



STATE OF DELAWARE
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AMERICAN RESCUE
PLAN ACT



Performance Report
Capital Projects Fund
2023 Report

State of Delaware
2023 Performance Report



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Table of Contents

Executive Summary.....	2
Uses of Funds	4
Promoting Equitable Outcomes.....	5
Labor	6
Community Engagement	7
Project Inventory	8



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Delaware's plan for use of the funds provided through the Capital Projects Fund is to help communities throughout Delaware that were hardest hit by the pandemic, resulting in an economic downturn caused or exacerbated by the life-changing COVID-19 pandemic. As of June 30, 2023, Delaware has been approved for approximately \$107 million of the \$112.8 million allocated to the State. Delaware Library Projects, first approved in August 2022, represent \$40 million, Multi-Purpose Community Facility Projects, approved in May 2023, represent \$65 million, and the remaining approved funds of \$900k are dedicated to administrative and compliance oversight responsibilities. We focused on towns and cities with unmet needs and with residents underserved by education, work and health monitoring support systems. We worked closely with mayors, county executives, state executive branch officials, and state legislators to determine where the multi-purpose community facility projects were most needed in each of Delaware's three counties. The approved ARPA CPF funds are distributed geographically, racially and socio-economically in each of our state's three counties to meet community services needs throughout Delaware.

Each project was reviewed to ensure the required criteria set forth by the U.S. Treasury had been met. These criteria include:

1. The Capital Project invests in capital assets designed to directly enable work, education, and health monitoring.
2. The Capital Project is designed to address a critical need that resulted from or was made apparent or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency.
3. The Capital Project is designed to address a critical need of the community to be served by it.

All Delaware ARPA CPF projects will be used strictly for capital costs. No operating expenses will be permissible.

The priorities of Governor Carney, outlined below, are brought into focus with each of these approved projects.

Expanding economic opportunity for all Delaware families - with a focus on disadvantaged communities that were hit hard during the pandemic, including job training, access to education, housing, and health monitoring.



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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
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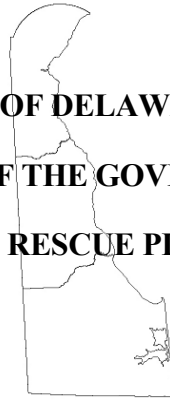
Dedicating financial resources to make sure children have access to a world-class education, including social emotional supports that help them focus on learning, including investments in multi-purpose community facilities, such as Boys and Girls Clubs and community centers. Investing in our communities, to make sure Delaware families statewide have safe, affordable places to live, work, and raise a family by providing community-based nonprofit support, affordable housing, community investments, access to quality medical care, and broadband access.

Progress to Date on Outcomes – The Delaware Library projects continue to move forward in the planning and design phases with several projects set to break ground before Fall of 2023. The Multi-Purpose Community Facility projects were approved on May 1. Multiple webinars were held to advise awardees of the requirements surrounding the ARPA CPF grant. We continue to work with the approved partners to obtain budgets and signed agreements.

Challenges/Opportunities Identified During the Reporting Period – Long lead times have been the main concern from subrecipients as they move forward in their capital project. These lead times have been mitigated by assessing project needs identifying specific materials that may cause a delay and pre-ordering said materials to avoid any potential delays in construction. We also continue to work with subrecipients for the approved Multi-Purpose Community Facility program plan. Each subrecipient has been responsive and is currently developing their plans to move forward. As of June 30, 2023, 13 approved agreements have been finalized: 9 library projects and 4 multi-purpose community center projects.



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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



USES OF FUNDS

a. *Delaware Library Projects*

Over \$40 million has been dedicated to build new or renovate existing libraries across Delaware. Libraries have been a critical partner throughout the pandemic providing assistance to citizens across the state by administering COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, distribution of information, and more. Of the 9 approved library projects, 5 will be new construction projects and 4 will be renovations to upgrade existing facilities.

Several projects are near completion in the planning and design phases. There are three libraries scheduled to break ground by the Fall. They are the Selbyville library, Duck Creek library, and Harrington library. Additional renovation projects are also slated to begin within the next few months. The Delaware ARPA team continues to meet regularly with each subrecipient to discuss the progress of each project.

b. *Multi-Purpose Community Facility Projects*

The Milford Food Bank project is nearing completion. ARPA CPF funds were able to assist in the development of this massive new facility. The total cost of this facility is over \$34 million with ARPA CPF funds providing nearly \$6 million. This project is slated to be completed and operational by the end of 2023.

While many of the projects were recently approved and remain in the early planning and design phases, we expect significant progress over the next 3-6 months after more agreements are finalized and projects can begin.

The Delaware APRA team will begin to meet with subrecipients on a regular basis, once funded, to monitor activities and ensure compliance with each approved project.

c. *Housing Affiliated Multi-Purpose Community Centers*

The five projects within this program plan had not been approved for funding as of June 30, 2023. Upon receiving approval, we will work with all subrecipients to obtain signed agreements and ensure projects move forward appropriately.



