

Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska
ARPA SLFRF Recovery Plan

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
2024 Report

Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska
2024 Recovery Plan

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

To respond to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19 and its impacts, the Municipality of Anchorage has taken a proactive approach to provide tools and resources to communities, residents, and businesses. In the initial process, the Anchorage Assembly and Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) Mayor's Office worked to identify the harmful effects of COVID-19 within our community. These governmental groups spent over two months to identify the needs of Anchorage residents and businesses; convened meetings and townhalls with members of the public, businesses, nonprofits, and social service groups; and conducted two separate day-long meetings on March 19, 2022 and March 26, 2022 to develop the framework, guiding principles, and proposed relief measures for Anchorage Assembly Resolutions (AR) for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) 2 grant funds.

The Municipality of Anchorage was awarded \$103,317,366 in Federal ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) in 2021 and chose to receive their disbursement from the Federal Department of Treasury in two tranches. The first tranche of funds (ARPA 1) in the amount of \$51,658,683 was disbursed to approximately 92 subrecipients in 2021. The second tranche of funds in the amount of \$51,658,683 was disbursed to approximately 72 subrecipients beginning in the 3rd quarter 2022 and continued into 2024.

This fourth annual MOA Recovery Plan report describes past performance of the Municipality of Anchorage and its subrecipients who received funds from Tranche 1 & 2 Federal Dept. of the Treasury ARPA SLFRF grant from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

Financial Compliance - 2024

The Municipality of Anchorage as stewards of Federal public funding undertook a requested mandatory financial compliance from subrecipients of MOA ARPA funding. This consisted of questions related to expenditures, evaluation of grantees performance and a financial statement covering the subrecipients grant period. Reports from 102 subrecipients were received between November 1, 2023 to April 1 2024.

Uses of Funds

The goal of the Municipality of Anchorage was to fund nonprofits and municipal governmental agencies, and thus achieve a strong and equitable recovery from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the community's subsequent economic downturn. The intended uses of the funding was allocated to specific Expenditure Categories (EC) as identified by the Federal Government. The funds were used specifically to support individuals, families, communities, and organizations throughout the municipality that were adversely affected by the pandemic. The Assembly resolution allocating these funds is linked here:

[Assembly Resolution \(AR\) 2021-167 \(s\)](#)

[Assembly Resolution \(AR\) 2022-178 \(s\)](#)

Public Health (EC 1) – The COVID-19 pandemic not only affected the local economy but public health and welfare of the community at large. The funds allocated in this category addressed not only specific underserved communities but also mental health wellbeing, and COVID-19 mitigation. For this category, the Municipality of Anchorage awarded funds to various organizations to remain sustainable and help those in our community recover from the negative mental and physical impacts of the COVID-19

pandemic. These awards protect our economy and the health and wellbeing of our city’s residents, businesses, and nonprofits. These awards include expansion of behavioral health services to the LGBTQ community and also outreach and communication to promote COVID mitigation.

Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2) – The negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic not only affected the local economy but also services and resources to our community. The funds used in this category address how our allocations were spent to assist these areas in need. The Municipality of Anchorage awarded funds to various organizations to remain sustainable and help those in our community recover from the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. This allowed us to rebuild our economy in ways that enhance self-sufficiency and reduce supply chain vulnerability . These awards include:

- Aid to nonprofit organizations for voucher distributions to families for daily expenses, skill training & job search assistance, and operational expenses to keep nonprofit doors open
- Programs that address the immediate needs and barriers for underserved and unemployed youth, families, and adults
- Small business economic assistance for business personal property tax relief and stabilization grants
- Tourism business relief grants
- Relief for tourism businesses experiencing hardships
- Websites for accessible job search assistance
- Community outreach for small businesses that provide resources for government services
- Assistance to families to access federal benefits and relief funding
- Repair, expand, and upgrade food pantry/storage and distribution facilities

Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity (EC 3) - Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, our city addressed challenges with providing tools and resources for our venerable homelessness community. With the ARPA relief funds, the Anchorage Assembly collaborated with key community non-profits and activists to expand and fund housing assistance.

Housing Assistance & Support: Part of the funding in this category was used to support the rapid rehousing of homeless youth transitioning out of shelters, and to provide temporary housing awaiting host home placement. Funding also provided for housing, addiction treatment, vocational training for the homeless, and transitional housing for homeless young adults 16-24 years. Part of the funding in this category was used to hire housing intensive case managers to help people transition out of homelessness, especially those who did not qualify for the federal rental relief.

Healthy Childhood Environment, Education, Mental Health & Social Services: Funded school based mental health services for children and youths mental health needs exacerbated by the pandemic. Funded a social media campaign to help recruit foster homes. Provided funding for the expansion of a public health clinic and for the purchase and installation of “COVID-proofing” equipment and systems at the clinic.

Data System: Funds were used to expand a data system that will track and analyze performance measures. This included a component that will track success and challenges and report monthly to the Anchorage Assembly Committee on Housing and Homelessness on barriers and progress.

Premium Pay (EC 4) - No funds allocated.

Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure (EC 5) - There is one broadband project to provide broadband capacity, internet services and security cameras to the Chugiak-Eagle River Senior Center.

Revenue Replacement (EC 6) -

Government Services: During the COVID-19 pandemic many government departments saw an increase in their expenses to provide services to their employees. There was also a decline in revenue due to mandatory shutdowns which caused many user fees that government relies on to be waived and/or postponed to a later date.

For many of the local government entities, the grant relief focuses on the following economic harm:

- *Covering payroll*
- *Mortgages or rent for buildings*
- *Operating costs*
- *Providing sick leave resources to employees*

Recovery: Funds were allocated to connect unemployed workers with job opportunities. Grants included a comprehensive job search tool that would benefit both the employer and the future employee.

Miscellaneous: Other grant funding was used for improving direct services to citizens. These government services included road infrastructure, increasing public safety measures, environmental revitalization, and other local government improvements.

Promoting equitable outcomes

The Assembly looked to frame disbursements to serve and support identified underserved and disadvantaged communities within the Municipality of Anchorage.

- a. Goals: The Assembly identified underserved communities including:
 - Youth 18-24 - Grants for youth displaced from their homes or traditional care due to the pandemic.
 - Homeless – Grants to provide services, support, resources, and temporary and permanent housing to this vulnerable and underserved population.
 - BIPOC community – Grants to provide services and support in addition to economic recovery, education, and community action for this community.
- b. Awareness: Grants were given to businesses and non-profits to promote awareness of services and resources provided by ARPA funds. Specific grants were targeted for outreach to BIPOC and underserved communities.
- c. Access and Distribution: Grants were distributed to organizations that provided much-needed resources and services at the individual and street level. Realizing that many of the hard to reach and marginalized communities have difficulty accessing resources due to fear or lack of knowledge, grants were disbursed to organizations that work with specific underserved populations and are proactive at collaborating with these recipients and beneficiaries.

- d. **Outcomes:** Under the lens of promoting equitable outcomes, the Assembly and the Mayor’s office intend to provide equal services to all the citizens of Anchorage. This includes the homeless, the marginalized and others from historically disadvantaged communities. Our grant reporting, including our Quarterly Project & Expenditure reports that are located on the Municipality website, focuses on specific metrics and numbers of those served.

Specifically, the Municipality of Anchorage has put an emphasis on funding Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2) to address areas of promoting equitable outcomes. Grants in Expenditure Category 2 include: assistance to households, small businesses, and non-profits to address impacts of the pandemic which have been most severe among low-income populations. This also includes assistance with food, housing, and other needs; employment programs for people with barriers to employment who faced negative economic impacts from the pandemic (such as residents of low-income neighborhoods, minorities, disconnected youth, the unemployed, formerly incarcerated people, veterans, and people with disabilities); services to provide long-term housing security and housing supports, address educational disparities, or provide child care and early learning services; and other strategies that provide impacted and disproportionately impacted communities with services to address the negative economic impacts of the pandemic. These projects are further defined in the project reports.

In 2022, the Municipality of Anchorage Mayor’s office began acquiring quantitative report data to assess and report back on the equitable distribution and serving of various underserved and disadvantaged communities. In 2024 we will continue to acquire and report to the Department of Treasury how we are serving these underserved communities.

Anchorage Assembly members each represent a specific geographic area within the Municipality. Each member engaged in a process to ensure that each Assembly district had targeted funds. Realizing that certain districts contained traditionally marginalized communities, the Assembly targeted increased funding to these areas that demographically contained most of the marginalized and underserved individuals and nonprofits.

Community Engagement

Beginning in 2022, the Assembly and the Mayor’s office promoted and engaged in 5 “ARPA Investment Reviews”. This series of in-person and online sessions allowed the Assembly and community to hear back from the subrecipients as to their use of grant funding and the positive impact it has had for their organizations/businesses and the community. Link to the YouTube videos of these sessions is [here](#).

In 2022, the Assembly and the Mayor’s office has engaged in 5 work sessions to discuss and identify future tranche 2 funding. These funding requests for the second tranche were advertised and promoted to all communities and nonprofits and resulted in over 200 applications for ARPA tranche 2 funding. Link to the work session’s YouTube videos is [here](#).

Anchorage Assembly COVID-19 Response Framework

Addressing immediate needs and sustaining our community beyond COVID-19

1 Priorities	Economic Stimulus	Family Support	Housing & Homelessness	Public Health & Safety	Community Investments	Direct Municipal Response	Contingency Fund
2 Timeline	Short Term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the immediate needs/COVID-19-related impacts? • What do we need to respond right now? • What other deadlines or requirements must we address? 			Long Term/ Transformative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the longer term systemic changes we want, demonstrated by the pandemic? • How can COVID-19 responses make MOA a better place for all in the future, but are not immediate needs? • How can we tie to existing MOA/partner plans and priorities? • What COVID-19 response activities focus on prevention, sustainability and are most strategic? 			
3 Guiding Principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Need: aid populations that need it most, those disparately impacted by COVID-19. ✓ Geography: have a positive impact across the municipality. ✓ Alignment: leverage other opportunities and address resource gaps. ✓ Feasibility: consider the financial resources and timing needed for implementation success. ✓ Informed: consider most recent data, public input and where possible, best practices. ✓ Equity: addresses current and historical inequities in our systems illuminated by COVID-19. 					Proposals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description • Priority • Timeline • Potential cost • Guiding principles • Collaborators 	

Labor Practices

Beginning in 2023 the Municipality of Anchorage began tracking through its Project & Expenditure report the status of infrastructure projects. MOA will track and reports back to the Dept. of Treasury as to labor practices including project labor agreements, community benefits agreements, prevailing wage requirements, and local hiring for the limited number of funded infrastructure projects.

Use of Evidence

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was a federal stimulus package aimed at providing economic relief to individuals, businesses, and state and local governments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The ARPA allocated funds to various municipalities and local governments, including the Municipality of Anchorage in Alaska.

The specific requirements for performance reporting under ARPA may vary depending on the guidelines set by the federal government. However, generally speaking, performance reports for ARPA funds typically involve demonstrating how the allocated funds were utilized to achieve the intended goals and outcomes.

When it comes to the Municipality of Anchorage's use of evidence for the ARPA performance report, several key components are involved:

1. **Data Collection and Documentation:** The municipality needs to gather relevant data on how the ARPA funds were spent. This may include financial records, invoices, contracts, and other documentation showing the expenses and projects funded by the ARPA money.
2. **Project Outcomes and Objectives:** The municipality will need to outline the specific objectives and outcomes they intended to achieve with the ARPA funds. These could be related to economic recovery, public health, infrastructure improvement, or other areas directly impacted by the pandemic.

3. **Quantitative Metrics:** To demonstrate the effectiveness of the ARPA spending, the municipality asks for and uses quantitative metrics wherever possible. For example, they could report the number of jobs created, businesses supported, individuals vaccinated, or infrastructure projects completed.
4. **Qualitative Evidence:** In addition to quantitative data, qualitative evidence may also be included in the performance report. This could involve testimonials, case studies, or narratives from individuals and businesses impacted positively by the ARPA-funded initiatives. In 2022 the Assembly and the Mayor's office has engaged in 5 work sessions to discuss and identify evidence for future tranche 2 funding. These funding requests for the second tranche were advertised and promoted to all communities and nonprofits and resulted in over 200 applications for ARPA tranche 2 funding.
5. **Comparative Analysis:** It may be beneficial for the municipality to compare the current situation to the pre-ARPA conditions or to similar regions that did not receive ARPA funds. This analysis can help demonstrate the effectiveness of the measures taken using the allocated funds. Through the use of key performance indicators, anecdotal and subgrantee report backs we can compare present situations to pre-ARPA intervention.
6. **Transparency and Accountability:** The performance report should be transparent about how the funds were allocated and used. It should address any challenges or setbacks faced during the implementation of ARPA-funded programs. All performance reports are available on the Assembly website and quarterly project and expenditure reports are available upon request.
7. **Compliance with Reporting Requirements:** Finally, the Municipality of Anchorage must ensure that its performance report meets all the reporting requirements set forth by the federal government or relevant state authorities. The Municipality of Anchorage ensures that all Performance reports have been and presently are meeting all compliance reporting requirements set forth by the Department of Treasury.

