

Counties and the American Rescue Plan Act Recovery Fund:

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PARTNERSHIPS



THE RECOVERY FUND AND PARTNERSHIPS:

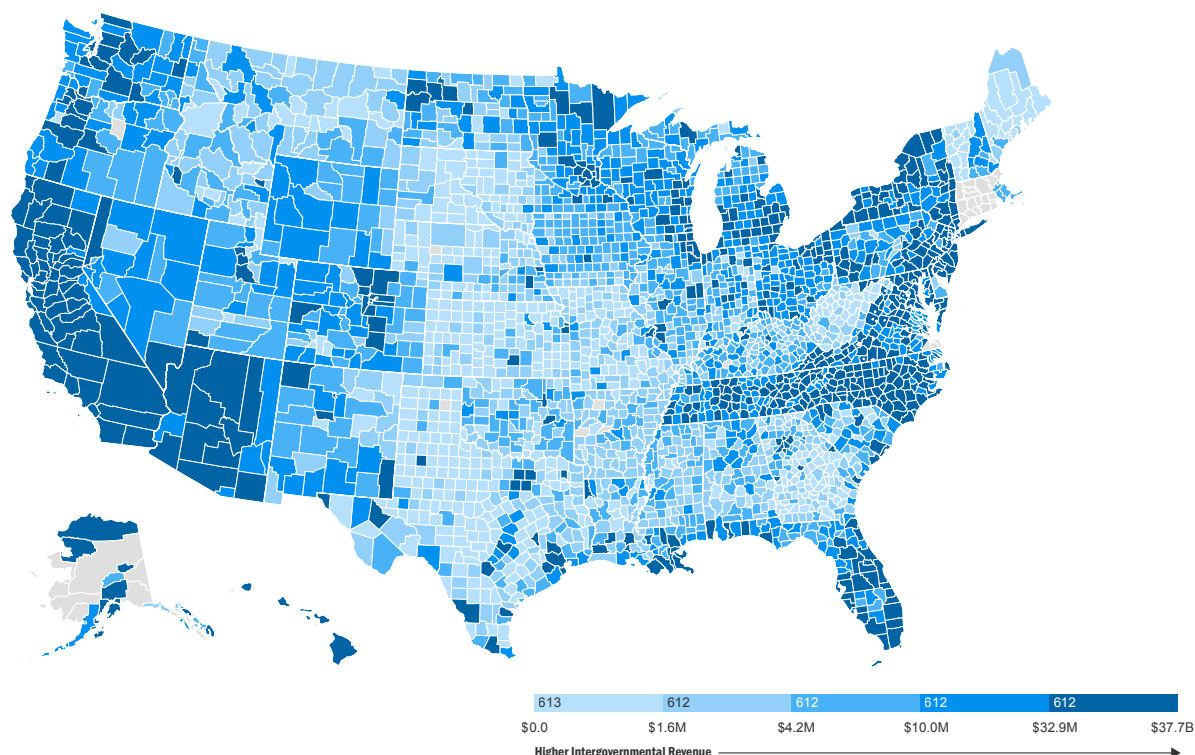
The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (Recovery Fund), part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which NACo helped to develop and strongly advocated to pass, allocates \$65.1 billion. **These funds provide direct, flexible aid for every county, parish and borough in America.** Counties are on the front lines in delivering this aid to residents and are a driving force connecting communities and strengthening the economy.

As directed by the ARPA and the U.S. Department of Treasury, counties can invest Recovery Funds into a broad range of programs, services and projects under four categories: public sector revenue; public health and economic response; premium pay for essential workers and water, sewer and broadband infrastructure.

Since the enactment of the ARPA, America's counties have been working hard to develop Recovery Fund implementation plans that will help spur an equitable economic recovery across the nation. As sound financial stewards, **counties are investing these critical Recovery Funds to ensure the health and well-being of our nation's residents and the economic vitality of our local communities.** Many counties are in the preliminary stages of development and implementation of Recovery Fund Plans. This report highlights county investments complemented by intergovernmental partnerships to efficiently deliver programs and services, leverage state funding opportunities and support a regional approach to recovery.

COUNTIES MANAGE BILLIONS IN INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE

Annually, counties receive **\$196 billion** in intergovernmental revenue including federal, state and local sources. These funds are integral for county operations, services and programs.