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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



PROMOTING EQUITABLE OUTCOMES

a. *Objectives:*

Delaware is working with communities hardest hit by the pandemic in all parts of the State to help underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups. For example, when selecting our approved library and multi-purpose community facility projects, we focused on towns and cities with unmet needs and with residents underserved by education, work, and health monitoring support systems. We worked closely with mayors, county executives, state executive branch officials, and state legislators to determine where the multi-purpose community facility projects were most needed in each of Delaware's three counties. All approved ARPA CPF funds are distributed geographically, racially, and socio-economically in each of our state's three counties to meet community services needs throughout Delaware. These projects will serve the hardest hit areas and most vulnerable communities across the State.

b. *Awareness*

Delaware has worked closely with legislators, mayors, religious leaders, nonprofit organizations, and the business community to promote equitable and practical access and awareness to CPF. With over \$100 million dedicated to approved projects throughout the State, we have conducted significant outreach and made significant progress in the distribution of funds to the area's most in need. News conferences and announcements have been made for numerous projects and we will continue to provide outreach and promote awareness of the spending of these historic funds.

c. *Outcomes*

Intended outcomes are focused on closing gaps in employment, education, poverty, access to healthcare services, access to internet, and communities hardest hit by the pandemic. By working with various groups across the State we have been able to identify the hardest-hit and most vulnerable areas. We have worked with our partners to ensure demographic and programmatic information is obtained so we can verify the success of the project and the impacts that have been made based on a variety of information received.



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



LABOR PRACTICES

Each project follows their internal policies and procedures. For the Delaware Library projects, several facilities must follow the State’s prevailing wage requirements and labor agreements based on the State law. In addition, many project must follow the State’s procurement policies, as set forth in the Division of Accounting’s Budget and Accounting Manual. For those projects that are not required to follow these procedures, we have encouraged prevailing wage requirements and advised that the procurement guidelines under 2 CFR 200 must be followed if there are no set guidelines already in place. Community benefit agreements and local hiring are strongly encouraged for each project. The Food Bank of Delaware has advised that they prioritize local hiring with over 80% of all workers on this massive project being local hires. All subrecipients are required to provide details regarding the labor practices associated with their specific project and how they adhere to Federal and State regulations.



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Delaware has met with legislators, local leaders, nonprofits and others across the State to engage the community and create awareness of the approved projects. In addition to meeting with a variety of leaders throughout the state, an application process was created to attract organizations to apply for funding through the Community Investment Recovery Fund. Over 300 applicants responded to this application process for projects to be created to provide new and enhanced services through capital upgrades, improvements, and new construction, across the State. Moving forward, additional outreach will be conducted in various methods to receive community feedback on specific programs to ensure the funds are being used as expected and equity goals are met.



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



PROJECT INVENTORY BY PROGRAM PLAN CATEGORY

Delaware Library Projects

Selbyville Library

Project Identification Number: 19799

Funding amount Budget: \$7,000,000.00

Expenditures to date: \$1,400,000.00

Project Overview

The major objective for this project is the construction of a new 14,000+ sq. ft. library that will provide expanded services to the growing community. The project experienced barriers to progress which included delays in the supply chain and the purchase of additional property. The property purchase, which allowed for the addition of 1,600 sq. ft. additional parking and expanded outdoor space, was added after the initial designs were drawn. Since then, the Selbyville Public Library has recovered from the setback and is ready to proceed with an improved plan. Bids are currently being reviewed by Whiting -Turner, the construction management firm, and the Selbyville Public Library Board of Commissioners. Upon approval of the bids, construction will begin August 2023.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes & Critical Needs

All funds are being used for the design and construction of the new facility which will better meet the needs of the community. As a place of learning, the library offers opportunities for early literacy, health resources, and job readiness by providing free access to materials, community partners, and special events. This allows families and historically disenfranchised people places to go to for information, nutrition, and recreation free of charge. The Selbyville Public Library is trusted resource that people turn to when they need help. The library's staff has given caring assistance to people when they are vulnerable, such as when they helped an 80-year-old person learn to read and use a computer, and when they helped an unhoused person to find a better job. Selbyville is a rural town without regular public transportation; therefore, the services of the library are necessary for people with limited means.

Client Impact, Interviews and Success Stories



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



Currently about 5000 sq. ft., the Selbyville Public Library, had over 28,000 visitors, offered nearly 600 programs with an attendance of 6,700 people of all ages. Among those programs are computer classes, classes for learning English, story times, book clubs, and educational opportunities for everyone in the community. However, despite all the tremendous effort put forth by staff, the library cannot continue to serve the community without expanding. The largest meeting space in the library holds 25 people, which seriously restricts its ability to serve. The community is eager for the new facility.

Community Engagement

The process began with a Needs Assessment in 2015, which included analysis of the demographics of the community and what services they would like to see offered in the new facility. The Selbyville Public Library formed committees made up of members of the public that advised the library on design, fundraising, and logistics. One of the committees even formed a historical society that was much needed to preserve the history of the town. The library partners with schools, agencies, and other organizations to ensure our services support and promote racial and social equity.

Georgetown Library

Project Identification Number: 19800

Funding amount Budget: \$250,000.00

Expenditures to date: \$125,000.00

Project Overview

Objective

ARPA funds are being used at the Georgetown Public Library to replace the HVAC equipment at the library. This is because the cost of fixing the equipment has become excessive. This Capital Project will directly benefit the health of the patrons and staff at the library by providing agreeable temperatures and modern ventilation. In turn, the project will help the patrons as they utilize the library for work and education purposes, such as applying for jobs and studying for school.

Barriers

We have hit some barriers with this project over the last year. Specifically, we have had to take time to learn exactly what the project entails. We know that there are problems with the HVAC, but we were



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



not sure what those are. We hired an engineering firm to assess the building, and there were various issues identified that need to be fixed. These were the findings:

Summary / Recommendations

A. Replace the existing building automation system (BAS).

a. With an inability to control even the basic functions of the HVAC system, there is little opportunity to improve any current shortcomings of the HVAC system. The new system should incorporate cloud-based access to prevent loss of control due to a computer system “aging out”. Cloud-based access will also allow the staff to monitor the system remotely should a problem arise.