It's important to note that the specific guidelines and requirements for ARPA performance reporting have evolved or changed since our last update. Therefore, for the most up-to-date and accurate information, it is advisable to consult official sources, such as the U.S. Department of the Treasury website or the Municipality of Anchorage's official website, for the latest guidance on ARPA performance reporting.

Performance Report

The Municipality of Anchorage is presently tracking performance of their ARPA SLFRF through report backs, quarterly expenditure and project reports and discussions/conversations with subrecipients as to challenges and concerns in implementing their projects. In 2024 the Municipality of Anchorage key performance indicators (KPIs) presently in place are as follows:

1. **Funding distribution:** This measure show quickly and efficiently funds are being distributed to eligible subrecipients. The percentage of ARPA funds distributed to date, or the number of businesses, organizations, or nonprofits that have received funding and other financial metrics are available upon request. The MOA has allocated funds to over 171 separate organizations.
2. **Job preservation/creation:** Given that one of the primary goals of ARPA is to alleviate the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, a key indicator is the number of jobs created or

sustained. Specifically, the MOA ARPA funds assisted 181 subgrantees in Expenditure Categories such as NEI-2.10 Job Training Assistance, NEI-2.32 Business Incubators, and NEI-2.9 Small Business Economic Assistance among others. Detailed data available upon request.

3. **Community impact:** This could include metrics that measure the impact on the community, such as the number of people helped, services provided, or improvements in community indicators (like reduced homelessness, increased food security, etc.) The MOA ARPA grant tracks quarterly this key performance indicator and in the last quarter (Apr 1 – Jun 30 2024) over 90,000 Anchorage households were assisted (many households are recipients of services from multiple subgrantees) by over 25 nonprofits. Detailed data available upon request.
4. **Financial management:** This would measure how effectively the funding is being managed, potentially including audits or assessments of financial controls and procedures. Each year the Municipality of Anchorage undertakes an audit of their finances. The ARPA grant is one among many areas that the auditors look at. Reports are available upon request.

The following is the project inventory for subgrantees that have been disbursed funds from the Municipality of Anchorage ARPA State and Local Fiscal Relief Fund. The project inventory is a listing of subgrantees that had a disbursement of ARPA funds from ARPA 1 (2021) and ARPA 2 (2022). All 91 subgrantees of ARPA 1 have had their fund disbursed including Expenditure Category 6.1 (they are classified as “Revenue Replacement” and are by and large internal Municipality of Anchorage departments and are not required to report quarterly or annually). All eligible ARPA 2 subgrantees including E.C. 6.1, have received their funds.

The following subgrantees were required to report annually their grant amount received, description of the grant, project overview, their evidence based intervention, and their key performance indicator. Subgrantees only report for the period of this 2024 Performance Report which covers the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Access Alaska Inc.	Transition to Independence for Youth With Disabilities	\$ 150,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

The project provides independent living skills and services to youth with disabilities who are transitioning into adulthood. Access Alaska, a Center for Independent Living, works at the community level to reduce barriers, combat discrimination, and promote the development of needed resources, programs, and policies for people with disabilities. The agency provides information and referral, independent living skills training, peer counseling, and The Transition to Independence program which provides young people with disabilities the basic skills needed to navigate the adult world independently.

Project Use of Evidence

The project provides independent living skills and services to youth with disabilities who are transitioning into adulthood. Access Alaska, a Center for Independent Living, works at the community level to reduce barriers, combat discrimination, and promote the development of needed resources, programs, and policies for people with disabilities. The agency provides information and referral,

independent living skills training, peer counseling, individual counseling. The Transition to Independence program provides young people with disabilities the basic skills needed to navigate the adult world independently.

Key Performance Indicator

At the present time 10 enrollees are participating in the program due to staffing issues at Access Alaska, which we anticipate will be alleviated with a new hire.

The project promotes the development of needed resources, programs, and policies for people with disabilities.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Alaska Adoption Services (AAS)	Community Diaper Pantry	\$100,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

The Community Diaper Pantry provides diapers to low income families who are struggling with diaper need for their baby/toddler.

Project Use of Evidence

Alaska Adoption Services operate the Community Diaper Pantry to the Anchorage community with funding from the MOA ARPA grant. Based upon a survey done in 2023 by the National Diaper Bank Network 1 in 2 US families struggle to buy diapers to keep their children clean, dry, and healthy. Infants require up to 12 diapers a day and toddlers, up to eight per day. Diapers for one child typically range between \$80-\$100 per month. Locally, we know 9% of people in the Anchorage Bowl live in poverty and of the 9%, 7.2% are children under the age of 5 years old (2020 U.S Census Bureau Quick Facts Sheet).

Key Performance Indicator

The Community Diaper Pantry has provided approximately 142,161 diapers to 322 families in the Anchorage area so far in 2024. Through this project, families have expressed less financial stress and the ability to provide a sufficient amount of diapers to keep their children clean, dry, and healthy. Data is available upon request.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Alaska Black Caucus	Equity Center Renovation	\$1,200,000	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Project Overview

Renovate the Equity Center building located at 605 Barrow Street

Project Use of Evidence

The Equity Center renovations in downtown Anchorage, Alaska is in direct response to the community-identified needs and the infrastructure gap. The Equity Center will provide a centralized public community space for Black Alaskans and their allies to celebrate, console, share resources, and foster community. Therefore, the Equity Center is a community investment project that can centralize the delivery of programs targeting known disparities evidenced in our Black Alaskan Health Status Report and Needs Assessment. Specifically, the Equity Center is a structural intervention in and of itself as the presence of the Equity Center addressing the sociocultural context and the built environment.

Additionally, in the future there will be programs delivered in the Equity Center (post renovation completion) aimed at mitigating the health disparities affecting Black Alaskans. The Evidence-Based Intervention

Hence, our activities have been evidence-based in two ways. We created our own evidence-base since Alaska lacked data on health disparities affecting Black Alaskans. This community-generated evidence-base is then utilized to highlight the importance of the Equity Center as a structural intervention. The concept of structural intervention is evidence-based, which is well-defined in health disparity scholarship (Brown et al., 2019). Secondly, our own evidence specific to Alaska in conjunction with established scholarship will inform the programs that will be housed in the Equity Center. The anticipated programming of the Equity Center are also evidence-based as they will be grounded in the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities [NIMHD] Research Framework (NIMHD, 2022). The specific programs are yet to be decided based on the final renovations of the Equity Center (the built environment), needs of the community when the Equity Center is complete, and the funding available for program implementation.

Key Performance Indicator

The Equity Center is still under renovation. However, since the renovations have started programs, like our weekly community conversations on Zoom and committee meetings are still being accomplished. The Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) when the Equity Center renovations are complete may include engagement (e.g., foot traffic, attendance in programming, number of events held in a quarter, etc.), health and psychosocial outcomes related to the programs that will be delivered (e.g., differences in targeted constructs pre and post program attendance, etc.), as well as the general impact of having an Equity Center in Anchorage, Alaska (community impact report capturing change in community-level beliefs about equity, etc.)

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Alaska Center for the Performing Arts	Broadway Alaska and Workforce Development Initiatives	\$197,840	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

The goal of this project, and primary use of the awarded funds, is to expand staffing and equipment for new positions in support of the new Broadway Alaska program at Alaska Center for the Performing Arts. The secondary goal of this project is to support expenses and staff hours towards the partnership with University of Alaska Anchorage and the creation of the new Technical Theatre Certification Program. Through both efforts, we will be creating additional jobs for the workforce while simultaneously strengthening our team to bring touring Broadway to Alaska. The new Broadway program will be a significant economic impact for Downtown, Anchorage and the State of Alaska, as well as contributing to enhanced accessibility for training of young aspiring individuals looking to make a career in theatre and/or the arts.

Project Use of Evidence

Alaska Center for the Performing Arts (ACPA), Inc, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, is creating additional jobs in the workforce intended to grow the workforce bringing touring Broadway to Alaska and in support of venue management in our community. Touring Broadway will have a great economic impact on not only Downtown Anchorage, but for Anchorage as a whole, as well as the entire State of Alaska. ACPA is also providing workforce development within the community due to an indicated lack of trained

theatre professionals in the Anchorage area, especially with the discontinuation of UAA’s Theatre Degree program. The new Occupational Education Certificate being developed in partnership between ACPA and UAA will had its first cohort at the University of Alaska Anchorage in the fall semester of 2023.

Key Performance Indicator

We have hired and/or promoted five employees into new, not previously existing, roles, including: Client and Event Services Coordinator, Volunteer Coordinator, Audience Services Manager, Box Office Manager, and Community Engagement Manager.

A few outcomes that have been exceptionally beneficial have been: The development of Broadway Bound AK, encouraging young students to be creative in various ways, creating both educational and outreach opportunities for the City of Anchorage, and communities across the state. We had our first Hamilton competition this summer and had a total of 15 submissions from 4 out of 5 Regions of Alaska, including: Anchorage, Interior, Southwest, Southeast, and Southcentral, cities include Anchorage, Fairbanks, Sitka, Healy, North Pole, Eagle River, Juneau, and Kodiak. This effort was primarily spearheaded by our new community engagement manager.

Secondly, thanks to our new Volunteer Coordinator, we have welcomed 126 new volunteers into our Ushering in the Arts Corps this year for a combined total of 369 ushers, which gets us to 74% of our overall goal for volunteers, which is 500.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Alaska Children's Trust	Diaper Distribution	\$175,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

Diaper distribution helps ensuring children and families thrive and supports the prevention of child abuse and neglect by meeting basic needs, offering financial relief, fostering community connections, and promoting education and awareness. Diaper banks supply free or low-cost diapers, ensuring that infants and young children are kept clean and healthy, which reduces neglect stemming from financial strain. By alleviating the financial burden of diapers, families can allocate resources to other essential needs, creating a more stable home environment for children. Diaper banks often collaborate with social service organizations, offering additional support such as parenting classes and healthcare, which can address underlying issues contributing to child abuse.

Afterschool programs offer valuable benefits for children, including academic support, enrichment activities, social and emotional development, physical fitness promotion, safety, and academic engagement. These programs provide homework help, tutoring, and diverse activities that encourage creativity, skill development, and personal growth. Through interactions with peers and mentors, children learn important social skills and build self-confidence. Afterschool programs also promote physical health and offer a secure environment during after-school hours. By fostering academic engagement and motivation, these programs complement traditional education and contribute to children's overall development and well-being.

Project Use of Evidence

DIAPER BANK

The Alaska Children’s Trust is providing diapers to multiple Anchorage based organizations to distribute to Anchorage residents with funding from the MOA ARPA grant. Nearly 10% of Anchorage’s population lives in poverty and a high percentage of them are under the age of 30 with children. Nationally, three in

five parents miss work or school because they can't afford diapers which means they can't put their child into childcare. Diaper distribution helps ensuring children and families thrive and supports the prevention of child abuse and neglect by meeting basic needs, offering financial relief, fostering community connections, and promoting education and awareness. Diaper banks supply free or low-cost diapers, ensuring that infants and young children are kept clean and healthy, which reduces neglect stemming from financial strain. By alleviating the financial burden of diapers, families can allocate resources to other essential needs, creating a more stable home environment for children. Diaper banks often collaborate with social service organizations, offering additional support such as parenting classes and healthcare, which can address underlying issues contributing to child abuse.

AFTERSCHOOL CERTIFICATION

The Alaska Children's Trust is providing workforce development for the out-of-school time field, which has been instrumental in ensuring families have a safe space for their children as they return to the workforce. A vast number of parents were unable to return to work or had to reduce their hours because they did not have care for their children during out-of-school times and afterschool programs were struggling to retain staff. To strengthen and grow the out-of-school time field, and support parents to return to the workforce, we implemented the Child & youth Care Certification, which is recognized by the Council of Accreditation. Afterschool programs offer valuable benefits for children, including academic support, enrichment activities, social and emotional development, physical fitness promotion, safety, and academic engagement. These programs provide homework help, tutoring, and diverse activities that encourage creativity, skill development, and personal growth. Through interactions with peers and mentors, children learn important social skills and build self-confidence. Afterschool programs also promote physical health and offer a secure environment during after-school hours. By fostering academic engagement and motivation, these programs complement traditional education and contribute to children's overall development and well-being.