Source: NACo Analysis of U.S. Census Bureau - Census of Individual Governments: Finance, 2017

COUNTIES PLAN TO INVEST RECOVERY FUNDS TO:



**SUPPORT REGIONAL HEALTH
AND WELLNESS**



**STREAMLINE ARPA GRANT
APPLICATIONS**



**COORDINATE HOUSING INITIATIVES
TO BETTER SERVE RESIDENTS**



**ADDRESS LEARNING DISPARITIES
IN THE COMMUNITY**



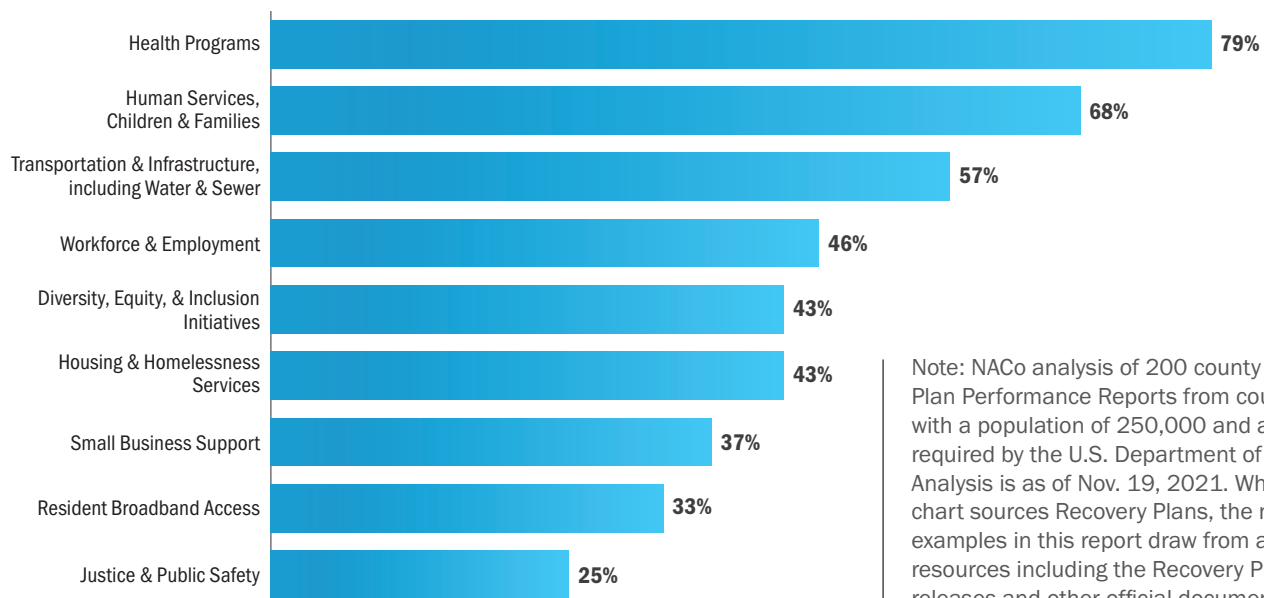
**LEVERAGE STATE FUNDING
OPPORTUNITIES**



**EXPAND LOCAL BUSINESS
CAPACITY AND DEVELOPMENT**

COUNTIES ARE FOSTERING INTERGOVERNMENTAL PARTNERSHIPS TO SUPPORT KEY INVESTMENTS

How will counties invest the funds? NACo analysis of 200 county ARPA Recovery Fund plans reveals county-designed investments in the community across key areas of need. These local priorities are found within county plans at the rate displayed in the chart. **Intergovernmental partnerships are unique in that they encompass all topic areas detailed below.** The examples in this report further illustrate county allocations to support these integral partnerships across areas of need.

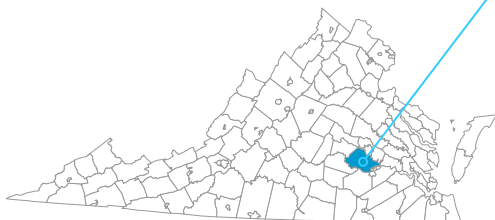


Note: NACo analysis of 200 county Recovery Plan Performance Reports from counties with a population of 250,000 and above, as required by the U.S. Department of Treasury. Analysis is as of Nov. 19, 2021. While the bar chart sources Recovery Plans, the narrative examples in this report draw from a variety of resources including the Recovery Plans, press releases and other official documents.



