



FY 2020-21 COVID-19 Fiscal Update, Community Needs, Eviction and Sick Leave Policies

COVID-19 Resource and Community Needs

County Administrator's Office, Department of Health Services, Community Development Commission, Economic Development Board, County Counsel, Office of Equity, Department of Emergency Management

COVID-19 Fiscal Update, Community Needs, Eviction and Sick Leave Policies

Topics and Presenters

1. Legislative Update – Marissa Montenegro
2. Eviction Protections – Elizabeth Coleman
3. Sick Leave Policies – Tambra Curtis
4. COVID Response Update – Barbie Robinson
5. Financial Assistance – Barbie Robinson
6. Rental Assistance – Barbie Robinson
7. Food Program – Nancy Brown
8. Business Programs – Sheba Person-Whitley
9. Community Equity – Alegria De La Cruz
10. Potential Funding Options – Travis Shenk



Federal Legislative Update

- H.R. 133 - Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 - 12/27/2020
 - Eviction Moratorium
 - Sick Leave Policy
 - Economic Stimulus



State Legislative Update

- 2020 Executive Orders and Legislation
 - Evictions
 - Sick Leave
 - Economic Stimulus
- 2021 Introduced Legislation
 - Evictions
 - Sick Leave
 - Economic Stimulus



Eviction Policies

Current Eviction and Renter Protections:

- State-wide protection from eviction for COVID-related nonpayment of rent accrued March 1, 2020-January 31, 2020, if 25% of rent due Sep. 1, 2020 - Jan. 31, 2020 paid by Jan. 31, 2021. Sonoma County residents have through **April 30, 2021** to pay the 25% based on Sonoma County Ordinance.
- State law prohibits County from extending repayment period or otherwise extending or expanding protections effective prior to February 1, 2021.
- Several proposals to extend state tenant protections exist, will be taken up after legislature reconvenes January 11, 2021. If County acts prior to state legislature, unclear to what extent County's action would be preempted.
- Federal eviction moratorium extended through January 31, 2021 via Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act; \$25 Billion allocated for emergency rental assistance.