B. Incorporate demand-controlled ventilation (DCV) in the HVAC system.

a. Demand controlled ventilation utilizes CO2 level sensors within the occupied spaces to accurately control the amount of ventilation air being brought into the facility. While a minimum amount will always be required to keep the building “breathing” properly, lowering the amount of humid air being brought into the building under low-load conditions can greatly improve overall humidity control within the facility. Further, when integrated with the new BAS noted above in item “A”, this system can be commanded to provide full building flushes when concerns arise regarding airborne pathogens such as COVID-19 and the flu.

C. Add active dehumidifiers in the collection areas of the building.

a. Since the current systems do not incorporate any active dehumidification, adding several ducted, high efficiency dehumidifiers to serve the general collection areas can provide significant improvement in the overall environmental control of the facility. The units can be integrated into the BAS system as well, allowing for efficient control and adjustment of operating parameters as required.

D. Replace water source heat pumps with appropriately-sized units with capacity control.

a. The existing units are approaching the end of their service life (estimated 15 years on average per ASHRAE) and will need to be replaced. When this occurs, it will be critical to ensure that appropriately-sized units are installed. Further, contemporary geothermal water-sourced heat pump units are offered with variable-speed compressors, which better match the cooling system to the load to greatly improve temperature control and dehumidification of the airstream.



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



b. When replacing the units, it will be important to ensure that both the water side and air-side of the units are properly rebalanced to maximize performance and energy efficiency.

As the recommendations are completed, renovated systems included in this report will be brought up to current standards for control and for ventilation, and will provide a functional, controllable, and maintainable system for the end-users.

We have had to take the time to decide which renovation is the most important. We will begin by replacing the BAS, because the BAS we currently have is not communicating with the units. We have two controls, and only one is allowing us to change the temperature in the building. Also, they require a Windows XP computer to be reprogrammed, and the last version of this device that we had access to is no longer working.

The BAS is the most important, but now we are seeking funding elsewhere to decide whether we can proceed with the rest of the project. The estimate for the entire scope of work is roughly \$1.1 million.

The final barrier has just been navigating the use of federal funds. This is our first time receiving federal funds and we are taking our time spending them to make sure that we are following all of the regulations.

Achievements

We had a repair done to a leaking geothermal HVAC well that was flooding the grounds outside of the library.

We have selected an engineering firm to help guide us in the bidding process. They have been able to do a complete evaluation of the building and we just finished accepting bids. Our Board meets in July to select the contractor.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes & Critical Needs

Georgetown Public Library is located in Georgetown, Delaware. The population of Georgetown is 39.3% Hispanic or Latino, and 37% White Alone, not Hispanic or Latino. In the library, we have ESL classes, programs in Spanish, and meetings with local social service agencies that are held in Spanish.



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



Additionally, since our project is improving the HVAC in the library, it will make the building a more comfortable place for people to spend their time. There is a population of people in Georgetown who do not have a place to live, so having a warm place in the summer and a cool place in the winter is essential.

The Georgetown Public Library has also partnered with the state to offer a teleservices kiosk for patrons to use. They are able to come to the library and have virtual meetings in a private space with providers such as doctors. This is a benefit to the community because it allows people to get the care they need, even if otherwise they might not be able to go directly to their doctor due to the inability to travel. This service is a direct result of offering more healthcare options as a result of the COVID pandemic.

Finally, the library was a benefit to the community during the COVID pandemic because it served as a location for people to pick up free COVID test kits. There was a critical need for this in Georgetown because people might not have been able to travel to other locations to pick up kits.

Client Impact, Interviews and Success Stories

I have discussed this project with the staff who have been here for years. They explained that the temperature in the building has historically been uncomfortable no matter the season. For example, in the Summer staff would need to have fans set up. In the Winter, they would have to wear gloves and coats to work. Patrons would often complain and ask if the temperature could be adjusted, but we had no control over that. With up to date controls, we will be able to regulate the temperature and make sure it feels comfortable to patrons and staff. The staff are very excited to finally be comfortable at work, and it will increase library patronage to have a place that feels good to be in.

Labor Practices

Each of the potential contractors that we are contacting is from Delaware, so we are prioritizing local hires. We have informed each of the potential contractors that this project must be bid with Davis Bacon Wage Rates in conformance with the Federal ESSER funding requirements. A community benefit agreement does not seem necessary in this case since this is not a new building. Rather, we are simply upgrading the HVAC in an existing building. We do not have a project labor agreement in place, and instead will answer these questions:



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



If no, how will you ensure there is a sufficient supply of appropriately skilled and unskilled labor resources available throughout the life of the project?

- We will be in constant communication with the contractor and the engineering firm to make sure the workers are appropriately skilled.

If no, how will risks of labor disputes and disruptions be reduced?

- Labor disputes and disruptions will be handled by the contractor. If it impacts the work on the library, the library board will address the issue.

If no, how will a safe and healthy workplace, in accordance with OSHA, be provided?

- A safe and healthy workplace will be determined by the contractor and if there are adjustments that need to be made, the library will make them.

If no, will workers on the project receive wages and benefits that will secure an appropriately skilled workforce in the local or regional labor market?

- The contractors were told to comply with Davis Bacon Wage rates.

If no, does the project have a completed project labor agreement?

There is not a completed project labor agreement.

