STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS

State of Mississippi Recovery Plan

2023 Report

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF DFA FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

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General Overview

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was designed to deliver substantial relief to the American people after the COVID-19 pandemic. As a recipient of these funds, Mississippi is committed to implementing programs that will not only focus on the immediate impact felt due to the pandemic but will also result in generational change for our State. As of June 30, 2022, the State of Mississippi received $1,806,373,345.90 in State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) from the U.S. Department of the Treasury in addition to $268,046,958 for Mississippi Non-entitlement Units of Local Government (NEUs). The Mississippi Legislature appropriated, and Governor Tate Reeves signed into law, this $1.8 billion in ARPA funding over the course of the 2021, 2022, and 2023 Legislative Sessions.

Funds are appropriated to various state agencies to carry out ARPA-eligible projects and programs. Agencies are required to work with the Department of Finance & Administration (DFA) to develop strategies on the use of SLFRF funds in accordance with ARPA guidance.

The Governor and Legislature assessed the State's greatest needs in the wake of the pandemic in the following areas: infrastructure; impacted industries, including tourism and healthcare; backlogs in the judicial system, including criminal case backlogs, autopsy backlogs, and other laboratory backlogs; public health and public mental health needs; child welfare and the State's foster care system; workforce development, specifically to disproportionately impacted groups; and clean drinking water, wastewater, and storm water infrastructure projects.

To date, of the SLFRF funds appropriated, the state has made expenditures of $111,616,806.42. The State anticipates greatly increased spending in its fiscal year (FY) 2024 (July 1 – June 30, 2024), with significant progress made on clean drinking water and other infrastructure projects. In addition, great strides have been made in clearing pandemic-exacerbated backlogs in the criminal justice system. The tourism industry has shown signs of bouncing back from its pandemic lows, and workforce development programs are training Mississippians hard-hit by the pandemic to earn a sustainable wage. The State is also spending to bolster its healthcare system, both in the form of direct aid to healthcare providers and in support of healthcare workers.

During State FY 2023, funds were crafted into ARPA-compliant programs which have now been "stood up" across a broad range of expenditure categories. The details of these programs are further described in the Uses of Funds and Project Inventory sections of this report. The State expects continued progress in FY 2024 in reaching its pandemic recovery goals.

II. USE OF FUNDS

Strategies and Goals

The primary goal of the State's SLFRF program is not only to address the immediate needs resulting from the pandemic, but to produce transformational change across the State that will benefit our communities for many years to come. To meet this goal, the State established a comprehensive approach targeting key areas that focus on strengthening our communities and supporting our economy.

This approach includes the following primary objectives:

- Revitalizing infrastructure across the state;
- Responding to immediate public health needs;
- Investing in long-term economic recovery; and
- Increasing public sector capacity to meet needs of underserved populations.

Infrastructure

The most critical need expressed by leaders across the State was related to infrastructure. More than half of the funds allocated are dedicated to repairing or replacing aging infrastructure. This includes $350 million set aside to match local funding received to help local communities address their water/sewer infrastructure needs long-term. There is an additional $300 million allocated for Rural Water Associations to address the infrastructure needs in these traditionally underserved areas. The remaining funding is dedicated to other infrastructure needs at public colleges/universities, State parks, mental health facilities and correctional facilities.

In addition to the SLFRF funds being used for critical water/sewer infrastructure, the State is also utilizing $162 million in ARPA Coronavirus Capital Projects Funds to invest in much needed broadband infrastructure across the State. This is to be used specifically for broadband projects located in unserved or underserved areas of Mississippi.

Immediate Public Health Needs

Most State buildings, which house public service employees and the public they serve, have aging and outdated heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. Funds were appropriated to the Bureau of Buildings to modernize HVAC systems across the state. Specifically, these HVAC upgrades will improve the filtration of air in order to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 in congregate settings.

Funds were also appropriated to both respond to the negative effects of the pandemic and to better prepare the state to respond to any future outbreaks of the COVID-19 virus. The State awarded funds to the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and to the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) in order to upgrade their crisis response infrastructure and equipment. The legislature also awarded funds to the Mississippi Department of Health (MSDH) for the purpose of transitioning local healthcare providers to a modernized, post-pandemic model of practice that will benefit the mostly rural population of Mississippi.

In addition to general healthcare needs, mental health was also impacted across broad population groups as a result of the pandemic. The Mississippi Department of Mental Health was appropriated funds to strengthen its community mental health centers and to create easier access to care for individuals in mental health crisis situations.

Lastly, the State and School Employees Life and Health Insurance plan, which insures the State's public service employees, was severely impacted by COVID-19 claims. The State appropriated funds to offset the deficit caused by these claims and ensure that State employees would be protected in future years.

Long-Term Economic Recovery

The pandemic had a tremendous impact on multiple industries across the State. While the healthcare industry was busy during the pandemic, the expenses required to keep it functioning skyrocketed during the same period. As a result, the state's healthcare system faces numerous challenges, including a shortage of doctors, nurses, paramedics, and other healthcare employees. SLFRF funds will be used in several different ways to address these challenges. The State's hospital system will receive direct funding as a response to the negative economic impacts it suffered from the pandemic. The State has also utilized funds to increase the number of healthcare employees trained, while alleviating the costs the industry incurs to employ them. Embedded in these programs are incentives for these healthcare professionals to remain in the State and serve rural communities.

In addition to the healthcare industry, there are other initiatives to address education and workforce development of specific populations that are traditionally underserved. The State has also established a Career Coaching Program to work with high school students due to the lost instructional time experienced during the pandemic. This will assist students to be better prepared as they approach graduation to determine the best path forward for their career opportunities.

As in other states across the country, Mississippi's tourism industry was decimated by the pandemic. The funds awarded to Destination Marketing Organizations will boost advertising and marketing activities. Funds were also awarded to the State's Main Street Organizations for the purpose of revitalizing and preserving historic downtown areas across the state. The State expects to see significant increases in tourism traffic as a result of these investments.

Public Sector Capacity

Lastly, State leaders identified a significant need to bolster public sector capacity to address backlogs in various areas that were either caused by or exacerbated by the pandemic. These include backlogs in the State's public safety system, including autopsies, forensic laboratory investigations, and criminal court cases. Child Protective Services was also impacted as adoption backlogs grew and staffing shortages hampered the State's ability to timely address needs within the foster care system.

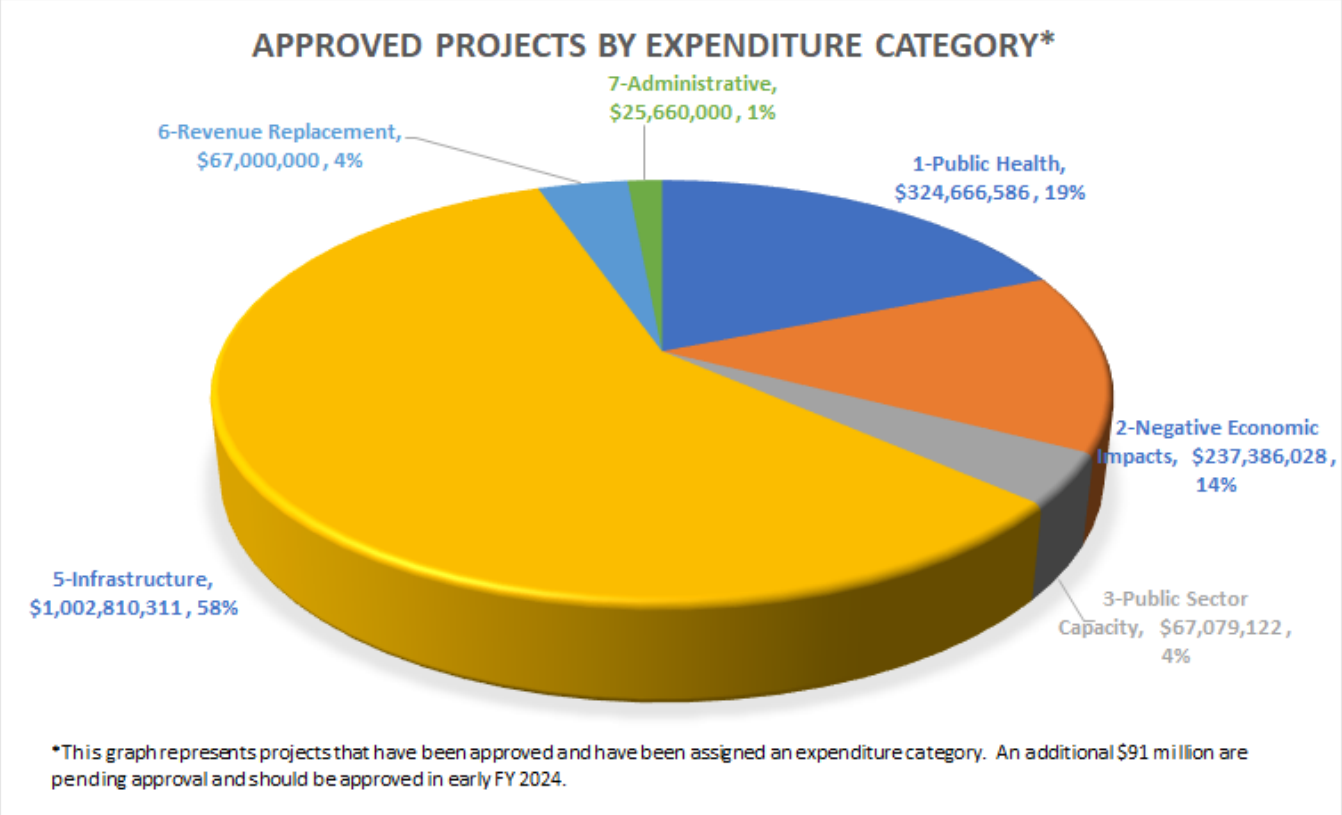
In addition to these backlogs, the pandemic also resulted in an increase in crime as well as diminished confidence in police. The State has invested SLFRF funds in the Department of Public Safety to facilitate

regaining public trust and promoting transparency among community and law enforcement that may have been compromised during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This well-rounded approach to recovery positions the State to thrive in this post-pandemic reality. The State has invested in real solutions that will have a lasting impact on our communities for generations.

Breakdown of Funding

Considering the goals identified by the State and the expenditure categories available under ARPA, below is a high-level breakdown of the budget by expenditure category.



As many of these projects are just getting underway, only $111,616,806.42 has been spent as of the date of this report. It is expected that expenditures will increase significantly during FY 2024. Below is a breakdown of the budget, obligations and expenditures by expenditure category.

III. PROMOTING EQUITABLE OUTCOMES

The COVID-19 pandemic touched every individual across the country whether directly or indirectly. Although larger metropolitan areas for the most part had resources to address the needs in their areas, the more rural populations were not in the same position. As such, Mississippi has targeted the funding provided through the ARPA SLFRF programs to address the challenges that were and are still currently being faced by the citizens and industries in these rural areas as a result of the pandemic. More than 62% of the State's population reside in non-metropolitan areas. 40% of the total population represent minorities and of those, 62.3% live in non-metropolitan areas.

As mentioned in the previous section, the most critical need was to address the aging water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure across the State. To tackle this need, the State allocated more than 41% of SLFRF dollars to two large-scale infrastructure programs: The Mississippi Municipality & County Water Infrastructure Program (MCWI) and the Rural Water Infrastructure Program. These programs provide funds to Rural Water Associations, local municipalities, and counties to make investments in necessary infrastructure improvements to promote public health, safety, and better administration efficiency. Funds for the MCWI Program are leveraged with local funds to ensure that these local communities have enough funds to cover all the improvements needed to provide long-term, lasting solutions for those citizens.

In addition to the need to invest in infrastructure, the pandemic also highlighted challenges in the healthcare industry, particularly in rural areas. According to the 2022 Mississippi Rural Health Plan[1] published by the Mississippi State Department of Health, the State has 111 hospitals, 31 critical access hospitals, and 186 Rural Health Clinics. Hospitals and other healthcare facilities were at the center of the public health emergency delivering essential services and critical care to the State's residents. As a result, hospitals suffered significant impacts due to the pandemic including reduced capacities, increased staffing turnover and burnout, and revenue loss all while contending with increased operational expenses and other challenges in efforts to serve MS communities. To tackle these challenges, the State established multiple programs focused specifically on the healthcare industry.

Another focus area for promoting equitable outcomes in the State has been education and training. In particular, certain populations such as military personnel (transitioning out of service), single parents, currently and formerly incarcerated individuals, underemployed individuals, and individuals with disabilities faced disproportionate impacts from the pandemic with many stuck in low-wage jobs with too few resources to support their efforts in pursuing a higher-wage career. Through SLFRF funding, the State has developed multiple programs aimed at increasing the capacity of existing training programs, developing new training/education programs as well as providing wrap-around supportive services for individuals among specialized populations impacted by COVID-19 and have a need and desire to work.

The State has also recognized a significant need regarding children in the foster care system. As such, SLFRF funding has been appropriated to address the challenges identified. Funding is being used to hire

1 https://msdh.ms.gov/page/resources/66.pdf, pp.15-16.

additional case workers to ensure that foster care children are getting the attention they deserve and are being well cared for. Additional funds are going toward providing comprehensive career training, exploration, internship, apprenticeship, and work-based learning programming for older youth still in foster care as well as other needs including professional development, transportation support, and comprehensive funding for driver's education. The State has also allocated funds to provide evidence-based solutions that allow families to stay together by providing resources for immediate needs as well as to expedite adoption cases so that current foster children can be placed in permanent, loving homes. This focus on the foster care system aims to elevate this disadvantaged population group so they can become productive, healthy members of society once they exit the foster care system.

Lastly, though not SLFRF funds, the State is utilizing Capital Projects Funds to increase broadband connectivity across the State. As MS is mostly rural, this will have a tremendous impact to our communities. This grant is expected to provide high-speed internet service to approximately 35,000 unserved households in Mississippi. This program, leveraged with other federal funding for broadband, will provide the resources needed for Mississippians to participate in this ever-changing, digital economy by giving them access to online learning, remote work opportunities, telehealth and various other online resources.

The State is committed to elevating those in disadvantaged population groups and those living in more rural communities to ensure they are on an equitable playing field. Our State is only successful if our people are successful. These programs will give Mississippians a leg up so they have the opportunity to thrive and reach their highest potential.

IV. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Mississippi's allocation of ARPA – SLFRF funding was appropriated by the State Legislature through the State's statutorily-required legislative process. On November 13, 2021, the Legislature's ARPA Subcommittee held a hearing on proposed uses of funds which included presentations from neighboring states on their uses of funds. Following the initial hearing, the ARPA subcommittee held a series of public hearings over the course of several weeks regarding the proposed use of funds. Members of the public and the media were invited to attend. The subcommittee heard presentations by various State agencies on their areas of greatest need. The Legislature used the community and agency input from these hearings, along with interim and final Federal guidance, in determining its SLFRF appropriations for ensuing legislative sessions. The Governor and members of the Legislature continue to engage with the citizens of the State, including special interest groups, on the use of ARPA funds as part of the appropriation process.

