



Lucas County, Ohio

## **Recovery Plan**

### **State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**

2022 Report

**Lucas County, Ohio**  
**2022 Recovery Plan**

**Table of Contents**

**General Overview..... 3**

- Executive Summary..... 3
- Uses of Funds ..... 4
- Promoting Equitable Outcomes ..... 5
- Community Engagement ..... 5
- Labor Practices ..... 6
- Use of Evidence ..... 6
- Performance Report ..... 6

**Project Inventory..... 6**

- Vaccine Incentives – Payment to Lucas County employees ..... 7
- Vaccine Incentives – Payment to Toledo-Lucas County Health Department employees.....7
- Vaccine Incentives – Incentive to Visitors of the Huntington Center..... 8
- HOPE Toledo Pre-Kindergarten ..... 7
- Toledo Tomorrow Post-Secondary Support ..... 9
- Arts Commission of Greater Toledo (ACGT) – Greater Toledo Arts & Culture Recovery & Renewal ..... 9
- Affordable Housing Development – Trailside Lofts ..... 10
- Affordable Housing Development – YWCA of Northwest Ohio..... 11
- Technology Infrastructure to Adapt Government Operations to the Pandemic..... 12
- Toledo-Lucas County Health Department Hazard Pay ..... 12
- Retention Pay for Lucas County Employees ..... 13
- Toledo-Lucas County Health Department Hazard Pay for FLSA exempt employees ..... 14
- Convention Center Renovation ..... 14



## GENERAL OVERVIEW

### **Executive Summary**

To date, Lucas County State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) investments have been directed to achieve the following objectives:

- Support COVID-19 mitigation in order to slow the spread of the virus to protect vulnerable populations
- Stabilize the local economy to speed the recovery and facilitate the growth of opportunities for businesses and organizations especially hard-hit by the pandemic and the public health measures implemented to control its spread
- Provide resources designed to assist vulnerable workers, entrepreneurs, and households, paying particular attention to equity for traditionally underserved populations
- Invest in viable affordable housing development projects, thereby reducing the risks and consequences associated with housing instability and contributing to additional housing stock capable of relieving market pressures that are driving home purchase and rent prices upward
- Ensure that the county-delivered services on which Lucas County residents depend are subject to as little disruption as possible

Lucas County has already made investments in efforts to protect the public health against the COVID-19 pandemic through vaccine incentives for Lucas County employees and the employees of the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department. Staff able to demonstrate that they had received the FDA approved vaccines were eligible to receive the incentive. In addition, the county collaborated with the management of the Huntington Center, a multi-use arena owned by Lucas County that is home to the community's minor league hockey team and is host to many concerts and recreational events, to deliver vaccine incentives to attendees of home games.

Ohio Department of Health social distancing orders and CDC recommendations and guidelines designed to protect against COVID-19 forced the Board of Lucas County Commissioners to suspend holding in-person meetings that allowed for public participation. The Commissioners were forced to convene meetings through an all-virtual format to conduct county business. Consequently, Lucas County has invested in technologies to develop and install visual equipment in the Hearing Room and in corresponding software upgrades to ensure that interested members of the public can attend public county meetings virtually.

These improvements, along with upgrades to integrate streaming and archival software upgrades to the County website, will allow live-streaming of all Commissioners' meetings, ensuring greater transparencies of governmental functions and allowing the public greater access to county government without the necessity to expose themselves to COVID-19 or any pathogen inherent in congregations of people in public spaces.

Lucas County has also begun to make commitments to eligible subrecipients for eligible SLFRF uses such as housing, economic development, and educational supports for pre-kindergarten and post-secondary programs designed to address and overcome disparities among these populations. Lucas County is in the process of composing the contracts and subrecipient agreements related to compliance with SLFRF guidance and the related submission to monitoring. It is anticipated that said agreements will be executed in Q3 2022.