Community Engagement

The community was informally surveyed to determine the need and justification for this project. This included conversations around comfort level while attending library programs and events. For example, when groups would reserve the meeting rooms, they would ask for the temperature to be adjusted. Since we have no method of adjusting the temperature, groups have had to use box fans or open windows in order to be comfortable at the library. These reports showed the need for improving the HVAC at the library. Additionally, during COVID our staff were providing curbside service to patrons. They had to go in and out of the building multiple times a day, and it was never comfortable for them when they came back in. Hopefully, we never have to resort to curbside again, but if we do we need the building to be comfortable for the staff to enter and exit.

Since Georgetown is a community of more Hispanic and Latino persons than not Hispanic and Latino persons, our library is a resource for this community. For example, patrons come in for ESL classes or to print passport applications, and they receive essential services at the library. Also, this is a rural area and not everyone has access to the internet at home because the broadband does not reach everywhere yet. The library provides free WiFi and computers for patrons to use for education and employment opportunities that they would not otherwise be able to access.



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



Harrington Library

Project Identification Number: 19801

Funding amount Budget: \$5,568,913.00

Expenditures to date: \$1,101,865.00

Project Overview

Objective:

The objective of our project is to build a new library facility in the City of Harrington. We will be moving from an old funeral home that is roughly 2500 to a new facility, actually built to be a library, that will be a little over 15,000 sq ft.

Barriers:

The main barrier for this project has been that we found out we will have to pay prevailing wage because the library is owned by the City of Harrington and this is a stipulation that goes along with building projects for the city. We have hopefully found enough funding to cover any overage that prevailing wage may incur. Another barrier has been the rising cost of building supplies and order chain supplies in a post-covid building process.

Achievements:

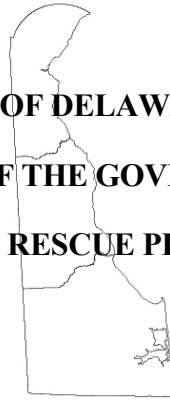
We have had many achievements over the last year. Firstly, we have worked with our contractor to get us to the bidding process in July 2023, and we have had a very successful groundbreaking in June of 2023 that was well attended by the local community and local officials. We also, as previously mentioned, secured additional funding in the way of community redevelopment funds to complete our project. We also secured continuous operating funding with the creation of a library tax district from Kent County Levy Court.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes & Critical Needs

All of the funds will be used to serve the residents of Harrington and all the surrounding communities by building a bigger, better library. This area has a high poverty rate and new library gives all the children and residents here a better chance at more services that will improve their quality of life. For example, we should be able to expand our snack program for children under the age of 18, our meeting spaces for



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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT**



one-on-one tutoring, and offer more job seeking services in a larger facility. Our new library will serve as a building block that will help our local population take a step up in the world.

Client Impact, Interviews and Success Stories

The best way to show project impact is probably by going to our Facebook and seeing all the excited comments about our groundbreaking ceremony that took place on June 14th 2023. We also have signage in the library, and patrons come in and discuss their excitement over the long overdue building project, now made possible with the ARPA funds.

PSST...THE LIBRARY HAS A BIG ANNOUNCEMENT!

YOU'RE invited to our special groundbreaking ceremony of the brand-new Harrington Public Library building!!

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14TH [AT] 10:00 AM

**101 LITTLE MASTENS CORNER ROAD,
HARRINGTON, DE
(NEXT TO LAKE FOREST SOUTH ELEM.)**

Harrington Public Library
Where Community Matters

Have Questions?
Call us at
(302) 398-4647
harrington.lib.de.us
Follow us on Facebook
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41 likes, 17 shares

Harrington Public Library's Post

We're getting ready to start our New Harrington Public Library Building Groundbreaking! 🎉🔨!!

77 likes, 4 comments, 7 shares

Like Comment Share

Most relevant

- Nicole Boone
Congratulations! I'm glad Harrington is getting a new library. I look forward to bringing my daughter to the library when she's a few years older just like my grandmother did with me.
Love Reply Hide 3w
- Kaylie Canter
So excited for how close it will be! 🥳🥳
Love Reply Hide 3w
- Karen Adams Penney
That's awesome! Congratulations!
Love Reply Hide 3w
- Maricarmen Morales
How exciting!!
Like Reply Hide 3w

Write a comment...



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Labor Practices

Prioritize local hires. We are also bidding at prevailing wage

Community Engagement

The building of the library has been a generational project that started back in the late 1970's when we were in a trailer downtown. Over the course of decades, we have had community meetings, fundraisers, proposals, project starts and stops, and many other forms of public engagement. However, the same barrier always seemed to hold us back, namely the reality that we were a poor community serving mostly poor residents that could not afford to build the type of facility that our town so desperately needed. With the funding we have received we were able to restart our previous project from the 2010's and begin right away with finally finishing the plans for the new library.

Lewes Library

Project Identification Number: 19802

Funding amount Budget: \$750,000.00

Expenditures to date: \$84,750.00

Project Overview

Through June 30, 2023, we have established a working group comprised of representatives from the Lewes Public Library (LPL), the architectural firm Becker Morgan Group (BMG), and the recently hired construction management group Whiting-Turner (WT). The initial design is complete and BMG's civil engineers are conducting site surveys to determine structure placement.

BMG is developing specifications for security, lighting, and sound projection. BMG is also working with solar consultants to determine the applicability of panels to the pavilion's roof, and whether or not our existing solar system is robust enough to handle the additional load, or if other options need to be explored.

