

Community Response and Input Using American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Funds in Hutchinson and Reno County



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Executive Summary

To determine how best to allocate funding received through the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, broad-based feedback was received from residents of Hutchinson and Reno County in Kansas. Meetings were hosted with 19 facilitators and represented various community and local institutions within Hutchinson and Reno County. In total, 45 sessions were conducted with 553 residents. Session participants represented a diverse group of community members that roughly mirrored the demographic profile of the adult population of Hutchinson and Reno County. A complete list of participating groups is found in Appendix G (page 114). Through an interactive deliberative process designed by faculty and doctoral students in Leadership Communication at Kansas State University, the 553 session participants generated over 1,100 ideas across the eight priority spending categories described by the ARP as prescribed by the legislation. This report details these ideas collected throughout the Hutchinson and Reno County community in further detail below; however, session participants generated most ideas and recommendations for ARP funding around the following seven key spending priorities:

1. **Expanding childcare offerings/access:** Participants focused on providing incentives to establish more childcare facilities (through local businesses, private centers, or community-based); supplementing salaries to attract workers to handle the gap in demand; providing financial incentives (to businesses or individual residents) to cover the expenses of these programs.
2. **Strengthening workforce development programs:** Participants recognized the need for creative programs that would educate, train, and attract/retain talented individuals into the community. This included a strong focus on job training programs for a full array of age groups, from school co-op apprenticeships, scholarships/loan repayment to attract young workers to job training programs for displaced workers.
3. **Developing more affordable housing:** Most ideas in this area centered on economic investments or incentives to develop affordable housing and/or rehab targeted neighborhoods.
4. **Expanding mental health resources:** Participants' ideas centered on solutions that would provide the necessary funds to expand the County's existing programs or provide counseling classes to help a broader population identify and address issues before they manifest into deeper problems.
5. **Supporting local and small businesses:** Participants focused on the significant impact of COVID closures on local businesses, especially those connected to travel and tourism. To address these issues, participants discussed grants, incentives, and ideas for attracting visitors to the community.
6. **Expanding access to health care:** Participants brainstormed expanding health care locations or mobile services coverage throughout the County. There was also a strong appeal for providing increased pay for front-line health care workers.
7. **Developing recreational opportunities:** Participants discussed opportunities to enhance quality of life through access to recreational activities such as river and trail access.

These seven spending areas represent the priority focus for the participants and address the most critical issues facing Hutchinson and Reno County from the pandemic.

Background

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021 into law. The \$1.9 trillion package is intended to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, including public health and economic impacts. The American Rescue Plan allocated \$362 billion in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to provide state, local, territorial, and tribal governments with funding to respond to the COVID-19 emergency and bring back jobs.



Figure 1. Summary of ARP goals slide from community sessions.

There are four main goals related to ARP funding. The first is to support urgent COVID-19 response efforts to continue to decrease the spread of the virus and bring the pandemic under control. The second is to replace lost public sector revenue to strengthen support for vital public services and help retain jobs. The third is to support the immediate economic stabilization of households and businesses. And the fourth is to address systemic public health and economic challenges that have contributed to the unequal impact of the pandemic.

ARP Funds Priorities



"The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds provide a substantial infusion of resources to help turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout, and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery."

Source: www.treasury.gov/SLFRP

Figure 2. Descriptions of major ARP funding categories.

In support of the ARP's funding goals, the use of funds has been regulated to six spending categories. The funds can be used to:

Support Public Health Response Efforts

Examples include efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, pay for medical expenses, behavioral healthcare services, and the payroll of certain public health and safety staff.

Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss

Examples would be the use of funds to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic.

Invest in Water and Sewer Infrastructure

Address Negative Economic Impacts

Examples include using funds to respond to economic harm to workers, families, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector.

Offer Premium Pay for Essential Workers

Examples include offering additional payroll support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors.

Invest in Broadband Infrastructure

Equity-Focused Services

Other Possibilities

Participants generated other ideas that did not directly fit into one of the existing categories.

A broad selection of community leaders volunteered to facilitate sessions with citizens of Reno County. With the help of the Kansas State University Leadership Community Department, a process was developed and training sessions were conducted for the volunteer session leads. In total, forty-five group meetings were assembled, representing over 500 residents.

Survey Results and Analysis

After the forty-five-community focus group sessions, residents were invited to complete a questionnaire to understand better their demographic background and attitudes about the process (see Figure 3). In total, 113 surveys were completed, approximately 23% of the total participant sample. Overall, the profile of the respondents is consistent with the population demographics of the County. Ten percent of the respondents identified as nonwhite, consistent with the most recent census data documentation of 8%.

Seventy percent of the respondents were between the ages of 35-64, consistent with the County's adult population, with a slight skew to females at 57% of the completed surveys. Rounding out the demographic profile, 76% were married, 82% were employed full-time and 57% of the participants said they had a college degree or beyond.



Figure 3. Summary of demographic background of participants.

The respondents were also highly engaged with the process and for most perceived that their voices and ideas were heard throughout the process as 83% strongly/somewhat agreed that their voice was heard through this activity. They were particularly excited about their ability to talk about different issues facing the Reno County residents, as 86% of the respondents agreed with this statement. Finally, 76% of the respondents felt that they had identified solutions to relevant issues within their communities. The strength of these measures indicates a high degree of satisfaction with the process

and the strength of the solutions in addressing the problems facing Reno County due to the pandemic (see Figure 4).

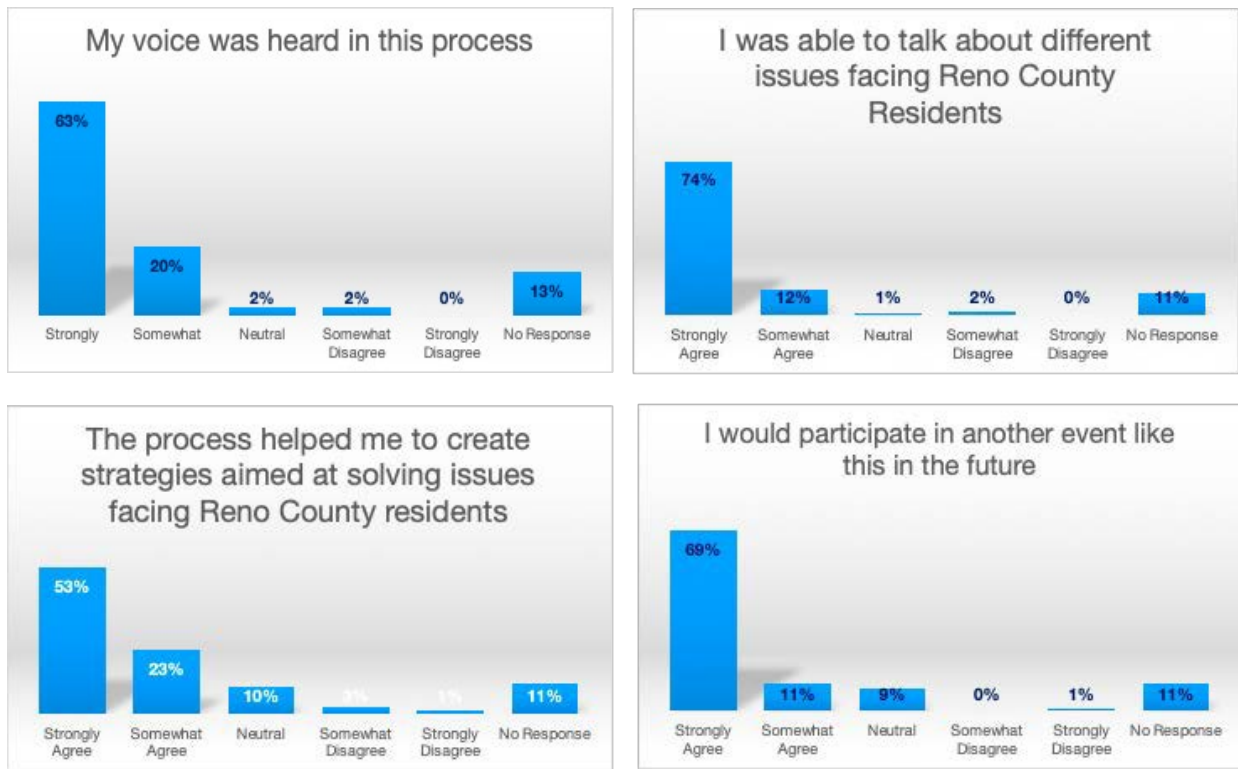


Figure 4. Participants’ responses of their experience in the community sessions.

The richness of responses and engagement with the process indicates a genuine concern and connection with the community’s needs at large. It provides valuable insights into funding solutions that are likely to appeal to a broad cross-section of the Reno County population. The receptivity to participate in another similar event at 80% again speaks to a positive experience and perceptions of strong engagement with the process.

Community Conversation Results and Analysis

To initiate the conversations, residents were first asked to identify how COVID-19 impacted the community. The impact on businesses was identified, specifically the lack of cash reserves and uncertainty about what to do during the shutdown period. They also discussed how the lack of in-person schooling created mental health concerns for children and technology pressure, particularly with access to computers and (consistent) internet broadband throughout the community. Finally, there were significant strains on community resources; in particular, the residents cited churches, medical resources, financial services, and businesses as most vulnerable during the peak period.

The community participants were then encouraged to generate specific strategies and action items to address these community needs. Participants contributed feedback across all seven of the ARP funding areas.

Strategies to Fulfill Community Needs

If you had money to address these needs, what would you do?

1.  Push yourself to generate 1-2 ideas for the need you are focusing on

2.  Be as creative as possible

3.  In small groups, discuss the potential action items and strategies to fulfill Reno County needs.

Figure 5. A slide from the community sessions demonstrating a brainstorming prompt.

From this exercise, over 1,100 funding solutions were identified, reviewed, and evaluated by the participants. Appendix E describes each of these solutions and includes the number of votes that each received. Encouragingly, all funding areas generated a diverse set of solutions except for the category for replacing public sector revenue loss. Solutions for addressing the broader negative economic impact to the County generated the largest number of ideas followed by solutions to support the public health response.

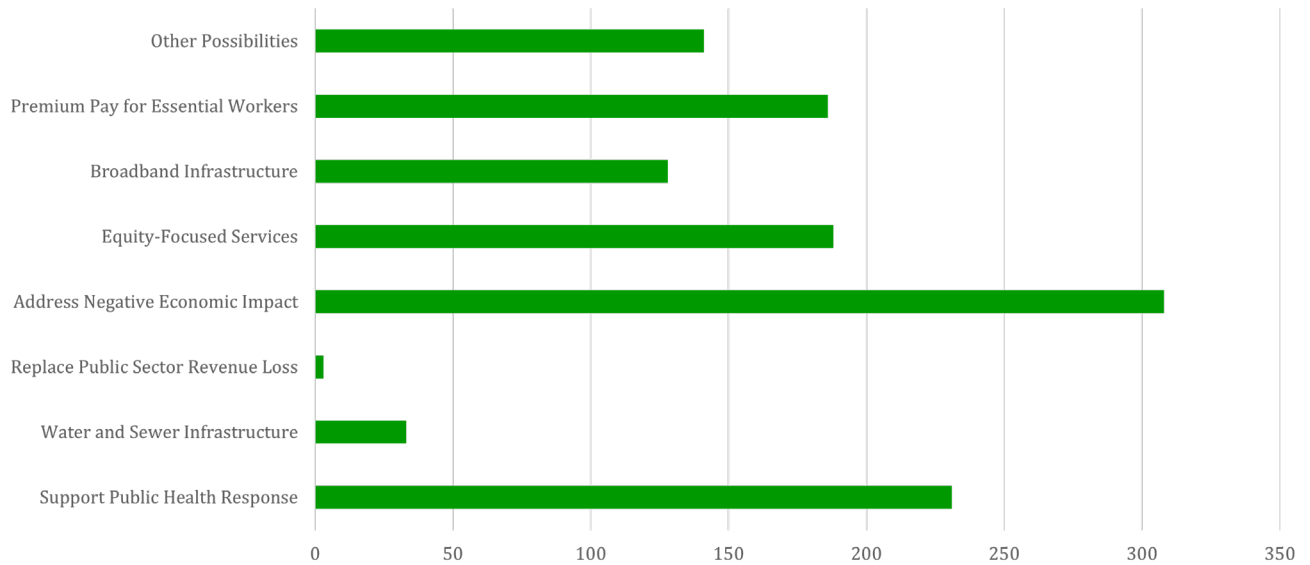


Figure 6. Summary of number of funding solutions contributed by participants in each of the ARP Funding Categories.

As Figure 6 details, participants generated over 1,100 ideas across all the ARP categories. Next, we provide a descriptive breakdown of themes that emerged within each ARP category. The summary of the ideas generated by funding bucket is as follows. Note that no sub-coding of the **Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss** and **Broadband Infrastructure** categories was necessary and therefore, no summary pie charts for these ARP funding categories are provided.

Support Public Health Response

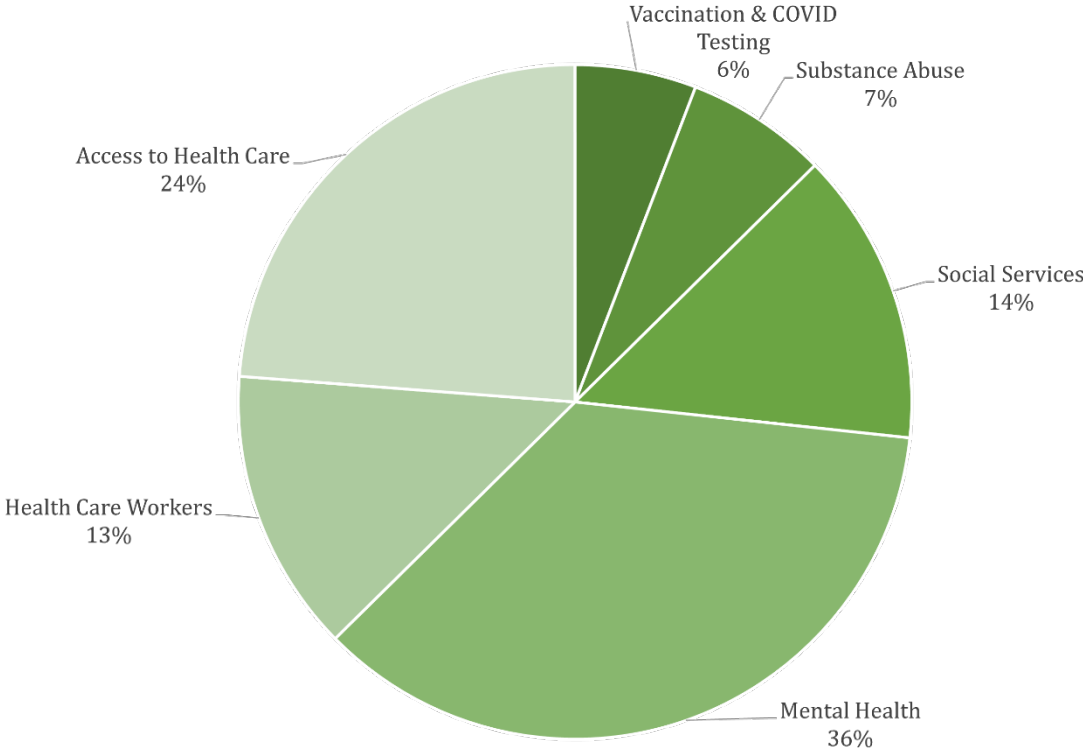


Figure 7. Relative contribution of funding solutions in the Support for Public Health Response ARP Funding Category (N = 231).

Water and Sewer Infrastructure

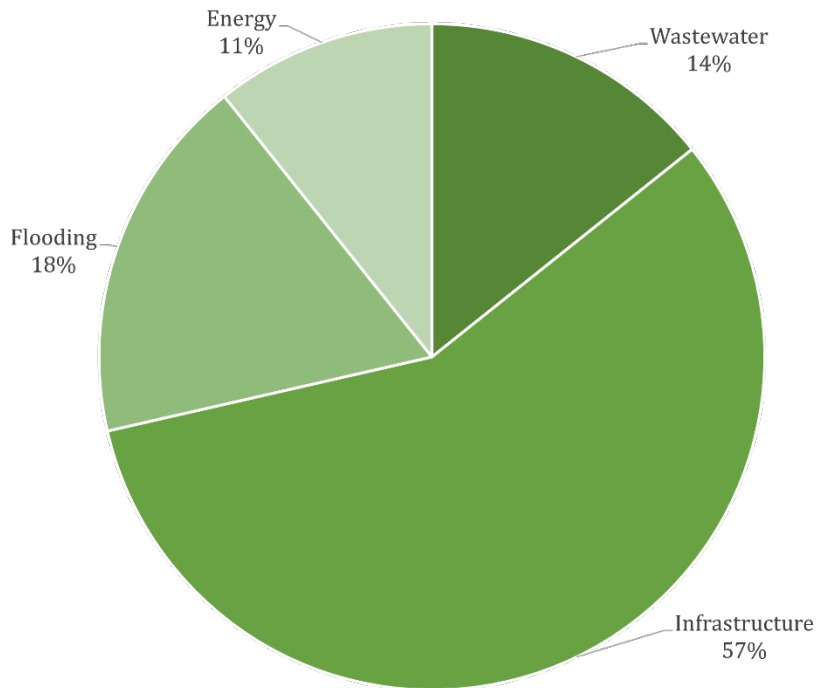


Figure 8. Relative contribution of funding solutions in the Support for Water and Sewer Infrastructure ARP Funding Category (N = 33).

Address Negative Economic Impact

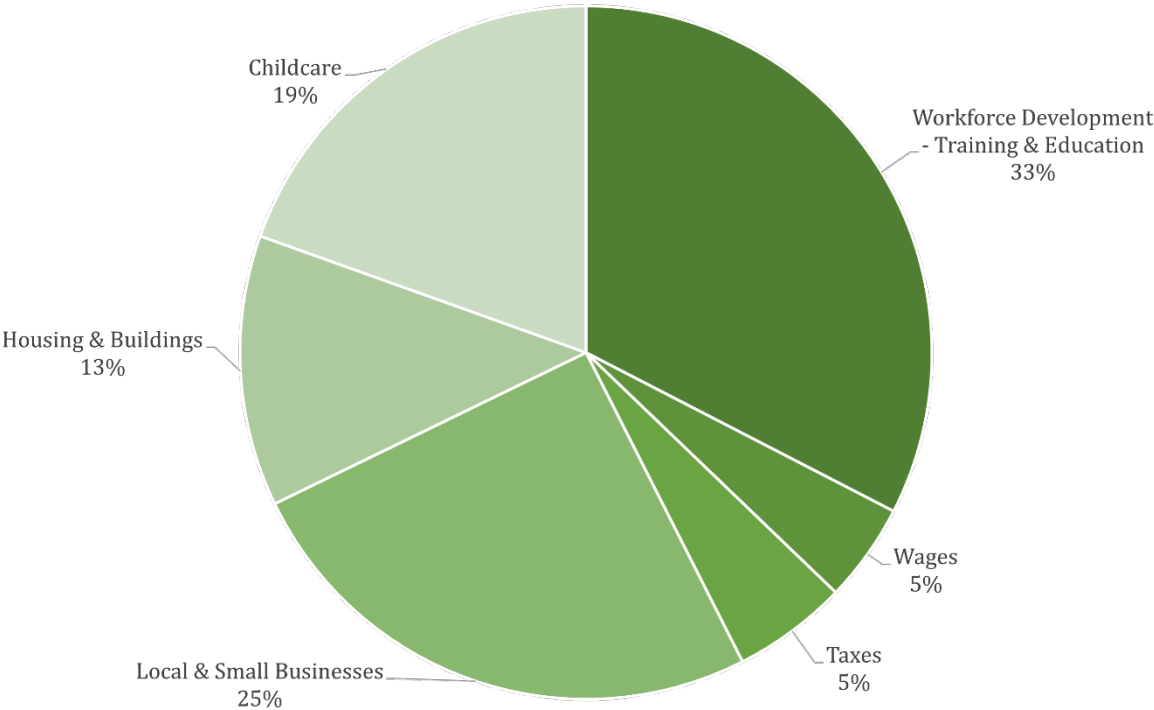


Figure 9. Relative contribution of funding solutions in the Address Negative Economic Impacts ARP Funding Category (N = 308).

