



# **COVID-19 Pandemic Recovery and Investment**



**County Administrator's  
Response and Recovery Coordination Committee**

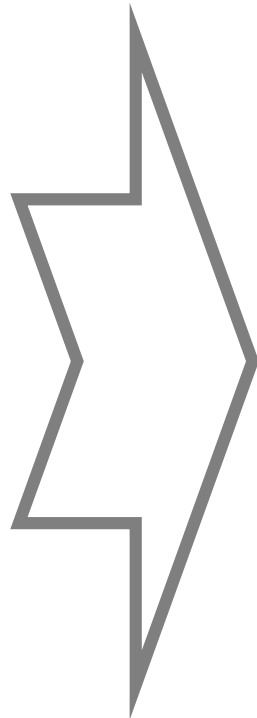
**December 10, 2021**

- **Purpose**
  - Provide direction to Staff for the use of ARPA funds
- **Agenda**
  - **8.2 Update on strategic priorities and planning**
    - Priority Investments
    - Outreach and Community Engagement
    - Compliance and Reporting
  - **8.3 Discussion and direction on specific focus areas, projects, and funding**
    - Task Force Update – Economic and Business Investment
    - Task Force Update – Public Health
    - Task Force Update – Investment in County Operations

### Planning Teams / Task Forces

#### Reporting Categories

Public Health (PH)
Negative Economic Impacts (EI)
Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (IC)
Infrastructure (I)
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- Household Assistance
- Infrastructure and Facility Investment
- **Economic and Business Investment**
- Public Health
- Investment in County Operations

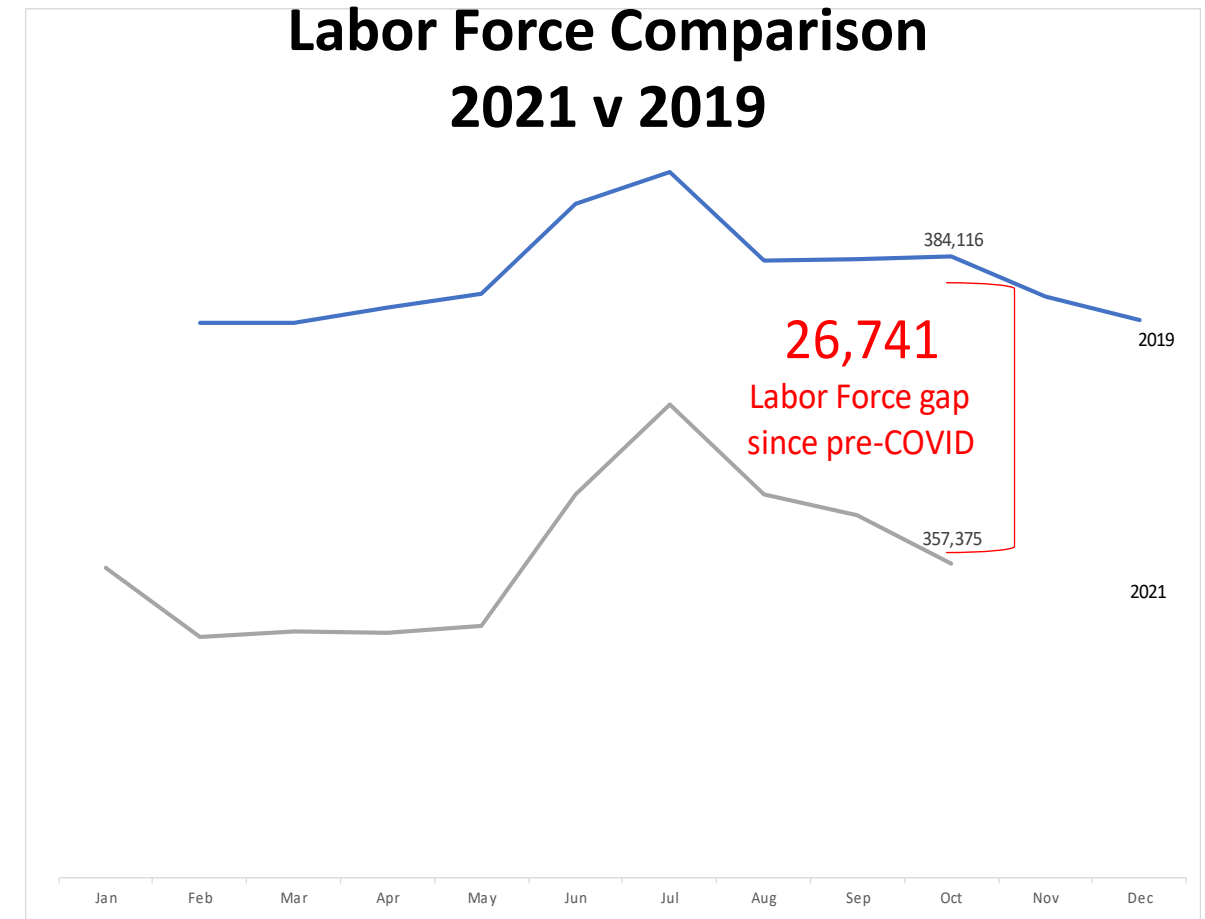
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- The following strategies will be discussed:
  - Small Business Assistance
    - Work-based training tuition
    - Work-based training wages
    - Expansion of Summer Youth Program to Year-Round
    - Automation Grants
    - Workforce Outreach and Recruitment
    - Marketing of Job Center services & resources
  - Regional Economic Development Support
  - Hospitality and Tourism Industry Support
  - Economic Development Opportunity – Infrastructure

