Hall County American Rescue Plan Assistance Grant Program

Making a portion of federal assistance funding available to eligible non-profit organizations in Hall County in order to lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery from COVID-19 within our community

Application opens: November 1, 2021

HALL COUNTY

G E O R G I A

*We have it **all** in Hall*

Version 1.0

Hall County American Rescue Plan Assistance Grant Program

Non-Profit Solicitation

Application opens: November 1, 2021
Application workshop: November 19, 2021 at 9 a.m., Hall County Government Center
Application closes: December 31, 2021
Review process: January 2022
Board approval: February 28, 2022
Award notifications: March 15, 2022
Grant period: deadline to spend funds December 31, 2024

OVERVIEW

The American Rescue Plan provides a total of $350 billion in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to help eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments meet their present needs and build the foundation for a strong recovery. Hall County received $39,710,268.00. This funding is to aid state, local, and Tribal governments to help turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout, and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery. The Plan allocates funding for public health and vaccines, assistance for vulnerable populations, education and housing stabilization, economic recovery assistance, and direct assistance for families and individuals.

Hall County Government received a portion of the American Rescue Plan funding and wants to share this funding with local non-profit organizations that propose activities that align with the goals and eligible uses of the American Rescue Plan while meeting the eligibility of the County's grant program. Hall County is looking for organizations that can propose programs in the listed categories and include a method of measuring performance of the programs for federal reporting.

PRIORITY FUNDING CATEGORIES

In general, Hall County American Rescue Plan funding can be used for projects for any one or more of the following program areas (included but not limited to):

Public Health:

Grants will fund COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare and staff hours for certain healthcare, human services and other related staff.

- **Services to contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 –** including vaccination, medical expenses, testing, contact tracing, quarantine costs, capacity enhancements, and many related activities

- **Behavioral healthcare services –** including mental healthcare, or substance misuse treatment, crisis intervention, and related services
- **Payroll and covered benefits –** for healthcare, human services, and other related staff to the extent that they work on COVID-19 response

Negative Economic Impacts:
- Response to economic harms to workers, families, small businesses, affected industries, and rehiring of workers
- Deliver assistance to workers and families, including support for unemployed workers, aid to households, and survivor's benefits for families of COVID-19 victims
- Speed the recovery of impacted industries – including tourism, travel, and hospitality sectors

Services For Disproportionately Impacted Communities:
- Projects should provide additional flexibility for the hardest-hit communities and families to address disproportionate economic impacts and promote recovery in these areas of our community. Funding should be broadly applicable to Qualified Census Tracts, other disproportionately impacted areas, and when provided by Tribal governments.

Maximum and Minimum Grant Project Amounts:
Hall County requests that project amounts be a minimum amount of $5,000.00. The maximum project amount is $500,000.00. *Organizations seeking amounts above the maximum project amount need to email ARPAnonprofit@hallcounty.org to discuss potential options.

ELGIBILITY (Who May Apply)
- Non-profit Organizations, verification of IRS status (501(c)(3) or other) in good standing and located in Hall County that have a current list of board of directors, by-laws, mission statement and serve Hall County residents
- Must have DUN and Bradstreet Number (DUNS)
- Must have recent IRS form 990

APPLICATION PREREQUISITES

Hall County requests this information in the online application as follows:

ARP Non-Profit Application

Agency Account Information

EIN*

DUNS Number

Agency Name*

Website URL

File Uploads
Please upload the following documentation. Microsoft Word or PDF files are preferred.

IRS 501(c)3 Determination Letter*
Choose File | No file chosen

IRS Form 990*
Choose File | No file chosen

Agency By-Laws*
Choose File | No file chosen

Internal Statement of Activities*
Choose File | No file chosen

Current Board of Directors Roster*
Choose File | No file chosen

Obtain **a DUNS number/Confirmation number**: Obtain your Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number first; you cannot complete any of the steps below without it. It may take up to two business days to obtain the DUNS number. Call DUN and Bradstreet at 866-705-5711 to obtain a DUNS number or apply at www.dnb.com.

