



# SEDGWICK COUNTY, KS RECOVERY PLAN

# State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2024 REPORT



**Sedgwick County, KS**  
**2024 Recovery Plan**

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## Executive Summary

Sedgwick County is committed to the recovery of our community from the COVID-19 pandemic, and we are seizing the opportunities provided by the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) to build back with resiliency.

The County has been significantly impacted by COVID-19, as there have been 131,987 reported cases and 1,368 deaths have been attributed to COVID-19<sup>1</sup>. The County Health Department instituted new programs to respond to the pandemic, including no-cost testing and vaccination at fixed sites and through mobile clinics.

Economic impacts were consequential for the County. The pre-pandemic average unemployment rate of 3.5 percent rose sharply to 20 percent in April 2020 and was averaging 3.5 percent as of May 2024<sup>2</sup>. As Sedgwick County residents return to work, it remains difficult for the County to recruit and retain qualified individuals for essential positions. Many County departments transitioned to teleworking or hybrid work models to reduce infection risks and provide greater flexibility to staff, without diminishing the continuity of services to our citizens.

Crime substantially increased, with the number of violent crimes increasing 38 percent and property crimes increasing 91 percent from 2019 to 2020<sup>3</sup>. The County's 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court was closed for a period, exacerbating an existing backlog in the judicial system. Consequently, this forced the County jail to house an increased number of violent offenders for an extended period of time as those in custody could not be processed through the court system. The Sheriff's Department experienced workforce impacts similar to the public and private sectors, further intensifying impacts within the detention facility.

As the County and nation transition into recovery from COVID-19, the County recognizes the need to continue to utilize federal dollars to help county residents rebuild and recover. Under the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund, the County was able to direct \$56 million in COVID-19 responsive relief to 1,382 businesses and non-profits, 10 cities, and multiple schools within the County, and made significant investments in providing PPE, public health, and workforce development. Now, the County is transitioning to recovery as we invest our SLFRF to continue the public health response, ensure the continuity of essential services to our citizens, and address the economic impacts on the County's judicial system.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/1b8b3236a1d64a20814110b639514cf8>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/finance/economic-development/statistical-data/employment/>

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.kansas.gov/kbi/stats/stats\\_crime.shtml](https://www.kansas.gov/kbi/stats/stats_crime.shtml)

## Uses of Funds

From May through July 2021, Sedgwick County facilitated opportunities for internal staff and members of the community to provide input and recommendations for the use of our SLFRF. After reviewing more than 500,000 responses, several urgent needs were identified, and in July 2021, the Sedgwick County Board of County Commissioners adopted an urgent needs spend plan that allocated roughly 43 percent of the County's SLFRF in 2021. This was followed by subsequent budget authorizations that have allocated 88 percent of the County's SLFRF to eligible projects and programs.

### *Public Health*

As of May 11, 2023, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) ended the federal Public Health Emergency (PHE) for COVID-19, declared under Section 319 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act. Sedgwick County made a significant investment of public health funding through SLFRF to support COVID-19 testing, vaccination, and outreach. Those efforts increased public awareness around testing and vaccination and helped reduce the spread of COVID-19 and its variants. Furthermore, these funds were used to ensure that testing and vaccination remained accessible and affordable for the members of the community at the greatest risk from the disease.

### *Negative Economic Impacts – District Court Backlog*

Sedgwick County, like much of the nation, saw significant increases in violent crimes and property crimes since March 2020. Many county residents lost their jobs and were under mandatory measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. At the same time, the County courthouse was closed due to COVID-19 protocols, and the County detention facility exceeded capacity with an influx of offenders from within the county, including the city of Wichita). This has exacerbated an existing court backlog – from 2019 to July 2021, the backlog of family court cases increased 167 percent and the backlog of criminal court cases increased 436 percent.

