

# State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Recovery Plan Performance Report Template

Version 2.0

Note: The Recovery Plan Performance Report provides the public and Treasury both retrospective and prospective information on the projects that recipients are undertaking or planning to undertake with program funding and how they are planning to ensure program outcomes are achieved in an effective, efficient, and equitable manner. While this template includes the minimum requirements for the Recovery Plan, each recipient is encouraged to add information to the plan that they feel is appropriate to provide information to their constituents on efforts they are taking to respond to the pandemic and promote an equitable economic recovery.

Each jurisdiction may determine the general form and content of the Recovery Plan, as long as it meets the reporting requirements, and recipients are encouraged to tailor this template to best meet their needs. Through the Recovery Plan, recipients may link to public documents, including, but not limited to, legislation, dashboards, survey results, community engagement reports, and equity frameworks to support the Recovery Plan narrative. Use of infographics, tables, charts, pictures, case studies, and other explanatory elements are encouraged.

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## PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE

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## Revision Log

Version	Date Published	Summary of changes
1.0	July 30, 2021	Initial publication
2.0	June 10, 2022	Incorporates updates to Compliance and Reporting Guidance

## Notes on using this template

All States and territories, and metropolitan cities and counties with a population that exceeds 250,000 residents that are recipients of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) awards are required to produce a Recovery Plan Performance Report (the “Recovery Plan”). The Recovery Plan provides both retrospective and prospective information on the recipient’s projects and how they plan to ensure program outcomes are achieved in an effective, efficient, and equitable manner. It will include key performance indicators identified by the recipient and some mandatory indicators identified by Treasury. Each annual Recovery Plan must be posted on the public-facing website of the recipient by or on the same date that the recipient submits the report to Treasury. Treasury recommends that Recovery Plans be accessible within three clicks or fewer from the homepage of the recipient’s website.

The initial Recovery Plan covered the period from the date of award to July 31, 2021 and was required to be submitted to Treasury by August 31, 2021. Thereafter, the Recovery Plan will cover a 12-month period and recipients will be required to submit the report to Treasury after the end of the 12-month period, by July 31.

Annual Report	Period Covered	Due Date
1	Award Date – July 31, 2021	August 31, 2021
2	July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022	July 31, 2022
3	July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023	July 31, 2023
4	July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024	July 31, 2024
5	July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025	July 31, 2025
6	July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026	July 31, 2026
7	July 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026	April 30, 2027

### **Instructions:**

This document is meant as a suggested template for applicable SLFRF recipients to assist them in submitting their Recovery Plan. Recipients should consult the SLFRF Guidance on Recipient Compliance and Reporting Responsibilities (Reporting Guidance) located at <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance.pdf> for detailed guidance on the submission of this report.

Treasury encourages Recipients to tailor this report to best meet their needs in terms of format and content. Through the Recovery Plan, recipients may link to public documents, including, but not limited to, legislation, dashboards, survey results, community engagement reports, and equity frameworks to support the Recovery Plan narrative. Treasury recommends the use of infographics, tables, charts, pictures, case studies, and other explanatory elements in describing their programs.

*Text in italics* represents the requirements from the Reporting Guidance and is meant to serve as a reference as recipients prepare their Recovery Plan. The previous page and this instructions page and the *text in italics* should be removed before the final transmitted report is published and submitted to Treasury.

Additional information around Expenditure Categories is located in Appendix 1 of the Reporting Guidance.

### **For More Information**

More information about the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund program and associated reporting requirements are located at [www.treasury.gov/SLFRP](http://www.treasury.gov/SLFRP) .

Questions on reporting, eligible uses, or other general topics should be directed to [SLFRF@treasury.gov](mailto:SLFRF@treasury.gov).

# **Cumberland County, PA Recovery Plan**

## **State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**

### **2022 Report**

**Cumberland County, PA**  
**2022 Recovery Plan**

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## **GENERAL OVERVIEW**

### **Executive Summary**

Cumberland County is a Class 3 county in Southcentral Pennsylvania with a population of approximately 260,000. The County has experienced rapid growth in the past decade and as a result, the County has experienced an increase in demand for services. The Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant negative impact on the residents of the County. There has been a spike in mental health issues and a lack of capacity in the County's human service's network to adequately address the spike as a result of Covid. The County is also home to 5 higher education institutions that are struggling due to declining enrollment compounded by the pandemic. Much like the rest of the country, all sectors of the economy have been impacted by the pandemic and as a result, many small businesses especially in the service sector are struggling to recover.

Since the submission of the 2021 recovery plan, the county has continued to identify needs and fine-tune a method to allocate funds. The county continues to be committed to an investment strategy that is evidence/fact based to ensure that projects that will have a positive long-term impact to assist residents, including the most vulnerable populations, to recover from the impacts of the pandemic. This second recovery plan describes the county's expanding and evolving goals and objectives for using State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) funds in our community.