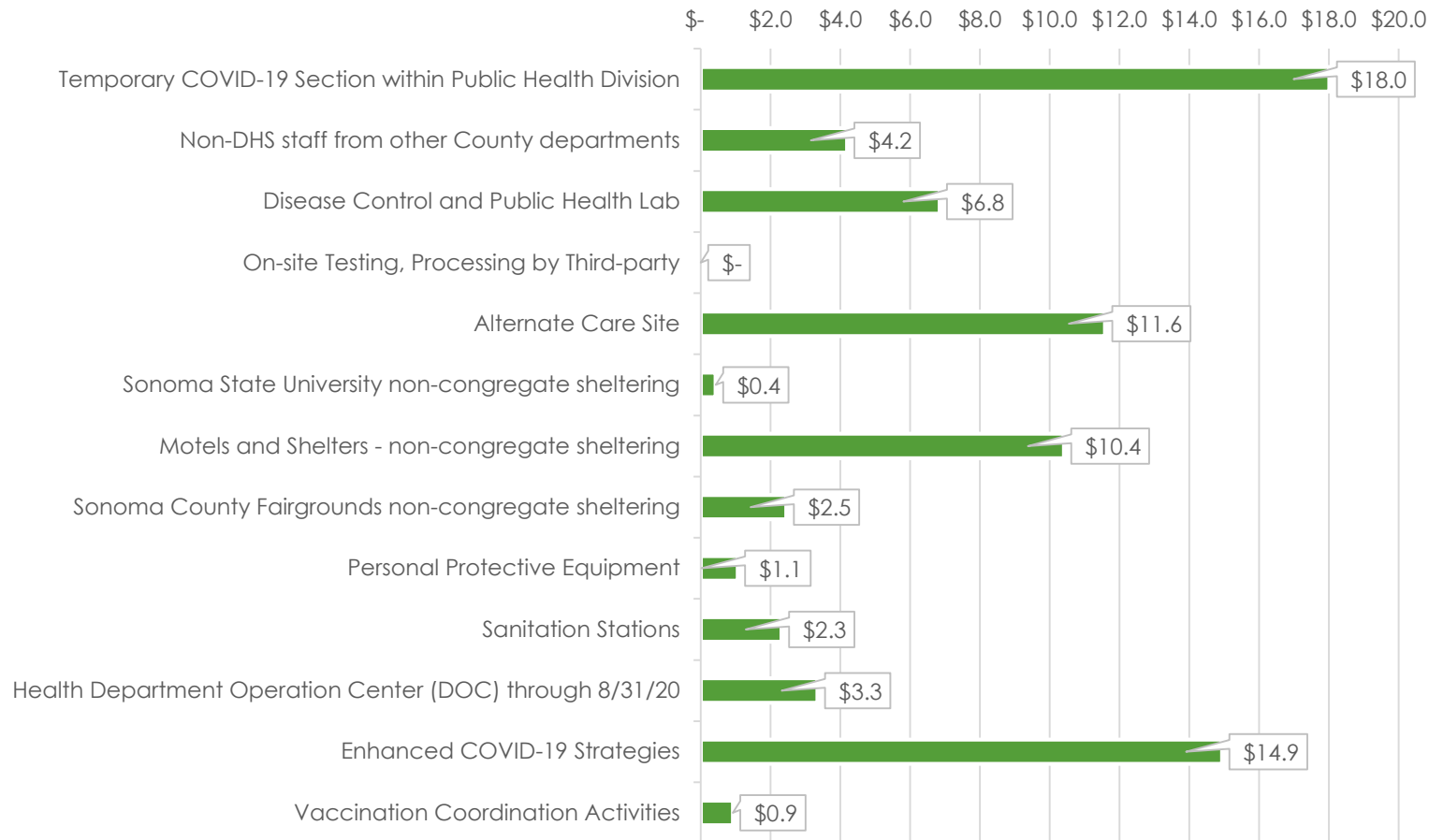
Sick Leave Policies

- Local Paid Sick Leave Ordinance Extension
- Since the FFCRA was not extended, the local paid sick leave ordinance also expired December 31, 2020. While FFCRA leave benefits are no longer mandatory, employers still get a tax credit for leave benefits through March 21, 2021.
- A State executive order also filled the federal FFCRA gaps. Although extension is uncertain, recent Cal/OSHA regs require employers provide paid time off to employees for COVID-19 reasons.
- Of the handful of jurisdictions that have addressed the expiration of local ordinances, most have acted to adopt an urgency ordinance extending the expiration of the local ordinance between two months and six months. None of the extensions require an employer to provide a new bank of leave.