Key Performance Indicator

Output Measures

(1) Diapers

- Eleven Anchorage nonprofits received diapers to distribute.
- 475,400 diapers were distributed to the eleven nonprofit organizations.
- 725,760 baby wipes were distributed to the eleven nonprofit organizations.
- Nearly 2,000 families have received diapers and wipes to date.
- Over 2,600 children have received services.

(2) Afterschool

- 42 afterschool educators participated in the CYC process, with a combined 300 years of experience in the youth and childcare field.
 - o 12 at the entry level – 7 credentialed with 5 in process
 - o 12 at the associate level – 6 in process of credentialing
 - o 18 at the professional level – 6 credentialed with 7 in process
- Thirty-three (33) participants are employed in licensed school-age childcare programs.
- Six (6) participants engaged in a Training of Trainers and are certified CYC trainers as of July 2024.

Outcome Measures

(1) Diapers

- 50% increase in the number of organizations distributing diapers in Anchorage.
- Saved families between \$35-\$100 per diaper & wipe donation.

(2) Afterschool

- Approximately 90% of participants have remained in the youth and childcare field.
- Participant Quotes

- o [The CYC Course] really stretched my mind, and my capacity... I thought I knew a lot about youth, but now I know even more through that class.
- o [This course] made me think and reflect on my own past experiences as a young person. Made me think about what kind of people I would have liked to have in those moments where I felt misunderstood.
- o [We had] great culturally responsive discussions. More time to have those type of discussions would be great!
- o The engaging group exercises were good to take back to my organization to implement with the kids

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Alaska Legal Services Corp	Fund two attorneys	\$240,000	Assistance to Households

Project Overview

The goal of this project is to provide direct civil legal assistance to low-income individuals and families to resolve critical legal issues caused by or compounded by the pandemic. The legal issues addressed affect individuals’ and families’ most basic necessities including income, housing, food security, and healthcare. The type of legal problems that we have assisted with include unemployment benefits (both obtaining benefits and addressing overpayment issues); employment discrimination; income maintenance (SSI/SSDI); SNAP benefits; housing; and domestic violence.

Project Use of Evidence

Access to legal help is oftentimes the only way to resolve the problems that we have assisted clients with under this project. In the next response, we provide an example and evidence of the economic and non-economic benefits of legal aid. In addition, national studies have found that legal help is often the most effective method of stopping hardships faced by vulnerable individuals. Multiple studies have found that the most critical service or one of the most critical services a community can provide in order to reduce domestic violence is access to civil legal help: Rosenberg & Grab, Supporting Survivors: The Economic Benefits of Providing Civil Legal Assistance to Survivors of Domestic Violence (2015); Farmer & Tiefenthaler, Explaining the Recent Decline in Domestic Violence (2008). Lawyers can also be the answer for strengthening social determinants of health. Matthew, The Law as Healer: How Paying for Medical-Legal Partnerships Saves Live and Money, (2017).

Key Performance Indicator

Outputs: In total, we have assisted 173 households with 184 cases under this project.

Outcomes: Our legal assistance has resulted in \$304,781 in economic benefits to our clients under this Project. Two major categories of assistance are employment law matters and SNAP cases. We assisted 70 clients with employment law matters. This included handling alleged overpayments of unemployment benefits. These clients were facing thousands of dollars in debt until our lawyer stepped in and assisted the client with filing an appeal, gathering the relevant factual information, and making legal arguments to the judge. We assisted 44 clients during the SNAP crisis under this Project, helping individuals and families obtain approximately \$70,000 in retroactive and ongoing monthly food benefits.

We also assisted clients with obtaining non-monetary relief such as protective orders and reducing barriers to employment.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Alaska Literacy Program, Inc.	Job Training, Digital Literacy and Educational Classroom Safety Renovations	\$240,000	Assistance to Households

Project Overview

ALP’s classrooms focused on Job Training but also including Digital/Health/Family/Adult Literacy Education are in dire need of repairs for safety compliance and usability. The goal of the project is to complete capital renovations to correct life/safety code violations required to allow ALP to safely continue offering existing services.

Project Use of Evidence

A code analysis study was conducted to outline all life/safety code compliance violations and the needed corrections. This code analysis study will be used as the evidence to inform all capital upgrade interventions to ALP’s Job Training and Adult Education facility.

Key Performance Indicator

During the early implementation stage of ALP’s project, bathroom renovations were completed to correct flooring trip hazards in 9 bathrooms, replace 2 non-functional toilets, reconnect plumbing to the employee break room sink, and snake the clogged sewer line at ALP’s Job Training and Adult Education facility. Since then, ALP upgraded its internet network to improve efficiencies/capacity and mitigated excessive snow load from the facility’s flat roof. Currently we are in the process of installing break-away exit door hardware and correcting faulty window hardware. Grant funds were used for construction, project management, and administrative support.

ALP served 1,099 students for a total of 28,624 instructional hours in free Job Training and Adult Education classes at its facility during FY 2024 (7/1/2023 - 6/30/2024).

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Alaska Literacy Program, Inc.	Feasibility of a one-stop welcome center.	\$378,000	Assistance to Households

Project Overview

The purpose of this project is to assess the feasibility of a one-stop welcome center for new Alaskans in order to streamline access to essential services for immigrants, refugees, and new community members; foster warm integration into Alaska; and establish a primary hub for newcomers.

Project Use of Evidence

There are no interventions in the feasibility study. The feasibility study project will be completed in three phases:

Phase 1. Discovery: Includes key informant interviews and focus groups, case study and best practice research, system mapping, and economic impact analysis.

Phase 2. Scenarios & Analysis: Includes architecture and design visioning, scenario development, and fiscal analysis.

Phase 3. Recommendations: Final recommendations report and PowerPoint of findings.

Key Performance Indicator

In the early implementation stages, Phase 1 of this project included a review of existing services for newcomers, identifying successful models from other regions, and a study of the economic benefits of a welcome center. Phase 2 is underway, with identifying what is most needed in Anchorage and different scenarios that would meet the needs. We are in the process of finishing phase 2 and beginning to work on Phase 3. The project is on track.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Alaska Works Partnership	Project Skills Gap programs to support workforce development and apprenticeships	\$500,000	Assistance to Households

Project Overview

This project expands AWP's construction and maintenance training and outreach opportunities for MOA residents and provides the needed funding to develop and maintain a trade-related skills bank. These funds support programs such as Women in the Trades, Anchorage Construction Academy, Helmets to Hardhats, and Youth Apprenticeship.

Project Use of Evidence

AWP hired a team member to provide additional outreach and employment services, and the team developed a skills bank that continues to be updated. These efforts allowed AWP to host additional outreach events, increasing the amount of interest of youth and adults and significantly increasing the number of municipality members entering employment in related industry jobs.

Key Performance Indicator

AWP held and participated in 12 events, attended 11 job fairs, gave 32 presentations at high school and their job fairs, provided 60 military transition centers, and job centers, and provided 22 additional presentations/orientations at various opportunities in MOA. Through these outreach efforts, AWP received 1140 adult registrations and 135 youth registrations from municipality members. (Adult: Anchorage 1011, Chugiak 25, Eagle River 75, Girdwood 8, and JBER 24). 1275 entered into the skills bank, 356 received employment training, 94 youth received employment training, 196 applied to an apprenticeship, 195 received a wage increase after training, and 139 employed in industry related jobs who responded to employer surveys.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Alaska Village Initiatives	Feeding Anchorage's Underserved with Year-Round, Affordable Hydroponics	\$50,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

Alaska Village Initiatives will be building up to five different, small-scale, hydroponic systems to grow a variety of vegetables. We will utilize the systems to act as a research and demonstration project. We will train and share information with other organizations and local community members to expand this program throughout the city. Once the vegetables are ready to harvest, we will donate them to local nonprofit organizations to feed our most underserved, vulnerable populations. This project will include opportunities for economic development by allowing a business plan to incorporate our findings.

Project Use of Evidence

It's common knowledge that food insecure people are more likely to develop on-going issues with their overall health and wellbeing. AVI is creating a program to not only address these issues through growing fresh nutrient-dense food year-round but will also develop training modules for the community and creating potential economic growth opportunities.

Key Performance Indicator

The goal of the project is to research the energy efficiency of individual hydroponic grow systems, develop workshops to share with other interested community members, and organizations. We have discovered certain systems are able to have energy usage reduced by 60-75% without effecting production.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Anchorage Affordable Housing Trust Inc.	Hotel Conversions to Increase Affordable Housing	\$11,878,000	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Project Overview

The Anchorage Affordable Housing and Land Trust (AAHLT) has a goal to provide additional affordable housing in Anchorage, Alaska. AAHLT has acquired three former hotels and have converted those properties into multi-family apartments for low, very low and extremely low-income adult households. This included removing hotel signage, converting hotel rooms into studio apartments, completing deferred maintenance items, creating tenant access kitchens and tenant laundry facilities along with common area improvements. Potential tenants apply for leases and are interviewed to determine the best location and type of apartment for their needs.

Project Use of Evidence

Numerous housing studies have indicated a severe housing shortage in Anchorage, especially for low-income adult household.

Key Performance Indicator

Currently 317 adults are housing in AAHLT's 217 apartment rooms. A total of 493 have been residents in those facilities since opening in 2022.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness	Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Support/Housing Transition Coordinator (HTC) and Flexible Housing Navigation Funds	\$400,000	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Project Overview

300 households will receive eviction prevention services, including legal representation and housing support to prevent homelessness.

Project Use of Evidence

Through use of the Coordinated Entry system, HMIS data, and coordination with service providers ACEH ensures people experiencing or facing homelessness have access to eviction prevention and housing navigation assistance.

Key Performance Indicator

Number of new projects created in AKHMIS. Number of individuals/families receiving prevention and diversion assistance

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Anchorage Community Land Trust	ACLT Commercial Kitchen Incubator	\$610,000	Assistance to Small Businesses

Project Overview

Through ARPA funding, ACLT received \$610,000 to match investment in the development and construction of a shared commercial kitchen incubator facility in Anchorage. ACLT is in the development and design process on a 4,000 square foot space to house multiple pay-by-the-hour shared commercial kitchen spaces available for rent 24/7 with space for food processing, dry and cold storage and on-site retail. The target users are smaller-scale food operations not yet ready for a full-time lease: food trucks, caterers and producers of value-added goods. The overall mission of this project is to alleviate systemic economic injustice through catalyzing small food business success in Anchorage’s historically disinvested communities. By developing a new kitchen incubator, ACLT also anticipates achieving the following smaller scale project goals:

- Support food-based entrepreneurs as they develop and expand product lines and offerings.
- Elevate the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Southcentral Alaska.
- Provide a logical next stop for ACLT’s Set Up Shop participants in the foodservice industry as participating entrepreneurs become self-sustaining.
- Fill a local demand for access to high-quality commissary kitchen space among food entrepreneurs and existing food service businesses in Southcentral Alaska.
- Buildout a project that is financially and organizationally sustainable by delivering earned revenue.
- Increase food security in Southcentral Alaska by connecting growers, producers and consumers to high-quality, locally sourced food products.
- Increase sales and retail opportunities for existing food producers.
- Provide a launch point for the next generation of small businesses from the kitchen incubator.

Project Use of Evidence

ACLT began the Kitchen Incubator project by initiating a study in partnership with the MIT Department of Urban Studies and Planning conducted in 2019 to investigate the potential for urban kitchen incubators as a viable wealth-building strategy for low-income and immigrant entrepreneurs. This study produced evidence, through in-depth analyses of six kitchen incubator/commissary kitchen models nationwide, that a kitchen incubator is a viable opportunity builder for entrepreneurs in the underserved and developing Anchorage neighborhood of Mountain View. This evidence supports that the Kitchen Incubator intervention will serve the ACLT’s project goals of alleviating systemic economic injustice through entrepreneurial opportunities.

ACLT also gathered evidence in multiple venues that there is demand for an affordable shared use kitchen space among ACLT’s entrepreneurs and Anchorage’s food service economy in general. ACLT’s Set Up Shop entrepreneur program has served 350 businesses since launching five years ago, 60 percent of which are food-based businesses. Set Up Shop supports seven cohorts of 15 entrepreneurs annually; of which an estimated 54 participant entrepreneurs annually could qualify and benefit from access to a kitchen incubator and further entrepreneurial technical assistance. As new cohorts move through the program each year, a number of potentially viable business concepts will seek space to scale up their businesses. A kitchen incubator provides this next-stop on the continuum for these businesses.

