

Item Title: Appropriate Additional Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding towards HHS Programs

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners appropriates \$1,515,980 of Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding towards the Child Welfare Case Management System project for Health & Human Services.

Item Summary:

Purpose: The Board of Commissioners appropriates all revenues and approves all budget amendments.

Background: Wake County was awarded \$216.7M in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding on March 22, 2021. As part of the ARPA program, Health and Human Services was awarded funding to establish a new Child Welfare Case Management System (CW Connect).

North Carolina lacks a statewide case management system for Child Welfare, leading to challenges in capturing accurate and timely data and monitoring progress on cases. The new ARPA-funded Wake County system will enable real-time assessment of the County's progress in meeting mandates and supporting families, helping us keep children safe in our community.

The project is in the final stages of User Acceptance Training and is scheduled to Go-Live on September 23, 2024. The system requires approximately \$1.38M in additional funding to provide system automation, tablets for child welfare staff to access the system in the field and added system functionality for DocuSign and Child Protective Services licensing. The additional funding will ensure project completion and full functionality for the County's Child Welfare case workers. In addition, approximately \$138K will be appropriated for administrative costs of the ARPA program. These costs are under the cap of 10% set per Federal guidelines and will be used to assist in administration of the ARPA program.

Strategic Plan: This action supports routine County operations.

Fiscal Impact: This item appropriates \$1,515,980 in Federal ARPA funding to existing County projects and programming.

Additional Information:

None.

Attachments:

1. Budget Memo - FY2025 American Rescue Plan Fund