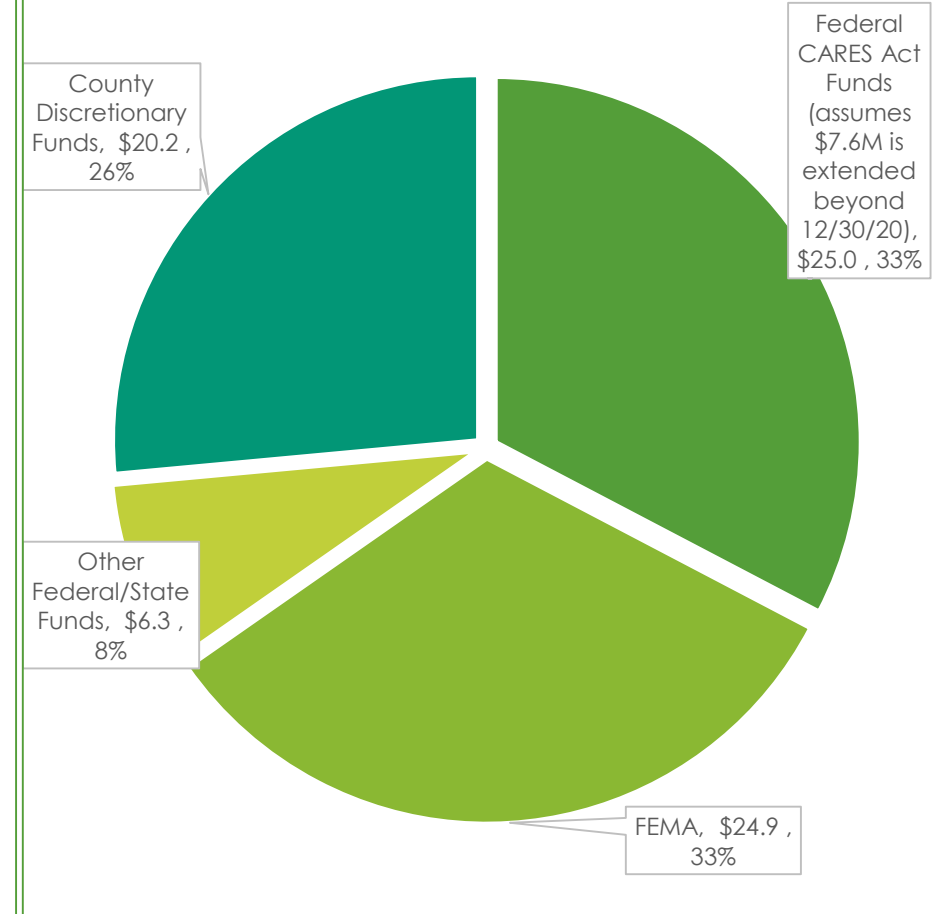


COVID-19 Financial Plan

COVID-19 Emergency Response Cost Estimates (in millions) Total for Fiscal Year 2020-21: \$76.5 million



COVID-19 Allocation of Funding Sources (in millions) Total for Fiscal Year 2020-21: \$76.5 million



Financial Assistance: Case Management CURA Project

Case Management: CURA partnered with the five local Family Resource Centers to provide comprehensive case management. This includes connecting to local healthcare clinics, isolation support, local family resource center for wrap-around support services and emergency financial assistance.

| | North County (Corazon Healdsburg) | West County (River to Coast Children's Services) | Sonoma Valley (La Luz) | South County (McDowell Family Resource Center) | Santa Rosa (Via Esperanza) | TOTAL |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------|
| Individuals Referred to Case Management Services | 140 | 28 | 163 | 189 | 710 | 1,227 |



Financial Assistance: Emergency Financial Assistance CURA Project

Financial Assistance: CURA partnered with the five local Family Resource Centers to provide emergency financial assistance to those required to isolate and/or quarantine.

| | North County (Corazon Healdsburg) | West County (River to Coast Children's Services) | Sonoma Valley (La Luz) | South County (McDowell Family Resource Center) | Santa Rosa (Via Esperanza) | TOTAL |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------|
| People Approved for Emergency Financial Assistance | 120 | 25 | 76 | 106 | 391 | 718 |
| Emergency Financial Assistance Distributed | \$154,900 | \$40,850 | \$121,900 | \$135,700 | \$646,300 | \$1,099,650 |



Financial Assistance

CURA Isolation Assistance: CURA partnered with CPI to receive referrals from Sonoma County Public Health of low-income individuals that have an isolation order and meet the eligibility criteria of CURA. Once screened, CPI staff issued \$1,216 isolation support payments to every eligible individual.

| | North County | West County | Sonoma Valley | South County | Santa Rosa | Total |
|------------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|------------|-------------|
| Clients Approved for Payment | 92 | 22 | 82 | 160 | 493 | 849 |
| Amount Distributed | \$111,872 | \$26,752 | \$99,712 | \$194,560 | \$599,488 | \$1,032,384 |



Proposal: Ongoing Financial Assistance through 6/30/21

Proposal: Increase the Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) payments provided via OTM/CURA from \$1,216 to up to \$1,700* per individual for the next six months through June 30, 2021. The \$1,700 EFA ceiling payment better reflects the actual financial assistance needed by clients to safely isolate and quarantine and is more aligned with the cost of living of many residents in Sonoma County.

Fiscal impact: Estimated cost for Financial Assistance would increase by \$2.2 million from the \$5.6 million already included in the FY 20-21 Cost Estimate to \$7.8 million for the 1/1/21 – 6/30/21 period.

*more individuals may be served



Rental Assistance

- Board approved \$2.5M for Rental Assistance & Legal Aid Defense
- Legal Aid awarded \$123,000 to assist those impacted by Eviction Defense Moratorium
- Seven local non-profit providers awarded \$2.377M for Rental Assistance Program
- All funds expended by 12/30/20
- Approximately 770 individuals/families served

| | District 1: Southeast | District 2: Southwest | District 3: Central | District 4: Northeast | District 5: Northwest | TOTAL |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Number of Rental Stipends Distributed | 201 | 99 | 103 | 145 | 188 | 736 |
| Amount of Rental Support Provided | \$598,481 | \$322,618 | \$316,168 | \$330,961 | \$546,582 | \$2,114,810 |

*\$2.1 million was spent on direct rental assistance as of December 30, 2020 serving over 740 families. This table does not included administrative costs or the legal aid award. 4 stipends totaling \$9,218 are not included above due to missing/invalid address information verification.