Key Performance Indicator

ACLT received these funds during our pre-development period for our shared commercial kitchen incubator project. At the time we received the funds, we still needed to raise more money to see the project come to fruition, needed to finalize a site location out of our multiple options, and needed to proceed with design work and program modeling in order to move forward. Since receiving these funds in 2022, ACLT has finalized a site location in the Mountain View neighborhood of Anchorage along the neighborhood’s commercial corridor and proceeded with securing the site for long-term use. The project will transform a vacant commercial lot in Mountain View that has been sitting blighted for over a decade into a shared commercial kitchen facility.

We have been able to raise an additional \$4 million of investment through a mix of public and private funds, and are 80% funded, with the remaining funds pending through New Market Tax Credits. With these pending funds, we expect the facility will be fully funded by this fall, and construction will begin in the spring of 2025. As a result of our (nearly) final funding stack, we have proceeded to our next phase of design work, with 30% of designs underway. In the meantime, we have also been working with local contractors to home in on the facility’s intended user groups, surveying clients and community members to help us plan for their spatial and equipment needs. We have also created our final Pro Forma and Business Plan for the facility, including a roadmap of our funding, staffing and operations plan, marketing and launch plans, and target market. This planning work has resulted in a clear-eyed view of what it will take to operate the facility long-term, and ensuring any associated costs are built into our capital fundraising plan. We expect with construction beginning in 2025 that the facility will be completed and launch its operations in 2026. We anticipate that in the first two years of operations, the facility will serve 60 food-based businesses, the majority of whom are intended to be low-income and BIPOC entrepreneurs.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Anchorage Community Land Trust	Set up Shop Program	\$390,000	Assistance to Small Businesses

Project Overview

Our Set Up Shop programming is designed to confront systemic economic injustice by breaking down barriers to entrepreneurship for communities that have small business vision but are underrepresented in the business community. Set Up Shop consists of four program elements - training, technical assistance, lending, and real estate services which work together to catalyze concentrated small business and entrepreneur success that rebuilds neighborhood economies from within. While Set Up Shop is open to the entire Anchorage municipality, we do target Anchorage’s neighborhoods that have been historically disinvested in order to reach those who have the most to gain through our programming. Our target neighborhoods are Mountain View, Fairview, Muldoon, Spenard and Downtown. Our goal is to assist in the creation of flourishing commercial corridors in these neighborhoods by supporting locally run businesses that both create opportunities to build generational wealth for their owners and build areas of town where folks are proud to live and do business. ACLT received \$390,000 in ARPA funding to support two years of staffing costs for three full-time staff members to manage outreach and technical assistance services through our Set Up Shop programming. These funds continue an initial investment in ACLT staffing through MOA ARPA and support ACLT in continuing to serve the huge caseload that came to our doors during COVID. We continue to strive to ease the economic injustice in our communities, which was heightened by the pandemic, and create avenues to entrepreneurial and financial success for those who face the largest barriers.

Project Use of Evidence

The evidence base that Anchorage’s historically disinvested communities need the concentrated business support of our Set Up Shop programming comes largely from the marked disparities in business ownership that exist in Alaska along gender and racial lines. In 2020, a report by the University of Alaska Anchorage Center for Economic Development found that in Alaska:

- Alaska Native individuals represent 19% of the population but only 3% of businesses owners.
- African American individuals represented 5% of the population but only 1% of business owners
- Pacific Islander individuals represent 2% of the population but only 0.2% of business owners
- White individuals represented 66% of the population but 89% percent of business owners.

These numbers show us that Alaska needs services that prioritize business owners of color, low income business owners, and women business owners. Studies show that pre-existing resources are geographically hard to access, too expensive, intimidating to utilize, and don't provide the structure, accountability, or sense of community entrepreneurs in these communities want. Set Up Shop is designed to overcome all of these barriers specifically for those least represented in Alaska’s business community, for which Anchorage is the economic hub.

Our approach ensures that entrepreneurs from low-income and minority communities cannot just stay afloat, but achieve financial success and self-sufficiency, including homeownership and other rungs in the financial ladder. In turn, these entrepreneurs fill commercial spaces in the heart of these neighborhoods, activating the commercial corridor and building wealth and opportunity for the entire neighborhood.

Key Performance Indicator

The KPI output measures of our Set Up Shop programming during the reporting period include graduating 135 entrepreneurs from our business training and administering 1,673 hours of technical assistance to 185 entrepreneurs.

Part of our goal for our Set Up Shop programming is to provide our services to communities in Anchorage that need it most. Outcome measures of these targeting efforts include that of all the entrepreneurs we served in the reporting period, 70% were BIPOC, 80% were women, and 90% had HUD classifications at or below low income. 75 Indigenous entrepreneurs graduated from our Indigenous People’s Set Up Shop cohorts, which we’d like to highlight, since one of the starkest statistics we reported in our EBI’s is the underrepresentation of Alaska Native small business owners in our state.

The other important aspect of our goals for our Set Up Shop programming is that it leads to our entrepreneurs taking next steps in their businesses. Over this reporting period, entrepreneurs participating in our programs took out 8 small business loans through our lending partner, Cook Inlet Lending Center, for a total of \$241,405 lent. Access to capital is an important part of breaking down barriers to entrepreneurship for communities that have historically been left out of traditional resources, and it is a distinct goal of our programming to prepare our entrepreneurs for, and connect them with, lending opportunities for their businesses. In addition, we assisted with 17 small business launches into bricks-and-mortar spaces in Anchorage.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Anchorage Downtown Partnership	Anchorage Downtown Partnership Placemaking	\$50,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

The Anchorage Downtown Partnership (ADP) since its founding has been charged with marketing downtown and providing a clean, safe, and vitally active downtown. ADP provides free placemaking events that activate the city's parks and draw business to local downtown businesses. The COVID-19 pandemic and the rise of unsheltered homelessness, rising office and retail space vacancy, and the resulting reduced pedestrian traffic have challenged downtown. ADP has therefore focused resources on growing placemaking efforts, to help increase pedestrian traffic and economic activity. ADP's placemaking helps downtown become a place that Anchorage residents and visitors can return to and enjoy the city post-pandemic.

Project Use of Evidence

Initially, the events had their issues with disturbances from downtown's houseless neighbors, but as the events progressed ADP was able to navigate and come up with dignity-forward solutions to keep the events safe and welcoming to all. The events assisted in creating a safer and higher-quality place-based experience for community members, which ensures that Anchorage residents will continue to see downtown as safe and welcoming.

Key Performance Indicator

The Anchorage Downtown Partnership (ADP) hosts more than 80 free community events each year. In 2023, these events brought approximately 65,000 people downtown. ADP provides clean and safe programs which make these events possible, by cleaning these public spaces and having trained staff present to make sure all those attending feel safe. ADP's free events, which are held in downtown parks and on downtown streets, are a significant economic driver for downtown, and help support downtown small businesses. Anchorage's downtown, especially its commercial core, has been in decline since around 2015, due to a statewide recession. Furthermore, downtown Anchorage has a median household income of \$61,089, which is significantly lower than the overall median household income of Anchorage of \$88,871. ADP's maintenance and stewardship of downtown's public spaces improve the safety, accessibility, and quality of life of Anchorage's downtown.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Anchorage Downtown Partnership	Anchorage Downtown Partnership Equipment Upgrades	\$300,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

The ARPA funding has allowed Anchorage Downtown Partnership to fund equipment upgrades that were not able to be funded due to decrease in revenues due to COVID. These funds were also utilized to expand ADP efforts to provide a safe and clean downtown area for the community. Most of the funding has been allocated to purchasing new equipment.

Project Use of Evidence

ADP's supplemental cleanliness and safety services, in addition to frequent activations of community spaces, help create a safe, welcoming, and comfortable atmosphere for the public in Anchorage's urban core. This project supported ADP's work in responding to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in downtown Anchorage, through purchases of essential equipment and supplies, as well as wages for employees carrying out these interventions.

Key Performance Indicator

The Anchorage Downtown Partnership (ADP) hosts more than 80 free community events each year. In 2023, these events brought approximately 65,000 people downtown. ADP provides clean and safe programs which make these events possible, by cleaning these public spaces and having trained staff present to make sure all those attending feel safe. ADP’s free events, which are held in downtown parks and on downtown streets, are a significant economic driver for downtown, and help support downtown small businesses. Anchorage’s downtown, especially its commercial core, has been in decline since around 2015, due to a statewide recession. Furthermore, downtown Anchorage has a median household income of \$61,089, which is significantly lower than the overall median household income of Anchorage of \$88,871. ADP’s maintenance and stewardship of downtown’s public spaces improve the safety, accessibility, and quality of life of Anchorage’s downtown.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Anchorage Economic Development Corporation	AEDC – Roadmap to a Vital Safe Anchorage	\$150,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

The goal was to tackle one of the biggest challenges brought on by COVID-19 as identified by civic and business leaders plus by hundreds of community stakeholders: the closing of businesses and lack of investment in housing and commercial activities in downtown Anchorage. Funds were used to implement actions using proven practices from other U.S. cities including removing barriers to investment, changing public policy to allow for infill and modernizing development standards by updating legislation and partnering with NGO’s and government entities to leverage federal dollars. By 2022, around 300 people were involved in group including students, business owners, non-profit & civic leaders, municipal employees and all layers of government.

We leveraged the ARPA investment by applying for and receiving a large award from the American Institute of Architects design assistance team who sent a team to Anchorage to review existing plans, hold virtual public workshops and surveys and create report of recommendations in the best public interest. Within those recommendations, downtown housing was identified as a catalyst for workers to relocate so investors would establish more mixed income housing, grocery & pharmacy access plus re-open and add café’s, coffee shops and businesses. Action items focused on making streets safer for pedestrians so they can move downtown, reconnect downtown to itself, remove fast traffic from downtown, connect Fairview and East Downtown, build better tourism infrastructure including restrooms, install Wayfinding and pedestrian signage, better connect downtown to local trails, highlighting Anchorage as an Indigenous place while simultaneously rebuilding the local workforce.

Project Use of Evidence

The Municipality, business, and economic sectors participated. Participation was diverse, inclusive, and represented the entire community of Anchorage. The plan spanned all changes in leadership within the Municipality. About 40 old economic + development plans for Anchorage spanning 20 years were reviewed by professionals from the AIA Design Assistance team to highlight past goals that were never implemented. An action plan was designed using these community goals.

The plan was focused on implementation and action. The plan includes both short- and long-term actions contributing to economic sustainability during and after the Pandemic.

The plan leveraged lessons learned from communities worldwide and adapted the best practices to benefit our community.

Through monthly work sessions and updates with members of RVSA, facilitators were able to host and record conversations on aspects of each action item thus far to inform participants of progress, highlight questions and challenges arising and get feedback on progress. Four main categories identified were: Three Year Vision, Critical Blocks and Barriers, Strategic Actions and Focused Implementation. Facilitators of small group sessions used proven tools to investigate public opinion to create the agreed upon list of actions:

- Activating the Voice of Economic Development
- Developing Focused Implementation
- Catalyzing Investment
- Leveraging Expertise
- Propelling Funding
- Energizing Civic Engagement

Polls and surveys utilizing industry standards provided top lines and cross tabs that were analyzed. Topics included downtown development and historic preservation, community interest in sales taxes funding and workforce development needs.

Work sessions were held with the Anchorage Assembly, elected officials, and mayor's office.

Key Performance Indicator

RVSA involves over 250 individuals representing dozens of organizations. RVSA leadership group from Anchorage Chamber of Commerce, Anchorage Economic Development Corporation, Visit Anchorage, Anchorage Downtown Partnership and the Alaska Hospitality Retail Association plus others appointed by Project Anchorage group met and incorporated action items from RVSA work into the short list of items accepted by the municipality as priorities.

We coordinated with local government and by making public comments on state and federal road projects and wrote letters and provided testimony to the Anchorage Assembly as well as AMATS. RVSA participated in workshops facilitated by the municipal planning department and supported several ordinances and updates to Anchorage Municipal Code.

While there was no investment happening downtown during 2020 and little before the pandemic, there are currently both public and private entities building rental units, condominiums, retail, mixed use totaling hundreds of millions of dollars. Plans for a grocery store and amenities to support downtown dwellers and workers is underway.

