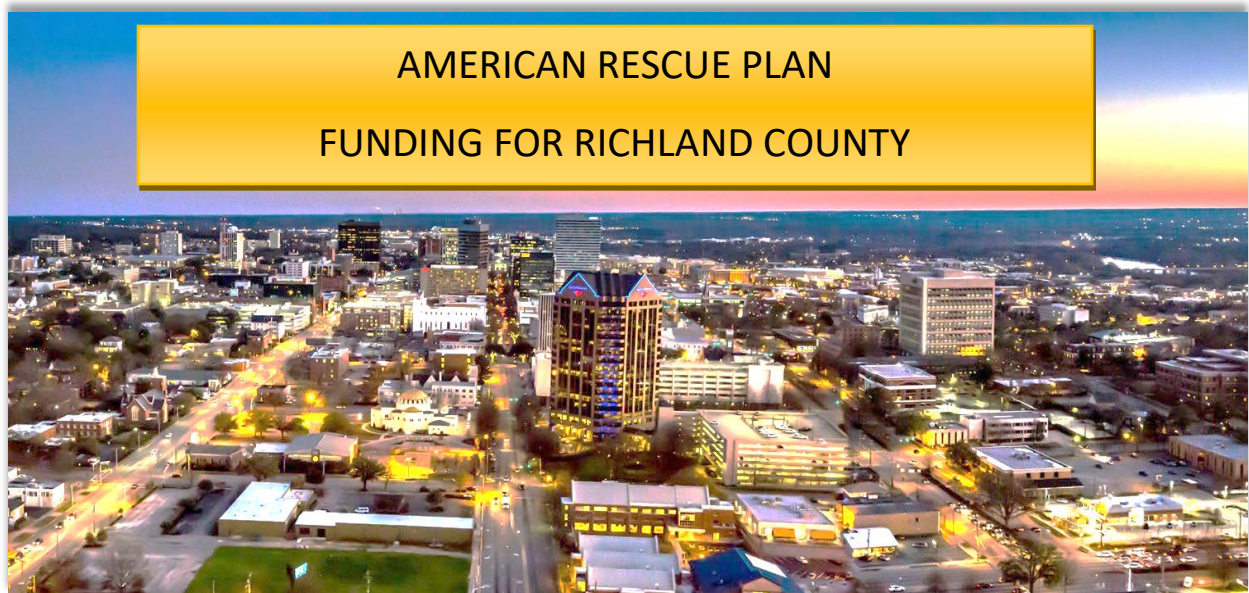




RICHLAND COUNTY RECOVERY PLAN



Interim Summary of the American Rescue Plan

August 2021

Richland County
2021 Recovery Plan

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

In March of 2021, the United States Senate passed the American Rescue Plan. This 1.9 trillion dollar relief bill will allow for new programs and projects to aid in the recovery of ending a nationwide pandemic. Most notably, the American Rescue Plan provides \$65 billion in direct aid to counties out of \$350 billion in emergency funding for state, local and territorial governments to support the essential local government workers who have been on the front-line of the pandemic response.

Richland County is employed to develop a comprehensive plan to allocate funding received through the American Rescue Plan Act. The goal is to use funding in a manner that will respond to the most urgent needs of the community, enabling emergence from the public health crisis in a strong, stable position for its residents. This coronavirus stimulus package includes funding for a national COVID-19 vaccination program, food assistance, emergency childcare, small businesses, unemployment benefits, rental assistance, and public transit funding to help schools re-open safely.

Richland County will consider all allowable opportunities for the use of the \$80,576,312 allotted. Programs considered would benefit citizens throughout the County to provide immediate and future opportunities to ensure mitigation of the COVID-19 pandemic. In considering opportunities, the County seeks to respond with measures that are within the guidance of the provision of funding:

- To allocate resources for mental health, including suicide, burnout, special needs, substance abuse, etc.
- To assist with homelessness services and support.
- To address community behavioral health needs worsened by COVID-19.
- To evaluate the provision of broadband infrastructure throughout the County.
- To review the possibilities of assistance to nonprofits to address community impacts of the pandemic.
- To improve the availability of food and security for the community
- To improve Richland County infrastructure, which includes but are not limited to water, sewer, flood control, drainage, etc.
- To evaluate the replacement of public sector revenue loss and provide funding for those whose jobs were essential in responding to the public health emergency?
- To consider measures to reverse the negative impact of the pandemic on the small business community.
- To access and review the best method to assist equity-focus services in the disproportionately impacted areas of the county.

