

## NACo Healthy Counties Forum takes on pandemic

by **Charlie Ban**  
senior writer

American life expectancy fell for the second straight year, underscoring the grave threat that COVID-19 continues to pose. Convening recently in Wake County, N.C., NACo's Healthy Counties Forum focused primarily on the pandemic, the most prominent current threat to well-being.

The long-term repercussions of the pandemic were unavoidable, but so too were the focus and attention county public health officials have received from elected officials, who have seen the health and economic impacts transform their counties.

Since COVID-19 first spread in the United States in 2020, counties have taken a more deliberate approach toward maintaining partnerships to do

their work protecting lives, determining equitable distribution of resources and addressing the impact that stress has had on the county workforce. The April 6-8 forum looked at these issues and more, with an emphasis on protecting against the next pandemic and wisely investing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.

"Everyone had an idea how to spend the money 10 times over, but we had to be smart about where to invest the money," said Nick Macchione, director of San Diego County's Health and Human Services Agency, during the forum's opening general session April 7. "We've used our ARPA money to invest in building out our public health [capacity]."

Noting that those needs would continue for years,

*See FORUM page 2*



**PLAY BALL!** Polk County, Fla. Board of County Commissioners Board Chair Martha Santiago (center), Commissioner Neil Combee (left) and Deputy County Manager Ryan Taylor (right) throw out the first pitch at the newly renovated Northeast Regional Park. The second phase construction costs were about \$5.6 million. Photo by Charles A. Baker III, Winter Haven Sun

## County attacks hunger with ARPA funding, farm support

by **Charlie Ban**  
senior writer

The sign outside of the Islamic Center of Maryland has carried the same message for two years. "#ICMCARES — RESPONDING TO COVID THRU FAITH."

Adileh Sharieff, a trustee for the mosque in Montgomery

County, wrote the message early in the COVID-19 pandemic. For two years, in addition to nourishing congregants' souls she and her team have been nourishing their bodies and more.

"I put it up and just kept it there," she said. "Nobody has said anything about taking it down yet."

The mosque is a part of an operation to ensure that residents haven't gone hungry as the pandemic has uprooted lives, jobs and careers.

"Montgomery County is one of the most expensive places in the country to live," said Heath-

*See FOOD page 3*



**(L-r):** NACo Second Vice President Mary Jo McGuire, Wake County, N.C.'s Nicole Mushonga and San Diego County's Nick Macchione take part in the Healthy Counties Summit. Photo by Hugh Clarke

## Get ready for NACo Annual Business Meeting, election

by **John Losh**  
associate membership director

NACo's 2022 annual business meeting and election will be held in-person in Adams County, Colo. Sunday, July 24. During the meeting, creden-

tialed NACo members elect NACo officers, set our national policy agenda and conduct other association business.

Voting credentials verify a member county, parish or borough's eligibility to vote and the number of votes they can

cast at the meeting. To be eligible to vote, NACo members should:

- Register for the 2022 Annual Conference
- Pay 2022 NACo member-

*See CREDENTIALS page 2*



# Data drives the best decision-making for policy

From FORUM page 1

Macchione preached sober deliberation and a systematic approach, reflecting on his county's decision-making process, which included public input from five meetings. But in the end, the money was available to address a public health emergency, and reinforcing public health capacity, while not sexy or eye-catching, was prudent.

"We were thinking about these monies with intentional focus," he said.

"Not to immediately respond, but thinking about the future of 'Yes, we had people who were hungry; yes, we have people who are scared...but thinking about how we're going build the infrastructure...making sure that the investments we have...have a lifelong approach."

Nicole Mushonga, associate medical director and epidemiology program director for Wake County, agreed that but-

treassing the first line of defense against contagious disease was crucial, but that didn't necessarily involve spending money as much as spending time and effort.

"One of the most important things is relationships, partnerships," she said. "We need to be working and building on those relationships and partnerships prior to the crisis, we have to have them established because when things happen, you have to act, and you have to act quickly."

In Wake County's case, it was relying on partners to disseminate information about how the virus worked, how residents could get tested and eventually, how they could be vaccinated. Faith communities helped.

"They were the trusted people in the communities," Mushonga said. "It wasn't us — me or our team — going in, it was using those trusted messengers. We might not have always had the resources or staff, but we

had the churches, who brought their congregations and their support." Macchione said that meeting the public with data was crucial to reinforcing public health messaging that was stymied at times by misinformation, which Mushonga seconded.

"We were able to utilize that data to really drive the work that we were doing within very specific areas," she said. "We got down to the ZIP code and census-tract level, where we actually partnered with our hospital systems to go door-to-door, offering services for individuals who couldn't get out or didn't have access or transportation."

Cognizant that not every county had \$350 million in ARPA funding like San Diego, Macchione stressed that the kind of partnerships that he saw as crucial for public health needs were not exclusive to urban counties.

"I go out to rural parts of our county and some of those are the most innovative partnerships I've seen," he said. "If there's only one thing you can do, go back home and take stock of 'What are those partnerships?' Can you define them, if you had an emergency, and you were to call and convene, would they come and would they roll their sleeves up with you?"

In addition to workshops and discussion groups, summit attendees also toured:

- Wake County's Poe Center, a nonprofit focusing on youth health education.
- Healing Transitions, an organization addressing chemical dependency among the unhoused and
- Oak City Cares, a coordinated day program for the unhoused that offers hygiene services and the opportunity to meet with human service providers. **CN**

# Annual Business Meeting July 24



Calvin Newsom, Marion County, Miss. supervisor, takes the microphone at a NACo annual business meeting. Photo by Hugh Clarke

From CREDENTIALS page 1

ship dues in full, and

- Designate one voting delegate by Monday, July 18, 2022 at 5 p.m. EDT.

To facilitate the voting process, members should authorize only one primary voting delegate per county and must provide the cell phone number of the voting delegate.

The county's chief elected official, clerk to the county board and conference registrants can visit [NACo.org/VotingCredentials](https://naco.org/VotingCredentials) to appoint their primary delegate or proxy online. A proxy voter can be another county attendee from the same state or your state association of counties.

Paper voting credential forms will not be mailed to member counties but can be accessed electronically by visiting [NACo.org/VotingCredentials](https://naco.org/VotingCredentials).

A member's vote total is determined by the amount of dues paid and dues are based on the population of the 2010 census.

Every county receives one vote and is allotted an additional vote for each \$1,200 paid in dues.

- Counties with dues of \$450 to \$1,199 receive one vote
- Counties with dues of \$1,200 to \$2,399 receive two votes

- Counties with dues of \$2,400 to \$3,599 receive three votes, and so on

- The maximum number of votes a county can receive is 51
- NACo's Credentials Committee ensures that the process for the Annual Business Meeting is fair and transparent.

The committee guides the credentials process, resolves any credentials disputes and assists during the election itself.

The 2022 Credentials Committee members are:

- Melissa Cribbins, commissioner, Coos County, Ore. (chair)
- Alysoun McLaughlin, deputy election director, Montgomery County, Md. (member)
- Felicia Franklin, commissioner, Clayton County, Ga. (member)
- Craig Rice, councilmember, Montgomery County, Md. (reading clerk)
- Karen Digh-Allen, public administrator, Callaway County, Mo. (tally clerk)

NACo members will receive additional information on credentials and appointing a delegate by mail and email in June. **CN**

More information can be accessed at [NACo.org/VotingCredentials](https://naco.org/VotingCredentials) or by emailing [credentials@naco.org](mailto:credentials@naco.org).

## SNAP/STATS

### AVERAGE TORNADOES BY MONTH

April-June  
average the most  
number of tornadoes  
during the year.

MONTH	NUMBER
APRIL .....	194
MAY .....	281
JUNE .....	196

Source: The Weather Channel



# 'Food is so basic that it should be available to everybody...'

## From FOOD page 1

er Bruskin, executive director of Montgomery County Food Council, which executes the county's food security plan. "We have many residents who make too much to be eligible for benefits but not nearly enough to cover all their costs of living."

Prior to the pandemic, 70,000 of the county's more than 1 million residents were food insecure. Now, that's more than 100,000, the council has noted.

"That was a staggering number," Bruskin said. "Even though on average we're one of the wealthiest counties across the country, we actually have tremendous income inequities."