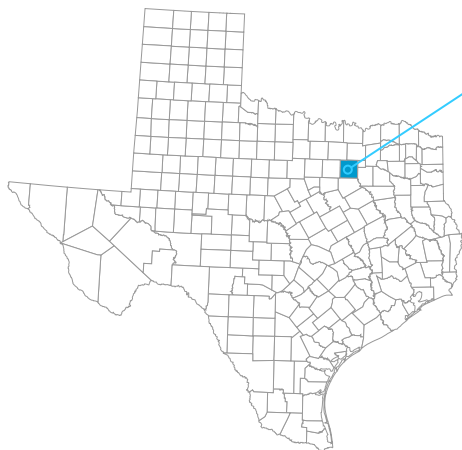
BUTTE COUNTY, CALIF.

Butte County is **working alongside the City of Chico to strengthen supportive housing services** including establishing a low barrier, secure place for individuals experiencing homelessness to sleep. The housing center will be equipped with bathrooms, hand washing stations and showers; its central location will allow the county to provide on-site wraparound services to support residents as they navigate the continued effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.



CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, VA.

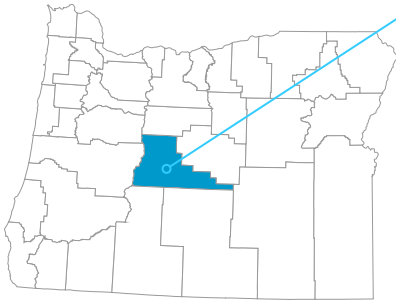
Chesterfield County is supporting workforce retention efforts through **partnering with the Virginia State General Assembly to provide one-time bonuses to public safety workers on the front lines of the pandemic.** The Assembly funded bonuses for 121 sworn officer positions, and the county will fund the additional 110 deputies not covered under the state compensation board. This \$330,000 investment of Recovery Funds is intended to bolster the public safety workforce, which has declined significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic.



DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS

Dallas County is encouraging civic partnerships through the Dallas R.E.A.L. Time Rapid Rehousing Initiative. The initiative totals \$60 million in public-private funding and will **house over 2,600 people experiencing homelessness by the end of September 2023.** The county and city will each contribute approximately \$25 million in Recovery Funds to support this regional initiative that will stabilize lives, promote better health outcomes and increase local employment.

DESCHUTES COUNTY, ORE.



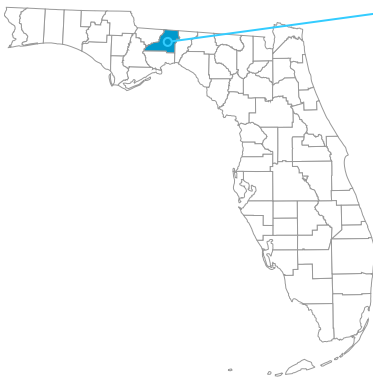
Deschutes County is building out a regional approach to child care with a \$6.6 million investment of Recovery Funds. The Deschutes County Child Care Coalition, which comprises the Bend City Chamber of Commerce and various early learning advocates across the region, helped craft investments to **create more than 500 new child care spots and train more than 275 new workers in the industry.** This infusion of federal funding will help residents return to work and address a critical shortage of providers which was exacerbated due to COVID-19.

KNOX COUNTY, TENN.



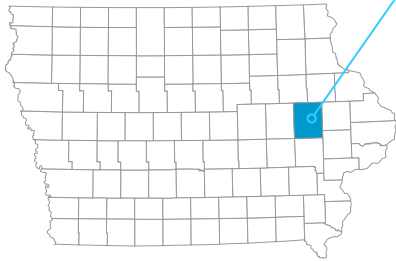
Knox County is addressing emergent public health needs through a partnership with the City of Knoxville to **jointly purchase and fund an urgent psychiatric care facility.** The county will devote \$850,000 in Recovery Funds to create a center that will treat adults with severe behavioral health concerns and connect them to community-based resources. This critical funding will support an expansion of care for residents across the community, particularly for low-income individuals who may be underinsured or uninsured.

LEON COUNTY, FLA.



