

YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Advocating for Community Health and Racial Equity in the American Rescue Plan Act



Communities can and should advocate for how this money is spent.

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 sends \$362 bill. to states, cities and counties for recovery, including **\$16 bill. for cities and counties in California**. The federal government has advised local governments to use these funds to increase health equity and support the communities and populations hit hardest by COVID-19.

This influx of money is an incredible opportunity. To maximize it, the California COVID Justice Coalition is mobilizing residents and community leaders statewide. **We are pushing our local governments to prioritize community health and racial equity**. Since the funds can be given to community-based organizations for their projects, we are also calling for organizations that represent and serve our Black, Brown and Indigenous communities to speak with their local elected officials and request these funds.

California COVID Justice recommends using the local relief funds in the following ways and more:

Economic Supports

Guaranteed income, reparations, premium pay for essential workers, support for businesses led by people of color and immigrants

Housing & Homelessness

Permanent supportive housing, safe spaces with wraparound services, affordable housing, rent & mortgage cancellation, grants for home ownership

Public Health Workforce

Community health programs, Promotoras, mobile health units, outreach to underserved & non-English speakers



Municipalities receive the first half of funds in spring/summer 2021 and the second half in May 2022. Find out how much your [city](#) and [county](#) are receiving (source: Civilytics Consulting).

California COVID Justice is building an advocacy toolkit for the American Rescue Plan Act. **Access our slide deck and other tools at www.phadvocates.org/ARPA/** Please contact JCastellanos@phadvocates.org with any questions.