The LPL was granted the rest of the funds required to complete this project through the fiscal year 2024 State of Delaware Bond Bill.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes & Critical Needs



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



Prior to the start of the pavilion design the LPL worked with a number of local organizations, city affiliates, representatives from the Cape Henlopen School District, and the University of Delaware Marine Studies campus to solicit design input ensuring the space would be flexible enough to serve a variety of populations and programs.

Labor Practices

Whiting-Turner has performed work in Delaware for over 75 years and has completed over 40 projects in Sussex County. They are committed to making a positive impact within our community. As stated in their presentation, “generally, on our projects, we can achieve 80% Delaware subcontractor participation”.

Community Engagement

In addition to multiple representatives from the Lewes Public Library (LPL) including staff of varied departments, we held focus groups including representatives from the City of Lewes Planning Department, the University of Delaware Marine Studies Program, the Friends of the Lewes Public Library, Lewes in Bloom, and the City of Lewes Parks and Recreation Commission. Prior to holding in-person focus groups including the above participants, we sent notifications to additional community organizations including Coastal Concerts, Clear Space Theatre, The Lewes Historical Society, and Children’s Beach House among others, outlining our general plan and concept and requesting feedback. For the most part, arts programs in Sussex County for children, teens, and adults are expensive. Summer camps and sports are expensive. We collaborate with hundreds of organizations to bring recreational, educational, and cultural programs, classes, and workshops to the public for free. We have become a great equalizer in eastern Sussex County.

Much of the time people think of Lewes as a wealthy retirement area, and while that may be true for most families and retirees living within the City limits, the LPL serves a robust population outside of the City of Lewes including people living in poverty, high-risk individuals, and people of color.

Civil Rights Compliance

The LPL welcomes everyone. Notwithstanding people under the influence of drugs and/ or alcohol, or those violating the library’s Acceptable Behavior Policy, the LPL will not deny service for any reason. We strive to provide equal access to resources and experiences to everyone.



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



Milford Library

Project Identification Number: 19803
Funding amount Budget: \$900,000.00
Expenditures to date: \$117,200.00

Project Overview

Milford Public Library is upgrading our 25-year-old HVAC system to provide cost effective heating and cooling along with improved air quality. Our Feasibility Study has been completed. We have three options to choose from as we move ahead with the project. Unfortunately, with costs spiraling, we have applied for additional funding to complete the project. All our options were over budget. We have chosen the midrange option which has necessitated a need for further funding.

Community Engagement

Upgrading our HVAC system will create a more comfortable environment for our patrons, especially those who spend a significant time in our classrooms and study rooms. We provide programs for people studying English, learning life skills, enjoying socialization, as well as reading and/or listening to books. We have a social worker on staff who meets the ever growing needs of our low income and unhoused patrons.

Newark Library

Project Identification Number: 19804
Funding amount Budget: \$4,000,000.00
Expenditures to date: \$0.00

Project Overview



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



Demolition of the existing 26,000 sq. ft. building and construction of a new 40,000 sq. ft. library with 150 parking spaces. The current building was constructed in 1974 and expanded and renovated in 2003 but has been operating over capacity for some years.

The capital project has begun with the onboarding of both the architectural and construction management firms. Initial project meetings have taken place and the public engagement process has begun.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes & Critical Needs

The mission of the New Castle County Newark Free Library is to create opportunities for lifelong learning, advance literacy, and strengthen connections within the community. The library serves a diverse community with pockets of high-poverty and homelessness. Examples of collections, programs, and services that will be offered in the new library are:

Library Collections:

In addition to a large collection of print and AV materials for all age groups and interests, the library will have these special collections for check-out to library patrons.

- Toniebox - an imagination-building, screen-free digital listening experience that plays stories, songs, and more.
- Library of things – a collection of useful tools and instruments for musical play
- Museum passes for free visits to local museums

Library programs:

In addition to regular programming for all ages, the library will host job fairs, community festivals, concerts, early literacy and computer classes.

Community Spaces:

In addition to study room and meeting room spaces the library will have a Makerspace and Media Lab where the public can access equipment and technology like glowforges, 3D printers, media equipment, etc. to experiment and create.



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



Client Impact, Interviews and Success Stories

The new library will replace an existing smaller facility built in 1974 which is no longer able to meet community needs and has limited parking. In FY2023, the library checked out 417,755 items to patrons, had 107,829 visits as the COVID-19 pandemic subsided, and registered 3,143 new borrowers.

Labor Practices

All Contracts will be per Davis Bacon utilizing the latest prevailing wages as determined by the State. There may be some very selective work that is done through NCC Bid Vendors and thus would be outside of Davis Bacon.

Most contractors will inevitably come from local companies. Smaller selective work outside of the core contracts will come directly out of our local bid vendor pool or from local contractors.

Community Engagement

Initial engagement with the Friends of the Newark Free Library and other library users has been key to moving the project forward. Users of the existing library have provided feedback on deficiencies of the current spaces in addition to what they would like to see in new building.

The ongoing community engagement process is planned to be multi-faceted and seek the widest possible engagement through electronic surveys and community meetings for various stakeholders, including multilingual school communities.

Civil Rights Compliance

New Castle County meets all federal requirements of Civil rights Compliance. We will provide all necessary documents when requested.

Rehoboth Beach Library

Project Identification Number: 19805

Funding amount Budget: \$3,000,000.00



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



Expenditures to date: \$300,000.00

Project Overview

This project is in the very early stages. A renovation of our library located in downtown Rehoboth Beach is being planned. We formed a task force of Community members to give us feedback on what services and programs they would like to see. The library will also include collections, meeting rooms, study rooms, computer, and internet access among other features. The task force is nearing completion and their information will be turned over to the Board of Directors and Becker-Morgan Architects for design to begin. Once we have a design, we will go through the RFP process for the selection of a construction manager and be able to have better estimates for the project. Some of the request so far include the following: new books, new periodicals, collections on-site, high speed internet, printer, copier, tax services, notary, computers, tablets, hot spots, AV, tech support and comfortable areas to read and relax.

