

## HUMAN SERVICES INFORMATION SHARING

### Understanding the American Rescue Plan

Our Goal: establish a high-level view across all sectors,  
identify questions for follow-up

*Thank you to our guides;*

- Hilary Denk, District Director, Office of Representative Bill Foster
- Mary Keating, DuPage County Director of Community Services



DUPAGE FEDERATION ON HUMAN SERVICES REFORM

## HOW THIS WILL GO...

- Hilary will provide a high-level overview of the American Rescue Plan;
- Mary will provide a summary of the implications for one major segment, Housing and Homeless Services, in DuPage County
- Please post your questions in the chat and allow Hilary and Mary to complete their presentations
- We will address the questions when they finish
- If you have favorite resource guides to ARP, please drop them in the chat
- After this meeting, we will develop detailed notes, find answers to questions, share the resources from the chat and notes
- Thank you!



DUPAGE FEDERATION ON HUMAN SERVICES REFORM

## STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL AID UNDER ARP

- ✓ **\$350 billion to help states, localities, tribal governments and territories** address revenue shortfalls, help people struggling in the pandemic, provide a pay boost for essential workers, and invest in broadband and water infrastructure projects. Treasury guidance needed!
- ✓ States and territories submit a certification letter, then Treasury sends money within 60 days. Treasury does, though, have authority to withhold half the money for up to a year.
  - Localities get half in 60 days, half in a year.
  - Tribal nations get all within 60 days. No certification required.

*Thank you to Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and National Conference of State Legislatures for content in these slides:*

*<https://www.ncsl.org/ncsl-in-dc/publications-and-resources/american-rescue-plan-act-of-2021.aspx>*



DUPAGE FEDERATION ON HUMAN SERVICES REFORM

## FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

### K-12 Schools

- ✓ \$123 billion to help K-12 schools reopen safely, meet student educational needs, make up for lost learning.
- ✓ Distributed based on Title I formula (high-poverty schools)
- ✓ Broad set of uses (18 categories).
- ✓ Available through Sept. 2023.
- ✓ Maintenance of equity: averts cuts to high-poverty schools

### Higher education

- ✓ \$40 billion to higher education institutions.
- ✓ 50% must go directly to students as financial aid.
- ✓ Can help avert tuition hikes including at community colleges.



DUPAGE FEDERATION ON HUMAN SERVICES REFORM

## HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS PROVISIONS

- ✓ **\$21.6 billion of Emergency Rental Assistance** for low-income renters who have lost income or are experiencing other hardship.
- ✓ Department of Treasury distributes funds to **states, localities, and territories**, who may either distribute aid directly to landlords (in some cases, directly to renters) or designate other entities to do so.

*Thank you to Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and National Conference of State Legislatures for content in these slides:*

*<https://www.ncsl.org/ncsl-in-dc/publications-and-resources/american-rescue-plan-act-of-2021.aspx>*



DUPAGE FEDERATION ON HUMAN SERVICES REFORM

## HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS PROVISIONS

- ✓ **\$5 billion of Emergency Housing Vouchers** for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
  - State and local public housing agencies will administer the vouchers.
  - Agencies should partner with Continuum of Care agencies to integrate the vouchers most effectively with other existing resources.
- ✓ **\$5 billion of flexible funding for the HOME program** allowing states and localities to invest in supportive housing development, rental assistance, shelters, and services for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
  - State and local advocates should encourage grantees receiving HOME funds to consult with Continuums of Care to ensure funds are used strategically.
- ✓ **\$750 million for housing assistance to tribal nations and Native Hawaiians** through flexible block grants to help address unique community needs.



DUPAGE FEDERATION ON HUMAN SERVICES REFORM

## HEALTH PROVISIONS UNDER ARP

- ✓ A **significant incentive for states to expand Medicaid**, in the form of a 5-percentage point increase on their base federal matching rate.
  - Advocates in non-expansion states should explain that the new funding is ***an added bonus on top of all other benefits Medicaid expansion brings.***
  
- ✓ **New health insurance subsidies** for people receiving unemployment insurance payments in 2021 and **expansions of the Affordable Care Act premium tax credits.**
  - Increased awareness and outreach efforts will be needed to help people take advantage of new and expanded benefits.



DUPAGE FEDERATION ON HUMAN SERVICES REFORM

## HEALTH PROVISIONS UNDER ARP

- ✓ **Expansion of *optional* Medicaid policy allowing states to cover health care costs related to COVID-19 for uninsured people** (previously only included testing, now includes treatments and vaccines).
  - Advocates should encourage states to take up this optional policy.
  
- ✓ **A new *optional* Medicaid policy allowing states to extend postpartum coverage** to people receiving Medicaid pregnancy coverage for 12 months (compared to current 60-day limit).
  - Advocates should encourage states to take up this optional policy.
  
- ✓ **A 10-percentage point increase in the federal share of states' spending on home- and community-based care services.**
  - States should use funds to expand services for people with disabilities, older adults, and people with substance abuse disorders.

See detailed charts, thanks to National Academy for State Health Policy here:  
<https://www.nashp.org/the-2021-american-rescue-plan-acts-major-health-care-provisions/>



DUPAGE FEDERATION ON HUMAN SERVICES REFORM

## HUMAN SERVICES FUNDING

- \$39 billion for child care through:
  - \$15 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) and
  - \$24 billion for newly created child care stabilization grants.
- \$1 billion for Head Start programs.
- \$150 million in additional funds for the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program.
- \$1 billion for the Pandemic Emergency Fund, which provides one-time benefits such as cash and vouchers to eligible families with low incomes.
- \$1.5 billion for Community Mental Health Services Block grant for 2021.
- \$1.5 billion for Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse Block grants for 2021.
- \$420 million for grants to Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics.



DUPAGE FEDERATION ON HUMAN SERVICES REFORM

## HUMAN SERVICES FUNDING

- \$450 million for programs under the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, including \$198 million for grants to support survivors of sexual assault.
- \$250 million for programs under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.
- Permanently increases the total funding for the Child Care Entitlement to States from \$2.9 billion to \$3.05 billion per year (an increase of \$130 million) and temporarily waived state matching funds for 2021 and 2022.
- \$1.434 billion for programs under the Older Americans Act, including \$750 million for nutrition programs for 2021.
- \$4.5 billion for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.
- \$50 million for the Title X Family Planning program.



DUPAGE FEDERATION ON HUMAN SERVICES REFORM

## TAX AND CASH BENEFITS UNDER ARP

- ✓ **Economic Impact Payments (EIPs):** \$1,400 per person one-time payments.
- ✓ **Child Tax Credit (CTC) Expansion:** Increased from \$2,000 to \$3,000 per child and fully available to children in families with low or no earnings.
- ✓ **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Expansion:** The maximum EITC for childless workers will be nearly tripled and eligibility has been expanded.
- ✓ **Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC):** The maximum credit amount has been increased from \$1,050 to \$4,000 for one child and from \$2,100 to \$8,000 for two or more children.



DUPAGE FEDERATION ON HUMAN SERVICES REFORM

## TAX AND CASH BENEFITS UNDER ARP

- ✓ Tax credits expansions are for **tax year 2021**.
- ✓ Households must generally file tax returns to access the **CTC, EITC, CDCTC, and EIPs**.
- ✓ States and localities can play an important role in outreach work, which is especially important to **ensure payments reach low-income people who do not typically file tax returns**



DUPAGE FEDERATION ON HUMAN SERVICES REFORM