The County has worked across multiple departments to provide a holistic strategy for reducing the court backlog. To start, several County administrative departments have moved out of the courthouse to allow for renovations that will create four new courtrooms. These courtrooms and the procurement of staff and equipment for their function will expand the number of cases that the District Court is able to adjudicate. The Court is also creating efficiencies in its processes by creating special criminal dockets such as preliminary dockets, mediation dockets, and plea dockets that will allow these types of hearings to be conducted in a more efficient and effective manner. In support of the changes happening at the courthouse, the District Attorney is hiring staff to support the new special criminal dockets, as well as additional support staff and equipment to facilitate the timely adjudication of cases. The District Court is also in process of establishing a specialty court to serve veterans, in concert with other County departments and the local Veterans Administration facility.

In tandem with the changes being made at the courthouse and in anticipation of the greater volume of hearings involving individuals in the County's custody, the Sheriff's Department is making improvements at the County detention facility. New camera monitoring systems will be added to the facility to allow staff greater visibility to the activity therein, and a video phone system will be added to allow those in custody to have safe and secure access to their counsel. The increased activity in the courthouse will also require additional courthouse deputies, a warrants clerk, and a court movement coordinator. Furthermore, the Sheriff's Department has engaged a

crisis counselor to provide mental health services that address the increased stress and challenges within the detention facility.

The County's Department of Corrections will be expanding a female dormitory to increase the capacity of the County's Adult Residential Work Release Program and to better accommodate social distancing of those in custody. To aid in alleviating the court backlog, the Department is supporting a new drug diversion program in concert with the District Attorney's Office. Corrections will also hire a full-time employee to help process cases after adjudication by the Courts.

Finally, the Regional Forensic Science Center has invested in additional training and certification of new firearms examiners. This will allow the County to address cases of gun violence while reducing wait times currently experienced due to utilizing the Kansas Bureau of Investigations ballistics laboratory more effectively.

#### *Negative Economic Impacts – Community Needs*

To leverage all available resources and ensure the greatest amount of support to the largest number of community members, the County has used SLFRF funds to establish and operate a community navigator program called Recovery Connect. This program serves as a central resource and clearinghouse for individuals, small businesses, and nonprofits in the county who are seeking assistance in their response and recovery from COVID-19. The community navigator program will facilitate community outreach, including partnering with community organizations that directly work in and with disproportionately impacted and high-risk communities to ensure that the aid is meeting the community where they are. The community navigator program will also provide services such as grant writing workshops that will help community members navigate and secure the resources they need.

Over the period from January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024, Recovery Connect has had the following impact:

<b>Program</b>	<b>Total</b>
Meetings and info sessions	1,031
Meeting & session attendees	9,746
Individuals served	5,352
Small businesses served	2,763
Nonprofits served	1,457

#### *Premium Pay*

Sedgwick County's staff has experienced the same public health and economic impacts as the rest of our community, and despite these challenges, there have been no major disruptions in County services. In recognition of the heightened level of risk and unwavering dedication of our staff, the County issued premium pay to those eligible workers who performed essential work during the pandemic.

#### *Other Expenditures*

The response and recovery efforts of the County have relied heavily on existing staff and now, facing staffing challenges, the County seeks to utilize SLFRF to address certain temporary administrative needs that would be overly burdensome of the existing staff to take on in addition

to their regular duties supporting the continuity of County services. To that end, the County continues to fund temporary positions in procurement and accounting to manage the SLFRF and other ARPA funding. In addition, the County has retained subject matter consultants to assist with project management of ARPA initiatives. Finally, the County has retained a Human Resources specialist to assist with maintaining the public services capacity of the County, as well as funds to support recruitment efforts to hire a qualified workforce.

### **Promoting Equitable Outcomes**

Sedgwick County is a community of all people, backgrounds, cultures, perspectives, and beliefs working together to make us better as an inclusive community. The County has adopted a strategic initiative to advance efforts of our employees, policies, and programs to promote diversity and inclusion that reflects the community we serve. We approach the response and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic with the same spirit, and a mindfulness that the pandemic's impact across our community has been just as diverse as the citizens we serve.

To that end, the public health and economic responses that SLFRF is being used for are designed to be consistently and systematically fair, just, and impartial to all individuals, including those who belong to underserved communities. To ensure the equity of County programs, statistical demographic data will be collected and reported periodically on a program basis, where applicable. This will allow the County to demonstrate our commitment to equitable outcomes, and if necessary, make changes to programs that underperform with regard to equity standards.