# Trends and Forecast

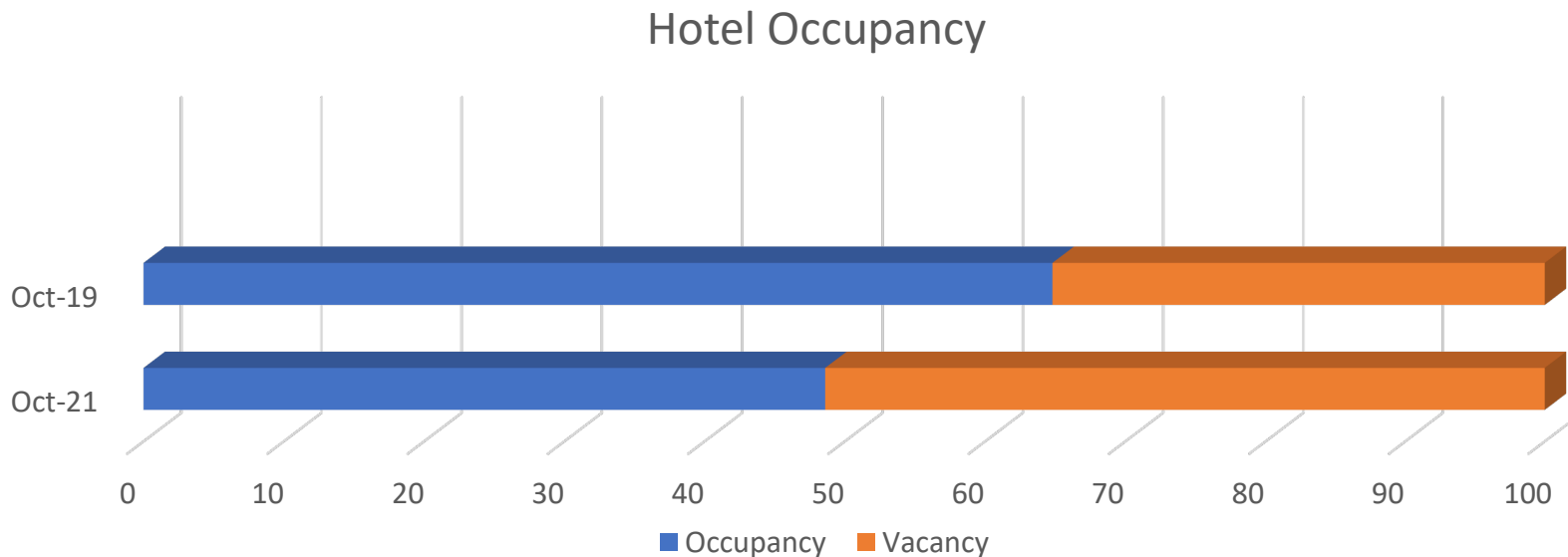
- Workforce availability is the #1 economic challenge
  - Across all industry sectors
  - Labor Force 2yr Change: (26,741)
  - Employment 2yr Change: (27,637)
  - Unemployed: 14,360 (4.0%)
- Over 25,000 current open positions
- Employee turnover is up
- Employers lowering requirements to find candidates, leading to skills gap



Source: IDES, October 2021

# Trends and Forecast

- Through Oct 2021, the occupancy at Lake County hotels was 48.6%
  - Pre-COVID (Oct. 2019) occupancy was 64.8%
- Revenue from guest rooms is down \$61 million over 2019
  - Not including the millions lost in food & beverage sales at hotels