Several articles have been published in the Anchorage Daily News highlighting the economic development as well as TV news stories. A tour of new and emerging businesses was conducted on May 30th. A meeting was held with State Senator Loki Tobin who represents downtown. Assembly docs were drafted to encourage action on 5th & 6th Avenues. Bond language addressing wayfinding was drafted by an Assembly member and approved by the Anchorage assembly with support from RVSA and research leading up to the drafting. A presentation on downtown redevelopment was made at the August 2023 Visit Anchorage luncheon. International chains plus local businesses are investing downtown, and bankers and investors have toured downtown. RVSA held a final gathering on August 29, 2023 and agreed to meet and work on a volunteer basis for the future.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Anchorage Library Foundation	Alaska Room Project	\$50,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

The Alaska Room represents more than an updated space to house the Alaska Collection that is free from water damage; it will be a welcoming learning and gathering space that acknowledges the diversity of cultures that make up Alaska’s largest city. A record of our past as well as a bridge to our future, the Alaska Room will bring us together in a public space to celebrate our cultures, learn about our shared history, exchange ideas and backgrounds, and engage in civic dialog and action. The project includes building a new Alaska Room and restoring the adjacent meeting areas of the Ann Stevens Room and Galleria, which are used for author talks, book discussions, community dialogs, and art exhibits. The goal of the project is to bring Alaska and Anchorage history to life, make it relevant to community members of all ages and backgrounds, and use collaborative learning and exploration to develop solutions to today’s issues. The Alaska Room will contain resources and tools for serious researchers, while also being accessible and welcoming to everyday Alaskans who might not consider themselves scholars. It is vitally important for people of all backgrounds to see themselves reflected in the Alaska Room, to know that Alaska’s and Anchorage’s history are not someone else’s past, but their own past, as well as foundations of their present and future.

Project Use of Evidence

The Anchorage Public Library and the Anchorage Library Foundation believe that having a space within the library that shows Alaska and its history and people is important. This funding will help allow APL and ALF to achieve that dream. The new Alaska Room will showcase the Alaska Collection as well as represent the people of Alaska in an interactive and engaging way.

Key Performance Indicator

APL and ALF will show that our goals for the Alaska Room are being met through circulation records of the Alaska Collection. By ensuring the part of the Alaska Collection that can be circulated is centric to the design of the space, we can highlight Alaskan authors so more people have access to the collection. We will also offer appointments to view/research the reference part of the Alaska Collection that cannot be circulated outside of the library. These measures will allow the Alaska Room to be innovative, engaging, and educational.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Anchorage Park Foundation	Developing a National Heritage Area for the Tikahtnu -Cook Inlet Region	\$125,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

Conduct a feasibility study to create Alaska’s second National Heritage Area (NHA). National Heritage Areas provide federal financial support for community-generated projects to enhance historic, scenic, outdoor recreation and cultural tourism opportunities. Celebrating the land, resources, people, and history of Tikahtnu-Cook Inlet will improve our quality of life and stimulate economic revitalization. Funding will be used to define the scope, boundaries, and local stories of national importance to qualify for Congressional designation

Project Use of Evidence

Anchorage’s lack of a strong identity and vibrant Downtown and neglecting to invest in the infrastructure needed for growth. An independent 2012 study found that NHAs annual economic impact in the U.S. is \$12.9 billion, significantly exceeding the amount of federal funding provided by as much as 5:1. The economic impact is comprised of three areas: tourism, operational expenditures, and grant making activities. Most of the impact (99%) is generated by tourism spending. Our NHA could invest in Indigenous Identity projects, trail and outdoor recreation infrastructure, and storytelling for interpretation and education, all items identified by the business community as key to Anchorage’s economic growth and to enhance the visitor experience in an increasingly globalized world.

Key Performance Indicator

The Tikahtnu-Cook Inlet NHA Feasibility Study funding will be used to define the scope, boundaries, and local stories of national importance that need to be told. Once defined, a Tikahtnu-Cook Inlet NHA would be Congressionally established and locally managed, bringing national recognition and federal funding for projects. Currently a pre-feasibility study is complete which identifies and synthesizes view of key stakeholders and outlines next steps.

Name	Project	Amount	
Anchorage Ski Club	Arctic Valley Public Use Cabins	\$90,000	Aid to N

Project Overview

Build two new public use cabins at Arctic Valley Ski Area

Project Use of Evidence

Increasing opportunities for outdoor recreation leads to healthier lifestyles and improves quality of life for local residents.

Key Performance Indicator

Output measures - how many residents book nights at the cabins (overall percentage of available nights booked).

Outcome measures - increased usage of Arctic Valley as an outdoor recreation site

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Arctic Heat Softball	Eagle River/Chugiak Youth Softball	\$250,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

Arctic Heat Softball's project is, in collaboration with ER Parks and Recreation, is to continue to improve the grounds at Loretta French Ball field to include the purchase and install of scoreboards, purchase and install of batting cages for the female youth, purchase and utilize field preparation equipment, purchase and installation of dugout screens, softball equipment, safety nets, sound system, backstop padding, batting cage netting, pitching mound and home base covers. Use funds to off-set tournament fees, showcase costs, tournament prizes, bats, and gloves to provide an opportunity for all players regardless of socioeconomic status or means the ability to participate in hosted tournaments and events to include

the Great Alaska Showcase, Pitch Run Catch and Protect the Game. Purchase equipment to expand our work with Special Olympics Alaska hosted softball clinics for the Shriver Camp attendees, our work with Protect the Game which equips and trains veterans and their families to be umpires at no cost to them.

Project Use of Evidence

Structure objectives include the purchase and installation of four (4) scoreboards at LF, purchase, construction and installation of batting cage and field improvements.

Key Performance Indicator

Approach is to search for the best investment for capital investments and ensure pro-social activities. KPIs include increased use of facilities.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Anchorage Youth Court	Youth Court Program Funding	\$50,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

The goal of this project was to provide funding to Anchorage Youth Court's general operating and program. Anchorage Youth Court's goal is that these funds will increase the number of youths who engage with our program and develop valuable skills for their future.

Project Use of Evidence

Anchorage Youth Court provides a quality diversionary and after school program to the Anchorage community with funding from the MOA ARPA grant. Our community challenge is youth engagement and the evidence we have to intervene and provide help for this challenge is data collected through surveys in April 2024, indicating that youth believe that what we do in AYC is important and that their work in the program will help them succeed in life.

Key Performance Indicator

Output measures:

Number of members registered as of 6/2024: 273

Number of sentencing hearings held in 2024 as of 6/2023: 57

Number of hours served by members in 2024 as of 6/2024: 2,531

Outcome measures:

Percentage of members who participated in AYC activities as of 6/2024: 35%

Percentage of defendants/students who successfully completed AYC program in 2024 as of 6/24: 87.2%

Percentage of surveyed members who report "participating in youth court enables me to develop new skills": 81.8% Strong Agree, 18.2% Agree

Percentage of surveyed members who report "I feel better prepared for my future": 81.8% Strong Agree, 18.2% Agree

Percentage of surveyed members who report "AYC's program allows me to engage in meaningful activities with my peers": 90.9% Strongly Agree, 9.1% Agree.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Camp Fire Alaska	Child Care and Summer Youth Development Programs	\$425,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

Camp Fire Alaska will provide a minimum of 200 school-age youth from Title I schools and families experiencing economic challenges and financial hardships with access to quality before and after school programs, as well as winter, spring, and summer break programs from Aug 2022 to Dec 2024. Funding will allow youth and families who are experiencing the greatest economic pressures related to the pandemic access to a variety of safe, nurturing, and enrichment learning opportunities via licensed child care, day and resident camping which will also include leadership development for older youth.

Project Use of Evidence

Camp Fire Alaska provides scholarship-based childcare services to the Anchorage Community with funding from the MOA ARPA grant. Our community problem/concern/challenge is the lack of affordable childcare, and the evidence we have to intervene and provide help/solution for this challenge was the data collected in February 2022 from a January 2021 Thread survey that polled two hundred sixty families. The survey results indicated that families struggled to safely return to the workplace and schools. Childcare programs were adversely affected due to the rising costs of Covid-19 mitigation. As a result, childcare programs were assisting families with food, clothing, supplies, reduced tuition, and community resources (<https://www.threadalaska.org/thread-blog/thread-conducts-second-survey-of-child-care-needs-during-covid-19-3/>).

Key Performance Indicator

Camp Fire asked two questions on the April 2023 United Way survey to identify if the program was meeting the family’s needs.

Question 1- Camp Fire created a level of consistency for my child and family- 97.8 percent of parents agreed, with seventy-four percent in the strongly agree percentage and over twenty-three percent agreeing.

Question two- Over the last year, do you feel Camp Fire programs have supported your ability to maintain consistency in your family’s schedules? 97 percent of parents agreed, forty-seven percent of parents strongly agree, and almost fifty-one percent agree.

Camp Fire’s long-term goal of reaching a minimum of 200 youth was attained during the summer season as more youth attend camps. We provided 207 youth with scholarships.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Child Care Connection, Inc dba thread	Stabilizing childcare for a thriving Anchorage now and in the future	\$8,165,000	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care

Project Overview

Stabilizing child care for a thriving Anchorage now and in the future. thread will issue financial payments to licensed child care programs to stabilize their business, recruit and retain early educators and provide affordable child care remains open and available. This will be done by creating an application to apply for funding support, providing technical assistance to programs, and distributing financial checks based on formula determined by number of applicants. A survey of recipients will be conducted to measure the intervention.

Project Use of Evidence

Program responses in the application and follow up survey, will be used by thread to measure the status of programs prior to receiving funding and after to inform the effectiveness of the intervention.

Key Performance Indicator

thread – 2nd Round of ARPA Grant – Funding out to child Care Programs

Overall (At the time of our grant application there were 223 licensed child care programs in the MOA. As of this week, there are 188.)

- 193 different programs were paid out across the two phases.
- 147 programs received both phases of funding
- Output: # of programs applied and awarded
- Outcome: Programs are more financially stable after the award

Phase 1 Funding

- 173 programs applied and were given funding
- Is the program financially stable post-pandemic?
 - 113 said “yes”
 - 60 said “no”

Phase 2 Funding

- 167 programs applied and were given funding
- Is the program financially stable post-pandemic?
 - 64 said “yes”
 - 103 said “no”

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Child Care Connection, Inc dba thread	Childcare Technical Assistance	\$100,000	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care

Project Overview

Provide technical assistance to individual child care programs on how to access aid or customized support for completing applications. Staff members will provide technical assistance to child care programs in Anchorage. Staff will work individually with programs and be a navigator of support to help child care providers access the federal, state and other relative relief and grant opportunities within the American Rescue Plan Act. Activities may include: individual calls/emails to all licensed Anchorage child care programs, assessment of program needs, individualized technical assistance to connect resources to program needs, links to available financial supports, technical assistance on how to fill out applications, tracking of MOA program trends in needs, applications, and receipt of funding. Individualized support to child care programs will allow more programs to successfully access funding and apply for applicable opportunities. As a result, more child care programs in Anchorage will receive relief funding to maintain operations and work toward sustainability.

Project Use of Evidence

thread is providing technical assistance to licensed child care providers in Anchorage with funding from the MOA ARPA grant Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, thread has received feedback from early

education programs that they are in need of financial assistance to remain open. At the same time, we have learned that many child care program business owners/operators did not apply for the financial assistance available or if they applied, were not successful in receiving funding. Several reported that they were unsure how to understand the funding available and eligibility. Additionally, we heard that owners/operators did not have the time or capacity to navigate the funding research and application process

Key Performance Indicator

thread – Technical Assistance (TA) Grant to provide TA to child care programs about funding opportunities and support to apply. At the time of our proposal there were 236 child care programs in the MOA.

Output: Make at least one contact with every licensed child care program in the MOA to make them aware of any available COVID-19 relief funds, discuss eligibility, provide support to fill out applications, and collect from programs data such as need of funding, funding received, and indicators of stability and sustainability.

- thread contacted at least once all 236 child care programs in the MOA.

Outcome: # of programs who received direct assistance filling out applications.

- 1749 of contacts with programs and/or early educators about funding opportunities/resources (not deduplicated)
- 290 programs and/or early educators received direct assistance filling out applications (not deduplicated)

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Eagle River Elks 2682	Veteran Rehome Project	\$120,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

To rehome veterans that have experienced a hardship due to Covid-19. Whether it is addiction, eviction, loss of a job or home our veterans should never be forgotten.

Project Use of Evidence

For many years preceding the award of the ARPA grant, the VA and Domiciliary would reach out to our nonprofit organization for assistance in providing veterans with household items to assist them in establishing a home. Our resources were very limited. We now have the ability to provide them with new beds, furniture and household items to assist them in becoming a productive member of society once again.

Key Performance Indicator

Prior to receiving the ARPA grant our nonprofit organization was able to rehome 1-3 veteran's a month. Now we are rehoming 10+ per month plus their families. It has made an enormous impact within our communities.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Eagle River Lions Club	Lions State Land Transfer	\$125,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

The transfer of ownership of the Eagle River Lions Park from the State of Alaska to the Eagle River Lions Foundation.