We have not encountered any major barriers for this project so far. Traffic and parking issues for our patrons to be able to access services and programs at the library are of concern. While we are looking for other solutions to these concerns, we will do the renovation for the downtown location to provide the desired services to the downtown population, the immediate surrounding residents, and the influx of visitors to our area, especially from May-October.

Achievements so far include the success of dealing with an inaccurate headline in the local newspaper giving the impression that the library was leaving downtown. This has never been the intent of the Board of Trustees! The biggest achievement so far is the creation of the Community Task Force which for the most part has alleviated the concerns about the library leaving town and allowed us to involve the community in the planning of the project. Design being able to start sometime in August is also an achievement.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes & Critical Needs

The funds will be used to provide an environment where resources, internet access, services and programs will be available to all residents and visitors to our community regardless of race, sexual orientation, or socio-economic status. The offerings at the library will enhance patron's ability to search for jobs, complete and submit resumes for potential employment, learn about subjects that can enhance their lives, have access to gathering areas, meeting rooms and private areas for tutoring or business meetings.



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



Community Engagement

A task force of volunteer diverse community members was solicited through the library, local newspaper, civic organizations, and home-owner’s association. This task force has been meeting bi-weekly for 2-3 months. The first few meetings were geared to providing information to the members about the possibilities that could be incorporated into the library, the remainder of the meetings have been and will be devoted to them sharing their feedback. Once initial design is started, they will still be involved to some degree. Also, surveys have been conducted with outreach to the entire library service area through a needs assessment conducted by Becker-Morgan Group and another survey by Horizon Philanthropic. Press releases and editorials have also been published along with some social media outreach.

Civil Rights Compliance

Libraries aim to offer services and programs that meet the needs of all members of their community including people of color, people with low incomes, limited English proficiency and any other underserved groups. We have tried to solicit input from many groups to determine what their needs are and how the library can help meet them, especially, in regards, to furthering education and improving economic situations.

North Wilmington Library

Project Identification Number: 19806

Funding amount (Budget): \$11,000,000.00

Expenditures to date: \$0.00

Project Overview

As a vibrant gathering hub, the North Wilmington Library Campus will welcome all members of the neighborhood into a joyful space and serve as a catalyst for learning and connection for the North Wilmington community. The North Wilmington Library Campus Hub, powered by Delaware Libraries, will be a regional model for cultural, technological, and economic vitality.



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



The site for the facility has been purchased, the project is in design development, and community engagement is ongoing.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes & Critical Needs

Project goals are:

- Foster innovation
- Center North Wilmington’s black community
- Connect community partners
- Support the job seeking population
- Provide a place for teens to turn their passions into careers
- Foster a co-working environment
- Provide a place for upskilling to increase financial stability
- Support community members experiencing homelessness

Advisory Committee goals are:

- Working with local partners
- Engaging youth and children
- Fostering a thriving and enterprising neighborhood
- Improving quality of life
- Intergenerational collaboration

Steering Committee goals are:

- Public space
- A welcoming sense of arrival
- Civic nature
- Encouraging pedestrian life
- Connecting to the North Wilmington Library Branch

Client Impact, Interviews and Success Stories

Outcomes/impacts, projected for 3, 5, and 10 years are:



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



- Cultural Commons
- Health & Wellness
- Business Incubator
- College & Career Pathways
- Content Creation
- Food Justice

Community Engagement

Community engagement has been ongoing throughout the project. Margaret Sullivan Studio is facilitating a human centered design process, engaging with the community and the staff of the Wilmington Institute Free Library and the North Wilmington Branch Library. Focus groups have included civic associations, PTAs, artists, and seniors. Further focus groups are planned, including one for teens. There is an Advisory Committee and a Steering Committee. Both are representative of the community.

The project vision, mission, and goals are a direct result of input from these community groups and include:

- Adult basic education classes
- Career online high school
- Cultural identity
- Digital literacy instruction and guidance
- Diverse programs that will reach patrons of all ages and stages
- English language classes
- Resource/technology assistance for various population groups

Duck Creek Library

Project Identification Number: 19807

Funding amount Budget: \$7,800,000.00

Expenditures to date: \$450,000.00

Project Overview



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



The major objective for this project is the construction of a new 22,000+ sq. ft. library that will provide expanded services to the growing community. The project experienced barriers to progress which included delays in the supply chain, and we are nearing the completion of the construction drawing design plans. The project will be going to bid in August/September 2023 by Richard Y. Johnson Construction Co. Upon approval of the bids, construction will begin late September/October 2023.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes & Critical Needs

All funds are being used for the design and construction of the new 22,000+ sq. ft. library which will better meet the needs of the growing community. This will be a facility with a learning environment where resources, internet access, services and programs will be available to all residents regardless of race, sexual orientation, or socio-economic status. The library will offer opportunities for early literacy, health resources, and job readiness by providing free access to materials, community partners, and special events. This allows families and historically disenfranchised people offerings at the library that will enhance patron's ability to search for jobs, complete and submit resumes for potential employment, learn about subjects that can enhance their lives, have access to gathering areas, meeting rooms and private areas for tutoring or business meetings. The Duck Creek Regional Library will be a trusted resource that people turn to when they need help. The library's staff will give caring assistance to people when they are vulnerable. Smyrna and the surrounding communities are rural without regular public transportation, therefore the services of the library are necessary for people with limited means.

