Nature Trail
- Existing Mixed Hardwood Forest

To Learn More About the Program, Email: *sedaliatownhall@mail.com*

Oak Ridge Town Park

Project ID: ARPA00093

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $305,000

Timeline: January 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Town of Oak Ridge

Project Description: Renovation of the historic Redmon House to include over 1,000 square feet of meeting space, a prep kitchen, handicap accessible bathrooms, storage, and entry areas, as well as parking and wheelchair access to the building. Additionally, the house will include a 400 square foot deck leading to an outdoor area that will include hardscapes, landscaping, and other improvements.

2024 Project Update: The project is progressing well with several key milestones achieved. Architectural plans and construction documents for the renovation were completed, envisioning a 1,415-square-foot renovation. In January 2024, demolition of the old deck and a later addition was completed, and stabilization of the foundation began. Interior conditions necessitated a change to the floor system, which delayed the project several months, but the contractor has resumed construction, and the Town anticipates project completion in October 2024. Bids for landscaping, hardscaping, and parking at the Farmhouse site were received on June 17 and negotiations with the low bidder are underway.

Performance Metrics:

Metric	Target Value
Building of meeting space, prep kitchen, handicap-accessible bathrooms, storage, & entry areas	1,415 sq ft renovation at buildout, including 1,000 sq ft of meeting space
Parking and wheelchair access to building	Site plan approved, to be bid in June
Deck Built	Included in construction contract
Park visitor annually	7,500 additional visitors annually at open
Number of annual reservations	375 reservations ($1,500 rental hours)

The renovation of the historic Redmon House into the Farmhouse Community Center will provide a valuable community space for residents and visitors. It will serve a wide range of groups and activities, enhancing the park's amenities and increasing its usage. The

project is expected to attract an additional 7,500 visitors annually and generate significant community engagement through events and reservations.

Challenges and Solutions:

The project has encountered typical construction challenges, such as coordinating demolition and stabilization efforts. However, these challenges have been managed effectively, keeping the project on schedule. Future challenges, such as landscaping and parking development, are planned to be addressed through timely bidding and contractor management.

Summerfield Bandera Farms Park

Project ID: 90005838

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $2,300,000

Timeline: July 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Town of Summerfield

Project Description:

A 115-acre site along Bunch Road, I-73, and Reedy Fork Creek has been purchased as part of a multi-jurisdictional conservation effort, and another 5-acre tract has since been purchased, which creates a 120-acre site for the Bandera Farms Park. The property will be a critical part of the future Piedmont Greenway that's expected to ultimately connect Greensboro and Winston-Salem. The site will be developed as an equestrian-focused trails preserve and will create additional buffers along Reedy Fork Creek, which supplies Greensboro's drinking water. In addition to the Piedmont Greenway and equestrian-specific trails, a destination-quality playground (Adventure Playscape) will be an amenity in this park.

The acquisition is the first time the four governments (towns of Summerfield and Oak Ridge, City of Greensboro, and Guilford County), along with the Piedmont Land Conservancy (PLC), have collaborated on a preservation and recreational project. The project highlights the benefits of collaboration in the watershed and is a prime example of a successful One Water initiative. It offers water quality and open space protection.

The Piedmont Greenway is a proposed 19-mile, multi-use greenway trail that will connect Forsyth and Guilford Counties. This multi-jurisdictional planning effort will offer significant benefits including regional connectivity, economic development, opportunities for healthy activity, and preservation and enhancement of green space. The greenway will allow walkers, runners, and bicyclists to connect to existing city and county greenway and trail systems.

According to the American Horse Council, North Carolina ranks as one of the top 10 states in terms of horse population. Approximately 30.5% of NC households contain horse enthusiasts. The horse industry adds a total of $2 billion to the NC economy. Bandera Farms will encompass horseback riding trails and agritourism. Due to the extensive open space needed for equestrian trails and associated facilities, the 120-acre site provides a special location for an equestrian park in Guilford County. It will give local horse

organizations a place to give lessons to children and provide psychological, mental, and physical therapy. There is nothing like this equestrian facility in our area and the 6,000 square foot Adventure Playscape will offer children engaging play structures and sensory experiences that resonate with the surrounding natural landscape.

Performance Update:

Metric	Status
RFQ for Design	Complete
Council Vendor Selection for Design	Complete
Completion of Construction Documents	In-Progress
RFP for Engineering	In-Progress
Council Vendor Selection for Engineering	Not Started
Construction	Not Started
Grand Opening	Not Started

Small Business, Economy, & Workforce Development

This strategic priority area was identified as an opportunity to continue to build upon a robust environment of existing partnerships and programs and intentionally focus on reducing the barriers to workforce participation and business development. The specific priorities identified for this funding were:

- Strengthen work readiness, retaining talent and home-grown graduates, and re-engaging disconnected workers.
- Invest in developing long-term sustainability and equity in the Guilford arts and culture community.
- Support for entrepreneurship to create a small business-friendly environment.
- Address barriers and work readiness for disproportionately impacted populations

Total Allocation: $7,195,000

Projects:

- Emerging Talent Career and Professional Development Programs
- New Creative Investment
- Expanding Sustainable Impact at The Forge
- Forging Equitable Opportunities for Equal Outcomes at The Steelhouse
- Workforce Analysis
- Transportation Taskforce
  (*find in ARPA Enabled Projects section*)

Emerging Talent Career and Professional Development Programs

Project ID: 90005033

Eligibility Category:

2.37 Economic Impact Assistance: Other

Funding Amount: $1,200,000

Timeline: February 1, 2023 – December 31, 2026

Lead Organization(s):

Action Greensboro

Project Description: This project provides funding to Action Greensboro to conduct four career and professional development programs which are each described with the performance update below.

Performance Update:

Campus Greensboro Fellows Program

This program works to bring industry awareness, internships, and community engagement opportunities to students. The program provides a paid internship, customized leadership training, 10+ professional networking/ development opportunities and the opportunity to experience Guilford County as a young professional.