Project Use of Evidence

Through conversations and other input from community members it was made known to our club that keeping the Eagle River Lions park open and under the management of Eagle River Lions Club was a necessity.

Key Performance Indicator

Since transfer of ownership of the Eagle River Lions Park was completed over 10,000 men, women and children have utilized and enjoyed the Eagle River Lions Park and its facilities that are managed by the Eagle River Lions Club.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Chugach Mountain Bike Riders	Rebuilding, re-establishing, and expanding the Chugiak Eagle River Trail System	\$450,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

Rebuilding, re-establishing, and expanding the Chugiak-Eagle River Trail System by progressing with the Beach Lake Mater Plan, the Anchorage Areawide Trails Plan and other local trails plans with an emphasis on the Northern extension of the Coastal Trail.

Project Use of Evidence

The Chugiak-Eagle River trail system is highly disconnected, with pockets developed in regional parks, but with no connections between these park systems. As Chugiak-Eagle River grows in population, thousands of Anchorage residents use our trail system but are forced out onto busy streets where they are put in danger. Expanding and rebuilding our trail system will benefit homeowners, businesses, and support a healthy lifestyle for our community. Furthermore, while Chugiak-Eagle River has a wonderful winter trail system, many of these trails are not suitable for summer use. They fall on Muni property and need to be built up for year-round access. Funds will be used to repair and build up existing winter trails for summer use, improve trail connectivity, and begin developing the Northern Extension of the Coastal Trail, which is a multi-use trail, able to be groomed in the winter, that will eventually connect Eagle River to Eklutna.

Key Performance Indicator

1. miles of trail with progress through the planning and permitting process: 0.75
2. miles of existing trails improved: 8.5
3. miles of new trail built: 0.5

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
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Conquer COVID Coalition	Stay Healthy, Anchorage- new messaging to include COVID mitigation as part of overall good health.	\$250,000	Public Health
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Project Overview

a. The primary goal of the Conquer COVID Coalition is to normalize behaviors that mitigate the spread of COVID-19 among residents and visitors of Anchorage, AK. Given the end of the Public Health Emergency Declaration on May 11, 2023, by creating a culture of prevention and fostering widespread adoption of evidence-based practices, CCC aims to promote COVID mitigation as a part of overall good health and wellness and keeping businesses open. In support of our primary goal, we have identified several secondary goals: i. Increasing public awareness: Our coalition will develop detailed public outreach and advertising campaigns to educate residents about transmission risks of COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses, preventive measures, and the importance of vaccinations. ii. Promoting behavioral change: We will implement targeted interventions to encourage the continued performance of behaviors such as mask-wearing in appropriate settings, hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette (such as coughing or sneezing into elbows or tissues), and vaccination among individuals of all ages and backgrounds. iii. Building community resilience: We will collaborate with local organizations to provide resources and support systems that empower residents to navigate the challenges posed by COVID-19 effectively. These resources will include behavioral prompts and reminders, and access to free COVID tests and other important PPE.

Project Use of Evidence

- a. Conquer COVID Coalition will utilize the following evidence-based interventions:
- i. Social and digital campaigns – design and disseminate evidence-based messaging through social media platforms and digital advertising to reach a wide audience and influence behavior change.
 - ii. Community engagement, education – interview key public figures, making the interviews available online in English and other languages commonly spoken in the Anchorage area, to engage community members and provide accurate information about continued COVID prevention, dispel myths, and address concerns.
 - iii. Social norming – emphasize the prevalence of desired behaviors within the community by highlighting positive role models, testimonials from community members that adopted and benefited from mitigation practices.
 - iv. Targeted outreach, tailored messaging – develop targeted communication materials to address specific barriers and motivations within different segments of the community. Customizing messages based on age, cultural background, and language preferences can enhance effectiveness and foster a sense of community ownership. We will collaborate with community leaders, healthcare providers, faith-based organizations, and local businesses to reach target populations, tailoring our interventions to address their unique needs and challenges.
 - v. Behavioral prompts, reminders – prompts to encourage individuals to engage in desired behaviors, including hand hygiene, vaccination availability, and masking.
- b. The evidence base informing our interventions is derived from peer-reviewed research, reputable health organizations such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), and other scientific literature. We also rely on guidance from local public health authorities and data-driven insights from previous successful interventions.

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Organization (WHO), and other scientific literature. We also rely on guidance from local public health authorities and data-driven insights from previous successful interventions.

Key Performance Indicator

- a. To measure the success of our interventions, Conquer COVID Coalition employs a range of key performance indicators:
 - i. Output measures: number of educational media campaigns conducted, number of individuals reached through our campaigns, number of informational materials distributed across the community, number of free COVID-19 tests and other PPE distributed, and the number of collaborations established with community organizations, healthcare providers, and other public figures to amplify the campaign’s reach and impact.
 - ii. Outcome measures: We track metrics such as changes in knowledge, attitudes, and behavior related to COVID prevention and mitigation among the target population. This includes vaccination rates and healthcare visits, indicating successful mitigation efforts; monitoring attitudes towards mask-wearing and other mitigation behaviors; and monitoring engagement with educational COVID-19 mitigation information on our online platforms.
 - iii. These metrics are measured via the use of self-reporting and other observational data, tracking healthcare facility and vaccination data provided by state-wide healthcare authorities, surveys, and website and media performance analytics. By consistently monitoring these KPIs, we can evaluate the effectiveness of our interventions, make data-driven adjustments as necessary, and ensure we are making progress towards our primary goal of normalizing behaviors that mitigate the spread of COVID in Anchorage, AK.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Cook Inlet Archers	Purchase of a portable building that will serve as an assembly hall/classroom	\$75,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

The new Assembly Hall/Classroom provides a central protected location for the Eagle River/Chugiak community via Cook Inlet Archers to host Archery related classes and a venue to prepare for monthly 3D shoots from October to May each year. Classes will be in support of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Bowhunter Education Program.

Project Use of Evidence

Participation in the monthly 3D shoots since January of this year (Building Operational in Jan 2023) has increased 250% and memberships have increased over 200%.

Key Performance Indicator

Volunteerism, as a result of increased memberships, for setups and teardowns each month have improved exponentially. This resulted in increased monthly 3D shoot excitement and overall quality of the tournament experience.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Cook Inlet Housing Authority	COMBINED Ch'bala Corners Phase 2- fill funding gap for second phase for 38 units of affordable rental family housing.	\$4,500,000	Assistance to Households

Project Overview

Using Ch'bala Corners Phase 2 for 38 units of affordable rental family housing & Mountain View Brewsters for at least 21 units of affordable housing.

Project Use of Evidence

There is a lack of affordable housing in the Municipality of Anchorage. These projects support the MOA's "Housing and Supports" pillar of the 2018 Anchored Home plan by expanding housing capacity as well as the Assembly's 2022 priority to invest in affordable housing, including infrastructure.

Key Performance Indicator

Key Performance indicators will be the number of new housing units constructed and positive impact to the local community.

CC2: (1) 38 new rental housing units built.
Brewsters: (1) 21 new rental housing units built.

- (1) help relieve pressure on Anchorage's stressed housing system.
- (2) support of local commercial businesses with new prospective clients.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Covenant House Alaska	Covenant House Alaska Vocational Training + Stable Housing	\$2,375,000	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Project Overview

Covenant House Alaska’s vocational training and stable housing programs/resources serve our community’s most vulnerable population of young people at-risk or experiencing homelessness and trafficking. These programs connect them to training and resources to ensure our clients have a pathway to employment which also leads to them attaining affordable housing.

Project Use of Evidence

Homelessness is a major public health challenge, and one of the most critical disruptors to the experience of homelessness is preventing youth from becoming part of the “Adult Chronic” population. To do so depends on achieving stable, long-term exits for youth. The most common intervention for youth homelessness is congregate emergency shelter, and while important, at Covenant House Alaska (CHA), less than half exit from emergency shelter into a stable environment, let alone for long-term. Additionally, once exited, emergency shelter clients will often cycle back, sometimes taking years to achieve stability, if ever. Alternatively, CHA Transitional Living Programs (TLPs) provide more individualized support (due to a smaller population), offer longer term stays in single, dorm-style units, and provide a more independent environment. We see clients exiting from TLPs to stable placements at a rate a little over 70%, rarely returning to services after exit. Evidenced in this difference is the increased success youth experience in outcome when given a more supportive, individual housing intervention that allow youth to better take advantage of education and employment opportunities. Covey Academy and Covey Lofts seek to offer an even more robust image of this than the TLPs, explicitly

connecting the youths’ stay to education and career/vocational opportunities and offering even more support alongside independence. Based on the current comparison of emergency shelter to TLPs, CHA fully expects this higher level of service to result in better, longer-term outcomes for these youth.

Key Performance Indicator

Output: Housing 60+ youth per year in the 41 rooms available at Covey Academy and Covey Lofts
 Outcome: Nearly 80% of those youth housed at Covey Academy and Covey Lofts will have a stable exit. This is greater than basic housing provided in shelter and even better than the support provided in a Transitional Living Program (TLP).

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Enlaces Alaska	Community Based Needs Assessment and Connecting Schools to the Community	\$160,000	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Project Overview

Needs Assessment to the Latino community

Project Use of Evidence

Survey and focus groups made by a professional agency not related to Enlaces.

Key Performance Indicator

About 450 Latinos living in Alaska took the survey, both by phone and online. From this number 2 focus groups of 7 and 8 individuals were gathered to talk in depth about the main results and concerns from the survey’s results. One group was in English, and the other one was in Spanish. The results of both the survey and the focus groups gave Enlaces measurable outcomes to start working and addressing the main concerns of the community.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Friends of Fish Creek	Fish Creek Green Infrastructure Investment Project: Feasibility Assessment Phase	\$500,000	Infrastructure

Project Overview

The project's goal is to complete a watershed-level feasibility assessment and cost-analysis of daylighting Fish Creek as the surface waterway of a green infrastructural corridor with its associated community amenities, like an east-west trail, parks, and open space.

Project Use of Evidence

Management of stormwater in urbanizing watersheds has heavily relied on static, engineered conveyance systems during the last century. Population migration to urban centers, climate change and infrastructural capital investment and maintenance costs point to the need to develop a more resilient, dynamic, "green" infrastructural system as a sustainable solution in all urban watersheds, including Anchorage, as evidenced in other jurisdictions in America and the world. The connection between sustainable, green infrastructure and economic and environmental health of a community is evident with the growing number of completed projects that changed the paradigm from conventional conveyance to holistic stormwater management as evidenced in widely accessible datasets

including the ones found at the link <https://www.asla.org/waterandstormwater.aspx>
The grant funding contributes to the implementation of such management for the Fish Creek watershed.

Key Performance Indicator

Key performance indicator for output measures for the project will be the impact of the initial dataset provided by the completed feasibility study on residents and decision makers. The information will reach residents in the Fish Creek watershed and in the wider Anchorage area to inform and educate and to foster collaborations among governmental, non-governmental and private constituencies. The outcome measure will be the follow-up projects that will focus on planning, funding and implementing the original goal of the project leveraging the federal funding of the infrastructural investment act and other resources.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Gamers Sports Travel	Mountain View Field House	\$350,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

We are working to build a community center in the Mountain View Neighborhood of Anchorage Alaska. The community center will be located across the street from Mountain View Lions Park and the community center will facilitate year round, recreational sports activity for Mountain View residence against our eight months of winter.

Project Use of Evidence

Physical activity can have much evidence-based benefits, including:

Mental health

Physical activity can improve mood, reduce stress and anxiety, and increase feelings of control. It can also help with depression, with Public Health England reporting that adults who are physically active regularly may have a 20–30% lower risk of depression. Physical activity releases endorphins and serotonin, which can interact with the brain to help with these benefits.

Sports can have many benefits, including physical, mental, social, and academic benefits:

Physical health

Sports can help people reach fitness goals, maintain a healthy weight, and increase strength and mobility. They can also improve cardiovascular health and reduce the risk of developing chronic conditions like heart disease, cancer, and diabetes.

As people age and look for ways to maintain their health and independence, evidence-based physical activity programs become increasingly valuable. These programs are developed based on sound scientific research and are designed to improve strength, balance, flexibility, and cardiovascular health

Key Performance Indicator

We wish to support at least 200 Mountain View residence through sports and fitness programs.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Girdwood Inc.	Girdwood Workforce Childcare Project	\$1,600,000	Assistance to Households

Project Overview

Girdwood Inc. & Little Bears Playhouse are seeking grant funding to address the local workforce and childcare crisis by building a new childcare and learning facility. The current childcare building was built by volunteers in the 1960s, has structural issues and is not meeting the local childcare demand. The small capacity is limiting to Girdwood's success, as the workforce cannot go to work without adequate childcare. The project seeks to increase capacity to meet our community's needs and support Girdwood's workforce in an overdue and meaningful way.