Montgomery County's 2017 food security plan aimed to address a pandemic-like crisis in its fifth year. World events sped that up. The county allocated \$30 million of its American Rescue Plan funding to address food insecurity, buying large quantities of produce and non-perishable food and strengthening a network of local farmers, shortening supply lines.

"We knew what strategies are needed to build our resilience in the community and address hunger in our local population," Bruskin said, noting that the group didn't have the resources to be creative and flexible with its strategies for food distribution. In addition, the council's new food assistance resource directory and online searchable map allows residents to find providers close to them and providers could connect and coordinate with each other.

"We didn't know who all the providers were, what their services were like and there were a lot of redundancies in services," Bruskin said. "We really needed as many partners as possible who had deep connections within hard-to-reach communities."

## Partners in produce

The Islamic Center has been one of those partners. Trustees capitalized on the ties of faith to let congregants know where they could find food. The mosque initially relied on community donations to fill its pantry before associating formally with the food council and the Manna Food Center.

"We started out reaching out to our seniors first and then we started doing our food drives and distributing to the greater community," Sharieff said. "Food is so basic that it should be available to everybody and that's kind of what we did. Whenever we're doing our food distribution, anybody gets something."

Sharieff also found out that a distribution system without registration was more appealing, partially because some worried it would interfere with their visa status but also because others didn't want to be on a list.

"It was a matter of pride for a lot of people to be on a list where they might be somebody that is requiring help," she said.

The mosque became a natural nexus for delivering vaccines and other crucial supplies too. The turnout to do the work touched Sharieff, who noted that the working conditions, including wide-open doors during the winter to provide safe airflow, weren't always comfortable for volunteers. They also responded in force when she solicited donations for children's books.

"It makes me very emotional when people come back," she said. "They're giving their time after a long week, but people were essentially putting their own lives at risk in order to make sure somebody has the food so that they're taken care of. I'm grateful to the people that came to ICM because they trusted us, they liked our service, it was volunteers, it was family-based. I'd have seniors, kids, I people of all ages."

## Invisible hand in fields

Since 1980, Montgomery County has designated 93,000 of its 324,480 acres as an agricultural reserve, restricting development to one house per 25 acres, and supporting 558 viable farms, 454 of which produce crops for local consumption.

"We need to focus on growing more food and producing more food here locally because California and other parts of the world aren't always going to be our breadbasket or our grocery store," Bruskin said. "Climate change and political impacts globally are going to affect our ability to feed our community



**Above: Michael Protas shows off one of the two high tunnel greenhouses that allowed One Acre Farm to extend its growing season.**

**Right: Islamic Center of Maryland Trustee Adileh Sharieff explains how her mosque transformed into a food distribution center.**

Photos by Hugh Clarke

outside of likely future pandemics."

Michael Protas has been running One Acre Farm in the ag reserve for 15 years, and he's seen the attitude change recently. "You could certainly just go the grocery store and get your tomatoes, maybe they weren't in season, but people did start getting the sense that maybe [they] can't always just rely on this system that is very fragile, and nobody understands how it works and sometimes it just doesn't work," he said.

Prior to the pandemic, Protas had a consistent roster of 200 clients for this community-supported agriculture operation, through which he would supply food 22 weeks of the year. Thanks to grants through the American Rescue Plan, he's built two high tunnel greenhouses, allowing the farming growing season to nearly double, to 43 weeks, and participate in the Food Council's Farm to Food Bank program. The farm was also able to build an office, which helped its business operations, gives workers a respite from the summer heat and allowed the farm to play host to other small farmers from the county.

"Small farmers are generally



very independent, so we kind of like to be on our own. But it is important and there's a huge knowledge base that not everybody has," he said. "In the traditional business sense, you don't share your knowledge with your competitors, but in the farming world, there are so many people in Montgomery County and farmers are such a small percentage of the population. Even if I wanted to, I wouldn't be able to feed one-one-thousandth of the population of Montgomery County." Nearby, Bridgette Downer owner of Chicken of the Woods Permaculture Farm has seen her subsistence farming operation grow thanks to ARPA funding through the farm-to-food bank program. Previously serving a customer base of 90 homes in two subdivisions, her farm has transitioned to high calorie, indigenous crops like corn, beans, squash and sweet potatoes that can be preserved easily and can sell for a fair price.

"Whenever we would have crops to harvest, we would call up community food rescue and

we'd actually get volunteers to come and help with harvest," Downer said. "Now we can grow crops with a greater security that there would be a purchaser. Now we're able to design our crop planting charts such that we would have a very large harvest and all we would be responsible for was getting that harvest boxed."

## Seeds

The fall of 2021 saw the start of the food council's SNAP outreach program, which addresses a disparity that shows Montgomery County has the lowest enrollment rate in all of Maryland relative to the number of eligible residents. The county is asking local schools to refer families who are not connected with benefits who might be eligible.

After setting a target of 60 encounters with new SNAP enrollees a month, the council kicked off with 150 requests for support in the first two days.

**See FOOD page 5**





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# 2022 NACo/Nationwide Scholarship Opportunity

Are you the parent, grandparent or legal guardian of a high school senior? If you have an active account funded by employee dollars to a 457(b) Plan offered through the NACo Deferred Compensation Program, your student is eligible to apply for one of four \$2,500 college scholarships. Scholarships will be awarded in the fall of 2022.

In its 19th year of existence, the NACo/Nationwide scholarship essay contest is an educational opportunity for high school students transitioning into a new stage of their lives. Engaging young people in civic life and responsibilities is a great way to show high school students the valuable roles that counties play in the lives of their residents.

The 2022 scholarship program's goal is to help ensure that young people get involved and stay involved in local government — and understand the importance of being good stewards of their future finances.

To help students consider the importance of saving early and consistently, students are asked to write an essay that answers the following question:

The recent COVID pandemic has impacted the way we approach and plan for many of life's decisions. As we turn the corner on the challenges that we have faced over the past two years, what lessons can we learn as it relates to retirement readiness? As you formulate your response, please consider lessons learned and how you would approach the following when you graduate college and start planning for your financial security:

- Use of Employer Sponsored Retirement Plans
- Budgeting, Asset Diversification, Emergency Funds
- Financial Literacy

As you consider your response, you may also want to consider the following economic levers that may impact retirement security: Healthcare costs, Social Security, market risk and increasing life expectancy.

**Eligibility requirements**

Graduating high school se-

niors who are legal U.S. residents are eligible to apply. Please keep the following criteria in mind:

- The applicant's parent, grandparent or legal guardian must be enrolled in and have a current employee funded 457(b) Plan offered through the NACo Deferred Compensation Program.
- Applicants must enroll in a full-time undergraduate course of study no later than the autumn term of the 2022-2023 school year at an accredited trade school or two or four-year college.
- Immediate family members of NACo employees, members of the NACo Defined Contribution and Retirement Advisory Committee or its governing board of directors, staff of individual state Association of Counties that are members of the LLC and Nationwide employees are not eligible to apply; this program is not offered outside the United States.
- The application and entry must be submitted online at [nrsforu.com/scholarship](https://nrsforu.com/scholarship) by May 31, 2022.

## Partnerships 'critical' at all levels

From FOOD page 3

"I think it really underscores how we have a lot of work to do as a community to make sure that we're still reaching out and finding those people in those households who aren't connected to the support that they need so that we can close these gaps even further," Bruskin said, noting that enhanced SNAP benefits were due to expire soon, taking monthly benefits down to \$30, from \$130.

"The pandemic really showed us how hyper-local partnership with both state and federal-level government partners is really critical to being able to harness

the resources that are available to connect on-the-ground expertise of our community and be able to take advantage of the tools that really the federal government has alone to be able to support these community challenges," Bruskin said.

"The American Rescue Plan Act funding gave us the opportunity to try new things and we found out that they worked. So even though that funding is spent, we now can go to private funders, or to our county government, or to state funds and be able to replicate this program and grow it through other resources because we've shown that it works."