Expanding on its impact in 2024 with significant growth and engagement, the program has increased its reach and efficiency, as seen by the following key statistics:

Performance Metric	2023 Data	2024 Data	Percentage Increase
Total Openings	149	200	34%
Total Applications Received	1,443	1,304	-
Averages Internships Pay	$18.26/hr	$18.03/hr	-
Total Enrolled Fellows	95	171	80%
Total Mentors	67	91	36%
Internships Sites	36	32	-
First-Generations Students	27%	26%	-
Financial Aid Recipients	59%	74%	25%
Number of Unique Employer Sites	36	32	-

These measures demonstrate the program's commitment to providing valuable, paid internships and growing opportunities for diverse students. Mary-Helen Kolousek, the new *Student Engagement Manager*, is heading recruitment and support. The recently launched digital job platform simplifies applications for both students and businesses, resulting in more efficient connections and greater assistance for rising professionals.

Refresh Learning Series

An annual community learning series. Events are open to students, young professionals and community members and provide training in critical business needs identified by the local business community. The series includes four community learning events annually.

In November of 2023 Action Greensboro hosted a successful Design Thinking workshop in response to employers' need for innovative talents. The event gathered 61 students and professionals, providing hands-on training and insights from seasoned practitioners. Participants praised its real-world relevance, emphasizing the series' importance in matching workforce skills to corporate demands and cultivating a community of creatively competent professionals.

synerG Career Seeker Cohort

A three-month long cohort style program that incorporates skill-discovery activities and guided facilitations. Participants navigate the job search together with the help of career and industry experts. Each cohort receives feedback from a resume reviewer, a career aptitude testing package, facilitated workshops and skills building presentations.

The fall's 2023 cohort successfully enrolled 10 participants in a three-month program that includes skill-development exercises, moderated workshops, and career advice from industry professionals. By the end of the program, 12% of participants had found new jobs, and 65% were actively seeking and interviewing, a substantial improvement over their initial situation.

synerG Young Professional Educators Academy

Educators participating in synerG's YPEA engage in professional development and skill building sessions over the course of five weeks. Activities include discussion and

presentation with local workforce development experts, a diversity and inclusion workshop, a session on local resources and grant writing, a STEM learning workshop, and an educational professional's leadership training. Past participants have used their experience in the program to grow their careers within GCS and become better leaders in their classrooms. The fall 2023 cohort consisted of 17 young educators who participated in a five-week program that featured these skill-building sessions and emphasized personal and professional growth as well as connections with colleagues.

Talent & Workplace Survey:

To inform Action Greensboro's emerging talent efforts, the second annual Talent & Workplace Survey was conducted in 2024, revealing compelling insights into the evolving dynamics of the local workforce. The 2024 Survey can be accessed here.

Key Findings:

- Emergence of Generation Z: Notable generational shift requires adaptability from employers to be flexible to accommodate the needs and interests of their younger workforce.
- Strategic Adaptation for Talent Retention: Enhance hiring practices, invest in internal training, and offer diverse benefits.
- Strengthening Educational Partnerships: Stronger connections with educational institutions and on-campus recruitment are essential.
- Family-Friendly Benefits: Implementing parental leave, workplace accommodations, and childcare support is crucial.
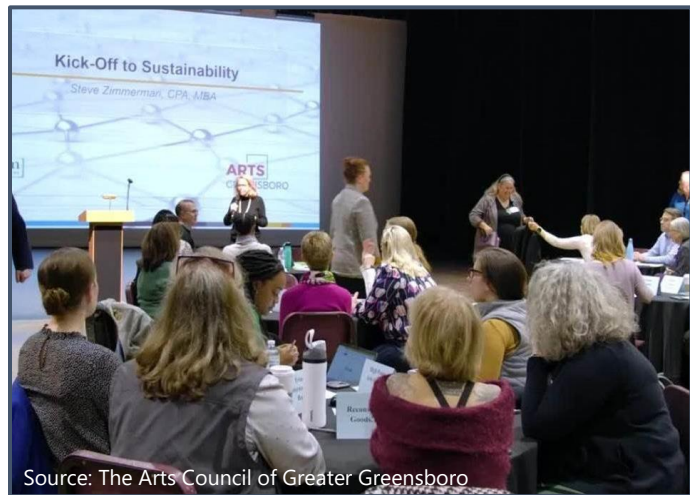
New Creative Investment

Project ID: ARPA00034

Eligibility Category: 2.36 Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Funding Amount: $2,500,000

Timeline: February 1, 2023 – December 31, 2026

Lead Organization(s): The Arts Council of Greater Greensboro

Source: The Arts Council of Greater Greensboro

Project Description: The Arts Council of Greater Greensboro, using Guilford County ARPA funds, aims to build a sustainable arts sector. Focus areas include organizational sustainability, small business development for creatives, and a robust marketing campaign.

Performance Update:

Performance Measures	2024 Data
Organizational Sustainability	
Number of organizations	34
Number of participants	211
Number of coaching sessions	79
Number of participant surveys/check-ins (Number of opportunities given)	82
Average participant satisfaction rate	92.75
Small Business Development	
Number of professional development participants	113
Number of external partners	16
Number of hub surveys completed	117
Number of promotional activities	9
Number of engagements with promotional activities	7,254
Marketing Campaign	
Number of directory copies distributed	6,680
Number of unique views on events calendar	57,307
Number of promotional activities	322
Number of impressions (Facebook views, billboard traffic, etc.)	3,982,160
Number of engagements with promotional activities	14,078

Program Areas and Activities:

Organizational Sustainability – Strengthens board and staff capability for long-term sustainability using a cohort approach and a 5-year strategic plan that includes phases on Leadership and Succession Planning, Funding and Resource Development, Next Generation Marketing, and Financial Deep Dive. Matrix Mapping Sessions have effectively helped organizations plan for financial and strategic success. Feedback shows increased confidence in managing sustainability.

Small Business Development for Creatives - Provides professional development through workshops, scholarships, and studies that promote living wages. Houston Odon leads the Artist Workshop Series, which covers business strategy, marketing, and finance. Over 100 artists completed the survey, and 150 people attended over 20 professional development sessions.