Uses of Funds

A. Public Health

Richland County continues to review different strategies and methods to deploy during the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn. Listed below are some of the various programs that the County is currently implementing **without** the use of American Rescue Funds.

Public Health Event 1:

Residents of the Lower Richland County community can get the COVID-19 vaccine and take advantage of other services at a one-stop-shop. This event is hosted by Richland County, Council Member District 10 (ten). The free event includes a mobile vaccination site run by Prisma Health, a book bag and book giveaway for children, and voter registration opportunities. In addition, staff from Richland County's Office of Small Business Opportunity will be available to meet with business owners and potential business owners. Richland County's Library staff will also be on hand to discuss the library's programs. Residents can drop by the event from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 28 at Hopkins Middle School, 1601 Clarkson Road, Hopkins. An appointment is not required to get the vaccine at the event. Richland County hopes residents will use the opportunity to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in Richland County.

Public Health Event 2:

In April 2021, Richland County partnered with statewide elected officials to hold three vaccine clinics in Northeast Richland. Free COVID-19 vaccinations were offered to residents in Richland County Districts 7 (seven), 10 (ten), 2 (two) and 8 (eight). Residents ages 16 and older were eligible to receive the vaccine. The clinics ran from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

B. Negative Economic Impacts

More than thirty million Americans have filed for unemployment since Mid-March of 2020. Richland County has and will continue to receive application from small business owners to assist in rendering aid. Richland County will also evaluate its economic impact and provide funding for program and projects that fit the guidelines of the American Rescue Plan (ARP).

C. Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Richland County has approved more than \$10 million in aid requests through its Rental Assistance program (RAP) to ensure citizens do not lose their place of residency. Richland County continues to access the housing situation in Richland County. Consideration to any and all other services to disproportionately impacted communities will be review and assistance render if the guidelines of The American Rescue Plan (ARP) are met.

Community Engagement and Partnerships

a. Plan for Involving Targeted Community & Other Stakeholders; and Communicating Project Progress

As the primary seat of local government, which is composed of smaller cities and townships, Richland County Council is experienced with the process of notifying and engaging the public in high-priority decisions which will have significant local impacts. In, addition, Richland County has a strong Economic Development and Grant Departments that are well-established with developing cooperative partnerships with numerous organizations and other state entities focused on revitalization.

Richland County is fully committed to developing all appropriate avenues to engage the community in the execution of this grant award. Community outreach and stakeholder involvement is essential to the success of this funding opportunity. Richland County is in partnership with community leaders and the Community Based Organizations to educate residents and stakeholders about the process of prioritizing and assessing potential programs/projects. Comments received will be reviewed as appropriate and incorporated into the decision-making process. In addition, Richland County has a Citizen Participation Plan that may be incorporated as an additional layer of community outreach. This plan focuses on creating timely and effective processes for on-going engagement.

Richland County has many partnerships with a variety of agencies and Community Based Organizations. These existing partnerships will be fostered and used along with a combination of the following approaches for community engagement:

- Factsheets/flyers for soliciting continued community engagement
- Open stakeholder meetings with municipal officials, interested members of the public, and organizations in a meeting location convenient to affected residents/organizations will be held upon reaching major milestones
- Open “Rescue Richland “to invite the public for education and observation of assessment activities in action
- Local media (newspaper & TV) will be updated periodically with press releases and official notices
- Social media tools (e.g., Facebook)/Key websites will be kept up to date with the latest information
- A single point of contact within Richland County to ensure continuous engagement with the public

Richland County will consistently update information and disseminated it (in as many languages as needed) to impacted residents and Community Based Organizations in a timely manner to ensure the public is fully aware of the progress of the projects. In the process of establishing an open dialogue, environmental justice will be a key objective to provide improved lines of communication with harder-to-reach individuals. Richland County is sensitive to the fact that not all persons affected by this proposal have regular access to a computer, and as such, will make every attempt to not over-rely on web-based outreach efforts. Richland County will: be sensitive to cultural differences & disabled individuals who want

to participate in the execution of this project; proactively collaborate with residents, community leaders and Community Based Organizations to ensure we are appropriately responding to comments and information is being provided in a manner that is helpful to the public; and identify one point person, to handle all inquiries.