The State provides the Transparency in Mississippi Government website which is a concerted effort to provide visibility, openness, and accessibility to state government financial activity for Mississippi taxpayers as mandated by state law. As part of the State's continuing effort to set new standards for transparency and accountability in state government, the Department of Finance and Administration provides access to a variety of financial data that is regularly updated. Opportunities for public feedback and comments are communicated through this resource via The Mississippi Public Meeting Notice Website, which was

established for State Agencies to post notices of regular meetings.

At the agency level, engagement with communities and other entities around the State has become an integral part in the development and progress of the SLFRF-funded initiatives. For example, the Bureau of Buildings has taken an inter-agency approach by engaging in dialogue with the leadership of various state agencies to define those agencies' infrastructure needs that could be addressed by the use of SLFRF funds. As construction progresses on these infrastructure projects, the agencies engage with the public via social media and other outlets to inform the public of ongoing improvements to their facilities. This collaborative work among agencies in the initial and implementation phases of these projects allows the State to be as strategic and streamlined as possible in accomplishing the work of recovery from the public health emergency.

The State's agencies utilize their own communication channels and outlets to keep the community apprised of valuable information related to the public health emergency and resources, programs, and services available to aid in recovery from the negative economic and public health impacts caused by the pandemic. Agencies employ social media platforms, such as Twitter and Facebook, and their own websites to distribute information and receive feedback from the community. Entities such as the MS Institutions for Higher Learning, UMMC, and the MS State Department of Health all utilize public meetings and sessions to receive valuable feedback from internal and external stakeholders.

As the SLFRF-funded initiatives and projects progress, the agencies tasked with overseeing each program will remain engaged with their communities and with one another so that the needs of Mississippians are appropriately addressed.

V. LABOR PRACTICES

The State of Mississippi is making critical investments to revitalize the State's infrastructure so that people can live decent, healthy, and productive lives. These projects improve public health and safety, provide lasting community and environmental benefits, and support local construction jobs.

Project labor agreements will not be utilized in most cases. Due to the size and scope of its infrastructure projects, the Bureau of Buildings (BOB) has adopted a Workforce Continuity Plan to promote strong labor standards for all capital projects with budgets in excess of $10 million. The Workforce Continuity Plan provides contract terms and conditions that require that contractors working with the agencies shall pay for qualified labor necessary to properly execute the work involved. Additionally, the Workforce Continuity Plan provides that all workers receive appropriate training for the work that they are doing, including necessary safety training. Contracts will also call upon the contractor to designate a safety officer to be responsible for project safety standards. Where applicable, the project professional (architect/engineer) will be responsible for monitoring the projects' compliance with Davis-Bacon labor standards. State agencies and their subrecipients will prioritize hiring local contractors and workers and will comply with Davis-Bacon wage requirements when applicable.

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) oversees the Mississippi Municipality & County Water Infrastructure Grant Program (MCWI), which will make necessary investments in water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure. In cases where MCWI projects will exceed $10 million, program subrecipients will be required to certify adherence to the Davis-Bacon Act. All infrastructure project subrecipients are required to adhere to the Equal Opportunity Employment Act.

All projects with capital expenditures greater than $10 million will adhere to the requirements of the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts and any other applicable labor requirements. To promote effective and efficient project delivery, all agencies, subrecipients, and the contractors for these projects will adhere to strong labor standards and are obligated to ensure timely payment of salaries and wages to their employees. This includes ensuring fair wages for workers, maintaining safe working conditions, and complying with relevant labor laws and regulations.

VI. USE OF EVIDENCE/PROGRAM EVALUATION

Expenditure Category: 1.12 Mental Health Services - Program Evaluation

The State of Mississippi has allocated $104,619,500 for the purpose of supporting mental health programs and services. The project for State Required Mandates plans to meet the needs of Mississippians, following the COVID-19 pandemic, by increasing the utilization of community-based services for behavioral and mental health.

The programs within this project will be evaluated and monitored on a quarterly basis for efficiency and progress toward the key performance goals established for the services being funded. An annual report will be compiled detailing accomplishments and issuing any feedback for changes or adjustments.

Specific information to be used for evaluating programs include the following:

- Assessment of resource acquisition, existence, and utilization for the individual services outlined in this plan and contracted through subrecipient grant providers. Program and administrative monitoring of appropriate and adequate service provision would begin with securing staff, materials, and operational components necessary to meet the goals/objectives of the program.
- Activities of day-to-day operations, including the substantive review of service efficacy, will be reviewed through site visits or through auditing participation in the programs. Key performance indicators and other outcomes and outputs are within subrecipient documents, which will also be part of the evaluation.
- Overall executive review would be conducted monthly for feedback in adjusting the evaluation of the programs, or the structure of the evaluations.

The State will also use funds for investments in technology infrastructure and the standardization of electronic medical records to support mental health needs within Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs). The funds shall be utilized at CMHCs or for the benefit of CMHCs to allow for investments in

software, databases, telemedicine capabilities, and other information technology resources that support behavioral and mental health needs exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

This project will be evaluated through project timelines and milestones toward achieving implementation of the Electronic Health Record and associated data. There will also be feedback and adjustment needed throughout the process.

The programs within this project will be evaluated/reviewed/monitored on a quarterly basis for efficacy and progress toward the goals/objectives/KPIs established for the services being funded. These evaluations will be conducted using regulatory documents in place through federal, state and local entities, as well as through contractual arrangements with vendors.

Specific information to be used for evaluating programs include the following:

- Assessment of the current structure(s) related to electronic health records at public community mental health centers, which will be assisted by an expert consultant.
- Development of the proposed scheme and structure of a new electronic health record for use by the 12 community mental health centers.
- Assessment of the improvement in the timeliness of data availability and reporting of mental health issues, so that specific areas of potentially underserved individuals and/or areas and people being affected by the pandemic can be assisted with more effectiveness.

An annual report will be compiled detailing accomplishments and issuing any feedback for changes or adjustments.

Expenditure Category: 1.4 Prevention in Congregate Settings – Use of Evidence

The agencies represented by the State of Mississippi mitigation projects faced unique COVID-19 challenges in its facilities, such as elevated risk of viral introduction and high risk of rapid transmission. The State has allocated funds to mitigate COVID-19 transmission in congregate settings by improvements to heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. When indoors, ventilation mitigation strategies can help reduce viral particle concentration. The lower the concentration, the less likely viral particles can be inhaled into the lungs (potentially lowering the inhaled dose); contact eyes, nose, and mouth; or fall out of the air to accumulate on surfaces. Although it is not known exactly how much the concentration of viral particles in the air needs to be reduced to mitigate the risk of viral infection, ventilation mitigation strategies still provide a reasonable approach to reducing risk. Not all interventions will work in all scenarios and their selection must be carefully evaluated prior to adoption.

The use of evidence from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Ventilation in Buildings [2], suggests that these ventilation interventions can reduce the spread of disease, but they will not eliminate risk completely. These interventions are intended to lower transmission risk by lowering the concentration

2 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Ventilation in Buildings," https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/ventilation.html

of infectious particles in a room. Below are some of the recommendations from the CDC to improve air circulation and air cleanliness.

- Ensure HVAC systems provide at least the minimum outdoor air ventilation requirement in accordance with ventilation design codes.
- Include HVAC controls to monitor and control the quality of outdoor air ventilation in air distribution systems.
- Rebalance or adjust HVAC systems to increase total airflow to occupied spaces when possible.
- Upgrade central HVAC filter efficiency to a Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV)-13 or better.
- Inspect HVAC systems.
- Clean existing air distribution systems including but not limited to ductwork, grilles, registers, diffusers and existing equipment.

The CDC goes on to state:

> Improving ventilation (air flow, filtration, and treatment) can help you protect building occupants from respiratory infections. Good ventilation can also help you provide clean air and maintain a healthy indoor environment.
>
> Droplets and small particles that people breathe out can contain viruses. Because people can get respiratory illnesses from breathing in these droplets and viral particles, it is important to use protective ventilation strategies to prevent them from accumulating in indoor air. Ventilation systems bring fresh, outdoor air into rooms, filter or disinfect the air there, and improve air flow. Making ventilation system upgrades or improvements in your building can increase the delivery of clean air and reduce potential contaminants in indoor spaces. This can help reduce the number of viral particles in the air.[3]

3 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Improving Ventilation in Buildings," https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/improving-ventilation-in-buildings.html.

Additionally, per the CDC, the Lancet Commission Report[4] that draws on available scientific evidence proposes ACH levels of 4 as "Good," 6 as "Better," and >6 as "Best," underscoring that ACH represents a scale:

TABLE 1.
Proposed Non-infectious Air Delivery Rates (NADR) for Reducing Exposure to Airborne Respiratory Diseases; The Lancet COVID-19 Commission Task Force on Safe School, Safe Work, and Safe Travel

	Volumetric flow rate per volume	Volumetric flow rate per person		Volumetric flow rate per floor area	
	ACHe	cfm/person	L/s/person	cfm/ft²	L/s/m²
Good	4	21	10	0.75 + ASHRAE minimum outdoor air ventilation	3.8 + ASHRAE minimum outdoor air ventilation
Better	6	30	14	1.0 + ASHRAE minimum outdoor air ventilation	5.1 + ASHRAE minimum outdoor air ventilation
Best	>6	>30	>14	>1.0 + ASHRAE minimum outdoor air ventilation	>5.1 + ASHRAE minimum outdoor air ventilation

Lastly, greater use of evidence to support ventilation improvements to mitigate and prevent COVID-19 in congregate settings are from the Lancet COVID-19 Commission Task Force on Safe Work, Safe School, and Safe Travel, and it states,

> To advance this conversation around health-based ventilation targets for airborne respiratory pathogens, the Lancet COVID-19 Commission Task Force on Safe Work, Safe School, and Safe Travel reviewed the scientific evidence around ventilation and disease transmission for SARS-CoV-2 and other airborne pathogens. We found that when we look at the totality of evidence – and despite differences across studies, experts, and metrics – there is coalescence around ventilation targets above current minimums. Based on this assessment, the Task Force proposes the following Non-infectious Air Delivery Rates (NADR) for Reducing Exposure to Airborne Respiratory Infectious Diseases, which are feasible and achievable right now with existing and widely available approaches and technologies.[5]

4 Proposed Non-infectious Air Delivery Rates (NADR) for Reducing Exposure to Airborne Respiratory Infectious Diseases, Lancet+Covid+Commission+TF+Report+Nov+2022.pdf (squarespace.com), pp. 3-8.

5 LANCET COVID-19 COMMISSION, Task Force on Safe Work, Safe School, and Safe Travel - Proposed Non-infectious Air Delivery Rates (NADR) for Reducing Exposure to Airborne Respiratory Infectious Diseases, Lancet+Covid+Commission+TF+Report+Nov+2022.pdf (squarespace.com), page 3.

Expenditure Category: 2.10 Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers - Use of Evidence

The State of Mississippi has allocated $10,400,000 for assistance to unemployed or underemployed workers. These projects are aimed at increasing the capacity of training programs that are already in place as well as developing new training and educational programs to provide opportunities for those individuals and industries impacted by COVID-19.

Use of evidence indicates that providing access to training and education helps people who want to get into higher paying careers do so. This funding through this program will help eliminate barriers such as transportation and access to high-quality childcare through essential wrap-around supportive services it will provide to trainees. Accelerated rehiring from on-the-job training within high-demand industries in the state will lead to a rise in wages for the targeted populations.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics supports the use of evidence in its recent article, "Learn more, earn more: Education leads to higher wages, lower unemployment".[6]

> Wondering if it pays to stay in school? Here's one reason to continue: workers' earnings increase as educational attainment rises, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).
>
> In 2022, for example, workers age 25 and over without a high school diploma had median weekly earnings of $682. Workers whose highest level of education was a diploma made $853 per week, or just over 25 percent more than those who didn't finish high school—and earnings improved with every level of education completed. (See charts - next page.)[7]
>
> Each level of education you complete may help you develop more skills, give you access to higher paying occupations, and signal that you are able to follow through on important tasks, such as planning and meeting deadlines, that employers value.
>
> Other factors affecting employment and earnings include geographic location, experience, and hours worked. BLS data and information can help you understand some of these factors. For example, the Occupational Outlook Handbook provides information on wages, typical education requirements, and the projected job outlook for hundreds of occupations.[8]

The proposed project aims to increase the capacity of training programs and develop new training/education programs to provide opportunities for those individuals and industries impacted by COVID-19. Eligible applicants include State agencies, Community-based organizations, and non-profit partners. This program plans to provide retraining, mentoring, career pathway coaching, and back-to-work support such as transportation, childcare, and financial literacy training. The proposed training programs are designed to

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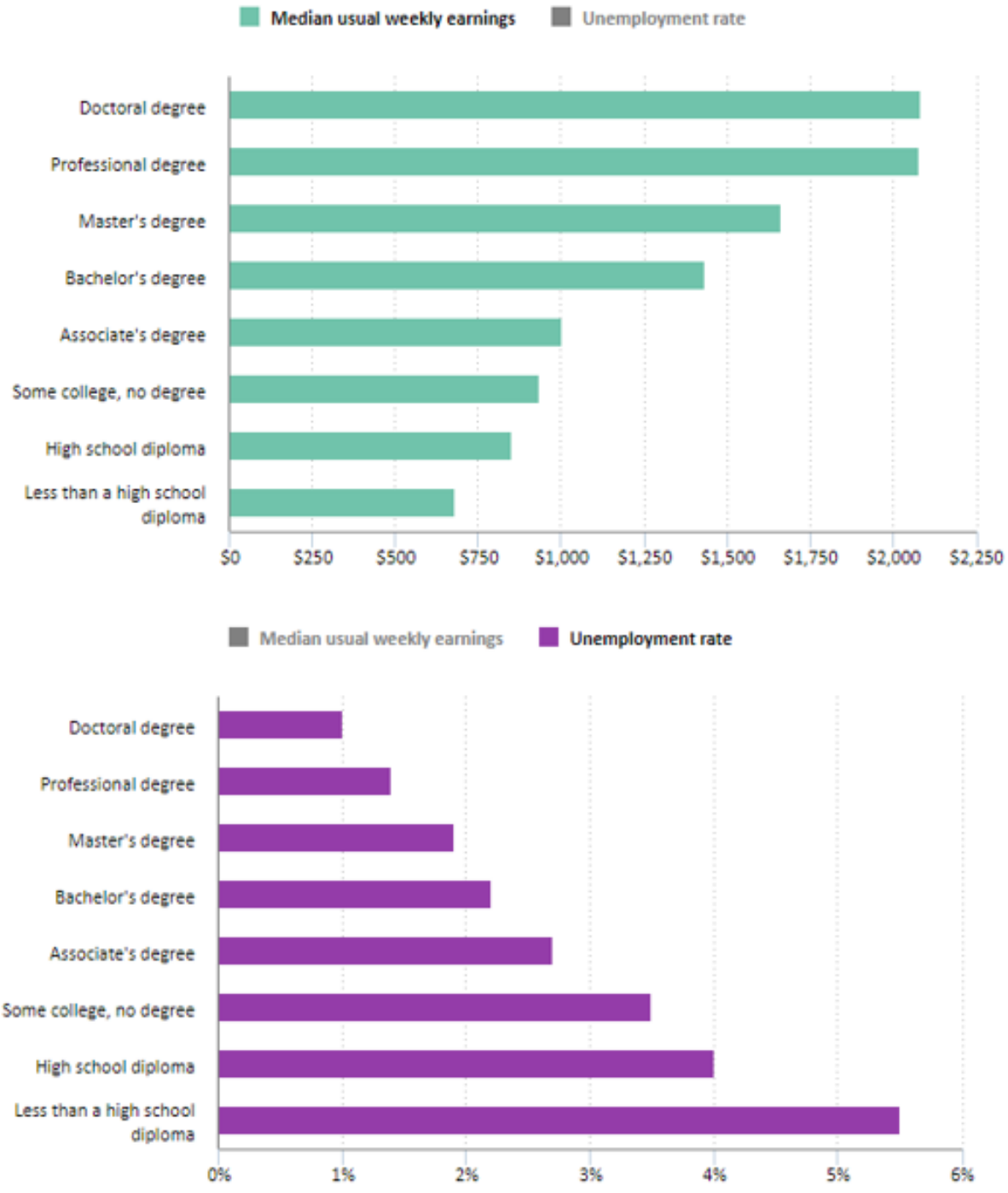
6 Education pays, 2022," Career Outlook, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2023. https://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2020/data-on-display/education-pays.htm

7 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Education Pays, 2022, https://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2023/data-on-display/education-pays.htm.

