

Entry #: 25 - Homeless Outreach - Shower and Laundry Trailers**Status:** Submitted**Submitted:** 10/12/2022 9:58 AM

Please review the ARPA guidelines and allowable uses for SLFRF funds before completing this form. Complete this form to the best of your ability, and answer questions in complete sentences. Any questions about projects or information to include in the form should be addressed to Everett Ashford (Everett.Ashford@gastongov.com).

About

Gaston County requests proposals from its internal departments for projects to help the community recover from and respond to COVID-19, as well as propel our community forward through eligible uses of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund monies.

Gaston County has been awarded \$43,612,126 in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (Recovery Funding), as part of the American Rescue Plan Act. This infusion of federal resources is intended to help turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout, and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery.

Gaston County is committed to investing these funds in projects that:

- Align to county strategic plan and community priorities
- Support equitable outcomes for most impacted populations
- Leverage and align with other governmental funding sources
- Make best use of this one-time infusion of resources
- Have a lasting impact

[Click here to read the County's ARPA project selection process, including a project ranking methodology.](#)

[Click here to learn more about compliance.](#)

[Click here to learn more about eligible uses of the County's ARPA funding.](#)

Timeline

- May 2021: County received initial ARPA funding
- August 31, 2021: Began quarterly financial reporting
- December 31, 2022: Second quarterly report
- December 2024: All funds must be encumbered
- December 2026: All funds must be spent

Form Instructions

Availability: This form will not close. Submissions will be reviewed in the order they are received.

Save and Resume Later: Clicking the Save button (bottom right of form) will save your progress and allow you to either copy or email a personalized link to your in-progress entry. This link may be shared with others. Anyone who has the link to the saved form entry can pick up where you left off and complete your submission.

Submit: When your form is complete and ready for review by the ARPA Project Review Committee, click submit. You will not be able to edit the form after you click submit. If you need make any changes to your form after submission, please contact Budget.

Confirmation Email: When you click submit, you will receive a confirmation email to the email address listed in the "Primary Contact Personnel Email" field. It will include a copy of your entry details in the body of the email, as well as a link for viewing your submission online, which may be shared with anyone.

Questions?

Contact Everett Ashford

Project Name

Homeless Outreach - Shower and Laundry Trailers

Department Name and Number

4120 - County Manager

Primary Contact Personnel

Elizabeth

McGee

Primary Contact Personnel Email *

elizabeth.harry@gastongov.com

Location of Project (if applicable)

North Carolina

Treasury Expenditure Category Level

2. Negative Economic Impacts

Treasury Expenditure Category

2.21 Medical Facilities for Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Please refer to the [SLFRF Compliance and Reporting Guidance](#) for the expenditure categories at the end of the document on pages 42-46 and report the one that corresponds with your project.

Description of Project

Gaston County Manager's Office, the Homelessness Prevention Committee, and the Gaston-Lincoln-Cleveland Continuum of Care (GLC COC) propose to use ARPA funds to support an ongoing collaborative street outreach initiative. The initiative offers a mobile one-stop-shop for unhoused and low-income populations to access social services, healthcare, housing, behavioral health, and other supportive services. It is organized by a collaborative network of nonprofit, government, and faith-based organizations who specialize in providing these services to homeless and low-income populations. There is demand to host the one-stop-shop at locations across Gaston County, especially in disadvantaged communities or isolated encampments which have difficulty in securing transportation to access services. Specifically, ARPA funds would be used to purchase (1) shower trailer and (1) laundry trailer for the mobile one-stop-shop, as well as additional program supplies such as a tent, table and chairs, portable heater, generator, and storage containers. This equipment will be used to offer immediate relief and mobile hygiene services to unhoused populations. This aligns with the best-practice health equity approach. The overall strategy of offering shower and laundry service is to: - build trust with the unhoused - improve short-term health outcomes - increase the likelihood of long-term treatment and recover

Provide a short summary of your proposed project.

