

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Nevada County

COMMUNITY RESILIENCY GRANTS PROGRAM GRANTEE REPORT GRANT RECIPIENT: THE CURIOUS FORGE, LLC

Operational Priority: 1: Essential
 2: High-Impact
 3: Nice to Have

Timing Priority: 1: Urgent
 2: 6 months – 1 year
 3: 1 – 2 years
 4: Long-term

Total Project Budget: \$92,120 ARPA Funding Request: \$92,120

Yes No Is there FEMA, State or other Direct or Grant Funding available? If Yes, please Specify below

Other Funding Source: _____ Other Source Amount: _____

Other Funding Source: _____ Other Source Amount: _____

OTHER FUNDING INFORMATION

N/A

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The “Community Benefit Grants Program” will support community-serving institutions and organizations with macro-grants up to \$100,000. Entities that serve families, seniors, or the community at large would be eligible to apply.

The Curious Forge, LLC Community Resiliency Grant General Purpose, Focus, and Outcomes Report

- Mitigate financial hardship, such as declines in revenues due impacts of periods of business closures, and/or suspended business activities such as revenue generating fund raisers due to social distancing requirements or other public health orders;
- Support for normal operating costs, including payroll and benefit costs, costs to retain employees, mortgage, rent, or utilities costs, and other operating costs;
- Support for programmatic services that assist in addressing the economic hardship experienced by the Grant Recipient and/or the negative economic impacts experienced by its customers; and
- Implementation of COVID-19 prevention or mitigation tactics, such as physical plant changes to enable social distancing, enhanced cleaning efforts, barriers, or partitions, etc.

To expand programming and public access for workforce development programs, including certificate programs tailored to county employers/industries such as metal fabrication, textiles, cabinetry, CNC processes; internships/apprenticeships for youth career exploration through working with accomplished professionals in several field; Inter-generational knowledge exchange experiences; Home/charter schooler resources/programs, including computer programming, various arts, and exposure to the industrials/tech equipment with a weekly cohort. Funds support safety equipment for children; facilitators for public programming; transportation; equipment; community room upgrades.

NEXUS TO ARPA GUIDELINES

ARPA Reporting Category (from US Treasury Reporting Guidance, Appendix 1 – see pages 3-5 below):

- 1 – Public Health
 2 – Negative Economic Impacts
 3 – Public Health – Negative Impact: Public Sector Capacity
 5 – Infrastructure
 6 – Provision of Government Services (Revenue Replacement)
 7 – Administrative

Sub-Category (from US Treasury Reporting Guidance, Appendix 1 – see pages 3-5 below):

Please provide one Sub-Category designation: 34

This grant is intended to support organizations and institutions that provide services/ programs for the community. Locally, these entities tend to be nonprofits though some are also for-profit businesses. ARPA funds may be used to assist small businesses and nonprofits as they respond to the negative impacts of the pandemic and/or rebound from the downturn.

NEXUS TO BOARD OBJECTIVES & COUNTY PRIORITIES / COMMUNITY IMPACT

Board Objectives (select any that apply)

- Fiscal Stability/Core Svcs.
 Emergency Prep.
 Economic Dev
 Broadband
 Cannabis
 Housing
 Homelessness
 Recreation

County Priorities (select any that apply)

- Costs related to COVID-19 response
 Encourage economic recovery
 Provide long-term benefits to County

This project intersects with the Board’s Economic Development Objective. Our small businesses and nonprofits have been hard hit by the pandemic and need resources to resume operations to pre-pandemic levels.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

Will the funds be used to pay for a direct county cost or cost incurred by others? County Cost Other Cost

PROJECT TIMELINE / READINESS

Grant award agreement executed:	02/14/2022
First quarter report received:	04/07/2022
Second quarter report received:	07/09/2022
Third quarter report received:	10/10/2022
Project Completed:	

BUDGET DETAIL

In what SBU/Office 2/Account(s) will ARPA-funded project activity be incurred?

SBU	Ofc2	Account	Amount	Description
10902	272	532205	\$92,120	Community Benefits Grant Program
Total			\$92,120	<i>Note: Total should match ARPA Funding Request amount</i>

EXPENDITURE TRACKING/REPORTING

Total expenditures as of 9/30/2022: 69,090.00

Narrative Report:

First Quarter Report	April 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We've interviewed a number of applicants for a Program Developer position, narrowing down candidates now 2. We are able to add to our Summer Camp series and will have a schedule by May 7 when we participate in the Summer Camp Fair at Pioneer Park. a. We have a growing list of families waitlisted for summer camps 3. We have been able to hold and schedule added workshops from Glass Flameworking, Beg. Sewing, Ceramic Sculpture class, MIG Welding, Blacksmithing, Glass blowing, a Senior's Clay class, Glass Mosaic and more (averaging 6 per class) a. We are working with the Friendship club (NOW BFFY) to create a class for at risk girls 4. We are reviewing vans to purchase, test driving and researching 5. Have purchased welders for workforce development courses 6. Getting our community room ready for refurbishing 7. Searching for Interns through flyers, FB, schools 8. Have purchased some of the youth safety equipment
Second Quarter Report	July 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Created fundraising event for support of our Workforce Development and held it on May 22, 2022, a hundred people attended to participate in metal working activities and view local metal artists work and see artist presentations. Received applications for the program. 2. Interviewed for an oversight program developer, will hire 3. Hosted 12 GV Charter school students for a makerspace experience in support of expanding access 4. Identified and Interviewed 2 interns for summer camps, in support of internships for youth exploring career exploration working with professionals, both are interning 5. Sent all schools counselors internship information and application links to expand opportunities for youth to explore career exploration 6. Held Skateboard Workshop with 6 students, in expanding access for the community

Third Quarter Report	October 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We used this grant to continue to develop a 12-week Metal Fabrication Program Workforce Development initiative for an upcoming grant. This will provide jobs for one instructor and one assistant and will train 8 people per session. We are accepting applications thru Mid-Dec. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. This initial program is for low-income households, offering increased resiliency by training in a living wage job. b. This program will support local metal shops by providing well-trained individuals allowing the business to expand and grow. 2. We held 11 summer camps over the summer attended by 59 students. 3. Hired a program developer who organized our offerings and provided invaluable marketing support as well. 4. We are developing metal certification modules using a learning management system for remote training that supports our hands-on training. 5. Increased our family-oriented workshops that impacted 14 people 6. Increased our internship program with 2 students from Bitney Prep here for the school year giving them opportunities to learn ceramics, blacksmithing, glass working and support the infrastructure of The Forge. 7. Created a Mingle and Make series to encourage community gatherings for seniors and started a Tuesday Morning Ceramics class for the same group. 20 people have been impacted so far. 8. We hosted all 5 local rotary groups for their yearly networking meeting, providing them a tour and exposing the Forge to these important groups. 9. We are able to sponsor a local figure drawing group that meets weekly (6-12 attendees each week) 10. We have 190 members and are seeing growth
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PROJECT POINT OF CONTACT

Name and title: Ariel Lovett, projects Administrator, CEO's Office

FOR CEO OFFICE ONLY:	
Expense Item No:	ECON01.21
Final ARPA Category:	2.34
Approved:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No