Premium Pay for Essential Workers

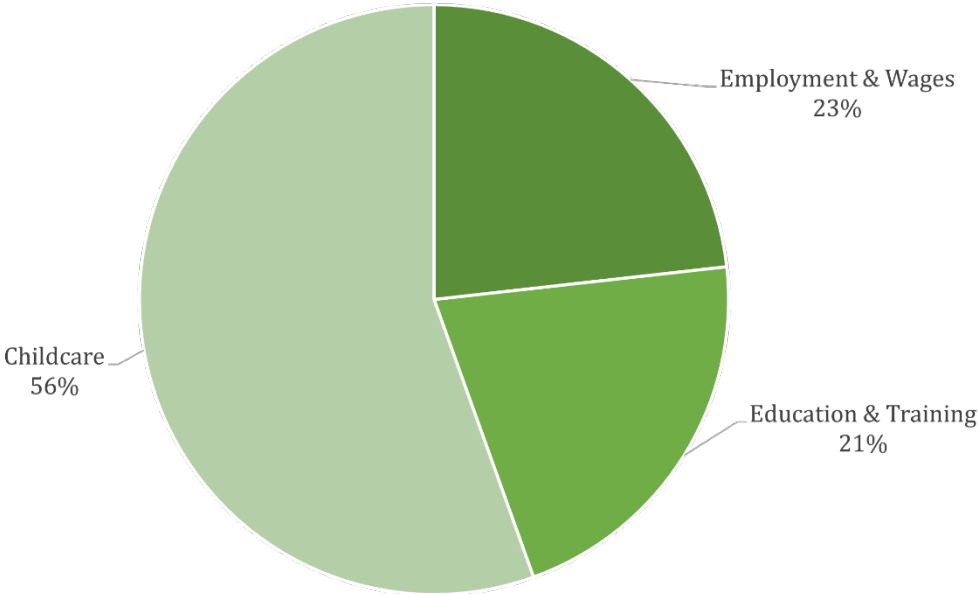


Figure 10. Relative contribution of funding solutions in the Premium Pay for Essential Workers ARP Funding Category (N = 186).

Equity-Focused Services

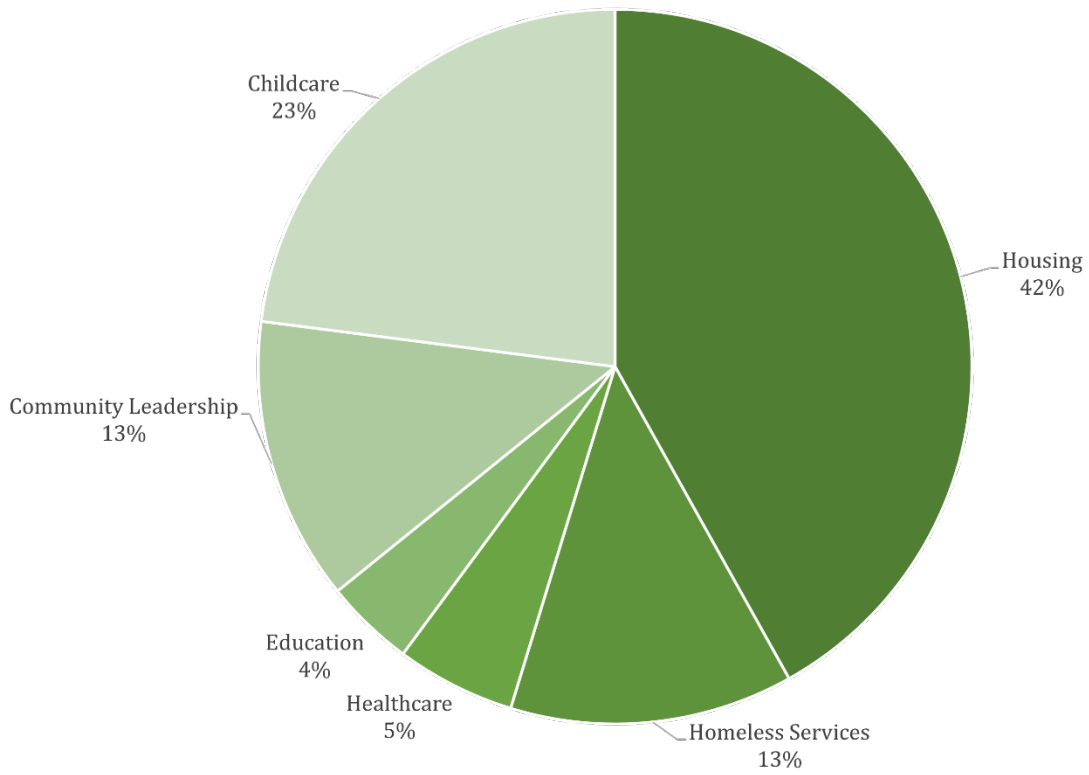


Figure 11. Relative contribution of funding solutions in the Equity-Focused Services ARP Funding Category (N = 188).

Other Possibilities

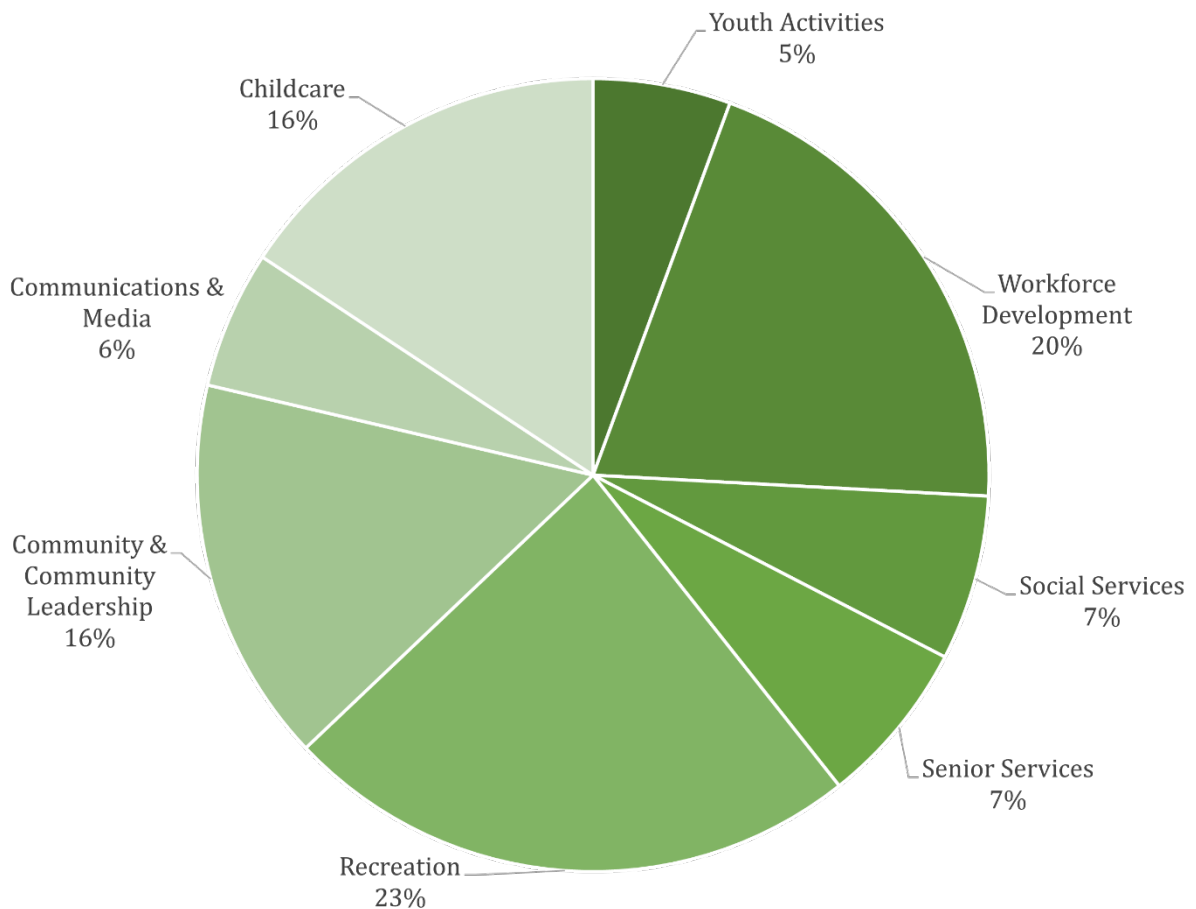


Figure 12. Relative contribution of funding solutions in the Other Possibilities ARP Funding Category (N = 141).

In each session, the participants were given three votes for the ideas that they believed were most important. They could divide the votes in any combination across ARP funding areas. The feedback was further coded based on topical themes (Figure 13). Four themes (childcare, workforce development, housing, and mental health) received more than 50 percent of all votes suggesting that these ideas and strategies are of the highest priority (Figure 14). Three additional themes (local and small businesses, access to health care, and recreation) each received more than five percent of all votes. The remaining 16 themes each received less than five percent of all votes. Examples of specific ideas that received the greatest amount of concurrence during a community conversation are described below for the seven top themes.

A summary of priorities identified in each meeting are provided in Appendix G.

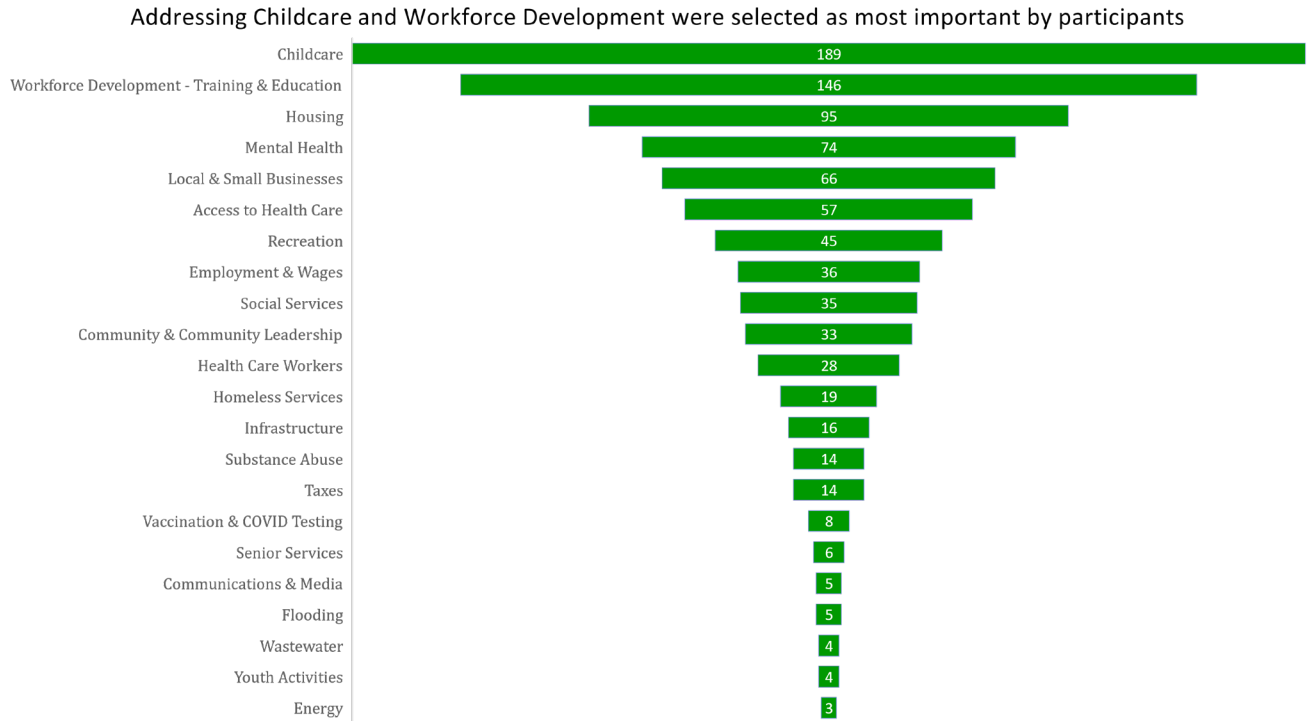


Figure 13. Summary of feedback contributed by topical theme such as childcare, mental health, and housing.

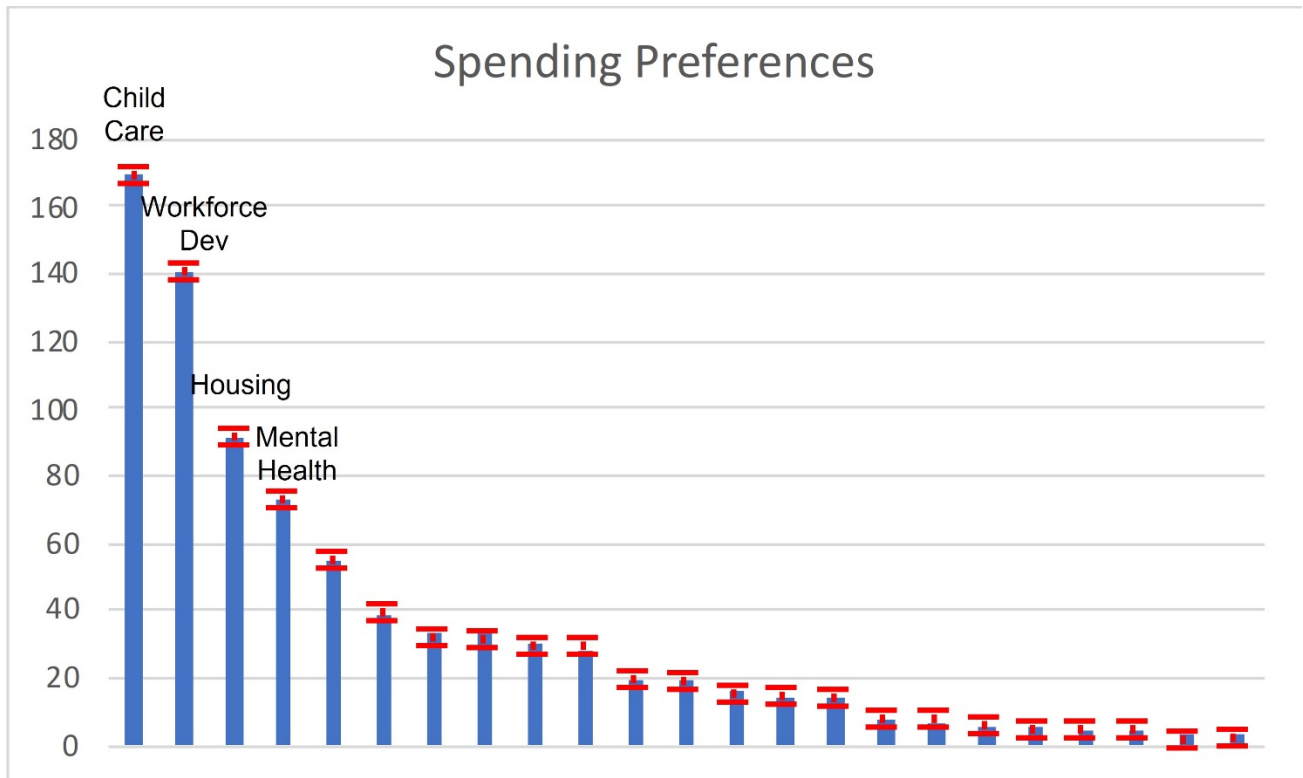


Figure 14. Top four preferences (childcare, workforce development, housing, and mental health) receiving more than 50 percent of votes.

Childcare

This funding area had the greatest appeal across groups, with 21% of all participants highlighting the need to address childcare. The solutions focused on 1) providing incentives to establish more childcare facilities (through local businesses, private centers, or community-based), 2) supplementing salaries to attract workers to handle the gap in demand, and 3) providing financial incentives (to business or individual residents) to cover the expenses of these programs. Specific ideas that received the most appeal from the participants include the following:

1. Provide financial incentives to businesses to offer childcare
2. Grants/funding for childcare staffing, resources, and cost of entry (training/certification)
3. Build a community endowment to sustain wages for highly skilled passionate childcare professionals
4. Use existing vacant sites (Obee, Kmart, SW Site TBD) to create access to childcare facilities
5. Employee benefits match for employees who have an employee benefit for childcare dollars
6. Pay childcare providers like they are early childhood educators and give them benefits
7. Subsidize childcare, employee benefit match for childcare dollars
8. Offering paid childcare to healthcare workers
9. Provide free, quality training to increase number of qualified childcare workers
10. Increase base and incremental pay for essential workers (public) health, fire, law enforcement

Workforce Development – Training & Education

The second most appealing area was workforce development, with 16% mentions. The participants recognized the need for creative programs that would educate, train, and attract/retain talented individuals into the community. This included a strong focus on job training programs for a full array of age groups, from school co-op apprenticeships, and scholarships/loan repayment to attract young workers to job training programs for displaced workers. The ideas that received the most appeal from the participants include the following:

1. School and business co-oping on apprenticeships
2. Internships to build a bridge to employers
3. Job training programs for displaced workers
4. College scholarships to train and fill needs in community and college scholarships

Housing

Housing was the third most appealing area with 10% of the participants providing interest and solutions to address the County's needs. Most ideas in this area centered on economic investments or incentives to develop affordable housing and/or rehab targeted neighborhoods. Top ideas generated in this category include the following:

1. Grants for investment/incentives to developers to build affordable homes based on housing needs assessment
2. Economic incentives to either scrape and build or rehab/renovate existing properties to create affordable/accessible housing and improve neighborhoods (like community reinvestment act)
3. Grants for housing improvements in targeted areas
4. Grants on houses to bring them up to code

Mental health

Mental Health solutions were identified by 8% of the participants and centered on solutions that would provide the necessary funds to expand the County’s existing programs or provide counseling classes to help a broader population identify and address issues before they manifest into deeper problems. The top ideas in this area are as follows:

1. Utilizing flex-funds to expand programs for mental health
2. Incentivize employers to provide mental health days to employees
3. Mental health counseling or class for students to assess their emotional resilience after COVID
4. Develop a program to connect those first struggling with mental illness

Local and Small Businesses

Solutions to support local and small businesses were identified by 7% of participants. Discussions focused on the significant impact of COVID closures on local businesses, especially those connected to travel and tourism. The top ideas were the following:

1. Small business grants to hotels and other small businesses that lost a significant amount of money due to COVID
2. Grants programs/incentives investing in small businesses
3. Excite new business to Hutchinson, retail/industrial, grants, incentives, etc.
4. Loans and assistance for new small businesses development
5. Incentives for local businesses to hire local employees and local people to work for local businesses

Access to Health Care

Access to health care was ranked sixth among the participants. Many of the ideas centered on expanding health care locations or mobile services to expand coverage throughout the County. There was also a strong appeal for providing increased pay for front-line health care workers. The top ideas were the following:

1. Make use of existing buildings to realize a health care location based on demographic needs
2. More incentives for front-line health care workers, nurses, EMS, etc.

3. EMS infrastructure to support future needs and serve rural communities
4. Develop a mobile medical van and team to serve rural and underserved areas

Recreation

Finally, recreation was ranked seventh among the participants. Many of the ideas centered on opportunities to enhance quality of life through access to recreational activities such as river and trail access.

1. Make outdoor spaces more user friendly by building open area structures, fund some of Park Master Plan, quality of life
2. Ongoing budget specific to quality of life to maintain and sustain parks, trails, recreation
3. Follow the existing parks and recreation Master Plan
4. Support for arts and entertainment

Conclusions and Next Steps

This process provided a forum to engage a large number of the County's residents, and they identified a wide array of solutions to the current issues surfaced by COVID-19. To capitalize on this positive momentum, participants and the broader Reno County population should be aware of the ongoing work inspired by this program. It will demonstrate concern and attentiveness to the citizens by community leadership. It will also help showcase the steps taken to address these common problems. Ideally, this communication will also highlight the broadscale nature of the process to solicit ideas and illuminate the impact of these programs on individuals or groups in the community. These activities should help in the implementation of the selected programs as well as maintain community involvement in other programs.