Project Use of Evidence

Access to childcare has been limited in Girdwood. This is due to several factors. One, the only full-time licensed childcare facility (in Girdwood) is operating out of a building built in the 1960s by volunteers. The capacity has been limited due to lack of adequate facility space. Additionally, the lack of commercial land zoned for childcare has been an issue, as well as high infrastructure costs for undeveloped parcels. There is currently no commercial land for sale on the Multiple Listing Service, nor has a commercial lot sold in Girdwood within the last 12 months. This evidence-based statistic is an example of the land scarcity to meet this community need.

The community has already demonstrated their support for building a new childcare facility on several occasions. Locating a new site for Little Bears Playhouse was included in the 2014 Girdwood South Townsite Master Plan as a priority goal. This is evidence that the need for safe and affordable childcare is well known and has been highlighted in community planning efforts.

The demand for more childcare is evidenced by Little Bears Playhouse having a waitlist continuously for many years. The current wait list is nearly equal to current enrollment. A community needs assessment was conducted by surveying local parents to better understand capacity demand.

Structural issues were identified in 2011 when municipal engineers/contractors surveyed the building. Frequent roof shovelings are required to continue operations.

Parents cannot simply choose another facility, as Little Bears is the only full-time licensed facility in Girdwood.

Key Performance Indicator

The primary key performance indicator for the project is completion of the new childcare facility. This will take time and include a series of smaller indicator goals/steps to arrive at the final product.

1.) Securing site control

Prior to significant planning and design labor and expenses, securing the site via a ground lease (for expected life of the building+) or fee simple land ownership.

2.) Design and Planning to 100%

After site control agreements are in place, design, planning and engineering will occur with professionals until 100% plans have been completed, as well as all entitlements, and building plans are approved.

3.) Project Fully Funded

Success of the project will rely on meeting the required match and the ability to fundraise the entire cost of the expected budget.

4.) Break Ground & Site Prep

Clearing land of trees, organics removed, gravel placed, utility connections, foundation installed.

5.) Exterior Shell to Drywall Completed

Framing, walls, siding, windows, roof, insulation, plumbing, electrical, etc.

6.) Drywall to Finish

Interior finishes installed (flooring, fixtures, cabinetry, cubbies, etc.)

7.) Outdoor Play Area

A minimum of 75 square feet per child of outdoor play area created for the facility.

8.) Certificate of Occupancy

Obtain approval from Municipal Building Department, etc.

9.) Childcare Licensing Approval

Include childcare licensing through design, ensuring a positive site inspection and approval by the regulating body.

10.) Open New Facility

The final indicator is opening the new facility and Little Bears Playhouse beginning operations at the new location.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Girdwood Inc.	Girdwood Area Plan	\$140,000	Assistance to Households

Project Overview

Imagine!Girdwood (!!G) is the Assembly recognized volunteer entity that is working to review and rewrite the 1995 Girdwood Area Plan. Beginning in Fall 2017, the plan is near completion with a supportive Planning Department staff and motivated committee. Community outreach, Vision/Goals/Policies, a Land Suitability Study, and Existing Conditions report are completed. This plan impacts our economic and workforce development through strategic planning in housing, industrial, and park zoning. This plan can help guide better housing options and business opportunities for Girdwood’s workforce. The Girdwood Area Plan will aid the people that need it most, the workforce. The hospitality and recreation industry has lower wages and housing is expensive. Long term rentals are converted to short term as it is a destination community. Businesses are hunting for places to set up shop. The Land Use Map and rezoning may help enable these changes and alleviate some issues. The Planning Dept is assisting now, as they are interested in seeing the product completed. As one of the agencies to review it, !!G is poised to work through the process in a timely manner. Work should be completed and submitted for review within a year. Review can take up to a year. !!G encourages the public to participate in all meetings and events. Regular meetings have 6-15 attendees and major events see more. COVID19 has poked holes in our workforce capacity. Businesses close or reduce services and hours due to lack of help. This affects the whole community and economic development.

Project Use of Evidence

The objective of the project is to create a robust and resilient community that is less dependent on a single employer and industry, is more equitable to people across all economic ranges, is able to support working families and has a stable and accessible housing supply for those who live and work in the community. The new Comprehensive Plan will promote policies in economic development, taxation and tax incentives, land use, transportation and local supportive services such as childcare. The funding is primarily going toward contracting a planning company who provided community outreach through town hall meetings, focus groups, and surveys. They are also doing research on the make up of the community and what it would be able to sustain in growth if that’s what the community wants.

Key Performance Indicator

KPI Output measures: the number of people affected by the area plan including fulltime home owners, second home owners, renters, business owners, rental unit owners, and government entities.

Outcome measures: development is guided in this small community based on the community input about how they want their community to be.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Henning, Inc.	2022 Henning, Inc. Transitional Housing Supportive Services Program for clients at Aviator Hotel	\$400,000	Assistance to Households

Project Overview

The goal of the project was to provide support and transitional housing for people experiencing homelessness. Using part of a hotel converted into units, 80 people who were unsheltered and experienced chronic homelessness and challenges related to it, were able to immediately be housed. The residents are supported by experienced team members who provide tenancy support. Proudly, 16 residents have transitioned to permanent, independent housing. 64 remain and have maintained their tenancy throughout this grant.

Project Use of Evidence

Using the evidence-based practice of housing first, we housed individuals who were experiencing homelessness and who had serious mental illnesses and co-occurring substance use disorders. The Housing First model takes a person-based approach in supporting client’s needs and encourages clients to create and implement their own goals while immediately housing clients with no preconditions (except for compliance with their lease agreement). As a result of using this model, Henning was able to immediately house and support 80 individuals who might otherwise continue to experience unsheltered homelessness.

Key Performance Indicator

We measure these key performance indicators: number served, number of subsequent returns to homelessness, number of people who move to independent housing, number of people who increase their income. After we identified our performance indicators, we set performance targets. Our target was 80% of residents stay in housing for at least six months. * Will be measured again at 12 months. * 80% of residents who have been residing in the program transition into independent or permanent supportive housing and NOT return to homelessness. 60% of residents who have been residing in the program for six months and one year or more have increased their income and 60% of residents who enter the program with income and/or employment have maintained it.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Identity, Inc. match	Identity Health Clinic Expansion	\$300,000	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Project Overview

Clinic expansion and support of clinic operations

Project Use of Evidence

Identity was funded on 5/30/23 and we have yet to begin utilizing this funding for its intended purpose.

Key Performance Indicator

Currently, Identity has 750 active patients as of 6/30/23 with our Primary Care Providers booked 4-6 weeks out for services.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Juanita Strong Forever Project	Juanita’s House Transitional Living Project	\$50,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

Goals of the Juanita Strong Non-Profit for At-Risk Youth The primary goal of the Juanita Strong Non-Profit is to empower at-risk youth by providing comprehensive support that fosters academic success, personal growth, and community engagement. This goal is pursued through the following specific objectives: Academic Achievement: To improve educational outcomes for at-risk youth by offering tutoring, literacy programs, and homework assistance, ensuring students perform at or above grade level in key subjects.

Social and Emotional Development: To promote the emotional well-being and social skills of participants through counseling, mentorship, and life skills workshops, helping them build resilience and positive self-esteem.

Safe and Supportive Environment: To create a safe and nurturing environment where at-risk youth can engage in structured, enriching activities that deter negative influences and behaviors.

Parental and Community Involvement: To foster strong support networks by engaging parents, guardians, and community members in the youth’s development, providing resources and opportunities for family and community participation.

Life Skills and Career Readiness: To prepare students for future success by teaching essential life skills such as financial literacy, job readiness, and healthy lifestyle choices, ensuring they are equipped to make informed decisions and pursue meaningful careers. Health and Wellness: To support the physical health of youth through access to nutritious meals, health education, and physical activities, promoting overall well-being. By achieving these goals, the Juanita Strong Non-Profit aims to break the cycle of disadvantage for at-risk youth, equipping them with the tools and support needed to lead successful, fulfilling lives.

Project Use of Evidence

The interventions funded by the Juanita Strong Forever Non-Profit are grounded in evidence-based practices proven to support at-risk youth effectively. These interventions draw on robust research and best practices in education, psychology, and community engagement to ensure meaningful and lasting impact.

Academic Support Programs: Research indicates that targeted tutoring and literacy programs significantly improve academic outcomes for at-risk students. Studies show that one-on-one and small group tutoring can lead to substantial gains in reading and math proficiency, helping students achieve grade-level performance (Slavin et al., 2011).

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL): SEL programs are supported by extensive research demonstrating their effectiveness in enhancing students’ social skills, emotional regulation, and academic performance. Meta-analyses have found that SEL interventions improve students’ attitudes, behaviors, and emotional well-being, reducing conduct problems and emotional distress (Durlak et al., 2011).

Mentorship and Counseling: Evidence shows that mentoring relationships can significantly impact youth development, improving academic performance, self-esteem, and resilience. Structured mentoring programs have been found to reduce the likelihood of risky behaviors and increase positive youth outcomes (DuBois et al., 2011).

Parental and Community Engagement: Engaging families and communities in educational and

developmental initiatives is crucial for the success of at-risk youth. Research supports that family involvement in education correlates with higher student achievement, better attendance, and improved behavior (Henderson & Mapp, 2002).

Life Skills and Career Readiness: Programs focusing on life skills and career preparation are backed by evidence showing that they enhance youths’ readiness for adulthood. Studies have found that financial literacy, job training, and health education programs contribute to better decision-making and future economic stability (Lerman, 2010).

These evidence-based interventions ensure that the Juanita Strong Forever Non-Profit’s programs are effective, scientifically validated, and capable of producing positive outcomes for at-risk youth.

Key Performance Indicator

Output Measures:

Enrollment Numbers: The number of students enrolled in various programs, including early learning and after-school activities, which indicates the reach and initial engagement levels.

Program Participation: The frequency and consistency of student attendance in programs, workshops, and counseling sessions, reflecting the level of ongoing engagement.

Volunteer Involvement: The number of volunteers and their hours contributed, showcasing community support and resource allocation.

Resource Distribution: Quantity of educational materials, meals, and other resources distributed to students, ensuring basic needs and learning tools are met.

Outcome Measures:

Academic Performance: The percent of students reading on grade level and their improvements in math and other subjects, indicating the effectiveness of educational interventions.

Behavioral Improvements: Reduction in behavioral incidents and increased positive behavior reports, demonstrating the impact on students' social and emotional development.

Graduation Rates: The percentage of students graduating from high school and moving on to higher education or vocational training, reflecting long-term educational success.

Life Skills Development: Improvement in life skills, such as financial literacy, job readiness, and personal responsibility, preparing students for independent and successful futures.

Parent and Guardian Feedback: Levels of satisfaction and perceived improvements in their children’s attitudes and performance, providing a holistic view of program impact.

These KPIs collectively provide a comprehensive view of both the immediate outputs and the long-term outcomes of the Juanita Strong Non-Profit’s initiatives, ensuring continuous improvement and alignment with organizational goals.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Pacific Community of Alaska	Maintenance and expansion of their workforce	\$250,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

Maintenance and Expansion of workforce

Project Use of Evidence

Funding is utilized to sustain workforce. The Community Health Workers employed by Pacific Community of Alaska through this grant supports community members with navigating the health system and connecting them to resources.

Key Performance Indicator

KPI: Number of families and individuals that have engaged with PCA staff
Outcomes measures: Pacific Community of Alaska has engaged with 2,158 families and individuals through its Program

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Polynesian Association of Alaska	Pacific Island Family Support Program	\$100,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

To provide Outreach projects to our Pacific Island Community on Health, employment, Immigration, Citizenships, culture prospectives and differences, and Nutrition Food and Dietary.

Project Use of Evidence

PAOA was working with the Pacific Island community, but they were open to all the diverse community. Through this project and partnering with other organization, we were able to learn from each other, and collaborate with others. The need in the community after Covid was increase by seeing how many families and children were in a homeless situation. PAOA was able to keep some of these families in their homes, and some of these students continue education.

Total number of individuals this project helped and assisted during this grant, 926. This grant made it possible for PAOA to provide outreach awareness to the community. Thank you

Key Performance Indicator

Output Measures:

The community learned from going through these projects, how they can better themselves and their families. They learned where to locate assistance, and where to get resources, where to get help when needed. They also learn the differences between our culture live style and the American way of life, how to budget, and what is good to purchase for health wise, they also learn to prioritize their daily living.