8 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook, https://www.bls.gov/ooh/.

Earnings and unemployment rates by educational attainment, 2022



Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

benefit military personnel (transitioning out of service), single parents, currently and formerly incarcerated individuals, underemployed individuals, and individuals with disabilities who gain employment.[9] [10] [11]

Expenditure Category: 2.13 Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System - Program Evaluation

The State of Mississippi is investing $29,600,000 in funds to promote healthy childhood environments including services to foster youth and families involved in child welfare systems by providing comprehensive career training, exploration, internship, apprenticeship, and work-based learning programming, addressing needs of older youth who age out of the system, and services aimed at reducing foster care utilization so that families stay together.

The training programs will be evaluated through multiple different analyses. Upon completion of every training program, participants will complete questionnaires measuring the performance and satisfaction of the trainings. Evaluations will be completed within 30 days of each program's conclusion. Once evaluations have been completed, information will be compiled and made publicly available.

For the other programs under this expenditure category, the programs will be evaluated based on the number of children and families served under the program and the number of children that enter or re-enter custody after being served under the program. Additional evaluation criteria will be developed as these programs are stood up.

VII. PERFORMANCE REPORT

Departments and agencies are working with DFA to develop strategies on utilizing State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds in accordance with the American Rescue Plan Act. Upon approval of each project, departments and agencies will develop key performance indicators for major programs and track mandatory performance indicators where applicable as outlined in the SLFRF Reporting and Compliance Guidance. Applicable key performance indicators for approved projects are included within the Project Inventory. As many of the programs are currently still in their start-up phase, there is not s significant amount of output

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9 Evaluation of Bridges to Career Opportunities: Final report. (Abt Associates, 2021): https://www.abtassociates.com/files/insights/reports/2021/lisc_abt-associates_-bco-final-report.pdf

10 Breaking Barriers: Implementing Individual Placement and Support in a Workforce Setting (MDRC, 2019): https://www.mdrc.org/sites/default/files/BBSD_Final_508_4-21-2021.pdf

11 Pathways for Advancing Careers and Education (PACE) Cross-Program Implementation and Impact Study Findings (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2019): https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/opre/pace_cross_program_implementation_and_impact_study_findings_final.pdf

data to report, however, it is anticipated that the next annual report should show substantial progress. DFA continues to actively monitor the progress of each program to ensure programs stay on track and any challenges are addressed in a timely manner.

VIII. PROJECT INVENTORY

Department of Employment Security

(via the State Office of Workforce Development known as AccelerateMS)

Agency and/or Project Website:
https://acceleratems.org/
https://impact.acceleratems.org

1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1517.B	AccelerateMS - Mississippi Health Sciences Training Infrastructure Grant Program	$20,000,000

Project Overview

AccelerateMS has awarded these funds to William Carey University, College of Osteopathic Medicine (WCUCOM) under the Health Sciences Training Infrastructure Program. WCUCOM has been recognized as number one in the nation for placing Mississippi's medical school graduates in rural areas, 4th for underserved areas, and 4th for primary care.[12] This project is intended to increase and expand training for physicians in rural and underserved areas to help better serve patients that may not have access to needed healthcare providers.

This facility will allow for advanced simulation, training in high-quality value-based care, and the latest in ultrasound and diagnostic training. This training will be geared toward the unique needs of Mississippians: diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular issues. The training will be made available to medical students and post-doctoral trainees, as well as practicing physicians as continuing medical education.

Project Schedule

Activities already completed/begun:

- Application received December 01, 2022
- Funding transfer date: January 27, 2023
- Subrecipient Agreement Signed: April 25, 2023

12 See https://www.usnews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-medical-schools/william-carey-university-04162.

A more detailed timeline will be provided in future reports once the design phase is complete. It is anticipated that the project will be completed in 2026.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The University will contract with an engineering firm and construction contractor to complete work for this project. Once construction is complete, the University will also work with state and local healthcare organizations to support residency programs and to increase the number of training slots in the State of Mississippi.

Key Performance Indicators

1. Number of medical students enrolled with WCUCOM.
2. Number of residents participating in single certificate or training programs.
3. Number of training slots in residency programs created by the support of the WCUCOM.

2.10 ASSISTANCE TO UNEMPLOYED OR UNDEREMPLOYED WORKERS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1517.A.1	AccelerateMS Workforce Development Program : Wrap-Around Services for Specific Populations	$10,400,000

Project Overview

AccelerateMS allocated $10,400,000 to the Wrap-Around Services for Specific Populations program. The program aims to increase the capacity of existing training programs and develop new training/education programs to provide opportunities for those individuals and industries impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible applicants include state agencies, community-based organizations, and non-profit partners. This program provides retraining, mentoring, career pathway coaching, and back-to-work support such as transportation, childcare, and financial literacy training. The program will benefit the following specific populations: military personnel (transitioning out of service), single parents, currently and formerly incarcerated individuals, underemployed individuals, and individuals with disabilities.

Project Schedule

- Application period for the grants opened in July 2022 and closed in August 2022.
- Review of applications was completed in October 2022.
- Subrecipients were notified of award in December 2022.
- Subrecipients are currently at various stages of expenditure. Some programs will conclude by the end of 2024, while others may continue into 2026.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The following Subrecipients will assist in implementing this program:

- Mississippi Low-Income Child-Care Initiative
- Mississippi Military Department
- Refill Jackson Initiative
- MagCor/MDOC Works
- Goodwill Industries of Mississippi
- Delta Health Alliance
- Midtown Partners

Key Performance Indicators

1. A total of 214 workers have been enrolled in sectoral job training programs since the start of the program and period of performance. Accelerate will continue to track the enrollment in these programs as a measure of success.
2. Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs. None reported as of June 30, 2023.
3. Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs. None reported as of June 30, 2023.

Use of Evidence/Program Evaluation

These projects are being used for evidence-based interventions. A total of $10,400,000 is allocated for these projects under 2.10 Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g., job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives). See Use of Evidence, Section VI, for additional information regarding evidence-based references.

2.36 AID TO OTHER IMPACTED INDUSTRIES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1517.A	AccelerateMS Workforce Development Program: Training at Colleges and IHL	$20,486,028

Project Overview

As part of the AccelerateMS Workforce Development Program, $20,486,028.25 will be provided to the State's community colleges and Institutions of Higher Learning (IHLs), enabling them to provide outreach, education, and training program expansion toward filling employment gaps and bolstering economic recovery among the following negatively impacted industries: healthcare, supply chain/logistics, and emerging sectors including advanced manufacturing, electric vehicles, and data analytics.

Project Schedule

- Application period for the grants opened in July 2022 and closed in August 2022.
- Review of application period began in August 2022.
- Subrecipients were notified of awards in October 2022.
- Subrecipients are currently at various stages of expenditure. Some programs will conclude by the end of 2024, while others may continue into 2026.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The following Subrecipients will assist in implementing this program:

- East Central Community College
- East Mississippi Community College
- Hinds Community College
- Holmes Community College
- Itawamba Community College
- Madison County School District
- Meridian Community College
- Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
- MS Achievement School District
- Mississippi Delta Community College
- Mississippi State University
- Northeast Mississippi Community College
- Northwest Mississippi Community College
- Pearl River Community College
- Tishomingo County School District
- University of Southern Mississippi

Key Performance Indicators

1. Number of individuals participating in the training programs by sector. A total of 2,321 individuals have been trained since the beginning of the period of performance in the following sectors:
   a. Healthcare sector: 553
   b. Logistics & Construction sector: 728
   c. Emerging sectors: 1040

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.2371.B	Mississippi Allied Health College and Career Navigator Grant Program	$2,500,000

Project Overview

AccelerateMS allocated $2,500,000 to the Mississippi Allied Health College and Career Navigator Grant Program. These funds are provided to hire professionals or navigators to offer individual assistance and guidance to students to assist them in many areas, from maneuvering challenges while enrolled in college programs and understanding the job market, to helping retain and graduate nursing and allied health students at community and junior colleges.

Project Schedule

- Publication of Request for Applications June 9, 2023
- Deadline for Applications July 14, 2023
- Notice of Intent to Award to Recipients July 28, 2023
- Final Award Notification August 11, 2023, or sooner
- Deadline for ALL grant-funded expenses December 30, 2026

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery mechanism is the hiring of “navigators” at community and junior colleges to provide individual assistance and guidance to students. The navigators must be a registered nurse with at least two years of experience in nursing. Nursing program navigators ultimately focus on these key areas:

- College Success and Persistence
- Career Navigation and Advancement

Key Performance Indicators

1. Number of Navigators providing assistance to nursing or allied health students.
2. Number of students being assisted by Navigators.
3. Nursing or Allied Health students’ retention rate and/or graduation rate of those being advised by career navigators.

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.2371.C	AccelerateMS Nursing/Allied Health Grant Program	$22,500,000

Project Overview

AccelerateMS allocated $22,500,000 to the Accelerate Mississippi Nursing/Allied Health Grant Program. These funds are provided with the purpose of increasing capacity in nursing and allied health training programs, including accredited paramedic programs, job sectors which were severely impacted by the disruption to the economy and workforce caused by COVID-19 pandemic.

Project Schedule

- Publication of Request for Applications June 9, 2023
- Deadline for Applications July 14, 2023
- Notice of Intent to Award to Recipients July 28, 2023
- Final Award Notification August 11, 2023, or sooner
- Deadline for ALL grant-funded expenses December 30, 2026

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery mechanism is the provision of grants to community and junior colleges and other healthcare-focused training programs to develop and expand training programs for nursing and allied health professions, including paramedics. The program also prioritizes jobs within the nursing and allied health fields that are currently experiencing staffing shortages in hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, and other healthcare providers across the State.

Key Performance Indicators

1. Number of students enrolled in Nursing Allied/Health training program.
2. Number of students completing Nursing Allied/Health training program.

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.2371.A	Accelerate Mississippi Physician Residency and Fellowship Start-Up Grant Program	$3,000,000

Project Overview

AccelerateMS allocated $3,000,000 to the Physician Residency and Fellowship Start-Up Grant Program. These funds are provided with the purpose of creating new or increasing capacity in existing physician residency and fellowship programs in hospitals, which were severely impacted by the disruption to the economy and workforce caused by COVID-19.

Project Schedule

- Publication of Request for Applications June 9, 2023
- Deadline for Applications July 14, 2023
- Notice of Intent to Award to Recipients July 28, 2023
- Final Award Notification August 11, 2023, or sooner
- Deadline for ALL grant-funded expenses December 30, 2026

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery mechanism is the provision of grants to general acute care hospitals in the State of Mississippi to facilitate the implementation of this program.

Key Performance Indicators

1. Total number of training slots in residency/fellowship created and what specialty they fall under.
2. Total number of training slots in residency/fellowship filled.
3. Number of locations/geographic areas impacted.

2.27 ADDRESSING IMPACTS OF LOST INSTRUCTIONAL TIME

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1517.C	AccelerateMS - Career Coaching Programs	$8,000,000

Project Overview

The legislature appropriated $8,000,000 to AccelerateMS for the Career Coaching program. The targeted population is disproportionately impacted high school students (grades 9-12), although middle school students may also participate. Career coaches will assist students in maximizing their potential and passions by road-mapping paths to colleges, majors, classes, and internships. A strategic plan may also be put in place for the student to guide them through their final years within the K-12 schooling system while educating them on successful interview practices and resume building.

Project Schedule

- Application period for the grants opened in July 2022 and closed in August 2022.
- Review of applications was completed in August 2022.
- Subrecipients were notified of award in August 2022.
- Deadline for Hiring Career Coaches and deployment to schools was September 2022.
- SLFRF funds for the Career Coaching Program will be fully expended by the end of 2024.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The following Subrecipients will assist in implementing this program:

- Economic Development Authority of Jones County
- Central Mississippi Planning & Development District
- Three Rivers Planning & Development District
- Southern Mississippi Planning & Development District
- South Delta Planning & Development District

Key Performance Indicators

1. Number of students participating in evidence-based tutoring programs: 25,814 since the start of the performance period.
2. Individual job applications received: 1,741 since the start of the program and period of performance.

7.1 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1517.1388	Administrative Expenses	$660,000

Project Overview

The legislature appropriated $660,000 to AccelerateMS, with the Department of Employment Security acting as fiscal agent, to be used for compliance and monitoring professional services in connection with the administration of AccelerateMS's ARPA/SLFRF programs.

Project Schedule

The term of the Professional Services Agreement between HORNE, LLP and AccelerateMS began July 7, 2022, and will be in effect until June 30, 2023, with a possibility of further extensions until December 31, 2026.

The Department of Employment Security (MDES) will be serving as the fiscal agent and providing reimbursement support and closeout services for duration of each AccelerateMS ARPA/SLFRF program.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

HORNE LLP serves as the first level of reimbursement review, while MDES completes the final reimbursement review and payment processing functions. MDES coordinates with AccelerateMS and HORNE LLP to complete grant setup and any necessary modifications within their reimbursement software, GranTrak.

Department of Environmental Quality

Agency and/or Project Website:
https://mswaterinfrastructure.com/

5.15 DRINKING WATER: OTHER WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3056.B	MCWI Grant Program Administration: Eligible Drinking Water Projects	$160,000,000

Project Overview

The Eligible Drinking Water Project has a budget of $160,000,000 within the total $491,000,000 provided to the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant Program. MCWI drinking water eligible uses include projects that are eligible under the EPA's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, infrastructure to improve access to safe drinking water for individuals served by residential wells, dam and reservoir rehabilitation, and certain eligible lead remediation projects as outlined by the US Treasury's Final Rule. The Grant Program is available to eligible local governments and public utilities in the State with a specific emphasis to economically disadvantaged communities.

As of June 30, 2023, MDEQ, through the MCWI Grant Program, has obligated $71,052,461.27, or 28.4%, of the total MCWI Grant Program funds obligated to date for eligible Drinking Water Projects. This amount reflects 84 executed subaward agreements with municipalities, counties, and public utilities not regulated by the Public Service Commission spanning the State of Mississippi.