Community Engagement

The process began with a Needs Assessment which included analysis of the demographics of the community and what services they would like to see offered in the new facility. The Duck Creek Regional Library formed focus groups made up of members of the public that advised the library on design, fundraising, and logistics. The library partners with schools, agencies, and other organizations to ensure our services support and promote racial and social equity.

With the support of board members and additional volunteers, the Duck Creek Regional Library has successfully engaged the community through a variety of means. From July 2022-present day, the marketing has included flyers and brochures posted around the community. Public community meetings have been held to help answer questions and receive feedback on what their desires are for the library. Brochures were also distributed through all the schools to every family. Sharing information was also done through newspaper and social media etc.



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



Civil Rights Compliance

Libraries aim to offer services and programs that meet the needs of all members of their community including people of color, people with low incomes, limited English proficiency and any other underserved groups. We have tried to solicit input from many groups to determine what their needs are and how the library can help meet them, especially, in regards, to furthering education and improving economic situations.

We are also investigating the option of having a drive-up window.



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



Multi-Purpose Community Facility Projects

First State Community Action Agency

Project Identification Number: 21166

Funding amount Budget: \$500,000

Expenditures to date: \$0

Project Overview

This project will renovate two community facilities in Sussex County, Delaware and purchase vehicles to connect youth and their families to community-based services at those facilities. These renovations and capital expenditures will increase access to anti-poverty services and programming for low-income Delawareans in rural areas of Bridgeville, Georgetown, and surrounding areas of Sussex County. Use of ARPA CPF funds will increase access to programs addressing needs in these rural low-income communities such as workforce development, education, enrichment, civic engagement and leadership development, health, housing, food and nutrition, economic education, and more for youth and adults.

The project is not yet started however, our first drawdown of funds has been submitted and work will begin as soon as funds are received.

To date, the only barrier the project has faced is the availability of passenger vans. There is a nationwide shortage of passenger vans and we have been quoted with lead times on ordering vans of 3 months to as much as 18 months by different dealers.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes & Critical Needs

The ARPA CPF funds used in this project are improving facilities - and increasing access to facilities by providing transportation - where programming is provided that aims to reduce poverty in low-income communities in Delaware.

First State Community Action Agency currently provides 21 programs aimed at building whole, empowered families and inclusive, healthy communities equipped with the knowledge and tools that they need to thrive. Our organization is strategically aligned into three focus areas – Client-Based



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



Services, Community Services, and Special Projects and Populations. Each organizational domain focuses on core activities that align with the end goal of family and community empowerment and independence. Community organizing, capacity building, leadership and skill development, technical support, advocacy, and direct services are all strategies the agency employs to combat the root causes of poverty. By providing a comprehensive array of services on both the family and community level, First State is working to systematically eliminate the causes and conditions of poverty. Improvements to our facilities will increase the quality and quantity of services we provide. Vehicles will allow us to connect youth and families to those services.

Labor Practices

No funds received in this project reporting period – will update accordingly as project work progresses.

Community Engagement

As a federally-recognized Community Action Agency, we are required to complete a triennial Community Needs Assessment that includes representation and feedback from the communities we serve (individuals, families, and communities in Delaware with incomes at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level). We completed this process in Spring 2022. Focus groups, key informant interviews, surveys, and other tools were used to ensure that we gathered the feedback we need from our service population to continue to provide appropriate services. The capital expenditures of the ARPA CPF funds received for this project will allow for expansion of services and increased access to anti-poverty programs and services that were identified as needed by low-income Sussex County residents during this process.

The Coverdale Crossroads Community Center renovation project is located within one of Sussex County's Impacted Communities (https://sussexcountyde.gov/sites/default/files/PDFs/ImpactedCommunities_Final.pdf). This community is 87% African American and 86% households in the community are considered Low to Moderate Income Households. The community has identified significant needs related to infrastructure, housing, workforce development, youth educational and enrichment opportunities, food and nutrition, and public safety. These needs were amplified during the COVID-19 pandemic. Programming in the Community Center will work to address these needs.



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



The 308 N. Railroad Ave. facility in Georgetown facility is located squarely in a neighborhood known as Kimmeytown. Kimmeytown was historically working-class neighborhood that has metamorphosed into a predominately Latino community. The neighborhood is also where approximately 90% of Georgetown’s unsheltered population lives. Services in this facility meet the needs of these two unique populations, as well as the greater needs of the overall low-income Sussex County population.

Code Purple Kent County

Project Identification Number: 21167

Funding amount Budget: \$550,000.00

Expenditures to date: \$0.00

Project Overview

To expand the day center to provide public access to Wi-Fi to help employment searches, workforce development, and online educational opportunities. The project is still being reviewed and first payment from the treasury is pending and reporting for expenditures is not ready to be reported as of yet from the funding provided. Planning has begun and administrative cost covered by Code Purple, and not this grant, have been incurred as well as paper supplies, printing and meeting time expenses have been paid separately from this grant.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes & Critical Needs

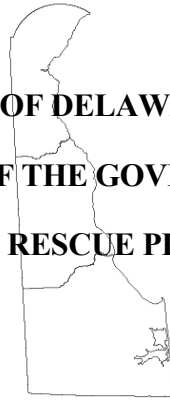
Project is still being reviewed and first payment from the treasury is pending and reporting for expenditures is not ready to be reported as of yet from the funding provided. Planning has begun and administrative cost covered by Code Purple, and not this grant, have been incurred as well as paper supplies, printing and meeting time expenses have been paid separately from this grant.