Register with **SAM database/Confirm SAM number** (Organizational Entities Only): System of Award Management (SAM) registration and renewal may take as long as ten business days to complete. If you do not have an Employer Identification Number (EIN), the process can take up to five weeks. If you have an EIN, the process may take up to two weeks. SAM registration procedures may be accessed at www.sam.gov. The person registering with SAM will be the designated SAM E-Business Point of Contact, who may assign people to submit applications for the organization (your Authorized Organization Representatives). You must have a DUNS number to submit a SAM registration. In addition, you must review your SAM registration once a year.

Application Contact Information

For assistance with submitting the application, contact ARPAnonprofit@hallcounty.org from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday – Friday, except holidays.

Grant Application is online only! All applications will be submitted through an online process. https://www.hallcounty.org/FormCenter/ARP-Application-71/ARP-Non-profit-Application-291

GRANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The application process for the Hall County American Rescue Plan funding will begin on November 1, 2021 and conclude with notification of grant awards March 15, 2022. The following information outlines the steps in application, scoring, and awarding of grant funds. The application must be submitted by December 31, 2021. The application will include:

- Selected American Rescue Plan category/categories
- Narrative (community need, agency's approach, target population, collaboration with community and local government, and a monitoring and reporting plan for goals and objectives)
- General program information (organization history, successes and mission)
- Project description (activities, funding needs, timeline, monitoring, sustainability)
- Target outcome (goals and objectives for target audience)
- Itemized program budget must be submitted with application using provided budget document

Single Proposals Only

Hall County will accept only one proposal per non-profit organization to be submitted for funding. The applicant can provide a description of multiple projects and impact areas within a single program proposal. Hall County does request that the applicant rank the projects by number of priority in their program proposal in case funding is awarded for only a portion of the projects listed. By reviewing one application that contains all project details, Hall County's intention is to better understand the totality of an agency's impact while ensuring a focused and efficient grant scoring process. Organizations will be asked to identify one American Rescue Plan category for each project with which their project is most aligned.

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

There is not a matching requirement for funds. However, solicitations may include a cost sharing or matching requirement and receive review points for a match. The solicitation will specify one or two match scenarios – (1) cash or (2) in-kind. If a successful application proposes a voluntary or cash match amount, and Hall County approves the budget, then the total match amount will be incorporated into the approved budget and becomes mandatory and subject to audit.

Purchasing

Grant recipients are responsible for ensuring that any procurement using these funds is consistent with the procurement standards set forth in the Uniform Guidance at 2 CFR 200.317 through 2 CFR 200.327, as applicable. The Guidance establishes that all procurement transactions for property or services must be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition. Non-Federal entities must maintain oversight to ensure that contractors perform in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of their contracts or purchase orders. Organizations must ensure adherence to all applicable local, State, and Federal procurement laws and regulations.

Narrative
The narrative will be attached to the application in a 12-point font PDF document and no more than three pages. The narrative should include information on the community needs that your organization will address through the program(s) in this project. Local statistics and data should be included in this narrative. Information on the successes and history of the organization in the field of the project should be included in the narrative, along with information on the target population of the project.

Organizations should also indicate if other assistance is being provided for the project. For example, if another jurisdiction or grant is also providing the organization funding for a portion of the project, that should be stated. The applicant should state whether or not the funding has been secured or if it is pending.

Shovel-ready projects or projects that are near implementation will be given added review points.

Organizations that include or address the hardest-hit communities and those families should indicate this fact in the narrative. Projects for disproportionately impacted communities should address public health and economic outcomes. Project funding should be broadly applicable to Qualified Census Tracts, other disproportionately impacted areas, and when provided by Tribal governments.

Provide a description of the qualifications and skills of your organization. Discuss how the funding will provide support or expand capacity of those involved. Any organizational history of collaboration with other agencies or governments should also be included in the narrative. Describe how services or activities will be coordinated between agencies collaborating. A monitoring or evaluation plan for the project should be described for collecting data on goals and objectives. Narrative information will be attached in this online section:

Proposal Narrative*

Choose File | No file chosen
Including community need, agency's approach, target
populations, collaborations, learnings and growth.