Acknowledgement of Support

Support for this process was provided by a grant from the Kansas Health Foundation Public Health Endowment Fund of the Hutchinson Community Foundation.

Appendix A Facilitator Guide

Facilitator Guide Reno County

ARP

Learning Outcome: Align Reno County Residents’ values and needs with ARP funding

options. In this session, participants will:

- Understand Reno County resident experiences and challenges—particularly during COVID-19
- Generate ideas for addressing issues surfaced by COVID-19
- Discuss potential resources that could be utilized to fulfill COVID-related needs.

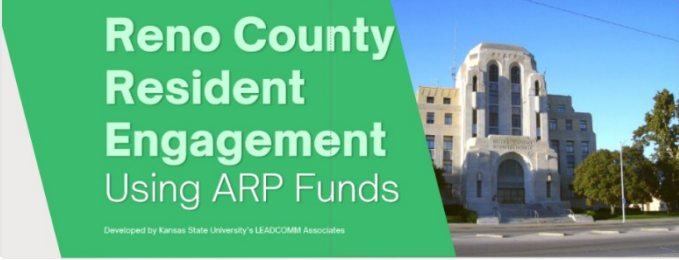
Supplies Needed:





- White board, category placards (including Parking Lot), ARP info sheet, large Post-It notes (2 different colors), dry erase markers, colored stickers, sheets of paper, pens/pencils, water (beverage), location with projectors for PowerPoint, tables, and ample seating.

Schedule	
00:00 – 00:07 (7 minutes) Meeting Overview and Goals & ARP Intro <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the Meeting (00:00 – 00:01) • Meeting Goals (00:01 – 00:02) • The ARP Package (00:02 – 00:03) • ARP Goals (00:03 – 00:04) • ARP Funding Categories (00:04 – 00:05) • Reno County Ongoing Initiatives (00:05 – 00:07) 	00:35 – 01:25 (50 minutes) Fulfilling Our Needs with ARP Funds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fulfilling Our Needs w/ARP Funds (00:35 – 00:37) • ARP Funding Uses (00:37 – 00:45) • Strategies to Fulfill Needs (00:45 – 00:55) • Let’s Discuss! (00:55 – 01:10) • Gallery Walk Voting (01:10 – 01:25)
00:07– 00:15 (8 minutes) Introductions, Ground Rules, and Guiding Principles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions (00:07 – 00:12) • Ground Rules & Guiding Principles (00:12 – 00:15) 	01:25 – 01:30 (5 minutes) Conclusion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclusion (01:25 – 01:28) • What’s next (01:28 – 01:30)
00:15 – 00:35 (20 minutes) Values and Our Story <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Values & Commitments (00:15 – 00:16) • Your Story (00:16 - 00:25) • Reno County's Story (00:25 - 00:31) 	

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Our Future Story (00:31 – 00:35) | |
|--|--|

Link for PowerPoint:

Slide Section	Facilitator/Notes	Time Allotted	Slide #
Getting Started	<p>START POWERPOINT/ SHARE SLIDE 1</p> <p>GETTING STARTED SECTION</p>  <p><i>Hello! Thank you for joining us today for this Reno County ARP Resident Engagement Session.</i></p> <p><i>I am glad you are here. My name is [XXX] and I am a [role/position in community] and I am looking forward to getting to know you all this [morning/afternoon/evening].</i></p> <p>MOVE TO SLIDE 2</p>		SLIDE 1

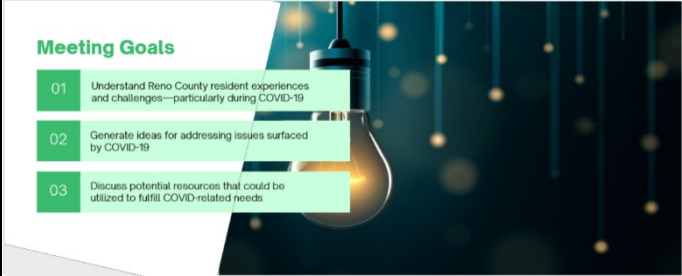
<p>Meeting Overview and Goals & ARP Intro</p>	<p>MEETING OVERVIEW AND GOALS & ARP INTRODUCTION</p> <p>OVERVIEW OF THE MEETING (00:00 – 00:01)</p>  <p>Overview of the Meeting</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; text-align: center;"> <div data-bbox="565 600 669 688">  Introductions and Background Information </div> <div data-bbox="734 600 837 688">  Group Activities to Identify and Plan for Needs </div> <div data-bbox="912 600 1016 688">  Conclusion: Discussion and Next Steps </div> </div> <p><i>Let's begin by taking a quick look at the overview for today's session. We are going to spend the next XXX [meeting time in minutes or hours] together, and I want to give you a big picture overview of what we will be doing. Today's meeting is broken up into three parts.</i></p> <p><i>In the first part of the meeting, we will go over the goal of our discussions today and some brief introductory information about the American Rescue Plan or ARP for short. Then we will introduce ourselves to each other and go over the ground rules for our discussion today.</i></p>	<p>1 MIN</p>	<p>SLIDE 2</p>
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After the introductory material, we will engage in different group activities that will help us think about our individual and shared community experiences and values, what makes us feel a sense of community belonging, the various needs in our community, and how we might go about fulfilling those needs using ARP funds.

We will conclude our meeting by discussing the needs we identified and the next steps in the County's ARP process.

MOVE TO SLIDE 3

MEETING GOALS (00:01 – 00:02)



1 MIN

SLIDE 3

Today's discussion is about the Reno County community. There are three goals we will be focusing on today.

First, our discussion will help us gain an understanding of the varied experiences and challenges of Reno County residents, particularly those that occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Second, during our discussion we will generate ideas as to how Reno County leaders can address the various issues and challenges experienced by the residents that surfaced during COVID-19.

Our final goal today will be to discuss the potential ARP resources that could be utilized to fulfill the community needs that we identify.

MOVE TO SLIDE 4

THE ARP PACKAGE (00:02 – 00:03)

1 MIN

SLIDE 4



The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Package

**\$362
billion**

For state, local, territorial and Tribal governments to respond to COVID-19.

**\$12
million**

Reno County and Hutchison, KS received to address COVID-19 related issues locally.

Source: www.treasury.gov/SLFRP

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 into law. The \$1.9trillion package is intended to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, including public health and economic impacts. The American Rescue Plan allocated \$362 billion in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal RecoveryFunds to provide state, local, territorial, and tribal governments with funding in order to respond to the COVID-19 emergency and bring back jobs.

Reno County is allocated to receive \$12 million of directaid from ARP funds.

MOVE TO SLIDE 5

ARP GOALS (00:03 – 00:04)

ARP Goals

- 1 Support COVID-19 response efforts
- 2 Replace lost public sector revenue
- 3 Support immediate economic stabilization
- 4 Address systemic public health and economic challenges

Source: www.treasury.gov/SLFRP

1 MIN

SLIDE 5

There are four main goals related to ARP funding.

*The first is to **support urgent COVID-19 response efforts**to continue to decrease spread of the virus and*

bring the pandemic under control.

*The second is to **replace lost public sector revenue** to strengthen support for vital public services and help retain jobs.*

*The third is to **support the immediate economic stabilization** of households and businesses.*

*And the fourth is to **address systemic public health and economic challenges** that have contributed to the inequal impact of the pandemic.*

MOVE TO SLIDE 6

ARP FUNDING CATEGORIES (00:04 – 00:05)



In support of the ARP's funding goals, the use of funds has been regulated to six spending categories. The funds can be used to:

- *Support Public Health Response Efforts*
- *Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss*
- *Invest in Water and Sewer Infrastructure*
- *Address Negative Economic Impacts*
- *Offer Premium Pay for Essential Workers, or*
- *Invest in Broadband Infrastructure*

We will go over these categories and provide examples of their use a little later in our discussion today.

1 MIN

SLIDE 6

MOVE TO SLIDE 7

RENO COUNTY EFFORTS (00:05 – 00:07)

2 MINS

SLIDE 7

Reno County Ongoing Initiatives

01

Item 1

02

Item 2

03

Item 3



Need dialogue

Introductions,
Ground Rules &
Guiding
Principles

MOVE TO SLIDE 8

**INTRODUCTIONS, GROUND RULES &
GUIDING PRINCIPLES SECTION**

INTRODUCTIONS (00:07 – 00:12)



Let's start by introducing ourselves to each other. Please share your name, any preferred pronouns you may have, how long you have been a resident of Reno County, and one word you would use to describe Reno County. Let's start with XXX (pick a participant to share). Go in order around the room.

Let each participant share.

Thank you for introducing yourselves. I'd encourage you to use one another's names as much as possible throughout our activities and discussion today.

MOVE TO SLIDE 9

GROUND RULES/GUIDING PRINCIPLES (00:12 – 00:15)



Now that we know a little bit about each other, let's discuss the guiding principles and commitments we

5 MINS

SLIDE 8

3 MINS

SLIDE 9

will use in today's discussion.

Today we are going to be sharing ideas and bits about our values with each other. There are several guiding

principles and commitments essential to engaging in community discussions. We want to use these guiding principles and commitments to foster an environment of idea creation and sharing, after all, the focus of today's session is about meeting the needs of all residents in Reno County. It is our hope that we are open and respectful in our discussions as we engage with each other today.

Share screen/PowerPoint and read list:

- *Full and equitable participation*
- *Invite curiosity*
- *Hold space for different perspectives*
- *Seek common ground*
- *Appreciate communication differences*
- *Respect time boundaries*
- *Facilitator will be pushing meeting forward*
- *Anything else?*

Do you have any questions or thoughts about these commitments? Are there any other expectations or ground rules that you would like to add?

Can we all agree to these rules and guidelines?

Allow for discussion, if needed.

Thank you everyone for agreeing to these guiding principles and commitments to each other - I hope these will allow us to engage in important idea sharing and development.

DISPLAY SLIDE 10 TO INTRODUCE NEXT SECTION

Values and Our Story

VALUES AND OUR STORY SECTION



Transition: *Next, we are going to talk about the concept of values and engage in a couple of exercises to help us understand what makes us feel a sense of community belonging*

MOVE TO SLIDE 11

COMMUNITY VALUES & COMMITMENTS (00:15 – 00:16)



1 MIN

SLIDE 11

We each have certain needs that must be met for us to feel like we belong to a community. One way we identify those needs is through an understanding of our values. Values are strategies, goals, principles, or qualities we consider to be ideal, worthwhile, or desirable, and, as a result, create guidelines for our behavior.

When we see our values reflected in the collective values of our community, we tend to feel a sense of belonging. One thing to keep in mind is how your individual values align with the collective values of Reno County create a sense of community belonging.

MOVE TO SLIDE 12

YOUR STORY (00:16 - 00:25)

9 MINS

SLIDE 12



Your Story

Describe a time when you felt like you belonged in Reno County?

- What does this look and feel like?
- How/why did this stick out to you?

How did COVID-19 impact you?

In this first part of this exercise, you are going to reflect on your personal experiences as a resident of Reno County.

I would like each of you to take the next three minutes to write individually about the following "Your Story" questions.

- *Describe a time when you felt like you belonged in Reno County?*
 - *What did this look and feel like?*
 - *How/why did this moment stick out to you?*
- *How did COVID-19 impact you?*

After three minutes we will come back as a group, and I will ask for a couple of volunteers to share their stories.

Use a timer for 3 minutes.

Okay, would anyone like to share what they wrote?

Let group members share as time permits.

Transition: *Thank you to those who shared and to everyone for writing about your experiences. Your stories will help our County Administrators better understand your experiences and needs.*

MOVE TO SLIDE 13

RENO COUNTY'S STORY (00:25 - 00:31)



**Reno
County's
Story**

How did COVID-19 impact Reno County?

- What issues surfaced in the county?
- What needs were left unaddressed?
- What services were stretched?

In the next part of this exercise, we are going to reflect on Reno County's Story. More specifically, we are going to focus on how COVID-19 impacted Reno County. I want you all to think about the following questions and then I will note your responses on the board.

- *How did COVID-19 impact Reno County?*
 - *What issues surfaced in the county?*
 - *What needs were left unaddressed?*
 - *What services were stretched?*

Who would be willing to go first?

Let group members share as time permits. Make note of the needs and issues mentioned on the board.

Transition: *Great work everyone. Now having identified some of the issues our community faced during COVID, let's think about the future of Reno County.*

MOVE TO SLIDE 14

OUR FUTURE STORY

(00:31 – 00:35)




6 MINS

SLIDE 13

4 MINS

SLIDE 14

	<p><i>As we mentioned at the beginning of our meeting, one of our goals today is to understand the issues and challenges our community experienced during COVID-19. With that goal in mind, I want you all to think about the following question over the next three minutes and I would like you to note each of the needs you identify on a separate post-it note.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>If our community was meeting everyone's needs, what would be present?</i> ○ <i>Identify 2-3 needs we must address to ensure Reno County is resilient, thriving, and sustainable for the future</i> <p>Use a timer for 3 minutes.</p> <p>DISPLAY SLIDE 15 TO INTRODUCE NEXT SECTION</p>		
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<p>Fulfilling Our Needs with ARP Funds</p>	<p>FULFILLING OUR NEEDS WITH ARP FUNDS SECTION</p> <p>FULFILLING OUR NEEDS W/ARP FUNDS (00:35 – 00:37)</p>  <p>Transition: <i>Thank you everyone for thinking about our community’s needs for the future. For this next part I am going to have you all break up into small groups.</i></p> <p>Divide participants into 3-5 groups based upon the number of attendees. Hand out ARP Info sheet and category placards to each of the small groups.</p> <p>Transition: <i>As we discussed earlier, the use of ARP funds has been regulated to six spending categories, let’s discuss those categories in a bit more detail.</i></p> <p>MOVE TO SLIDE 16</p>	<p>2 MIN</p>	<p>SLIDE 15</p>
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ARP funds can be used to:

- *Support Public Health Response Efforts*
 - *Examples include efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, pay for medical expenses, behavioral healthcare services, and the payroll of certain public health and safety staff*
- *Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss*
 - *Examples would be the use of funds to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic*
- *Invest in Water and Sewer Infrastructure*
- *Address Negative Economic Impacts*
 - *Examples include using funds to respond to economic harms to workers, families, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector.*
- *Offer Premium Pay for Essential Workers*
 - *Examples include offering additional payroll support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical*

	<p><i>infrastructure sectors</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Invest in Broadband Infrastructure</i> <p><i>There is a bit more details and examples regarding these categories on the ARP info sheet.</i></p> <p>Hold up a copy of the ARP info sheet.</p> <p><i>Please feel free to refer to this sheet if you need.</i></p>		
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What I would like you to do now is spend the next 2-3 minutes sorting your group's notes into the different ARP spending categories. Place any of the needs that don't fit into one of the categories onto the "parking lot" placard.

When your group is done sorting your needs onto the different category placards, have a member of your group transfer your group's post-it notes onto the corresponding category placards on the main board.

Transition: *Great job everyone. Now we can see how the various needs everyone identified have been sorted.*

What I would like for you all to do for this next part is divide into groups based upon the need you find to be most important, or that you are most interested in and whichever ARP funding category that need fits into, is the group you are going to work with.

Have participants group according to ARP funding category their top need falls into.

MOVE TO SLIDE 17

STRATEGIES TO FULFILL NEEDS (00:45 – 00:55)

Strategies to Fulfill Community Needs

If you had money to address these needs, what would you do?

 Push yourself to generate 1-2 ideas for the need you are focusing on

 **Be as creative as possible**

 In small groups, discuss the potential action items and strategies to fulfill Reno County needs.

I would like you to take the next three minutes to think about developing some strategies to address the need you are focusing on. Please be as creative

10 MINS

SLIDE 17

as possible.

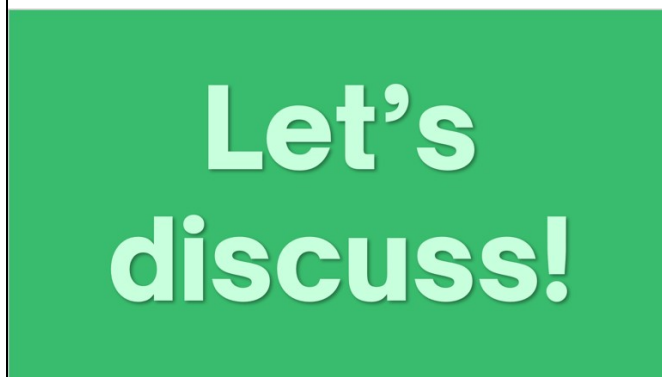
Use a timer for 3 minutes.

Great work everyone. Now let's spend the next few minutes sharing your ideas with your groups and providing feedback on further possible strategies.

Use a timer for 7 minutes.

MOVE TO SLIDE 18

LET'S DISCUSS! (00:55 – 01:10)

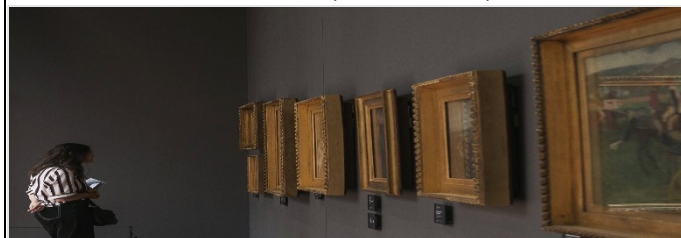


Fantastic work everyone! Let's all come back now as a large group and talk about the strategies you came up with to address the need you focused on.

Let group members share as time

permits. MOVE TO SLIDE 19

GALLERY WALK VOTING (01:10 – 01:25)



Gallery Walk Voting

Walk around the room to see what other ideas your colleagues have generated.

You have five minutes and three votes (e.g., the dots) to cast for ideas that you like/support/deem important.

Vote on your top three (3) spending priorities.

Note: You can distribute your votes in any fashion you see fit—you could place all three stickers on one idea!

For the last part of today's exercise, we are going to spend the next 15 minutes voting on the strategies we have identified.

I am going to ask you to come up two or three at a time and place your strategy notes on the board next to the need they are addressing.

15 MINS


SLIDE 18

15 MINS



SLIDE 19

	<p><i>Then I want you to take the 3 stickers you were given and place them on the strategies you feel represents the</i></p> <p><i>3 top priorities the County should focus using the ARP</i></p>		
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	<p><i>funds on. You may vote in any fashion you wish, meaning you can place all three stickers on one strategy or spread them out between 2 or 3 different strategies.</i></p> <p>Use a timer for 15 minutes. Have participants come up 2 or 3 at a time. As soon as a participant finished voting have another participant come up.</p> <p>Transition: <i>Great job everybody. Now it is time to wrap up and share a few final thoughts and what's next in the County's process.</i></p> <p>DISPLAY SLIDE 20 TO INTRODUCE NEXT SECTION</p>		
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Conclusion	<p>CONCLUSION SECTION</p> <p>CONCLUSION (01:25 – 01:28)</p>  <p><i>First, I want to thank each of you for your presence, engagement, and willingness to share today. As you can see from our board some of the top priorities identified by our group are... [name the top 3-5 needs and read the corresponding strategies that were identified by the group].</i></p> <p><i>Would anyone like to share a few takeaways from this experience? Or what was most meaningful for you?</i></p> <p>MOVE TO SLIDE 21</p>	3 MINS	SLIDE 20
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What's Next?

-  Rough project timeline and next steps
-  Contact us



The County will be holding several other sessions like this in the upcoming weeks. After all the sessions have been completed, a report will be compiled with all the community's responses. The completed report will be provided to the County administrators to demonstrate the needs our community has identified as top spending priorities.

[Present a rough project timeline and the next steps. Point out contact information for participants to direct questions or provide feedback.]

Thank you again for joining me today. I am excited to see the ways in which we work together to address our community needs.