Project Start Date

12/5/2022

Project End Date**Project Plan**

The County will own, transport, and service the trailers. HealthNet Gaston, the lead agency of the GLC COC, will operate the facilities while providing street outreach to users. HealthNet has an existing street outreach team that specializes in connecting unhoused populations to low- or no-cost healthcare and behavioral health. They have agreed to operate the trailers at least once a week. A detailed Memorandum of Understanding between the County and HealthNet Gaston is in progress. It will enumerate the division of responsibilities between the two lead agencies (County and HealthNet), as well as additional support duties of other agencies who are involved. For example, faith community leaders are asked to regularly stock the trailers with consumables such as shampoo, detergent, cleaning supplies, towels, and clothing. Two Rivers Utilities is asked to donate water dumping services. The County-led Homelessness Prevention Committee is also in the process of drafting a shower/laundry trailer usage policy. This policy describes how the group will handle requests for service outside of HealthNet's regularly scheduled route, and qualifications and responsibilities of any agency wishing to utilize the trailers. The policy will also include a data collection and sharing plan, so the County can keep track of program data needed for ARPA reporting.

Explain how the project will be structured and implemented, including timeframe.

Please explain both the NC state and federal legal authority to undertake this program.

The shower and laundry trailers will be fully ADA accessible. GS 160D-1311 enables the County to engage in and accept federal assistance for programs that are concerned with the welfare needs of persons with low and moderate income.

Link to COVID-19 IF Project is under Expenditure Category Levels 1-4, NOT Required for Levels 5-7

The primary population served by the shower and laundry trailers are defined by Treasury as assumed to be disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

Identify a health or economic harm resulting from or exacerbated by the public health emergency, describe the nature and extent of that harm, and explain how the use of this funding would address such harm.

Statement of Need

Even before the pandemic, homelessness has been a top public health issue nationwide. The pandemic highlighted disparities in access to care and health outcomes for unhoused populations. Current best practice advocates the application of a health equity lens when designing solutions to address public health disparities among disadvantaged populations (Michener, et al.). The health equity approach prioritizes community partnerships that build trust and respond to the individualized needs of clients. It is built around the social determinants of health---meaning, issues such as housing and employment can have a dramatic impact on public health outcomes. In 2021, the Intergovernmental and Interagency Task Force on Homelessness in Gaston County wrote a report on the state of homelessness in Gaston County, which included data points demonstrating the need for services for this population. The group recommended coordinated, interagency street outreach as one solution. Attached are reports from the Continuum of care on the existing housing inventory in the County, the Point in Time Count, and the Task Force's report on homelessness in the County. Michener, et al. (2020). "Engaging With Communities — Lessons (Re)Learned From COVID-19". Preventing Chronic Disease. DOI: [https:// doi.org/10.5888/pcd17.200250](https://doi.org/10.5888/pcd17.200250).

Describe the need that this project will address. Include data to demonstrate the need, and cite the source of the data.

Population Served (Is it serving a QCT [Qualified Census Tract] or disproportionately impacted communities?)

The trailers and associated one-stop-shop are intended specifically for unhoused and low-income populations. Because it is mobile it will be deployed so it is accessible to these populations all across the County, including QCTs. The exact location of regular locations is to be determined.

Results

This initiative aims to not only offer immediate access to hygiene and healthcare, but also to connect users into the Continuum of Care's Coordinated Entry Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS). Program data will be able to be exported from this system. The ultimate goal of these street outreach efforts is to improve health outcomes and secure housing for target populations. Potential performance measures: - Number of people served - Number and type of referrals - % placed into housing

Describe the proposed impact of the project. List at least 3 performance measures that will be tracked and reported. If possible, include baselines and goals for each performance measure.

Evaluation

A data collection and data sharing agreement will be included in the shower/laundry trailer policy currently in development by the Homelessness Prevention Committee. This committee will also take the lead on program evaluation and collecting data from any program partners, such as HealthNet Gaston.

Describe the data collection, analysis, and quality assurance measures you will use to assure ongoing, effective tracking of contract requirements and outcomes.