WORD SEARCH

FOUNTAIN COUNTY, Ind.  
Created by: Dakota Hendricks

A G H R C Y A O B K E I S J R V R L F F  
L R J V X W V D W S R W Z L O O E E M E  
A B B R Q O N P U Q W Y V A B O U L J R  
L G W W Y A N O R F O L K E H R G N E T  
Z T G F L M H N D L L M Q F G H E B E L  
E H E T M T F V H S T E O D I E N Z K Z  
D G R T R Q F U C B N N L E E E E Z B W  
Y O D U C O V I N G T O N E N S C Y A K  
P C O I P Y D X Z A S F I S V W S B F D  
N C I S R O C C I U V B L Y G E A G G V  
L L K R W B P N D E D N U O F S N C C M  
L D J S O P E U F T O D K U H E D H J P  
R Z I Z Q T M X L L S A R N W R X Z F X  
Z J V V C A S H C A K F G G N Q U B Y T  
E J N E G B H I K N T S S L Y G E I P P  
Y H O P S N L A H A G I J N Z C I O F O  
I T F D X R V R M C K H O W L P K L L I  
O G C D X J L N S A L V P N K E W Q U Y  
S W U R U W V T U L H H X G T Q X H P V  
X H X K W K E V S N O Q Z B C T O J O H

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Measure the impact of standards on health and safety and more. For information visit [ansi.link/WSW22](https://ansi.link/WSW22)

- BRIDGE:** There are several covered bridges in the county that are part of the National Register of Historic Places.

**CANAL:** The Wabash and Erie Canal once flowed through Attica.

**COURTHOUSE:** The first county courthouse was built in 1827 for \$335, which would be more than \$200,000 today. Several more have been built since then; the latest was completed in 1927.

**COVINGTON:** The county seat and second largest city in the county next to Attica, Ind.

**ELEVEN:** There are 11 townships within the county.

**EUGENE:** Painter and sculptor Eugene Savage was born in Covington. Savage painted many of the murals in the county courthouse.

**FONTAINE:** The county was named after Maj. James Fontaine who fought and died in the Northwest Indian War.
- FOUNDED:** The county was founded in 1826 through legislation passed in 1825.

**HISTORIC:** There are many historic landmarks throughout the county, including a historic district in the city of Attica.

**NEIGHBOR:** The Fountain County Neighbor is a weekly newspaper serving the county.

**PORTLAND:** The Portland Arch Nature Preserve protects a gorge and a natural land bridge, a unique feature to the county.

**NORFOLK:** The Norfolk Southern Railway runs across the northern part of the county.

**POPULATION:** The county's population is around 16,479.

**VOORHEES:** Daniel Voorhees was a lawyer in the county and a U.S. senator known by the nickname "the tall sycamore of the Wabash."



GET TO KNOW...

Wright County, Mo.

Welcome Wright County, Mo.

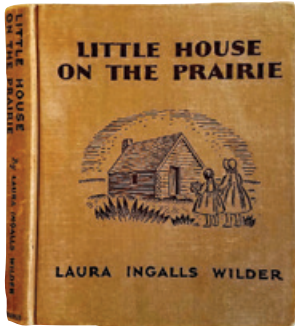
Wright County is nestled in the rolling hills, springs and deep caverns of the Ozark Mountains in southwestern Missouri. The county was formed in 1841 out of parts of Pulaski County.

The county is named after Silas Wright, a former U.S. senator and governor of New York, whose legacy inspired the name of Wright County, Minn. as well as the town of Wright, N.Y. and the name of a mountain peak in Adirondack Park, N.Y. The county seat is Hartville, named after the pioneer Isaac Hart.

Internationally acclaimed author Laura Ingalls Wilder lived in the county, publishing eight autobiographical children's novels in the "Little House on the Prairie" series. The story of her life as a pioneer woman on

the Rocky Ridge farm has inspired numerous other authors to write similar novels and was the primary inspiration for the "Little House on the Prairie" TV show, which aired from 1974 to 1982.

"Get to Know" features new NACo member counties.



PROFILES IN SERVICE

MELVYN J. HOUSER

NACo Board Member Auditor and Commissioner of Elections Pottawattamie County, Iowa

Number of years active in NACo: 15

Years in public service: 30 – 21 with the county, nine as a school board member.

Occupation: Auditor and commissioner of elections

The hardest thing I've ever done: Spring calving in the mud during a blizzard.

Three people (living or dead) I'd invite to dinner: I was thinking maybe Giada De Laurentiis, Emeril Lagasse and Julia Child. But I think I'll go with Matt Chase, Bill Cox and Grant Veeder.

A dream I have is to: Retire knowing that my office is in good hands.



Houser

You'd be surprised to learn that I: Make the best rhubarb custard pie ever.

The most adventurous thing I've ever done is: I'm not much for adventure.

My favorite way to relax is: Lawn chair, beer, birds, clouds and dogs.

I'm most proud of: My humility

Every morning I read: Emails and some news.

My favorite meal is: The next one.

My pet peeves are: Barry Manilow, the Carpenters and The Bee Gees. But especially people who throw cardboard boxes

in the paper recycling bin and they don't even bother to flatten them.

My motto is: "I will allow no man to lower my soul to the level of hatred." I don't hate the cardboard people; they just tick me off.

My favorite movie is: "The Big Lebowski"

My favorite music is: The Eagles

My favorite U.S. president is: Teddy Roosevelt

My county is a NACo member because: It's much better than the alternative.

The last book I read was: The Big Sleep by Raymond Chandler





# WHY BROADBAND

is important to AGRICULTURE

## \$500 BILLION

increase to the world GDP by 2030

—McKinsey Center for Advanced Connectivity and the McKinsey Global Institute

If connectivity is implemented successfully, we will see a 7 to 9 percent improvement in the global gross domestic product due to improved usage of ag tech. It would greatly alleviate the current pressure on our farmers.

For 20 years, Connected Nation has worked with over 650 communities to close the Digital Divide in the areas that need it most. CN can help identify funding opportunities and guide your community through the process. Our expertise will provide access to the most up-to-date state and federal broadband funding.

Learn more about how our team can help close the Digital Divide in your community

ConnectedNation.org

Chris Pedersen  
877-846-7710  
info@connectednation.org







NACo SUPPLEMENTAL TO BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW ANALYSIS:

# **BREAKDOWN OF FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING AVAILABLE TO COUNTIES**

# OVERVIEW

On November 15th, 2021, President Joe Biden signed the nearly \$1 trillion legislation, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58), into law following months of negotiations in the U.S. Congress.



In addition to reauthorizing many existing programs, the five-year Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) creates dozens of new programs that counties will be able to access directly through the federal government to improve local infrastructure, including through transportation, water, grid enhancement, broadband deployment, western water storage and resiliency improvement projects.



Intended as a supplement to NACo's comprehensive legislative analysis of the BIL, this funding table is a quick reference guide for county officials to identify the infrastructure funding opportunities that best suit your local needs.





# GLOSSARY

- USDAU.S. Department of Agriculture
- DOCU.S. Department of Commerce
- DOEU.S. Department of Energy
- HHSU.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- DHSU.S. Department of Homeland Security
- DOIU.S. Department of the Interior
- DOTU.S. Department of Transportation
- EPAU.S. Environmental Protection Agency





AGENCY	PROGRAM	FUNDING LEVEL*	TYPE OF FUNDING	HOW CAN COUNTIES ACCESS?
DHS	Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program	\$1 billion	Competitive	Sub applicant through state
DHS	Flood Mitigation Assistance Program	\$3.5 billion	Competitive	Sub applicant through state
DHS	Safeguarding Tomorrow Through Ongoing Risk Mitigation (STORM) Act	\$500 million	Competitive	Counties are eligible to apply for loans through state disaster revolving loan funds once established
DHS	State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program	\$1 billion over four years	Formula	Subgrantee of state
DOC	Coastal Resilience Assistance	\$491 million		Apply directly to NOAA
DOC	Community Based Restoration Program for Fishery and Coastal Habitats	\$400 million	Competitive	Apply directly to NOAA
DOC	Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program	\$1 billion in FY 2022	Competitive	Apply directly to NTIA
DOC	Marine Debris Program	\$150 million	Competitive	Apply directly to NOAA
DOC	National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund	\$492 million	Competitive	Apply to National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
DOE	Battery Manufacturing and Recycling Grant Program	\$3 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to DOE
DOE	Battery Material Processing Grant Program	\$3 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to DOE
DOE	Battery Recycling Research, Development and Demonstration Grants	\$60 million in FY 2022	Competitive	Apply directly to DOE
DOE	Carbon Dioxide Transportation Infrastructure Finance (CIFIA) Program	\$2.1 billion in FY 2022	Loans and Loan Guarantees	Apply directly to DOE