The plan also describes ongoing outreach strategies the County has employed and will continue to employ to further identify needs and prioritize project investments. Investment principles guided in this plan will guide future outreach efforts and project selection efforts. Future Recovery Plans will include the County's final spending plan, associated justification, and applicable performance measures.

### **Uses of Funds**

#### **Actual Use of Funds**

Cumberland County has allocated minimal amounts of our SLFRF monies. We created a higher education grant program in late 2021 and awarded monies to three of our higher education institutions.

Reimbursements were not requested by June 30, 2022 and how and if these grant programs will continue is under evaluation. Future reports will detail actual usage of funds in compliance with SLFRF standards.

#### **Intended Use of Funds**

Cumberland County continues to be committed to the same expenditure categories. However, to ensure the county is made whole and is able to provide vital public and human services to residents, we will be applying monies to our own losses first before providing funding to others. We have created a grant program and we are evaluating applications. The intention is to first draw down the full amount needed by the county before determining the amounts, if any, are apply to grants. This process has been on-going and we will be working through the next year to make final calculations and also make awards. Future reports will detail actual usage of funds in compliance with SLFRF standards. Our thoughts on the expenditure categories are outlined below.

- **Public Health (EC1):** The health of county residents, especially for certain at-risk populations, has been significantly impacted by Covid-19. The county intends to develop programs that

recoup costs of responding to the pandemic while addressing our residents' short-term physical and mental health needs as well as assisting our residents with longer term recovery from Covid-19 impacts. The innovative programs in development will allow us to improve public health while also lessening the negative economic impacts and providing services to disproportionately impacted communities. Several of our human services departments and budgets have been greatly impacted by the increase in residents who would benefit from services.

- **Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2):** Cumberland County continues to be the is the fastest growing county in Pennsylvania as reported in initial 2020 Decennial Census results. The county's prosperous growth has been temporarily stunted by Covid-19. If the County is to continue its beneficial future growth, the impacts of Covid-19 must be fully mitigated. Institutions of higher education, non-profit organizations, and businesses, the key drivers of the County economy, were hardest hit by the pandemic. The county plans to use SLFRF funding to help these key economic drivers recover from Covid-19 that will in turn, provide the necessary goods and services to our residents that are needed for personal pandemic recovery.
- **Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC 3):** While Cumberland County has enjoyed prosperous growth, many of our communities have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. Continued outreach conducted by our county departments and nonprofit partners has revealed that Covid 19 had greater impacts on communities challenged by food insecurity, lower incomes, lower educational attainment, inconsistent access to food, housing uncertainty, and lack of reliable transportation. Additional outreach activities will assist the county in better defining these communities and their specific needs. SLFRF spending plans will help to meet residents short term needs while establishing sustainable, longer term community improvement plans that will make our communities resilient to future pandemics and economic uncertainty.
- **Premium Pay (EC 4):** Throughout Cumberland County essential workers served on the front line of Covid-19 response by helping to make sure our residents remained safe while received necessary, life-sustaining goods and services. The county has evaluated the need and associated cost of providing premium pay to essential county employees as well as essential workers in local government, nonprofit, and private sector. A decision to invest in premium pay will be considered in the context of the other needs identified through continued community outreach.
- **Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure (EC 5):** Covid-19 had minimal additional impacts on sewer and water infrastructure in Cumberland County aside from the temporary stay at home order that anecdotally resulted in higher waste flows and water usage. Water and sewer infrastructure is provided by municipal governments and not county government, so the county won't directly plan for projects. Municipalities in the county have planned for and financed investments in such infrastructure. Municipalities receiving SLFRF funding may choose to use that funding to address revenue losses by infrastructure authorities or undertake capital projects that could free up local revenues to provide government services that address pandemic impacts. As such the county currently does not intend to invest considerable SLFRF funding in water and sewer infrastructure. Regional municipal sewer and water infrastructure projects with substantial community wide benefit may be considered for county support in the context of other competing priorities. Nearly 96% of Cumberland County is covered by broadband, a key factor that helped County residents successfully weather the Covid-19 storm.

Given this high level of existing coverage and other state and federal programs aimed at closing remaining coverage gaps, the County does not intend to spend considerable SLFRF funding on broadband access. County assistance requested by municipalities for regional broadband projects may be considered in the context of other competing community priorities.

Municipalities experiencing coverage deficiencies may use their SLFRF funding for local broadband purposes.

- **Revenue Replacement (EC 6):** Cumberland County's Finance Department has continued to analyze its Covid-19 revenue loss in accordance with Department of Treasury SLFRF guidance. As previously reported, the 2020 calculation revealed significant revenue loss which in turn has impacted the County's ability to deliver important county services. Projections continue to reveal significant revenue losses. We continue to expect significant spending in this category to provide the important services to our community that have been delayed, suspended, or permanently discontinued as a result of Covid-19. Restoration of Covid-19 impacted county services through revenue replacement spending will address needs identified in the other eligible SLRF spending categories.