# Small Business Assistance

ARPA Categories: Job Training Assistance & Small Business Econ. Assistance



## Top Recommendation

- **Overview:**
  - **Workforce Development is requesting \$1.7 million in ARPA funding to expand job training programs**
    - Assist small businesses with wage subsidies for new hires
    - Reimburse occupational skills training to broaden the talent pool
    - Serve the long-term unemployed
- **Goal:**
  - Develop workforce development solutions with employers to meet hiring needs and address the skills gap
  - Connect 80 job seekers to work-based learning opportunities
  - Subsidize wages for the newly hired to earn as they learn
  - Reimburse occupational training for 20 job seekers assessed as needing additional technical skills
  - Successfully transition job seekers into employment
- **Investment:**
  - \$1.5M (+) work-based training wages
  - \$200K (+) occupational training tuition
  - Leveraging US DOL WIOA Grants
  - NOTE: 2 years of funding requested with option to expand if the need continues, and funding made available for an additional staff member.
- Submitted by: Workforce Development

# Workforce Outreach and Recruitment

ARPA Categories: Job Training & Small Business Economic Assistance



- **Overview:**
  - Develop outreach and recruitment strategies to increase services in underserved communities and provide greater access to workshops, career services, skills development and jobs.
- **Goal:**
  - Outreach and recruitment strategies to underserved communities
  - Expand the outreach of WDD beyond the Job Center
  - Collaborate with community and state partners to increase awareness of services
- **Investment:**
  - \$100K
  - Leveraging US DOL WIOA Grants
- **Submitted by:** Workforce Development (WDD)





# Small Manufacturer Automation

ARPA Category: Public Health: Other Economic Support



- **Overview:**
  - To address the severe labor shortage, many larger manufacturers are investing in automation and process enhancements. Smaller firms have not had the bandwidth to evaluate and implement these enhancements, though they could actually see some of the biggest gains.
  - This project would establish an automation matching grant program for small manufacturers (less than 100 employees), to help them build capacity and create higher paying jobs.
- **Goals:**
  - Support small manufacturers, enabling productivity growth, and upskilling current jobs and employees. Training of existing workers to operate new equipment and processes.
- **Investment:**
  - \$2,000,000
    - Grants would be a 2-for-1 match, capped at \$250,000 each. Company would be required to contribute \$125,000 for a total of \$375,000. Most projects would likely be half of that amount.
- **Submitted by:** Lake County Partners



# Support Hospitality Businesses

ARPA Category: Public Health-Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality



- **Overview:**
  - Rebuild the visitor economy in the county
  - Assist restaurants, hotels and other hospitality businesses which continue to suffer the effects of the pandemic.
- **Goals:**
  - Marketing campaign in summer of 2022 (\$150,000 plus \$150,000 match)
  - Business Incentive Fund - aid in securing in-person meetings and sports events to bring back guests to hotels. (\$250,000)
  - Marketing Support Scholarship Program - To support approximately 30 small hospitality businesses per year that suffered financial hardships during pandemic, especially in underserved communities like Waukegan, Zion and North Chicago. (\$25,000)
  - Destination/Tourism Marketing Intelligence (\$200,000) mobile technology to measure visitor trips to Lake County and provide data on visitor origins, volume, activities and overnight stays.
- **Investment:**
  - \$625,000
- **Submitted by:** Lake County Convention and Visitors Bureau (VLC)



# Economic Development and Jobs

ARPA Category: Clean Water - Other Sewer Infrastructure



- **Overview:**
  - Bring Sewer Infrastructure to the Lake County Gateway Zoning District (225 acres) at NE corner of Rte. 173/I-94
  - In 2019, site lost a very significant economic development deal (400+ jobs, \$115M) because it did not already have sewer service pulled to the site.
  - This project, already studied by LCPW, would pull sewer service from Antioch through this site, all the way to Hwy 41.
- **Goals:**
  - Making a prime site shovel-ready, could bring hundreds of jobs to the area
  - Create significant incremental property tax revenue, especially for the Beach Park Middle School and Zion Benton High School Districts.
- **Investment: \$16,700,000**
- **Submitted by: Lake County Partners / Lake County Public Works**



# Regional Economic Support

ARPA Category: Public Health - Other Economic Support



- **Overview:**
  - Regional Economic Development - CMAP is currently funding an assessment of the region to address economically disadvantaged areas and areas disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 throughout all 7 counties, plus the City of Chicago.
- **Goals:**
  - Establish a regional economic development organization whose focus would be job creation/development.
  - Collaborate and coordinate on economic development and COVID-19 recovery activities.
  - Promote the region's economic development attractiveness and economic mobility opportunities to advance the region with economic strategies to support global competitiveness and inclusive growth.
  - The primary outcome of this project will be business attraction. Much of that audience is currently outside of Illinois.
- **Investment:**
  - \$2.5 M over 3 years
- **Submitted by: Lake County Partners**



# **Summary of Recommendations**



# Direct Small Business Assistance



- **Workforce -**

- Work-based training wages ~ 80 people
- Occupational training tuition ~ 20 people
- Expand Summer Youth program to be year-round?