Title-one Schools Artists-in-Residence Pilot - Places artists in third-grade Title I classrooms to improve academic performance. Sedalia Elementary is the pilot school, with a focus on credentialing teaching artists, developing an integrated curriculum, and establishing evaluation tools.

Robust Marketing Awareness Campaign – A multi-channel campaign to create awareness of the creative community, which includes a directory of 95+ nonprofit arts organizations and an events calendar. The campaign resulted in 65,000+ unique event views and delivered 6,000+ print directories.

"I teach my primary instruments (violin and piano) as a private teacher, and I consider my teaching work a fundamental aspect of my musical career. My work as a performer has a strong educational undercurrent. I would like to better integrate my teaching and performance practices together into a sustainable business model. I am also a new North

Carolina resident, so networking in the community here is critical for my professional success at this stage in my career."

Learn More About the Program and the ACGG:

- [Events | The ACGG](#)
- [Directory | The ACGG](#)
- [Arts-Impact COVID-19](#)
- [Large Cohort Organizations](#)
- [Small cohort Organizations](#)
- [The ACGG Overview](#)

Expanding Sustainable Impact at The Forge

Project ID: 90005024

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $300,000

Timeline:
March 1, 2023- December 31, 2026

Lead Organization(s):
The Forge Greensboro

Source: Forge Greensboro

Project Description: Forge Greensboro is a community makerspace for artisans, entrepreneurs, inventors, artists, and tinkerers to make, collaborate, ideate, and learn. Members pay for 24/7 access to woodshop, machining, welding, 3D printers, laser engraver, cnc routers, sewing, and ceramics equipment.

ARPA funding allows Forge Greensboro to improve the training and mentoring capacity of the organization, supports equipment purchase, repair and maintenance as program pilots are developed, and prepares the organization to move to a larger facility.

Performance Update:
As of 2024, a new Executive Director has been building a new team to expand the program and its partnerships. As of the latest quarterly reporting period, shop mentors have updated their maintenance and safety protocols. Future work includes standardizing training systems, usability, and access to all shop and resource areas. Recent highlights from the latest quarter include:

- 86 unique participants attended 226 mentoring sessions
- 40 youth participants engaged in youth activities
- Resident entrepreneurs have created fabricated wooden houses for Greensboro Housing Authority's "What Home Means to Me Program" as a pilot of Forge Makers in Residence
- Individuals who upskilled their abilities include 20 individuals working for Toyota, 11 from She Built this City, and 3 pre-apprentices

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of entrepreneurial/workforce participants	59
Number of youth participants introduced to STEM curriculum	369
Number of jobs created and filled due to Forge	16

Learn More Here:

- https://www.forgegreensboro.org/
- She Built this City plans to start program in Greensboro

Forging Equitable Opportunities for Equal Outcomes at The Steelhouse

Project ID: 90005032

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $2,000,000

Timeline: March 2023 - December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Nussbaum Center for Entrepreneurship (NCFE)

Project Description: "The Steelhouse," located at 1431 S. Elm-Eugene Street, plans to convert the former Carolina Steel factory into a center for innovation and urban manufacturing. Located in an Opportunity Zone and a Qualified Census Tract (113), where over 50% of households earn less than 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI), the 15-acre campus requires minimal access barriers and offers a variety of opportunities. The Steelhouse will feature 220,000 square feet of adaptable workspace, local retail and local restaurants, a farmers' market, artist studios, and various meeting spaces. The farmer's market, community health organization and commercial kitchens will assist entrepreneurs prepare and package food for sale, as well as teach healthy eating habits as part of a larger attempt to establish a health hub in a food desert and medically underserved area. The Steelhouse is the NCFE's fourth redevelopment project, continuing its mission to revitalize large, inactive industrial sites.

Performance Update:

- <u>General Contractor:</u> D.H. Griffin Construction is managing Phase I of the $36 million project, consisting of infrastructure updates and renovating 30,000 square feet for manufacturing entrepreneurs and business owners.

- <u>Phase I Approval:</u> The City of Greensboro approved drawings for Phase I, which includes necessary infrastructure upgrades and tenant space.

- <u>Additional Funding:</u> The project received $2,000,000 from the City of Greensboro, $2,000,000 from the SBA through Representative Kathy Manning's office, $750,000 from the Golden LEAF Foundation, and over $450,000 from local foundations. NCFE is leveraging the generous support of our investors through a New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) where Truist and CityScape Capital Group are allocating $9,000,000 in NMTC towards the project.

Metric	Target Value
Number of Small Businesses Served	500+ small businesses housed since inception
Expected Number of Businesses Served	The Steelhouse when completed will be able to house over 100 businesses
Number of Jobs Created/Retained	600 jobs created/retained after full project completion
Percent Occupancy in The Steelhouse	Phase I expected to open at 100% occupancy
Minority/Women Business Enterprise (MWBE) Department Participation	78% of businesses currently in residence are MWBE

For more details about The Steelhouse and the NCFE visit: The Steelhouse – The Nussbaum Center for Entrepreneurship.

Workforce Impact and Recovery Analysis

Project ID: 9211021001-90003476

Eligibility Category: 3.4-Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

Funding Amount: $195,000

Timeline: October 2021 – October 2023

Lead Organization(s): Emsi Burning Glass

Project Description: The Workforce Recovery Analysis helped our community better understand the global pandemic's short-term and long-term impacts on Guilford County's economy, workforce, and industrial base. This project used relevant data to identify how the pandemic has negatively impacted employment and career trends to inform reemployment strategies and identify the skills, competencies, and training necessary for residents to return to work or transition to in-demand roles. The deliverables of this analysis will be used to inform investment and workforce development strategies to help those residents most impacted by the pandemic. Objectives included:

- Identifying employer-talent skill gaps
- Connecting high-pay, high demand skills to workers from various demographic groups
- Provide upskilling and reskilling opportunities to regional stakeholders through an economic analysis of labor market information, job postings, profiles and resumes, and open-sourced skills.