## **Uses of Funds**

The Lucas County Board of Commissioners have carefully deployed and committed SLFRF to not only comply with Treasury guidance, but perhaps even more importantly, rebuild an equitable recovery that simultaneously address the negative economic impacts of COVID-19, bring the pandemic under control, and facilitate broad-based access to government services provided by Lucas County. In particular, Lucas County has utilized or committed SLFRF to address program objectives in the following ways:

### Public Health (EC 1)

Lucas County has employed SLFRF to effectively enhance public health outcomes through COVID-19 mitigation among Lucas County staff, Toledo-Lucas County Health Department (Health Department) staff, and visitors to the Huntington Center arena. These objectives were met through vaccine incentives for Lucas County and Health Department staff, incentives for visitors to the arena, and on-site vaccinations at the arena and at county buildings.

### Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2)

The Lucas County Commissioners have placed a significant emphasis on utilization of SLFRF to address the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19. The county has tackled this critical objective in a number of ways, having invested or committed SLFRF to the following investments:

- educational supports for children prior to entering primary school and for young adults finishing secondary school or older adults interested in sharpening skills to improve their employability
- affordable housing and housing security
- funding for industries and workers negatively impacted by the pandemic and the public health precautions put in place to mitigate its spread.

### Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity (EC 3)

The Board has made an investment in public sector capacity to contend with the health risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic by ensuring that residents can engage with county government more easily and safely through remote access to public meetings.

### Premium Pay (EC 4)

The Board of County Commissioners has utilized SLFRF to offer premium pay to eligible Health Department employees, who have worked long hours since the pandemic began with few days off during the height of testing, provision of personal protective equipment (PPE), and mass vaccination.

### Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure (EC 5)

The water and sewer infrastructure at the Lucas County Recreation Center and County Fairgrounds are in serious need of upgrades and repair. The Board is considering devoting a portion of SLFRF to these vital improvements.

### Revenue Replacement (EC 6)

As the replacement of public sector revenue lost during the pandemic is an eligible use for SLFRF, the Lucas County Board of Commissioners will employ a portion of its allocation to this

purpose, using the formula provided by Treasury for this purpose. Use of SLFRF for revenue replacement will be utilized for a broad array of government services and expenses, including government administration and staff.

### **Promoting equitable outcomes**

Consistent with the policies they regularly adopt, the Lucas County Board of Commissioners are committed to applying SLFRF to initiatives and programs that actively promote economic and racial equity in the county. In fact, over 20% of the Lucas County SLFRF plan is devoted to projects explicitly intended to narrow equity gaps.

In particular, the Board will invest over \$13 million in affordable housing projects throughout the county. This commitment addresses both the economic disparities in this community and will largely serve communities of color. More than 50% of housing developments approved for Lucas County SLFRF funding will be built in census tracts with significant minority populations. More specifically, approved projects will add housing units affordable to households with incomes that are 80% or below the Area Median Income (AMI) and a majority will be built in communities in which the population is 70% or more non-white, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Lucas County investments in pre-kindergarten and post-secondary education supports will also take great strides toward providing assistance to economically disadvantaged households. Helping Our Population Educate (HOPE) Toledo collaborates with childcare providers to administer high quality early childhood education to prepare low-income students for future success. This is critical because childhood poverty in Lucas County is particularly acute, with 27.4% of the Lucas County population under the age of 18 living in poverty, compared to 19.1% of children across the State of Ohio living below the poverty line.

Toledo Tomorrow has partnered with the Northwest Ohio Regional Education Partnership to meet the current and future needs of industry and businesses through the development of programming designed to ensure that 65% of area students attain an in-demand accreditation or degree. This is particularly important because, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, individuals over the age of 25 who earn a post-secondary credential or degree earn an average of 64% more than do those with a high school diploma. Further, individuals who have completed some post-secondary education or training are 40% less likely to endure unemployment.

### **Community Engagement**

The Lucas County Board of Commissioners have held numerous discussions with diverse community leaders, including those representing communities of color, labor, and social services, regarding the County's SLFRF allocation. The Board has communicated its intended use of the funds through earned and social media. We have also attended and participated in discussions and community events with the City of Toledo and stakeholders and partners throughout Lucas County to foster a process and to determine the most impactful uses of SLFRF. Feedback obtained through these avenues has led to the substantial planned Lucas County investment in affordable housing and educational supports for low-income and minority Lucas County residents.

