

NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NACO)

Board of Directors' Meeting

March 26th, 9:30 a.m.

Virtual Attendance Only

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC:

The State of Nevada is currently in a declared State of Emergency in response to the global pandemic caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19). In accordance with the Governor's Declaration of Emergency Directive 006, which has suspended the provisions of NRS 241.020 requiring the designation of a physical location for meetings of public bodies where members of the public are permitted to attend and participate, public meetings of the Nevada Association of Counties will NOT have a physical location open to the public until such time this Directive is removed.

The public may provide public comment in advance of a meeting by written submission to the following email address: info@nvnaco.org For inclusion or reference in the minutes of the meeting, your public comment must include your full name and be submitted via email by not later than 3:00 p.m. the day before the meeting.

The public may also join the meeting via telephone and provide verbal public comment during designated times by calling: (669)900-9128 Meeting ID: 894 6539 0412 Passcode: 152642

AGENDA

NACO Board members may attend via phone or video from other locations. Items on the agenda may be taken out of order. The NACO Board may combine two or more agenda items for consideration. The NACO Board may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time.

Call to Order, Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

1. Public Comment. Please Limit Comments to 3 Minutes.
2. Approval of Agenda. **For Possible Action.**
3. NACO President's Report.
4. NACO Executive Director's Report.
5. Approval of Minutes of the February 26, 2020 NACO Board of Directors Meeting. **For Possible Action**
6. Discussion on Future NACO Board Meeting Dates and Locations. **For Possible Action**
7. Discussion and Approval of one of NACO's Three Appointees to the Committee on Local Government Finance. **For Possible Action.**
8. Update on Opioid Litigation, Robert Eglet and Richard Hy, Eglet Adams. **For Possible Action**
9. Update from the Nevada Department of Indigent Services on Recently Adopted State Regulations and County Plans, Marcie Ryba, Director. **For Possible Action**

10. Update on NACO Bills and Other Policy Issues Affecting Counties in the 2021 Session of the Nevada Legislature. **For Possible Action**
11. Update on Federal Legislation Affecting Counties Including the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. **For Possible Action**
12. **Update and Possible Action** Regarding Natural Resources and Public Lands Issues Affecting Counties Including:
 - a. Updates from the Public Lands and Natural Resources Subcommittee
13. NACO Committee of the Emeritus Update.
14. National Association of Counties Board Member Updates.
15. Western Interstate Region Board Member Updates and Updates from National Association of Counties' Policy Steering Committee Members.
16. NACO Board Member Updates.
17. Public Comment. Please Limit Comments to 3 Minutes.

Adjournment.

Members of the public who are disabled and require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting are requested to notify NACO in writing at 304 S. Minnesota Street, Carson City, NV 89703, or by calling (775) 883-7863 at least three working days prior to the meeting.

Members of the public can request copies of the supporting material for the meeting by contacting Amanda Evans at (775) 883-7863. Supporting material will be available at the NACO office and on the NACO website at: www.nvnaco.org

This agenda was posted at the following locations:

NACO Office 304 S. Minnesota Street, Carson City, NV 89703

Washoe County Admin. Building 1001 E. Ninth Street, Reno, NV 89520

Elko County Manager's Office 540 Court Street #101, Elko NV 89801

POOL/PACT 201 S. Roop Street, Carson City, NV 89701

Agenda Item 4

<https://nvrural.org/about-us/board/>

NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NACO)

Board of Directors' Meeting

February 26th, 9:30 a.m.

Virtual Meeting

UNADOPTED MINUTES

Attendance: President Kirkpatrick, President Elect Lucey, Vice President Higbee, Past President French, Carson City Supervisor Giomi, Clark County Commissioner Jones, Douglas County Commissioner Gardner, Elko County Commissioner Andreozzi, Elko County Commissioner Steninger, Esmeralda County Commissioner Keyes, Eureka County Commissioner Goicoechea, Lander County Commissioner Waits, Lyon County Commissioner Henderson, Mineral County Commissioner Hall, Nye County Commissioner Strickland, Pershing County Commissioner Shank, Washoe County Commissioner Hartung, White Pine County Commissioner Godon and NACO Staff (Dagny Stapleton, Vinson Guthreau, Colby Prout, Amanda Evans and David Longo).

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

1. **Public Comment.** Nate Helton from Senator Rosen's staff addressed the Board and informed them that the Senator is looking forward to the meeting scheduled for March 9th to discuss the Association's 2021 federal policy priorities.
2. **Approval of Agenda.** The agenda was approved on a motion by Commissioner Hartung.
3. **NACO President's Report.** President Kirkpatrick noted that she is still mainly focused on COVID-19 related tasks and that she is working on the inclusion of county representatives on the health authority calls with the Governor's Office to ensure that counties can fully participate in the planning process for the return to local control scheduled for May. President Kirkpatrick also expressed the desire to have the meeting conclude in time for the group to be able to view the Governor's scheduled roundtable on the proposed Innovation Zones later in the day.
4. **NACO Executive Director's Report.** Dagny informed the Board that the 2021 NACO Annual Directory update had been completed and copies had been sent to all 17 counties, a digital copy can also be found on the Association website. She informed the Board that the Opioid lawsuits are beginning to settle and that millions of dollars will be filtering into the states and counties. She recommended that all counties who filed suits reach out to their attorneys and ask about settlement negotiations. It was also recommended that discussions be had with the Attorney General's office on distribution formulas for the counties share of any dollars coming to the State. She also informed the Board that NACO would be happy to help set up any necessary meetings. President Kirkpatrick note that counties should receive the most dollars because it is mainly a local issue and that larger conversations on the issue would be necessary. Dagny also discussed the Governor's recent announcements on the easing of restrictions surrounding COVID-19. Dagny concluded her remarks by introducing the Association's Legislative Intern, David Longo.
5. **Approval of Minutes of the January 22, 2020 NACO Board of Directors Meeting.** The minutes were approved on a motion by Commissioner Gibson.
6. **Presentation and approval of NACO's Unaudited Year End 2020 Financials, and January 2021 Financials.** Dagny gave an overview of the information included in the

agenda packet and informed the Board that overall, the Association expenses remained under budget for the year. She also noted that some line-item expenses were over and some under and that was mainly due to COVID-19 related savings and expenses. Fiscal Officer Kalt noted that the Actuarial Study was an unusual item that the Board might not seem familiar with on the Financial reports and informed them that the investment income was also higher than expected. Fiscal Officer Kalt concluded his remarks by noting that the Association is in good financial standing. The financial reports were approved on a motion by Supervisor Giomi.