During the peak of the pandemic, the unemployment rate in the Greensboro-High Point MSA rose 12 percent from pre-pandemic levels. The rate was 16 percent in April 2020 and four percent in January 2020. Rates have gradually made their way back to pre-pandemic levels at 4.2% in January 2022. The analysis will help County residents and the economy better withstand future economic shocks and fallout.

Find the report from this project on our website: Workforce-Skills Analysis | Guilford County, NC (guilfordcountync.gov).

Broadband and Digital Inclusion

Broadband infrastructure was highlighted by US Treasury as a key area for investment of ARPA funds. For Guilford County, this priority area was selected to focus on identifying the current landscape of digital accessibility, affordability, and adoptability for county residents. The results of the initial Digital Inclusion Analysis informed additional strategies for this priority area which include:

- Collaborating with public and private partners to support broadband expansion in the County.
- Supporting a centralized community resource for broadband and digital inclusion development and management.

Total Allocation: $1,600,000

Projects:
- GREAT Grant
- Digital Inclusion Analysis
- FirstNet for Rural Fire

GREAT Grant

Project ID: 9021-537500-521GREAT

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $99,760.70

Timeline: July 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): North Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Office, Guilford County, Internet Service Providers (AT&T and North State Communications)

Project Description: The Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) Grant is a competitive grant program that provides funding to private sector broadband providers to deploy last-mile broadband infrastructure to unserved areas of North Carolina. The program is administered by the Broadband Infrastructure Office (BIO) in the N.C. Department of Information Technology (NCDIT). The current round of the GREAT program received $350 million in funding from them state allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars. The GREAT Grant program encourages partnerships to maximize opportunities to leverage support for these infrastructure deployments. Projects proposing a partnership with the County received additional points in the project scoring process. Guilford County entered MOUs with three GREAT Grant applicants, committing up to $1,100,000 in ARPA funds for the third-party match portion of the grants.

Performance Update: GREAT Grants were awarded to two Guilford County ISP applications for a total county match requirement of $99,760,70. The two awards are outlined below:

1. AT&T (Bellsouth Telecommunications) will serve 252 total locations including 249 households and 3 businesses.
2. North State Communications will serve 287 locations including 274 households and 13 businesses.

County funds will be combined with the state grant funding and matching requirements from the ISP providers to make a collective investment of over $2 million in Guilford County broadband infrastructure.

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of Guilford County awards received	2
Number of Households to be Served	523
Number of Businesses to be Served	16
Total Dollar amount of State, Private, and County Investment	$2,147,902

The construction period of these contracts will be completed within two years of contract execution. After construction, NCDIT will continue to monitor compliance with required service speeds and maintenance of the infrastructure for an additional three years.

From September 2023 – June 2024, AT&T has been working on the design, planning, and engineering phase of their project. This phase encompasses a broad array of critical areas from purchasing fiber to acquiring permits to designing the proper optical line transport. On June 28th, 2024, AT&T held a groundbreaking event to kick off the next phase of their projects. Representatives from AT&T, Guilford County, Greensboro Chamber of Commerce, and the North Carolina Department of Information Technology spoke about the important impact this project will have on the community.

"We have too many North Carolinians today that lack access to high-speed internet. [...] The impact of not having high-speed internet capability in your households, it's an economic impact for the community you are in, it's a learning disability [...] for our children, and it also disabled our workforce from being effective and working remotely."

– James Weaver, NC Secretary for the Department of Information Technology & Chief Information Officer

Broadband Gaps and Needs Infrastructure Analysis

Project ID: 9211021001-90003440

Eligibility Category: 5.21 Broadband: Other Projects

Funding Amount: $500,000

Timeline: October 2021 – June 2023

Lead Organization(s): Guidehouse Inc.

Project Description: The analysis identified broadband infrastructure gaps and needs to inform more impactful strategy, action, and investment in broadband availability, affordability, and adoption across Guilford County. Deliverables included:

- Comprehensive understanding of the broadband access and adoption landscape across the county and QCTs
- Asset inventories
- Community stakeholder engagement activities Understanding of resident access and adoption needs and issues
- Establishment of an inter-agency task force to mobilize county-wide activities directed at broadband development
- Strategy to address access and adoption barriers and needs and to improve digital equity and inclusion.

Find the report from this project on our website: Broadband Analysis | Guilford County, NC (guilfordcountync.gov).

FirstNet for Rural Fire

Project ID: 8000-601-FN

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $608,359

Timeline: July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2026

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Emergency Services, Guilford Rural Fire Districts

Project Description: The Broadband Analysis, conducted as part of the community engagement efforts to develop a recovery investment strategy, identified mobile broadband availability for public safety services as a targeted recommendation for improving broadband access in the County. The challenge identified was that "Emergency Services first responders require a wireless connection to access vital dispatch and communications systems including incident reporting when an Emergency Operation Center is activated. Rural areas face difficulties in accessing these systems, as a stable connection is not always available." The benefits of addressing this challenge would be improved resiliency and reach of public safety operations, enhance emergency response capabilities, reduced dark spots for first responders in the field, and increased reliability of mobile-dependent technologies.[6] This project was established to address this identified gap in our broadband system.

This project allows Guilford County rural fire protection districts to have access to the FirstNet, which allows them to access the dedicated Band 14 infrastructure supported by the US Government as a post 9/11 recommendation. Many of these districts were invested in other cellular technology or simply lacked the funding to have access to mobile

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[6] Guilford County Broadband Strategy (guilfordcountync.gov) pg. 60

computer terminals, and this funding will allow them to switch to FirstNet hardware and pay for three (3) years of service. FirstNet offers the following features:

- Reliable, interoperable, high-speed LTE network core dedicated to public safety communications. The network connects first-responder organizations.
- Priority and preemption with First Priority®. This gives first responders first-in-line access during network congestion.
- Available end-to-end security. Features redundancy, dedicated support, and highly secured, reliable applications for first responders.
- Deployables, such as satellite cell trucks, for increased capacity. These are dedicated exclusively for public safety use during both planned activities and disaster recovery.
- Local control and visibility over network status, user and device management, device activation, billing, and application management.
- Public safety ecosystem to manage full array of Internet-connected devices, from vehicles to mobile apps. Includes real-time network intel and diagnostics, automation, security, alerts, performance monitoring, and cost management.