### **Labor Practices**

Lucas County is dedicated to ensuring labor for projects funded through Lucas County SLFRF meet a minimum threshold for labor fairness. In all instances where the law permits, therefore, contractors performing construction projects with dollars directed by Lucas County in an amount greater than \$100,000 must agree to a project labor agreement (PLA). The PLA helps to ensure that skilled tradespeople are employed on these projects, are compensated fairly, and enjoy safe worksites. Given that a significant portion of Lucas County SLFRF is to be dedicated to affordable housing and economic development, we have incorporated PLAs into all qualifying construction projects.

### **Use of Evidence**

The Lucas County Board of Commissioners has prioritized outcome-oriented criteria for SLFRF-funded projects. Recipients of county-allocated SLFRF funds are expected to quantifiably demonstrate that they:

- Make a measurable impact on the slowing of the COVID-19 virus in order to ensure that Lucas County makes a meaningful contribution to bringing the pandemic to an end
- Provide Lucas County residents and businesses with expanded opportunity to obtain employment and business growth
- Bring government staffing levels for those operations harmed by the pandemic to pre-pandemic levels so that County-delivered services continue to meet the needs and expectations of our residents

### **Performance Report**

Lucas County Administration and the Office of Management and Budget are cooperating to ensure that SLFRF are utilized not only in accordance with Treasury guidance, but also so that funds are expended in a manner most effective to lead to a robust and equitable economic and public health recovery from COVID-19. To assist in this effort, the Lucas County Board of Commissioners has authorized the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to retain Bricker & Eckler, Attorneys at Law, a firm with considerable expertise in regulatory compliance related to local government use federal funds for legal consulting services related to eligibility, compliance, monitoring and deployment of SLFRF. The firm will assist Lucas County in its efforts to:

- Participate in due diligence necessary to determine eligibility with respect to use of SLFRF
- Ensure regulatory compliance for projects utilizing SLFRF
- Provide monitoring assistance for subrecipient entities
- Provide assistance in the composition of SLFRF related documents

### **PROJECT INVENTORY**

The following project inventory represents those projects for which the Lucas County Board of Commissioners has approved an expense and excludes those for which decisions have not been finalized. For example, the Board of Lucas County Commissioners intends to devote significant resources to affordable housing construction, but have not determined all such projects to which SLFRF will apply.

**Project 21.01: Vaccine Incentives – Payment to Lucas County employees**

Funding amount: \$226,625

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 1, Public Health

Project Overview

- Through a \$125 vaccination incentive administered to Lucas County staff, the use of County SLFRF have expanded vaccinations.
- <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/>

Use of Evidence

- Over 1,800 county employees took advantage of the incentive. Further, a survey of Lucas County employees revealed that approximately 72% of county employees were fully vaccinated by September of 2021. In contrast, the vaccination rate of the county as a whole remains at approximately 57% at the time of this writing.
- \$226,625 is allocated to this project; Category 1 (Public Health), Subcategory 8 (Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses)

Performance Report

- OMB and Brickler & Eckler are collaborating to provide scheduled updates to comply with Lucas County objectives and Treasury guidance.
- Over 1,800 of approximately 3,000 county employees took advantage of the incentive. Lucas County Administration and OMB have records to demonstrate vaccinations.

**Project 21.02: Vaccine Incentives – Payment to Toledo-Lucas County Health**

**Department employees**

Funding amount: \$11,500

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 1, Public Health

Project Overview

- Through a \$125 vaccination incentive administered to Toledo-Lucas County Health Department staff, over 100 health department employees took advantage of the incentive. Further, approximately 88% of Toledo-Lucas County Health Department were fully vaccinated by September of 2021. In contrast, the vaccination rate of the county as a whole remains at approximately 57% at the time of this writing.
- \$11,500 is allocated to this project; Category 1 (Public Health), Subcategory 8 (Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses)

Performance Report

- OMB and Brickler & Eckler are collaborating to provide scheduled updates to comply with Lucas County objectives and Treasury guidance.
- Over 100 of approximately 120 Health Department employees took advantage of the incentive. Lucas County Administration and OMB have records to demonstrate vaccinations.