7. **Final Approval of NACO's Federal Policy Priorities for 2021.** Dagny reminded the Board that a draft of the document was brought before the Board in January and it had been changed to reflect their comments during that meeting. It was noted that the changes to the January draft were highlighted in yellow and that the document will be presented to the Delegation to be discussed during upcoming meetings. President Kirkpatrick noted that she would like a breakdown of what exactly what is in the upcoming pandemic relief bill during those meetings. The Association's 2021 Federal Policy Priorities were approved on a motion by Commissioner Goicoechea.
8. **Discussion Regarding the National Association of Counties (NACo) Annual Legislative Conference, and Virtual Meetings Between NACO Representatives and Nevada's Federal Delegation.** Dagny gave the Board an overview of the event, specifically noting that it is being held virtually due to pandemic restrictions. She encouraged all Commissioners and interested staff to attend this year as registration is free. She then informed the Board that staff had worked out the free registration for all 17 Nevada counties with NACo and due to savings realized because of lack of travel expenses that NACO had paid the group registration fee. Vinson reminded the Board that they had approved the scheduling of meetings with the delegation for the 9th and 10th of March. He continued by letting the Board know that he had been working with Delegation staff and meetings had been scheduled with Senator Rosen on the 9th and Congressman Amodei and Congresswoman Titus for the 10th, with further meetings in the works based upon the individual schedules of the Congress members. He requested that the Board email him with their county's official representative by the following Monday, so that coordination on individual talking points could be held. Commissioner Andreozzi inquired as to how the meetings would be held, and Vinson informed him that most of the meetings would be taking place over Zoom, but information would be distributed to the attendee list once all meetings had been scheduled. President Kirkpatrick noted that it would be important to have a telephone option available as well. No action was taken on the item.
9. **Update on the Board for the Fund for Hospital Care for Indigent Persons (IAF), Including Board Approved IAF Distributions to Counties for FY21 and FY22 to Pay a Portion of Counties' Assessments for the Nonfederal Share of Expenditures for Long-Term Care Pursuant to the State Plan for Medicaid.** Dagny gave the group a brief overview of the Board and the Fund, noting that Past President French is the Chair of that Board. She informed the Board that a meeting had taken place earlier in February where that Board approved the portion of the Fund that can be used to help counties pay for the above noted assessments. She informed the group that the allocation for FY22 is \$18 million to be shared across all 17 counties. She also informed the Board that the payments for FY21 had gone out from the State the previous week. Dagny reminded the Board that the payments must be used against the assessments, but that would free up dollars for use on other indigent programs, she also reminded the Board that the distribution was based on the percentage of assessments paid by each county. Dagny concluded the discussion by acknowledging her predecessor, Jeff Fontaine, and all the work that he had done over the

years to return some of the dollars to counties, finally coming to fruition. The item was approved on a motion by Commissioner Hartung with second by Vice President Higbee.

- 10. Presentation on the High Performance Leadership Academy (HPLA), and Possible Approval of a Partnership Between NACO and the National Association of Counties (NACo) to promote HPLA to Nevada's Counties, Dr. Tim Rahschulte, CEO, Professional Development Academy.** Dr. Rahschulte gave the Board an overview of the program, noting that to date, 11 Nevada counties and 2/3's of counties nationwide had participated in the program, with \$4 Million in total scholarships having been awarded to County Commissioners and staff. He discussed the mission of the program, which is to support the most challenging aspects of county work and recognized that strong leadership is vital to county functions. Dr. Rahschulte reminded the Board that the Academy's partnership with NACo had occurred in 2018 and in that year, it had become one of NACo's 'Signature Projects'. He informed the Board that there were over 1,000 registrants in the January Cohort, and the Academy has a 98% graduation rate. It was also noted that Dagny had completed the Academy in November in a Co-hort specific to State Association Executives. Brandon Natsuhara informed the Board that the Academy would like to extend their commitment with NACO by offering a master services agreement with NACO which would include a cost share of all registration fees from Nevada enrollees to the Association. Dagny thanked the gentlemen for their presentation and stated that it was a genuinely great program. She informed the Board that Vinson had also completed the program and reiterated that the program is available to all county commissioners and staff. Dagny further explained that under the proposed master services agreement, included in the agenda packet, NACO would receive dollars for all Nevada registrations in return for adhering to the contract's promotional services agreement. It was further discussed that the Academy would help with all enrollment procedures and that Dagny would distribute additional information on the Program to those interested. Commissioner Strickland inquired as to 'return on investment' and the time commitment of those enrolled. Dr. Rahschulte explained that it is a 12-week program and that about four hours a week is the expected time commitment, offering an example calendar to be included in additional information distributed by Dagny. It was also noted that corporate enrollees in the program pay a retail price of \$2,000 but that county enrollees receive a scholarship of \$850 due to their partnership with NACO to help buffer the costs. The item was concluded by informing the Board that the program is also accredited through multiple professional organizations and participants are awarded Continuing Education Unit credits. The execution of the master services agreement was approved on a motion by President Elect Lucey with second by Commissioner Andreozzi.
- 11. Presentation from the University of Nevada Extension and UNR College of Education and Human Development - Nevada Stakeholder Perceptions of Youth Educational and Mental Health Needs during the Pandemic, Carrie Stark, State 4-H Youth Development Director, Extension & Bill Evans, Professor in the College of Education & Human Development & Extension Specialist.** Dr. Ivory Lyles, Director of Extension thanked the Board for the opportunity to give the presentation, reminding them of a conversation held at a meeting of the Board earlier in the year regarding the needs of children as the pandemic progressed. He informed the Board that this conversation was the impetus for the partnership between Extension, the College of Education and the State Department of Education that resulted in the day's presentation. Ms. Stark gave an overview of the partnership and the program, including the development of the survey conducted. Mr. Evans then gave an overview of the survey results, noting that survey had 55 questions, over 1,300 surveys were returned and that 2,000 answers to open ended questions had been received. Ms. Stark and Mr. Evans concluded their presentation by discussing the next

steps in the process, the dissemination of the findings of the surveys and work being done with partners to make future informed decisions on education delivery. They noted that 37 programs to support children had been submitted to the stakeholders by different agencies. A list of these programs will be included in the final report, and they are still looking for additional resources.

12. Update on NACO Bills and Other Policy Issues Affecting Counties Leading in the 2021 Session of the Nevada Legislature.

Dagny informed the Board that the deadline for bill introduction, the first of the Session, is on March 15th and that of the over 1,000 BDRs submitted only 300 bills had been released. She noted that this will make for a busy next few weeks and that the Legislative Committee and staff would be busy reviewing all new bills released for any affect of counties. Dagny informed the Board that the Association's property tax bill had yet to be scheduled for a hearing, but, that staff would continue outreach in the hopes it will receive a hearing. The Board was informed that a collaborative effort is occurring with counties across the state to develop language for an amendment to AB33, the Associations bill regarding the method for determining paternity. It was noted that both AB1 (education for legislators on local governments) and AB2 had been presented in committee. The Board was informed that there was a lot of conversation and questions during the hearing on AB2, and an amendment will be proposed to limit the number of Governor appointed Boards and individual may serve on to three. Past President French inquired as if there had been any discussion on social justice in the appointments. Vinson noted that it is part of the conversation, but he has addressed those questions by noting that qualifications for service on those Boards is very important, especially for underserved communities. Commissioner Gardner noted that he could see both sides to the issue and that the amendment makes sense. Vinson then expanded the conversation on AB1, noting that the hearing went well, and the Speaker's comments were helpful. Dagny referred the Board to the Bill Tracker and informed them that the Public Lands and Natural Resources committee had discussed the recently released AJR3 the previous day. Colby explained that the resolution expresses support for President Biden's Executive Order (EO) to encourage conservation of 30% of the country's land and water resources by 2030. He further noted that the resolution urges both state and local governments to cooperate with the federal government to meet that goal. It was noted that the resolution would have political support and will move quickly for the legislature. Colby suggested a course of action could be to advocate for ensuring there is a local voice in those decisions. Past President French inquired as to how the EO dovetails with Federal Land Planning Management Act (FLPMA) and Colby was unsure because no details had been released from Washington on the execution of that plan. President Kirkpatrick noted that often resolutions are put forth to avoid additional legislation, and that testifying in neutral and encouraging local involvement in the decision-making process is probably the best way to go. Commissioner Gardner inquired why SB98 regarding the inclusion of Storey County into the Carson Water Sub-conservancy District was labeled as monitor instead of support, as the counties involved, and the District, support the measure. Dagny explained that it was labeled as monitor to make sure it was elevated to the Association's attention but that they had yet to be asked for support for the measure. She noted that while it is specific to only a few counties if the Board approved support they would be happy to do so. Vice President Higbee noted that he did not want the resolution going forward to DC, noting that Lincoln County has an extremely limited tax base because of the amount of federal land it already contains. Commissioner Goicoechea expressed support for SB98 and noted the need to be selective in which battles the Association chooses to take at the Legislature. He expressed the need to work on the language within the resolution and work toward the inclusion of local involvement, the lands staying on the tax rolls and other items of county importance. Commissioner Strickland noted agreement with Vice President Higbee. President