As the County's primary community-based initiative, the community navigator program was designed with equity and inclusion as a fundamental component. The County partnered with Wichita State University Foundation (WSU Foundation) to execute the program. The WSU Foundation, in turn, partnered with community organizations that represent the diversity of the community. In this way, the County, through its community navigator, provided inclusive and equitable resources to all segments of the community by facilitating access and resources through organizations that are already a part of these vibrant segments of the County. As with other programs, the County received regular reporting of the activities of the community navigator that were disaggregated by demographics to provide the County with oversight of inclusion and equity outcomes.

### **Community Engagement**

In May 2021, a community-facing survey was posted on the County's website in three languages (English, Spanish, and Vietnamese) and made available in hard copy for those without internet access. The survey asked individuals to prioritize 15 examples of eligible uses of SLFRF. The survey availability was advertised on the County's website, social media, and through news releases. Almost 1,500 responses were received between May 1, 2021 and June 30, 2021.

Local leaders from government, non-profit, business, and community organizations sit on a standing committee – the COVID-19 Task Force – which was created in 2020 to respond to COVID-19 needs as the pandemic first impacted the community. After the pandemic eased in spring 2021, the COVID-19 Task Force continued to focus on recovery and operates with subgroups focused on workforce development; education, youth, and childcare; economic development; arts, culture, and tourism; and community health. For two weeks in late July 2021, the subgroup chairs convened focus groups in these respective areas related to needs that could be funded with SLFRF. An additional focus group was convened to better understand needs and

priorities among the 20 cities located within Sedgwick County, several of whom are non-entitlement units under SLFRF. The data from the six focus groups will be used to assist the County in developing strategic health and economic recovery efforts made available through ARPA and potential other funding sources

In late February 2021, the Sedgwick County Board of County Commissioners was briefed on demographic data and economic indicators and trends by an economist from Wichita State University (WSU). The data was refreshed as part of the most recent community needs assessment to better understand the diversity of needs for those in the community who may not have had the opportunity to share their voice through one of the avenues above. Further, Sedgwick County wants to collect vital demographic data reflective of the populations contained in the County's Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs) so ARPA funds are utilized to meet the needs of residents who may have been – or continue to be – underserved with recovery benefits and services.

People who accessed unemployment benefits through the Kansas Department of Labor were sent a survey from the Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas to determine whether they had re-entered the workforce; and if not, what the barriers were precluding them from securing employment. The results will be used to develop programs to address workforce development and recover from the adverse economic impacts of the pandemic. Evaluation of community needs continued through the spring of 2022, along with the review of results with Board of County Commissioners and other community partners. The Board of County Commissioners continues to receive regular updates on the SLFRF-funded initiatives at regular public meetings where members of the community have a forum to provide feedback.

### **Labor Practices**

Currently, the County does not anticipate funding any infrastructure projects with SLFRF. However, Sedgwick County is committed to appropriate labor practices and strong employment opportunities for all of our staff.

### **Use of Evidence**

Sedgwick County is not currently executing any programs that are evidence-based, per se, however every effort has been made to design programs that are rooted in sound reasoning to address the intended public health and economic issues. The County continues to evaluate programs and will identify any applicable programs that can be evaluated through rigorous program evaluations in future Recovery Plan reports.

### **Performance Report**

The County has employed a logic model approach to the identification of outcomes, outputs, and performance metrics for the projects included in the Project Inventory. Sedgwick County has dedicated the resources required to collect and evaluate meaningful performance measurements for all projects funded by SLFRF. The performance metrics through June 2024 (unless otherwise noted) are presented with each project in the Project Inventory.

## **Project Inventory**

### ***Health Department Public Health Response***

*Amount of Funding:* \$12,447,512

*Identification No.:* SCSLFRF001, SCSLFRF002, SCSLFRF003, SCSLFRF004, SCSLFRF006, SCSLFRF011, SCSLFRF037

*Expenditure Category:* 1.2 COVID-19 Testing, 3.1 Public Sector Workforce – Payroll Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Service Workers, 1.7 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses, 1.14 Other Public Health Services, 3.4 Public Sector Capacity – Effective Service Delivery, 1.6 Medical Expenses, 1.1 COVID-19 Vaccination

#### *Project Description:*

The Health Department provides front line response to the public health emergency created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Reducing the prevalence and severity of COVID-19 variants across the County population will dramatically improve the public health emergency for County citizens.