**Project 22.01: Vaccine Incentives – Incentive to Visitors of the Huntington Center**

**Funding amount:** \$17,000

**Project Expenditure Category:** Expenditure Category 1, Public Health

**Project Overview**

- Visitors to the Huntington Center for the 2021-2022 season were offered Walleye gift cards to support COVID-19 vaccination and booster promotion. Vaccines were available on-site. Hundreds of arena patrons were vaccinated at home games as a result of this program.
- \$17,000 is allocated to this project; Category 1 (Public Health), Subcategory 8 (Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses)

**Performance Report**

- OMB and Brickler & Eckler are collaborating to provide scheduled updates to comply with Lucas County objectives and Treasury guidance.
- Hundreds of patrons were vaccinated at home hockey games for the 2021-2022 season. Lucas County Administration and OMB have records to demonstrate vaccinations.

**Project number unassigned: HOPE Toledo Pre-Kindergarten**

**Funding amount:** \$1,500,000

**Project Expenditure Category:** Expenditure Category 2, Negative Economic Impacts

**Project Overview**

- HOPE Toledo is a 501(c) 3 organization established to help area children obtain high-quality early childhood education through HOPE Toledo Pre-K and postsecondary training in college or trade schools. Through collaboration with area public school districts, early childhood education providers, and many other educators and service organizations in our community, HOPE Toledo Pre-Kindergarten will help improve school readiness outcomes and subsequent school performance through evidence-based early educational interventions so that disadvantaged area children will enter kindergarten prepared to learn.
- <https://www.hope-toledo.org/>

**Use of Evidence**

- The program employs the State of Ohio recognized Step Up to Quality early childhood educational standards, which is an evidence-based program administered by the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.
- \$1,500,000 is allocated to this project; Category 2 (Negative Economic Impacts), Subcategory 25 (Addressing Educational Disparities: Academic, Social, and Emotional Services).

**Performance Report**

- The entity has yet to launch the program, but, beginning with the launch anticipated in Q3 2022, will provide OMB and Brickler & Eckler with scheduled updates to comply with Lucas County objectives and Treasury guidance.
- To date, funding for this project through SLFRF has been approved by the Lucas County Board of Commissioners, but the agreement and transfer of funds has yet to be executed. As such, no data related to performance has been collected.

Project number unassigned: **Toledo Tomorrow Post-Secondary Support**

Funding amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 2, Negative Economic Impacts

#### Project Overview

- Toledo Tomorrow has partnered with the Northwest Ohio Regional Education Partnership to meet the current and future needs of industry and businesses through the development of programming designed to ensure that 60% of students attain an in-demand accreditation or degree by 2030. This partnership will strengthen the community and bring additional resources to support both education and workforce development while improving equity, opportunities, and quality of life for Lucas County residents
- <https://toledotomorrow.org/>

#### Use of Evidence

- Evidence demonstrates that access to post-secondary education is correlated to better educational outcomes and career opportunities. It is projected that two-thirds of jobs will require post-secondary education by 2025, and that is why the work of organizations like Toledo Tomorrow and the Northwest Ohio Regional Education Partnership is important to not only help the young adults in Lucas County but also to enhance the career prospects of adults that want to further their education. Collection of enrollment data in post-secondary for program participants' educational pursuits will be collected by program administrators.
- \$500,000 is allocated to this project; Category 2 (Negative Economic Impacts), Subcategory 25 (Addressing Educational Disparities: Academic, Social, and Emotional Services).