Kirkpatrick suggested looking back to AB226 from a previous session for amendment language, Vice President Higbee also encouraged the inclusion of language on following the individual county master plans. The Board approved support for AB98 and directed staff to reach out to the sponsors of ACR3 and share the county concerns on a motion by Commissioner Gardner with second by Vice President Higbee.

13. Update and Possible Action Regarding Natural Resources and Public Lands Issues Affecting Counties Including:

- a. **Updates from the Public Lands and Natural Resources Subcommittee.** Colby informed the Board that the Subcommittee had discussed various Executive Orders related to public lands, the National Environmental Protection Act, and the Waters of the US (WOTUS) rule. He informed the group that comments on the Forest Service Handbook and Manual were due April 17th. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act was also discussed but it was decided that there was no need for the submission of comments. Colby noted that the group also discussed bills at the legislature that could affect public lands and natural resources. A letter restating the Association's position on wild horse and burro issues was discussed as was the recent decision in federal court in Idaho regarding greater sage grouse that stated that the Trump administration's decision to lift the ban on mining in sage grouse habitat was unlawful and remanded back to the BLM for review. Committee Chair Higbee also informed the Board that the Committee is recommending support for SB77, which will allow discussion in closed session of items relating to projects where counties have signed nondisclosure agreements with federal agencies. Chair Higbee also stated that he has concerns with bills submitted by the State Board of Agriculture, noting that he sits on that Board and they had not been offered the opportunity to review them, requesting that Colby track those bills for future review and discussion. President Kirkpatrick noted that Jake Tibbitts, Eureka County's Natural Resources Manager, was working with Clark County on language for an amendment to SB77. Commissioner Goicoechea thanked Dagny and Jake, for the work they were doing on the SB77 amendment language and expressed hope that it would move forward. No action was taken.
14. **NACO Committee of the Emeritus Update.** Vinson informed the Board that the 2021 membership of the committee had been finalized and read the list of members included in the agenda materials into the record.
15. **National Association of Counties Board Member Updates.** President Kirkpatrick informed the Board that she had been working on the proposed COVID relief legislation and that she had been successful in having the distribution model adjusted to ensure more funds go to counties. She concluded the item by encouraging the Board contact their Delegation members to further support direct allocations to counties.
16. **Western Interstate Region (WIR) Board Member Updates and Updates from National Association of Counties' Policy Steering Committee Members.** Past President French informed the Board that recent discussions at WIR included the movement for removal of Trump Administration EO's that may affect current policy, a bill for a one-million-acre buffer zone around the Grand Canyon in the form of a Wilderness Area, and herbicide policy on public lands. Vice President Higbee noted that the Rural Action Caucus (RAC) is looking for members and encouraged participation as most of the caucus members are from the Midwest and East.

17. **NACO Board Member Updates.** The Board members gave updates on activities within their counties.

18. **Public Comment.** Commissioner Goicoechea informed the Board that his fellow Eureka County Commissioner, Michael Sharkozy's wife passed away earlier in the week. Mr. Helton informed the Board that he had made notes on all discussions related to the Delegation and that he would discuss their concerns with Senator Rosen.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

DRAFT

2021

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	2
21	22	23	24	25	26	2
28	29	30				

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

NACO Board of Directors Meeting Calendar
Observed State Holidays – NACO Office Closed
National Association of Counties Conferences
Legislative Conference - February
Western Interstate Region - TBD
Annual Conference - July
NACO Board of Directors Meetings
NACO Board Meetings in Clark County
NACO Annual Conference
Churchill County – Fallon, NV

Agenda Item 7

https://tax.nv.gov/Boards/Committee_on_Local_Govt_Finance/Committee_on_Local_Government_Finance/

Agenda Item 9

<https://dids.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/didsnvgov/content/Regs/Temp%20Reg%2001282021%20Eff%20Date%2003052021.pdf>

Nevada Department of Indigent Defense Services



Thank you, NACO!

Davis v. Nevada

2

Plaintiffs challenge the constitutionality of Nevada's practices regarding indigent defense systems in Nevada's "Rural Counties."*

15 Oct. 2018

"Stipulated Consent Judgment" filed.

11 Aug. 2020

3 June 2019

Nevada legislature passed Assembly Bill 81 (AB81) establishing Department of Indigent Defense Services.

*"Rural Counties" means: Churchill, Douglas, Esmeralda, Eureka, Lander, Lincoln, Lyon, Mineral, Nye, and White Pine.

Davis Stipulated Consent Judgement Obligations

3

Requirements

- Collect Data
- Establish Standard Contract
- Approve New County Contracts
- Ensure Immediate Access to Applications for Indigent Defense Services
- Ensure Screening for Indigency Within 48 Hours
- Counsel at Initial Appearance

Continuing Duties

- Establish Minimum Standards of:
 - Client Communication
 - Attorney Qualifications

Goal: Incorporate into County Plans for the Provision of Indigent Defense Services

Board of Indigent Defense Services Regulations

Formula for Determining the Maximum Amount a County may be Required to Pay for Indigent Defense Services (Sec. 18-21)

Plans for the Provision of Indigent Defense Services (Sec. 22-29)

Attorney Qualifications, Training, and Education (Sec. 30-39)

Audit, Investigation, or Review (Sec. 40)

Contract Terms and Uniform Data Collection (Sec. 41-47)

Board Regulations, Effective March 5, 2021

However, until the counties have their plans written, submitted and approved by the Board of Indigent Defense Services, **appointments and representation may occur in the usual manner.**





Plans for the Provision of Indigent Defense Services

Sec. 22-29

Current Reporting Requirements

► NRS 260.070 Annual reports

- Public Defender Reports to the Board all cases handled.
- Board reports to DIDS May 1
 - Plan for the Next Fiscal Year
 - Estimate for the Cost
 - Workload of Public Defenders
 - **Initial Plans due: Sept 3**

Plans for the Provision of Indigent Defense Services

Due Date	September 3, 2021 or earlier
Purpose	Creating “plan for the provision of indigent defense service” NRS 260.070, which sets forth structure of indigent defense in Lyon County.
Encourage	Counties to consult with local providers of indigent defense services in creation.
Goal	Promote integrity between attorney and client. Freedom from political and undue budgetary influence. Subject to judicial supervision to same extent as private attorney/prosecutor.