Labor Practices

At the current time Richland County has not started any infrastructure projects. The County is working with various departments to review if any projects would be an appropriate fit with the American Rescue Plan. If the County were to identify a project(s) it would require the Procurement Department, as an agent for purposes of entering into contracts for procurements of goods and services. Richland County Procurement staff are the only individuals authorized to initiate procurement and to sign purchase orders or contracts on behalf of the County. It is the responsibility of the Office of Procurement to assure the Administration and members of the County Council that purchases, and dispositions are made in a legal, ethical, and professional manner and that they are in compliance with the County Code and the other policies governing these actions (State, Federal). The Procurement staff will ensure, whenever possible that every contract entered into by the County for contractual services, whether awarded through seal bids or negotiations, shall be awarded on an equitable basis.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

The County is considering the possibility of setting a more stringent standard with the labor practices in order ensure compliance with federal, state, and local requirements. The County would consider apply the Davis Bacon Act and Related Acts to most or all projects that have labor practices. The Davis-Bacon Act (OBA) was enacted by Congress on March 3, 1931, to assure local workers a fair wage and to provide local contractors a fair opportunity to compete for local federal government contracts.

In general, the OBA, as amended, requires that each contract over \$2,000 to which the United States or the District of Columbia is a party for the construction, alteration, and/or repair (including painting or decorating) of public buildings or public works shall contain a clause setting forth the minimum wages to be paid to various classifications of laborers and mechanics employed under the contract. {The Davis Bacon Act is incorporated under 23 U.S.C. 113 as a Davis-Bacon related act statute and is applicable to construction of Federal-aid highways funded with Federal-aid funding. See the discussion on Applicability to Federal-aid Highway projects, questions 7 and 8.)

Contractors and subcontractors are required to pay their laborers and mechanics employed directly upon the "site of the work" no less than the locally prevailing wage and fringe benefit rates for corresponding work on similar projects in the area "regardless of any contractual relationship which may be alleged to exist." The Department of Labor determines and sets the prevailing wage rates. The geographical scope of the OBA is limited, by its terms, to the 50 States and the District of Columbia. Richland County agrees to any and all other federal requirements including "Buy

American” would be implemented with every projected developed or the use of American Rescue funds use.

D. Premium Pay:

Richland County Council is in agreement with providing **premium/hazard pay** to essential workers. The County acknowledges the value and the economic stability these workers provided even till today. A list is currently being developed to determine total number of essential workers that will receive premium pay.

In addition, Richland County is considering creating a policy and program strategies that will enhance and engage historically underserved communities in prioritizing investments. This would include working with the Richland County Business office to determine how many minority businesses are in the incorporated and unincorporated areas. The method or incentive would be to encourage these minority businesses to create opportunities to develop their own business in their own communities. The positive aspect of this is empowering and enriching their own neighborhoods. The significant of expanding these types of businesses is that they are often in communities of low-moderate income families.

Finally, Richland County is also considering expand public services that deliver critical physical and care infrastructure to disadvantaged communities. Lower Richland County is one of the most rural parts of the county. It is also the highest part of the community of the under and unserved live. The ARP funds make it possible for to expand local water, sewer, and broadband to this community. The County is working with the State of South Carolina to address the total aspect of ensuring all citizen have access to broadband.

A. One potential perspective to address homelessness prevention services in Richland County, is to look outside the City of Columbia through housing consultation, intensive housing case management, and information and referrals. One potential objective in assisting with homelessness services and support is to activities that benefit all residents where at least 51 percent of the residents are LMI persons. Richland County may also undertake surveys in areas using HUD approved survey instruments and methodology to determine the percentage of LMI in a service area to include the following:

- Benefit a clientele that is generally presumed to be LMI. This presumption covers abused children, battered spouses, elderly persons, severely disabled adults, homeless persons, illiterate adults, persons living with AIDS, and migrant farm workers; or
- Require documentation on family size or income in order to show that at least 51% of the clientele are LMI; or
- Have income eligibility requirements limiting the activity to LMI persons only; or
- Be of such a nature and in such a location that it can be concluded that clients are primarily LMI.

Additionally, the County has reached out to several non-profit agencies and inquired about the effect COVID-19 has had on their agency and the client's they serve. The County was not surprised at some of the information that was provided. Most if not all of the agencies serve LMI clients, residents of low-income neighborhoods, minorities, disconnected youth, the unemployed, formerly incarcerated people, veterans, and people with disabilities. It is the intent of this grant to provide \$1,703,439 to these non-profits. Several of these agencies provide a multitude of non-duplicated services throughout the community which include shelter, counseling, education, health prevention services, etc. The list includes but not limited to: a senior center, HIV/AIDS service agency, homeless service center and a children's program, a total list is included in this interim report.

E. Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure

Currently, Richland County has not started water, sewer or infrastructure projects. The County is working with various departments to review if any projects would be an appropriate fit with the American Rescue Plan. The County has identified the following projects that will meet the guidelines of The American Rescue Plan (ARP).

Pineview Industrial Park – Water Infrastructure upgrade - \$7 million - \$8.5 million

The Pineview Park is the home to Jushi Fiberglass, Miwon Specialty Chemicals, and most recently Mark Anthony Brewing (MAB). The Park is served with 48" and 36" sewer lines, a looped 16" waterline, and a Norfolk Southern Rail spur (currently under construction). The county owns 486 developable, prime industrial acres at the park and is in a position to win another large industry. However, there is one potential hurdle that could impact the county's ability to win a large user – while there is an abundant source of water, with the volume of water needed to serve MAB, there are capacity limitations at the park. The solution is to construct a water tank to serve the park. Lead time on water tanks runs anywhere between 18 and 24 months, and in the Covid environment can be even longer. In the case of MAB, a 2-year wait would have forced the project to another location. The Economic Development office is working with the City of Columbia utilities department, the City's engineering firm and Alliance Consulting Engineers to review the system, analyze future capacity needs and design a water system needed to serve the park. The city and our engineers recommend a 1.5 mgd tank and infrastructure to fully serve the park. Alliance is completing cost estimates for design and construction and detailed estimates will be available in the near future, but initial estimates place the project at between \$7 and \$8.5 million.

Blythewood Industrial Park – Road construction and improvements, water, and sewer extension - \$6.2 million - \$6.5 million

In 2019 the county purchased 1,349 acres of prime property in Blythewood to develop as a Class A business and industrial park. The Park has abundant infrastructure on the periphery and, as the economic development office works with partners to develop the interior of the park, it is time to begin to extend infrastructure into key areas within the

park. In 2019 the county received grants, totaling \$2.3 million, from two key partners – SC Department of Commerce and SC Powerteam – to clear and grade a 360,000 SF building pad on one of the key interior parcels. The project is underway, and there is expected to be a cost savings if construction goes as planned. The funding partners have agreed that the county can use the leftover funds to extend infrastructure to the site. The areas identified are: creating an entrance road from Community Road, extend the SC Water Utilities sewer line from the south to the site and extend the City of Columbia waterline from the south to the site along the new road right of way. The ED office is working with its consulting engineers at Thomas and Hutton to complete cost estimates for the three projects, but initial estimates total \$6.2 to \$6.5 million.

Entrance Road

Traffic has been a main concern for the citizens of Blythewood and during the master planning for the park, the ED office worked closely with the engineers to identify areas where traffic can be directed to avoid additional strain on Blythewood Road. One solution is to make the primary entrance into the park off Community Road rather than Blythewood Road. This accomplishes three things - an entrance road off Community Road will; 1) provide visibility of the industrial park from I-77; 2) potentially alleviate traffic from Blythewood Road; and 3) provide access into the industrial park and graded pad while the Blythewood Road widening, and Locklier Road realignment projects are underway. The entrance road will be built to Class A standards – wide road with curb, gutter and sidewalks, landscaping and park signage. Additionally, the cost estimate includes turn lanes on Community Road. Initial cost estimates show the projects at approximately \$4.3 million

Sewer Extension

SC Water Utilities has a force main south of the graded pad but no sewer extensions have been completed within the park. The proposed plan is to extend a gravity sewer line from the main to the south, through the park to the graded pad. The proposed routing will provide service to 7 parcels totaling approximately 192 developable acres. The initial cost estimate is approximately \$1.2 million

Water Extension

The City of Columbia has a waterline to the south of the graded pad, but as with sewer, no extension have been completed within the park. The proposed plan is to extend a water line along Community Road and the new entrance road right of way to provide service to the 5 of the 7 parcels mentioned above. The initial cost estimate is approximately \$700,000. Additionally, while the engineers are reviewing the water system with the City of Columbia, they will also review the need for an elevated water tank. It is proposed that, at a minimum, we identify a site and complete design and permitting for future tank installation.