#### Performance Report

- The entity has yet to launch the program, but, beginning with the launch anticipated in Q3 2022, will provide OMB and Brickler & Eckler with scheduled updates to comply with Lucas County objectives and Treasury guidance.
- To date, funding for this project through SLFRF has been approved by the Lucas County Board of Commissioners, but the agreement and transfer of funds has yet to be executed. As such, no data related to performance has been collected.

Project number unassigned: **Arts Commission of Greater Toledo (ACGT) – Greater Toledo Arts & Culture Recovery & Renewal**

Funding amount: \$3,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 2, Negative Economic Impacts

#### Project Overview

- Through the program, the ACGT will administer grants to arts organizations, based on budget size, and individual artists to ensure recovery of the industry:
  - Small - Annual Budget \$300,000 or Less, \$2,500-\$25,000 eligibility
  - Midsize - Annual Budget \$300,001 - \$2 million, \$50,000-\$100,000 eligibility
  - Large - \$2 million and Above, \$75,000-\$150,000 eligibility
  - Individual artists - \$500-\$1,000 eligibility

Grants will address these programs' limitations and create opportunities for arts organizations to become more sustainable, leading to a dynamic and vibrant future for arts and culture in Lucas County.

- <https://theartscommission.org/>

#### Use of Evidence

- As the pandemic took hold, the economic output of creative industries in the county contracted by 20.45% from 2019 to 2020, compared to 7.72% in the Lucas County economy overall. The rapid reduction corresponded with an 11.47% drop in payroll and a 17.17% decline in employment in these fields. ACGT will adhere to rigorous record keeping of grants administered when the program is launched. Collection of grants administered will be collected by program administrators.
- \$3,500,000 is allocated to this project; Category 2 (Negative Economic Impacts), Subcategory 36 (Aid to Other Impacted Industries)

#### Performance Report

- The entity has yet to launch the program, but, beginning with the launch anticipated in Q3 2022, will provide OMB and Brickler & Eckler with scheduled updates to comply with Lucas County objectives and Treasury guidance.
- To date, funding for this project through SLFRF has been approved by the Lucas County Board of Commissioners, but the agreement and transfer of funds has yet to be executed. As such, no data related to performance has been collected.

Project number unassigned: **Affordable Housing Development – Trailside Lofts**

Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 2, Negative Economic Impacts

#### Project Overview

- Trailside Lofts is a workforce housing development serving a diverse spectrum of families desiring new, high-quality affordable options. The development consists of 50 total units in a single 4-story, elevator served building. The development offers 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom units that target incomes of 30%, 50%, and 60% of the area median income. The proposed collected rents range from \$345 to \$476 for the 30% AMI units, \$615 to \$800 for the 50% AMI units, and \$675 to \$900 for the 60% AMI units. The proposed collected rents represent a value as they are 43.1% to 84.8% of the achievable market rents in the primary market area (MA). Having a diverse range of unit mixes and AMI's will attract families of all incomes, sizes, and ages.
- <https://www.mvahpartners.com>

#### Use of Evidence

- The city of Maumee is predominantly moderate-income working-class families in need of high-quality affordable housing options. The only affordable housing developments within the PMA are in adjacent communities, with the nearest affordable options are more than 8 miles from the site. The project will add 50 units of affordable workforce housing units upon completion.

- \$1,500,000 is allocated to this project; Category 3 (Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities), Subcategory 10 (Affordable Housing)

#### Performance Report

- The entity has yet to launch the program, but, beginning with the launch anticipated in Q3 2022, will provide OMB and Brickler & Eckler with scheduled updates to comply with Lucas County objectives and Treasury guidance.
- To date, funding for this project through SLFRF has been approved by the Lucas County Board of Commissioners, but the agreement and transfer of funds has yet to be executed. As such, no data related to performance has been collected.