MOVE TO SLIDE 22

END

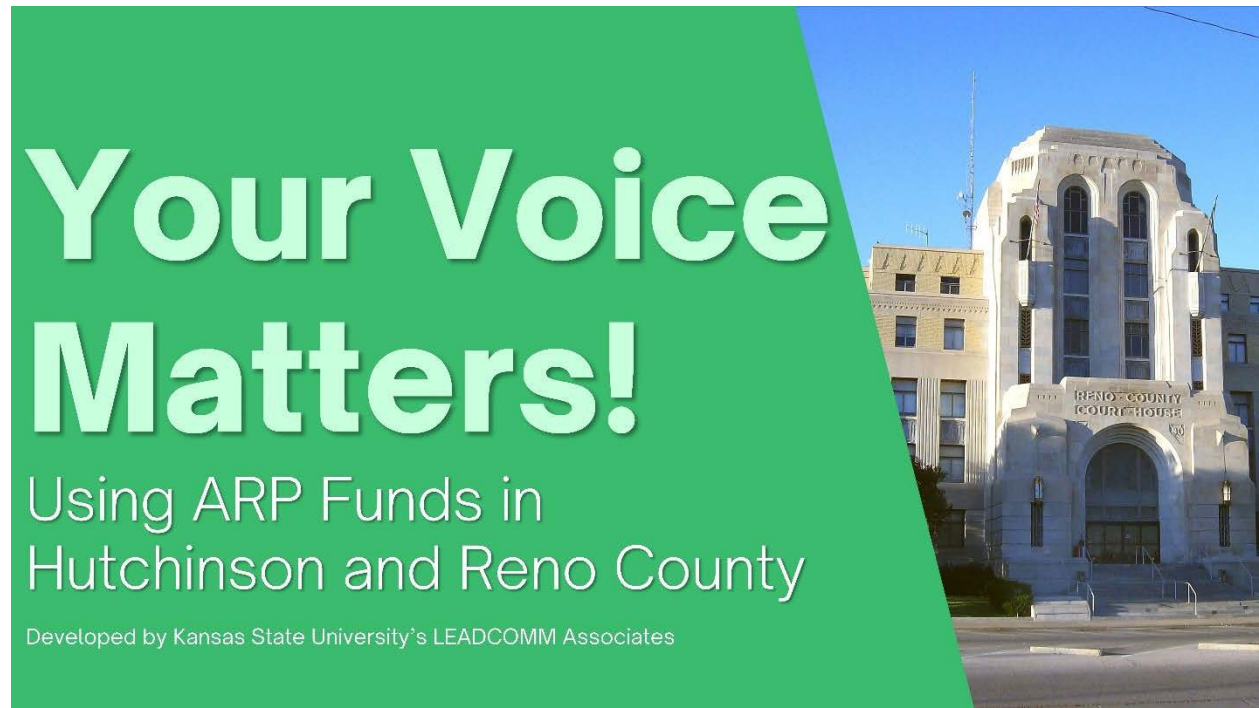
Reno County Resident Engagement Using ARP Funds

Developed by Kansas State University's LEADCOMM Associates



*If your schedule permits, you can offer the following—

	<p><i>If anyone still has any questions or would like to have a brief one-on-one conversation, please feel free to stay.</i></p>		
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Overview of the Meeting



**Introductions
and Background
Information**



**Group Activities
to Identify and
Plan for Needs**



**Conclusion:
Discussion and
Next Steps**

Meeting Goals

01

Understand Reno County and Hutchinson resident experiences and challenges—particularly during COVID-19

02

Generate ideas for addressing issues surfaced by COVID-19

03

Discuss potential resources that could be utilized to fulfill COVID-related needs



The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Package

\$362
billion

For state, local, territorial and Tribal governments to respond to COVID-19.

\$18
million

Reno County and Hutchinson, KS received to address COVID-19 related issues locally.

Source: www.treasury.gov/SLFRP

ARP Goals



Source: www.treasury.gov/SLFRP



ARP Funding Categories

"The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds provide a substantial infusion of resources to help turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout, and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery."

Source: www.treasury.gov/SLFRP

Reno County & Hutchinson Comprehensive Plans

01

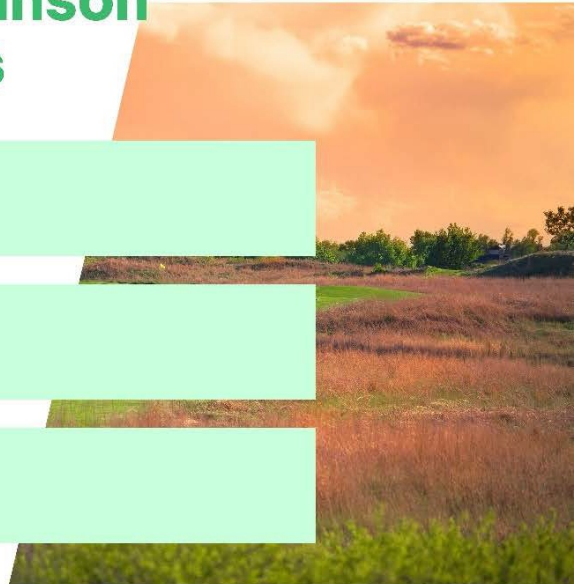
Item 1

02

Item 2

03

Item 3



Introductions

Your Name

How long you have been a
Reno County resident

One word description of
the community



Ground Rules & Guiding Principles

Full and equitable participation	Invite curiosity	Hold space for different perspectives
Seek common ground	Appreciate communication differences	Respect time boundaries
Be present	Keep conversations in the room	Listen respectfully





Your Story

How did COVID-19 impact you?

- Services you didn't have access to?
- Needs not fulfilled?
- Emotional impacts?



The Community's Story

How did COVID-19 impact Reno County and Hutchinson?

- What issues surfaced in the community?
- What community needs were left unaddressed?
- What services were stretched?



We invite you to think about the future of our community

Our Future Story

- If our community was meeting everyone's needs, what would be present?
 - Identify 2-3 needs we must address to ensure Hutchinson and Reno County are resilient, thriving, and sustainable for the future?

Fulfilling Our Needs with ARP Funds



ARP funds can be used for a variety of community needs.

1 Support Public Health Response 	2 Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss 	3 Water and Sewer Infrastructure 	4 Address Negative Economic Impacts 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Services that contain the spread of COVID-19 Mental Health Services Payroll benefits for Public Health employees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuity for local government services in the event of budget shortfalls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements to infrastructure—new facilities Uses aligned with Federal EPA programs and projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assistance for workers and families—unemployment support, survivor's benefits for families of COVID victims Small business loans, grants, counseling and mentoring
5 Support for Essential Workers 	6 Broadband Infrastructure 	7 Equity-Focused Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help impacted industries—tourism, travel, and hospitality Rehiring staff that were furloughed or lost jobs during COVID-19
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Premium pay for essential workers through grants Prioritize low- and medium-income workers who were on the frontlines during COVID-19 Focus includes education, healthcare, grocery and food services, childcare, sanitation, and transportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on areas lacking in broadband internet access Fund projects that invest in great Internet upload speeds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ARP provides some flexibility to address disparities in the hardest hit communities (e.g., health access disparities; housing disparities; childhood healthcare) There are a variety of other ways that ARP funds can be used—these examples are not exhaustive. We'll collect all ideas and incorporate them in our final report. 	8 Other possibilities  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs identified that do <u>not</u> fall into the specified ARP Categories

Source: www.treasury.gov/SLFRP

Strategies to Fulfill Community Needs

If you had money to address these needs, what would you do?



Push yourself to generate 1-2 ideas for the need you are focusing on



Be as creative as possible



In small groups, discuss the potential action items and strategies to fulfill our community needs.

Let's discuss!



Gallery Walk Voting

Walk around the room to see what other ideas your colleagues have generated.

You have five minutes and three votes (e.g., the dots) to cast for ideas that you like/support/deem important.

Vote on your top three (3) spending priorities.

Note: You can distribute your votes in any fashion you see fit—you could place all three stickers on one idea!

Conclusion

What's Next?



Feedback on our process:
<https://bit.ly/renocounty>



Rough project timeline and next steps

Appendix C Reno County Participant Survey

1. What is your gender?
 1. Male
 2. Female

 2. What is your age?
 1. Under 18
 2. 19-24
 3. 25-34
 4. 35-44
 5. 45-54
 6. 55-64
 7. 65-74
 8. 75-84
 9. Prefer not to respond

 3. How would you describe yourself?
 1. White
 2. Black or African American
 3. American Indian or Alaska Native
 4. Other
 5. Prefer not to respond

 4. What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed?
 1. High school degree or equivalent (e.g., GED)
 2. Some college, no degree
 3. Associate degree (e.g., AA, AS)
 4. Bachelor's degree (e.g., BA, BS)
 5. Master's degree (e.g., MA, MS, MEd)
-
- 64

6. Doctorate or professional degree (e.g., MD, DDS, PhD)

5. What is your marital status?
 1. Single (never married)
 2. Married, or in a domestic partnership
 3. Divorced
 4. Prefer not to respond

6. What is your current employment status?
 1. Employed part time (up to 39 hours per week)
 2. Employed full time (40 or more hours per week)
 3. Self-employed
 4. Retired
 5. Homemaker
 6. Student
 7. Unable to work
 8. Prefer not to respond

7. My voice was heard during this process.
 1. Strongly disagree
 2. Somewhat disagree
 3. Neither agree nor disagree
 4. Somewhat agree
 5. Strongly agree

8. The process helped me to create strategies aimed at solving issues facing Reno County residents.
 1. Strongly disagree
 2. Somewhat disagree
 3. Neither agree nor disagree
 4. Somewhat agree

5. Strongly agree

9. I would participate in another event like this in the future.
 1. Strongly disagree
 2. Somewhat disagree
 3. Neither agree nor disagree
 4. Somewhat agree
 5. Strongly agree

10. What additional feedback do you have about the process?

Appendix D Facilitator Survey

1. What were some of the major things that participants said about when they felt like they belonged in Hutchinson/Reno County? (Try to recall specific examples of experiences or moments shared with the larger group).
2. How did COVID-19 impact the participants? (Try to recall examples and issues raised by participants).
3. How did COVID-19 impact Hutchinson/Reno County? (Try to recall examples and issues raised by participants).
4. Please list the needs mentioned by participants.
5. What are some of the major things that participants talked about in their small groups? What reasons did the participants identify for their strategies?
6. What other information or notes do you have about the process?

Appendix E Community Conversation Flip Chart Transcriptions

Note – Number in parentheses (#) indicate the number of dot votes contributed by participants during public meetings

Impacts of COVID-19

Childcare

Small businesses closing

People not returning to work

HHS daycare remained open and functioned well

Division

Overdoses (how they are viewed/treated)

Access to mental health services – went to a Zoom model

Access to the internet and computer devices

Health care and medical services

Childcare

Faith organizations

Commodities

Technology

Nonprofits stretched

Inadequate IT Infrastructure

Lack of workforce development

Childcare and young family support

Struggle to be competitive with pay

Exhaustion/COVID fatigue

Need for mental health services

No access to the internet/unable to work from home

Strain from kids not being in school

Though there's challenges to technology, we have had a lot harder time with Zoom, etc.

Not enough workers/people to fill the vacant positions

Different rules among cities causing distrust/lack of leadership

Our elected officials in Topeka

Weaknesses from some of our major sectors Positive – rally Reno

Services provided by United Way

Families taking advantage of outdoor opportunities

Health department did an excellent job

Computer illiteracy – lack of superhighway infrastructure, computer access, increased telehealth education

Healthcare – hard to get into hospital, nursing shortage, nursing home isolation, ageism, why don't elderly just stay home?

Underserved even more underserved – closed soup kitchens, food banks, requests for assistance

Division – impatience with others, no middle ground

Distrust – black, impoverished, underserved communities, local distrust

Childcare

We've depended on education force Parents/kids working from home

People working with school-aged kids – who can stay home, how to work from home and take care of kids

Lack of daycare

Lack of broadband/internet

Strain on healthcare system

Divisiveness made it hard to solve problems, lack of trust

Strain on the legal system (e.g., trials were continued for long periods, different technology used, no standards across counties/courthouses)

Division – mask vs no mask, vaccine vs no vaccine

Misinformation

High utility bills

Inequity of internet service Inequity of rent

Lack of financial help with medical bills

Childcare

Essential employees taking health risks

Domestic violence

Inadequacies because of remote learning

Loss of businesses

Conflicting messages between healthcare, county, community, city, schools

Loudest voice, not necessarily most accurate

Letting nurses go to places with shortages – away from the county

Supply chain issues, long delays and cost increases

Healthcare literacy lacking, no basic understanding of health and biology

Work force can't find quality people because they are leaving

Community resources not accessible due to closing

Apathy

Daughters stressed and falling behind in schoolwork, uncertainty of school

Online learning, teachers did not have all they needed, broadband at home was lacking, schools were severely underprepared, buy-in from teachers was lacking sometimes

Realtors were essential; it was terrible terminology, and it hurts people

Guilt over being “essential” and able to keep working and making money, guilt over hardships of medical workers, inconsistency across communications from various agencies both local and national

School, HD, Clinic all gave different messages about what to do, no guidelines for employers
Community Story

Childcare stuck at home in neglected situations Hospital services stretched – ongoing

School systems went virtual, adapted, pivoted

Learned how much community depended on childcare, still suffering effects on childcare centers and workforce

Churches forced to adapt

All major events canceled – fair, etc. Impacted hospitality industry overnight

Small biz closed – Ally’s, etc.

Consistent

Welcoming

Lacking

Welcoming

Resilient

Safe

Supportive

Regressing

Supply chain, food supply issues, solitude, medical

Personal services ended but other services emerged – delivery, etc.

Curtailed travel, isolation, lack of normal routine over time

Personal Impacts

Isolation – disconnected

Had to think outside the box because work is connection based and services

Had to leave things on porches and communicate via Zoom

Contacted COVID and husband had to stay in hotel. Became single mom for two weeks

Couldn't go into grocery store
Developed anxiety about kids getting sick
Fear and worry
Lost social interactions
Staff anxiety – hard to fake it until you make it
Many parents didn't have devices to connect
Families ran out of food and had to pull in staff to help deliver food
Staff turnover
Workforce post COVID is awful
FAP usage is skyrocketing – how does this affect work with children
Broadband issues with families
Increased screen time for kids was negative
Can't find childcare
Can't access the health department
Had to learn new technologies
Had to learn to use what we have to get along
Family division
Not being able to connect
Restricted travel
Loss of friends and family
Stock Market drop
Working remotely
Stress about health of parents
Impact on children
Cave dwellers but ok, very fortunate
No face-to-face interaction
Limited activities
Isolations
Fear when people wouldn't take precautionary measures
Isolations
Constant risk
Sick all summer

Difficult to provide committed services
More aware of life and focus on being a better person
No remedy
Confusion and upset
Providing end of life care for COVID patients
Mental health patients that couldn't access services
Fellowship missing
Emotional distress
Missing social interactions
Missing church
No school mentoring
Childcare
Internet Access/Cost (understanding, overload, telehealth, virtual services)
Abuse (substance, physical/domestic)
Disparity
Healthcare (staff shortages, burnout)
Mental Health (magnified/overloaded)
Education (making everyone happy)
Division (mask/no mask; vaccine/no vaccine)
Attempting, but not SO BIG
Stretched thin
Threats/Divisiveness
Stalled progress
Restaurants shut down
Shelves empty at store
Couldn't get hair done
COVID tests required at all times
Lack of resources to schools
Lack of resources to parents

Community events canceled

Couldn't plan ahead on anything

Communications difficult/lacking

EMS stretched – onto FD (Fire Dept), no 4WD vehicle

Internet access (some got it, still not complete)

Phone service not great

Change in attitude towards work and volunteerism

Services stretched – truth, or lack of respect and understanding for each other

Support Public Health Response

Mental health – better baseline health (2)

Support public health

Funds to support Medical Assisted Treatment program (2)

Build family unit – education training (housing) (3)

Provide grants for short-term mental health services (1)

Insurance/funds access for mental health specifically (2)

Access to healthcare/insurance for less fortunate (1)

Pour resources into new and existing mental health organizations, e.g. Horizons, Prairie Star, TECH
(1)

Strong businesses,

Doctors

Jobs, services, supplies

No hospital rooms for surgery patients

Healthy diet

Mental health

Mental health

Mental health – needs to be such a big part of the community

Community support

For mental health I would use it to give people help to those who would be normally cast aside (5)

Putting money towards more drug treatments

Build substance misuse treatment which gives recovering addicts' jobs and the opportunity to inspire other addicts (1)

Community centers for mental health

Mental health facilities needed

Mental health programs – availability and affordable

To find a hobby to help with your mental health to stay afloat and not drop down

Mental health

Services available in Hutch should be available in one spot

Clinic/health care site in south end of town to make it easier for residents to access health care

Make use of existing buildings to realize a health care location based on demographic needs (4)

Hospitals overcrowded

Healthcare

Overcrowded hospitals (1)

Offer grants or discounted education to any new nursing students

Needs: Education, Local Shopping, Health Care

Offering paid childcare to healthcare workers (8)

Tuition paid for healthcare students (1)

Healthcare pay/benefits need help

Open up a place that not only offers one on one and 3-step support, but that allows a space for such as meditation/yoga, etc.