Performance Update:

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of rural fire departments receiving funding for FirstNet devices and service costs	19 Departments

Protect Guilford County Services

This priority area was identified to improve County operational resiliency through addressing issues caused or exacerbated by COVID-19. Looking forward, funding in this area also focuses on evaluation of county operations and staff ratios to build necessary capacity to increase resiliency and the county's ability to respond to future crisis situations.

Total Allocation: $3,203,847.66

Projects

- Retention Incentive
- Law Enforcement BDA/DAS
- Emergency Management Cleaning Supplies
- Emergency Management PPE

Detention and Paramedic/EMT Incentive Program

Project ID: 9211021001-510900-601

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $2,670,000

Timeline: May 2022 – December 2024

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Law Enforcement, Guilford County Emergency Services

Project Description: Attraction and retention incentive program to fill in the gap of 70 vacancies in law enforcement detention and address the 12 percent vacancy rate in the Emergency Services department in specified positions. The structured incentive program is intended to assist with maintenance of existing staff in a primary role in EMS field operations to provide medical care to the community and in detention services. The retention program was directed at hard to fill positions and is also intended to recruit credentialed applicants for Guilford County to fill existing vacancies. Both initiatives are intended to increase the number of staffed unit hours with full-time staff.

High-level requirements for Recruitment Incentives:

- Must be hired for a full-time position after May 5, 2022, within the department.
- Recruitment incentive payments will be made in installments after a designated amount of time of employment.

Performance Update:

Performance Measure	Performance Level at Start of Program	Performance Level Now
Vacancy rate in Emergency Services department in specified positions	12%	0%
Percent reduction in vacancy rate in Emergency Service department in specified positions	N/A	100%
Number of vacancies in Law Enforcement Department	70	108
Percent change in number of vacancies in Law Enforcement Department	N/A	54% Increase

Law Enforcement BDA/DAS

Project ID: 3100-553100-601

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $214,509.26

Timeline: March 2022 – June 2023

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Law Enforcement

Project Description: An active equipment refreshes for the existing 800MHz Public Safety DAS and the 850 MHz Verizon Cellular DAS at Guilford County Jail and Courthouse. The BDA/DAS unit is critical for the communication between detention officers and supervision in the Greensboro Jail, the inmate transport tunnel which connects this jail to the Greensboro Courthouse and the deputies (bailiffs) and supervision working in this courthouse. This communication is vital for the safety of all Sheriff's Office personnel. Without it there is no ability to communicate with other personnel in times of crisis or in the daily operations of either the jail or courthouse. This equipment will be used by officers of the Guilford County Sheriff's Office in the performance of their duties.

"This was hands-down the most critical piece of equipment I've ever been responsible for purchasing in my career!"

– Master Corporal Jimmy Ray, Guilford County Sheriff's Office

Emergency Management – Cleaning Supplies

Project ID: 9211021001-20220975

Eligibility Category: 1.7 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)

Funding Amount: $29,716.60

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Emergency Services

Project Description: Disinfection sprayers and chemicals were purchased to disinfect areas where COVID-19 positive individuals had been and to prevent the spread of the virus. This project provided for high-level surface disinfection of County facilities and public safety agencies to reduce the risk of cross contamination between employees and clients.

Performance Update:

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of Disinfectant Sprayers Purchased	12
Number of Cases of Disinfectant Purchased	30

Source: Scott Muthersbaugh, Guilford County Emergency Services

Protect Guilford County Services

Emergency Management – PPE

Project ID: 9211021001-20220910

Eligibility Category: 1.5 Personal Protective Equipment

Funding Amount: $289,622.06

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Emergency Services Department

Project Description: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was used to support safe county operations and prevent the spread of COVID-19. PPE includes gloves, N95 respirators, surgical masks, gowns, and other protective items. The need for PPE was exacerbated by the pandemic. PPE was purchased to provide for at least a 90-day supply on the shelf given significant supply chain disruptions and limitations. PPE was made available to County staff and public safety agencies. This allowed for centralized ordering and distribution of PPE to critical infrastructure. This benefitted the County in that the request was of higher quantity and gave the county priority in allocations and afforded the county with better pricing.

Performance Update:

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of Mask Purchased	265,800
Number of Gloves Purchased	900,000

Source: Scott Muthersbaugh, Guilford County Emergency Services

ARPA Administration

The allocation of LFRF funds to Guilford County is an opportunity to make a historic and transformational impact on our community. The county identified ARPA Administration as a funding priority area to ensure funding allocations were strategic and community informed and project implementation was professionally managed.

Total Allocation: $1,747,076.83

Projects:

- Community Engagement
- Pandemic Recovery Team
- Guilford County Operating Expenses
  (amount not included in total allocation above)

Community Engagement for ARPA Investment Strategy

Project ID: 9211021001-90003475

Eligibility Category: 3.4 Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

Funding Amount: $35,417.83

Timeline: October 2021 – September 2022

Lead Organization(s): Public Participation Partners

Project Description: A comprehensive public engagement process was conducted to solicit and receive resident, non-profit, for-profit, and other stakeholder feedback. Engagement conversations focused on the pandemic's impact on our community and residents and ideas for the strategic use and investment of American Rescue Plan Act's (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. Deliverables included:

- Creation and implementation of an engagement strategy
- Production and distribution of marketing and outreach materials and activities
- Facilitation of community conversations (in-person, virtual)
- Obtaining and analyzing quantitative and qualitative data from surveys and conversations
- Identifying pandemic impacts and prevalent recovery needs
- Prioritization of community recovery needs along with cohesive and intentional strategy and investment recommendations.
- Special attention is given to soliciting and receiving feedback from areas most impacted by the pandemic.