The Health Department has utilized funding to address public health response related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including testing and vaccination, and hired a Disease Investigator and responsive staff to meet service delivery demands and monitor associated administration and expenses. In addition to the funding, Sedgwick County added new community partners to assist with providing services and resources to address the current and emerging needs.

#### *Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

#### *Performance Report*

<b>Output</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
1,369,416 COVID tests administered 827,495 COVID vaccinations administered 108,965 disease investigations completed	Average PCR cases across zip codes decreased from 759 to 26 since January 2022.

### ***Emergency Management Logistics***

*Amount of Funding:* \$592,111

*Identification No.:* SCSLFRF007, SCSLFRF012

*Expenditure Category:* 3.1 Public Sector Workforce – Payroll Benefits for Public Health, 1.5 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

#### *Project Description:*

The Emergency Management Logistics position is a full-time equivalent who assists with delivery of PPE and medical supplies and manages the inventory of supplies. This funding includes costs to maintain a 90-day supply of PPE.



This logistics position serves a key role in the management of infection control across the County by making PPE available in a timely manner and ensuring that an inventory of PPE and medical supplies is available for critical need response.

*Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

*Performance Report*

Output	Outcome
Averaged 2.8% stockouts Total of 7 hours of borrowed time / temporary staffing	Fulfilled 71 requests for products or equipment

**Emergency Medical Services Logistics**

*Amount of Funding:* \$168,354

*Identification No.:* SCSLFRF008

*Expenditure Category:* 3.1 Public Sector Workforce – Payroll Benefits for Public Health

*Project Description:*

The Emergency Medical Services Logistics position is a full-time equivalent who assists with call volume, provides delivery of PPE/medical supplies, and manages the inventory of supplies. This position is designed for turnover prevention.

The Emergency Medical Services Logistics position aids in the delivery of critical public health services to the County residents by ensuring the timely delivery of essential products and services. Additionally, this role further aids in the delivery of critical public health services by reducing factors such as employee overtime that contribute to burnout and turnover, thus contributing to workforce preservation and continuity of critical County services.

The targeted goal is to track on-time delivery percentages, equipment uptime, and low-stockout rates all using SAP software. Additionally, turnover rates will be monitored to show a decrease in employee burnout. From a timeline perspective, this is an ongoing initiative, with a heavy investment during the first year tapering off to a more maintenance level of funding after the initial time-period.

*Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

*Performance Report*

Output	Outcome
Average 1357 monthly calls of inventory / service Zero stockouts	Average 16.6 hours overtime per month

**Risk Fit Tester**

*Amount of Funding:* \$223,189

*Identification No.:* SCSLFRF009

*Expenditure Category:* 3.1 Public Sector Workforce – Payroll Benefits for Public Health

*Project Description:*

The Risk Fit Tester (Respiratory Protection Program Specialist) is a full-time equivalent who provides OSHA-level compliance to employee training and fit testing for masks designed to prevent the spread of airborne pathogens.

The targeted goal is to have all eligible new employees risk fit tested within 30 days of starting employment with the County, and ensure all annual retesting is completed on time. Additionally, 100 percent of County staff included in the Respiratory Protection Program (policy 2.520) should be educated on and prepared for proper mask usage.

The intent of the program is to be a permanent component of the County's risk and safety programming, as formalized in the adoption of County Policy 2.520, which requires fit testing, and education of respiratory protective devices.

By ensuring that all County employees are properly trained in the application of mask protection from airborne pathogens, the Risk Fit Tester significantly contributes to safeguarding the human resources that allow the County to maintain continuity of service and delivery of essential functions to the community.

*Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

*Performance Report*

Output	Outcome
Trained and tested 1,330 new hires Completed 2 department and program hazard analyses	Averaged a 100% return rate within 30 days on Medical Questionnaires

**Public Health Communication**

*Amount of Funding:* \$374,732

*Identification No.:* SCSLFRF010

*Expenditure Category:* 1.7 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expense

*Project Description:*

The Strategic Communications Department utilized a multi-media campaign to disseminate information to the public in Sedgwick County about issues related to the public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including information on testing and vaccination as well as current and emerging best practices regarding the prevention of COVID-19 variants. Funding was used

for media buys and messaging that targets different stakeholders in the community, video production, and the addition of a COVID-19 / ARPA Public Information Officer position to assist in development of communication strategies and materials.

Communications of COVID-related information such as vaccination and testing opportunities and preventive guidance aided in the reduction of cases of COVID-19 and reduction in the morality of COVID-19 cases across the County.

*Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

*Performance Report*

The County is completing our analysis of the effectiveness of the Public Health Communications, and will provide performance reporting on this project in future Recovery Plan reports.

**Cleaning**

*Amount of Funding:* \$65,908

*Identification No.:* SCSLFRF013

*Expenditure Category:* 1.4 Prevention in Congregate Settings

*Project Description:*

Funds are utilized to continue the use of electrostatic cleaning treatments by an outsourced company to proactively clean and maintain high traffic areas. The type and frequency of cleaning applications may be adjusted depending on CDC guidance. Additional resources to maximize the efficiency, effectiveness, and quality of emergency management would include electrostatic cleaning supplies so that the County could treat in-house instead of using outsourced companies.

The targeted goal is to maintain this system of cleaning in adherence to CDC guidelines. To track the reliability of the cleanings the County can track the number of living organisms before and after a cleaning using an ATP sensor. There is an immediate and ongoing need for cleaning services for which a final timeline will be largely based on future CDC guidelines.

Cleaning and sanitizing high-risk areas increase infection control and mitigation while allowing for continuation of County services,

*Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

*Performance Report*

The County is completing our analysis of the effectiveness of the Cleaning initiative, and will provide performance reporting on this project in future Recovery Plan reports should additional funds been used toward this purpose.

**Remote Work**

*Amount of Funding:* \$318,984

*Identification No.:* SCSLFRF015

*Expenditure Category:* 1.4 Prevention in Congregate Settings

*Project Description:*

The remote work funding provides new equipment and software to maintain statutory requirements and allow for long-term telework. Moving the CDDO resources out of the office and closer to the clients has reduced risk exposures for County employees and ensured continuity of services for a high-risk segment of the population. Continuing and improving remote work within the CDDO allows this success to continue while freeing up valuable real estate for the County to use in other efforts to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

*Performance Report*

Output	Outcome
0 days of interruption in continuity of government services.	0 days of interruption in continuity of government services.

**Community Navigator – Recovery Connect**

*Amount of Funding:* \$823,339

*Identification No.:* SCSLFRF016

*Expenditure Category:* 2.13 Other Economic Support

*Project Description:*

The community navigator program is operated by the Wichita State University Foundation to serve as the County's recovery referral program that connects individuals, nonprofits, and small businesses with resources to help them recover from the negative economic and public health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Now that we have moved further into the ARPA term, emphasis for this program is placed on assistance with/to daycare, workforce, and non-profit organization recovery from the pandemic.

*Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

*Performance Report*

Output	Outcome
2,509 referrals made	<i>Outcomes measures are currently be evaluated by the County and will be reported in a future Recovery Plan report.</i>

***District Court – Court Backlog***

*Amount of Funding:* \$8,976,478

*Identification No.:* SCSLFRF017

*Expenditure Category:* 2.37 Economic Impact Assistance - Other

*Project Description:*

The Court is increasing the capacity to dispose of cases by increasing staff of defense attorneys, investigators, pro tem judges, and support staff; procure supplies, furniture, and equipment to support hearing cases; and other expenses to protect the health and safety of those with business before the Court.

In addition, the Court has implemented Alternative Dispute Resolution which, while cost prohibitive to the public, can be effective in resolving cases and providing family law judges with quality information to make decision on cases.