## Promoting equitable outcomes

The established goals provide a balanced approach to address the needs to our underprivileged populations. The grant programs focus on three specific goals:

- Goal 1: Improve the physical and mental health of County residents directly and indirectly impacted by Covid-19.
  - Objective 1 –Stabilize and increase overall mental health professional capacity.
  - Objective 2 –Divert people from prison by providing community mental health rapid response teams that support police in the communities
  - Objective 3 -- Add Resources to the Step Up Program to support people with mental health issues to be prepared for and be successful in prison release.
- Goal 2: Revitalize Cumberland County communities negatively impacted by Covid-19.
  - Objective 1 – Provide housing assistance to ensure individuals can afford and have access to adequate, safe housing.
  - Objective 2 – Connect jobs, services, and neighborhoods with improved transportation options.
  - Objective 3 – Enhance the natural resources that form the quality-of-life foundation for Cumberland County communities.
  - Objective 4 – Train and deploy a skilled workforce to address gaps in critical infrastructure and other priority employment sectors.
  - Objective 5 – Provide support for job training and assistance in finding jobs
- Goal 3: Restore and deliver government services impeded, delayed, or cancelled by the Covid-19 pandemic.
  - Objective 1 – Pursue capital improvements to County buildings that enhance accessibility and safety of residents seeking County services.
  - Objective 2 – Upgrade County information technology infrastructure to provide residents broader, safer access to County services
  - Objective 3 –Supplement the County workforce to provide expanded services to residents recovering from Covid-19 impacts.

Funding opportunities have been promoted by our communications department through local media. We have also ensured that our municipal, agency, and community partners were aware of the application portal and the dates when the portal were open. Due to the overwhelming response to the application portal, we believe targeted groups were aware of the opportunities. Since we have determined we will be using the monies first to ensure the county has been made whole, we will be working through creating a more comprehensive approach and performance measures this year.

## **Community Engagement**

As we reported in the 2021 recovery plan, understanding residents' problems and needs can only be accomplished by engaging them where they are at; in the communities they live in, the schools they attend, the businesses they solicit, and the commercial establishments where they receive goods and services. This past year, we have actively engaged the community in the following ways:

- Created and released a survey to share our findings with the community. The survey, available on our website, was publicized through local media. We also asked employees and agency partners to share the link and QR code and encourage participation. We have been able to leverage our partners access to those impacted by the pandemic the most to ensure a fair and balance response to our survey.
- Shared updates and information at public meetings and encouraged public comment.
- Continued to dialogue with agency and community partners to discuss changing needs.
- Worked with municipal partners to discuss needs and projects.
- Conducted preapplication meetings with grant program applicants to better understand local needs and potential project impacts.

We plan on continuing outreach and engagement as our plan evolves this coming year. While there are no concrete plans at this time, the county team will assess whether further surveys and/or meetings are necessary. We will continue to use the following as a guide as we consider SLFRF projects and programs:

- Evaluation of underserved, marginalized, and adversely impacted communities in the County.
- Outreach efforts conducted through a variety of media to ensure that all residents have input in the process, are aware of outcomes, and have access to selected projects and programs.
- Simplification of program administrative requirements to broaden and streamline access to SLFRF-funded programs and initiatives.
- Performance based programs that ensure intended outcomes are achieved through ongoing monitoring, evaluation, and alteration as needed.

## **Labor Practices**

Cumberland County has a long history of following all applicable fair labor practices for internal projects as well as community projects that must follow state and federal requirements. All opportunities to bid on infrastructure projects or compete for SLFRF resources will be conducted in a fair and open way with public advertising and criteria-based award selections. Prevailing wage requirements will be a component of all applicable projects. Local labor will be specifically solicited and encouraged to bid on all projects, especially minority, women, and veteran owned businesses.

## **Use of Evidence**

All projects will be evaluated and prioritized based upon criteria and data that will show evidence of need related to the Covid-19 pandemic. It is the intent of the County to establish project criteria and regularly evaluate return on investment related to the County's goals and the goals of the SLFRF program. The County has assigned a consultant manager that will assist the County in tracking outcomes and making recommendations for adjustments to projects to improve outcome achievement. Detailed evidence information will be developed for applicable projects and included in future project inventories as they are developed.

### **Performance Report**

All funding allocations are reimbursement and recipients are required to submit quarterly reports outlining expenditures and progress. Subject matter experts will be responsible for monitoring each recipient. The form has been established and is part of the packet to be given to each recipient.

### **PROJECT INVENTORY**

As mentioned, we had one project created in this past recovery plan year. The project was not successful as the recipients have not requested any reimbursements. We have shifted to using the monies for revenue replacement. As we monitor the health of the county and review our needs, we have plans to use some of the off-set to follow through with grant programs. We are currently reviewing grant applications. In the meantime, we will be allocating all funding to eligible county expenses.