Priority Funding Categories
This grant provides funding for resources to help with the fight to eliminate the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding objectives include supporting urgent COVID-19 response efforts, replacing lost non-profit revenue, supporting immediate economic stabilization and addressing systemic public health and economic challenges. Proposals must address one of the priority funding categories to be eligible for funding. Funding categories in the application are shown below:

Please select all of the eligible expenditure categories that apply to your requested funding:*

- ☐ COVID-19 vaccination
- ☐ COVID-19 testing
- ☐ Prevention in congregate settings
- ☐ Medical expenses
- ☐ Mental health services
- ☐ Other COVID-19 related public health expenses
- ☐ Household assistance – food programs
- ☐ Unemployment benefits or assistance to unemployed workers
- ☐ Job training assistance and education
- ☐ Education assistance – aid to high poverty districts
- ☐ Education assistance – academic services
- ☐ Education assistance – social, emotional, and mental health services
- ☐ Services to foster youth or families involved in the Child Welfare System
- ☐ Healthy childhood environments – child care
- ☐ Affordable housing
- ☐ Services for unhoused persons
- ☐ Other housing assistance
- ☐ Community health workers or benefit navigators
- ☐ Community violence interventions
- ☐ Services for disproportionately impacted communities
- ☐ Other

General Program Information

The program must be directly related to the American Rescue Plan Program's primary funding categories and accountability measures, and must describe and demonstrate the results of the work completed, as discussed under the American Rescue Plan interim final rule and any subsequent rules or regulations adopted by the U.S. Treasury.
https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/FRF-Interim-Final-Rule.pdf

The goals and objectives should be directly related to the performance measures that demonstrate the results of the work completed. An applicant needs to describe how the program will produce various types of reports, including quarterly financial reports, quarterly performance reports, and semiannual progress reports. Hall County strongly emphasizes the use of data and evidence in program development in the American Rescue Plan funding. For additional information and resources on evidence-based programs or practices, see the America Rescue Plan interim final rule. https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/FRF-Interim-Final-Rule.pdf

Problem or Need – The applicant should identify the organization's strategy/funding priorities for the funds, the process (if applicable, including a disproportionately impacted community) and list of actions, any progress or challenges, and a description of the program(s) to be funded over the grant period.

Project Design and Implementation – Describe the organization's strategic planning process that guides its priorities and funding strategy. This should include a description of how the local community (collaboration) is engaged in the process and how the data and analysis is utilized to support the plan. It should identify the stakeholders currently participating in the strategic planning process, the gaps in the needed resources for funding purposes, and how Hall County's funds will be coordinated with other funds to achieve the goals.

Capabilities and Competencies – Describe any additional strategic planning/coordination efforts in which the organization participates with other groups or agencies in the County or state.

Plan for collecting the data required for this funding's performance measures – Hall County will require each successful applicant to submit specific performance data that demonstrates the results of the work carried out under the award. The performance data must directly relate to the priorities previously identified.

Applicants should visit www.treasury.gov/SLFRP for an overview of performance measurement activities.

Note: Applicants are not required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included as an alert that successful applicants will be required to submit as part of the reporting requirements under an award.

General program information will be attached in this section:

General Program Information*

File Upload (Optional)

Choose File | No fil...osen

If uploading a file, please type "N/A."

Program Activities – limit (3 pages)
Describe the program's specific activities that will be supported by this funding and how the program relates to the American Rescue Plan categories. Describe your agency's experience providing these services to demonstrate how your proposed approach will achieve the desired results. Program activities are essential tasks, projects, or services that directly affect program goals and outcomes. Please describe how activities are accessible by the targeted population or area. Provide a description of the target population the program will serve, including demographics. A reviewer with no previous knowledge of the program should be able to understand how the activities function and interact.

If the program is based on evidence-based or research-informed approaches, cite the model/research and explain how the organization will implement the model with fidelity. If the program will focus on disadvantaged communities, please indicate how this was determined and how the program will collect data on this activity. Program activities should also indicate which objectives and goals they hope to achieve and how they will be monitored for success.

The Program Activities should be attached to the application in this section:

Program Activities*

File Upload (Optional)
Choose File | No fil...osen

If uploading a file, please type "N/A."