5.5 CLEAN WATER: OTHER SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3056.C	MCWI Grant Program Administration: Eligible Clean Water Projects	$218,000,000

Project Overview

The Eligible Clean Water Project has a budget of $218,000,000 within the total $491,000,000 provided to the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant Program. The project will provide sewage collection and treatment infrastructure in unsewered areas. The Grant Program is available to eligible local governments and public utilities in the State with a specific emphasis to economically disadvantaged communities.

As of June 30, 2023, MDEQ, through the MCWI Grant Program, has obligated $128,145,561.08, or 51.3%, of the total MCWI Grant Program funds allocated to date for eligible Clean Water Projects. This amount reflects 126 executed subaward agreements with municipalities, counties, and public utilities not regulated by the Public Service Commission spanning the State of Mississippi.

5.6 CLEAN WATER: STORMWATER

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3056.D	(MCWI) Grant Program Administration: Eligible Storm Water Projects	$88,450,000

Project Overview

The Eligible Storm Water Project has a budget of $88,450,000 within the total $491,000,000 provided to the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant Program. MCWI stormwater eligible uses include the implementation of nonpoint source pollution management programs established under the Clean Water Act; measures that manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water; watershed projects meeting the criteria set forth in Section 122 of the Clean Water Act; reuse or recycling of stormwater or subsurface drainage water; green infrastructure; culvert repair, resizing, and removal, replacement of storm sewers, and additional types of stormwater infrastructure as outlined by the US Treasury's Final Rule. The Grant Program is available to eligible local governments and public utilities in the State with a specific emphasis to economically disadvantaged communities.

As of June 30, 2023, MDEQ, through the MCWI Grant Program, has obligated $50,635,083.21, or 20.3%, of the total MCWI Grant Program funds allocated to date for eligible Storm Water Projects. This amount reflects 33 executed subaward agreements with municipalities, counties, and public utilities not regulated by the Public Service Commission spanning the State of Mississippi.

Responses for all EC 5 Projects

Project Schedule

Reimbursement requests for costs incurred since March 3, 2021 may be reimbursable. All funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024. Recipients must submit final invoices to MDEQ by September 30, 2026 in order for MDEQ to expend MCWI funds by December 31, 2026.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant Program will provide reimbursable grants to municipalities, counties, and public utilities not regulated by the Public Service Commission. $491,000,000 has been provided to fund the MCWI Grant Program. Municipalities and counties applied for grants that are matched with the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds awarded to them under ARPA on a one-to-one basis. Municipalities that received less than One Million Dollars ($1,000,000) in the total allocation of Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds are eligible for a two-to-one match.

MDEQ will reimburse MCWI grant program funds directly to municipalities, counties, and public utilities not regulated by the Public Service Commission. As of June 30, 2023, MDEQ, through the MCWI Grant Program, has obligated $249,833,105.56, or 53.6%, of the total budget for all EC 5 projects. This amount reflects 243 executed subaward agreements to 159 municipalities, counties, and public utilities not regulated by the Public Service Commission spanning the State of Mississippi by means of subaward agreements.

Key Performance Indicators

1. **Eighty-four (84**) reimbursable grants to municipalities, counties, and public utilities not regulated by the Public Service Commission to make necessary investments in **drinking water,** provided through the MCWI Grant Program.
2. **Thirty-three (33)** reimbursable grants to municipalities, counties, and public utilities not regulated by the Public Service Commission to make necessary investments in **stormwater,** provided through the MCWI Grant Program.
3. **One hundred twenty-six (126**) reimbursable grants to municipalities, counties, and public utilities not regulated by the Public Service Commission to make necessary investments in **wastewater**, provided through the MCWI Grant Program.

7.1 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3056.A	MS Municipality and County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant Program Administration: ADMIN EXPENSES	$24,550,000

Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) will administer the MCWI Grant Program and may retain a maximum of five percent (5%) to cover the cost of administration. Moreover, MDEQ has adopted Rules and Regulations as to the administration of the program, has determined eligibility based on submission of applications for match funds, and has ranked eligible applications. MDEQ continues to award funding and is monitoring the funded programs to assure compliance with federal and state laws, rules, and regulations. To ensure the proper development and management of the program, MDEQ has contracted with HORNE, LLP for program assistance and Butler Snow, LLP for legal assistance.

Project Schedule

- These administrative services will be necessary over the life of the MCWI Grant Program which anticipates expenditures through December 2026.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

- Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (Grant Administrator)
- HORNE, LLP (Program Assistance)
- Butler Snow, LLP (Legal Assistance)

Department of Finance and Administration

Agency/Project Websites:
https://dfa.ms.gov

Bureau of Building (BOB), Grounds and Real Property Management

1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3062.E / GS# 522-057	MS Department of Health – Pharmacy Improvements Main Campus	$ 3,000,000
SB.3062.E / GS# 522-060	MS Department of Health – Medical Countermeasure Warehouse Rankin County	$ 9,000,000
SB.3062.E / GS# 516-012	MS Emergency Management Agency	$ 2,000,000

Project Overview

BOB will implement the above-referenced capital projects on behalf of the Mississippi Department of Health and the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency. These projects will include improvements to a medical countermeasure warehouse for the Department of Health's Office of Emergency Planning and Response and improvements to the Department of Health's Underwood Building at their main campus to accommodate the Department's Pharmacy Operations. This initiative is intended to support the Department of Health in its crucial role in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic by consolidating and optimizing the facilities of key operational groups for greater efficiency and effectiveness.

Project Schedule

These projects are still in the development phase. A definitive timeline has not yet been established but the projects will be complete prior to the December 2026 expenditure deadline. A detailed timeline will be provided once the projects commence.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms

The bureau plans to utilize qualified design professionals and contractors to improve/perform capital improvement programs. Design professionals will work with the using agencies to design a suitable project to suit the unique needs of that agency and facility. At the conclusion of the project, the design professionals will assess the project to ensure that the using agency's goals have been achieved.

Key Performance Indicators

1. Increased storage capacity for critical pharmaceutical products at the pharmacy.
2. Increased square footage of storage space for the medical countermeasure supplies to be housed in the new warehouse to support the Department's Office of Emergency Planning and Response's personnel and storage needs.
3. Emergency response time improvements from personnel and all those involved in emergency response, due to improvements to the State Emergency Logistical Operations Center and the State Emergency Operations Center.

1.4 PREVENTION IN CONGREGATE SETTINGS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3062.A.1 / GS# 350-038	Capitol Facilities (Sillers/Gartin/Woolfolk)	$9,500,000
SB.3062.A.1 / GS# SB.3062.A.1	State Capitol	$2,300,000
SB.3062.A.1 / GS# 371-181	Dept. of Finance and Administration (Waller Craft Ctr.)	$1,000,000
SB.3062.A.1 / GS# 374-010	Bolton Building	$3,350,000
SB.3062.A.1 / GS# 519-008	Workers' Compensation Commission	$850,000
SB.3062.B.1 / GS# 322-041	Central MS Correctional Facility	$4,850,000
SB.3062.B.1 / GS# 320-086	Delta Correctional Facility	$2,360,000
SB.3062.B.1 / GS# 320-090	East Mississippi Correctional Facility	$800,000
SB.3062.B.1 / GS# 320-085	Marshall County Correctional Facility	$3,500,000
SB.3062.B.1 / GS# 321-272	Mississippi State Penitentiary	$3,800,000
SB.3062.B.1 / GS# 323-025	South Mississippi Correctional Institution	$7,500,000
SB.3062.B.1 / GS# 320-072	Walnut Grove Correctional Facility	$3,000,000
SB.3062.C.1 / GS# 421-099	Boswell Regional Center	$1,500,000
SB.3062.C.1 / GS# 411-129	East Mississippi State Hospital	$3,050,000
SB.3062.C.1 / GS# 422-175	Ellisville State School	$4,200,000
SB.3062.C.1 / GS# 423-104	Hudspeth Regional Center	$3,000,000
SB.3062.C.1 / GS# 435-010	Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility	$500,000
SB.3062.C.1 / GS# 412-202	Mississippi State Hospital	$9,000,000
SB.3062.C.1 / GS# 424-096	North Mississippi Regional Center	$5,150,000
SB.3062.C.1 / GS# 426-026	North Mississippi State Hospital	$750,000
SB.3062.C.1 / GS# 427-015	South Mississippi State Hospital	$750,000
SB.3062.D.1 / GS# 312-125	Dept. of Human Services - Oakley Youth Development Center - Mitigation	$3,000,000
SB.3062.F.1 / GS# 505-034	Insurance (State Fire Academy) - Mitigation	$2,159,505

Project Overview

The above-listed projects are designed to improve air quality and filtration systems in buildings across the State of Mississippi, thereby mitigating the spread of COVID-19. BOB will implement capital projects to provide, replace, and/or modify HVAC equipment and related ductwork to improve air quality via increased outside air circulation and improved filtration. Existing ductwork will be cleaned, and automated controls will be provided, replaced, and/or modified to facilitate operation and control of ventilation systems. Incidental modifications to life, safety, and other building systems will be made where required to facilitate the primary work or where such work triggers code compliance. The target population will be state employees and the users of the various state facilities.

Project Schedule

These projects are still in the development phase. A definitive timeline has not yet been established but the projects will be complete prior to the December 2026 expenditure deadline. A detailed timeline will be provided once the projects commence.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Bureau of Buildings will utilize architect and engineering design professionals and contractors to perform capital improvement projects. Design professionals will work with the using agencies to design a suitable project to suit the unique needs of that agency and facility. After the project, the design professionals will assess the project to ensure that the using agency's goals have been achieved.

Key Performance Indicators

1. *Ventilation Rate:* This KPI measures the quantity of fresh outdoor air supplied by the HVAC system per unit of time. Adequate ventilation helps dilute and remove airborne contaminants, including viruses. Higher ventilation rates are generally desirable for reducing the risk of COVID-19 transmission.
2. *Air Changes per Hour (ACH):* ACH indicates how often air within a space is replaced with fresh air within an hour. Higher ACH values help remove viral particles from the air more quickly. ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers) recommends increased ACH rates to reduce the spread of COVID-19.
3. *Flow Rate of Air:* Airflow management will be implemented to measure the flow rate of air and will be monitored and controlled by installing airflow measuring stations integrated into the Building Automation System.

Use of Evidence

These projects are being used for evidence-based interventions. A total of $75,869,505 is allocated for these HVAC ventilation improvement projects under 1.4 Prevention in Congregate Settings. See Use of Evidence, Section VI, for additional information regarding evidence-based references.

3.5 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3062.H / GS# 604-024	Clarkco State Park	$ 2,500,000
SB.3062.H / GS# 610-014	LeFleur's Bluff State Park	$ 500,000
SB.3062.H / GS# 616-013	Natchez State Park	$ 2,500,000
SB.3062.H / GS# 617-029	Paul B. Johnson State Park	$ 5,300,000
SB.3062.H / GS# 618-046	Percy Quin State Park	$ 6,000,000
SB.3062.H / GS# 619-041	Roosevelt State Park	$ 6,200,000

Project Overview

BOB will implement the above-referenced projects for the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks (MSDWFP). These will consist of capital improvements to state park facilities to promote tourism and to mitigate wear and tear caused by increased use during the COVID-19 pandemic. Projects will include upgrades to existing RV campgrounds, cabins, lodges, and other amenities within state parks. The target population will be State Park visitors and State employees serving at these facilities.

Project Schedule

These projects are still in the development phase. A definitive timeline has not yet been established but the projects will be complete prior to the December 2026 expenditure deadline. A detailed timeline will be provided once the projects commence.

5.1 CLEAN WATER: CENTRALIZED WASTEWATER

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3062.B.2 / GS# 006-413	Transfer to Walnut Grove	$ 800,000
SB 3062.J.2E / GS# 215-058	Southwest Mississippi Community College	$ 833,334
SB.3062.B.2A / GS# 321-271	Mississippi State Penitentiary	$ 13,000,000
SB.3062.B.2C / GS# 323-024	South Mississippi Correctional Institution	$ 14,000,000
SB.3062.C.2F / GS# 422-169	Ellisville State School	$ 100,000
SB.3062.G1 / GS# 617-028	Paul B. Johnson State Park	$ 225,000
SB.3062.G1 / GS# 634-003	Lake Lincoln State Park	$800,000

Project Overview

BOB will implement the above-listed projects are wastewater infrastructure projects based at various locations in the State of Mississippi. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues. Projects will include replacing aging wastewater treatment facilities, improving existing wastewater treatment facilities, and installing perimeter fencing around a lagoon.

5.2 CLEAN WATER: CENTRALIZED WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND CONVEYANCE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3062.IA / GS# 101-334	Alcorn State University	$ 1,075,000
SB.3062.IB / GS# 102-280	Delta State University	$ 975,000
SB.3062.IC / GS# 103-322	Jackson State University	$ 750,000
SB.3062.IE / GS# 104-205	Mississippi University for Women	$ 975,000
SB.3062.1D / GS# 105-366	Mississippi State University	$ 3,175,000
SB.3062.IF / GS# 106-275	Mississippi Valley State University	$ 975,000
SB.3062.IG / GS# 107-324	University of Mississippi	$ 850,000
SB.3062.IH / GS# 108-307	University of Southern Mississippi	$ 1,600,000
SB.3062.IH / GS# 110-103	USM - GCRL	$ 250,000
SB.3062.ID / GS# 113-156	MSU - DAFVM	$ 1,400,000
SB.3062.J.2I / GS# 201-086	Coahoma Community College	$ 350,000
SB.3062.J.2A / GS# 203-069	East Central Community College	$ 150,000
SB.3062.J.2J / GS# 204-088	East Mississippi Community College	$ 700,000
SB.3062.J.2K / GS# 208-066	Jones Community College	$ 133,333
SB.3062.J.2L / GS# 210-074	Mississippi Delta Community College	$ 433,334
SB.3062.J.2M / GS# 213-064	Northwest Mississippi Community College	$ 433,333
SB.3062.J.2N / GS# 214-079	Pearl River Community College	$ 433,333
SB.3062.D.2 / GS# 312-124	Oakley Youth Development Center	$ 1,000,000
SB.3062.B.2E / GS# 320-074	Walnut Grove Correctional Facility	$ 200,000

SB.3062.B.2H / GS# 320-081	Quitman County Community Work Center	$ 500,000
SB.3062.B.2H / GS# 321-274	Mississippi State Penitentiary	$ 700,000
SB.3062.B.2B / GS# 322-042	Central Mississippi Correctional Facility	$ 2,000,000
SB.3062.C.2A / GS# 411-128	East Mississippi State Hospital	$ 250,000
SB.3062.C.2D / GS# 412-201	Mississippi State Hospital	$ 1,500,000
SB.3062.C.2E / GS# 421-102	Boswell Regional Center	$ 600,000
SB.3062.C.2F / GS# 422-170	Ellisville State School	$ 2,000,000
SB.3062.C.2G / GS# 424-093	North Mississippi Regional Center	$ 1,500,000
SB.3062.C.2J / GS# 425-071	South Mississippi Regional Center	$ 250,000
SB.3062.G.1 / GS# 617-027	Paul B. Johnson State Park	$ 2,600,000
SB.3062.G.2 / GS# 618-045	Percy Quin State Park	$ 2,100,000
SB.3062.G.3 / GS# 619-040	Roosevelt State Park	$ 1,800,000
UNALLOCATED - IHL	TBD	$ 225,000
UNALLOCATED MSWFP	TBD	$ 4,475,000

Project Overview

BOB will implement the above-referenced wastewater collection and conveyance projects based at various locations in the State of Mississippi. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues. Projects identified include improving wastewater collection and conveyance, repairing and replacing sewer lines lift stations, replacing sewer force mains, decommissioning an abandoned sanitary sewer treatment facility, repairing and/or replacing a sewer grinder, and other similar sewer infrastructure projects within the expenditure category listed.