Performance Update:

Performance Measure	Performance Data
Number of Community Survey Responses Received	1,804

Find the report from this project on our website: Community Survey | Guilford County, NC (guilfordcountync.gov).

ARPA Administration

Pandemic Recovery Team

Project ID: 9211021001-staff

Eligibility Category: 7.1 Administrative Expenses

Funding Amount: $1,711,659

Timeline: December 2021 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Manager's Office

Project Description: These funds provide central support for ARPA Fund Management. The pandemic recovery team will coordinate funded projects, manage federal compliance and reporting, respond to Commissioners requests, and evaluate programs.

Performance Update: Originally this project included the development of a social innovation team to develop detailed project charters and implementation plans. The position for Social Innovation Director was developed and posted, however challenges during the recruitment process left the county with no interested candidates for the position. Additionally, Cone Health, the partnering organization for the development of this team, pivoted their strategy by decision to not hire any social innovation team members in their organization and to not invest in a co-location space for the team. Due to the original MOU no longer being upheld and the recruitment delays, the county decided not to move forward with the social innovation team concept.

County Operating Expenses

Project ID: 9211021001-601 AEP

Eligibility Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Funding Amount: $47,644,859

Timeline: July 2022 – June 2024

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County

Project Description: This project covered general operating expenses of the county as outlined below:

- Animal Services - $651,122 (Salaries and Benefits, Utilities, Fuel)
- Behavioral Health - $4,040,709 (Remittance to Authorities)
- Court Services - $265,048 (Salaries and Benefits)
- Culture & Libraries - $2,239,116 (Professional Services)
- Recreation - Parks - $1,346,649 (Salaries and Benefits, Utilities, Fuel)
- Law Enforcement - $6,610,889 (Salaries and Benefits, Utilities, Fuel)
- Planning & Development - $246,202 (Salaries and Benefits)
- Public Health - $1,358,073 (Salaries and Benefits)
- Social Services - $2,242,192 (Human Services Assistance)
- Education - $28,644,859 (School Operating Expenses)

Learn more about the funding strategy for this allocation in the Use of Funds: ARPA Enabled Projects section of this report.

ARPA Enabled Projects

ARPA Enabled Projects are defined as program or activities funded by County general funds made available through use of ARPA Revenue Replacement funds for regular county operating expenses. Due to being funded with county funds, the below listed projects are not included on the Project and Expenditure Report, however, they are included here because of their connection to ARPA initiatives. Learn more about the funding strategy for these projects in the Use of Funds section of this report.

Projects:

- Homelessness Taskforce
- Transportation Initiatives
- Integrated Data System Project
- Recovery Housing
- Emergency Therapeutic Transitional Foster Care
- Pleasant Garden Water/Sewer Infrastructure
- The Bridge
- Windsor Chavis Nocho Community Complex

Homelessness Taskforce

Funding Amount: $8,000,000 (*included in funding amount for Housing & Homelessness)*

Lead Organization(s): Multiple Entities, including Guilford County, City of Greensboro, City of High Point, and Guilford County Continuum of Care

Project Description: Funding to support an interagency taskforce charged with identifying and enacting initiatives to address housing instability and other issues leading to experiences of homelessness in Guilford County. Funding expanded access and reach of County Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), the expansion of Coordinated Entry (CE), and funding social workers and case managers to help individuals experiencing homelessness to attain local community resources and find affordable housing.

Performance Update: In the Spring of 2023 the Homelessness Task Force made a series of funding recommendations to the Guilford County BOCC for ARPA Enabled Funds to be used. The below table outlines the allocations made by the county from the total $8 million budgeted for Homelessness Taskforce initiatives.

Project	Amount Allocated
Family Service of the Piedmont	$50,000
Interactive Resource Center	$306,000
Lee's Chapel Facility	$75,000
Partners Ending Homelessness	$372,272
Room at the Inn	$150,830
Salvation Army	$52,000
Servant Center	$1,073,750
Tiny House Community Development	$55,000
Welfare Reform Liaison Project	$100,000
West End Ministries	$50,000
YWCA of Greensboro	$223,600
Center for Hope & Healing	$1,000,000
The Servant Center-Holden Heights Purchase	$1,000,000
CHS Strategic Planning	$498,786

Funding has supported the personnel and programmatic costs associated for each organization to support their respective missions. The below table represents work completed from July of 2023 to March of 2024. Final quarterly data is still being gathered and will be included in the 2025 Recovery Plan.

Total Number Individuals utilizing case management services	655
Total # of VI/SPDAT assessments completed	599
Total Number of Individual Service Plans maintained	265
Total Number of Individuals receiving referrals to community services.	2,004
Overall HMIS Completion and Accuracy Average	92% across GC agencies

Transportation Initiatives

Funding Amount: $1,000,000

(included in funding amount for Small Business, Economy, & Workforce Development)

Project Description: Funding to convene and support a new interagency planning group to identify transportation challenges and enact initiatives to support transportation improvements for Guilford County's growing workforce and underserved communities.

Performance Update:

Convened Partners

Guilford County Board of Commissioners	City of Greensboro City Council	City of High Point City Council	Social Services
Specialty Courts	Behavioral Health	Emergency Service	Continuum of Care
Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation	Cone Health	Guilford Technical Community College	GuilfordWorks
Guilford County Schools	NC State University Institute for Transportation Research and Education	Morrisville Transportation	Private transportation provider
Greensboro Transportation and Transit	High Point Transportation and Transit	Partner Surveys	Community Input

Process and Themes

The stakeholder group took an "Understand, Consider, Act" approach, which included evaluating transportation systems, identifying challenges, exploring funding sources, and reviewing small-scale activities and research. Meeting topics have included transportation systems, financial circumstances, and programs from other sectors. The discussions centered on mobility shortages for healthcare, social services, emergency services, job centers, and education. Participants created issue statements, strategies, and prioritized action plans.

Vision

Guilford County, the City of Greensboro, the City of High Point, and PART have agreed to a shared vision of a unified, accessible, and affordable transportation system across the county, focused on seamlessly connecting people to jobs, and providing access to community services, while also engaged in a shared commitment across entities to equitably serve all communities, rethink policies, and explore opportunities for shared resources and collaboration to maximize efficiency and improve access and experiences for residents in and around Guilford County.