Rental Assistance: Moving Forward

- California is estimated to receive \$2.6 billion in new rental relief funding of the \$25 billion allocated to emergency rental funds approved by Congress.
 - No local estimate of funding is available at this time.
- Community Development Block Grant – COVID funding of approx. \$2.3 million for Rental Assistance.



Food Distribution Program

- Food Distribution Agencies continue to serve historic high numbers of residents with food insecurity related to COVID crisis
- County support is required to ensure function of food distribution agencies
- Unknown affect current Stay Home Order (and it's business restrictions) will have on unemployment, business recovery, and food security
- Current COVID cases, and numbers isolating due to contact are high as community transmission numbers grow

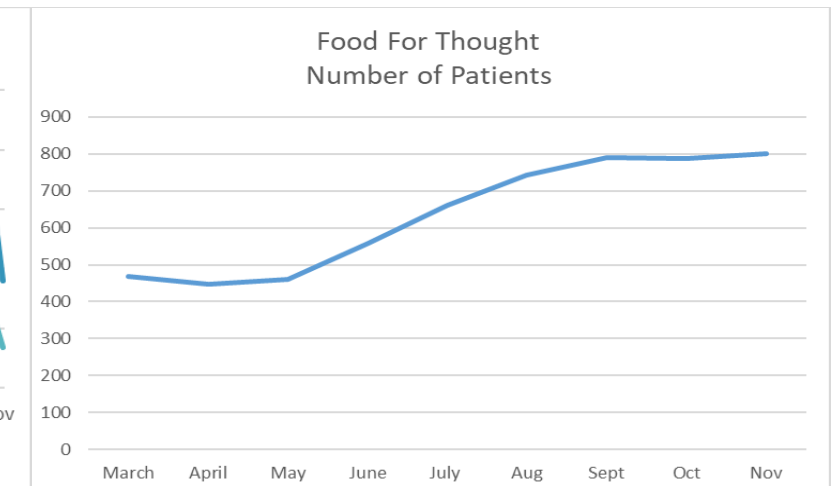
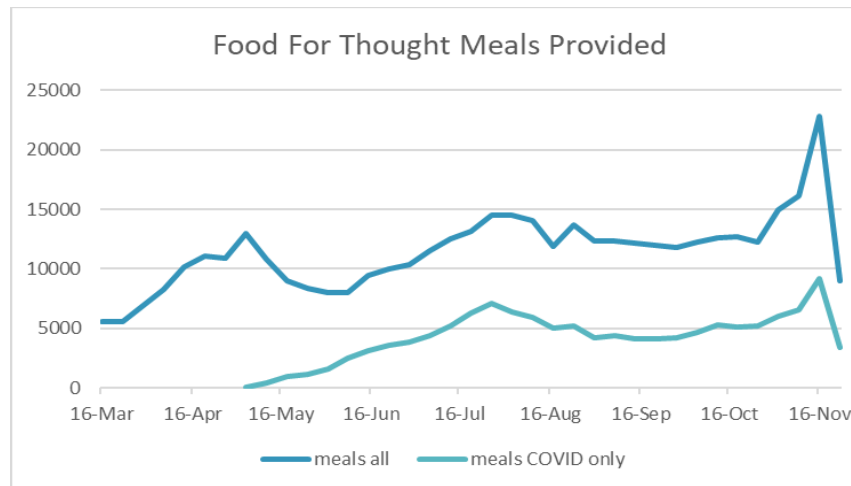
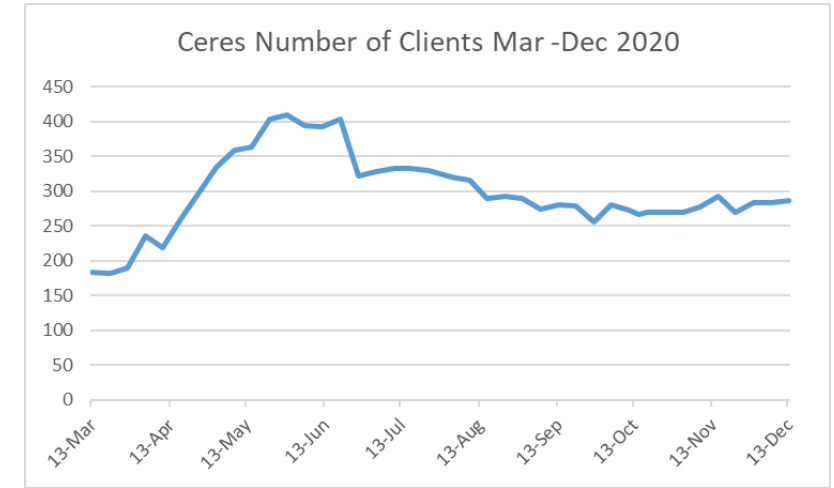
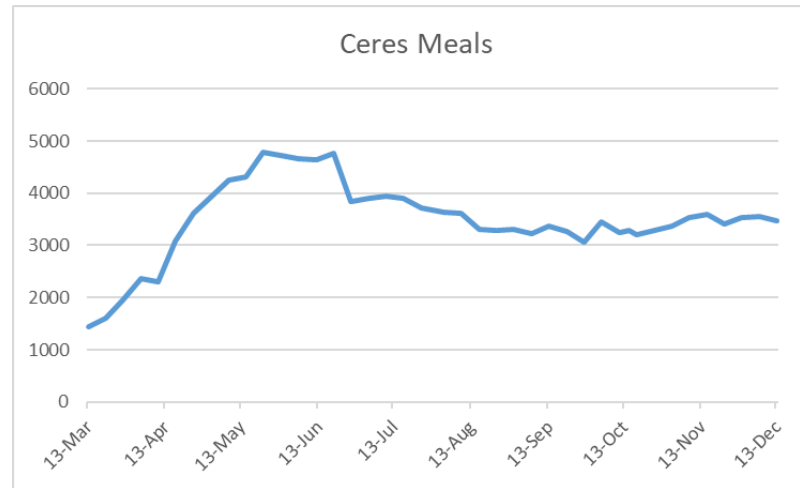