5.5 CLEAN WATER: OTHER SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3062.ID / GS# 113-160	MSU - DAFVM	$ 500,000
SB.3062.J.2J / GS# 204-092	East Mississippi Community College	$ 133,333
SB.3062.B.2A / GS# 321-275	Mississippi State Penitentiary	$ 2,500,000
SB.3062.C.2E / GS# 421-098	Boswell Regional Center	$ 100,000

Project Overview

BOB will implement the above-referenced clean water and sewer infrastructure projects based at various state-owned facility locations across the State of Mississippi. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues. Projects identified include decommissioning lagoons to tie into municipal wastewater systems, including repairing and replacing security lights at sewer lagoons and security lights at water wells.

5.6 CLEAN WATER: STORMWATER

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3062.IE / GS# 104-208	Mississippi University for Women	$ 950,000
SB.3062.IH / GS# 108-313	University of Southern Mississippi	$ 1,575,000
SB.3062.J.2A / GS# 203-066	East Central Community College	$ 533,334
SB.3062.J.2O / GS# 207-057	Itawamba Community College	$ 833,333
SB.3062.J.2C / GS# 209-068	Meridian Community College	$ 833,333
SB.3062.J.2B / GS# 212-072	Northeast Mississippi Community College	$ 833,333
SB.3062.J.2N / GS# 214-082	Pearl River Community College	$ 400,000
SB.3062.D.2 / GS# 312-127	Oakley Youth Development Center	$ 1,000,000
SB.3062.B.2E / GS# 320-071	Walnut Grove Correctional Facility	$ 1,500,000
SB.3062.B.2F / GS# 320-079	Delta Correctional Facility	$ 1,500,000
SB.3062.B.2G / GS# 320-080	Wilkinson County Correctional Facility	$ 1,700,000
SB.3062.B.2B / GS# 322-040	Central Mississippi Correctional Facility	$ 7,000,000
SB.3062.C.2E / GS# 421-106	Boswell Regional Center	$ 100,000
SB.3062.C.2F / GS# 422-172	Ellisville State School	$ 1,000,000
SB.3062.C.2J / GS# 425-073	South Mississippi Regional Center	$ 200,000

Project Overview

BOB will implement the above-referenced stormwater infrastructure projects at various state-owned facility locations across the State of Mississippi. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues. Projects identified include stormwater line installation and improvements, replacing and repairing stormwater drainage systems, and improvements to stormwater infrastructure.

5.8 CLEAN WATER: WATER CONSERVATION

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3062.B.2E / GS# 320-076	Walnut Grove Correctional Facility	$ 2,000,000
SB.3062.B.2D / GS# 320-077	Marshall County Correctional Facility	$ 1,500,000
SB.3062.B.2F / GS# 320-078	Delta Correctional Facility	$ 940,000
SB.3062.B.2B / GS# 322-043	Central Mississippi Correctional Facility	$ 2,000,000
SB.3062.C.2D / GS# 412-204	Mississippi State Hospital	$ 500,000
SB.3062.F.2 / GS# 505-033	State Fire Academy	$ 150,000

Project Overview

BOB will implement the above-referenced water conservation projects at various facility locations across the State of Mississippi. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues. Projects identified include the installation of water meters to improve water efficiency and promote water conservation.

5.10 DRINKING WATER: TREATMENT

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3062.J.2I / GS# 201-089	Coahoma Community College	$ 133,334
SB.3062.C.2E / GS# 421-105	Boswell Regional Center	$ 50,000
SB.3062.C.2I / GS# 428-023	Community Services Division	$ 250,000

Project Overview

BOB will implement the above-referenced drinking water treatment projects at various facility locations in the State of Mississippi. This work will address aging infrastructure and all regulatory compliance issues. Projects identified include the installation of water meters and efforts to improve water efficiency.

5.11 DRINKING WATER: TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3062.IA / GS# 101-338	Alcorn State University	$ 7,075,000
SB.3062.IB / GS# 102-288	Delta State University	$ 950,000
SB.3062.IC / GS# 103-325	Jackson State University	$ 750,000
SB.3062.IF / GS# 106-278	Mississippi Valley State University	$ 950,000
SB.3062.IG / GS# 107-328	University of Mississippi	$ 825,000
SB.3062.IH / GS# 110-105	USM - GCRL	$ 250,000
SB.3062.J.2I / GS# 201-090	Coahoma Community College	$ 350,000
SB.3062.J.2D / GS# 202-087	Copiah-Lincoln Community College	$ 833,334
SB.3062.J.2A / GS# 203-070	East Central Community College	$ 150,000
SB.3062.J.2H / GS# 206-086	Holmes Community College	$ 833,333
SB.3062.J.2K / GS# 208-069	Jones Community College	$ 700,000
SB.3062.J.2L / GS# 210-078	Mississippi Delta Community College	$ 400,000
SB.3062.J.2M / GS# 213-067	Northwest Mississippi Community College	$ 400,000
SB.3062.B.2A / GS# 321-277	Mississippi State Penitentiary	$ 6,150,000
SB.3062.B.2C / GS# 323-026	South Mississippi Correctional Institution	$ 1,000,000
SB.3062.C.2E / GS# 421-104	Boswell Regional Center	$ 50,000
SB.3062.C.2G / GS# 424-094	North Mississippi Regional Center	$ 1,500,000

Project Overview

BOB will implement the above-referenced drinking water transmission and distribution infrastructure projects based at various locations in the State of Mississippi. This work will address aging infrastructure and all regulatory compliance issues. Projects identified include replacing water lines and replacing water utility systems.

5.12 DRINKING WATER: LEAD REMEDIATION, INCLUDING IN SCHOOLS AND DAYCARES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3062.C.2F / GS# 422-173	Ellisville State School	$ 1,850,000

Project Overview

The above-listed project is a drinking water lead remediation project based at Ellisville State School. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues.

5.13 DRINKING WATER: SOURCE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3062.IG / GS# 107-329	University of Mississippi	$ 1,500,000
SB.3062.II / GS# 109-228	University of Mississippi Medical Center	$ 2,700,000

Project Overview

BOB will implement the above-referenced drinking water source infrastructure projects at the University of Mississippi and University of Mississippi Medical Center. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues. Projects identified include water well refurbishment and replacements.

5.14 DRINKING WATER: STORAGE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3062.IC / GS# 103-326	Jackson State University	$ 15,725,000
SB.3062.J.2G / GS# 205-091	Hinds Community College	$ 833,333
SB.3062.J.2F / GS# 211-070	Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College	$ 833,333
SB.3062.C.2F / GS# 422-174	Ellisville State School	$ 200,000

Project Overview

BOB will implement the above-referenced projects to address drinking water storage issues at various locations in the State of Mississippi. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues. Projects identified include replacements and repairs of water storage tanks and facilities and improvements to drinking water storage facilities, including refurbishments of elevated tanks.

5.15 DRINKING WATER: OTHER WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3062.B.2A / GS# 321-278	Mississippi State Penitentiary	$ 3,200,000
SB.3062.C.2E / GS# 421-103	Boswell Regional Center	$ 100,000

Project Overview

BOB will implement the above-reference projects will address other drinking water infrastructure improvements at various locations in the State of Mississippi. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues. Projects identified include installing supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) systems and repairing and refurbishing water tower facilities.

RESPONSES FOR ALL EC 5 PROJECTS

Project Schedule

Projects in this category are at varying stages listed above. The Bureau has assigned design professionals which are in the process of developing documents and designs for review. A definitive timeline has not yet been established but the projects will be complete prior to the December 2026 expenditure deadline. A detailed timeline will be provided once the projects commence.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Bureau of Building will utilize qualified design professionals and contractors to improve/perform capital improvement programs. Design professionals will work with the using agencies to design a suitable project to suit the unique needs of that agency and facility. At the conclusion of the project, the design professionals will assess the project to ensure that the using agency's goals have been achieved.

Key Performance Indicators

1. **Clean water:** Water quality that meets or exceed all regulatory requirements set forth by EPA and Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality relative to wastewater treatment, transmission and distribution projects.
2. **Drinking water:** Levels of drinking water contaminants that meet or exceed all regulatory requirements set forth by EPA and Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality relative to drinking water projects.
3. **Stormwater:** Decrease in the volume of standing water to support improved stormwater management projects.

Independent Schools

1.4 PREVENTION IN CONGREGATE SETTINGS (NURSING HOMES, PRISONS/JAILS, DENSE WORK SITES, SCHOOLS, CHILDCARE FACILITIES, ETC.)

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3064.B	Mississippi Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (MAICU) Infrastructure Grant Program – HVAC Projects	$7,015,353

Project Overview

This initiative will fund heating, ventilation, and air conditioning upgrades to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in congregate settings at Mississippi College, William Carey University, Blue Mountain College and Tougaloo College. The projects will involve replacement and/or modifications to HVAC equipment and related ductwork to increase air quality via increased outside air and improved filtration. Existing ductwork will be cleaned. Automated controls will be provided, replaced and/or modified to facilitate operation and control of ventilation systems. Incidental modifications to MEP, life safety, and other building systems will be made where required to facilitate the primary work or where such work triggers code compliance of those systems. The densest meeting areas, classroom sites, and other key locations will be prioritized to ensure continued operation during a pandemic. In addition, William Carey University is planning a cafeteria improvement project that will include HVAC upgrades but will also incorporate expansion of its dining area that will allow for proper distancing of its students in that area.

Project Schedule

DFA began taking prequalification applications in December of 2022. After the information was confirmed, DFA began accepting financial plans in March of 2023. DFA has approved plans for two of the entities. DFA will reimburse the colleges as they file the correct documentation and will continue to work with the other colleges to submit their information. All schools will report monthly and quarterly to DFA. All funds are to be obligated by 2024 and expended by 2026.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery mechanism will be monitored grant awards to the four partnering schools: Mississippi College, William Carey University, Blue Mountain College, and Tougaloo College.

Key Performance Indicators

1. **Ventilation Rate:** This KPI measures the quantity of fresh outdoor air supplied by the HVAC system per unit of time. Adequate ventilation helps dilute and remove airborne contaminants, including viruses. Higher ventilation rates are generally desirable for reducing the risk of COVID-19 transmission.
2. **Air Changes per Hour (ACH)**: ACH indicates how many times the air within a space is replaced with fresh air within an hour. Higher ACH values help remove viral particles from the air more quickly. ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers) recommends

increased ACH rates to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

3. **Flow Rate of Air:** Airflow management will be implemented to provide the measurement of the flow rate of air and will be monitored and controlled by installing airflow measuring stations integrated into the Building Automation System.

Use of Evidence/Program Evaluation

These projects are being used for evidence-based interventions. A total of $7,015,353 is allocated for these HVAC ventilation improvement projects under 1.4 Prevention in Congregate Settings. See Use of Evidence, Section VI, for additional information regarding evidence-based references.

5.21 BROADBAND – OTHER PROJECTS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3064.C	Mississippi Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (MAICU) Infrastructure Grant Program - Broadband	$1,521,311

Project Overview

Funding for this program will cover a broadband infrastructure project at Belhaven University. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the school was required to move every aspect of student interaction to a digital format, including registration, class participation, homework submissions, meetings, financial aid, etc. The school's outdated fiber broadband system was unable to handle the additional workload. Improvements will include the implementation of fiber, switch, and server updates, and the installation of a pure storage FlashArray device.

Project Schedule

These projects are still in the development phase. A definitive timeline has not yet been established but the projects will be complete prior to the December 2026 expenditure deadline. A detailed timeline will be provided once the projects commence.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery mechanism will be a monitored grant award to Belhaven University.

Key Performance Indicators

1. Miles of fiber technology deployed to support enhanced network security, resolve the lack of reliable service due to the outdated or lack of equipment, including but not limited to the fiber backbone, servers, switches, and access points.
2. Upload/download speeds of network - minimum of 100/100 Mbps (after SLFRF investment) or minimum 100/20 Mbps and scalable to minimum 100/100 Mbps.

Insurance Health

Agency and/or Project Website:
https://dfa.ms.gov/insurance

1.6 MEDICAL EXPENSES (INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE CARE FACILITIES)

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1664.A HB.1717	Insurance - Covid-19 Medical Claims	$95,000,000

Project Overview

The Department of Finance and Administration – Office of Insurance appropriated SLFRF funds to reimburse COVID-19-related medical expenses incurred by the State and School Life and Health Insurance Plan. Reimbursable medical claims incurred by the State include those related to testing and treatment of COVID-19 and management of any associated symptoms and medical conditions.

Project Schedule

The initial claims summary was processed in July 2022 and reimbursed to the Office of Insurance in December 2022. Additional funds were allocated for this program in 2023. Reimbursement is anticipated by December 2023.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

This section is not applicable for this program.

Tourism

2.35 AID TO TOURISM, TRAVEL, OR HOSPITALITY

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1518.A	Tourism at Destination Marketing Organizations (DMOs)	$30,000,000
HB.1518.C	Mains Street Revitalization Grant Program	$5,000,000

Tourism at Destination Marketing Organizations (DMOs)

Project Overview

The travel, tourism and hospitality industry is considered a ‘‘severely negatively impacted’’ industry under SLFRF and thus promotion of the industry is an enumerated eligible use to address negative economic impacts. The Tourism Destination Marketing Organizations (DMO) project is intended to target the impacted tourism industry in Mississippi by providing funds for DMO advertising and marketing. The purpose of this initiative is to increase the contributions of the tourism industry to the overall state economy. Services to be provided include multimedia marketing and advertising, including digital media, broadcast media, and printed media, and tourism development and administrative costs to conduct marketing activities. Funding provided to the DMOs is based on the proportion of a DMO’s contribution toward total tourism visitors in the state.

Project Schedule

The DMO Grant Program began taking prequalification applications in August of 2022. DFA then determined the eligible participants and began accepting organizational information in November of 2022.

After the information was confirmed, eligible participants submitted their financial information in January of 2023 and funds began being disbursed later that month. The DMOs will continue to provide monthly and quarterly reports that are monitored for accuracy. All funds are to be obligated by 2024, and it is anticipated most will be expended by the end of 2025.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

DFA is partnering with the DMOs in the State to facilitate completion of this program. DFA has also partnered with a third-party administrator hired for this program, Carr, Riggs & Ingram to assist in the review of applications and expenditures for compliance with ARPA guidelines.

Main Street Revitalization Grant Program

Project Overview

These funds were allocated for distribution to the members of the Mississippi Main Street Association as revitalization grants for aiding the travel, tourism, and hospitality industry impacted in the State.