\* Over five years unless noted; many programs are subject to appropriations



SPECIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	FEDERAL COST SHARE	DESCRIPTION
	75% - 90%	Provides funding to states and localities to implement pre-disaster mitigation activities that reduce risk and disaster costs, and increase the resilience of critical infrastructure lifelines
	75%	Supports local governments in implementing changes to reduce or eliminate risk of flood damage to structures insured by the National Flood Insurance Program
	State match of 10% of federal award	Provides capitalization grants to states to establish revolving loan funds for projects designed to reduce risks from disasters, natural hazards and other related environmental issues
	90% (100% for multi-entity); lowered by 10% each FY; match is waivable	Supports the strengthening of state and local cybersecurity infrastructure
Funding is for certain activities, not a specific program		Provides grants, contracts and cooperative agreements for restoring marine, estuarine, coastal, or Great Lakes ecosystem habitat, or constructing or protecting ecological features that protect coastal communities from flooding or coastal storms
15% of grants must go to tribes	Up to 100%	Provides funding and technical assistance for restoration projects that ensure fish have access to high-quality habitat
	70%	Supports expanding and extending middle mile infrastructure to reduce the cost of connecting unserved and underserved areas to the internet backbone
	50% (local match requirement may be waived or reduced)	Supports actions to reduce debris in our ocean, including clean up and response needed as a result of severe marine debris events
	50% (local match requirement may be waived or reduced)	Provides funding for nature-based infrastructure efforts and project planning, design and implementation
		Provides grants for battery component manufacturing and recycling projects, or to construct/modify existing battery component manufacturing or recycling facilities
		Provides grants for processing battery material projects, to construct commercial battery material processing facilities, or modify existing facilities
		Provides grants to states and units of local government to assist in the establishment or enhancement of state battery collection, recycling, and reprocessing programs.
Projects must equal or exceed \$100 million, and contracting process must begin within 90 days of federal obligation		Provides funding for common carrier carbon dioxide transportation infrastructure or associated equipment; structured similarly to TIFIA



AGENCY	PROGRAM	FUNDING LEVEL*	TYPE OF FUNDING	HOW CAN COUNTIES ACCESS?
DOE	Carbon Utilization Grant Program	\$310 million	Competitive	Apply directly to DOE
DOE	Clean Hydrogen Manufacturing and Recycling Grants	\$500 million	Competitive	
DOE	Electric Drive Vehicle Battery Recycling and Second-Life Applications Program	\$200 million	Competitive	
DOE	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant: Competitive	\$11 million in FY 2022	Competitive	Apply directly to DOE
DOE	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant: Formula	\$539 million in FY 2022	Formula	Distributed based on formula for sustainability, climate and community resilience projects
DOE	Energy Improvement in Rural or Remote Areas	\$1 billion	Competitive	Financial assistance provided at the discretion of USDOT
DOE	Program Upgrading Our Electric Grid and Ensuring Reliability and Resiliency	\$5 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to DOE
DOE	Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance Program	\$250 million	Competitive	Locally owned utilities or rural electric cooperatives are eligible to apply
DOE	State and Local Battery Collection, Recycling and Reprocessing Grant Program	\$50 million	Competitive	Apply directly to DOE
DOE	Weatherization Assistance Program	\$3.5 billion in FY 2022	Formula	Certain counties may be eligible for suballocation of funds from state departments of energy
DOI	Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration and Protection Program	\$250 million in FY 2022	Competitive	Submit a request for assistance to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

\* Over five years unless noted; many programs are subject to appropriations



SPECIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	FEDERAL COST SHARE	DESCRIPTION
		Provides grants to purchase and use commercial products that are derived from Carbon oxides or demonstrate reduction in greenhouse gas emissions
		Provides grants for clean hydrogen manufacturing and recycling
		Provides grants for Electric Drive Vehicle Battery Recycling and second life application projects, research and development
Competitive funds are set-aside for local governments that do not qualify based on population, or to make an award to a consortium of local governments		Supports the implementation of strategies to reduce fossil fuel emissions created as a result of activities within the jurisdictions of eligible entities in a manner that is environmentally sustainable and that maximizes local and regional benefits; to reduce the total energy use of the eligible entities; and to improve energy efficiency
		Supports the implementation of strategies to reduce fossil fuel emissions created as a result of activities within the jurisdictions of eligible entities in a manner that is environmentally sustainable and that maximizes local and regional benefits; to reduce the total energy use of the eligible entities and to improve energy efficiency
Must be an unincorporated area with population <10,000		Supports improving the resilience, safety, reliability and availability of energy, as well as the environmental protection from adverse impacts of energy generation
	80%	Supports the coordination and collaboration with electric sector owners and operators to demonstrate innovative approaches to transmission, storage, and distribution infrastructure to harden and enhance resilience and reliability and to demonstrate new approaches to enhance regional grid resilience
		Provides grants and technical assistance to, and enter into cooperative agreements with, eligible entities to protect against, detect, respond to and recover from cybersecurity threats
	50%	Provides grants to state and local government to establish or enhance state battery collection, recycling and reprocessing programs
Households must be at or below 200% of the poverty income guidelines or be recipients of Supplemental Security Income or Aid to Families with Dependent Children		Supports eligible projects that reduce energy costs for low-income households by improving energy efficiency
	65% for construction costs	Provides grants for projects to restore aquatic ecosystems for fish and wildlife



AGENCY	PROGRAM	FUNDING LEVEL*	TYPE OF FUNDING	HOW CAN COUNTIES ACCESS?
DOI	Multi-Benefit Watershed Health Program	\$100 million in FY 2022	Competitive	Apply through Bureau of Reclamation
DOI	National Fish Passage Program	\$200 million	Competitive	Contact local Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office
DOI	Slip-On Tanker Units Pilot Program	\$50 million in FY 2022		Not specified
DOI	Small Water Storage and Ground Water Storage Grants	\$100 million in FY 2022	Competitive	Apply through Bureau of Reclamation
DOI	WaterSMART Grant Program	\$400 million in FY 2022	Competitive	Apply through Bureau of Reclamation
EPA	Brownfields Projects	\$1.2 billion	Competitive	Apply through EPA or regional EPA office
EPA	Clean School Bus Program	\$5 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to EPA
EPA	Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund: Emerging Contaminants	\$1 billion	Formula	
EPA	Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund: Existing Program	\$11.7 billion	Formula	Apply to state clean water state revolving loan fund office
EPA	Connection to Publicly Owned Treatment Works	\$160 billion	Competitive	Owner/operator of a POTW that assists low-income or moderate-income individuals can apply directly to EPA

\* Over five years unless noted; many programs are subject to appropriations

SPECIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	FEDERAL COST SHARE	DESCRIPTION
	50% or 75% for habitat restoration projects	Provides grants for the design, implementation and monitoring of conservation outcomes of habitat restoration projects that improve watershed health in a river basin impacted by a Bureau of Reclamation Water Project
	50%	Provides grants for dam removal, public safety barrier removal and river ecosystem restoration to improve fish passage
		Provides grants to local governments to acquire slip-on tanker units to establish a fleet that can be converted to fire engines
Project must store between 2,000-30,000 acre feet	Lesser of 25% or \$30,000,000	Grants to non-federal water project sponsors for ground or surface water storage of 2,000-30,000 acre feet
Local public authorities located in one of 19 western states (outlined in NOFO) made up of officials with "water and/or power delivery authority" are eligible	50% - 75%	Provides funding to state, Indian tribe, irrigation district, water district, other organizations with water or power delivery authority, or nonprofit conservation organizations to improve water conservation
	100% for certain activities	Provides grants for Brownfields projects and cleanups through the comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)
50% of grants must be used for zero-emission buses; 50% must be used for clean school buses and zero-emission buses	Up to 100%	Provides grants to state and local governments to purchase and/or replace school buses that are clean, zero-emission, alternative fuel vehicles, charging or fueling infrastructure for these buses or fueling and maintenance costs
	State must use entirety of its funding to provide eligible recipients with agreements with 100% principal loan forgiveness or grants or a combination of the two	Provides grants and loans to address emerging contaminants
	90% in FY 2022 and FY 2023, 80% thereafter (state must use 49% of total funding to provide eligible recipients with 100% principal loan forgiveness or grants or a combination of the two)	Provides grants and loans for water infrastructure projects
County must own or operate a POTW and assist disadvantaged households; 15% of grants must go to owners or operators of POTW that serve fewer than 3,300 people		Provides grants to local governments that own or operate Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) to connect low to moderate income households to POTW