Meals being distributed by Corazon Healdsburg



Food Distribution Program

Charts show number of meals and number of clients for two of our food partners, and illustrate the continued high case load compared to pre-COVID cases and meals.



Food Distribution Program

Current Partners and Meals Funded from all County Funding to Emergency Food Task Force

| Food Distribution Partner | Funds | Cost per Meal | Meals Funded |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Redwood Empire Food Bank | \$1,225,000.00 | \$1.56 | 785,256 |
| Sonoma Family Meal | \$587,500.00 | \$8.00 | 73,438 |
| Council on Aging | \$295,000.00 | \$5.00 | 59,000 |
| Petaluma Peoples Services | \$132,500.00 | \$7.00 | 18,929 |
| Ceres Project | \$587,500.00 | \$11.96 | 49,122 |
| Salvation Army | \$49,000.00 | \$4.25 | 11,529 |
| Coastal Seniors | \$98,500.00 | \$17.00 | 5,794 |
| Catholic Charities | \$245,000.00 | \$2.50 | 98,000 |
| Food For Thought | \$280,000.00 | \$7.15 | 39,161 |
| | | | |
| | \$3,500,000.00 | | 1,140,229 |



Food Distribution Program Needs

Funding needs for the ongoing Food Task Force

- \$600k for January and February (\$300k for each month; potentially reimbursed by FEMA at 75%)
- Potential ask for same funding (\$300K/month) March -June depending on community needs and Federal funds availability



Business Stabilization

Direct County Aid for Businesses to Date

CARES Business Stabilization Grant - \$2,500,000

- Total applicants – 1305
- Total approved – 542 (42%)
- Hispanic/Latino grantees – 132 (24%)
- Women grantees – 315 (58%)
- Low-Moderate income grantees – 434 (80%)



Business Stabilization

Federal Aid for Businesses to Date

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)

- \$1,043,448,107 deployed locally to date

Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL)

- \$370,681,989 deployed locally to date



Business Stabilization

Assessing Continued Needs (challenges)