Seek to expand behavioral health services

Medicaid expansion

Universal healthcare

Mental health services

More behavioral health services

More access to health care

Health care workers

More healthcare employees

Incentivize taxpayers to be trained in mental health first aid

Mental health

Incentivize employers to provide mental health days to employees (4)

Have the market wage increase, to increase healthcare wages Increase healthcare workers

Funding resources for childcare

Mental health counseling or class for students to assess their emotional resilience after COVID (12)

Mental health

Funding for mental health

Expanding resources for mental health services

Mental health services

Education of services available and service providers (1)

Educating people about mental health services

Education

Health care and dental care for adults ID MH problem (1)

Available mental health – timely access

Drug prevention intervention (2)

Affordable health care

Mental health support needs (6)

Medical care

Health care and medical staffing

More incentives for front line health care workers, nurses, EMS, etc. (2)

Mental health

Child and elder care

Access food

Community awareness campaigns that go towards what Hutchinson can offer in terms of help (i.e. – food bank, social services) (6)

Social services direct care providers (earn educational benefits or tuition forgiveness) (1)

Increased collaboration between nonprofits to serve the underserved – sifting through who ACTUALLY needs the help and who doesn't (9)

Flexible healthcare

Motivational self-help seminars

Mental health services

Mental health assistance/support

Continue the quality-of-life initiatives that sustain parks, trails, museums, music, art

Key community leaders collaborate with one mission (unified) 4)

Healthy organizations develop emergency plans

Fear divides

Possibly impose more mandates such as masks for unvaccinated employees

Offer bonuses to get vaccinated

Ways to improve vaccination rate to help businesses maintain employees Improve vaccination rates

Funds to help put staff in place – a year's contract to hire healthcare workers and then use that year to come up with other funding solutions for the future (1)

Utilizing flex-funds to expand programs for mental health, help with temporary housing for the homeless, purchase needed equipment (5)

Strengthening resources, we have for those struggling with substance abuse – Detox Center and SACK (1)

Additional resources for Police Department Response Team 92)

MOU with Hutch Regional to utilize mentors to help those with substance abuse (1)

Gap analysis research – find out what we're missing in services/programs for those struggling with substance abuse (1)

Look into putting into place an Intercept model in Reno County for helping/serving those with substance abuse

Develop a program to connect those first struggling with mental illness (4)

Not able to provide services to the homeless

Healthcare and social services were stretched

Lack of services/support for mental illness

Healthcare services for long COVID/awareness (ongoing symptoms)

Mental health physicians at capacity – not enough staff to provide services

Additional services/support needed for those with substance abuse – traditional services were not available

Preventative care and immunizations for other care dropped – message for public health

Lack of sick days or paid time off to take care of sick children

No insurance after being laid off or affordable healthcare for those w/o a job

Systems to provide mental health care to students

Mental health services for adults and youth

Wholistic mental health services

More employees in health care

Robust mental health services

Mental health and therapy

Easier access to healthcare

Affordable health care

Mobile health care

Free public transport to health facilities

One trusted health source or person on community website (3)

Community health website – set up foundation for pharmacy (drugs) needs who can afford their meds

Clinic inside a school districtHealthcare – mental health

Free and abundant “rapid” testing

Develop a mobile medical van and team to serve rural and underserved areas (1)

Plan for regular, consistent delivery of information and answers to questions

Appropriate and available healthcare for all workers

Support public health/community health department – leadership and unity to address the ongoing pandemic for the good of all

Flexible healthcare Motivational self-help

Mental Health support

Continue quality of life initiatives – parks, trails, museums, music, art

Key community leaders collaborate with one mission (unified) (4)

Helping organizations develop emergency plans
Fear divides
Adequate and affordable healthcare
Expand Medicaid
Real economic development
BIPOC healthcare professionals (doctors, dentists, and women's health)
Adequate and affordable healthcareExpand Medicaid (2)
Fully funded transportation 24/7
Voucher programs for a visit to homes for a nominal fee
Community recruitment for professionals
Increase mental health services – behavior mental healthStable EMS
Mental health treatment access (10)
Affordable, accessible mental health
Access to health care (3)
Increased health access to all
Child mental health
Communication planning/prep epidemic/pandemic
Have a department employee Dr. coopt with marketing dep. to have each health service provider
create emergency plan to include how information is disseminated to the community equitably with
clear consistent information (1)
All local authorities in health and community have committee/council for what is sent out to the
public – one message and set guidelines when health emergencies occur
Comprehensive plan
Overarching vision
How do you say “it was great for me” without feeling guilty when you know others were affected so
much
Most meaningful
Inconsistent communication both locally and nationally
Medical staff stretched

Workforce/employment inconsistencies – laid off, then urgently needed, some were “essential”
others were not

Information was not delivered equitably

Day care – chaotic, hard to navigate on short notice

Small business owners struggled, Rally Reno helped, but not enough, not enough access to CARES,
PPP, etc., banks were very helpful

Arts and culture organizations must recover
Inconsistent rules and enforcement

Internal system development

Medical personal development (schooling, training)

Create a plan and carryout material purchase (medical supplies, etc.) and storage (rotating) for future
uses

Develop alternate strategies of support (small business)

Mental health support

Needs - affordable meals for older seniors
Needs – calling on elderly people to visit

Easy and rapid access to high quality health care
Equitable access to health needs (physical and
mental)

Health (4)

Drug prescriptions (1)

Huge facility to house and treat those addicts on drugs (2)

Senior housing, free internet for community, housing for homeless, more drug prevention, childcare
providers

Outdoor activities

Mental Health

Mental Health and Physical health resources

Create and organization (for mental health) that can be shared by all organizations

Create safe environments with certified individuals that have the ability to handle mental health, free
access to medications as well (1)

Use funds to recruit and pay for nursing student education

Establish a community scholarship program that encourages students to attend Allied Health

Programs and high wage/high demand programs (1)
Health care support
Health care – support local (1)
Increase support for health care workers
Increase the pipeline of healthcare workers by encouraging affordable education (2)
Adequate medical staff to meet needs
Health care givers/providers
Ambulance service
EMS Availability Arlington
New EMS Facility in Arlington
4-Wheel drive Ambulance (4)
EMS Building continued (10)
EMS & Fire Service kept in our area (Arlington)
EMS
EMS
EMS facility in Arlington
EMS problem solved for western Reno County
EMS Services
Quality EMS Services – updated ambulance and building to house equipment and staff
EMS
EMS
Renovation of current EMS building or build a new ambulance building (6)
New EMS Building in Arlington with 4x4 unit (17)
Healthy residents
Child Advocacy (2)
Bed Bug Issues
Emergency mental health and drug services (1)

Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss

Recruitment job force

Strong businesses, company

Strong businesses, services, jobs, support

Main events (fairs, concerts) Forgivable small business loans

We need well-funded and well appreciated education systems

Water and Sewer Infrastructure

Sewer and water infrastructure – get rid of storm water fees (4)

Small communities need help with water/sewer system (8)

Roads/bridges (3)

Establish stormwater drainage fee

Infrastructure – water, sewer, electric, roads

Use money to address water infrastructure – eliminate stormwater fee, making it more attractive to live in Reno County (3)

Maintain the city and county properties better, infrastructure is important

Repair worn out/damaged water lines (9)

Identify additional water source for Buhler (2)

Water

Power

Water

Public water

Water (4)

Rural water (public)

Safely water to school (1)

Water

Water

Repair habit water tower (4)

Sustainable water supply

Electricity

Underground electricity (2)

Infrastructure

Fix the roads (2)

Public water

Upgrade water system (2)

Repair water tower (2)

Clean water plant (1)

Upgrade water systems

Pay for maintenance of water tower (1)

Fund providing water line to school (4)

Benefits all wastewater (2)

Replace Ave B from Walnut to Washington Replace Sidewalks and Crosswalks

Create a Community Pride Program with county HCC, Schools, State, KCF, Businesses, Evergy, Gas Company, etc. (2)

Build out infrastructure in Industrial Park to attract new businesses (1)

Infrastructure (1)

Affordable energy (i.e. – solar energy) More affordable source of energy (1)

Streets (3)

Streets wider, help all (1)

Rebuild B Street South to the park

Investment in Sewer infrastructure Increased demand for capital projects

Water mitigation about Willowbrook

Flood water issues in Willowbrook

Water mitigation Willowbrook

Willowbrook sewer issue 25 million gallons

Protection of homes and property from wastewater and flood waters

Use our grant money to actually solve infrastructure problems (8)

Maintenance of improvements to infrastructure

Roads and street maintenance

Infrastructure, technology, roads, bridges, water drainage, sidewalks

Debt could be retired to eliminate special assessments (2)

Replace sewer lines or water lines

Roads – clean up right of ways

Pause overlay road (7)

Address Negative Economic Impacts

Economic impact

Get people to work

Support small businesses

Living wages

Economic development

Provide employer's funds to recruit unemployed to work

Support for public quality of life issues

Update public entities to draw working families, i.e. pool, parks (5)

Attract new businesses (3)

Increase daycare capacity and age availability (1)

Offer family education programs (1)

People to work

Staffing

Support workers in childcare

Have a county unemployment bank for emergencies such as this to get people through crisis (1)

Provide financial support to businesses for creation of childcare (4)

Put money towards some sort of job readiness programs, help people get motivated and believing in themselves to find job and work

Small businesses

Funds appropriated for small essential businessesJobs not able to pay bills

More attractions

Small businesses

Mom & Pop businesses Restaurants (kind of limited) (1)

Incentives for restaurant businesses (1)

Price gouging

Job opportunities

Expanded wages and benefits to childcare workers Job training (2)

Bring new companies and jobs that pay a decent wage (3)

Help people get the education for the world we live in (1)

Incentives programs re-settlement (2)

Incentives people to shop locally

Workforce – Increase trade school opportunities

Offer financial benefits to anyone who stays at work longer than most

Grants programs/incentives for housing, investing in small businesses, long-term medical,essential workers (3)

Reduce taxes

Needs – infrastructure, more outdoor covered structures in park, support for small businesses

Product availability (meat)

Shop locally

Work

Jobs

Building infrastructure

Job availability

Seed money (2)

Require those on unemployment to attend job fairsMore job fairs

Smart city reduce taxes (3)

Childcare

More and better childcare options

Grants/funding for childcare staffing, resources, and cost of entry (training/certification) (12)

Economic development

Jobs for the future

Grants for small businesses to increase jobs/start businesses (1)

Investment in small business

Incentives for local businesses to raise minimum wage Theater – Arts and Tourism

People working

Provide incentives for people to get back to work Investment in social safety net

Affordable housing

Partner with groups in the housing industry to help identify those needing assistance

Workforce

Workforce development Employment (living wages)

Workforce development

Housing

Continue growth in proactive readiness instead of reactive

Childcare

Childcare

People wanting to re-enter workforce

Soft skills training (10)

Pipeline from employers to education funding (10)

Public funding for childcare

Community approach to childcare

Build a community endowment to sustain wages for highly skilled passionate childcare professionals

Use existent vacant sites (Obee, Kmart, SW Site TBD) to create access to childcare facilities

Subsidize childcare employees (3)

Employee benefits match for employees who have an employee benefit for childcare dollars (9)

Invest in capital that attracts jobs and further investments (4)

Tax base at risk if issues not addressed

Government interference in business leading to incorrect costs without benefits Labor shortages

Invest in capital that keeps people from leaving

Program to match businesses that have been successful in adapting over the last 18 months to those

that are needing help (2)

Residential and small business micro-grants to help improve properties throughout the county

Encourage pride in housing – must live in Reno County for 5-years (3)

More online shopping instead of shopping locally Grants/funding needed for cleanup of businesses/community Strategic job growth

Jobs/Entrepreneurship and local investment

Childcare – offering childcare at places of business for employees

Coordination for training for home-based childcare

Supplement or incentives for businesses to provide childcare or help pay for childcare (1)

Loans and assistance for new small businesses development (1)

Incentive business growth based on daycare cost sharing from the business (2)

Gather info from business on their supply chain issues and fund local businesses to expand and offer those products locally

Resources to assist in job growth for existing or new businesses

A readily available workforce of quality individuals

Community partnerships and collaborations

Plan to meet the business and industry needs Business tuition assistance packages (3)

More internships and apprenticeships for students to fill skilled jobs

School and business co-oping on apprenticeships (8)

Apprenticeships with local industries in need

Highlight local heroes and the good jobs we have

Showcase the necessity and nobility of manual trades/entry level jobs, highlight local heroes (1)

Creative tax, land, or other incentives to attract big business to Reno County and then sustainability incentives (6)

Internships – build a bridge to employers (5)

Filled jobs

Workforce economic development

More competitive paying jobs with creative incentives

Marketing of Reno County - urban/rural, small town/large, various job opportunities, different

educational models (2)

Investing enhancing education

Continual funds or place to give money to help families in need and to staff such programs

Continue Rally Reno fund (VOAD) and have periodic days of giving for it or have it be a funded agency

Utility assistance (1)

Provide emergency assistance for individuals (plumbing, car repair, home repair)

More safe, clean, and affordable housing options

Raise minimum wage

Eliminate food tax

Neighboring movement

Diverse realtors

Economic development south of Main St – incentives for business to move into empty buildings

Business opportunities

Job training programs for displaced workers (3)

Additional Childcare coverage resources

Free childcare in conjunction with early learning centers (1)

Encourage young self-starters moving and living in our community Medicaid for all

Pool of funds for existing businesses for specific needs (4)

Funds for existing businesses, not just for new ones

A common vision

Less restrictions and smaller grants for homeowners to do home improvements (HAVC, etc.) (1)

Workforce

Growth in industry

Support small businesses start up and effective communication on how to get it

Bigger incentives and less restrictions for new businesses

More retail stores

Living wage jobs or higher pay

Small business grants to hotels and other small businesses that lost significant amount of \$ due to

COVID (14)

Basic amenities throughout

The hospitality industry was most hit due to lack of travel Staff- biggest challenge for our hospitality industry

Small loans – loans did help for a few months but did not last long enough Needs – business: jobs, good paying jobs, training

Increase in travel to Hutchinson (generate overnight stays/restaurant/retail)

Small business needs to survive

Bring new business to Hutchinson (corporate, industrial, medicine, etc.)

Designate money to advertise Hutchinson for leisure travel and/or bringing corporate travelers to Hutchinson

Biggest challenge for our hospitality industry is to keep our doors open – more funds would definitely help business survive.

Excite new business to Hutchinson, retail/industrial, grants, incentives, etc. (1)

Designate funds for more retail, attractions, etc. that will draw people to relocate to Hutchinson

Opportunity

Funding resources to endure another major health event

Affordable Senior Housing (1)

Help struggling working families and small businesses (1)

Public health response

Economic development south of 14th

Small business support

Workforce development

Raise the average wages in Reno County through business expansion and encouraging ed to fill these jobs

Workforce availability and training – all of my issues were ultimately tied to this issue. We must be able to attract workers to our area. People are attracted to communities that have high paying jobs, safe neighborhoods, housing, good education, and services available. Childcare and housing seem like a very good place to start (1)

Childcare – solution – raise \$2,000 - \$4,000 per year collectively to create the best childcare community around (2)

High quality childcare (10)

Use funds to raise the bar, wages, and quality of our daycare

Create system/network of childcare centers that allow for better wages and lower cost to consumer, create quality of life

Childcare – solve for lifestyle to attract younger talent

Subsidize to create uniform centers with quality care

Child care

Child care

COVID shut down daycares so Grandma and I had to babysit kids and they used our internet

Provide more childcare

Small town businesses going and profitable

Task force for prompting new businesses

Low rate loans to establish new businesses (legitimate)

Free space and services for them

School system strong

More industry

Jobs that pay well

Jobs/work ethic

Stop paying for people to stay home instead of working

Schools – overhaul education

Workforce motivation

Employment, economic stability (2)

Premium Pay for Essential Workers

Health care workers

Childcare availability and funding

Childcare more availability funds for grants to low income or long term lost job persons obtain

gainful employment

Buy vacant buildings, hire state licensed daycare providers and provide low income or income-based facilities with more than 8-5 hours (3)

Employment retention – less funds for unemployed more funds for raising starting pay at businesses

Subsidize childcare wages and benefits (4)

Pay the health care workers more (1)

Give slight monthly bonuses to the people in the community

Jobs

Jobs/payment (1)

Entrance level nursing field incentives (4)

Help organize and implement childcare - aggressive help licensing and training (2)

Bonus pay (1)

Hiring incentives for small businesses (1)

Delivery services (postal)

Church – belief support

Put people back to work

Shipping services

Shipping services

Jobs (1)

Doctors

Support essential workers (2)

Workforce

Teachers, Daycare providers need to be incentivized (anyone who is in charge of enriching kids)(6)

Childcare

Childcare

Food

Food

Need more high paying jobs (3)

Employment with wages able to cover the basics (rent, utilities, food, medicine, transportation)

Lower cost/free before and after school care for County schools

Education Community outreach

Expand daycare – in home daycares partner with small local businesses to provide services (2)

Access to affordable childcare

Childcare

Childcare

Access to Childcare

Childcare

Livable wages Jobs Affordable Childcare

BGC Grant to expand services to younger children

Business must step up to be invested in childcare (several together) (2)

Good paying jobs (1)

Better affordable childcare (2)

Employment wages

Public education

Increased workforce for both essential and non-essential businesses Access to affordable childcare

Minimum wage that folks can live on

Livable minimum wages

Childcare providers

Jobs with livable incomes

Wages increased

Bonus to those that worked through the whole pandemic (income guidelines same as stimulus)

Childcare subsidy for everyone who needs it

Educational improvement for service/health care/front line staff Employee benefits match childcare dollars

Signing bonus to move to and work in Reno County (if you stay in the workforce for x # years)

College scholarships to training – needs in the community

HS Scholarships for general/CC

Childcare

Affordable accessible childcare

Childcare

Workforce shortage

Education support (i.e., wages, support flexibility)

Bonus to move and work in Reno County (4)

Retrain, job training, skills to jobs (4)

College scholarship must be general (7)

Infusing childcare with lost income while families were at home (1)

Fund vouchers for families to access childcare when their childcare providers are sick to find temporary resources that are out of reach (2)

Extend Families First Coronavirus Act – make it permanent and awareness/marketing of the act

Organized effort to partner families with those staying home – seed money for childcare co-ops (3)

Essential workers with no childcare

Affordable, dependable childcare options Daycare

Alternatives to the “traditional” school format

Childcare

Access to quality education – not Zoom but interactions Increased wages for Childcare providers

Pay childcare providers like they are early childhood educators and give them benefits (7)

Onsite health care

Help offset increased wages to attract more quality workers

Childcare at flexible rates to accommodate all

More available transportation options

Strong daycare and adolescent activities

Employment wages

Increased workforce for both essential/non-essential businesses

Public education

Employee benefit match for childcare dollars

Signing bonus to move to and work in Reno County (4)

College scholarships to train and fill needs in community and college scholarships (7)

Enough affordable and quality childcare (2)

Begin now to engage business in the issue of creating a better childcare system

Childcare to draw and keep young families

System of small groups or bubbles to support families of school-aged young children.

School leadership helps families with buildings organize into study/childcare support systems

Government to partner with business to provide childcare (1)

More police force safety needs

Childcare

Childcare subsidies and larger businesses have on site (2)

Middle class jobs incentives for industry and manufacturing to locate here (1)

Middle class jobs needed

School support – emergency funds and plans

Offer reduced tuition for police academy

Affordable Childcare

Childcare

Childcare

Childcare – consider childcare “essential” and increase pay and living wage (1)

Childcare – provide free, quality training to increase number of qualified childcare workers (2)

Lots of fancy childcare centers. Teachers are waiting in line to get this great job. Tons of training to support mind, body, and soul (1)

Childcare – incentivize business with X employees to provide childcare as an employee benefit (2)

Hire staff to live at residence so no outside cases come through long-term care homes

Community gardens/meeting places, grow food

Pay bonuses to health care workers (1)

Increase base and incremental pay for essential workers (public) health, fire, law enforcement (3)

Childcare – incentivize businesses to provide onsite childcare service

Childcare – reduce requirement for use of PTO for childcare if work can be done remotely

Schooling – what can be done do no “gaps” in learning happen

Service personnel pay (law enforcement, fire department, public health) not businesses

Equitable access to affordable childcare

Living wage

Childcare (3)

Childcare workers (1)

Stronger workforce (1)

Childcare

Subsidies for childcare centers, help with start up expenses, avoid the cliff with continued childcare assistance

Adequate affordable day care

Pay and educate staff

Pay a living wage not minimum wage

Help businesses to provide a pay increase for employees to make a living wage

\$14-15 per hour minimum wage, attract more industry (3)

Treat all workers as essential, provide sustainable robust funding for ongoing education opportunity, spread equally among entity and industry (do not simply fund and walk away – but consider the investments that provide generational change)

Childcare

Childcare (2)

Investment in child development (2)

Broadband Infrastructure

Broadband with restriction affordable

Broadband service throughout County

Take bids from multiple companies to increase broadband access (1)

High speed reliable internet for everyone

Basic needs met

Increase infrastructure to create jobs

Internet expansion (2)

Better internet

Web

Internet expansion (2)

Improved internet service

Internet

Broadband expansion

Create line extension vouchers for families without broadband access (3)

Ideatek needs more fiber options (1)

Cox and others expand (1)

Connectivity (4)

Identify areas and build out broadband, internet (affordable) (4)

More broadband options

Access to informationInternet for all

RFP to broadband companies to address rural areasBroadband as a utility (13)

Adopt new technologyEntertainment Community Wi-Fi

Partner with IdeaTek, foster relationships to have community Wi-Fi or utility vs open marketInternet availability for students (education)

Create free city/County wide Wi-Fi for internet access (1)

Fund an internet connection for all Reno County with incentives to provide low-cost internet for all (1)

Broadband expansion

Grants for private ISP expansion

Local government buys infrastructure from ISPs to kickstart rural broadband (1)

Technology infrastructure

IT infrastructure

IS/IT infrastructure – build it, enhance it, leverage – make it a remote workplace cornerstone

Universal broadband access

Broadband infrastructure

Create pool of funds for local telecom business to build out infrastructure to support reliable speeds that enable remote learning and work

Set up revolving loan fund with a forgiveness component based on number of underrepresented homes that now have reliable internet (2)

Technology

Lack of broadband access and social service

Internet as a public utility, free Wi-Fi for everyone (8)

Incentivize collaboration between broadband providers and electric companies to speed up internet implementation

Low cost, readily available internet High speed internet

Affordable reliable internet service throughout the entire County Quality connections – broadband, neighborhoods, families, workplaces

Free Wi-Fi everywhere in Reno County

Internet access to every home in Reno County

Internet access – especially to rural areas Fast, reliable internet at reasonable pricing

Broadband in the community

Technology in schools

Eliminate the digital divide – internet and technology for everyone

Affordable available broadband (internet)

More options for residents to access technology, including expanded broadband

Technology infrastructure – IT infrastructure

Create a pool of funds for local telecom business to build out infrastructure to support reliable speeds to the masses to enable remote learning and work

Universal broadband access

Set up a revolving loan fund with forgiveness component for under-represented homes that need reliable internet (2)

Create Countywide free Wi-Fi (3)

Government pays the build out costs or portions to provide IDEATEK services everywhere in Reno County (7)

Community Wi-Fi (1)

Computing device and internet access in every home Free internet to lower and rural homes (1)

Broadband for all in Reno County (5)

Broadband access for all of Reno County in partner WIFI with Ideatec for construction cost (4)

Robust IT/broad band infrastructure

Access to internet information Broadband access to education

Provide fiber to all Reno County Schools (4)

Everyone would have affordable internet access (1)

Equitable and affordable access to broadband, especially to all schools

Build fiber and infrastructure throughout Hutchinson (1)

Broadband

Broadband senior plan, better service and lower costs, one price for all, not pick and choose services (1)

Broadband

Broadband to every home

WiFi free for everyone in Reno County

Implement equity-based infrastructure for internet services around entire County

Expand broadband coverage to include all citizens

Getting internet out in rural areas this seems so important at this time

Broadband for everyone

Engage broadband providers to provide cable to all residents, or petition the state to require they meet their obligations (6)

IdeaTeck to reevaluate service to rural homes

Broadband services to the rural families those outside of town

Better internet and cell services

Equity-Focused Services

More access to outdoor recreation

Build better shelters in parks (1)

Childcare

Better housing

Support for Pre-K and Childcare

Higher quality childcare

Provide funds for additional day care

Sustainable, high-quality childcare

More and better housing

Affordable rentable homes (nice)

Pay for schools to pay student tutors

Funding schools (2)

Affordable housing with reliable landlords who care for their tenants

Increase childcare capacity and improved training and pay for childcare providers

Additional childcare options – school provided?