What is “indigent defense services?”

- “Indigent defense services” means legal representation to:
- (1) An indigent adult who is charged with a public offense; or
 - (2) An indigent child who is:
 - (a) Alleged to be delinquent; or
 - (b) In need of supervision pursuant to title 5 of NRS.

NRS 180.004

*Does not include: 432B cases (removal of children from home); Representation of a parent in a juvenile delinquency case (see NRS 62D.100); Involuntary commitments (NRS 433A.270)
See: NRS 180.060 and NRS 260.050

Plan Provides Description of How Lyon County:

- ▶ Provides Indigent Defense Services
- ▶ Hiring Process
- ▶ Screening Process of Defendants for Indigency
- ▶ Assignment of Cases
- ▶ Payment for Case Related Expenses
- ▶ Data Collection



Check out our Website:
dids.nv.gov

***We are
here to
Help!***



Our Website:
County Resources



Review Other County
Plans



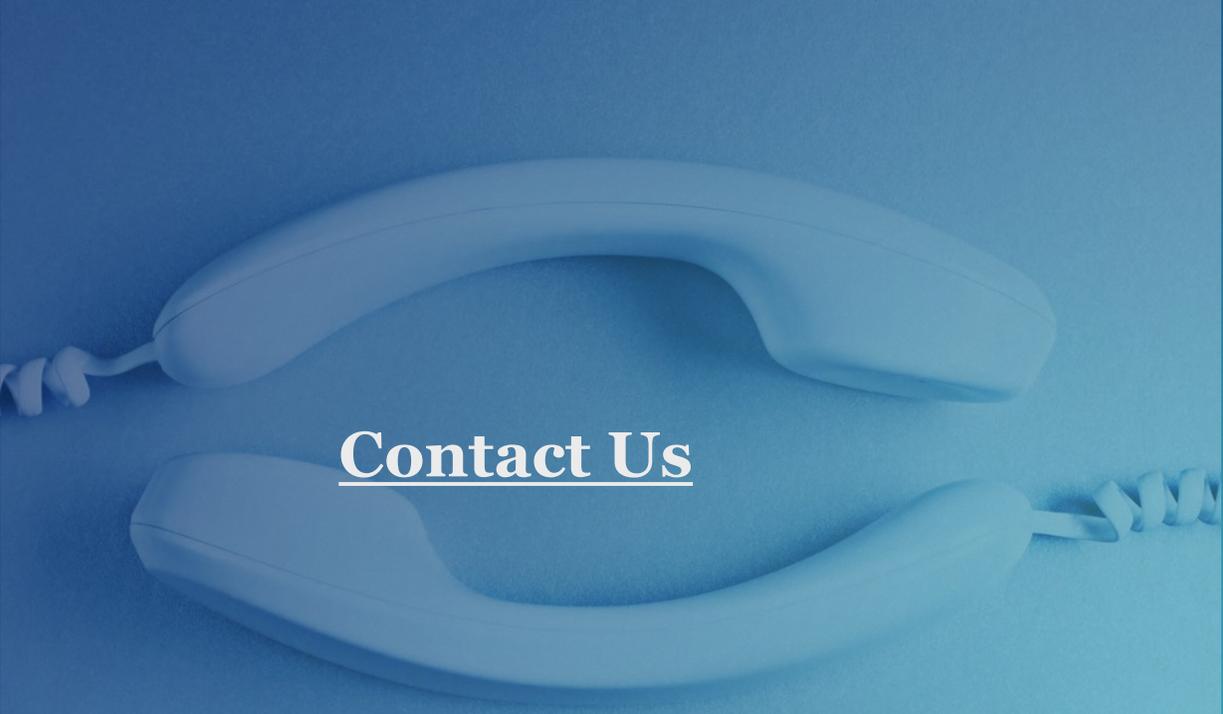
Template for Plans and
Model Contract

Upcoming Appearances at Board Meetings: Seeking Guidance on Who to Work With in Building Plans

- ▶ Nye County: March 16, 2021
- ▶ Lyon County: March 18, 2021
- ▶ White Pine County: March 24, 2021
- ▶ Elko County: April 7, 2021
- ▶ Churchill County: June 16, 2021
- ▶ Carson City: TBD
- ▶ Douglas County: TBD
- ▶ Esmeralda County: TBD
- ▶ Lander County: TBD (June)
- ▶ Humboldt County: TBD

Reaching Out to:

- ▶ Eureka County
- ▶ Lincoln County
- ▶ Mineral County
- ▶ Pershing County
- ▶ Storey County



Contact Us

Office Location:

896 W. Nye, Suite 202,

Carson City, NV 89703

(775) 687-8490

didscontact@dids.nv.gov

- ▶ Marcie Ryba, Executive Director
MRyba@dids.nv.gov
- ▶ Jarrod Hickman, Deputy Director
Jarrod.Hickman@dids.nv.gov

Agenda Item 11

<https://www.naco.org/resources/featured/state-and-local-coronavirus-fiscal-recovery-funds>

Legislative Analysis for Counties: American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

Updated for Final Passage



INTRODUCTION

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the *American Rescue Plan Act of 2021* (H.R. 1319) into law. The \$1.9 trillion package, based on President Biden's *American Rescue Plan*, is intended to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, including the public health and economic impacts.

As part of the **\$362 billion in federal fiscal recovery aid for state and local governments**, **\$65.1 billion is provided in direct aid to counties and an additional \$1.5 billion for public land counties**. The *American Rescue Plan Act* also allocates hundreds of billions of dollars for public health and vaccines, assistance for vulnerable populations, education and housing stabilization, economic recovery assistance and direct assistance for families and individuals.

This analysis highlights **key provisions for county governments**.

COVID-19 RECOVERY CLEARINGHOUSE

Timely resources for counties, including allocation estimations, examples of county programs using federal coronavirus relief funds, the latest news and more.

State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

Find your county's estimated allocation, NACo's legislative analysis and more.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Investing CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds

Find examples and best practices, as well as U.S. Treasury guidance and FAQs.

[LEARN MORE](#)