AGENCY	PROGRAM	FUNDING LEVEL*	TYPE OF FUNDING	HOW CAN COUNTIES ACCESS?
EPA	Consumer Recycling Education and Outreach Program	\$75 million	Competitive	Apply directly to EPA
EPA	Drinking Water State Revolving Fund: Emerging Contaminants	\$4 billion	Formula	Apply to the state drinking water state revolving fund office
EPA	Drinking Water State Revolving Fund: Existing Program	\$30.7 billion	Formula	Apply to the state drinking water state revolving fund office
EPA	Drinking Water State Revolving Fund: Lead Service Line Replacement	\$15 billion	Formula	Apply to the state drinking water state revolving fund office
HHS	Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	\$500 million	Formula	Local county agencies in 13 states are eligible as subgrantees of the state and either fully or partially administer the program
USDA	Community Wildfire Defense Grant	\$1 billion	Competitive	Work with local Forest Service or BLM offices
USDA	Ecosystem Restoration: Good Neighbor Agreements	\$200 million	Competitive	Submit project proposals to the Forest Service/BLM
USDA	Ecosystem Restoration: Stewardship Contracts	\$200 million	Competitive	Submit project proposals to the Forest Service/BLM
USDA	Emergency Watershed Protection Program	\$300 million in FY 2022	Competitive	Apply through state Emergency Watershed Protection Program Manager
USDA	Rural ReConnect Program	\$1.9 billion in FY 2022	Competitive	Apply directly to USDA
USDA	Watershed Rehabilitation Program	\$118 million in FY 2022	Competitive	Request funding assistance through NRCS

\* Over five years unless noted; many programs are subject to appropriations

SPECIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	FEDERAL COST SHARE	DESCRIPTION
20% of grants must go to low-income, rural and Native American communities		Provides grants for education on residential or community recycling programs or to increase collection rates and decrease contamination in community recycling programs
	100%	Provides capitalization grants and 100% forgiveness loans to address emerging contaminants with a focus on PFAS chemicals
	90% in FY 2022 and FY 2023, 80% thereafter	Provides capitalization grants and 100% forgiveness loans for states to address lead service line replacement, emerging contaminants with a focus on PFAS chemicals
	100%	Provides capitalization grants and 100% forgiveness loans to address lead service line replacement needs
	100%	Supports initiatives that assist families with energy costs
	Between 10% - 25%; cannot be less than \$250,000 or more than \$10,000,000; may be waived for underserved communities	Provides funding to communities to update Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) and carry out activities prescribed under a CWPP
Agencies are required to submit lists of approved projects to Congress on annual basis		Provides funding through both DOI and USDA for cross-boundary forest restoration work to reduce fuel loads, improve wildlife habitat, strengthen watershed health, remove invasive species and maintain infrastructure
Agencies are required to submit lists of approved projects to Congress on annual basis		Provides funding for entering into contracts to restore ecological health on >10,000 acres of federal land
Counties must have legal interest in or responsibility for areas threatened by watershed emergency	75% - 100%	Provides funding to repair damages to the waterways and watersheds resulting from natural disasters
Counties within an eligible proposed funded service area where >90% of households lack sufficient access to broadband are eligible to apply directly to USDA (sufficient access is defined in NOFO as a rural area where households have access to fixed, terrestrial broadband service of at least 100mbps downstream and 20mbps upstream)	Varies by NOFO funding category	Provides loans, grants and combinations of the two to facilitate broadband deployment in rural areas
	65%	Provides technical and financial assistance through cooperative agreements to sponsors including counties for dam rehabilitation



AGENCY	PROGRAM	FUNDING LEVEL*	TYPE OF FUNDING	HOW CAN COUNTIES ACCESS?
DOT	Local and Regional Project Assistance (Rebuilding America's Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity [RAISE] Grant Program)	\$15 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Airport Infrastructure Grants: Competitive	\$20 million (up to \$100 million of unobligated formula funds)	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT as an airport sponsor
DOT	Airport Infrastructure Grants: Formula	\$14.98 billion	Formula	Airports that receive an allocation from USDOT must submit a project proposal
DOT	Airport Terminal Program	\$5 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT as airport sponsor
DOT	All Stations Accessibility Program	\$1.75 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Bridge Investment Program	\$12.5 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Buses and Bus Facilities Program: Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities	\$1.97 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Buses and Bus Facilities Program: Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities	\$3.16 billion	Formula	Funding flows to designated recipient
DOT	Buses and Bus Facilities Program: Low or No Emissions Grants	\$5.62 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Capital Investment Grant Program	\$23 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT

\* Over five years unless noted; many programs are subject to appropriations

SPECIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	FEDERAL COST SHARE	DESCRIPTION
	>80% for rural projects; 80% for urban projects	Provides flexible funding for a variety of transportation infrastructure projects, plus new eligibilities, including culvert and certain airport projects
Sponsored airport must have an approved operational tower and receive a benefit-cost ratio of at least 1.0 from the FAA	100%	Supports recipients of the FAA contract tower program that require further assistance
Airports eligible under the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) are eligible to receive an allocation under the program	Generally 75%	Provides funding for airport infrastructure, including runways, taxiways, safety and sustainability projects, as well as terminal, airport-transit connections and roadway projects
	80% for large and medium-sized airports; 95% for small and nonprimary airports	Provides funding for projects to replace aging terminals and airport-owned towers, increase terminal energy efficiency and accessibility, and more
Only inaccessible legacy stations are eligible for funding	80%	Provides federal financing for capital projects to upgrade access for legacy rail fixed guideway public transit systems for people with disabilities
	50% - 80%	Provides funding projects to replace, rehabilitate, preserve, or protect one or more bridges on the National Bridge Inventory, as well as projects to replace or rehabilitate culverts to improve flood control and habitat connectivity for aquatic species
County must operate fixed route bus service and be eligible for funding under 49 U.S.C. 5307 (Urbanized Area grants) and 49 U.S.C. 5311 (Rural Area grants)	80%	Provides funding to replace, rehabilitate, and purchase buses and related equipment and to construct bus-related facilities including technological changes or innovations to modify low- or no- emission vehicles or facilities; includes both formula and competitive funding components
County must operate fixed route bus service and be eligible for funding under 49 U.S.C. 5307 (Urbanized Area grants) and 49 U.S.C. 5311 (Rural Area grants)	80%	Provides funding to replace, rehabilitate, and purchase buses and related equipment and to construct bus-related facilities including technological changes or innovations to modify low- or no- emission vehicles or facilities; includes both formula and competitive funding components
County must operate fixed route bus service and be eligible for funding under 49 U.S.C. 5307 (Urbanized Area grants) and 49 U.S.C. 5311 (Rural Area grants)	80% - 90%	Provides funding to replace, rehabilitate, and purchase buses and related equipment and to construct bus-related facilities including technological changes or innovations to modify low- or no- emission vehicles or facilities; includes both formula and competitive funding components
Projects must meet unique set of requirements and undergo multi-year, multi-step development process	Generally 80%	Provides funding for fixed-guideway investments, including new and expanded rapid rail, commuter rail, light rail, streetcars, bus rapid transit and ferries



AGENCY	PROGRAM	FUNDING LEVEL*	TYPE OF FUNDING	HOW CAN COUNTIES ACCESS?
DOT	Charging and Fueling Grant Program	\$2.5 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Congestion Relief Program	\$250 million	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Grant Program	\$5 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Construction of Ferry Boats and Ferry Terminal Facilities Program	\$912 million	Formula	Funding is allocated to states based on statutory formula and then suballocated to ferry systems
DOT	Federal State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail	\$42.5 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Formula Grants for Rural Areas	\$4.58 billion	Formula	Local government authorities that already receive funds through a designated recipient are eligible as sub-recipients of the state
DOT	Grants for the Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities	\$2.19 billion	Formula	Funding flows to designated recipient
DOT	Healthy Streets Program	\$500 million	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	National Culvert Removal, Replacement, and Restoration Grant Program	\$5 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT

\* Over five years unless noted; many programs are subject to appropriations

SPECIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	FEDERAL COST SHARE	DESCRIPTION
50% of total program funds will be awarded through Community Grants in each FY to carry out projects, including the installation of EV and alternative fueling infrastructure on public roads, schools, and in other publicly accessible locations	80% (if contracting with a private entity, that entity is responsible for the local match)	Provides funding for projects to improve public accessibility to electrical vehicle charging and hydrogen, propane, and natural gas fueling stations, along designated alternative fuel corridors or other community locations accessible to drivers
Project must be located in an urbanized area with a population of >1 million	80%	Provides funding for projects to advance innovative, integrated and multimodal solutions to congestion relief in the nation's most congested metropolitan areas
	80%	Provides funding for projects that improve the safety, efficiency, and reliability of intercity passenger and freight rail
County must own/operate ferry system	80%	Provides funding for the construction of ferry boats and terminal facilities
	80%	Provides funding for capital projects to repair, replace or rehabilitate qualified railroad assets to reduce the state of good repair backlog and improve intercity passenger rail performance
	50% for operating costs; 80% for capital costs	Provides capital, planning and operating assistance to states and federally recognized Indian tribes to support public transportation in rural areas with populations less than 50,000
Local entity operating public transit service is directly eligible; local government authorities are eligible as subrecipients from state departments of transportation: for areas under 200,000, funding will go to state DOTs; for areas above 200,000, the state will designate a recipient	50% for operating costs; 80% for capital costs	Provides funding for transportation services planned, designed and executed to accommodate special transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities
	80% - 100%	Provides funding for projects to install cool and/or porous pavements or to expand tree cover with the goal of reducing urban heat centers and improving air quality with a focus on underserved communities
	80%	Provides funding for projects that replace, remove or repair culverts that would improve or restore fish passage for certain fish, with a priority given those species who are endangered or at risk of becoming endangered, or projects that address fresh-water runoff that impact certain marine life



AGENCY	PROGRAM	FUNDING LEVEL*	TYPE OF FUNDING	HOW CAN COUNTIES ACCESS?
DOT	Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Programs (Infrastructure for Rebuilding America [INFRA] Grant Program)	\$14.01 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development Planning	\$68 million	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Port Infrastructure Development Program	\$2.25 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Projects of National or Regional Significance ("Mega Projects")	\$15 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program: At-Risk Coastal Infrastructure Grants	\$140 million	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	PROTECT Program: Community Resilience and Evacuation Routes Grants	\$140 million	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	PROTECT Program: Planning Grants	\$140 million	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	PROTECT Program: Resilience Improvement Grants	\$980 million	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Railroad Crossing Elimination Program	\$5.5 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Reconnecting Communities Program: Capital Construction Grants	\$750 million	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Reconnecting Communities Program: Planning Grants	\$250 million	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Reduce Truck Emissions at Ports Grant Program	\$400 million	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT

\* Over five years unless noted; many programs are subject to appropriations

SPECIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	FEDERAL COST SHARE	DESCRIPTION
Project costs must reasonably be expected to equal or exceed \$100 OR, for a project located in one state, costs must equal or exceed 30% of the state's highway apportionment in the most recently completed FY; for a project located in multiple states, costs must equal or exceed 50% of the state with the largest highway apportionment in the most recently completed FY	60% for appropriated funds; 60% to 80% for contract authority	Provides funding for a variety of eligible highway, freight and intermodal projects
Projects must meet certain requirements	80%	Provides funding for efforts associated with eligible transit projects, including site-specific planning, for which a sponsor is seeking funding through the Capital Investment Program
	Generally 80% (can be increased for rural areas and/or small ports)	Provides funding for improvements to ports and port facilities
Project costs must reasonably be expected to fall between \$100 million - \$500 million or to exceed \$500 million	80%	Provides single or multi-year grants at \$2 billion annually over five years to carry out expensive, complex projects, referred to as "mega projects", that have the potential to generate national or regional economic mobility or safety benefits
Counties must be located in a state that borders the ocean, Gulf of Mexico, Long Island Sound or one or more of the Great Lakes	Generally 80%	Supports projects that strengthen, stabilize, hardening, elevating, relocating and enhancing the resilience of highway infrastructure that is subject to disaster
	Generally 80%	Provides funding for projects to strengthen and protect critical evacuation routes
	100%	Supports technical capacity building and general evacuation planning and preparation activities
	Generally 80%	Provides funding for projects to protect surface transportation assets by enhancing resiliency
	80%	Provides funding for projects that improve, relocate and/or close at-grade rail highway crossings
Must be the owner of an eligible facility (defined as one that creates barriers to mobility and accessibility or one that is no longer justified by travel demand)	50%	Provides funding for eligible projects that will restore community connectivity
	80%	Supports planning activities for projects to restore community connectivity
	80%	Supports projects that reduce port emissions, including the advancement of port electrification



AGENCY	PROGRAM	FUNDING LEVEL*	TYPE OF FUNDING	HOW CAN COUNTIES ACCESS?
DOT	Restoration & Enhancement Grant Program	\$250 million	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Rural Surface Transportation Block Grant Program	\$2 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Safe Streets for All Grant Program	\$6 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	State of Good Repair Grant Program: Competitive Grants for Rail Vehicle Replacement	\$1.5 billion	Competitive	Local government authorities are eligible to apply directly to USDOT
DOT	State of Good Repair Grant Program: Formula	\$22.86 billion	Formula	Designated recipient for the urbanized area where the transit system operates is eligible for formula funds
DOT	Stopping Threats to Pedestrians Grant Program	\$25 million	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grant Program	\$1 billion	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Technical Assistance and Workforce Development Grants	\$62 million	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT
DOT	Transportation Alternatives Program (set-aside within Surface Transportation Block Grant)	\$7.2 billion	Competitive	Apply to state department of transportation or MPO, who are responsible for establishing and carrying out competitive process
DOT	Urbanized Areas Formula Grants	\$33.5 billion	Formula	For urbanized areas over 200,000, local officials designate a recipient; for areas under 200,000, states designate
DOT	Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program	\$350 million	Competitive	Apply directly to USDOT

\* Over five years unless noted; many programs are subject to appropriations

SPECIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	FEDERAL COST SHARE	DESCRIPTION
	30% - 90% (decreases annually)	Provides funding for operating assistance grants for initiating, restoring, or enhancing intercity passenger rail transportation
Counties must be outside of an urbanized area with populations over 200,000	80%	Provides funding for a wide variety of highway and bridge projects that increase connectivity, improve safety, and facilitate the movement of goods
	80%	Supports the implementation of local safety initiatives to prevent death and serious injury on roads and streets
USDOT will determine NOFO criteria	80%	Supports capital projects for the replacement of rail rolling stock
Must be a local governmental authority located in an urbanized area with fixed guideway and high intensity motorbus systems that have been in operation for at least seven years	80%	Provides financial assistance to transit agencies that operate fixed-guideway and high-intensity motorbus systems for the maintenance, replacement, and rehabilitation of capital assets, including competitive grants for rail rolling stock and the development and implementation of transit asset management plans
	Up to 100%	Provides funds for bollard installation, defined as a "project" to install raised concrete or other metal posts on a sidewalk adjacent to a roadway that are designed to slow or stop a vehicle"
		Providing funding for demonstration projects focused on smart community technologies and systems
	50% for workforce projects; 80% for technical assistance	Supports technical assistance activities that enable more effective and efficient delivery of transportation services; improve public transportation service; develop standards transit and best practices; and address public transportation workforce needs
	80%	Funds projects encourage non-motorized users of the road, including planning, design and construction of trails, environmental mitigation and activities to address stormwater management, and the construction of overlooks
Must be located in an incorporated area with population of 50,000 or more (state will be apportioned funds for areas under 200,000); only designated recipients are eligible	50% for operating costs; 80% for capital costs	Provides federal funding to urbanized areas and states for transit capital and operating assistance in urbanized areas (50K and above) and for transportation-related planning
At least 60% of program funds are reserved for projects in rural areas		Provides grants for projects that seek to achieve a reduction in the number of wildlife-vehicle collisions while also seeking improved habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species



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Funding Matrix for Counties:  
**The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**  
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# Counties emphasize equity throughout COVID-19 and after

by **Charlie Ban**  
senior writer

As counties continue to manage their pandemic relief resources, a frightening thought emerges.

Someday, this may all be a memory, committed to the history books when life returns to normal and the last funding from the American Rescue Plan Act has been spent.

If that's scary to county officials, just think about what it means to the people for whom the federal aid has been a lifeline.

"Where will you be when the cameras are gone? Where will you be when the federal dollars dry up?" asked Nannette Bowler, Wake County, N.C.'s Health and Human Services director.