Outcome Measures:

1. Employment--- Attendant and completed 6 sessions (108 students)- 32 received app assistance,10 called for interview, 6 received employment,
- 2.Youth Culture Education Summit---- 38 students registered and completed- 10 continued education, 5 applied for continued educ, scholarship, 6 provide comm services job.
- 3.Immigration and Citizenship Outreach--- 123 attended, 32 received their citizenships, 42 applications submitted, and we are still continue on this outreach every month.
- 4.Homelessness Outreach: 118 families were assists on rental assistance and kept them out of homelessness. 108 educated on employment, 72 were educated on homeless and rental information
5. Health --Attendant and completed 216 hrs (431)

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Providence Health & Services	Permanent Supportive Housing – 51 Units	\$965,000	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Project Overview

The goal of the Providence Alaska House Permanent Supportive Housing project is to create 51 units of permanent supportive housing that will work to divert chronically homeless seniors from living unsheltered in the community to living in rental homes of their own where they will have access to the services they need to maintain housing stability, address any health related issues that may have been contributing to their homelessness, and live fully independent lives.

Project Use of Evidence

Housing First and Permanent Supportive Housing are long-established EBI strategies for effectively addressing chronic homelessness. Both strategies are being used at Providence Alaska House to achieve its goals. These strategies are endorsed by the Corporation for Supportive Housing, and by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (<https://www.samhsa.gov/resource/ebp/permanent-supportive-housing-evidence-based-practices-ebp-kit>).

Key Performance Indicator

As of the period covered by this report, 07/01/2023 - 06/30/2024, the project is still in construction. Construction is scheduled to be complete by August 31. The project will not be able to report on its Output or Outcome measures until it is fully occupied and operational (approximately 10/15/2024).

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Providence Health & Services - AK	Crisis Stabilization Center Workforce Development	\$884,762	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Project Overview

The goals of this project specifically relate to recruiting a diverse workforce to staff the Crisis Stabilization Center. There are not enough people to fill these positions given the market share in Alaska. Additionally, there is a shortage of talented caregivers in healthcare overall, but also a higher degree in Behavioral health as it also competes for talent amongst other specialties. Due to these understood challenges and the need to relocate caregivers from other areas, an important tactic to achieve success is in-person networking both in and out of the state of Alaska.

Project Use of Evidence

It is our intent to focus on workforce recruitment and development in an effort to open the crisis stabilization center on target with our current timeline. The funds will not be used directly for client services, but the staffing model that guides our recruitment and hiring decisions is based on input from consultants who have worked on similar crisis stabilization centers in Alaska and around the Lower 48. This will allow us to incorporate best practices and lessons learned from those programs.

Key Performance Indicator

Output Measure: At the launch of the Crisis Stabilization and Crisis Residential program, we hope to hire 50% of the total staffing.

Outcome Measure: As we are onboarding new caregivers, we plan to ensure they receive evidenced based, trauma informed training that will ensure retention and resiliency.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Shiloh Community Housing, Inc	Fresh Beginning Project	\$300,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

The Fresh Beginning project will provide affordable housing for those that have struggled to find suitable affordable housing. The Anchorage community need enough affordable and equitable housing for a full range of incomes earners—from young adults just starting out to seniors who want to spend their remaining years feeling secure. SCHI would extend affordable housing to people at risk of -or are experiencing homelessness.

Project Use of Evidence

Homelessness is fundamentally a housing affordability problem, and for most individuals and families the pathway out of homelessness is to return to the same type of housing other households occupy in the community.

Research has found a link between the availability of housing subsidies for poor renters and reductions in the overall rate of homelessness found in a community. Housing assistance also makes it much less likely that particular people who experience homelessness will become homeless again. This is the case both for people who can live in housing that has no special links to services and for people who need permanent supportive housing (PSH).

Key Performance Indicator

The housing facility can house six families. 100% of units are filled, i.e., 6 families are housed. Several families were living in shelters or on the street.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Shiloh Community Housing, Inc	Life at Work Program	\$300,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

SCHI Life at work program removes barriers to employment for young adults ages 16 -24 via education and supportive services.

Project Use of Evidence

100 participants were surveyed, and survey results evidenced that the services provided was increase knowledge and support received.

Key Performance Indicator

40 students received services.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Shiloh Community Housing, Inc	SCHI Resource Center	\$300,000	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations

Project Overview

Families will utilize the resource center to obtain services in workforce development, money management, physical and mental health wellness, and a place where childcare providers can have their children cared for while they receive services.

Project Use of Evidence

We will monitor the number of individuals visiting the resource center and receiving services; service providers will be able provide the percentage of evidence-based services provided.

Key Performance Indicator

Key performance indicators are in development as this is a new program.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
United Way of Anchorage	Restaurant & Hunger Relief Program	\$750,000	Assistance to Households

Project Overview

The Restaurant & Hunger Relief program was created by the Alaska Hospitality Retailers Association, the United Way of Anchorage, and the Municipality of Anchorage with the support and contributions of many partners and donors. Modeled after programs being implemented as economic development and relief during the COVID-19 pandemic, this program was implemented to purchase meals from local restaurants chosen in lottery drawings and provide them to non-profit community service locations such as shelters, senior centers, childcare settings, and to housing programs for low-income families, persons with disabilities, and the elderly.

Project Use of Evidence

The goal of the project was to purchase meals from local restaurants chosen in lottery drawings, and to provide them to non-profit community service locations, housing programs for low-income individuals and families, and to the elderly.

Key Performance Indicator

Our key performance indicators include a minimum of 45,000 meals delivered to housing, childcare, or emergency safety net serving low-income persons/families or residences for people with disabling conditions. The project delivered a total of 50,616 meals.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
United Way of Anchorage	Landlord Housing Partnership Program	600,000	Assistance to Households

Project Overview

Landlord Housing Partnership is a unique program designed to expand permanent housing opportunities for individuals and families exiting homelessness. Through financial incentives, LHP help landlords

overcome barriers to renting to people exiting homelessness and may be participating in assisted housing programs.

Project Use of Evidence

Landlord Housing Partnership uses the Housing First model to address homelessness and prioritize access to affordable, permanent, stable housing.

Key Performance Indicator

Landlord Housing Partnership has worked with 128 landlords. During this reporting period, Landlord Housing Partnership provided security deposits and/or rental assistance to 10 households moving into permanent housing. A total of 68 households were housed with the support of LHP's incentives and 45 households received eviction prevention assistance.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
University of Alaska Anchorage	Manufacturing Extension Partnership	150,000	Assistance to Unemployed Workers

Project Overview

For G14161: The Alaska Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) successfully leveraged Municipality of Anchorage ARPA grant funds to support 31 small manufacturers across 41 distinct projects. These initiatives were diverse, addressing critical needs such as the production of personal protective equipment (PPE) during the COVID-19 pandemic, the implementation of Lean manufacturing principles to reduce operational costs, and the adoption of e-commerce strategies to boost sales. Additionally, the Alaska MEP provided supply chain services to assist manufacturers in sourcing hard-to-find inputs, ensuring the continuity of their operations.

Project Use of Evidence

The impact of these projects has been significant, resulting in over \$800,000 in new and retained sales for the participating manufacturers. Furthermore, the projects catalyzed \$2.2 million in new investments, demonstrating the confidence and commitment of these businesses to their growth and resilience. The initiatives also achieved substantial cost savings, amounting to \$209,000, by optimizing processes and reducing waste through operational excellence projects.

Key Performance Indicator

These outcomes highlight the vital role of the Alaska MEP in enhancing the capabilities and sustainability of small manufacturers in the region. By providing targeted support and leveraging critical funding, the Alaska MEP has helped these businesses navigate the challenges of the pandemic, improve their operational efficiency, and strengthen their market presence. This collaborative effort underscores the importance of continued investment in local manufacturing and the tangible benefits of strategic support programs.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
University of Alaska Anchorage	Foster Care Support Program	200,000	Healthy Childhood Environments

Project Overview

This 2021 ARPA Foster Care Support Grant program provided: 1) Development and airtime for TV, radio, and social media campaigns to help recruit foster homes and foster youth adoptive homes for a year, given the terrible impact COVID-19 has had on Anchorage youth in foster care, and 2) Printing and mail distribution of Foster Care Recruitment packets.

Project Use of Evidence

This funding helped our Anchorage youth by reducing trauma and homelessness. In the long run, it resulted in greater resiliency, stability, and success by youth, resulting in the need for less municipal funds to address the impact of trauma in the future.

Key Performance Indicator

Utilizing American Recovery Act Funds, the Child Welfare Academy developed foster care recruitment campaigns for TV, radio and social media to encourage the recruitment of foster families in support of finding foster placements options for Anchorage's foster children and youth. Promising signs of an increase in foster homes began in January 2022, with 50 new individuals registered for core training to become a foster parent. Current data reveals that there is a slight decline in licensed foster homes in the Municipality of Anchorage during the peak of the media campaign.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
University of Alaska Anchorage	Unemployed Fast Track Educational Program	3,062,500	Assistance to Unemployed

Project Overview

The goal of the program was to prepare unemployed or economically disadvantaged Anchorage residents for new employment through fast-tracked educational programs. This program was COVID-related, intending to help both local businesses and residents recover from the effects of the pandemic.

Project Use of Evidence

Fast Track was unique in that its sole purpose was to match educators and students in the Anchorage municipality, and then fund the student participant with both tuition and living expenses support. Educators could be UAA or other Anchorage-area education providers. Fast Track started in August 2021 and was to be complete by December 2023. 347 submitted applications; 198 were served. 110 attended at UAA and 88 through about twenty Anchorage-based education providers.

Key Performance Indicator

A wide variety of programs were pursued by program participants. The following list is placed loosely into three categories and is a thorough but not exhaustive list. Programs included a number of beauty-type programs including hairdressing; barbering; and esthetician programs. Medical programs included phlebotomy; safety specialist; children's behavioral health; infant and toddler development; medical office coding; radiology technician; and chemical dependency. Vocational-type programs included commercial drivers' license (CDL); welding; automotive specialist; culinary arts; petroleum technology;

and heating and refrigeration. Business and office type programs included entrepreneurship; bookkeeping; business leadership; web engineering; small business management; accounting; and IT specialist. Beauty programs and business programs, particularly bookkeeping, were the most popular.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Visit Anchorage	Circulator transit route motor coach to Anchorage	\$100,000	Aid to Tourism, Travel or Hospitality

Project Overview

Create and promote standalone training modules to better educate newly hired seasonal workers and residents employees on Alaska Native cultures, Dena'ina culture and vocabulary, and regional history.

Project Use of Evidence

Visitor intercept surveys have identified a gap between the understanding of Alaska Native cultures prior to an Alaska trip, and the positive traveler response to cultural experiences after the trip; travelers tend to have a limited understanding of these cultures before their visit, but after a visit rate exploring cultures as one of the best parts of their time in Alaska. Several national studies cite a rising interest among travelers in understanding and experiencing local culture, including Indigenous cultures.

Key Performance Indicator

Once the training modules are complete, the number views of the lessons, and the total number of tourism workers completing the training will be the key output measures. Longer term, it may be viable to remeasure visitor satisfaction levels as they relate to indigenous cultures.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Volunteers of America	Expansion of mental health services in schools	\$1,500,000	Public Health

Project Overview

Through VOA Alaska’s School Based Services students will receive professional mental health support to reduce stressors and difficulties that impair their school performance and social-emotional development. Students will learn the skills necessary to reduce adverse symptoms and behaviors while building self-confidence, resiliency and social competency, thus enhancing their capacity for academic success.

Project Use of Evidence

Clinicians will provide individual and group counseling services leaning heavily into Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), Dialectical behavior therapy (DBT), and Eye movement desensitization and reprocessing (EMDR), theoretical orientations that have been shown to be very effective in school-based services. Clinicians will offer a variety of group counseling services to include Cognitive Behavior Intervention for Trauma in Schools, Bounce Back, One Circle and Learning to Breathe (which are all evidence-based curriculums).

Key Performance Indicator

Our KPI output measures are:
 - The number of school sites served = 11

- The number of students provided with direct services = 194

Our outcome measures to be collected via surveys of students/clients and partners conducted twice per year at the close of the semester. Results are:

% of students report developing a trusting, cooperative relationship with their counselor - 95%

% of students report improving their relationships at home or with their family- 82 %

% of students report the changes they are making help them feel better about their future – 89%

% reported that they are likely are you to recommend a student or family access Providence/VOA Alaska school-based services- 88%

% of partners report mental health clinicians are viewed as a positive resource at their school – 94%