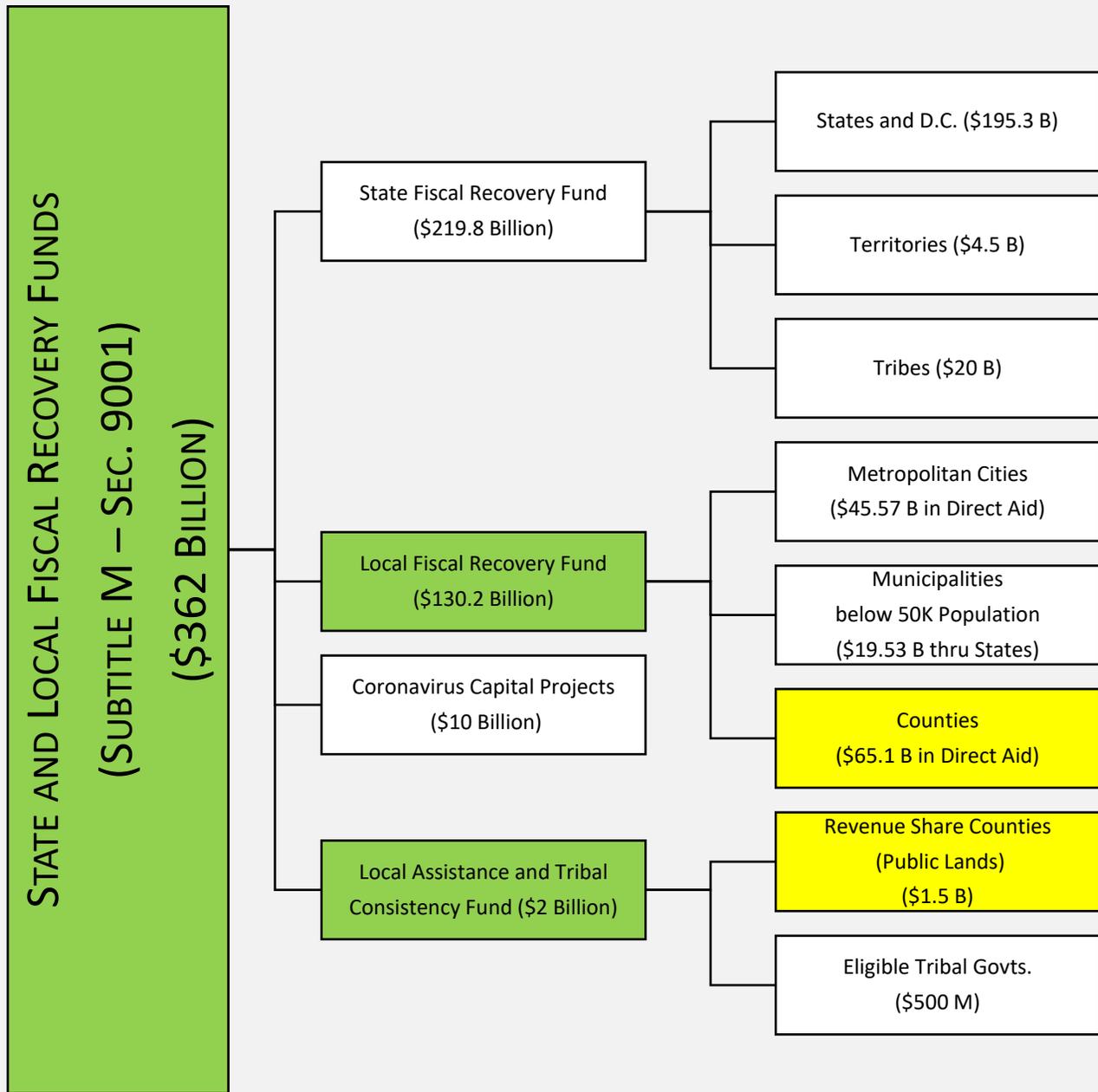
COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

Explore key considerations for counties in COVID-19 vaccine distribution plans.

[LEARN MORE](#)

TABLE OF CONTENTS	DIRECT ASSISTANCE FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS	3
	STATE AND LOCAL CORONAVIRUS RECOVERY FUNDS	4
	CORONAVIRUS CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	6
	LOCAL ASSISTANCE AND TRIBAL CONSISTENCY FUND	7
	INVESTMENTS IN VACCINE DISTRIBUTION AND HEALTH	8
	VACCINE DISTRIBUTION	8
	SUPPORT FOR MEDICAID	8
	FUNDING FOR TESTING, PUBLIC HEALTH SUPPORT & RESOURCES	9
	FUNDING FOR BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH	9
	SUPPORT FOR LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES	10
	EMERGENCY RELIEF FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES	10
	DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	10
	HOUSING AND UTILITY ASSISTANCE	11
	FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE	12
	SUPPORTS FOR WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS	12
	AGING SERVICES	13
	ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FOR BUSINESSES AND COMMUNITIES	14
	EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE STABILIZATION	14
	SUPPORTS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	15
	TRANSPORTATION, ENVIRONMENT & EMERGENCY RESPONSE	15
	FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION	15
	FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) RESOURCES	16
	ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) GRANTS	17
	NACo GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DIRECTORY	18

DIRECT ASSISTANCE FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS



CORONAVIRUS
STATE AND
LOCAL FISCAL
RECOVERY FUND

Provides approximately \$362 billion to help states, territories, counties, cities, and tribal governments cover increased expenditures, replenish lost revenue and mitigate economic harm from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Visit the [NACo COVID-19 Recovery Clearinghouse](#) for timely resources, including county allocation estimations, updates on Treasury guidance, examples of county programs using federal coronavirus relief funds and other timely news.

Distribution Formula: A total of \$362 billion is allocated as follows:

- **States and District of Columbia: \$195.3 billion**
 - \$25.5 billion equally divided.
 - \$169 billion allocated based on the states' share of unemployed workers over a three-month period from Oct.-Dec. 2020.
 - \$1.25 billion in additional aid for the District of Columbia.
- **Local governments: \$130.2 billion divided evenly between non-county municipalities and counties**
 - **\$65.1 billion in direct federal aid to all counties** based on the county share of the U.S. population (including parishes in Louisiana, boroughs in Alaska and consolidated city-county entities). Counties that are Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) recipients (urban entitlement counties) will receive the larger of the population-based share or the share under a modified CDBG allocation formula. Treasury shall allocate the first tranche of payments within 60 days of enactment.
 - **\$65.1 billion to cities and other non-county municipalities.**
 - *With populations of at least 50,000:* \$45.57 billion in direct federal aid using a modified CDBG formula.
 - *With populations below 50,000:* \$19.53 billion based on each jurisdiction's percentage of the state's population, not exceeding 75 percent of its most recent budget as of January 27, 2020. Aid is distributed through the states.
- **U.S. Territories: \$4.5 billion**
- **Tribal governments: \$20 billion**

[Click here
to view
your
county's
estimated
funding
allocation.](#)

Allowable Uses for Recovery Funds:

- **Respond to or mitigate the public health emergency with respect to the COVID-19 emergency or its negative economic impacts**, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality. *These examples are intended to clarify congressional intent that these activities are eligible. However, state and local activities are NOT limited only to these activities.*
- **Provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue** (i.e. online, property or income tax) due to the public health emergency.
- **Make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.**
- State and local governments can transfer the funds to a private nonprofit organization, a public benefit corporation involved in the transportation of passengers or cargo **or a special-purpose unit of State or local government.**
- **Respond to workers performing essential work** during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the county that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work.
 - **“Premium pay” means** an additional amount up to \$13 per hour that is paid to an eligible worker for work during the COVID-19 pandemic. The law imposes a cap of \$25,000 for any single eligible worker.

Guardrails for Recovery Funds:

- **States are not allowed to use the funds to either directly or indirectly offset a reduction in the net tax revenue** that results from a change in law, regulation or administrative interpretation during the covered period that reduces any tax. If a state violates this provision, it will be required to repay the amount of the applicable reduction to net tax revenue.
- **No funds shall be deposited into any pension fund.**
- Any local government, including counties, that **fail to comply with the federal law and related guidelines shall be required to repay** the federal Treasury.