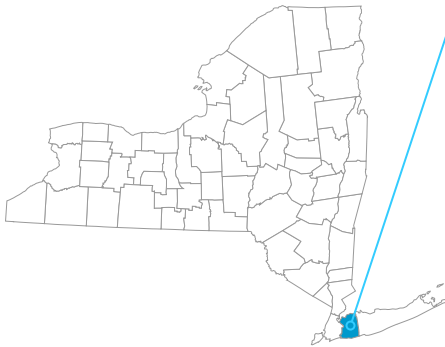
Leon County is partnering with the City of Tallahassee to expand local business capacity through the SmartSteps Program: a micro-loan initiative for minority and women-owned businesses that aims to diversify the existing capital pool. The county and city have engaged residents across neighborhoods to collaboratively plan how micro-loans will aid economic development projects. The two governments are also partnering to **help local chambers of commerce provide targeted outreach and growth opportunities for small businesses as they navigate the continued effects of the COVID-19 crisis.**

LINN COUNTY, IOWA



Linn County is streamlining ARPA grant applications through a partnership with the City of Cedar Rapids. This collaboration will **ensure Recovery Funds are leveraged for the greatest impact in the community and address a broad scope of needs.** The streamlined process will ensure that eligible grantees only go through the application process once to obtain aid, which will help them recoup losses or continue programming related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

NASSAU COUNTY, N.Y.



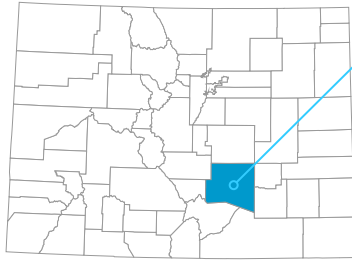
Nassau County is updating local infrastructure through investing \$3 million in the county's Septic Environmental Program to Improve Cleanliness (SEPTIC), which **provides funding to homeowners or small businesses to replace conventional or failing septic systems with alternative onsite wastewater treatment systems.** The county plans to match funding through the existing SEPTIC program with the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, increasing the total award to \$20,000 per property owner.

PIERCE COUNTY, WASH.



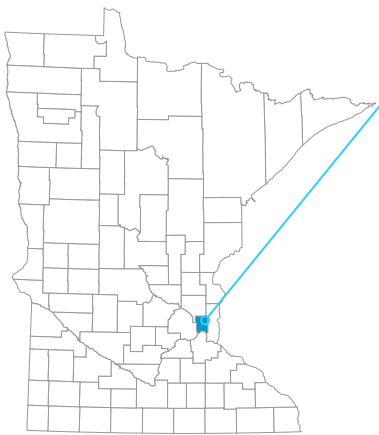
Pierce County expanded the reach of its Recovery Funds through a partnership with the City of Tacoma and the City of Lakewood to **purchase and transform a 90-room hotel into a shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness.** The permanent, supportive housing site will provide comprehensive services for residents to get back on their feet following the COVID-19 pandemic. The initiative will serve up to 120 men, women and couples at a time for up to six months.

PUEBLO COUNTY, COLO.



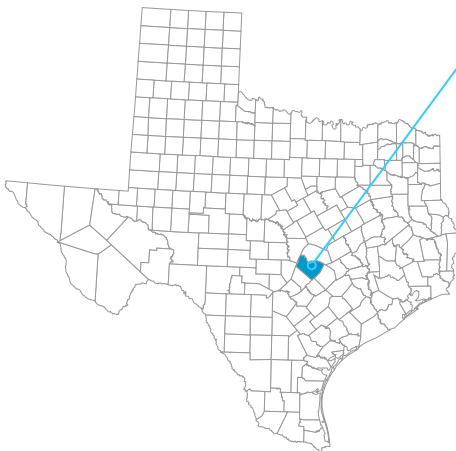
Pueblo County and the City of Pueblo **partnered to make a combined \$1 million investment to address learning disparities** through its “Reading Pays” program. The program incentivizes summer reading by offering a \$100 award to each child who checks out 10 library books and submits a response on what they read. The program has served 7,430 youths and distributed more than \$707,400 to families to date.

RAMSEY COUNTY, MINN.



Ramsey County is **launching a career pathway internship program to assist up to 3000 young adults who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic** in partnership with the City of Saint Paul. The county has contracted with 22 community-based organizations to support program participants with case management services and personalized professional development plans. The program will give young adults necessary entry-level skills and access to professional networks in a range of industries including green energy construction, creative arts and technology.

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS



Travis County and the City of Austin, along with other regional partners, are **supporting joint projects the promote health and community wellness**. The partnership includes \$13.5 million for COVID-19 vaccination sites, \$1 million for PPE, \$7.5 million for food assistance programs and \$325,000 for targeted behavioral health support for people experiencing homelessness. These key investments, made possible through the Recovery Fund, will expand local public health capacity and address pressing wellness needs across the region.



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