Anticipated to serve  
~ 50 small businesses

Can scale up

- **Manufacturing**

- Automation and Process Improvement Grants (equipment, software, training)

- **Hospitality –**

- Marketing Support scholarships ~ 30 Small Businesses

# Indirect Business Support & Other Strategies

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- **Marketing** (Workforce and VLC)
- **Business Incentive Fund** (VLC)
- **Destination/Tourism Marketing Intelligence** (VLC)
- **Recruitment & Outreach to find applicants to fill job openings** (Workforce)
- **Regional Economic Development Plan** (CMAP/Lake County Partners)

## Other Strategies

- **Shovel Ready Site - Sewer to Wadsworth Site**
- **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) initiatives**

# Cost Summary

Strategy	Focus Area(s)	Investment
Work-based training wages	Small Business Assistance /Workforce	\$1,500,000 (+)
Occupational training tuition	Small Business Assistance /Workforce	\$200,000 (+)
Outreach and recruitment tools and toolkits	Workforce	\$100,000
Automation Grants	Small Business Assistance / Workforce	\$2,000,000 (+/-)
Marketing Support Scholarship Program	Small Business Assistance /Hospitality/Tourism	\$25,000
Marketing Campaign	Hospitality/ Tourism	\$150,000
Business Incentive Fund	Hospitality / Tourism	\$250,000
Destination/Tourism Marketing Intelligence	Hospitality / Tourism	\$200,000
Regional Economic Development Plan	Economic Development	\$2,500,000
Comprehensive Economic Dev. Strategy (CEDS)	Economic Development	In Development
Sewer to site to make Shovel Ready	Economic Development	\$16,700,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$23,625,000 +/-</b>



# Questions & Direction

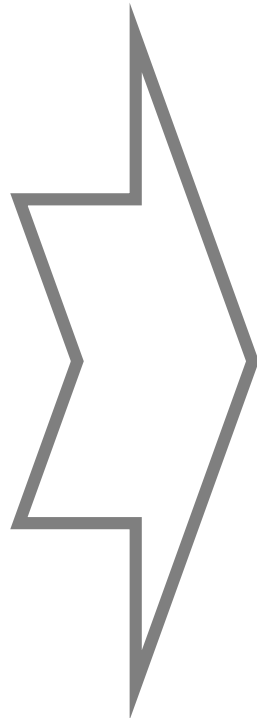
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# 2021 COVID Response Grants



GRANTOR	AWARD NAME	PURPOSE	AWARD DATE	PERFORMANCE PERIOD	AWARD AMOUNT
HRSA	<b>FY2020 Expanding Capacity for Coronavirus Testing (ECT)</b>	To support activities to purchase, administer and expand capacity for testing for COVID-19.	5/4/2020	5/1/20-4/30/22	<b>\$680,674.00</b>
HRSA	<b>American Rescue Plan Act Funding for Health Centers (H8F)</b>	To support and expand COVID-19 vaccination, testing, and treatment for vulnerable populations; deliver needed preventive and primary health care services to those at higher risk for COVID-19; and expand health centers' operational capacity during the pandemic and beyond, including modifying and improving physical infrastructure and adding mobile units.	3/26/2021	4/1/21-3/31/23	<b>\$8,760,875.00</b>
HRSA	<b>Health Center Infrastructure Support (C8E)</b>	One-time funding supports construction, expansion, alteration, renovation, and other capital improvements to modify, enhance, and expand health care infrastructure.	8/23/2021	9/15/21-9/14/24	<b>\$927,053.00</b>
IDPH	<b>COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Grant (Extended to 12/31/22)</b>	To help prevent transmission of COVID-19 through mass vaccination efforts within local communities. To help defray costs associated with the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine as well as relieve some financial burden from local health departments.	2/26/2021	12/1/20-11/30/21 (EXTENSION 12/31/2022)	<b>\$1,750,000.00</b>