Program Administration:

- **Funds will be distributed** by the U.S. Department of Treasury.
- **The deadline to spend funds is December 31, 2024.**
- The U.S. Treasury is required to **pay the first tranche to counties not later than 60-days after enactment**, and second payment no earlier than 12 months after the first payment.
- The law provides an additional \$77 million for the Government Accountability Office and \$40 million for the Pandemic Response and Accountability Committee **for oversight and to promote transparency and accountability.**

Reporting Requirements for State and Local Governments:

- **States are required to report how funds are used and how their tax revenue was modified** during the time that funds were spent during the covered period (covered period begins on March 3, 2021 and ends on the last day of the fiscal year a state or local government has expended or returned all funds to the U.S. Treasury).
- **Local governments, including counties, are required to provide “periodic reports”** providing a detailed accounting of the use of funds.
- If a state, county or municipality **does not comply with any provision of this bill, they are required to repay the U.S. Treasury** an equal amount to the funds used in violation.

CORONAVIRUS CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND (SEC. 604)

- **Provides \$10 billion for states, territories, and tribal governments to carry out critical capital projects**, specifically related to enabling work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options, in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. *This funding includes broadband infrastructure.*
- Each **state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico will receive a minimum allocation of \$100 million**, plus another \$100 million is divided among other U.S. territories and another \$100 million is designated for tribal governments and Native Hawaiian use.
- **Of the remaining funds, states receive an additional allocation** based on population (50 percent), number of individuals living in rural areas as a percentage of the U.S. rural population (25 percent), and proportion of the state’s population of households living in poverty.

LOCAL ASSISTANCE
AND TRIBAL
CONSISTENCY
FUND (SEC. 605)

Provides an additional \$1.5 billion, split evenly over FY 2022 and 2023, for eligible revenue share counties (i.e., public land counties) as well as \$500 million over both fiscal years for Tribal governments:

- U.S. Treasury is responsible for determining the funding formula, taking into account the economic conditions of each eligible revenue sharing county, using measurements of poverty rates, household income, land values, and unemployment rates as well as other economic indicators, over the 20-year period ending with Sept. 30, 2021.
- **Eligible counties may use these funds for any governmental purpose other than a lobbying activity.**
- **Counties shall be required to provide periodic reports** with a detailed accounting of the use of funds.
- **Failure to submit required reports or misuse of funds will result in the recoup of funds** by the federal government.

According to a statement for the record by U.S. Senate Finance Chairman Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), “[The Senator] fully expect[s] Treasury to consult with others in government who have history in this arena on the creation of this new formula such as the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior, **as well as the National Association of Counties, state county associations, including the Association of O&C Counties Oregon,** and many other groups with a deep understanding of these impacts across the United States.”

INVESTMENTS IN VACCINE DISTRIBUTION AND HEALTH

VACCINE DISTRIBUTION

Vaccine Distribution Funding: Provides \$20 billion to establish a National COVID-19 Vaccination Program, of which \$7.5 billion will be allocated to CDC to support state, local, tribal and public health departments and community health centers in the distribution of vaccines through information technology and data enhancements, facility enhancements and public communications.

Another \$7.5 billion of the \$20 billion appropriated is provided to the **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to establish vaccination sites.**

Counties play an integral role in the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines as key administrators of health and human services at the local level, supporting over 900 hospitals, 824 long-term care facilities, and 1,943 local health departments.

Vaccine Confidence Education: Provides \$1 billion for the CDC to strengthen vaccine confidence by furthering the distribution of information and education and improving vaccination rates.

County officials and local public health agencies are trusted voices, often responsible for messaging vaccine confidence to the public.

SUPPORT FOR MEDICAID

FMAP Enhancements: Enhances state Federal Medical Assistance Percentages (FMAP), the federal contribution to Medicaid, including:

- A 100 percent FMAP for states that opt to provide coverage to the uninsured for COVID-19 vaccines and treatment without cost sharing.
- An enhanced FMAP for states that wish to expand Medicaid programs to cover mobile crisis intervention services for individuals experiencing mental health or substance use disorders.
- Increasing the state's base FMAP by five percentage points for two years if they expand Medicaid; currently there are 12 states that have yet to expand Medicaid and will be eligible for this increase.
- A temporary FMAP increase of 7.35 percentage points for states to improve Medicaid home and community-based services for one year.

Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) Payments: Amends the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L.116-127) so states do not have to make higher DSH payments due to the 6.2 percent FMAP increase in the legislation.

Counties in 26 states contribute up to 60% of the non-federal share of Medicaid, totaling approximately \$7 billion per year.

FUNDING FOR TESTING, PUBLIC HEALTH SUPPORT & RESOURCES

Testing and Contact Tracing: Provides \$47.8 billion to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to support state and local health departments in distributing and administering COVID-19 tests, acquiring and distributing PPE and other supplies, expanding contact tracing capabilities, and sustaining the nation's public health workforce.

Counties support over 1,900 of America's 2,800 local health departments, providing essential public health prevention services like public education, vaccine coordination and logistics, contact tracing, and COVID-19 testing.

Public Health Workforce Expansion: Provides key enhancements for healthcare and public health workforce supports, including:

- **\$7.6 billion for HHS to establish, expand, and sustain a public health workforce** and make awards to state, local, and territorial public health departments.
- **\$7.6 billion for Community Health Centers** for ongoing COVID-19 response efforts.
- **\$800 million to the National Health Service Corps** to enhance and diversify the nation's clinician's workforce.

Federal investments are responsible [for nearly 25 percent of local health departments' revenue](#). ***Over the past decade, the number of local health department jobs has decreased by 25,000, a statistic that is further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic—effectively shrinking the public health workforce when it is needed most.***

FUNDING FOR BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) and Community Mental Health Block Grants: Provides \$1.5 billion for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Agency's (SAMHSA) Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) and another \$1.5 billion for Community Mental Health block grant programs.

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics: Provides \$420 million for Certified Community Behavioral Clinics (CCBHCs) which helps counties and other local entities provide a comprehensive range of mental health and substance use disorder services to vulnerable individuals.

County-based behavioral health systems exist in 23 states that represent 75% of the population, and counties deliver community-based mental health and substance use disorder services through 750 behavioral health authorities.

Overdose Prevention: Provides \$30 million for SAMHSA to create grants to state, local, tribal and territorial governments to support community-based overdose

prevention programs and other harm reduction services in light of increased pandemic related drug-misuse.

County leaders across the public health, justice and public safety, and behavioral health sectors are on the front lines of the opioid epidemic and continue to formulate effective responses for this ongoing pandemic.

SUPPORT FOR LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES

Nursing Home Strike Teams: Provides \$500 million for HHS to allocate money to states and territories to establish strike teams that will respond to COVID-19 outbreaks in skilled nursing facilities.

Counties own, operate, and support 758 skilled nursing facilities and nursing homes, facilities that have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

EMERGENCY RELIEF FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Pandemic Emergency Fund: Provides \$1 billion for states to provide short-term targeted aid (cash assistance or otherwise) to families in crisis. States will receive funds based on their population's share of children and portion of prior TANF expenditures dedicated to cash assistance.

Nine states representing half of the program's national caseload delegate the administration of TANF (which funds a wide range of anti-poverty programs and family services) to counties.

Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC) Expansion:

- In 2021, expands the CTC to **\$3,000 per child aged 6-17 (\$3,600 for children under age 6)** and makes the credit fully refundable in 2021. Instructs the U.S. Treasury Department to issue the credit in the form of periodic payments or as frequently as is feasible beginning in July, 2021.
- In 2021, increases the EITC for childless workers by **up to \$1,000 and expands the minimum and maximum age** for claiming the credit.

The proposed CTC expansion is expected to cut child poverty by half in 2021, a key county priority.

