

York County Board of Commissioners allocates \$42 million in COVID relief capital

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York County's small businesses and nonprofits, as well as businesses in the tourism and hospitality industry, will receive a portion of the county's remaining American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

The York County Board of Commissioners approved the allocation of nearly \$42 million of its ARPA funds to inject capital into various industries within the county as well as reimburse the county for COVID-related expenses.

The allocation in funds was structured by recommendations from the YoCo Strong Recovery Task Force and include up to \$2 million to stabilize and jumpstart York County's tourism and hospitality industry, \$18 million for small business and nonprofit organizations, and \$21 million for the county for existing and future expenses related to the pandemic.

The commissioners went on to list a series of funding priorities as part of the allocated funds. Priorities include: \$1 million for learning centers and childcare services, \$1 million for senior centers, \$1 million for the York County History Center, \$1.5 million to United Way partner organizations, and \$9.5 million to launch a second round of Restart grants.

"This economically-critical action will provide significant investment and the infusion of capital into York County's rebounding economy," said Julie Wheeler, York County president commissioner. "We believe it will provide funding to many sectors of our economy to stabilize businesses and organizations across the entire county as well as continue our recovery."

York County previously used a portion of its over \$87 million in ARPA funds to expand and enhance broadband and wireless internet connectivity throughout the county and to fund the former CHIRP program.

The county will have over \$19 million in ARPA funds left over after this most recent allocation.