Grants shall be made to the following communities:

- Eight (8) communities with a population over 25,000 at $125,000 per community.
- Forty (40) communities with a population of less than 25,000 at $100,000 per community.

The Mississippi Main Street Association has 48 members across Mississippi whose mission is to promote the historic environment of downtown commercial areas. Working with the principals established by the

National Main Street Center, these small towns will use these funds to promote their communities through projects like public art improvements, historic preservation projects, façade improvements, historic walking tours, branding and marketing activities, etc. to promote tourism within their communities in Mississippi.

Project Schedule

The Main Street Revitalization Grant Program began taking prequalification applications in October of 2022. After the information on the applications was confirmed, DFA began accepting financial plans in February of 2023. DFA intends to begin distributing funds in the first quarter of FY 2024 (July 1-Sept 30, 2023). It is anticipated that all funding will be expended by December 31, 2026.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The delivery of this program will be through subrecipient agreements with the Main Street Organizations. DFA has also partnered with a third-party administrator hired for this program, Carr, Riggs & Ingram to assist in the review of applications and expenditures for compliance with ARPA guidelines.

Hinds County District Attorney's Office

Agency and/or Project Website:
https://hindsda.com

3.5 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1625.A	Court Backlog: District Attorneys and Staff OFFICE EXPENSES	$302,512
HB.1518.C	Court Backlog: District Attorneys and Staff PAYROLL	$725,273

Project Overview

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Mississippi court dockets became backlogged with criminal cases. The Hinds County District Attorney's Office (DA Office) was appropriated SLFRF funds to provide additional salaries and office expenses for temporary legal assistants and support personnel to assist in remediation of the Hinds County criminal case backlog.

Project Schedule

Hiring staff and other personnel within the Hinds County DA Office began in July 2022 and has culminated with five attorneys (ADAs), two criminal investigators, and one paralegal.

This additional staffing will be needed until the backlog has been substantially reduced. A more definitive timeline will be established for future reports, but all expenditures will be made by December 2026.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Hinds County DA Office is working collaboratively with other state agencies and entities to remediate the case backlog exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Department of Human Services - Child Protective Services

Agency Website:
https://www.mdcps.ms.gov/

2.13 HEALTHY CHILDHOOD ENVIRONMENTS: SERVICES TO FOSTER YOUTH OR FAMILIES INVOLVED IN CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1611.A	Older Youth	$4,000,000

Project Overview

Funding will address the needs of older youth in the foster care system of the state of Mississippi with an overall purpose to provide comprehensive career training, exploration, internship, apprenticeship, and work-based learning programming. Other needs include professional development, transportation support, and comprehensive funding for driver's education. Funding will also be used to hire fourteen additional transition navigators. Challenges in the delivery of services and programming within the current system were exacerbated during the pandemic, while the needs of job training, professional development, etc. increased. The proposed plan provides older youth opportunities to acquire the skills and training necessary to be successful in the workplace.

Project Schedule

MDCPS has hired the fourteen additional transitional navigators. These case-carrying staff are currently working to assist older youth with the transition out of foster care.

MDCPS is implementing several initiatives for this project as detailed in the project overview. The program manager will submit a Request for Proposals (RFP) to the contract unit in order to solicit potential subrecipients or vendors to assist in carrying out these initiatives. MDCPS intends to complete the RFP process by December 2023, with services beginning January 2024. A timeline for completion will be established once the RFP process is complete.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

Transitional navigators will be the primary partners for this project. They are responsible for assuring each older youth is properly cared for and prepared as they age out of the system.

In addition, MDCPS plans to procure subrecipients or vendors to provide educational opportunities, job training, internships, and professional development to older youth. Vendors and subrecipients will be monitored by the transitional navigators, agency administration, and other internal controls.

Key Performance Indicators

1. *Number of older youths served by transitional navigators:* Transitional navigators to help over 500 children across the state. The hiring of additional transitional navigators will help the agency provide more support to the older youth by increasing the number of youths that are assisted by the navigators. Currently there are over 500 youths that are eligible for these services, but not all are able to receive them. The additional navigators will assure more youth are being assisted. This will be measured by the increase in the number of older youths that are being assisted.
2. *Number of older youths attending trainings, internships, and career exploration:* Training has not begun. Number of attending youth will be updated.
3. *Number of events and activities that are offered and provided to the older youth:* MDCPS will document how many activities, classes, trainings, etc. are offered. The exact number will be determined during the RFP and vendor selection process. This information will be updated as the services are rendered.

Use of Evidence/Program Evaluation

The training programs will be evaluated through multiple different analyses. Upon completion of every training program, participants will complete questionnaires measuring the performance and satisfaction of the trainings. Evaluations will be completed within 30 days of each program's conclusion. Once evaluations have been completed, information will be compiled and made publicly available.

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1611.C	Continuum of Care	$20,000,000

Project Overview

The purpose of the Continuum of Care project is to create a tiered rating structure that promotes more appropriate placements for children in foster care. This continuum of care will allow MDCPS to provide children in foster care with the appropriate care required for each child. Funding will address the needs of children in the foster care system, which were increased by the extenuating circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Project Schedule

MDCPS is planning on completing project proposals and searching for vendors beginning July 2023. Once a vendor is selected, services should begin as soon as possible. The goal is to have the program implemented no later than January 2024. Once a vendor is selected, a timeline for completion will be established.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery partners will be outside vendors. The requested services will be advertised, and vendors will go through the RFP process. Once selected, these services will be allocated to needy children throughout the childcare system.

The outside vendors will contractually build an integrated system of placements for children that emphasizes family-based arrangements with community support. Data will be used to predict the type of care used most frequently and incentivize providers who participate in providing the level of care needed and disincentives providers from refusing care to certain children. A tiered structure will adequately compensate providers for delivering appropriate placements for children and for assisting with moving the child to a permanent family-based setting.

Key Performance Indicators

1. Percentage and age of children served through project. Within MDCPS custody, roughly 55% of children range from 0 – 8 years of age. This accounts for approximately 1,766 children that will benefit from this program. Approximately 27% of children range from 9 – 15 years of age and account for around 882 children. Roughly 18% of children range from 16 – 21 years of age and account for approximately 566 children. This will be a baseline as a performance indicator once the program has begun.
2. Number of candidates for foster care served who do not enter custody within 12 months of program completion. Program has not begun. Information will be provided once program begins.

Use of Evidence/Program Evaluation

This program will be evaluated by the program manager. The selected vendors will submit invoices and records of all services provided. These will be measured against expectations set by the baseline number of children that are receiving benefits. Additional evaluation criteria will be developed as this program is stood up.

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1611.D	Immediate Solutions	$5,600,000

Project Overview

Funding will provide evidence-based solutions that maintain stable families by giving them access to the solutions they need. This funding will be used for an "intercept" program. Intercept provides intensive in-home services to children and youth at risk of entry or re-entry into out-of-home placements or who are currently in out-of-home placements. The program is designed to reduce foster care utilization by providing prevention services to children and their families of origin. Family intervention specialists are employed and use an integrated, trauma-informed approach to offer individualized services intended to meet the needs of children.

The target population for intercept is children from birth to age 18 who are at risk of entry or re-entry into custody. It also is designed to serve children who have emotional and behavioral problems or have experienced abuse and/or neglect.

Project Schedule

MDCPS completed a Request for Proposal and selected Youth Villages as a subrecipient based on the vendor's submitted proposal. It is anticipated that the project will be completed by September 30, 2024.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery partner is Youth Villages, which is currently assisting children at risk of entering custody.

Key Performance Indicators

1. *Number of children served:* The number of children this program serves has been determined, but services have not been charged to the Recovery Fund. Numbers will be applied once Recovery Funds are used. Currently, MDCPS has over 3,700 children in custody eligible for these services. Now, the number of referrals made to the vendor determines if the program is being utilized. From October 1, 2022, to the present, there has been a total of 566 youth that have been referred and provided services.
2. *Number of families served:* From October 1, 2022, to the present, there have been 283 referrals for families to acquire these services. In addition, there have been 387 caregivers that have also been referred and provided services.
3. *Number of children and families referred for the services rendered through this program:* Once recovery forms are utilized, the number of children and families that are referred and benefit from these services will be determined and applied.

Use of Evidence/Program Evaluation

Program evaluation will be utilized. This program offers measurable results based on the number of children and families referred for services compared to the number that enter or re-enter custody. The vendor submits documentation monthly and will be monitored by program managers to assure all required services are being rendered. The measurements will be the number of children and families that take advantage of the services and number of children that are allowed to remain in the home.

3.1 PUBLIC SECTOR WORKFORCE: PAYROLL AND BENEFITS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PUBLIC SAFETY, OR HUMAN SERVICES WORKERS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1611.B	Stabilize Workforce	$24,000,000

Project Overview

The Stabilize Workforce project is intended to defray eligible operational expenses, specifically the hiring of additional staff. The staff will include approximately one hundred additional case carrying staff, twenty area social work supervisors (ASWS) to supervise case carrying staff, and eighty-two additional case aides to assist in supporting education, medical, and transportation needs of children in foster care. The COVID-19 pandemic caused an increase in the number of foster care cases assigned to each caseworker. Additional staff will allow MDCPS to reduce the number of cases assigned to each caseworker, thereby improving services provided to foster care children and families.

Project Schedule

MDCPS began increasing staff July 1, 2023. Due to high turnover in the child welfare field, the agency continues to concentrate effort in recruiting, hiring, and retaining staff.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery mechanism will be through an increased number of MDCPS case-carrying staff.

Key Performance Indicators

1. *Number of case carrying staff providing services to youth in care:* There are currently approximately 138 case carrying staff. The average caseworker caseload score is 1.2. This reflects the number of cases being worked by each worker. The agency is working on getting this number reduced to better meet the Olivia Y lawsuit requirements.
2. *Monthly monitoring of caseloads for Recovery Plan staff to measure the goal of reducing the caseload to levels determined appropriate through the Olivia Y lawsuit:* KPI1 will be the baseline model. As the program is further implemented, the percentage change will be reflected here as a net positive or net negative and will reflect the program's performance.
3. *Monthly monitoring of caseloads percentages for the agency to measure the goal of reducing the caseload to levels determines appropriate through the Olivia Y lawsuit:* Current caseload percentages will be used as a baseline for monitoring the program. As staff increases, the number of caseloads assigned to each worker will decrease.

4. *Number of children of served (broken out by age group):* Within MDCPS custody, roughly 55% of children range from 0 – 8 years of age. This accounts for approximately 1,766 children that will benefit from this program. Roughly 27% of children range from 9 – 15 years of age and account for approximately 882 children. Roughly 18% of children range from 16 – 21 years of age and account for approximately 566 children.

3.5 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1611.E	Expedite Adoptions	$4,000,000

Project Overview

The purpose of Expedite Adoptions is to defray eligible operational expenses incurred in remediating the adoption court backlog exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Operational expenses will include the hiring of additional legal staff (attorneys, paralegals, and legal assistants) and potentially contracting with outside legal services providers.

Project Schedule

MDCPS intends to hire legal staff and contractors to assist with remediation of the adoption backlog beginning July 1, 2023.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary mechanism of delivery will be through MDCPS case-carrying staff hired and responsible for remediating the adoption backlog. Potential partners will be outside legal services contractors procured to assist in remediating the adoption backlog.

Department of Mental Health

Agency and/or Project Website:
https://www.dmh.ms.gov/

1.12 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.2865.A	State Required Mandates	$86,069,500

Project Overview

The purpose of the State Required Mandates project is to assist Mississippians with behavioral health needs (mental health and addiction) following the COVID-19 pandemic by increasing the utilization of community-based services for behavioral health. Recipients may also use these funds to respond to increased rates of behavioral health challenges at a population level or, at an individual level, new behavioral health challenges or exacerbation of pre-existing challenges, including barriers to accessing treatment.

Subrecipients will utilize these funds to target the response to public health impacts and for other operational expenses. Specifically, funding will support critical behavioral and mental services including but not limited to:

- 988 Implementation – Emergency mental health reporting,
- Crisis services for serious mental illness (SMI) for sixty (60) more beds in the state,
- Mental health first aid for public safety training,
- Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for law enforcement,
- Peer support services,
- Court/Law enforcement/hospital liaisons pilot program for up to eighteen (18) liaisons,
- Intensive Community Support Specialists (ICSS) for children and youth at the seven Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs) that do not have an ICSS,
- Adolescent offender program, adding one program in each of the thirteen (13) CMHCs,
- Intellectual and Developmental (IDD) crisis services and support.

Project Schedule

Projects are anticipated to get underway in August 2023. Expenditures are expected through December 2026. A more detailed timeline will be provided once the projects are stood up.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery mechanisms for this funding will be subrecipient grants to certified providers. There will also be some contractual and employee expenditures, although minor in relation to total funding. Partners will include Community Mental Health Centers, certified providers, 988 Lifeline Crisis Centers, and organizations with the expertise and knowledge to successfully carry out the intended projects who are selected based on competitive selection mechanisms and/or a procurement process.

Use of Evidence/Program Evaluation

The programs within this project will be evaluated/reviewed/monitored on a quarterly basis for efficacy and progress toward the goals/objectives/KPIs established for the services being funded. An annual report will be compiled detailing accomplishments and issuing any feedback for changes or adjustments. These evaluations will be conducted using regulatory documents in place through federal, state and local entities, as well as through contractual arrangements such as subrecipient grants. Specific information would be applied to the following structure for evaluating programs:

- Assessment of resource acquisition, existence, and utilization for the individual services outlined in this plan and contracted through subrecipient grant providers. Program and administrative monitoring of appropriate and adequate service provision would begin with securing staff, materials, and operational components necessary to meet the goals/objectives of the program.
- Activities of day-to-day operations, including the substantive review of service efficacy, will be reviewed through site visits or through auditing participation in the programs. KPIs and other outcomes/outputs are within subrecipient documents, which will also be part of the evaluation.
- Overall executive review would be conducted monthly for feedback in adjusting the evaluation of the programs, or the structure of the evaluations.

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.2865.C	Community Mental Health Centers	$18,000,000
SB.2865.B	Administrative Services	$550,000

Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Mental Health funds will allow for the investments in technology infrastructure and the standardization of electronic medical records to support mental health needs within Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs). The funds shall be utilized at the CMHCs or for the benefit of CMHCs to allow for investments in software, databases, telemedicine capabilities, and other information technology resources that support behavioral and mental health needs exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Project Schedule

The planning phase of this program began in FY 2023. It is anticipated that the majority of the work will be performed during FY 2024 with an expected system implementation date beginning in FY 2025. Implementation would continue through FY 2026 with support and maintenance during and after implementation. A more definitive timeline will be established once the independent contractor is hired to design and implement the system.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The delivery mechanism for this planned service is through an independent contractor. Procurement for an Electronic Health Record will be initiated once advice and consultation with an independent expert has resulted in enough information to proceed. CMHCs will provide feedback and be part of the process in evaluating and implementing this project.

Key Performance Indicators

1. Successful design of scheme for standardization of an Electronic Health Record (EHR) for Community Mental Health Centers.
2. EHR integration implemented across all 12 CMHCs.