F. Revenue Replacement

Richland County will partner with the **Workforce Investment Program** that focuses on adult and dislocated workers for employment and training activities. Their primary role in these projects will be:

- Distribution of program and marketing materials to inform and recruit program participants.
- Community & Individual Outreach to recruit program participants.
- Referrals for other related services necessary to enhance their employability and individual employment related needs.

Its primary purpose is to promote jobs for its participants by providing quality and safety conscious laborers to other community partners, employment agencies or future commercial and industrial customers and encouraging economic development throughout the county.

Use of Evidence

Richland County is committed to ensuring that any and all program monitoring and evaluations will be conducted in accordance with the American Rescue Plan requirements and SLFRF funds are being allocated. Scientific Evidence-Based interventions are based on the conviction that a systematic documenting of a large number of high quality **RCTs** (Randomized with Concealment, Double blinded, complete follow-up, intention to Treat analysis) gives the least biased estimate.

Agencies requesting funds will need to conduct process monitoring data including but not limited to: Individual Level interventions, (ILI) Group level interventions (GLI) and or Prevention Case Management (PCM). Additionally, interventions proposed should also be ensuring cultural competence. This will provide for better information and outcome data. It is important to understand there are different types of program performance assessments. Performance measurement is the ongoing monitoring and reporting of program accomplishments, particularly progress toward pre-established goals. It is typically conducted by program or agency management.

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health		
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination	Not Applicable at this time	
1.2	COVID-19 Testing	Not Applicable at this time	
1.3	COVID-19 Contact Tracing	Not Applicable at this time	
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.)	Not Applicable at this time	
1.5	Personal Protective Equipment	Not Applicable at this time	

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1.6	Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
1.7	Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
1.8	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
1.9	Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
1.10	Mental Health Services	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
1.11	Substance Use Services	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
1.12	Other Public Health Services	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts		
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
2.3	Household Assistance: Cash Transfers	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
2.4	Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
2.5	Household Assistance: Eviction Prevention	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
2.6	Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
2.7	Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
2.8	Contributions to UI Trust Funds*	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
2.9	Small Business Economic Assistance (General)	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
2.10	Aid to nonprofit organizations	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
2.11	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
2.12	Aid to Other Impacted Industries	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
2.13	Other Economic Support	Not Applicable at this time	0.00

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
2.14	Rehiring Public Sector Staff	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities		
3.1	Education Assistance: Early Learning	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
3.2	Education Assistance: Aid to High-Poverty Districts	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
3.3	Education Assistance: Academic Services	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
3.4	Education Assistance: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
3.5	Education Assistance: Other	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
3.6	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
3.7	Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
3.8	Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
3.9.	Healthy Childhood Environments: Other	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
3.10	Housing Support: Affordable Housing	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
3.11	Housing Support: Services for Unhoused persons	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
3.12	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
3.13	Social Determinants of Health: Other	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
3.14	Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
3.15	Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
3.16	Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
4	Expenditure Category: Premium Pay		
4.1	Public Sector Employees	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
4.2	Private Sector: Grants to other employers	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
5	Expenditure Category: Infrastructure		
5.1	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment	Not Applicable at this time	0.00

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
5.2	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
5.3	Clean Water: Decentralized wastewater	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
5.4	Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
5.5	Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
5.7	Clean Water: Energy conservation	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
5.8	Clean Water: Water conservation	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
5.9	Clean Water: Nonpoint source	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
5.10	Drinking water: Treatment	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
5.11	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
5.12	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution: lead remediation	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
5.13	Drinking water: Source	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
5.14	Drinking water: Storage	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
5.16	Broadband: "Last Mile" projects	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
5.17	Broadband: Other projects	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement		
6.1	Provision of Government Services	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
7	Administrative and Other		
7.1	Administrative Expenses	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
7.2	Evaluation and data analysis	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
7.3	Transfers to Other Units of Government	Not Applicable at this time	0.00
7.4	Transfers to Nonentitlement Units (States and Territories only)	Not Applicable at this time	0.00

Project Inventory

At the current time Richland County has no project inventory. There may be a program in the next report that might require project inventory.

Use of Evidence – Interventions/Example Project

Richland County has made a commitment to addressing mental health issues (including suicide, burnout, special needs, behavioral health, substance abuse, etc.) from a prevention and health promotion perspective. The example below is to demonstrate the type of prevention that a client may receive if attending one of our community partner’s interventions with measurable outcomes.

