

# American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Nevada County

## COMMUNITY RESILIENCY GRANTS PROGRAM GRANTEE REPORT GRANT RECIPIENT: SYNERGIA LEARNING CENTER

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: \$19,560 ARPA Funding Request: \$19,560

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

Other Funding Source: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Source Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

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### 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.

Synergia Learning Center 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 fund operating support needed to resume Covid-safe educational and recreational youth programs and maintain the extensive ropes courses and other related facilities.

### 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:	05/06/2022
First quarter report received:	N/A
Second quarter report received:	07/15/2022
Third quarter report received:	10/08/2022
Project Completed:	11/21/2022

## BUDGET DETAIL

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

SBU	Ofc2	Account	Amount	Description
10902	272	532205	\$19,560	Community Benefits Grant Program
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$19,560</b>	<i>Note: Total should match ARPA Funding Request amount</i>

## EXPENDITURE TRACKING/REPORTING

Total expenditures as of 9/30/2022: \$19,560.00

Narrative Report:

First Quarter Report	April 2022	N/A
Second Quarter Report	July 2022	No progress to date.
Third Quarter Report	October 2022	Synergia Learning Center might not have made it through the pandemic, for the simple reason that all programming (our primary funding stream) was cancelled abruptly in 2020, and yet the expenses of day-to-day operations continued. We cut back where we could, we ran a few skeletal programs that could be done covid-safely with a few schools that were willing to take the risk, and still we could not meet our basic operating costs. So, when we received the ARPA Community Resiliency Grant, we were able to do two things: One, pay operating expenses that had accumulated during the Covid lockdown and beyond, and two, start rebuilding our capacity. We aren't back to where we were pre-pandemic, but we are getting there. We were able to run several full programs between April and October 2022 for a total of 524 participant days serving 200 "unique visitors". Of those, several adult drivers/chaperones chose to lodge overnight off-campus at The Outside Inn, and The Expanding Light, to name just two. They dined in local restaurants, and bought gas locally. One ropes course program served the Youth Outdoor Leadership Opportunity (YOLO) program of the South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL). We are starting to receive many more inquiries and bookings for Spring 2023, as schools start to allow overnight field trips again. Teachers are grateful and excited to be able to bring their students on an outdoor learning adventure once more. Our staff are relieved to be employed, and so happy to be working with youth again. And most importantly, youth who were isolated socially during the pandemic can once again be together in an environment that fosters collaboration and connection. As one teen put it after a day on the ropes course with a group of peers she had not met previously, "It feels really good to not feel isolated all the time." Thanks in part to the ARPA Community Resiliency Grant funds, Synergia is able to resume and continue its vital work with youth.

## PROJECT POINT OF CONTACT

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

FOR CEO OFFICE ONLY:

Expense Item No:	ECON01.30
Final ARPA Category:	2.34
Approved:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No