# 2021 COVID Response Grants



GRANTOR	AWARD NAME	PURPOSE	AWARD DATE	PERFORMANCE PERIOD	AWARD AMOUNT
IDPH	<b>COVID-19 Contact Tracing Grant (Extended to 3/31/22)</b>	The COVID-19 Contact Tracing Grant provides funding to augment ongoing contact tracing programs. The funding will support building capacity, responding to outbreaks in congregate settings, facilities and community and performing necessary interventions, collaborating and providing for resource coordination, having surge support for call centers and follow-up, promoting testing in vulnerable and health disparity populations, ensuring health equity and addressing community and regional network for successful sustainability of the local contact tracing program.	7/7/2020	6/01/20-12/31/21 (EXTENSION 3/31/2022)	<b>\$7,905,757.98</b>
IPHCA (IL Primary Health Care Association)	<b>Pandemic Health Navigator</b>	To provide and use Pandemic Health Navigators (PHNs) to help prevent transmission of COVID-19 through education and outreach to vulnerable communities, coordination of resources for those infected or exposed, and providing contact tracing support to the IL Contact Tracing Collaborative.	2/1/2021	2/1/21-6/30/22	<b>\$2,333,333.33</b>
IDPH	<b>COVID+ Grant/Workforce Funding</b>	Funds are being made available by OPR to conduct activities necessary to expand, train, and sustain a response-ready public health workforce at the local level. This funding is intended to establish, expand, train, and sustain the public health workforce to support jurisdictional COVID-19 prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery initiatives.	Application Due 12/17/21	1/1/22-6/30/23	<b>\$1,037,539.00</b>

# 2021 Behavior Health Grants



GRANTOR	AWARD NAME	PURPOSE	AWARD AMOUNT (YEAR 1)
SAMHSA	Mental Health Awareness Training	To continue the Mental Health First Aid trainings in the community and add Youth Mental Health First Aid to the courses offered.	\$125,000.00
IDPH DHS	Program 590 Crisis Care System	Will create mobile crisis teams that will respond to mental health crises in the community 24-hours a day.	\$1,900,000.00

**NOTE:** A second SAMHSA grant (System of Care) that was partly intended to fund 2 counsellors at the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) was not obtained, but those positions were funded via an ARPA request

# Public Health Assistance

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- **Due to other funding streams and grants, no ARPA funding (at this time) for direct COVID-19 response efforts**

# Questions & Direction

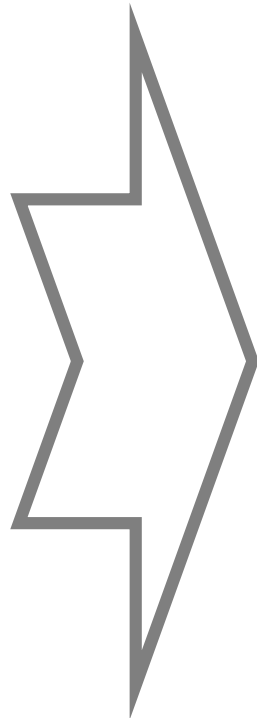
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# Invest in County (Local) Operations

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- **Revenue Replacement / Provision of Government Services**
  - Smaller, one-time investments / expenses (“NPR” list)
  - Technology investments
    - Implementation costs [Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), RMS / JMS, etc.]
    - Capabilities to further integrate and expand remote workforce
    - Enterprise-wide cyber-security resources and capabilities
  - Projects with local entities
    - Partner on mutually important projects
    - Require / request matching funds
- **Premium Pay for authorized employees**

# Premium Pay

- **Guidance**
  - May provide premium pay to eligible workers performing essential work during COVID-19
  - “Work involving regular in-person interactions or regular physical handling of items that were also handled by others”
  - Individuals who teleworked from a residence may not receive premium pay
- **Analysis**
  - Numerous second and third order effects (with risk)
  - Very complex to implement
- **No recommendation at this time**
  - Continuing analysis and pursuit of alternatives

# Questions & Direction

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# ARPA Budget

By Task Force and Based on Priorities



## Allocations (\$136M)

• Household Assistance	<i>\$12.0 – \$30.0M (Preliminary)</i>
• Infrastructure and Facility Investment	<i>\$18.0 – \$60.0M (Preliminary)</i>
• Economic and Business Investment	<b>\$XX.XM</b>
• Public Health	<b>\$XX.XM</b>
• Investment in County Operations	<b>\$XX.XM</b>
• Contingency	<b>\$XX.XM</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b><i>\$30.0M – \$90.0M</i></b>



# Questions