- Mental illnesses such as depression or anxiety affect an individual’s ability to undertake health-promoting behaviors. Chronic diseases can have a profound impact on an individual’s mental health; in turn, mental health status affects an individual’s ability to participate in treatment and recovery. A group of mental health and public health professionals convened to develop a logic model for addressing mental health as it relates to chronic disease prevention and health promotion. The model provides details on inputs, activities, and desired outcomes, and the designers of the model welcome input from other mental health and public health practitioners.
- Many of the modifiable risk factors for chronic disease are behavioral, such as engaging in adequate physical activity, eating a healthy diet, and not using tobacco products. Mental illnesses such as depression or anxiety affect an individual’s ability to undertake these health-promoting behaviors. Chronic diseases such as diabetes or cancer can have a profound impact on an individual’s mental health; in turn, mental health status affects an individual’s ability to participate in treatment and recovery. The cycle does not end with the patient. Family members and caregivers of people with chronic diseases are also affected psychologically, and they, too, may neglect their own health.
- The intent of our logic model is to present the “big picture” in all its complexity. The model depicts the conceptual relationships between and among activities and outcomes, thus serving as a guide for discussions about what and how much to do. The logic model starts with inputs, or the resources needed to successfully undertake activities. If activities are successfully implemented, then a sequence of short-, mid-, and long-term outcomes will result.

Inputs-

The model’s key inputs include dedicated staff, funding, and infrastructure in the form of an organizational home. Another resource, technical assistance, indicates that expertise outside of the areas of mental health and chronic disease prevention and health promotion would be required to provide guidance.

Activities-

Activities include surveillance, research, and programs. Surveillance is one of the underpinnings of public health. Creating operational definitions of mental health is an important step in mental health surveillance. These definitions need to acknowledge that mental health includes a broad spectrum of mental states ranging from optimal mental health to severe mental illness. Creating an operational construct for optimal mental health is not a trivial task, because although we may be able to agree on what constitutes mental illness based on conventional definitions, the question of whether people are performing at their peak mental health is quite another matter.

Strengthening surveillance for mental health status in multiple existing surveillance systems will improve our understanding of the interdependent relationships among mental health, risk factors, and physical health. It will also allow us to monitor trends across time and to make comparisons among different populations. It is important that surveillance be strategic and not duplicate activities others are performing.

Many federal agencies (HHR/CDC/SAMHSA) has already performing mental health surveillance and epidemiology. For example, the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey includes questions on quality of life and binge drinking.

Research on the relationship of mental health and chronic disease prevention and health promotion would benefit from a review of research gaps and the development of a research agenda to guide resource investment. Further research could build on intriguing findings from surveillance data and would ideally be geared toward identifying opportunities for programmatic activities to improve overall health.

Short-Term outcomes

The logic model included depicts an expectation that through enhanced surveillance, research, and programmatic activities in mental health, the public health community can generate understanding that good mental health is fundamental to maintaining good physical health. The model also indicates that the role of chronic disease prevention can be clarified and strengthened through partnerships.

Mid-Term Outcomes

We identify several systems-level interventions in the health care delivery system, communities, and individuals that could lead to better mental health. In primary prevention, the public health community ensures that optimal mental health promotion strategies are integrated into other health promotion strategies to achieve maximum synergy. In secondary prevention, the public health community implements strategies to mitigate the impact of poor mental health on physical health risk behaviors that may lead to additional chronic disease comorbidities.

Additional mid-term outcomes include the following:

- Treatment, referral, and self-management of mental and physical health issues become the norm rather than the exception in clinical encounters.

- Workplaces, schools, and other communities become healthier and more supportive.
- Individuals have a better understanding of the integral link between mental and physical health.
- People with mental health problems gain a greater sense of empowerment to undertake and sustain healthy behaviors.

Long Term Outcomes

Ultimately, we hope that a concentrated effort to integrate mental and physical health activities will result in significant improvements in the health of the nation. We envision that individuals and communities will become more resilient — that is, better able to adapt to normal and extreme stressors. In targeting improved quality of life, we acknowledge that regardless of the life circumstances of individuals, quality of life should be independently targeted for intervention. In defining optimal physical and mental health as outcomes, we acknowledge that there is no health without mental health. And on a health care systems level, we expect that mental health, public health, and physical health care systems will be integrated at all levels to eliminate barriers to effective cooperation imposed by current systems.

Additional Projects- Currently Richland County is reviewing possible/potential projects.

Item	Amount
a. Revenue-reducing Covered Changes	\$12,080,011.00