Use of Evidence/Program Evaluation

This project will be evaluated through project timelines and milestones toward achieving implementation of the Electronic Health Record and associated data. There will also be feedback and needed adjustment throughout the process.

The programs within this project will be evaluated/reviewed/monitored on a quarterly basis for efficacy and progress toward the goals/objectives/KPIs established for the services being funded. An annual report will be compiled detailing accomplishments and issuing any feedback for changes or adjustments. Programs will be evaluated upon progress toward meeting any KPIs and other goals/objectives that the program evaluator will coordinate establishing and reporting.

These evaluations will be conducted using regulatory documents in place through federal, state and local entities, as well as through contractual arrangements with vendors. Specific information would be applied to the following structure for evaluating programs:

- Assessment of the current structure(s) related to electronic health records at public community mental health centers, which will be assisted by an expert consultant.
- Development of the proposed scheme and structure of a new electronic health record for use by the 12 CMHCs.
- Assessment of the improvement in the timeliness of data availability and reporting of mental health issues, so that specific areas of potentially underserved individuals and/or areas and people being affected by the pandemic can be assisted with more effectiveness.

Department of Military

Agency and/or Project Website:
https://www.ng.ms.gov/depts/state-resources/bid-opportunities

1.4 PREVENTION IN CONGREGATE SETTINGS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.2961	HVAC Equipment Replacements and Upgrades	$5,000,000

Project Overview

The Department of Military was appropriated $5,000,000 to fund expenses related to the purchase and installation of chillers and large HVAC units at Mississippi National Guard buildings, including Camp Shelby and the St. Martin Readiness Center, necessary to respond to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The buildings include:

- Joint Forces Training Center Headquarters (CSJFTC) (Bldg. 1001)
- Operational Readiness Training Center (ORTC) (Bldg. 3334)
- 154th Regional Training Institute (RTI) Headquarters (Bldg. 3500)
- 154th Regional Training Institute (RTI) General Studies (Bldg. 3575)
- 154th Regional Training Institute (RTI) (Bldg. 3576/3577)
- St Martin Readiness Center, St Martin, MS

All the above are mitigation projects are intended to improve air quality and filtration systems to aid in mitigation and prevention of COVID-19.

Project Schedule

This project is in its beginning stages. A detailed timeline will be provided for future reports.

Use of Evidence/Program Evaluation

These projects are being used for evidence-based interventions. A total of $5,000,000 is allocated for these HVAC ventilation improvement projects under 1.4 Prevention in Congregate Settings. See Use of Evidence, Section VI, for additional information regarding evidence-based references.

5.5 CLEAN WATER: OTHER SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3019.B	Repairs/Upgrade to Sanitary Sewer System Drainage Basins 10-16, Camp Shelby Training Site	$9,391,000

Project Overview

The Military Department is allocated SLFRF funds to be used for the purpose of completing capital projects, including repairs of the sewer systems at Camp Shelby, which is considered one of the largest state-owned training centers in the United States and part of the Mississippi National Guard. Planned improvements include installing new service lines, steel casing, erosion control, and other drainage basins and overall sewer system improvements.

Project Schedule

As of June 2023, the A&E firm has been contracted to handle the technical aspects of this project. Construction has not commenced, and a more detailed timeline will be provided in future reports.

5.10 DRINKING WATER: TREATMENT

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3019.C	Military ARPA Fund – Water Well Filtration System	$1,000,000

Project Overview

The Military Department is allocated SLFRF funds to add a water filtration system for water wells located at Camp Shelby, considered one of the largest state-owned training centers in the United States and part of the Mississippi National Guard. Planned improvements include supplying and installing a high-capacity filtering system, lime treatment, potassium permanganate equipment, and detention basin.

Project Schedule

Work commenced on this project during FY 2023. The construction contract was awarded and notice to proceed issued in March 2023. The estimated completion date is mid to late 2024.

Key Performance Indicators

1. ***Drinking Water project:*** Initial testing of the water from well 4 indicates excess amounts of iron in the water supply in November 2017 by the MS Department of Health and Bonner Analytical. The excepted minimum recording level is .00370mg/L, and the analysis after analytical testing shows .718mg/L. Based on input from Dept of Health, the water well filtration system should reduce the Iron levels to acceptable levels. Dept of Health will conduct another analysis on the water once the water well filtration system is completed.
2. ***Clean Water project:*** The proposed sewer project will improve compliance under the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) wastewater discharge permit and the installation's environmental stewardship responsibilities. During and after heavy rainfall events (not uncommon at Camp Shelby), the plant flow approaches and exceeds the permitted flow, which causes process upsets and violations of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) wastewater discharge permit for Camp Shelby. By updating the sewer system, runoff and sewage discharge can be better maintained, mitigating pollution to surrounding communities.

Department of Public Safety

Agency Website:
https://www.dps.ms.gov/

1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3014.F	Medical Examiner's Office Autopsy Backlog_ Morgue	$4,792,488

Project Overview

Website: https://www.dps.ms.gov/forensic-laboratories/medical-examiner

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) budgeted $4,792,487.52 to complete building renovations to a state-owned building in Oxford, MS for an additional Medical Examiner's Office (ME Office) to serve Mississippi's northern region. The Mississippi ME Office experienced significant impacts due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with only two facilities located in central and southern regions of the State to carry out work. Currently, deceased individuals from the Northern region must be transported to other facilities causing significant backlogs in autopsies and reporting delays with the surge of deaths during the pandemic.

The rise in unclaimed bodies exceeded the ME Office's storage space and limited its ability to process new cases. State statute mandates that "anyone in the custody of law enforcement, including in-custody deaths, are to be autopsied." The overwhelming number of in-custody deaths attributed to COVID-19 outbreaks contributed to the facilities' storage space limitation. Creating the new ME Office will remediate these issues and an enumerated list of other problems.

Project Schedule

This project is still in the development phase. A definitive timeline has not yet been established but the project will be complete prior to the December 2026 expenditure deadline. A detailed timeline will be provided once the project commences.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

State agencies involved in this planning are the DFA Bureau of Buildings and the MS Department of Public Safety/Medical Examiner's Office. External partners involved are the professionals selected for the project through the DFA Bureau of Building.

1.4 PREVENTION IN CONGREGATE SETTINGS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3014.D	MHP Troop J and East Hattiesburg DL buildings - Mitigation	$27,031

Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) budgeted $27,031.33 to replace aging and malfunctioning HVAC units at the Mississippi Highway Patrol (MHP) – Troop J District Office and the East Hattiesburg Driver's License building.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, MDPS has determined that the HVAC units for the two state-owned facilities have aged past their useful life and need to be more effective in providing proper ventilation and temperature control. Two HVAC units will be replaced at the MHP – Troop J District Office and one at the East Hattiesburg Driver's License building. The new HVAC units will improve the indoor air quality and provide proper ventilation and temperature control for the health benefit of the agency employees and the public who visit these facilities.

Project Schedule

MDPS is currently working to obtain quotes for this project. Once approved, DPS Maintenance will send to Procurement for review and approval by August 31, 2023. The goal is to have the new units purchased and installed by October 31, 2023.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MDPS is hiring a contractor to install the three HVAC units.

Use of Evidence/Program Evaluation

These projects are being used for evidence-based interventions. A total of $27,031.33 is allocated for these HVAC ventilation improvement projects under 1.4 Prevention in Congregate Settings. See Use of Evidence, Section VI, for additional information regarding evidence-based references.

2.8 HOUSEHOLD ASSISTANCE: SURVIVOR'S BENEFITS

Project Website:
https://www.dps.ms.gov/public-safety-planning/standards-and-training/Death-Benefits-Trust

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.779.1	Law Enforcement Death Benefits Trust Fund	$2,200,000

Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) administers the Law Enforcement Officers and Fire Fighters Death Benefits Trust Fund which was created in 2016 to allow the MDPS to pay $100,000 to the beneficiaries of law enforcement officers or firefighters, including volunteer firefighters, who have died while engaged in the performance of the individual's official duties. Due to COVID-19, there was a surge in deaths of public safety officers. As such, the definition of "cause of death" under this program was amended to include death covered under the Safeguarding America's First Responders Act of 2020.

This Act creates a general presumption that a public safety officer who dies from COVID-19 or related complications sustained a personal injury in the line of duty. SLFRF funds are being used to cover claims where the cause of death is COVID-19 related.

Project Schedule

This program commenced in March 2022 and the final payment was processed in November 2022.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

This is an application-based program whereby the chief law enforcement officer or public agency director of the "Employer" for the deceased individual submits documentation to MDPS on behalf of the covered individual. The application is then reviewed by MDPS for eligibility under the program.

3.5 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3014.B	MS Forensics Lab Backlog	$951,464
SB.3014.C	MDPS Cybersecurity Improvements	$268,837
SB.3014.E	MDPS Cybersecurity Director & Operations	$150,000
SB.3014.G	Medical Examiner's Office Autopsy Backlog_ Reports	$4,000,000
SB.3014.H	MDPS Cybersecurity Technology Improvements 2	$661,973
SB.3014.I	Law Enforcement In-Car Systems and Body Cameras	$4,145,208

Mississippi Forensic Laboratory Backlog

Project Website:
https://www.dps.ms.gov/forensic-laboratories/Crime-Lab

Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) budgeted $951,463.68 to address the backlog in the Mississippi Forensic Laboratory (MSFL) attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic through the hiring of specialized personnel. At the onset of the pandemic, MSFL made necessary operational accommodations to minimize employees' exposure to the virus during the COVID-19 pandemic resulting in a significant backlog of 16,000 cases within the disciplines of firearms and drug analysis. The backlog is delaying the processing of evidence related to law enforcement investigations, autopsies, and other critical areas,

which is attributed to the time limits in the laboratory and the necessary time to complete the required analysis with the limited staffing. The budgeted funding will be used to contract with a forensic laboratory subject matter expert firm to mitigate the backlog.

Project Schedule

MDPS is currently in the process of procuring a firm to provide staffing support. It is anticipated that this firm will be in place by September 2023 and will be trained on MSFL procedures before the end of the year. This additional staff will then begin assisting with the backlog of cases. The current funding will accommodate these services until December 2024. MDPS is considering reallocating funding from other projects to extend these services as it is likely that the backlog will not be fully cleared at that time.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The MSFL will engage outside forensic laboratory subject matter experts to support backlog reduction efforts in the following sections:

- Firearm Examinations
- Forensic Chemistry (Controlled Substance)
- Toxicology

MDPS Cybersecurity Improvements

Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) budgeted $268,837 for cybersecurity improvements due to the data exposure that resulted from increased remote work during the COVID-19 pandemic. The budgeted funding will be used to purchase computer equipment, software, and services to mitigate the increased exposure of remote access to internal systems and resources, allowing MDPS to protect its technology infrastructure and improve the security of citizen information.

Project Schedule

MDPS is currently working to finalize the procurement for these services. It is anticipated that this project, which includes the below tasks, will be complete by October 2023.

- Rubrick Foundation Backup Services (with ransomware recovery) complete within three months of purchase order issuance.
- Rubrick Backup Services Upgrade for Microsoft-365 tenant (with ransomware recover) complete within one month of purchase order issuance.
- Check Point Firewall/IPS (upgrades to protect agency from public internet traffic) complete within three months of purchase order issuance.
- Proofpoint Advanced eMail content filter operational one month following issuance of purchase order.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MDPS will work with a third-party vendor to complete this project.

MDPS Cybersecurity Director & Operations

Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) budgeted $150,000 to hire a Cybersecurity Director as head of a new Cybersecurity Division under the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security (MOHS) to lead the State's cyber preparedness and operations efforts.

The increased remote workforce during the COVID-19 pandemic brought to the forefront the problem of cybersecurity with the workforce's use of personal computers, insecure work connections, and outdated security software causing significant exposure to cybercrimes, attacks, and threats, which would cost the State millions of dollars in lost wages, product delays, and infrastructure shutdowns even if the occurrence is an isolated incident. Establishing a Mississippi Cybersecurity Unit and hiring a Cybersecurity Director will allow the State to improve its protection of technology, infrastructure, and citizens' data.

Project Schedule

The Cybersecurity Director was hired in 2022. The Director is currently working on the following initiatives:

- Working with state partners and the Mississippi Cybersecurity Planning Committee to establish programs that will assist with the identification of threats, hazards, gaps, and capabilities for the state, as well as local governments.
- Helping with the distribution of state and local infrastructure needs assessments to identify threats, hazards, caps, and capabilities.
- Creating infrastructure best practices for state and local entities

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

Funding for this project is being used for salary only so no outside partners are involved in the delivery.

Medical Examiner's Office Autopsy Backlog Reports

Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) was specifically allocated $4,000,000 to assist in the remediation of the autopsy report backlog. This funding includes both the Mississippi Forensic Laboratory and the Office of the State Medical Examiner (ME Office).

The COVID-19 pandemic caused a reduction in the ME Office's staff by two full-time forensic pathologists, as well as a significant turnover in support staff, leaving 2,000 incomplete autopsy reports from as far back as 2019 in addition to bodies decomposing awaiting autopsies. The ME Office began contracting with locum pathologists to assist in the remediation of the backlog. The budgeted funding will be used to pay for contract locum physicians, materials for staff doctors, and support staff assigned to facilitate remediating the report backlog.

Project Schedule

Each contracted locums tenens physician receives from the Department 30-50 sets of autopsy documents every 3-4 months with an expected completion rate of 4 to 5 months. The current timeline is for the backlog of incomplete autopsy reports to be finalized by December 2023.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Department is contracted with locums tenens physicians to directly address the autopsy backlog. Other partners integral to the autopsy process include all state, federal, and local law enforcement agencies as well as coroners, district attorneys, the Attorney General's Office, State Fire Marshal's Office, etc. External agencies include hospitals for medical records, vendors for consumables, and service contracts for toxicology, neuropathology, and cardiac path reports. Transport agencies and/or funeral homes are also essential when body transfers are needed to expedite autopsies.

MDPS Cybersecurity Technology Improvements II

Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) budgeted $661,972.50 to improve the cybersecurity posture of MDPS by transitioning from Microsoft 365 G3 Security Level to the higher G5 Security Level. The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in rapid transitions of its operations and systems to allow personnel to work remotely. This transition increased exposure to cybersecurity attacks and threats, exposing vulnerabilities within data systems and compromising public safety operations and citizen information. The Microsoft security transition will improve MDPS's cybersecurity posture, increasing the protection of technology infrastructure and citizen data.

Project Schedule

MDPS has begun the transition to Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) by user group. Due to the remote nature of law enforcement, each group has special needs that must be addressed before the group go-live. The agency plans to complete the transition of users to the Microsoft G3 MFA by December 2023.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MDPS is working with Microsoft support to ensure that the MFA administration is configured correctly. Internal MDPS team members will implement the transition of users to the new MFA system.

Law Enforcement In-Car Systems and Body Cameras

Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) budgeted $4,145,207.97 for the acquisition of in-car camera systems and body cameras for approximately 575 law enforcement officers within the Mississippi Highway Patrol, Capitol Police, and Commercial Transportation Enforcement Division. The purpose of this project is to facilitate regaining public trust and promoting transparency among community and law enforcement that may have been compromised during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in diminished confidence in law enforcement and an escalation of violent crime in the State, causing additional strain on the relationship between law enforcement and the civilian population. The utilization of body and in-car cameras would greatly assist in the reconciliation of facts surrounding officer and civilian interactions, and the addition of camera equipment will show an effort by MDPS to adapt its policing in a manner that will allow complete transparency while out in the field.