Project number unassigned: **Affordable Housing Development – YWCA of Northwest Ohio**

Funding amount: \$2,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 2, Negative Economic Impacts

#### Project Overview

- The Journal of Criminal Justice stated in 2021 that reports of domestic violence increased dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic nationally, putting additional pressure on already scarce resources dedicated to addressing it. The crisis has shown no signs of abating in 2022, with almost half of the Toledo area murders to date related to domestic violence. As the operator of the sole emergency domestic violence shelter in the city of Toledo, the YWCA of Northwest Ohio has embarked on a \$12 million capital campaign to renovate the facility. To ease overcrowding, the renovation will more than double the rooms from 17 to 44 and increase the square footage and footprint of individual rooms to accommodate diverse families. The renovation will also provide space for work searches, homework, and recreation.
- <https://www.ywcanwo.org/>

#### Use of Evidence

- The renovation will add 27 rooms and increase the square footage and footprint of individual rooms.
- \$2,000,000. is allocated to this project; Expenditure Category 2 (Negative Economic Impacts), Subcategory 10 (Affordable Housing)

#### Performance Report

- OMB and Brickler & Eckler are collaborating to provide scheduled updates to comply with Lucas County objectives and Treasury guidance.
- To date, funding for this project through SLFRF has been approved by the Lucas County Board of Commissioners, but the agreement and transfer of funds has yet to be executed. As such, no data related to performance has been collected.

**Project 22.02: Technology Infrastructure to Adapt Government Operations to the Pandemic**

Funding amount: \$114,945.55

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 3 (Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity)

Project Overview

- The Board has made an investment in public sector capacity to contend with the health risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic by ensuring that residents can engage with county government more easily and safely. Video conferencing improvements, along with corresponding software upgrades to integrate streaming and archival software upgrades to the County website, will allow live-streaming of all Commissioner's meetings, ensuring greater transparencies of governmental functions and allowing the public greater access to county government without the necessity to expose themselves to COVID-19 or any pathogen spread through congregations of people in public spaces.
- <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/>

Use of Evidence

- These much needed upgrades will modernize Lucas County's ability to provide public access to meetings and improvement relations with the public to strengthen government accountability.
- \$114,945.55 is allocated to this project; Category 3 (Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity), Subcategory 4 (Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery).

Performance Report

- OMB and Brickler & Eckler are collaborating to provide scheduled updates to comply with Lucas County objectives and Treasury guidance.
- The equipment and software upgrades are in the process of implementation.

**Project 21.03: Toledo-Lucas County Health Department Hazard Pay**

Funding amount: \$146,088.00

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 4 (Premium Pay)

Project Overview

- Beginning in March of 2020, the staff at the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department (Health Department) tirelessly worked to aid Lucas County communities, providing services including personal protective equipment (PPE), COVID testing, and vaccinations for Lucas County residents. The steadfast commitment of the employees safeguarded countless members of our community, and many of these employees worked for more than a year without a vacation and very few days off. The Board of County Commissioners has utilized SLFRF to offer premium pay to eligible Health Department employees.
- <https://lucascountyhealth.com/>

#### Use of Evidence

- To accommodate the unforeseen and unprecedented need for public health services, Health Department employees worked long hours and often exposed themselves to risks associated with COVID-19 in order to deliver said services.
- \$146,088 is allocated to this project; Category 4 (Premium Pay), Subcategory 1 (Public Sector Employees).

#### Performance Report

- The premium pay was administered in Q1 2022.
- OMB and Brickler & Eckler are collaborating to provide scheduled updates to comply with Lucas County objectives and Treasury guidance.

#### Project 22.03: Retention Pay for Lucas County Employees

Funding amount: \$2,624,500.00

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 6 (Revenue Replacement)

#### Project Overview

- As the replacement of public sector revenue lost during the pandemic is an eligible use for SLFRF, the Lucas County Board of Commissioners will employ a portion of its allocation to this purpose, using the formula provided by Treasury for this purpose. Use of SLFRF for revenue replacement may be broadly applied to government services and expenses, including government administration and staff. The coronavirus pandemic and the public health measures taken to mitigate it have made the maintenance of sufficient staffing levels for continued delivery of the services residents expect and deserve more challenging. The Board has utilized SLFRF for one-time retention payments to decrease turnover among staff, thereby minimizing disruption to the county-delivered services Lucas County residents expect and deserve. The Board also anticipates substantial use of revenue replacement funds to support public safety services provided by the Lucas County Sheriff's Office and other government services.
- <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/>

#### Use of Evidence

- COVID-19 presented unique challenges to delivery of government services to which Lucas County employees were required to adapt. To ensure that county residents could rely on the services to which they are entitled, employee retention in a tight labor market is a major concern.
- \$2,624,500.00 is allocated to this project; Category 6 (Revenue Replacement), Subcategory 1 (Public Sector Employees).