Individual Assistance Payments: Provides another round of Economic Impact Payments worth \$1,400 per individual (including child and non-child dependents up to age 17), up to \$75,000 income threshold level for individuals and \$150,000

for households, with an accelerated phase-out for higher-income earners capped at \$80,000 for individuals and \$160,000 for household income.

HOUSING AND UTILITY ASSISTANCE

Emergency Rental Assistance Program: Provides \$21.6 billion in another round of emergency rental assistance to be distributed by the U.S. Treasury Department to allocate to states, territories, counties and cities.

County governments with populations greater than 200,000 are eligible to receive another round of direct funding from Treasury to keep families in stable housing and prevent an eviction crisis during the health emergency. Counties below 200,000 may receive funds through their state government.

Homeless Assistance: Provides \$5 billion to HUD for homeless prevention and supportive services through the HOME Investment Partnerships program formula.

The majority of HOME funds (60 percent) are distributed to 647 local jurisdictions, including urban counties with populations over 200,000 not including their largest metropolitan city, to provide affordable housing to low-income families.

Housing Choice Vouchers: Provides \$5 billion to HUD for emergency Housing Choice Vouchers.

Counties support increasing the supply of housing choice vouchers to assist with providing affordable housing for families.

Rural Housing: Provides \$100 million for rural housing through the U.S. Department of Agriculture for rental assistance.

Counties support assistance to families in rural areas struggling with rental payments due to the pandemic.

Homeowner Assistance Fund: Provides \$10 billion for the Homeowner Assistance Fund and allocates funds to states, territories, and tribes to provide homeowners struggling to make mortgage payments due to the pandemic with direct assistance for mortgage payments, property taxes, property insurance, utilities, and other housing related costs.

Counties support assistance to families to maintain stable housing conditions during the public health crisis and beyond.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP): Provides \$4.5 billion in emergency LIHEAP funds to remain available until September 30, 2022.

Counties fully or partially administer the LIHEAP program in 13 states.

FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):

- Extends the recently enacted 15% SNAP benefit increase **through September 30, 2021** (previously set to expire June 30).
- Provides an **extra \$1.1 billion in funds for state SNAP administration** to be allocated over the next three fiscal years, an amount commensurate with a 100 percent federal administrative match.
- **Extends the Pandemic-EBT program** (which provides SNAP benefits to low-income children who have lost access to meals at school and child care due to the pandemic) through the summer months in both FY 2021 and the summer of FY 2022. *Note: administrative costs for P-EBT are 100 percent reimbursable by the federal government.*

Ten states representing 32 percent of total participants delegate the administration of SNAP (which funds monthly grocery benefits for low-income families) to counties. In these states, counties often contribute local dollars to the program's 50 percent non-federal administrative match.

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): Provides \$880 million in emergency funds, \$490 million of which will enhance benefits for four months and \$390 million of which will support outreach innovation and program modernization funding.

WIC (which provides food assistance, nutrition education and service referrals to nutritionally-at-risk, low-income pregnant/post-partum women, infants and children) operates through 1,900 local agencies in 10,000 clinic sites, many of which are county health departments.

SUPPORTS FOR WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS

Federal Unemployment Benefits: Extends enhanced federal unemployment of \$300 weekly through September 6, 2021. Those making less than \$150,000 a year and receiving unemployment benefits are eligible for a \$10,200 tax break. Also extends the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program through September 6, 2021 and allows emergency unemployment relief for governmental entities and nonprofit organizations.

Emergency Paid Leave and Paid Leave Tax Credit: Extends the [Families First Coronavirus Response Act](#) (FFCRA) emergency paid leave program through September 30, 2021 and provides up to 12 weeks of paid sick and family medical leave related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Notably, public sector employers, including counties, are now eligible to receive the FFCRA tax credit for wages or compensation paid to an employee who is unable to work due to the pandemic. Under previous law, counties were not eligible to receive this credit, impacting already strained county budgets.

Additionally, as previously authorized under the FFCRA, a local government employer that provides paid leave wages under the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act or Expanded Family Medical Leave Act will not be required to pay the employer's share of social security tax on the paid leave wages.

Counties employ 3.6 million individuals, and without this tax credit, the high costs of funding the enhanced paid leave benefits could harm counties' ability to provide critical services that are necessary for a successful pandemic response.

AGING SERVICES

Older Americans Act (OAA) Programs: Provides \$1.4 billion in emergency OAA funding, including \$750 million for senior nutrition programs, \$460 million for home-and-community-based support services, \$45 million for disease prevention, \$10 million for the long-term care ombudsman program and \$145 million in assistance for grandparents caring for grandchildren.

OAA funding is allocated directly to Area Agencies on Aging, more than half of which are fully or partially operated by county governments.

Elder Justice Act Programs: Provides at least \$188 million for the Elder Justice Act in both FY 2021 and FY 2022.

The Elder Justice Act program is the only dedicated federal funding source available to states and counties to prevent elder fraud and abuse.

You asked. We listened.

New and improved County Explorer...

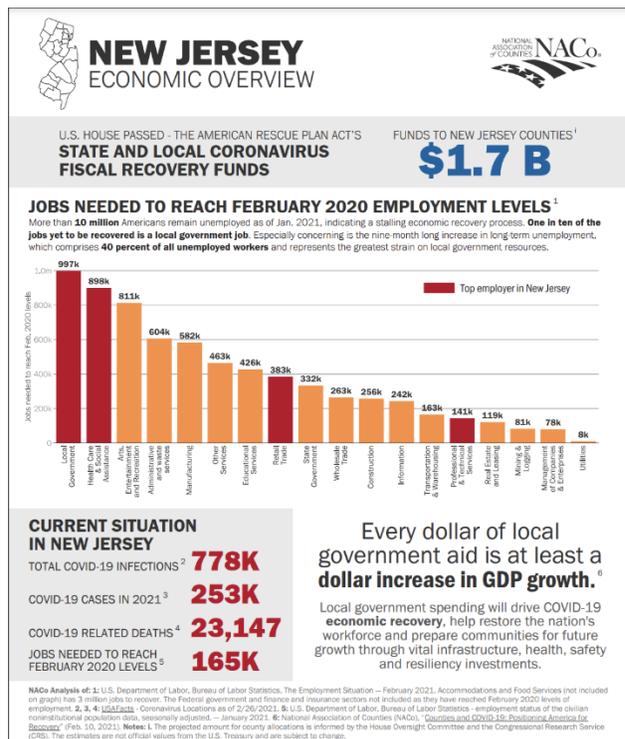
simple.
accessible.
impactful.



...we're changing the way you see county data – literally.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
NACo
COUNTY EXPLORER

County Explorer is now more accessible and user-friendly. The new tool sports a redesigned user interface which makes navigation simple, while maintaining familiarity. County Explorer now works on mobile devices, and it looks particularly great on tablets. Check out the new design, functionality, and more at Explorer.NACo.org. #CE2 @NACoTweets



ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FOR BUSINESSES AND COMMUNITIES

EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE STABILIZATION

Education Stabilization Fund: Provides \$123 billion in emergency funds to support K-12 schools in safely reopening, of which 20 percent must address learning loss. Other set-asides include:

- \$1.25 billion for **summer enrichment**.
- \$1.25 billion for **afterschool programs**.
- \$3 billion for **education technology**.
- \$800 million for wraparound services to **homeless students**.