Project Schedule

MDPS will begin the procurement process for this equipment during the first quarter of FY 2024 (July-Sept 2023). It is anticipated that the equipment will be acquired and installed by December 2023 and will be in use by January 2024.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

No outside partners are involved in the completion of this project.

5.6 CLEAN WATER: STORMWATER

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3014.A	MS Highway Patrol - Troop H, Meridian – Infrastructure	$538,000

Project Overview

MDPS budgeted $538,000 for stormwater improvements at the Mississippi Highway Patrol (MHP) – Troop H facility in Meridian, MS. The MHP – Troop H facility is a state-owned building that is suffering from long-standing drainage issues heightened by stormwater damage affecting MHP – Troop H's vehicle storage building, concrete pavements, and existing retaining wall caused by increasing storm-related incidents.

This water infrastructure initiative is to provide an installation of a new stormwater drainage system, replace a damaged retaining wall with the installation of new concrete, install a new sloped concrete pavement for improved drainage, and replace damaged utility stations.

Project Schedule

Project kickoff meeting was held in June 2023. The architect has been procured and the project is currently in the design phase. The current goal is to have a contractor in place by December 2023. Once the project design is complete, a more detailed timeline will be provided.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

This project will be managed by the MS Bureau of Building, Grounds, and Real Property Management in partnership with MDPS. Third-party contractors will be hired to complete the work associated with this project.

6.1 PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1542.A	Premium Pay for Local Law Enforcement and Firefighters	$12,000,000

Project Overview

This funding was allocated to the Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) to administer the Premium Pay for Local Law Enforcement and Firefighters Program. This funding allows the MDPS to pay $1,000 of premium pay to eligible law enforcement officers or firefighters, including volunteer firefighters. Funds are distributed to eligible officers/firefighters through the counties, municipalities, and other governmental entities who employed them.

Project Schedule

MDPS began accepting applications from law enforcement agencies and fire departments in July 2022. In December 2022, MDPS began making premium pay payments to all law enforcement agencies and fire departments with qualifying officers/firefighters. As of the date of this report, MDPS is nearing the completion of this program.

Program Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MDPS worked with counties, municipalities and other governmental entities across the State to identify eligible participants for this program. MDPS also partnered with the Department of Insurance to confirm certification status of the firefighters identified as potentially eligible under this program.

Institutions of Higher Learning

Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board

Agency and/or Project Websites:
http://www.mississippi.edu/ihl/
Nursing Retention Loan Repayment Program (NULR) – Mississippi Office of State Financial Aid (msfinancialaid.org)

2.36 AID TO OTHER IMPACTED INDUSTRIES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.2373	IHL (Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board)	$6,000,000

Project Overview

The Skilled Nursing Home and Hospital Nurses Retention Loan Repayment Program (NULR), to be administered by the Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board, was created for the purposes of strengthening, improving and preserving the nursing sector across Mississippi in recognition of the challenges and significant impacts incurred by the healthcare industry, particularly nursing, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is designed to retain new nurses in Mississippi's skilled nursing homes and hospitals by helping them repay their student loans.

Project Schedule/Timelines

This program is anticipated to launch in the first quarter of FY 2024 (July-Sept 2023). Payments under this program will be made on a yearly basis for up to three years pending confirmation that the applicant meets the employment criteria at the end of each year. As such, payments under this program will be ongoing through December 2026.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board will be considered a sub-recipient of the DFA and will collaborate with the Mississippi Department of Health to approve and certify a formal application process in which nurses meeting the criteria set forth can apply for loan repayment.

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency

Agency and/or Project Website:
https://www.msema.org

1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3018.A	COVID-19 Expenses	$1,902,709

Project Overview

Funds for this project are being used to retrofit/upgrade the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and the State Emergency Logistical Operations Center (SELOC) through the following:

- Upgrades to the servers
- Upgrades to the recovery workroom and recovery conference room
- SEOC parking lot repairs
- Upgrading the audio-visual system on the SEOC floor
- Expanding the current PPE inventory tracking system

These improvements will benefit the general public by increasing Mississippi's Emergency Management Agency's (MEMA) effectiveness in responding to future outbreaks.

Project Schedule/Timelines

As of the date of this report, MEMA has completed approximately 1% of the work under this project. As this project remains in an early phase, no definitive timeline has been established. It is anticipated that all work will be complete by December 2024.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MEMA is partnering with DFA Bureau of Buildings on the construction components of this project.

3.1 PUBLIC SECTOR WORKFORCE: PAYROLL AND BENEFITS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PUBLIC SAFETY, OR HUMAN SERVICES WORKERS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3018.B	COVID-19 Expenses: Salaries	$1,204,151

Project Overview

MEMA has been one of the leading State Agencies for the State of Mississippi's response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. These funds are to defray eligible COVID-19 expenses incurred by MEMA. The agency plans to use these funds for salaries for personnel within accounting, information technology (IT), logistics/ warehouse, and executive staff.

Project Schedule/Timelines

As of the date of this report, MEMA has completed approximately 50% of the work under this project. It is anticipated that all work will be complete by December 2024.

Office of State Public Defender

Agency and/or Project Website:
https://www.ospd.ms.gov/

3.5 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1627.A	Court Backlog: Office of State Public Defender PAYROLL	$661,228
HB.1627.B	Court Backlog: Office of State Public Defender OFFICE EXPENSES	$83,304

Project Overview

The Office of State Public Defender (OSPD) was appropriated SLFRF by the Mississippi Legislative House Bill 1627 to fund additional salaries and office expenses for public defenders assigned to special temporary courts.

The COVID-19 pandemic had many impacts on the criminal justice system in Mississippi. Processing and procedural times resulted in longer jail stays and the inability of defense teams to investigate in communities resulting in delays in resolving cases. Most defendants are from low-income communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the programs offered through the OSPD serve only this subpopulation of defendants. The OSPD budgeted $661,228 to fund salaries for temporary public defenders. Adding these temporary public defenders and contract workers will assist the OSPD in mitigating the backlog.

Project Schedule

The staffing plan was developed with the county defender office and the courts between April 2022 and June 2022. The attorney staff began work in August 2022. Additional personnel were hired shortly thereafter. No definitive timeline has been determined for this project as the Office is just beginning to address the backlog.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The county public defender represented the majority of people with backlog cases. OSPD partnered with that office to assign OSPD special defenders to join them to prepare, investigate and help move cases to disposition.

State Court Backlogs

Agency and/or Project Website:
https://courts.ms.gov/

3.5 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1628.A	Trial Docket Congestion	$1,727,683

Project Overview

The Mississippi Supreme Court was appropriated $1,727,683 in SLFRF funds for temporary Special Judges, support staff, and operational expenditures needed to assist in remediating the court case backlog. The COVID-19 pandemic dramatically decreased the number of jury trials, court hearings, and criminal pleas from a combination of factors, including order grants to postpone jury trials and restrict in-person court proceedings due to lack of space preventing the courts from adhering to the COVID-19 safety protocols. In addition, court staff was decreased to help alleviate the spread of COVID-19. Due to the increased crime rate caused by the pandemic, the exacerbated court backlog has resulted in overcrowded jails with pre-trial detainees.

Project Schedule

The current funding is expected to be expended by June 30, 2024.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

Partners for this project include:

- Retired, experienced Senior Status special judges appointed to alleviate backlogs.
- Elected, sitting permanent trial judges confronted with backlogs in their own courts.

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1628.B	CPS Adoption Court Backlog	$1,500,000

Project Overview

The Mississippi Supreme Court was appropriated SLFRF funds to provide temporary Special Judges to help alleviate the backlog of adoption cases in Child Protection Services and operational expenditures necessary to respond to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic dramatically decreased the number of jury trials and court hearings from a combination of factors, including order grants to postpone jury trials and restrict in-person court proceedings due to lack of space preventing the courts from adhering to the COVID-19 safety protocols, while court staff was decreased to help alleviate the spread of COVID-19. The Mississippi Department of Child Protective Services (MDCPS), the entity charged with guarding abused and neglected children, suffered significant delays in adoption cases which caused many children to stay in foster care for extended periods, increasing the cost to the State to support them. This funding will be used for temporary Special Judges, support staff, and operational expenditures to expedite the adoption backlog through the courts.

Project Schedule

The project is ongoing and will continue until June 30, 2024.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

Partners for this project include:

- Retired, experienced Senior Status special judges appointed to alleviate backlogs.
- Elected, sitting permanent trial judges confronted with backlogs in their own courts.
- Child Protection Services (CPS) officials and field personnel, and the State Bar.

State Department of Health

Agency and/or Project Website:
www.msdh.ms.gov

1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3060.A	Local Provider Innovation Grant Program	$25,000,000

Project Overview

Grants will provide transitional assistance to healthcare providers in award amounts of up to $250,000. The target population benefitting from this program are Mississippi healthcare providers and their patients. For purposes of this grant program, “Providers” are defined as a facility that is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized or permitted by law to provide health care in the ordinary course of business in the State of Mississippi, including, but not limited to, skilled nursing facilities, direct primary care clinics, provider-owned clinics, rural health clinics, academic medical centers, community health centers, and independent physician practices.

Project Schedule

Subrecipient agreements were executed in FY 2023. It is anticipated that funds under this program will be expended by December 2024.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The MS State Department of Health (MSDH) has established subrecipient relationships with multiple local healthcare providers to deliver this program. MSDH has also partnered with Harper, Rains, Knight & Company to assist with reporting, procurement, compliance, and technical assistance.

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1614.A	Field Hospital Program: Central Operations	$2,500,000

Project Overview

The State Medical Response System coordinates a variety of resources, ranging from medical equipment to specially trained staff, that can be shared by hospitals and state agencies when responding to the exceptional demands of emergencies or disasters. The mutual aid and teaching of the State Medical Response System allow hospitals to increase their capacity during a local or statewide crisis, ensuring better care for local residents who require emergency medical assistance.

The State Medical Response System is hosted by the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC), coordinated by the Mississippi State Department of Health, and supported by the Mississippi Hospital Association to covered individuals.

Project Schedule

This project is in its early stages. No definitive timeline has been developed however, it is anticipated that expenditures will be complete by December 2024.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MSDH has executed a subrecipient agreement with UMMC to complete the delivery of this activity.

1.6 MEDICAL EXPENSES (INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE CARE FACILITIES)

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3060.B	Hospital Expanded Capacity Program: Reimbursing Hospital for ICU and Negative Pressure Beds	$12,000,000

Project Overview

During the pandemic, many hospitals across the State were required to expand their treatment capacity by acquiring additional ICU beds and negative pressure beds. The program shall make grants to hospitals as a reimbursement for these expenses incurred from March 3, 2021, through December 31, 2023. These funds shall be expended first for the refund to hospitals for creating ICU beds at a maximum of $200,000 per bed. The remaining funds shall be expended to reimburse hospitals for creating negative pressure beds at a maximum of $50,000 per bed. The department may retain a maximum of $150,000 to defray administration costs.

Project Schedule

This program began received applications in FY 2023. As of the date of this report, MSDH has not yet expended funds for work under this project. It is anticipated that all work will be complete by December 2024.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

This is an application-based program whereby hospitals will submit their expenditures to MSDH for reimbursement. MSDH has partnered with Harper, Rains, Knight & Company to assist with reporting, procurement, compliance, and technical assistance.

2.36 AID TO OTHER IMPACTED INDUSTRIES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.271	MS Hospital Sustainability Grant Program	$103,700,000

Project Overview

Funding for the Hospital Sustainability Grant Program is intended to strengthen, improve and preserve access to hospital care services for all Mississippians and alleviate some of the financial strain felt by hospitals as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Financial data will be provided to calculate the negative economic impact suffered by the hospital and an award determination will be made based on that calculation as well as the hospital type and size.

Project Schedule

This program launched in June 2023 and will be accepting application through December 2023. It is anticipated that all awards will be made and payment complete by June 2024.

5.15 DRINKING WATER: OTHER WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1538.A	ARPA Rural Water Associations Infrastructure Grant Program	$374,000,000

Project Overview

The MS State Department of Health was initially allocated $300,000,000 to fund the ARPA Rural Water Associations Infrastructure Grant Program. An additional $74,000,000 was added to the program for a second round of grants. This program was created to assist rural water associations in implementing drinking water infrastructure projects allowable under SLFRF guidelines and the EPA's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) and related to supply, treatment, transmission & distribution, lead remediation, and storage of drinking water.

The target population of the proposed Rural Water Associations Infrastructure Grant Program is to fund drinking water infrastructure projects within rural communities that may have limited access to potable or safe drinking water and faced health disparities before the pandemic, possibly contributing to more severe health outcomes during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Generally, a rural community is defined as a population of 10,000 or less.

The maximum funds to any rural water association from first-round grants under this program shall not exceed $2,500,000. The maximum funds to any rural water association from second-round grants under this program shall not exceed $2,000,000. Round 1 subrecipients are ineligible for Round 2 funding.

Key Performance Indicators

1. Number of applications selected for grant award: 140.
2. Number of grants awarded: None to date.
3. Number of residents in service areas with improved access to reliable potable water: None to date.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MSDH expects to award approximately 175 grants to rural water associations throughout the State between the two rounds. Each rural water association will contract with the necessary professional service providers (e.g., engineers, attorneys, etc.) and construction contractors to perform the needed improvements. These professional service providers will be assisting the rural water associations with the implementation of the infrastructure projects.

MSDH has partnered with Fontaine Engineering, LLC, and Harper Raines Knight & Company to provide program delivery support and technical assistance. Mississippi Water and Waste Services, a Mississippi Rural Water Association, Inc subsidiary, will also support outreach and technical assistance to eligible grant recipients.

University of Mississippi Medical Center

Agency and/or Project Website:
https://www.umc.edu

6.1 PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3010.A	UMMC School of Nursing Building - Lost Revenue Transfer	$55,000,000

Project Overview

These funds are provided to construct a new facility for the School of Nursing (SON) at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC). The current educational facility is 75 years old and cannot meet the needs of increased enrollment and shifting curriculum requirements.

Nursing has traditionally needed more qualified nurses. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated this problem because of the sudden increase in hospitalized patients. The added stress of COVID-19 led to burnout, with a record number of nurses retiring or leaving the profession for other opportunities. COVID increased scarcity and turnover among the nursing ranks at UMMC and other Mississippi organizations. A new facility will allow the UMMC School of Nursing to increase enrollment by 25%. It will also allow the School of Nursing to implement curriculum changes that focus on simulation training, which are increasingly focused on by national accreditation standards. Education has changed dramatically in the last decade, and this new facility is critical for attracting, educating, and retaining high quality nurses in Mississippi.

Project Schedule

Below is the current completion schedule for this project:

- **June 2023**: Ceremonial Groundbreaking
- **June 2023:** Design Development Package
- **August 2023:** Bid for early demolition package
- **September 2023:** Site demolition begins
- **February 2024:** Demolition complete
- **March 2024:** New Construction begins
- **Spring 2026:** Project completion

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