System-Wide Challenges

Guilford County faces transportation challenges such as restricted services outside normal business hours, service imbalances between municipalities, and poor service integration. There is little data on demand and performance, no master asset inventory, and the system is difficult to comprehend and use for people with specific needs due to restrictions and barriers.

Pilot Program

In May 2024, Guilford County launched a Transportation Pilot Program Request for Ideas (RFI) to collect community ideas aimed at addressing three core areas of need identified by the stakeholder group. These areas of need are:

1. People to Work: Potential and current employees need transportation to existing and emerging employment hubs because there is a lack of dependable service to key employment hubs or limited/no service during certain hours.

2. People in Need to Services: Lack of transportation negatively impacts everyone, but specific populations will face larger burdens, specifically those who are justice-involved, experiencing homelessness, or utilizing the county's public human services (e.g., Social Services, Public Health, non-crisis Behavioral Health, etc.). A lack of timely and accessible transportation is cited as a reason some individuals are unable to attend mandatory appointments or meetings to complete their assigned programs or access needed benefits.

3. People in Crisis to Care: Our current transportation systems are not the best options for people experiencing a behavioral health crisis to navigate community resources and connect to services, especially beyond fixed route systems, and outside regular operating hours and days.

The RFI form closed for submission on June 30th, 2024, with 23 ideas submitted.

Integrated Service Delivery

Funding Amount: $10,000,000
(supports multiple strategic priority areas – not included in section totals)

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County

Project Description: Across all strategic priority areas, Guilford County demonstrated a firm commitment to strengthening service delivery to support the County's most vulnerable residents. As a multidisciplinary funding priority, the County is seeking to improve integrated service delivery referrals, access, and sustained engagement of clients to improve the health, well-being, sustained recovery, and self-sufficiency of the County's most vulnerable residents.

The primary objectives for this project are:
- Develop and implement a strategy and governance plan to coordinate services and reduce duplication of services.
- Develop an integrated data system to support care coordination across County government and to more seamlessly integrate with our community partners who have already started their journey towards integrated data and integrated service delivery.
- Improve the systems of referrals, access, and sustained engagement with clients.

Performance Update:
On August 9, 2022, program and agency executives met in an Executive Design Think Tank Workshop to illustrate how the data integration project could help residents navigate social services in the county. Common themes identified the need to share client data across industries, and to support and guide clients through the overwhelming maze of services and requirements.

In 2024, Guilford County has hired an Integrated Services Director to lead the work of this initiative. Work is being conducted to develop a coordinated care delivery approach, using oversight and strategic direction across County departments. The County is in the process of establishing a case management system for Aging and Adult Services. Further information will be provided in the 2025 Recovery Plan.

Learn More About the Program:
Come Together: $10M project could help Guilford residents access social services

Recovery Housing

Funding Amount: $3,000,000 *(included in funding amount for Behavioral Health)*

Lead Organization(s):
Guilford County

Project Description:

The goal of this project is to open a facility in Guilford County that provides Clinically Managed High-Intensity Residential Services for Pregnant and Parenting Beneficiaries as part of broader County efforts to expand opioid and other substance use recovery services in the community. Our vision is that families with children challenged with the impact of substance misuse can be preserved and nurtured by accessing local comprehensive residential recovery services.

There are currently no treatment programs in Guilford County that provide high-intensity residential services for pregnant or parenting beneficiaries. When our residents must travel outside of the county to receive this type of service, it creates significant challenges including:

- Removal from natural support systems
- Transportation to service location
- Relocation of children from their school and friends
- Discharge from service into an unfamiliar community

Guilford County Foster Care and In-Home Service statistics can bring light to the specific need for this type of service in our community. In 2022, 69 children entered foster care due to substance abuse, and 18 (26%) of those children were under the age of one. Additionally, the single mother category represented 52% of families entering foster care due to substance abuse. These families had an average of 1.7 children per household. Furthermore, in 2022, 52 children were involved in In-Home Services due to substance misuse with 28 children (54%) between the ages of 0 to 5.

The service model will be designed using the North Carolina Department of State Health Regulation (NC DHSR) licensure for "Residential Recovery Programs for Individuals with Substance Abuse Disorders and their Children" and proposed NC Medicaid Policy for

"Clinically Managed High-Intensity Residential Services – Pregnant and Parenting Beneficiaries".

This type of service is characterized by:

- A 24-hour residential facility with a minimum of 20 hours per week of clinical interventions
- Direct linkage to education services for children and adolescents residing in the program.
- Access to Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT).
- Programming to include but not limited to assessment/referral, individual and group therapy, therapeutic parenting skills, basic independent living skills, educational groups, child supervision, aftercare, follow-up, and access to prenatal, postpartum, pediatric, and primary medical care.

Performance Update:

January 2022: Guilford County Community Survey identified Behavioral Healthcare and Substance Use as one of the top five priorities for investment of ARPA dollars.

October 2022: Guilford County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) allocated $3Million of ARPA SLFRF funds towards development of a substance use recovery housing program for pregnant women and women with children.

October 2022 – August 2023: Guilford County staff and committee members have evaluated similar programs to develop initial program cost models and survey potential locations for the program; traveling to sites such as: UNC Horizons in Orange County, RHCC Our House in Robeson County, Mary Benson in Buncombe County, and Fellowship Hall in Guilford County. Additionally, county representatives consulted with state partners in the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Division of Health Service Regulation (DHSR) as well as other agencies providing this service across the state to learn more about program operations and requirements.

September 2023: Guilford County BOCC formally created the Women's and Children Residential Recovery Services Planning Committee

Source: Guilford County

February 2024: the Women's and Children Residential Recovery Services Planning Committee recommended the selection of the Gibson Park Facility to provide this service in a lodge-type living arrangement. The Gibson Park facility has room capacity to provide residential recovery services for up to 28 women. The program will provide 24-hour residential substance use recovery services for pregnant women or women with physical custody of children aged 12 and under. Programming will include substance abuse comprehensive outpatient treatment (SACOT), case management, and transition planning and supports.