No “real time” data available for measuring financial needs of Sonoma County business community (tax returns, bankruptcy, etc. data lags)

- Business closures
- Financial losses

Employment numbers a good proxy for identifying target industries, but do not quantify financial need

- Leisure and hospitality (-24.4%)
- Other services, ie: personal care, cleaning services, etc. (-16.7%)
- Information, ie: publishing, recording, broadcasting (-15.4%)
- Retail trade (-10.9%)



Business Stabilization

Assessing Continued Needs (simplified)

Total business aid (local and federal) deployed to date

- \$1.4 billion

Estimated Gross Regional Product (GRP) Loss for 2020

- \$2.4 billion

Estimated Gross Regional Product (GRP) Loss for 2021

- \$1.7 billion

Average Sonoma County business' share of estimated lost GRP for 2021

- \$118,847 or \$10,000/month



Business Stabilization

Addressing Continued Needs

Average Sonoma County business' share of estimated lost GRP for 2021

- \$118,847 or \$10,000/month per business (14,304 establishments)

Funding necessary to replace lost business share of GRP for one month (1,000 businesses served)

- \$10 million per month



Business Stabilization Need

Proposed Criteria if New Funding is allocated for Businesses

Basic criteria derived from Dr. Rob Eyler's research and staff experience with 2020 Business Stabilization Funds, serve businesses:

- With 50 or fewer employees
- In sectors with employment figures that trail the non-farm average
- From industries subject to higher rates of closure since January '20

Also consider:

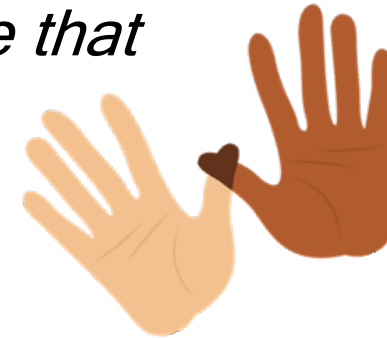
- Lower amounts or a sliding scale for non-employer businesses and sole proprietors
- Scaling grant amounts based on demonstrated losses/needs
- Use of an equity lens in the application and approval process



Equity and the Community

What is equity?

*Equity is an **outcome** whereby you can't tell the difference in critical markers of health, well-being, and wealth by race or ethnicity, and a **process** whereby we explicitly value the voices and contributions of people of color, low income, and other underrepresented and underserved communities who identify solutions to achieve that outcome.*



Equity and the Community

“Saber que alguien se preocupa por nosotros y tenemos ayuda y no estamos solos en este país y fue algo hermoso. Muchas gracias con todo nuestro corazón”.

“To know that someone cares for us and that we have help and that we are not alone in this country was beautiful. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.”



Equity and the Community

“Estamos muy agradecidos y les damos gracias por todo. Es muy importante saber que no estamos olvidados a pesar de nuestro estatus legal”.

“We are really thankful, and we thank you for everything. It was important to know that we were not forgotten regardless of our legal status.”



Potential Funding Options for Local Assistance Programs

- General Fund Contingencies
- PG&E Settlement Funds
- General Fund Reserves



Recommended Actions

- A. Receive report on H.R. 133 - Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 and the current protections provided with the Federal, State, local Eviction and Sick Leave policies.
- B. Authorize the Director of Health Services, or designee to execute the continued COVID-19 Response Plan hereby described, to execute agreements, and to obtain necessary resources, services, supplies, equipment, and such other properties to be lacking or needed for the protection of life and property, and to bind the county for the fair value thereof not to exceed the cumulative appropriations authorized including those in this item.
- C. Direct staff to return with additional budgetary adjustments necessary to expand Department of Health COVID-19 Response Plan through 6/30/2021, which may include up \$5 million from county discretionary resources.
- D. Provide direction to staff regarding the Local Aid Strategies and direct staff to return to the Board for further action, or, alternatively authorize additional appropriations to support Local Aid strategies and authorize the Director of Health Services, Community Development Commission, Department of Emergency Management, Office of Equity, County Counsel, and/or Economic Development Board, or designee, to execute the Local Aid Strategies approved by the Board, to execute agreements, disperse funding, and to obtain necessary resources, services, supplies, equipment, and such other properties and to bind the county for the fair value thereof not to exceed the appropriations authorized (4/5ths vote required to appropriate additional funds).



Questions