Incentives for childcare providers (3)

Affordable housing and living expenses, including childcare (1)

Incentives through employers for child credit (3)

Need: Childcare; high school tract for earning CDA and using ARP funds to increase pay and/or provide financial support to childcare facilities and daycare homes including possible benefits and quality professional development, subsidies for families to afford childcare (2)

Invest in a new childcare facility in each community (1)

Provide streamlined support to create childcare providers

Offer PD and incentives for childcare directors/workers to fill facilities (1)

Reduce costs for families/tax credits?

Utilities Affordable housing

Housing

Rent (1)

Affordable housing

Affordable housing (2)

Grants on houses to bring them up to code (4)

Affordable housing – prices on rent are expensive

Housing that is affordable and safe

Affordable and decent housing

Safe, affordable, sustainable housing (1)

Services for economically depressed, homeless (1)

Tired of food waste

Housing

Great housing (1)

Housing

New beginning to help with housing

Housing for homeless people (1)

Shelters for the homeless

Jobs

Affordable daycare facilities Food, shelter, necessities

Feed homeless (1)

Adequate food for homeless or disadvantaged (1)

Community support for feeding the hungry

Grants for housing improvements in targeted areas (2)

If I were a business investing in a community, I would look at the entire community.

How well does the city take care of or are concerned about poor neighborhoods, streets, lights?

Visit neighborhoods and businesses and inquire about needs for that area

Tenant issues – not able to pay rent, no program then, there is now

Grants for investment/incentives to developers to build affordable homes based on housing needs assessment (7)

Money could be used for infrastructure costs or other costs that enable the costs of home to be affordable

More affordable house/housing assistance

Revitalize empty buildings

No one would be homeless

Affordable housing

Increase funding for homeless services

Housing

Turn vacant buildings into housing Affordable quality housing

Childcare

Childcare shortage

Economic incentives to either scrape and build or rehab/renovate existing properties to create affordable/accessible housing and improve neighborhoods (like community reinvestment act) (2)

Childcare access – expand to price it right, use it as an economic development engine

Childcare available - Stress removal from young families to allow workforce continuity

Realizing broadband and healthcare access needs to be equitable

Equitable access to community services and opportunities

Access to affordable health care

Living wages and health care

Clinic in school system (5)

Safe and affordable housing both in Hutch and rural areas

Transportation access to meet needs but RCAT utilization?

Childcare facilities

Education leading to job opportunities

Create well equipped and suitable space to conduct legal proceedings (1)

Incentives for local businesses to hire local employees and local people to work for local businesses (3)

Provide continued legal services

County owned facility workers provide County/state benefits and childcare (4)

Long term daycare pay for daycare workers

Affordable housing raising pay schedules

Available, affordable childcare

Childcare availability and support for sustainability of existing/struggling centers Incentive

employees to work locally – employees who stay here work world-wide

Affordable childcare

Affordable housing

Better management and oversight of existing resources (9)

Available food sources of food for all socio-economic groups Education assistance for students in need of supplies, tuition (2)

Needs assessment for educational resources – provide method for receiving assistance, determine criteria

Community buy-in on how to move forward in an appositive way

Support back to faith organizations that support the community in time of need

Childcare

Remove/subsidize sales tax on food and essential items

Train decision makers to put on “equity glasses” on when making decisions

Train decision makers and city staff and make a requirement on voting/recommendations to show how it will impact marginalized communities (1)

Quality housing options

Government to offer housing incentives for families to move to Reno County

Putting people of color in leadership roles

Funding campaigns of people who lack connections to large amounts of resources (3)

Funding plan to address health care needs of rural communities with EMS infrastructure and remote health services

Economic development to attract employers Economic and business development

Affordable public transportation 24/7

EMS infrastructure to support future needs and serve rural communities (2)

For the South part of the city provides economic development, removes divisional disparities (economic and educational)

Tiny homes – incentivize, city zoning/planning (reduce) simplify (2)

Incentives to relocate/rehab downtown, south end of town, certain neighborhoods

Tax rebates for buildings

Eliminate specials (1)

Rental home properties – affordable and livable (1)

Raise teacher pay scales to fit cost of living (5)

More activities for kids – parks, affordable activities – get them off screen

Incentives for fixing up/maintaining beautifying property (don't raise taxes, give rebate/credit instead) (positive v. negative, rewards v. punishment) (2)

Rent help for low-income households

Lower rent for nice places

Getting food and support to the vulnerable includes personal contact

Organization: to fix houses, paint, repairs, replace, haul off junk (1)

Help with rent (1)

Renovate housing needs (close down slum lords) (2)

Combining of nonprofits

Adequate housing

Reduce substance abuse

Affordable childcareDay Care

Affordable Housing

Childcare – quality, affordable, subsidized

Housing – funds to address aging housing in most of Hutchinson

More access to childcare

Better and more affordable housing

Improve public transportation – elderly, more accessible

Living wage (3)

Qualified Workforce (3)

Bus service (3)

Income based quality childcare (3)

Housing/Renters – poor renters, unaffordable prices, no oversight (1)

City gets money dedicated to sidewalk repair

Resources = money to pay contractors via nonprofit

Quality affordable housing (2)

Funding opportunities for Big Emergency type repairs – roods, heating, foundation, sewer, air (3)

Safe affordable housing

Housing repairs (3)

Infrastructure updates

Improved housing stock (1)

Affordable housing and rental standards required by state of Kansas not lower

Less restrictive funding to address senior and low-income housing repairs and major items systems
(1)

Strengthen relationship with city – support organization

More time and energy to build the relationship, shared development costs

Housing

Housing – making necessary home repairs for those who cannot by providing money

Help people with home revitalization costs (1)

Housing

Education (promotion of available programs) (2)

Housing (1)

Housing – needed to house additional workforce (1)

More/better rental property (1)

Broadband and internet

Dollar type store (8)

Availability of food

Need a dollar store set between highways to provide groceries without driving to Hutchinson

Grocery store, more businesses and law enforcement officers, more jobs as well as people to work

Healthy food access

Promote and support local food production, distribution, mentorship, loans

Change institutional menus to be healthier, school breakfast and lunches

Need to improve, look at, childhood health data compared to what we know about nutrition

COVID-19 caused a big dip in quality of an already strained system

Remove sales tax for healthy foods or at least groceries to ease burden

Other Possibilities

Church

More supply chain for local goods

Supply chain

Roads (6)

Fix the roads to Habit (3)

Fix roads (1)

Food service

Pay to repair roads

Road maintenance (1)

Roads/infrastructure

Roads

Unified vision from leaders

Enhance support of law enforcement (3)

Move to robust business economy - stop increasing dependency on government hiring incentives (2)

Solar panels on city hall; earmark savings for social services (5)

Make outdoor spaces more user friendly by building open area structures, fund some of ParkMaster

Plan, quality of life (2)

Willing workers and volunteers

Animal food

Personal items

Lower taxes

Job training

Provide job training

More youth things to do (2)

Senior center improvement (1)

Expand senior center services (3)
Honesty with the community (2)
Activities that promote community
Recreational opportunities (2)
More safe places for children to learn and play that's educational and fun, free or affordable
Create incentives for industry to come to Hutch and create jobs
Better local news media
Grants for local media (1)
Connection and community
Develop a tangible quantifiable result to money spent
More diverse leadership/Elected officials
Strong partnerships across the community
Get the right people on the bus
Collaborations amongst all sectors to produce change
Educate all youth
Social events that bring the community together
Create and plan public celebrations and events
Community engagement
Thriving arts/culture opportunities
Strong sensible leadership
Communication network – how to communicate opportunities and local resources with limited local print news coverage
Clearer vision and reality of the community rising (or falling) together. This includes for and non-profit work
Quality of life services – outdoor activities such as better, more interconnected bike/walking trails
Delivery services for daily services: groceries, prescription, more free/affordable options
Workforce development
Employment training incentives for people wanting to re-enter the workforce
Work force development

Housing - continue growth in proactive readiness instead of reactive

Build a community endowment to sustain wages for highly skilled passionate childcare professionals

Use existing vacant sites to create access to childcare

Do not let Hutch Foundation or Reno County Chamber dictate the use of funds (4)

Give it back (1)

Give it back to Feds

Support small businesses, loans or preferably grants to small businesses who were shut down (1)

Need a housing development to add more homes to Arlington to bring in quality families (last new home was built in 2007) (1)

Kids – activities to keep families in Community, Arlington

Encourage more businesses in Arlington

Building of additional homes, housing development

Housing available in Arlington and other rural communities

More housing (Arlington and other rural communities)

KERA (let us do this locally)

Working together for the greater good

Subsidize childcare employees, employee benefit match for employees who would have an employee benefit for child are dollars (12)

Work force development – soft skill training, pipeline from employees to education funding (10)

Hope

Address crime

Economic development south of Main Street

Repair old buildings

Encourage new businesses

Create a place where the hopeless can find hope

Revitalization of S. Main Street

A mechanism for the voiceless to be heard

Build skills to heal division

Space to teach how to live peaceably with people you think are from another planet (2)

Renewable Energy

Growth in agricultureHealth care workers

Recruitment and retention of healthcare workers

More family doctors

Increased access to free, fun, activities, ie parks, trails

Welcoming

Continuous Park development

Better access to trail system

Elect the mayor

Quality of life

Physical and mental health Lower taxes on small businesses

Better property tax assessment formula

Small business support

More quality of life opportunities – parks, trails, healthy living events

People willing and qualified to work

Retail businesses (Target)

More business opportunities (1)

Quality of life

Access to cheap and healthy foods

Ongoing budget specific to quality of life (parks, trails, recreation) maintain and sustain (9)

River access (3)

Follow the existing parks and rec Master Plan that we have (8)

Give the Chamber of Commerce more money to entice businesses to come here

Need more technical training at Hutchinson Community College

Need vibrant childcare initiative

Jobs

Living wage for all workers

Industrial park “new” with utilities on site

Industrial park land (1)

Open more restaurants and Sundays (1)

Use funds to purchase land for industrial park, bring utilities to site as well (2)

Build a building (2)

City Building (1)

Build a city building for city of the Highlands (3)

Meeting place

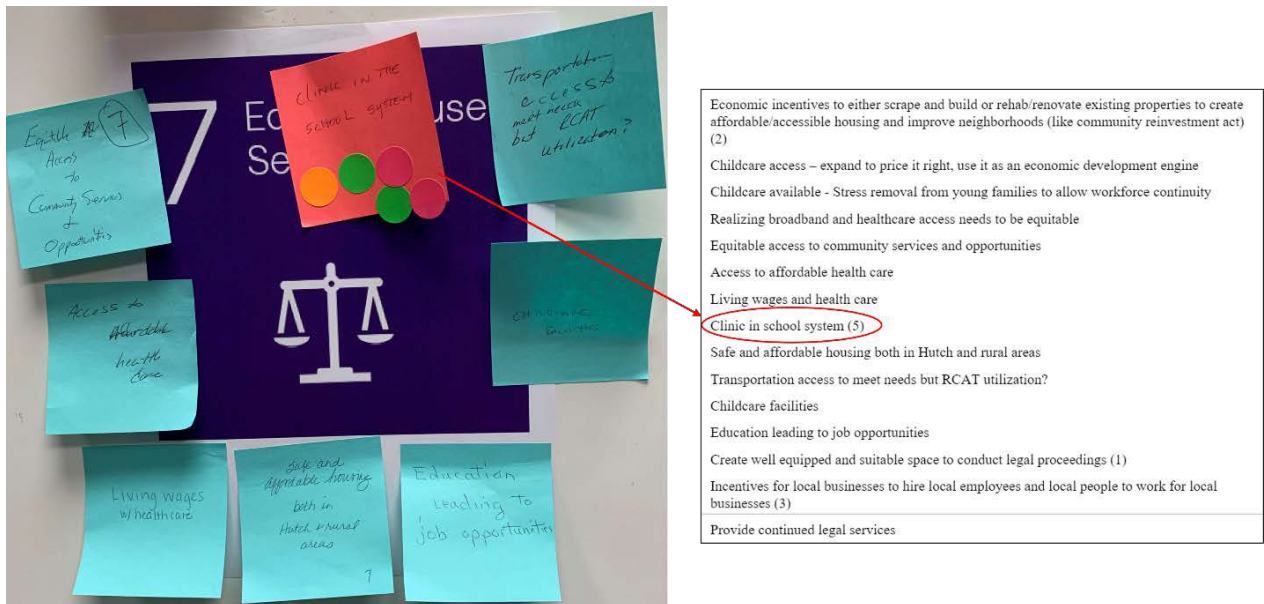
Appendix F Methods

Data Collection

Participant feedback and discussion was collected in the form of flip charts, sticky notes, whiteboards, and sticker dots. Photos were captured of completed flip charts at the end of each facilitated session.

Data Analysis

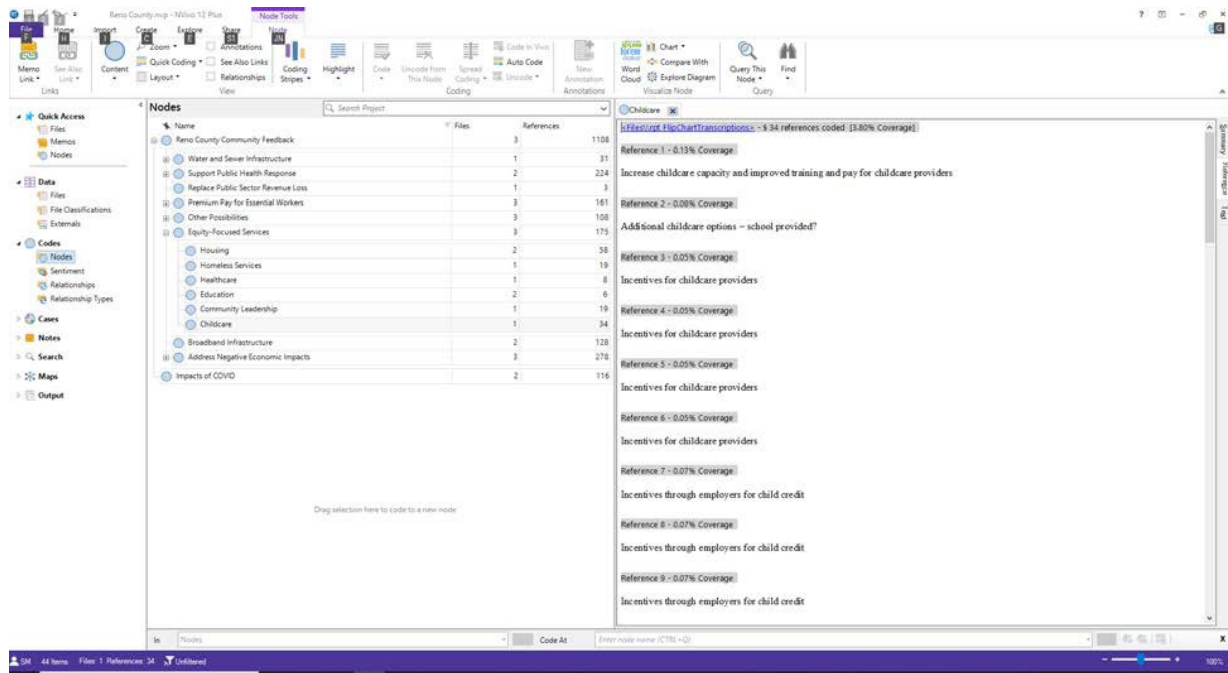
All handwritten notes captured on sticky notes and flipcharts during the facilitations were transcribed into a Word document. If participants added sticker dots indicating concurrence with an idea, the number of dots was indicated on the transcription in parentheses.



All electronic forms of data were organized in NVivo, a qualitative analysis software tool, to facilitate coding and analysis (Version 12, QSR International, 2018). All feedback was first organized into the categories used to facilitate community conversations:

1. Support Public Health Response
2. Address Negative Economic Impacts
3. Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss
4. Water and Sewer Infrastructure
5. Broadband Infrastructure
6. Premium Pay for Essential Workers
7. Equity-Focused Services
8. Other Possibilities

Next, each line of feedback was coded based on common emerging themes such as Childcare, Housing, and Education. Feedback receiving votes of concurrence with sticky dots were coded multiple times to reflect the number of sticker dots. For example, in the figure below, “Incentives for Childcare” was coded four times, once for the original comment and three additional times to reflect three sticker dots added by other participants.