If the focus on equity in combating the effects of the pandemic is to be more than a flash in the pan, Bowler said during an April 8 panel on health equity, counties must pursue structural change to redesign systems around making sure the people who need services most are properly identified, targeted and reached.

In Wake County, that will take the form of population health director and community outreach program director positions.

"They will stay involved with the relationships in the community that we've built, including with our faith-based community," she said.

"We [also] have our service delivery and the important part of that is to take the services where they are needed, create your regional networks and also making sure that technology isn't an inhibitor. We have to look at making sure that we're creating cultural and logistical messaging and looking at what our barriers are — transportation, technology, distrust."

"We're looking at prioritizing funding for our smaller organizations that don't usually get the funding that they need in these marginalized communities,"

Bowler said. "We're also looking at providing capacity



**Durham County, N.C.'s Joanne Pierce speaks April 8 at a panel on equity, alongside Wake County, N.C.'s Nannette Bowler (left) and Martin County, N.C.'s Ronnie Smith.** Photo by Hugh Clarke

to help build those organizations."

It's not as difficult as it would seem. Joanne Pierce, general manager of Durham County, N.C.'s Health and Well-being for All, said data is inescapable and a good start.

"You see data all of the time and you see who's having the best outcomes, who's having the worst," she said. That's a good place to start addressing inequity.

"I just internally, just started having conversations with people looking at our data, examining that data, not just public health, but social services, EMS, to all the different areas. We're like third cousins — we're related, but we don't talk to each other very much. We just started looking at that and so the case was very easy, because it didn't just share our data — we examined our data and used a different narrative than maybe we potentially have used in the past."

Pierce approached equity in a racial context, pointing out that antiquated county policies may still be in effect even as the world around has changed, pointing to Durham County's addition of a racial equity offi-

cer and two equity physicians among its staff. Institutional inertia can be a culprit.

"When it's unchecked and when we haven't looked at history and overlaid policies that they created, we have 'race neutral' policies that actually impact people by race and ethnicity," she said.

"Inequities live and breathe and operate in our policies and our practices and in our procedures," Pierce said. "It's already kind of baked into our system."

As county officials examine the systems and policies that guide their government, there also comes a time when things stop making sense.

For Martin County, N.C. Commissioner Ronnie Smith, that happened after a phone call from a constituent whose water had been turned off, despite having made a payment that morning.

Smith's call to the water department was met with the recitation of a policy that the next day's service would be based on accounts settled the day before. That didn't seem right to Smith.

"We change policy every day," he said during an April 8 discussion on health equity.

"Every leader, every community every county, every city government, you should take those policies out every so often and say, 'I don't need that,' and rewrite and use the ones that are up to date. Most of them are outdated, most of them were written years ago."

Pierce sees momentum in the movement to bring more equity to county government decision-making.

"If we look at our budget and we see it especially during COVID, much of the funds were used to address inequity and disparity and it actually made the conversation around equity more prominent because people are like, 'Oh my goodness, people need shelter, people need this and that and then folks who didn't have any health insurance or coverage,' so we saw in plain view for the world to see that there was something in this."

"So, making the case is that there certainly is a human face and then there's a financial case, because equity is actually infusion of equitable tax systems that actually allows us to use our resources differently."

In short, sometimes fairness can win. **CN**



**DUTCHESS  
COUNTY, N.Y.**

**D**utchess County, N.Y. was one of 12 original New York counties formed in 1683 by the Colonial Assembly and is located in southeastern New York. The county seal was likely created when the county was first organized; however, it was first recorded in the office of the Secretary of State in 1847 and then updated in 1854.

The county seal depicts a sheaf of wheat and several corn stalks behind a plow digging into the soil.



The seal was designed to showcase the agricultural staples of the county which was the dominant industry until the 1960s.

The southern part of the county expanded to support a growing technology industry, shifting from agricultural communities to more suburban communities.

If you would like your county's seal featured in "Behind the Seal," contact Dakota Hendricks at [dhenricks@naco.org](mailto:dhenricks@naco.org).





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## BRIGHT IDEAS | SANTA CLARA COUNTY, Calif.

# Allcove, the Next Step in Youth Mental Health

**PROBLEM:** Children of this generation face more than any before, leading to a high rate of anxiety, mental health problems and suicide with little access to healthcare.

**SOLUTION:** Create wraparound services to support children and teens before they encounter a crisis.

by **Dakota Hendricks**  
staff writer

Santa Clara County, Calif. has taken a revolutionary new approach to caring for the mental health of its youth with the first-in-the-country integrated care center, which opened last year. The center is designed for youth ages 12-25, who can walk in the door and speak to qualified professionals regardless of their ability to pay, referral status or other barriers.

“Too many of the models in place really don’t serve young people well until there is a moment of crisis, and we need to be helping these kids and young adults at an earlier opportunity” said Supervisor Joe Simitian, who first sponsored the program in 2016, including it in the county budget.

Simitian, a member of the Board of Advisors for Adolescent Counseling Services, first heard of the Allcove (also spelled allcove) program, then called Headspace, from Dr. Steven Adelsheim, a child psychiatrist and director of the Stanford Center for Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing. Adelsheim pitched the concept in December of 2015. The two have worked tirelessly to create the facilities for allcove in Palo Alto and San Jose, which opened their doors in June.

Simitian and Adelsheim aimed to create early mental health intervention systems in a way that is welcoming to teens and fights the stigma of mental health treatment.

“Half of all mental health conditions have their onset by the age of 14 and three quarters



**Photo: (L-r): Sherri Terao, director, Behavioral Health Services Department, County of Santa Clara, Dr. Steven Adelsheim, director, Stanford Center for Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing, Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian.** Photo courtesy of Santa Clara County

by the age of 24,” Adelsheim said. “We really don’t have the public mental health system in place to do early detection and intervention for the half of all young people that are developing these mental health conditions.”

With the increased strain on children caused by the pandemic, the CDC has seen an increase in mental health-related emergency cases.

The proportion of mental health-related visits for children ages 5-11 increased 24 percent and for ages 12-17, it was 31 percent, the CDC noted in a 2020 report.

A survey conducted by the Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago saw a sharp increase in parents concerned about the mental health of their children, with 71 percent of parents saying the pandemic hurt their children’s mental health.

To properly face the challenges made worse by the pandemic, the Allcove facilities have trained professionals available in person or by telemedicine to help with physical or mental care. Through the

multi-disciplinary specialists on site, youths can find peer support, mental and physical health counseling, substance use services and more.

Allcove has a robust presence on social media, with advertisements and information readily available to get the word out about its existence to young people.

Allcove also partners with youth groups, and its representatives attend and host events, speak at local schools and use targeted marketing tools to raise awareness of the program.

The Palo Alto location is easily reached through the bus system and is situated in a critical area which has long faced the highest number of youth suicides in Santa Clara County.

“We’re staffing this up with the idea of trying to see about 1,000 young people annually at each center,” said Adelsheim, who has worked in the field of child psychiatry since 1990 and has worked for the last nine years on creating the Allcove program.

The county used funds gen-

erated by a 1 percent income tax on personal income in excess of \$1 million in California known as the Mental Health Services Act. The county sought approval to use their portion of the funding to create Allcove, and the pitch immediately attracted the attention and support of the state.

“We’re certainly seeing more young people coming in with increasing levels of anxiety, increasing levels of depression, increased concerns about grief and loss because of the pandemic” said Adelsheim.

“Many people have lost family members or loved ones, and also have lost really important life milestones to be able to celebrate. These issues are already there but I think... they’ve been heightened by all of the struggles our families have faced over the last several years.”

One of the challenges to providing wraparound services and early intervention care in the United States is funding and recovering expenses, said Simitian. Adelsheim said it will be critical to the success of the model in the United States

to foster partnerships with healthcare and insurance providers.

In less than a year since opening, Allcove has garnered the support of state legislators who have opened funding streams to replicate the program as well as researchers studying the two locations.

In 2022, nearby Orange County will see a facility modeled after the Santa Clara program open at the University of California at Irvine. Four additional Allcove projects have been funded by California’s Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission, one in San Mateo County, one in Sacramento County and two in Los Angeles County.

Last year Simitian noted: “Time after time, the saddest part of the story is that a kid didn’t reach out earlier, didn’t have the opportunity to get help when they really needed it.” **CN**

For more information, contact Adelsheim at [sadelsheim@stanford.edu](mailto:sadelsheim@stanford.edu).