Equity Impact

This program is heavily informed by the health equity approach to service delivery. The mobile delivery model is a strategic solution to the challenges of transportation and accessibility for both urban and rural areas of the County. Mobile shower and laundry units are essential to a coordinated street outreach initiative. This equipment enables the street outreach team to bring basic hygiene and healthcare services into underserved areas, thereby reaching populations who have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In Gaston County as well as nationwide, there are persistent disparities in both health and economic outcomes among underserved populations, including the unhoused. The initiative will support and amplify ongoing efforts to aid these populations and will improve coordination between stakeholders. All participating agencies are committed to providing services to people experiencing homelessness without discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, or political beliefs.

Project Partners

All partners are non-funded. An estimated breakdown of the amount of labor needed per partner is: 80% - HealthNet Gaston's street outreach team utilizes the trailers as part of their outreach efforts to homeless populations in Gaston County 15% - Gaston County transports and services the equipment 5% - Volunteers assist with staffing and keeping the program stocked with supplies

Identify any subcontractors you intend to use for the proposed scope of work. For each subcontractor listed, indicate:

- 1.) *What products and/or services are to be supplied by that subcontractor and;*
- 2) *What percentage of the overall scope of work that subcontractor will perform.*

Also, list non-funded key partners critical to project.

Capacity

No ARPA funds will be distributed to program partners for this project. Program partners (including HealthNet Gaston and any other agency who assists in offering the trailers as part of a street outreach event) will be required to collect and share specific program data as part of the agreement for use of the trailers. As lead agency of the Continuum of Care, HealthNet is very accustomed to reporting on federal grants. The Continuum of Care is the primary vehicle for receiving and distributing federal Housing and Urban Development grants on homelessness in the Gaston County area. They are already required to regularly collect and report on a number of demographic and programmatic variables. HealthNet's street outreach staff are accustomed to the type of work that will be needed to operate the shower and laundry trailers. GEMS staff regularly transports equipment such as the shower and laundry trailers. County staff has been involved in the planning for this project from its inception, and is prepared to take on the service and maintenance of this equipment.

Describe the background, experience, and capabilities of your organization or department as it relates to capacity for delivering the proposed project and managing federal funds.

Sustainability

Once the equipment is acquired, the County is prepared to take on the costs associated with regular maintenance, fuel, and staff time to service the equipment.

Describe the financial sustainability of this project AFTER the ARPA award term is over (December 31, 2026). I.E. How is this going to be funded once the ARPA money runs out? Please provide specific information regarding funding.

Special Considerations

Provide any other information that might assist the County in its selection.

Budget

All costs are one-time costs. In future years, any needs for program supplies will be coordinated via donations through the faith community and other program partners.

Provide a detailed project budget including all proposed project revenues and expenditures, including explanations and methodology. If you prefer to upload an Excel budget, you may do so below in "Attachments."

Attachments

Upload

 or drag files here.

- [CoC_PopSub_CoC_NC-509-2021_NC_2021.pdf](#)
0.2 MB

[↓](#) [⊗](#)
- [PCD-17-E65.pdf](#)
0.4 MB

[↓](#) [⊗](#)
- [CoC_Dash_CoC_NC-509-2021_NC_2021.pdf](#)
0.4 MB

[↓](#) [⊗](#)
- [21-12-07 Homelessness Task Force Report.pdf](#)
8.5 MB

[↓](#) [⊗](#)
- [HNG-CoC Letter of Support.pdf](#)
0.2 MB

[↓](#) [⊗](#)

Revenues

If your project will be supported by a combination of funds in addition to ARPA funding, please list them here. For all revenue sources, list the funder and denote whether funds are confirmed or pending. If you are requesting a 100% ARPA-funded project, please indicate how much you plan to spend each fiscal year.

		FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26
⊗	ARPA Grant Funding		\$222,200.00			
		\$0.00	\$222,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

+ Add Line Item

Expenditures

For project expenses, denote all capital vs. operating costs, and reflect which specific expenses are proposed to be funded with one-time Gaston County Recovery Funds.

	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26
⊗ Shower trailer		\$115,000.00			
⊗ Laundry Trailer		\$105,000.00			
⊗ Generator		\$500.00			
⊗ Heaters x3		\$900.00			
⊗ Tent, table, chairs		\$300.00			
⊗ Program supplies		\$500.00			
	\$0.00	\$222,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

+ Add Line Item

Total Expenditures: **Untitled**
\$222,200.00