Target Outcomes

Applicants should list their objectives and goals for the program in this section. A timeline of activities, which objective or goal the activity will address, dates the activity will be implemented and who is responsible for the activity should be included in this section. A plan for evaluating and monitoring these activities and who will perform this monitoring should be included. How often the activities' progress is reviewed should be provided, along with what will be done if the activity is not performing as planned. Applicants should also provide information on how the results and outcomes would be communicated to the granting agency of Hall County and the organization's board of directors.

Target Outcomes should be attached to the application in this section:

Target Outcomes*

File Upload (Optional)
Choose File | No fil...osen

If uploading a file, please type "N/A."

Program Budget

Please complete the standard budget format provided.
https://www.hallcounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/9250/ARPA-Non-profit-Program-Budget-XLSX
It is beneficial and appropriate to show that an applicant organization is contributing a match such as cash or in-kind costs such as personnel hours (salary or volunteer), supplies, or other in-kind costs to the project. Please use FEMA volunteer rate for volunteer pay amount. https://www.fema.gov/appeal/donated-resources.
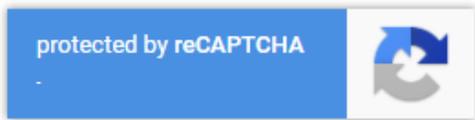
The Program Budget should be submitted in the provided format and should include a description for each item. The Program Budget should be attached to the application in this section:

Program Budget*

Choose File | No file chosen

Please upload the completed Program Budget Form.

protected by reCAPTCHA

Submit

* indicates a required field

Grant Review

Hall County is accountable to the federal government to ensure funded programs will use resources wisely, deliver results, and produce maximum impact. To ensure accountability and due diligence in the grant process, application review and selection is a three-part process which will occur in January 2022.

Beginning January 2022, all applications will undergo a review. This review process will include the following steps:

- Application Review – Committee members will read, review, and evaluate applications. Staff may communicate outstanding questions to agency contacts.
- Grant Recommendation – The committee members will then comparatively evaluate the proposals and recommend funding amounts. Follow-up questions and/or conversations may be utilized as part of this process as the review committee deems necessary.
- Recommendations will be presented to the Hall County Board of Commissioners. Commissioners will review and approve final awards.

Rating Factors

Rating Topic	Items	Score
Narrative	Community need, approach, target population, collaboration, and monitoring plan	35 points
General Program	Organization's history, successes and mission statement	5 points
Project Description Readiness	Activities, funding needs, timeline, monitoring, sustainability	15 points
Target Outcome	Goals and objectives for target audience, amount of residents reached	35 points

Match Amount	In-kind, volunteers and cash amount	10 points
TOTAL		100 points

Board Approval

The Hall County Board of Commissioners will determine final grant awards based on committee member recommendations.

*Please note: Hall County reserves the right to fund proposals in whole or in part and to restrict funding to specific programs or strategies. Applicants will receive notification of the grant award by March 15, 2022.

GRANT AWARDS

Grant Period

The Hall County American Rescue Plan Assistance Grant Program for Non-Profits period will begin on March 15, 2022.

Grant Agreement

Applicants will receive a sub-recipient grant agreement, which must be signed and submitted prior to the start of the funding period on March 15, 2022. The agreement will state the total Hall County funding amount, any funding provisions or requirements, and a list of expectations for funded agencies and Hall County.

Below is a preliminary list of expectations for agencies and for funded organizations:
- Submission of all grant application, financial certification, and reporting information
- Ongoing communication of activities and agency successes, as well as challenges and opportunities to Hall County grant staff to generate support and awareness in the community
- Attendance (relevant staff) at key grant meetings
- Notification of organizational changes or material changes in programs and services to Hall County grant staff

Report Requirements

Every three months, funded programs will submit a financial and progress report of their outcomes. Hall County will utilize these reports to gauge the performance of an agency throughout the grant period and submit required reporting to the U.S. Treasury. Applicants will submit both quantitative and qualitative data about their effectiveness in providing these services, including at least one success story. This story should speak to the agency's key collaborations and demonstrate how an individual or family received services and benefited from multiple agencies or providers. Additional detail on reporting will be provided after grants are awarded.