Appendix G List of Participating Groups

Name of Group	Date	Location
Hutchinson Housing Commission	Aug. 25	United Way of Reno County
NAACP Hutchinson	Sep. 2	Hutch CC Parker Student Union: Nunamaker Room
Friends of Laura Meyer Dick	Sep. 9	Prairie Dunes Country Club
50 Plus Adults	Sep. 9	400 East Ave E, Hutchinson KS
StartUp Hutch Board of Directors	Sep. 14	Adams Brown Suite C
Hutch Chamber Board	Sep. 14	Hutch Chamber
Jacquelyn Johnston's Group	Sep. 21	PrairieStar Health Center Auditorium
Reno County Pastor Group	Sep. 21	Virtual via Zoom
Prairie Land Realtors	Sep. 21	Prairie Land Realtors Office
Boys & Girls Clubs of Hutchinson	Sep. 21	Shaddock Park
City of Willowbrook & New Industrial Park	Sep. 22	BOLD LLC
Haven Area Residents	Sep. 22	Haven Community Building
Vitality Team/Active Transportation	Sep. 22	Hutch Rec Downtown
Featured Neighborhood Residents	Sep. 23	Hutchinson Public Library Auditorium
Hutch ARPA Community Engagement	Sep. 23	The Alley
Reno County Educational Leaders	Sep. 24	Hutchinson High School PLC
Listening Lab: Non-profits Connect	Sep. 24	Virtual Via Zoom
Jon Richardson for City Council	Sep. 27	Salt City Brewery Mezzanine

Healthcare Leadership Team	Sep. 27	Hutchinson Regional Medical Center
School District 310 Area Residents	Sep. 28	Arlington Community Center
Chamber Ambassadors	Sep. 28	Hutchinson Community Foundation Collab. Corner
Partridge Area Citizens	Sep. 28	Partridge Community Church
Greg Fast for City Council SW District	Sep. 28	Lit Studios
USD 308 Admin Cabinet	Sep. 28	USD 308 Admin Center
Pretty Prairie Citizens	Sep. 29	Pretty Prairie Steakhouse
Interfaith Housing	Sep. 29	1236 East Ave. A
Circles of Hope Reno County	Sep. 30	Thorne Hall, Trinity United Methodist Church
Hutch CF Board and Committees	Sep. 30	Hutchinson Community Foundation Collab. Corner
Leadership Reno County	Sep. 30	Dillon Nature Center
Paul James Group	Sep. 30	Salvation Army Hutchinson
Visit Hutch Advisory Board	Oct. 1	117 N. Walnut, Hutchinson KS
Southwest Bricktown District	Oct. 3	Hutchinson Community Foundation Collab. Corner
SW/SE Hutchinson	Oct. 4	Anchor Inn
Hutchinson Rotary Club	Oct. 4	Hutch Rec Downtown
Greater Hutch Economic Development Advisory Council	Oct. 6	Fee Insurance
Rural Water District #3	Oct. 12	Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center
The Highlands Community	Oct. 12	Hutchinson Community Foundation
The Father's House	Oct. 13	The Father's House

Nickerson Community	Oct. 13	Nickerson Community Center
Reno County Head Start	Oct. 14	Head Start Shirlie J Hutcherson Center
Buhler Community	Oct. 14	Buhler Public Library Meeting Room
Hutchinson NAACP Youth	Oct. 14	Living Hope FWB Church
Public meeting 1	Oct. 20	Cosmosphere
Public meeting 2	Oct. 21	Cosmosphere

Appendix H Summary of Priorities by Meeting

Name of Group	Date	Location	Priority Issue
Hutchinson Housing Commission	Aug. 25	Hutchinson City Hall	Childcare <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Advocacy • Investment in child development
NAACP Hutchinson	Sep. 2	Hutch CC Parker Student Union: Nunamaker Room	Broadband <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government pay the buildout costs of a percentage of IT to provide Ideatek services everywhere in Reno County, payback will be monthly payment for services; jobs increase internet use • County wide free wifi
Friends of Laura Meyer Dick	Sep. 9	Prairie Dunes Country Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for childcare centers • Support for essential workers • Support for affordable housing
50 Plus Adults	Sep. 9	400 East Ave E, Hutchinson KS	Mental Health and Homeless Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental health support needs • Services including food and shelter for homeless
StartUp Hutch Board of Directors	Sep. 14	Adams Brown Suite C	Business Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools and businesses co-oping on apprenticeships • Workforce development program – apprenticeship/internship with local industries in need • Showcase job opportunities in the community
Hutch Chamber Board	Sep. 14	Hutch Chamber	Workforce Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soft training skills, pipeline from employers to education funding • Employee benefit match for employers who would have an employee benefit for childcare dollars • General college scholarships to train for needs in community

Jacquelyn Johnston's Group	Sep. 21	PrairieStar Health Center Auditorium	Water Infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small communities need help with water/sewer system • Sewer and water infrastructure – get rid of storm water fees
Reno County Pastor Group	Sep. 21	Virtual via Zoom	COVID Mitigation and Government Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral health, and certain health and safety efforts • Use funds to provide government services
Prairie Land Realtors	Sep. 21	Prairie Land Realtors Office	Education and Childcare <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise teachers’ pay scales to fit cost of living • Provide fiber to all Reno County schools • Childcare subsidies for larger businesses to have on site
Boys & Girls Clubs of Hutchinson	Sep. 21	Shaddock Park	Childcare, Building Use, and Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased wages for childcare workers • Make using old buildings affordable • Support for arts and entertainment, more activities for youth and adults
City of Willowbrook & New Industrial Park	Sep. 22	BOLD LLC	Infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use our grant money to solve infrastructure problems • Willowbrook sewer issue and water mitigation
Haven Area Residents	Sep. 22	Haven Community Building	Childcare and Businesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Childcare facility. Building. Hired staff. Low income / lower rates • Incentivize businesses for delivery services
Vitality Team/Active Transportation	Sep. 22	Hutch Rec Downtown	Recreation and Quality of Life <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing budget specific to quality of life (parks, trails, recreation) maintain and sustain • Follow the existing parks and rec Master Plan that we have

Featured Neighborhood Residents	Sep. 23	Hutchinson Public Library Auditorium	Small business support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for local small businesses
Hutch ARPA Community Engagement	Sep. 23	The Alley	Infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I would like to fix the sewer to bring houses out of the flood zone • Spend money on the water utility fees (estimated expense for businesses) to stop the expense • Pay specials and pay for infrastructure for new housing developments • Develop another industrial park with shovel ready sites, no specials, pay for infrastructure
Reno County Educational Leaders	Sep. 24	Hutchinson High School PLC	Childcare <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incentives for providers, incentives through employer for child credit • Need childcare, high school tract for earning CDA and using ARP funds to increase pay and/or provide financial support to childcare facilities and daycare homes including possible benefits
Listening Lab: Non-profits Connect	Sep. 24	Virtual Via Zoom	Mental Health and Homelessness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize flex funds to expand programs for mental health, help with temporary housing for homeless, purchase needed equipment • Develop a program to connect those struggling with mental illness
Jon Richardson for City Council	Sep. 27	Salt City Brewery Mezzanine	Childcare and Businesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Childcare, business grant/loan program with a requirement/tie to supplement daycare costs for employees • Locate local suppliers with minimal investment to fulfill local business needs
Healthcare Leadership Team	Sep. 27	Hutchinson Regional Medical Center	Childcare and Housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable housing and housing for professionals • Affordable childcare access

School District 310 Area Residents	Sep. 28	Arlington Community Center	Emergency Medical Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovation of current EMS building or build a new ambulance building • 4-Wheel drive Ambulance
Chamber Ambassadors	Sep. 28	Hutchinson Community Foundation Collab. Corner	Mental Health and Childcare <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free mental health opportunities through employers via grants • Chamber to allow small businesses to provide health and mental health care for workers • County driven childcare systems
Partridge Area Citizens	Sep. 28	Partridge Community Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadband internet • Childcare/daycare services • Mental health care for front-line workers • Recruiting and retaining qualified workers
Greg Fast for City Council SW District	Sep. 28	Lit Studios	Other possibilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar panels on city hall, earmark savings for social services • Identify areas and build out broadband, internet (affordable) • Daycare providers and teachers need to be incentivized (anyone who is in charge of enriching kids)
USD 308 Admin Cabinet	Sep. 28	USD 308 Admin Center	Housing and Businesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incentives for businesses to come back to Hutch • Build affordable housing and make neighborhoods more appealing • Grants available to improve housing
Pretty Prairie Citizens	Sep. 29	Pretty Prairie Steakhouse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential Employee compensation (city pays employees for lost time) and back pay. • Daycare/community center/Boys and Girls Club. Poll what ages need care; build a building that can be used; provide meals and/or snacks; use state programs if available.

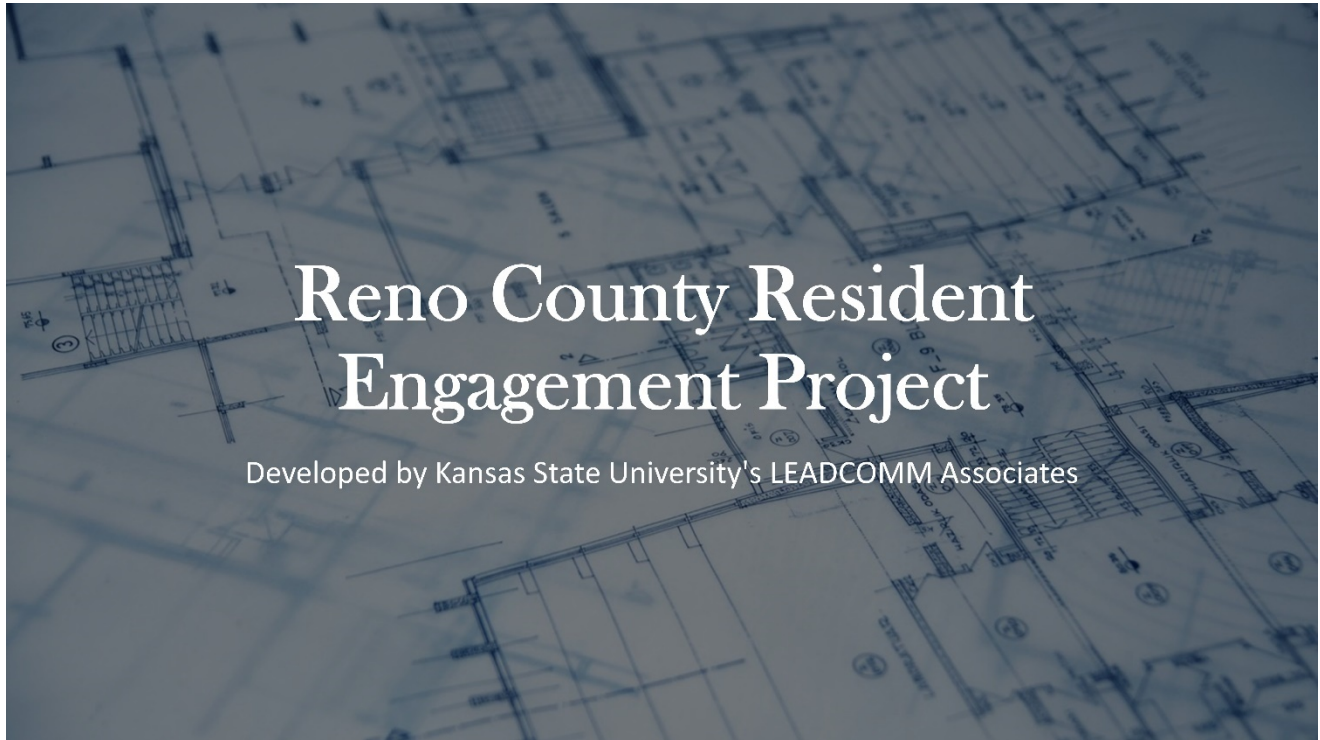
Interfaith Housing	Sep. 29	1236 East Ave. A	<p>Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less restrictive funding to address senior and low-income housing repairs and major items systems • Help people with home revitalization costs
Circles of Hope Reno County	Sep. 30	Thorne Hall, Trinity United Methodist Church	<p>Childcare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buy vacant buildings, hire state licensed daycare providers and provide low income or income based facilities with more than 8-5 hours • Childcare more availability funds for grants to low income or long term lost job persons obtain gainful employment
Hutch CF Board and Committees	Sep. 30	Hutchinson Community Foundation Collab. Corner	<p>Childcare and Broadband</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay childcare providers like they are early childhood educators and give them benefits • Free wifi for everyone
Leadership Reno County	Sep. 30	Dillon Nature Center	<p>Mental Health and Childcare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental health counseling or class for students to assess their emotional resilience after COVID • Offering paid childcare to healthcare workers
Paul James Group	Sep. 30	Salvation Army Hutchinson	<p>Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable housing • Grants on homes to bring them up to code

Visit Hutch Advisory Board	Oct. 1	117 N. Walnut, Hutchinson KS	<p>Impacted Businesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need to address the hospitality industry, which took a substantial economic hit due to decrease in travel throughout all markets. Hotels specifically took a huge financial hit in both leisure and business markets when all travel was banned. Hotels in many markets closed their doors, but through money and perseverance, our Hutchinson hotels remained open. • I firmly believe a portion of monies earmarked for Hutchinson/Reno County should be directly allotted to the hotel industry. Hotels got hit very hard financially and had little or no assistance.
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Southwest Bricktown District	Oct. 3	Hutchinson Community Foundation Collab. Corner	<p>Childcare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More mental health services in our schools • Families struggling with their children wanting to come back to school <p>Workforce Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Businesses that pay a living wage.
SW/SE Hutchinson	Oct. 4	Anchor Inn	<p>Childcare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income based quality childcare • Need vibrant childcare initiative
Hutchinson Rotary Club	Oct. 4	Hutch Rec Downtown	<p>Childcare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsidize childcare wages and benefits
Greater Hutch Economic Development Advisory Council	Oct. 6	Fee Insurance	<p>Childcare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High quality childcare • Childcare – solution – raise \$2,000 - \$4,000 per year collectively to create the best childcare community around
Rural Water District #3	Oct. 12	Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center	<p>Water Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay for maintenance of water tower • Fund providing water line to school
The Highlands Community	Oct. 12	Hutchinson Community Foundation	<p>City Building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build a city building for city of the Highlands
The Father's House	Oct. 13	The Father's House	<p>Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need more affordable housing • Help for landlords to take care of their properties <p>Mental Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residential options for those with mental health issues • Free counseling services
Nickerson Community	Oct. 13	Nickerson Community Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have trusted health officers come to locations such as the community center to help correct misinformation about vaccines and perhaps have a RN offer vaccines at the community center weekly, either before or after the Monday community breakfast. • County wide internet access (satellite?) • Community engagement in multiple formats (Facebook, Newsletter, Information on water bill--QR code)

Reno County Head Start	Oct. 14	Head Start Shirlie J Hutcherson Center	<p>Childcare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanded daycare – In home daycare partner with small local business to provide services • Businesses must step up and be involved in childcare (several together)
Buhler Community	Oct. 14	Buhler Public Library Meeting Room	<p>Water Infrastructure and Public Entities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair worn out/damaged water lines • Update public entities to draw working families, i.e., pool, parks
Hutchinson NAACP Youth	Oct. 14	Living Hope FWB Church	<p>Mental Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For mental health I would use it to give people help to those who would be normally cast aside
Public meeting 1	Oct. 20	Cosmosphere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small business, childcare, essential workers and housing • Grants to support small businesses and hospitality sector • Increased pay for essential workers • Increased pay and training for childcare workers and incentivize employers • Provide assistance for rent and housing renovation
Public meeting 2	Oct. 21	Cosmosphere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for childcare centers. • Telehealth for mental health services that would be free; widespread publicity about services to reduce stigma to get service.

Appendix I Reno County Resident Engagement Project Presentation



Participation



45 ARP
Group
meetings



Over 500
participants
across Reno
County



Generated
over 1100
ideas
across the
8 priority
areas



Coalesced
around 7
key areas
of priority



113
individuals
completed
post
session
survey



Generated a
positive
experience
for
participants

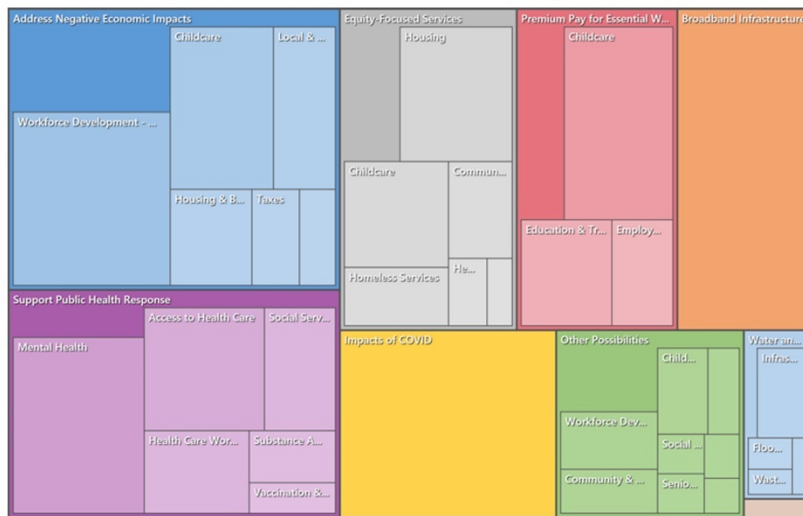
Sample of Groups Participating

**Participants
had broad
reach in the
community**

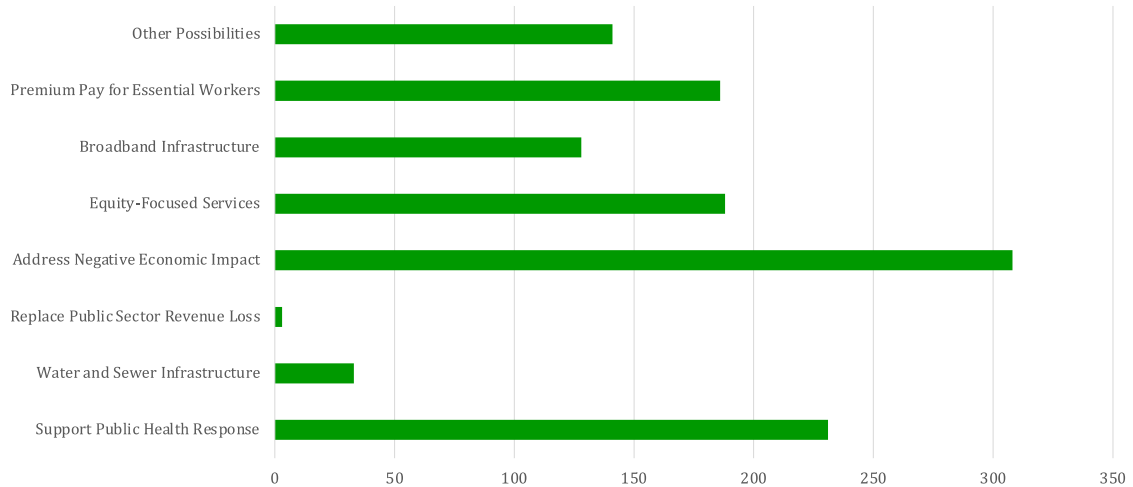
Reno County Pastor Group	Prairie Land Realtors	Healthcare Leadership Teams
Boys & Girls Clubs of Hutchinson	Circles of Hope Reno County	Nonprofits Connect Listening Lab
Pretty Prairie Citizens	SW Bricktown Neighborhood	Nickerson Community
The Father's House	Visit Hutch Advisory Group	Hutchinson NAACP

Complete List in Appendix

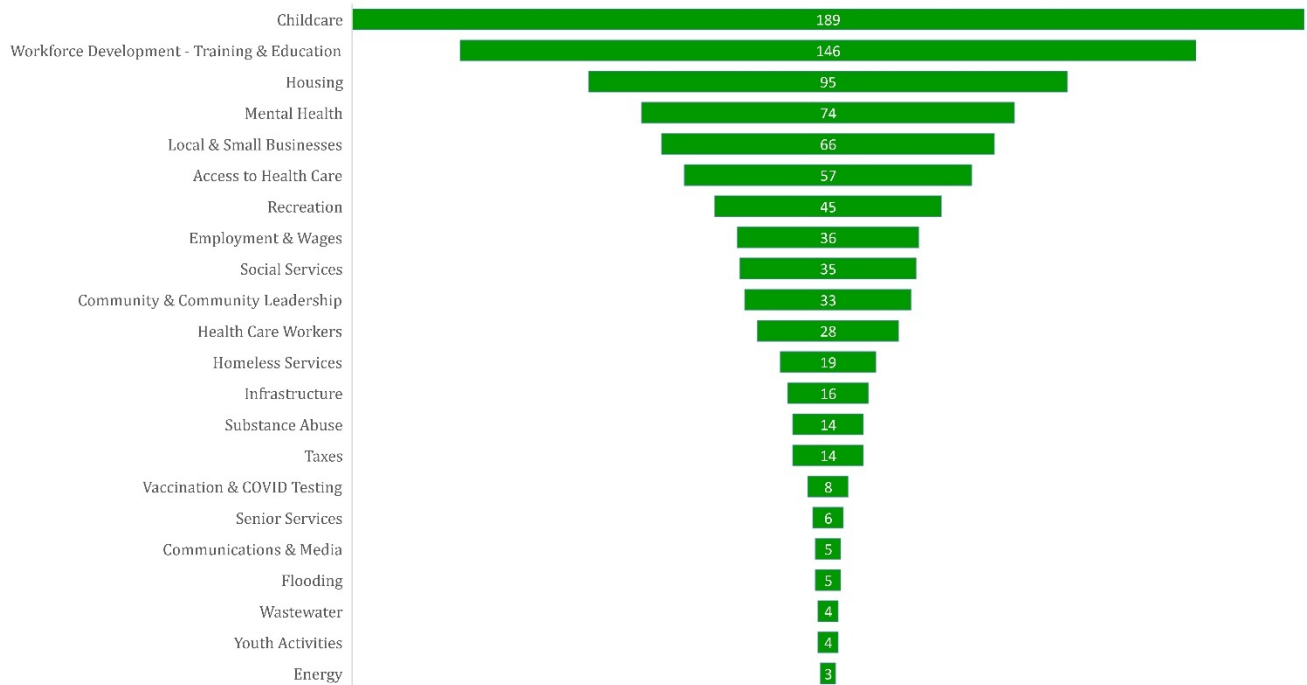
Summary of Resident Ideas by Area



Participants identified over 1,100 ideas across all 8 funding categories



Addressing Childcare and Workforce Development were selected as most important by participants