In addition to the ESERF, provides:

- \$3 billion for the **Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (IDEA)**.
- \$2.75 billion for **private K-12 schools**.
- \$40 billion for **higher education, including community colleges**.

*Along with sharing a tax base with local school boards and providing complementary services to local students, **counties play a role in supporting and funding K-12 schools in five states: Alaska, Md., N.C., Va. and Tenn. Certain counties also contribute funding to community colleges.***

Distance Learning: Provides nearly \$7.2 billion for the Emergency Connectivity Fund within the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) E-Rate program, helping schools and libraries obtain affordable broadband to support virtual learning.

During the pandemic, counties have contributed local dollars and federal relief funds to help students without at-home internet attend virtual school.

Head Start: Provides \$1 billion in emergency funding to be distributed across existing Head Start agencies according to their share of total enrolled children.

*Head Start (which funds early childhood education for low-income children) delivers services through 1,600 local agencies, **many of which are sponsored by county governments.***

Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF): Provides \$39 billion in emergency funds for the discretionary portion, the Child Care Development Block Grant program (CCDBG), \$15 billion of which will be distributed according to the regular formula and available through FY 2024. The remaining \$24 billion will go to states to make subgrants directly to child care providers. The mandatory Child Care Entitlement to States (CCES) will also receive a permanent annual increase of \$600 million, with the state match waived in FY 2021 and FY 2022.

Eight states delegate the administration of CCDF (which supports child care subsidies for low-income families) to counties.

Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC): In 2021, expands the CDCTC, making it refundable (therefore available to lower-income employees) and increasing the maximum rate by 50 percent.

County employees may be able to claim this credit, making it easier for them to afford the necessary child/dependent care to continue working.

SUPPORTS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL): Provides an additional \$7.25 billion for the PPP and \$15 billion for the EIDL Advance program.

The PPP and EIDL program help stabilize county economies by keeping small businesses afloat. Many counties also provided small business loans and other support with CRF dollars authorized under the CARES Act.

Economic Development Administration: Provides \$3 billion for economic adjustment assistance. Of this amount, 25 percent of funding is reserved for assistance to communities that have suffered economic injury as a result of **job losses in the travel, tourism or outdoor recreation sectors.**

Of this amount, 25 percent of funding is reserved for assistance to communities that have suffered economic injury as a result of job losses in the travel, tourism or outdoor recreation sectors.

EDA is a critical resource, particularly for rural counties, in providing essential competitive grants for job creation, economic recovery and planning.

TRANSPORTATION, ENVIRONMENT & EMERGENCY RESPONSE

FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION

Public Transit: Provides \$30.46 billion available through FY 2024 at a 100 percent federal share for eligible recipients of urban, rural, senior citizens and individuals with disabilities, and intercity bus transit formula grants for operating expenses incurred beginning on January 20, 2020, including payroll, operating and maintenance costs due to lost revenue, and the payment of leave for personnel laid off due to service reductions.

Counties directly support 78 percent of the nation's public transit systems.

Airports: Provides \$8 billion available through FY 2024 through Airport Improvement Program (AIP) formulas at a 100 percent federal share, including:

- **Funding for operations, personnel and sanitation to combat the spread of COVID-19:** \$6.5 billion for primary and certain cargo airports and \$100 million for general aviation and commercial service airports.
- \$800 million for **primary airport** sponsors to meet rent and other obligations to airport concessionaires.
- \$608 million to cover the **full federal share of these projects**, including retroactively for FY 2020.

Counties own or support 34 percent of America’s public airports.

Amtrak: Provides \$1.7 billion available through FY 2024, including \$970.39 million for the Northeast Corridor and \$729.61 for the National Network.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) RESOURCES

Disaster Relief Fund: Provides \$50 billion for FEMA’s Disaster Relief Fund to meet the immediate needs of state, local, tribal and territorial governments. [\(NOTE that the Biden administration issued an Executive Order on February 2, 2021 that waives the non-federal match of 25 percent from January 20, 2020 through September 31, 2021 for COVID-related eligible reimbursements.\)](#)

FEMA’s Disaster Relief Fund provides funding for key FEMA programs important to counties, including the [Public Assistance \(PA\) Program](#).

Funeral Assistance: Extends the **100 percent federal cost share increase for funeral assistance** provided by FEMA, which had previously only been for costs incurred before December 30, 2020.

Funds will reimburse county residents for funeral costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additional Funding for FEMA Programs: Provides funding for a wide variety of FEMA programs that support local agencies in FY 2021 to remain available through FY 2025, including:

- Emergency **Food and Shelter** Program (\$400 million)
- Assistance to **Firefighters Grants** (\$100 million)
- **Emergency Management** Performance Grants (\$100 million)
- Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (**SAFER**) Grants (\$200 million)

Counties rely on these critical federal grant programs to provide much-needed funding and other resources to local firefighters, first responders and other frontline workers.

**ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION
AGENCY (EPA)
GRANTS**

Funding for Pollution and Disparate Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic:

Provides \$100 million to the EPA to address health outcome disparities from pollution and the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Of this amount, \$50 million will support activities that identify and address **disproportionate environmental or public health harms and risks in minority populations or low-income population.**

Counties support an increase in federal technical and financial assistance to states and local governments for the development and administration of pollution control programs.



NACo GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DIRECTORY

[Mark Ritacco](#)

Director

Government Affairs

(202) 942-4240

[Blaire Bryant](#)

Associate Legislative Director

Health

(202) 942-4246

[Daria Daniel](#)

Associate Legislative Director

Community, Economic & Workforce Development

Liaison to the Large Urban County Caucus

(202) 942-4212

[Eryn Hurley](#)

Associate Legislative Director

Finance, Pensions & Intergovernmental Affairs

Liaison to the Immigration Reform Task Force

(202) 942-4204

[Jessica Jennings](#)

Associate Legislative Director

Transportation

(202) 942-4264

[Rachel Mackey](#)

Associate Legislative Director

Human Services & Education

Liaison to the Veterans and Military Services

Standing Committee

(202) 661-8843

[Brett Mattson](#)

Associate Legislative Director

Justice & Public Safety

(202) 942-4234

[Adam Pugh](#)

Associate Legislative Director

Environment, Energy & Land Use

(202) 942-4269

[Arthur Scott](#)

Associate Legislative Director

Agriculture and Rural Affairs

Broadband Taskforce

Telecommunications and Technology

Liaison to the Rural Action Caucus

Political Outreach Manager

(202) 942-4230

[Jonathan Shuffield](#)

Associate Legislative Director

Public Lands

Liaison to the Western Interstate Region

(512) 965-7268

[Zachary George](#)

Legislative Assistant

Environment, Energy & Land Use

Telecommunications and Technology

Transportation

(202) 661-8819

[Nicolette Gerald](#)

Legislative Assistant

Human Services & Education

Justice & Public Safety

(202) 942-4260

[Aaliyah Nedd](#)

Legislative Assistant

Agriculture and Rural Affairs

Finance, Pensions & Intergovernmental Affairs

Public Lands

(202) 661-8833

[Sarah Gimont](#)

Legislative Assistant

Community, Economic & Workforce Development

Health

(202) 942-4256

<https://www.aging.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/117th%20Bicameral%20Coronavirus%20Medicaid%20Response%20Act%20one%20pager.pdf>