March 2024: the Women and Children's Residential Recovery Services Subcommittee held its first stakeholder meeting at the Gibson Park site.

April 2024: Guilford County released an RFP for Residential Treatment Services for Pregnant and Parenting Women to identify a service provider to work through the program and facility develop phase of the project with community stakeholders before providing the residential treatment services when the facility is open.

May – June 2024: Guilford County Staff and Women's and Children Residential Recovery Services Planning Committee Members reviewed and evaluated proposals submitted to the RFP.

Transitional Therapeutic Foster Care

Project ID: TBD (*project to be included in future Project & Expenditure Report*)

Funding Amount: $1,500,000 *(included in funding amount for Behavioral Health)*

Lead Organization(s): Guilford County Department of Social Services

Project Description: Funding to support therapeutic services for foster youth who are experiencing persistent mental illness. The goal is to improve placement stability for youth requiring higher needs while awaiting transition to a higher level of care.

Performance Update: This project is in the program development stage. More information on project activities and performance will be reported in future recovery plans.

Water Infrastructure

Funding Amount: $5,500,000 *(included in funding amount for Water & Sewer)*

Timeline: TBD

Lead Organization(s): Town of Pleasant Garden; City of Greensboro

Project Description: The funds provided through this agreement will be used for Phase 1 of the Pleasant Garden Business District water and sewer infrastructure project. Phase 1 includes the following:

- 16,500 LF 16" water main down Pleasant Garden Rd, looped back up Sheraton Park Rd to Davis Mill Rd and Spur Rd
- 2,000 LF 8" gravity sewer
- 2,100 LF 6" force main
- 1 Sewer Lift Station
- 400 LF encasements – bore and jacks

The water system will connect to the City of Greensboro water system and will provide 3000 GPM light industrial fire flow and 1 MGD total water demand distributed evenly across economic development sites in the district. The projected annual Enterprise Fund contribution to Greensboro Water Resources at the full 1 MGD distribution is approximately $5 million.

Performance Update: Given the interlocal nature of this project, initial project activities have involved collaboration between the Town of Pleasant Garden and the City of Greensboro to develop a feasible project scope and move towards an interlocal agreement to govern the project work and future water and sewer utility management.

October 2023: The North Carolina General Assembly appropriated $5,500,000 to the City of Greensboro to be used for water and wastewater improvements serving the town of Pleasant Garden. This allocation, combined with the investment from Guilford County, provides a total of $11 Million for this project.

April 2024: The City of Greensboro passed a resolution approving the Water and Sewer Extension Policy Outside of the City Corporate Limits. This action was a critical milestone for this project as it created a viable path forward for an interlocal agreement between Pleasant Garden and Greensboro to govern the development of this water and sewer extension.

May 2024: The City of Greensboro passed a resolution approving an interlocal agreement with the Town of Pleasant Garden for the provision of water and sewer service. This resolution outlines the core considerations to be included in the interlocal agreement and directs city staff to move forward with negotiating and executing a final agreement.

Next steps for the project include the execution of the interlocal agreement between Pleasant Garden and Greensboro, and the development and execution of an interlocal agreement between Pleasant Garden and Guilford County. Upon execution of these agreements, project work will begin.

The Bridge

Project ID: ARPA00137

Funding Amount: $2,000,000 *(included in funding amount for Access to Community Services)*

Timeline: July 2023 – December 2026

Lead Organization(s):
Hayden-Harman Foundation; City of High Point

Project Description: Develop a comprehensive community-based center designed to increase access to healthy foods, health services, job skills training, agribusiness development, and youth development. This project will be implemented with two key partners:

Growing High Point will facilitate the development of a model farm to sell produce, and a paid apprentice program to train urban farmers in agribusiness.

Source: Hayden-Harman Foundation

Resilience High Point will offer access to health services in partnership with community organizations, including:

Source: Hayden-Harman Foundation

- Health services with High Point University's physician assistant and pharmacy programs
- Group fitness and social activities coordinated with area nonprofits such as D-UP and YWCA as well as High Point University
- Youth activities at the Morehead Recreation Center of High Point and other neighborhood locations, including STEM activities, career exploration, and SEL programs through partnerships with youth-serving organizations.

Performance Update: The Hayden Harman Foundation is in the process of hiring project managers, scheduling healthcare screening events, meeting with committed and potential partners, and forming advisory committees to guide program implementation and to continue to develop partnerships with nonprofit and educational partners. Further information will be provided in the 2025 Annual Recovery Plan.

Performance Measure	Performance Goal
Pounds of produce produced annually from the model farm	15,000 Lbs. once fully developed
Retail sales annually from model farm	$50,000 once fully developed
Number of jobs created for trained farmers	25 Jobs once fully developed
Number of seniors helped with Medicare enrollment annually	90 Seniors by end of year 2025
Percent reduction in emergency room visits for seniors who are assisted with medication management	30% Reduction by end of year 2025
Number of youths who join partnering organizations annually	100 Youth Annually

Learn More Here: Free Health Screenings in High Point

Windsor Chavis Nocho Community Complex

Funding Amount: $15,000,000 *(included in funding amount for Access to Community Services)*

Timeline: TBD

Lead Organization(s): City of Greensboro

Project Description: Funding to support the next phase of project development for the Windsor Chavis Nocho Community Complex which, when completed, will offer access to recreation, health/wellness, a library, and other government services.

Performance Update: Guilford County and the City of Greensboro have been collaborating on designing a space within the facility that will house county Public Health and Social Services staff for the provision of core eligibility services. Furthermore, the city and county MWBE departments have collaborated on the development of participation goals for the program and hosted events to bring more MWBE participation into the bidding process. The final design and shared space usage terms are still under development and additional information will be shared in future recovery plans.

Source: City of Greensboro

Thank you to all our program partners for their work implementing CSLFRF funded initiatives and their support in gathering information for this report.

Guilford County
2024 Recovery Plan