7 Key Funding Priorities Expressed:

- 1. Expanding Childcare Offerings/Access**
 - Incentives to establish more facilities through local businesses, private centers or community based
 - Supplement salaries to attract workers
 - Financial incentives to cover expenses
- 2. Strengthening Workforce Development Programs**
 - Funding to educate, train and attract/retain talented workers
- 3. Developing More Affordable Housing**
 - Expand affordable housing and/or rehab targeted neighborhoods
- 4. Expanding Mental Health Resources**
 - Expand existing programs and introduce preventative counseling
- 5. Supporting Local and Small Businesses**
 - Address economic issues through grants, incentives, and ideas for attracting visitors to the community
- 6. Expanding Access to Health Care**
 - Expand health care locations and/or mobile services to offer coverage throughout the County and increasing pay for front line healthcare workers.
- 7. Enhancing quality of life through access to recreational activities**
 - Increase river and trail access, park development

Participant Feedback and Review of the Process

Developed by Kansas State University's LEADCOMM Associates

**Solutions to
Childcare was a
consistent theme
across the resident
groups**



Residents’ Feelings about their Community

Residents overwhelmingly expressed the importance of Hutchinson and Reno County as “home”

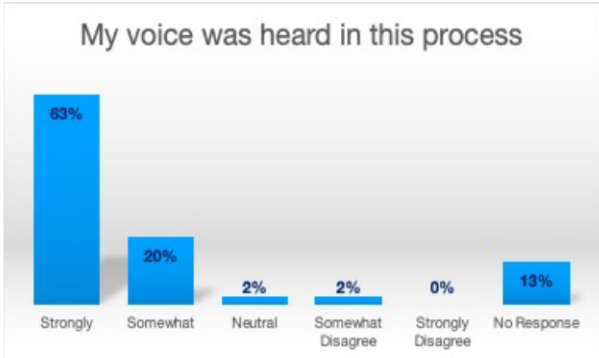
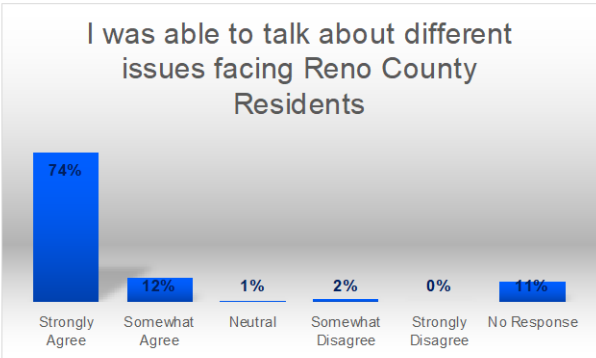
Residents expressed tensions about the community:

1. Change <-> Stability
2. Challenges <-> Opportunities

How did COVID-19 Impact Residents?

- Impact on businesses
 - Uncertainty about what to do
 - Lack of cash reserves
- Childcare issues
 - Lack of in-person schooling created mental health concerns for children
 - Internet/bandwidth issues
 - Technology
- Strain on community resources
 - Church services
 - Medical resources
 - Financial services
 - Businesses

Highly Engaged in the Process

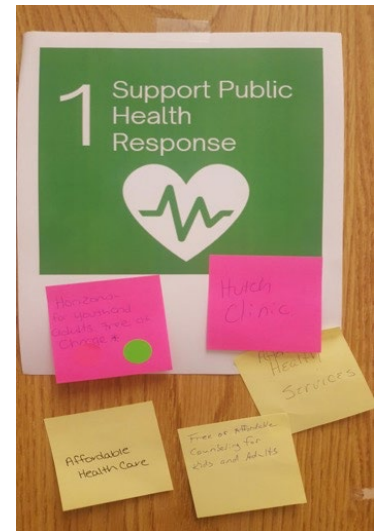
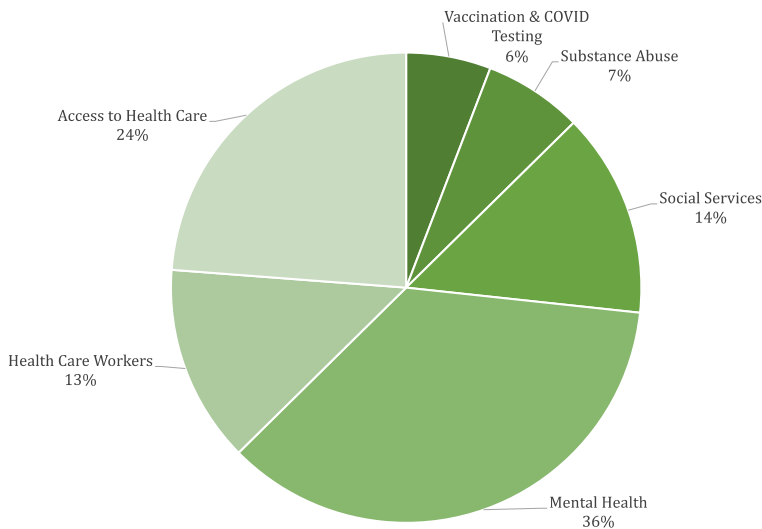


Sample of participants confirms positive experience

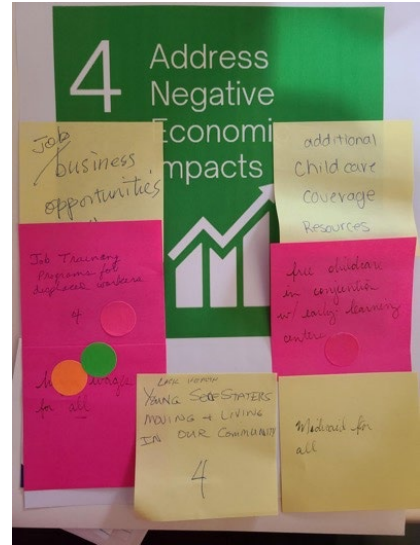
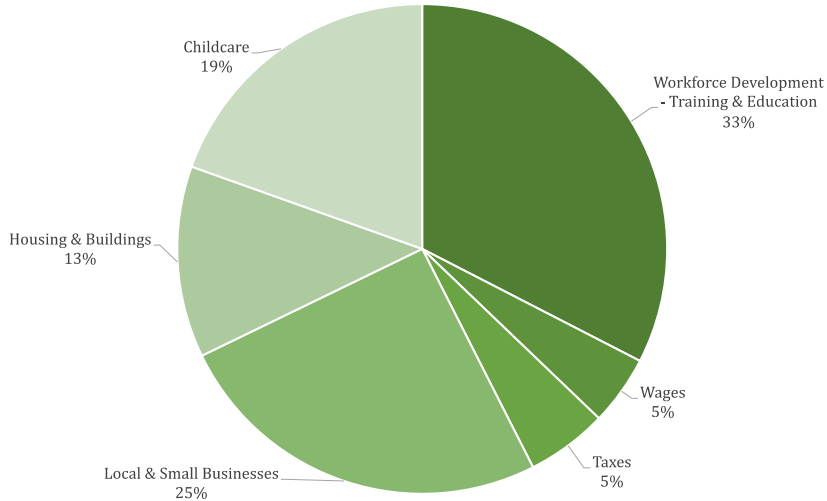
ARP Funding Categories

- Support public health expenditures
 - Funding COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and certain public health and safety staff
- Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency
 - Economic harms to workers, households, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector
- Replace lost public sector revenue
 - Provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic
- Provide premium pay for essential workers
 - Offer additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors
- Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure
 - Make necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and to expand access to broadband internet

Support Public Health

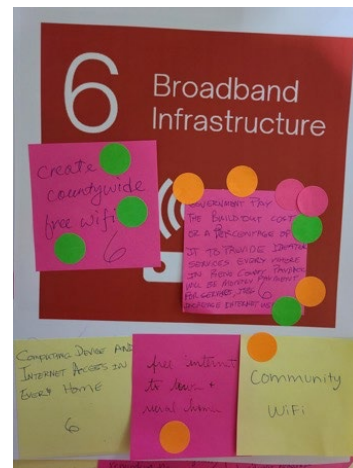


Address Negative Economic Impacts

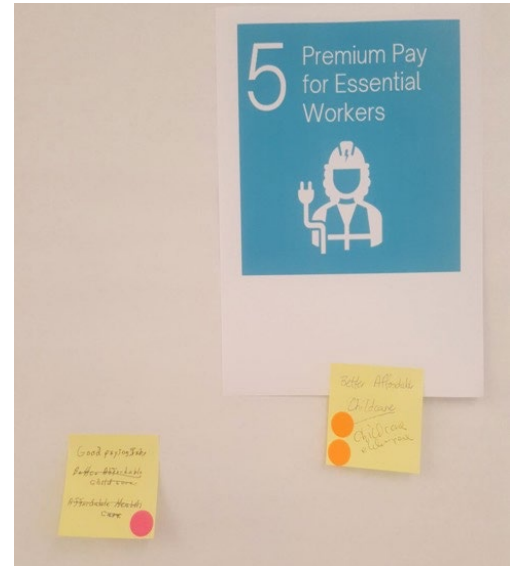
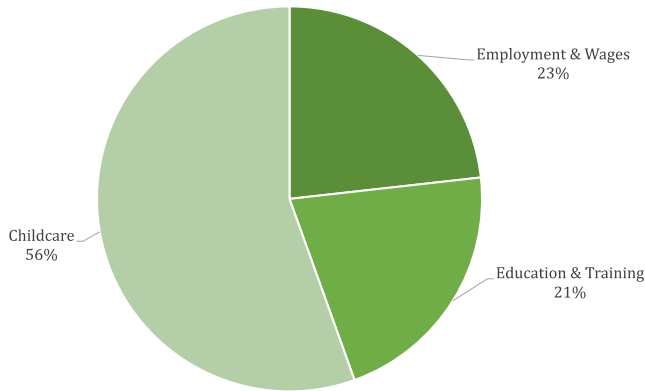


Broadband Infrastructure

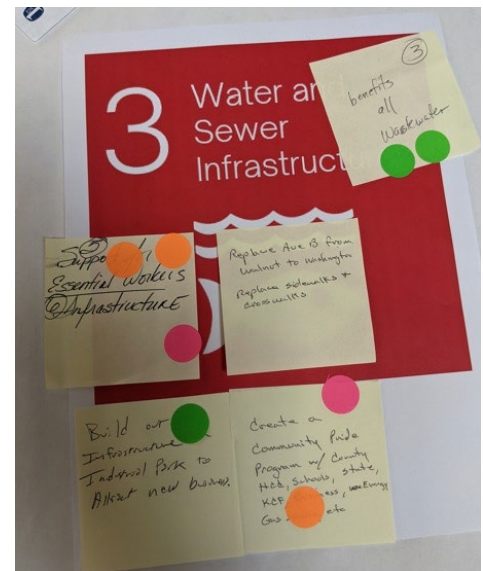
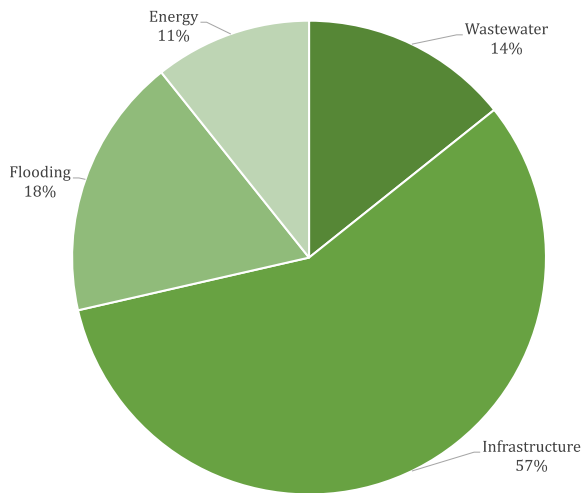
Overall, participants focused on developing broadband infrastructure, generating similar ideas across meetings.



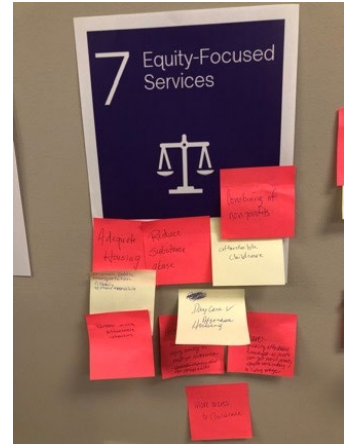
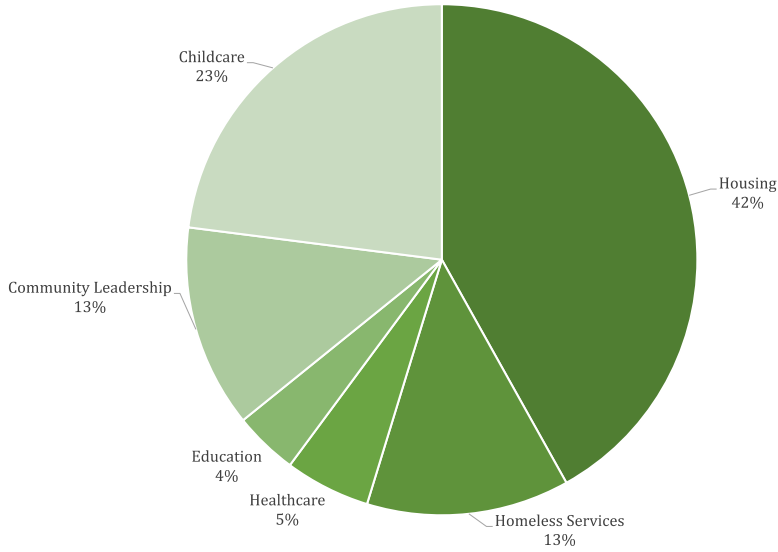
Provide Premium Pay for Essential Workers



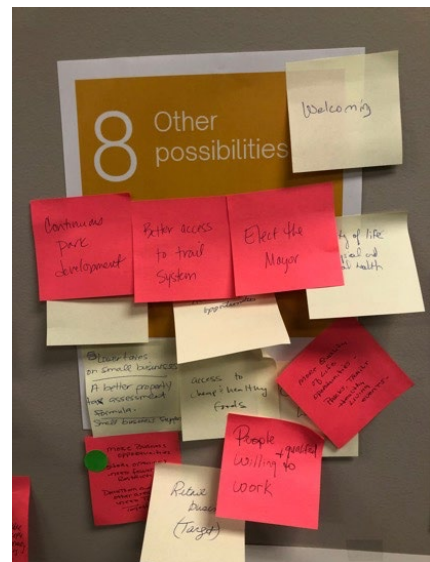
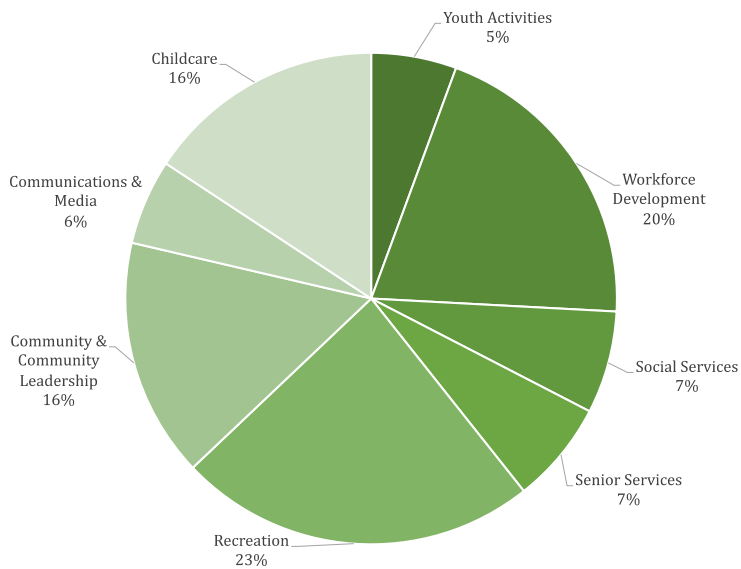
Water and Sewer Infrastructure



Equity-Focused Services



Other Possibilities



What's Next?

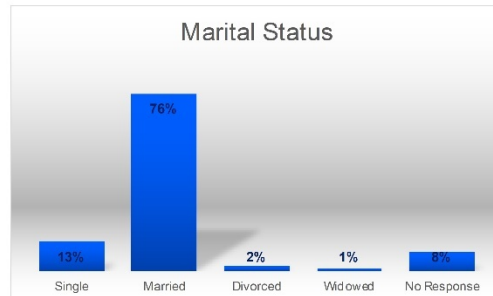
Reno County Task Force:

- Identify a process to share further thoughts?
- Establish a communication plan to share
 - Programs selected for support
 - Progress on implementation
 - Impact on individuals (share community stories)



Supplemental Demographic Information & Participant Experience

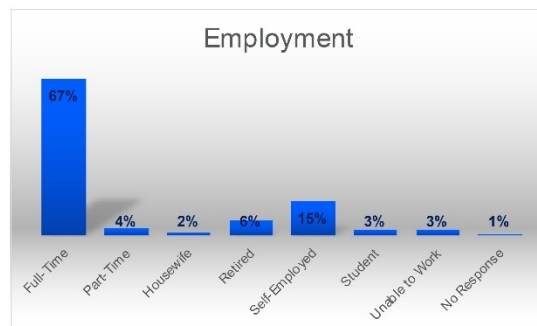
Marital Status of Participants



N= 113

- Most respondents were married

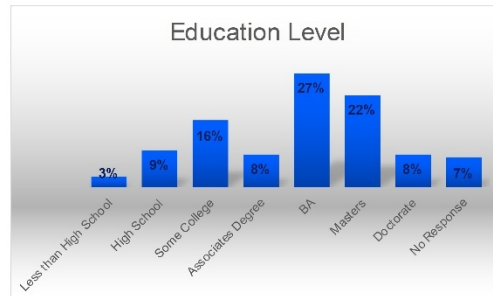
Employment Status of Participants



N= 113

- Heavy skew to full-time employed residents

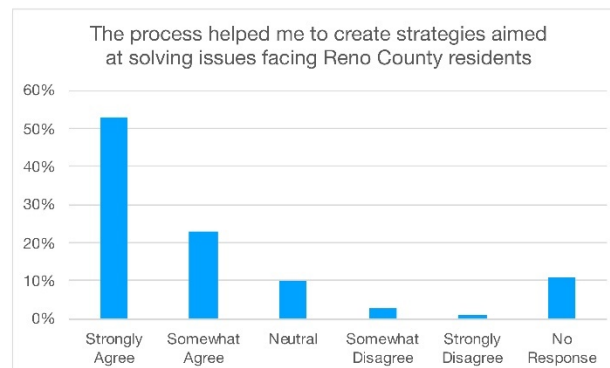
Education Level of Participants



N= 113

- Skew to college educated residents

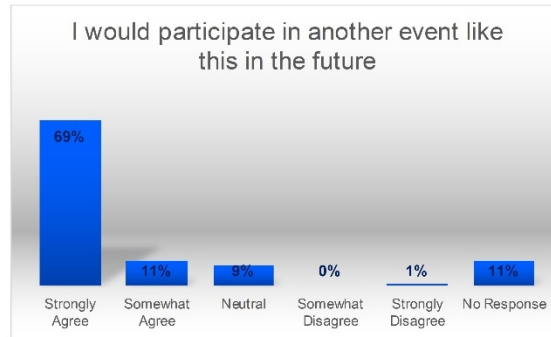
Process Response from Participants



N= 113

- 76% of respondents Strongly/Somewhat Agreed to the success of the process

Future Participation Rate



N= 113

- 80% of respondents would participate again