# NEWS FROM ACROSS THE NATION

## CALIFORNIA

The Sheriff of **SHASTA COUNTY** has proposed a **modern jail** drastically different from others of its kind with an emphasis on mental health support and rehabilitation. Sheriff Michael Johnson outlined his plan before the Board of Supervisors to create a jail with several spokes reminiscent of a wagon wheel, each focusing on a different form of mental and physical treatment, education, rehabilitation and job training. The proposed Shasta County Corrections and Rehabilitation Campus would replace the old county jail, which was built in 1984, according to *Redding Record Searchlight*.

## COLORADO

Thanks to the generosity of a non-governmental organization called Great Outdoors



Colorado, **MESA COUNTY** will be able to proceed on an ambitious community project to connect and **preserve schoolyards** and neighborhood parks. The county has received a \$147,300 grant from the organization as part of the Clifton Community Commons plan to expand open space for school children as well as improve access to the Colorado River by expanding the Riverfront Trail, KKCO-TV reported.

## FLORIDA

• In a move to increase “micro-mobility” in the community, **MIAMI-DADE COUNTY**



has launched its first **e-scooter pilot program**. Starting in the Dadeland area, the county has partnered with two local micro-mobility companies to provide electric scooters in the area in hopes of reducing car traffic and providing more economical means of transportation, reported *Refresh Miami*.

## ILLINOIS

**KANE COUNTY** has received their third grant to **expand pre-arrest diversion programs** to even more county police organizations. The county announced in a press release that they received \$1.2 million from the U.S. Department of Justice to expand their pre-arrest program assisting those with mental health and substance use issues. The program emphasizes self-sufficiency and tackling the root causes of problems rather than

using the more costly jail and criminal court system.

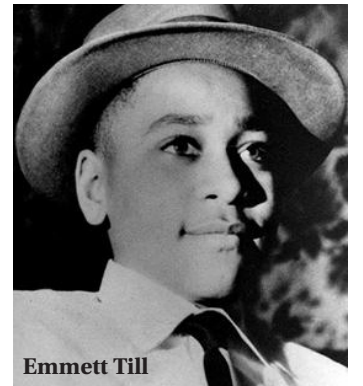
## IOWA

To support traditionally underserved residents, **POLK COUNTY** supervisors have voted unanimously to spend a little over \$15 million to build, purchase and renovate **600 affordable housing units**. Using ARPA funds, the county intends to protect their “most vulnerable” residents by creating housing for rent at prices between \$480 and \$685 a month, KCCI-TV reported. The county is currently suffering from a severe lack of affordable housing, with an estimated need of more than 10,000 affordable housing units.

## KENTUCKY

• Several counties in eastern Kentucky still reeling from the decline of the **coal industry** will receive \$4.7 million in funding thanks to the Appalachian Regional Commission. **HARLAND, PERRY and PULASKI** counties will receive funding as part of the Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce Economic Revitalization program for projects including health-

**care expansion**, job training, tourism marketing and young adult leadership, WTVQ-TV reported.



Emmett Till

## MISSISSIPPI

**LEFLORE COUNTY** recently approved contracts for the creation of a **statue dedicated to Emmett Till**, the young Black teenager whose brutal death in 1955 helped galvanize the civil rights movement. The bronze statue is expected to be installed by October 2022, *The Associated Press* reported.

## MISSOURI

Thanks to the staff of **ST. LOUIS COUNTY** Prosecuting Attorney Wesley Bell, county residents now have a **hotline to report abuse** targeting the el-

See NEWS FROM page 11







Rae Sottile and Donna Cossette with the Churchill County Museum update the display case in the main county administration building with a new mineral exhibit. Photo by Anne McMillin

## NEVADA

The **CHURCHILL COUNTY mineral museum** has set up shop in the county administration building, so visitors to the recorder's office and commission chambers can view artifacts from the county's mining past, including (defused) dynamite, equipment and minerals such as borax and diatomite and more.

## From NEWS FROM page 10

derly and the disabled. The hotline will be staffed with trained professionals, prosecutors and social workers, who will be able to make referrals for further ac-

## FLORIDA

• Teens in **ESCAMBIA COUNTY** will have the opportunity to learn **home renovation skills** as part of a new county program. The Block-by-Block program is designed to teach teens skills, keeping them out of trouble and addressing the shortage of skilled labor across the country. The Pensacola branch of AMI-Kids has partnered with the county to teach teens how to renovate homes, using three homes the county acquired, WEAR-TV reported.

**Commissioner Lumon May and student participants gather in front of the first home to be renovated through the Block-by-Block program.**

tion by police and prosecutors, the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* reported.

## NEW YORK

• The **ERIE COUNTY** Department of Health and Beyond Boundaries are offering a free voluntary program to address the negative effects of toxic lead exposure in children from birth to age three years. The county health department can refer children with an elevated blood lead level to the **"Lead It Go" program** before potential developmental delays appear. Children must be younger than 3 with an elevated blood lead level of 5 micrograms per deciliter, but do not need to demonstrate any delays in development. Beyond Boundaries provides a monthly visit from occupational therapists, special educators and nutritionists who give parents and caregivers training, tools and enrichment activities to use with their children on a daily basis to reinforce lessons at home. Services include speech and language pathology, occupational therapy, physical therapy, early education and nutrition. The program provides age-appropriate books and toys for each child.

• In **WARREN COUNTY**, local Republicans and Democrats are teaming up to help young people **register and learn how to vote**. A 2020 state law allows 16- and 17-year-old New Yorkers to pre-register to vote, and they will automatically be added to the voter rolls on their 18th birthday. At Queensbury High School, the program includes a mock election with realistic ballots to help students know what to expect the first time they enter the voting booth, North Country Public Radio reported. Participation is voluntary and students are not required or even pushed to join a political party.

## OREGON

**TILLAMOOK COUNTY** will soon have a **nursing program**, thanks to a partnership with Tillamook Bay Community College and a \$425,000 grant that was part of the omnibus spending bill. That will fund equipment, classroom supplies, program incidentals and one year salary for a nursing director and instructor.

## PENNSYLVANIA

With county, city, municipal, state, federal and parks roads and bridges layered

alongside and on top of each other, it can be hard to be sure where exactly someone is driving in **ALLEGHENY COUNTY**. Throw in uncertainty after the failure of a Pittsburgh bridge in January, and awareness of infrastructure needs is at an all-time high. The county's **"Who Owns My Infrastructure?"** GIS map tool helps users identify a road or bridge's jurisdiction and provides contact information on each segment.

## VIRGINIA

As gas prices rise, **PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY** is helping out drivers at its only taxicab company. The Board of Supervisors approved an **emergency gas surcharge ordinance** to raise base rates by \$1 for 60 days, while Yellow Cab of Prince William County seeks approval for a permanent rate change. The taxicab company is regulated by the state and local government. The state allows localities to establish ordinances governing specifically taxicab companies, giving the local government power to set and adjust rates. Ride-sharing services like Uber and Lyft are not regulated, InsideNoVa reported.

## WASHINGTON

**KING COUNTY's** Solid Waste Division partnered with Seattle Public Utilities and 10 grocery stores around the region to **test recycling collection** for plastic wraps, bags and film packaging, along with other challenging materials. The county saw many households trying to improperly recycle materials including plastic wrap, sealable food bags, bubble wrap and e-commerce packaging. Film packaging that is collected will be converted into plastic pellets, which are used to create new products from fully recycled materials.

## WISCONSIN

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY** employees will now be eligible to receive **paid parental leave**. Qualifying employees will receive up to eight weeks of paid leave if they work 20 or more hours a week. Those working 40 hours or more can qualify for up to 320 hours of leave time. More than 4,000 employees will be eligible after June 6.

*News From Across the Nation is assembled by Charlie Ban and Dakota Hendricks. Send your news to [cban@naco.org](mailto:cban@naco.org) and [dhendricks@naco.org](mailto:dhendricks@naco.org).*



Butterfield Canyon. Photo courtesy of Salt Lake County.

## UTAH

**SALT LAKE COUNTY** is adding 94 acres of **open space** in Butterfield Canyon, which supports enhanced open space, multi-recreation use and a dedicated trailhead in Butterfield, Rose and Yellow Fork canyons. This will complete a total of 2,500 acres of new open space that will soon support a trail system in southwest Salt Lake County.











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