

ROAD TO RECOVERY:

American Rescue Plan Under the Johnson Administration

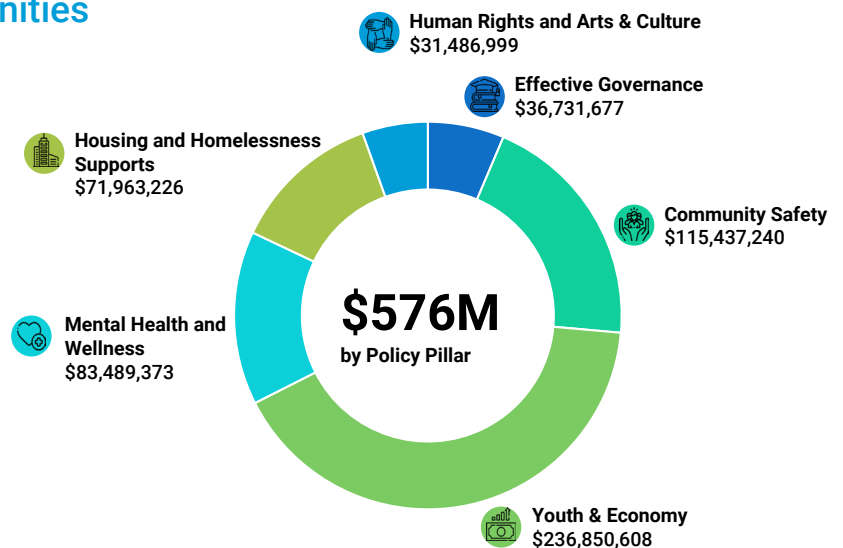
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Background

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law in 2021 by President Biden to provide emergency economic support in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of this funding package, ARPA authorized the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program, a \$350 billion program providing state and local governments with funding to support pandemic response and recovery. The City of Chicago received \$1.9 billion from the SLFRF program, \$576 million of which has been allocated to Community Initiatives. Federal guidelines mandate that the funds must be spent by December 31, 2026.

ARPA Investment in Chicago Communities

Mayor Brandon Johnson took office in 2023, overseeing efforts to assess the progress of ARPA programs and use the one-time funding to maximize direct benefit to communities. The City is working to ensure delivery of the \$576 million in investments to the communities most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The 53 programs that make up the Community Initiatives are broken down into Policy Pillars reflected in the chart to the right:

These priorities are centered around the needs of Chicago's residents, including major investments in programs like:



Mental Health and Wellness

- Family Connects Program
- Mental Health Equity Initiative

Youth & Economy

- Chicago Resilient Communities Pilot
- Small Business Support Program
- Youth Opportunities Program

Human Rights and Arts & Culture

- Artist Relief and Works Fund
- Tourism and Hospitality Recovery

Community Safety

- Emergency Fund for Gender-Based Violence Survivors
- Victim Support Funding
- Community Violence Intervention

Housing and Homelessness Supports

- Neighborhood Broadband Connectivity
- Rapid Rehousing Program

PROGRAM	ALLOCATION	PURPOSE
Youth Opportunities Program	\$66M	Connects Chicago area youth to diverse employment opportunities tailored to their age.
Chicago Resilient Communities Pilot	\$63M	Provides a \$500 monthly stipend to low-income Chicagoans.
Small Business Support Program	\$33M	Gives funding directly to small businesses and non-profits for operations, technical support, licensing, capacity building, and other administrative costs.
Rapid Rehousing Program	\$32M	Supports households to rapidly move from a shelter or the street to their own housing unit through supportive services.
Family Connects Program	\$24M	Provides home visits to families and their newborn 3-5 weeks post-partum. Visits include a comprehensive physical assessment for the birthing person and infant, along with tailored resources to the family's needs.
Community Violence Intervention Program	\$23M	Offers case management, outreach, and diversion to individuals at highest risk of participation in violence, focusing on the communities with the most persistent levels of violence.
Mental Health Equity Initiative	\$20M	Improves access to mental health services through trauma-informed centers of care. The program focuses on populations disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, including youth and young adults.
Tourism and Hospitality Recovery	\$16M	Investments in industry-focused events and showcases for Chicago-based businesses harmed by the pandemic. Marketing campaign that highlights the uniqueness of Chicago neighborhoods and encourages tourism to local small businesses.
Artist Relief and Works Fund	\$12M	Targets relief for individual artists and cultural organizations not eligible for other federal relief programs.
Victim Support Funding	\$11M	Provides immediate and long-term supports to victims of violent crime and their families such as crisis intervention, mental health counseling, and relocation assistance.
Emergency Fund for Gender-Based Violence Survivors	\$10M	Provides one-time emergency financial assistance to survivors of gender-based violence to support economic security and achieving safety and well-being.
Neighborhood Broadband Connectivity	\$10M	Increases broadband affordability and accessibility in Chicago communities with the lowest rates of home internet connection.

This is a non-exhaustive list of the City's ARPA-funded programs. For a full list of programs, please refer to the [2023 Recovery Plan Performance Report](https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/chicago-recovery-plan/home/reports.html) at <https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/chicago-recovery-plan/home/reports.html>.