The goal is to reach the pre-pandemic level of backlog; however, the Court is exploring options to handle cases more efficiently in order to improve the system as a safeguard against future disruptions. It is anticipated that it will take several years to clear the backlog. The Court is looking for assistance with modeling effective use of resources to accelerate disposition of cases without jeopardizing due process.

Timely trials and disposition of cases through the court system benefits the County residents by increasing public safety and facilitating the business of the Court. This allows residents to receive timely resolution to matters.

*Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

*Performance Report*

Output	Outcome
225 family law cases diverted to Alternative Dispute Resolution 0 cases were diverted to special dockets	Criminal cases that were pending over 2 years decreased from 211 to 199 Family law cases that were pending over 2 years increased from 50 to 108.

**District Attorney – Court Backlog**

Amount of Funding: \$2,710,237

Identification No.: SCSLFRF018

Expenditure Category: 2.37 Economic Impact Assistance - Other

*Project Description:*

Funds have been used by the District Attorney to hire and staff critical roles addressing the court backlog, which includes attorneys and technical professionals. Timely trials and disposition of cases through the court system benefits the County residents by increasing public safety and facilitating the business of the Court. This allows residents to receive timely resolution to matters.

*Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

*Performance Report*

Output	Outcome
The average prosecutor case load was 105.9 cases	111 backlogged cases disposed

**Sheriff Department – Court Backlog**

Amount of Funding: \$14,299,402

Identification No.: SCSLFRF019, SCSLFRF020, SCSLFRF036

Expenditure Category: 2.37 Economic Impact Assistance – Other, 1.12 Mental Health Services

*Project Description:*

The Sheriff Department funding provides a more efficient intake process by allowing individuals to be rapidly tested for COVID. Additional security technology is being implemented to combat an increase in violent incidents among detainees. Funding is also used to bolster staffing and alleviate conditions that lead to mental strain on employees and detainees.

The targeted goal is to track violent incident percentages, COVID-19 case rates, and backlogged case percentages using SAP software. Additionally, turnover rates will be monitored to show a decrease in employee burnout. It is anticipated that it will take multiple years for the court backlog to subside to the manageable levels, leaving the detention facility in need of ongoing support.

The goals of this project are to provide for a safe and secure environment within the detention facility for both staff and detainees, and aid with reducing the court backlog by providing facilities and resources to streamline the disposition of cases.

*Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

*Performance Report*

<b>Output</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
Average detention staff turnover rate down to 26% from 33% in January 2022.	Trailing three month average of violent incidents decreased to 39.7 from 51.3 in the first quarter of 2022.

**Community Corrections – Court Backlog**

*Amount of Funding:* \$578,294

*Identification No.:* SCSLFRF021, SCSLFRF022

*Expenditure Category:* 2.37 Economic Impact Assistance - Other

*Project Description:*

The Community Corrections funding is being used to provide a faster process to intake new clients by employing new individuals to help with the process. Funding is also used to assist with implementing a new diversion program to alleviate court backlog. This funding will expand the female dorm to assist with overcrowding and allow for increased participation in work release programs.

Expanding work release capacity, implementing a new diversion program, and creating efficiencies in the intake processes allow the County to alleviate a portion of the court backlog while allowing those individuals in the County’s custody to more efficiently resolve their criminal issues and return to become more productive for their families and community.

*Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

*Performance Report*

<b>Output</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
Average 73 new client intakes per month	197 clients successfully completed the work release program

**Regional Forensic Science Center – Court Backlog**

*Amount of Funding:* \$39,153

*Identification No.:* SCSLFRF023

*Expenditure Category:* 2.37 Economic Impact Assistance - Other

*Project Description:*

The Regional Forensic Science Center (RFSC) utilizes funding to train and qualify Firearms Examiners who will provide support for conducting forensic firearms examinations in support of the RFSC’s effort to assist law enforcement in reducing gun violence. In addition, there has been

a focus on the continuity of staffing and prevention of turnover once the examiners are trained and qualified. Reductions in gun-related crimes through effective investigation and prosecution contributes to any increase in the level of public safety throughout the community.

*Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

*Performance Report*

Output	Outcome
Completed 81 cases involving a firearm examination	<i>Outcomes measures are currently being evaluated by the County and will be reported in a future Recovery Plan report.</i>

***Courthouse Remodel – Court Backlog***

*Amount of Funding:* \$15,191,004

*Identification No.:* SCSLFRF025

*Expenditure Category:* 2.37 Economic Impact Assistance - Other

*Project Description:*

Funds are being utilized to remodel a portion of the courthouse to create additional courtrooms and appellate, judge, and DA space, as well as provide space for specialty courts, such as the veterans treatment court. This process has displaced County administrative functions that have moved to temporary leased facilities..

Timely trials and disposition of cases through the court system benefits County residents by increasing public safety and facilitating the business of the Court. This allows residents to receive timely resolution to matters.

*Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

*Performance Report*

The County is completing our analysis of the Courthouse Remodal program as work is ongoing. The County will provide performance reporting on this project in future Recovery Plan reports.

***Administrative Needs***

*Amount of Funding:* \$5,301,891

*Identification No.:* SCSLFRF027, SCSLFRF029, SCSLFRF034

*Expenditure Category:* 7.1 Administrative Expenses, 3.5 Public Sector Capacity – Administrative Needs



*Project Description:*

The County has engaged the services of an external consulting firm to provide essential technical assistance, oversight, and compliance monitoring in the appropriate, reasonable, and eligible use of ARPA funding. The consulting firm assists the County in the preparation and submission of all financial and program reporting to funding authorities. Additionally, funds are being used to implement a grants management system that will be used to administer, monitor, and report on grants made by the County using ARPA funds. Finally, the County will engage the services for temporary staff to assist with purchasing and reporting as it relates to ARPA reporting.

The County Finance Division is employing four (4) full time staff designated to support the County's response, mitigation, and recovery efforts to the COVID-19 pandemic. These personnel perform essential administrative, financial, and grant management duties including oversight of all ARPA expenditures, procurement of goods and services, expense documentation, utilization data, and submission of all required reporting to the County, State, and U.S. Treasury. These positions are responsible for ensuring the County expends ARPA funds appropriately and accounts for them accurately per the Interim Rule, Final Rule, and Uniform Guidance.

The County is hiring a recruitment specialist to support the County's efforts to recruit, hire, and retain staff to support critical and essential roles throughout the County government to ensure continuity of government services at pre-pandemic levels.

*Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

*Performance Report*

<b>Output</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
8,352 hours of County staff productivity saved	8,352 hours of County staff productivity saved

**Premium Pay**

*Amount of Funding:* \$21,000,990

*Identification No.:* SCSLFRF035

*Expenditure Category:* 4.1 Premium Pay – Public Sector Employees

*Project Description:*

Since the beginning of the pandemic, many County employees have regularly worked directly with the public or have had regular contact with co-workers and physical items that have been handled by others. The majority of these employees are low- and moderate-income persons or that hold positions that are not exempt from the FLSA overtime provisions. The critical services provided by our staff includes emergency response (police, fire, medical), care of people in the custody of the County, coroner and medical examination, treasury and appraisal services, operations of the county clerk, district attorneys, care for animals within the County's zoo, and mental health and public health services of County residents.

*Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

*Performance Report*

<b>Output</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
2,143 employees received Premium Pay	2,143 employees received Premium Pay

***Criminal Justice Coordinating Council***

*Amount of Funding:* \$56,626

*Identification No.:* SCSLFRF038

*Expenditure Category:* 2.37 Economic Impact Assistance - Other

*Project Description:*

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) provides the community comprehensive continuum of custodial care and community-based correctional programs, treatment and supervision, and develops proactive and innovative criminal justice practices, policies, and process through effective multi-system local and state partnerships. This funding will be used by the CJCC to address the issues of violent crime that resulted from the public and negative economic impacts of COVID, and identify integrated solutions to address systemic issues in disproportionately impacted communities.

*Use of Evidence*

No funds have been allocated toward evidence-based interventions.

*Performance Report*

*This project was approved by the Sedgwick County Board of County Commissioners in June 2024. Work is just beginning on the assessing the outcome and output metrics for this project. Additional information will be provided in future Recovery Plan reports.*