#### Performance Report

- The first tranche of retention pay was administered in Q1 2022.
- OMB and Brickler & Eckler are collaborating to provide scheduled updates to comply with Lucas County objectives and Treasury guidance.

**Project 22.04: Toledo-Lucas County Health Department Hazard Pay for FLSA exempt employees**

Funding amount: \$9,130.50

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 6 (Revenue Replacement)

Project Overview

- Beginning in March of 2020, the staff at the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department (Health Department) tirelessly worked to aid Lucas County communities, providing services including personal protective equipment (PPE), COVID testing, and vaccinations for Lucas County residents. The steadfast commitment of the employees safeguarded countless members of our community, and many of these employees worked for more than a year without a vacation and very few days off. The Board of County Commissioners has utilized SLFRF to offer premium pay to eligible Health Department employees. This use is for FLSA exempt employees of the Health Department.
- <https://lucascountyhealth.com/>

Use of Evidence

- To accommodate the unforeseen and unprecedented need for public health services, Health Department employees worked long hours and often exposed themselves to risks associated with COVID-19 in order to deliver said services.
- \$9,130.50 is allocated to this project; Category 6 (Revenue Replacement), Subcategory 1 (Public Sector Employees).

Performance Report

- The premium pay was administered in Q1 2022.
- OMB and Brickler & Eckler are collaborating to provide scheduled updates to comply with Lucas County objectives and Treasury guidance.

**Project number 21.05: Convention Center Renovation**

Funding amount: \$8,511,637.08

Project Expenditure Category: Expenditure Category 2 (Negative Economic Impacts)

Project Overview

- Few industries were subject to as steep a decline as was the travel, tourism, and hospitality industry. The Brookings Institution reports that tourism sharply declined by 73% in 2020 and another 65% through May of 2021, affecting over 100 million hospitality jobs. In Lucas County, the COVID-19 pandemic led to a substantial loss in convention and tourism traffic and a 42% decline in lodging tax collections in 2020 as compared to 2019.

The uncertainty and massive lodging tax revenue loss in Lucas County delayed the long-planned renovation and expansion of the SeaGate Convention Centre (now the Glass City Center) by a year. The SLFRF Interim Final Rule authorized local governments to provide aid for planned expansions of tourism, travel and hospitality facilities that were

delayed as a result of the pandemic for expenses incurred before April 1, 2022. The Board focused the use of SLFRF to the increased costs of the project that were attributable to the pandemic and the public health measures taken to mitigate it during the period permitted under the Interim Final Rule.

- <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/>

#### Use of Evidence

- The Brookings Institution reports that tourism sharply declined by 73% in 2020 and another 65% through May of 2021, affecting over 100 million hospitality jobs. In Lucas County, the COVID-19 pandemic led to a substantial loss in convention and tourism traffic and a 42% decline in lodging tax collections in 2020 as compared to 2019. The investment only ensured that the project would not be threatened, but a study authorized by the Board revealed that the improved convention center is anticipated to enjoy an 89% increase in jobs related to convention travel and a doubling of economic output.
- \$8,511,637.08 is allocated to this project; Category 2 Negative Economic Impacts), Subcategory 36 (Aid to Other Impacted Industries).

#### Performance Report

- A study authorized by the Board revealed that the improved convention center is anticipated to enjoy an 89% increase in jobs related to convention travel and a doubling of economic output.
- OMB and Brickler & Eckler are collaborating to provide scheduled updates to comply with Lucas County objectives and Treasury guidance.