

ARPA Funding Request Form

Responses

Project Point of Contact / Manager	Deborah Rubestello-Executive Director-Pearland Neighborhood Center-281-485-1987
Project Name or Item for Purchase	PNC-Job Training Assistance Program
Project Description (250 words or less)	The project will provide technical and job coaching support to residents of Brazoria County who have lost their jobs due to the impact of the pandemic. The project will develop a job training support and assistance lab with the focus to mentor and assist these impacted residents with locating job opportunities that match their skill levels, create/print resumes, apply for jobs online, register with the Work-in-Texas network, connect online with support agencies like TWC for UI,SSA, VA, DHHS for WIC/SNAP, and support service providers to ensure that barriers to employment like childcare, transportation, tools, uniforms, etc. are addressed so that employment can be attained and retained. The staff will also connect the residents with college and other post-secondary programs that offer on-the-job training options, apprenticeships and short term skills training leading to immediate and permanent jobs. Staff will interview residents to confirm employment needs and how the pandemic caused their current unemployment status. The ARPA funds will provide for the acquisition of computers, A/V equipment, technical support systems, records storage, software, Broadband access, and printing. The project will serve 75+ unduplicated residents in the first year.
Proposed Project Location (provide address)	2335 N. Texas Avenue, Pearland, TX 77581
Funding Source	ARPA
ARPA - Expenditure Reporting Code (Select appropriate code from the Expenditure Categories tab, i.e. 1.1)	2.7
Proposed Justification to COVID-19 Response	The project will assist residents of Brazoria County adversely impacted by the pandemic. Since the pandemic's start in 2020, the center has received a threefold increase in the number of resident families seeking services at the center - these include food, clothing, rent/utility assistance and referrals to our partnering service providers. The primary reason for this increase is job loss due to the pandemic. Residents have lost their jobs due to illness and closure of many small businesses in the area over the past 18 months. The rising numbers of infections caused by the Omicron variant has also increased the number of requests for basic services. Funds from HUD and FEMA have been expended by our organization and we have limited funds for this assistance from private donors and foundations due to financial stress on those sources from the pandemic. We want to be proactive and address the employment needs of these impacted residents to help them gain self-sufficiency again. Agencies like Workforce Solutions, Social Security and VA as well as area colleges have closed similar employment support labs due the pandemic. Most impacted residents do not have access to computers, printing and coaching at home. The ARPA funds are vital to ensure that we can develop this project and meet the rising needs of families in our county. Employment will ensure these residents remain in their homes, maintain vital utilities and meet basic needs like food and clothing they are struggling to address now.

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Projected Project Start / Purchase Date if funding approved?	4/1/2022
Project Budget Amount	\$40,000
If applicable, any Additional informaton that will need to be included in the advertisement? (i.e. pre-bid or pre-offer meeting)	NA
If applicable, list of Vendors for Purchasing to notify of formal procurement	NA
Construction Estimate in dollars (if applicable)	NA
Construction Timeframe (if applicable)	NA

August 9, 2022
THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF BRAZORIA COUNTY
REGULAR SESSION

ORDER NO. 6.M.5

RE: American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Request-Round IV

Upon final review of the beneficiary agreement by the District Attorney's Office, Civil Division and per the recommendation of the evaluation committee, approve project and / or purchase request submitted by the Pearland Neighborhood Center for a "Job Assistance Program". Program is eligible for funding as a beneficiary, using funds provided to Brazoria County by the United States Treasury American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF). Projects/purchase request has been reviewed and approved by the County's awarded grant administrator, GrantWorks, Inc. per the attached Exhibit A.

Evaluation Committee Members
L.M. "Matt" Sebesta Jr., Brazoria County Judge
Donald "Dude" Payne, Brazoria County Commissioner, Precinct 1
Kaysie Stewart, County Auditor
Susan Serrano, County Purchasing Agent
Natasha Stulberg, Assistant Purchasing Agent
Varon Snelgrove, Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy
Bryan Frazier, County Parks Director
Russell Webb, Director of Information Systems

Exhibit A - ARPA Funding Requests	
Organizations (Beneficiaries)	Amount of Request
Pearland Neighborhood Center - Job Assistance Program	\$20,000.00