Community Engagement

Project is still being reviewed and first payment from the treasury is pending and reporting for expenditures is not ready to be reported as of yet from the funding provided. Planning has begun and administrative cost covered by Code Purple, and not this grant, have been incurred as well as paper supplies, printing and meeting time expenses have been paid separately from this grant.



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



Food Bank of DE – Milford

Project Identification Number: 21174

Funding amount Budget: \$5,552,346.00

Expenditures to date: \$0

Project Overview

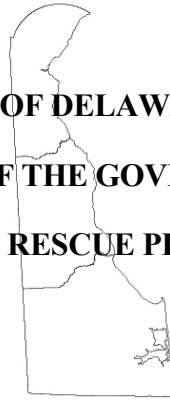
The global pandemic has caused FBD to reach its breaking point in the current 16,000 square foot building in Milford. The FBD has purchased an 11.5-acre parcel of land which is shovel ready adjacent to the Delaware Veterans Home and the Greater Milford Boys and Girls Club. The new building will be approximately 67,000 square feet and will include the following features to increase FBD's impact on hunger in Kent and Sussex counties. The entire capital campaign budget is projected to be \$34 million. This request will fund a significant portion of the overall campaign.

The requested funding will focus on funding a portion of the capital expenses focusing on 6 key priority areas:

- Expanded cold storage to safely and efficiently store more nutritious, perishable foods like meat, dairy products, fruits and vegetables.
- Expanded warehouse space to increase efficiency and capacity to serve those in need.
- Dedicated space for a Healthy Pantry Center to provide food assistance and community resources directly to our neighbors.
Expanded volunteer room for volunteer activities like food sorting and meal box creation to meet our daily production needs.
- Dedicated classroom and practical space to train Delawareans for careers in warehousing/logistics through our L.O.G.I.C. (Logistics, Operations, General Warehousing and Inventory Control) and Culinary programs.
- Outdoor garden space to grow our own foods and to provide educational opportunities for the community and joint programming with our neighbors the Greater Milford Boys and Girls Club and the Delaware Veterans Home.



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



Food Bank of DE – Newark

Project Identification Number: 21175

Funding amount Budget: \$1,900,000.00

Expenditures to date: \$0.00

Project Overview

The Food Bank of Delaware (FBD) has requested support in the amount is \$1,900,000 to expand our statewide food insecurity response from the main facility in Newark through identified capital improvements. The long-term impacts of the COVID-19 crisis and sustained increase in demand for services has accelerated FBD's needs to further expand the infrastructure at 222 Lake Drive in Newark. Prior to the global pandemic, FBD distributed 8.5 million lbs of food assistance each year, FBD now plans to distribute 16 million lbs + of food on an annual basis. The requested funding will allow the organization to operate more efficiently while maximizing our capacity to continue to meet the long-term impact on the increased number of neighbors in need of food assistance and other critical social services. Request includes:

1. **Parking (\$800,000):** Parking will be added to the existing 23-acre campus, converting a wooded area adjacent to the lake at the front entrance to the facility gaining an additional 71 spots, doubling our current capacity. This parking lot will be utilized by volunteers daily given its proximity to the Volunteer Room entrance. Since returning to more normalized operations, parking is insufficient forcing staff, visitors, and volunteers to park on the street/cul de sac. The facility averages 75-100 total visits per day when factoring in staff, volunteers, employment training students, community partners, and visitors. When there is a special event such as employment training class graduation, current parking is strained even further as normal operation levels are maintained.
2. **Office expansion in Newark (\$600,000):** The expanded organizational chart will continue to be a critical resource to meeting the long-term increase in demand for our services. Since 2021, FBD staff working primarily in the Newark facility has expanded from 43 employees to 69 employees. The requested funding will add 11 additional offices surrounding the Healthy Pantry Center. Staff functions which will fill these new offices will include; Healthy Pantry Center Coordinator, Home Delivery Coordinator, Community Pantry Relations, Backpack Program Coordinator, Nutrition, SNAP Outreach, Supportive Training and Employment Program (STEP) Coordinator. These positions currently share open space workstations or are located in the Healthy Pantry Center/warehouse open floor plan.



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



3. The Healthy Pantry Center (HPC) (\$500,000) construction will focus on indoor and outdoor improvements to enhance the customer experience and accessibility. The HPC serves approximately 50 households per day in a contactless service model keeping neighbors, staff, and volunteers safe. Currently there are two service models to provide food assistance to our neighbors in need:
 - Contactless where neighbors remain in their car while staff and volunteers deliver preselected and packed food options.
 - Home Delivery options where Amazon drivers make pre-order food box pickups for delivery.

As FBD continues to move away from operational changes in response to COVID-19, HPC staff will endeavor to have neighbors in need return for onsite services. The requested funding will further support this goal through the following HPC capital improvements:

- Converting the space to a true retail experience to empower our neighbors to select items to meet their family's needs in a dignified setting. The current HPC is open to the warehouse with a chain link fence separating the spaces. The proposed improvements will enclose the HPC and remove the chain-link space to enhance the onsite experience of our neighbors and volunteers supporting the operations of the HPC. Rear loaded, retail style refrigeration/freezers will also be added ensuring that there is adequate access to fresh dairy, proteins and produce.
- HPC waiting room where neighbors in need can wait and/or receive services in a private and dignified manner.
- The outdoor area where neighbors will access the HPC is currently uncovered and would benefit from a roof to offer protection from the elements.