

***Review of Coronavirus
Response and Relief
Supplemental
Appropriations Act (CRRSA)
and
American Rescue Funding
Applications (ARFA)***



The City of San Antonio Department of Human Services Head Start Division (DHS Head Start Program) submitted applications for one-time funding opportunities to prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in the amount of \$4,025,026.00 and Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriation Act (CRRSA) in the amount of \$1,012,460.00. Both grant applications were submitted in collaboration with our joint partners and funds will be available through March 31, 2023. DHS will request a waiver of non-federal match as allowed by the grant application instructions.

DHS will utilize the CRRSA funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19, and continue the City's policy of enhancing early childhood education. Awarded CRRSA funds will be split between DHS and Head Start, Early Head Start (EHS), and Early Head Start - Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) contractors. The funds will be used for upgrades to the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, outdoor learning areas, building maintenance and upgrades, personal protective equipment, and other supplies used to respond to COVID-19.

DHS will utilize the ARPA supplemental funds by allocating them to our early education service providers for each of our three programs, Head Start, EHS and, EHS-CCP to make upgrades to their classrooms and facilities such as the installation and or upgrade of the HVAC systems to allow for better ventilation and creating and enhancing outdoor learning spaces for children. Funds will also be utilized to increase recruitment activities to recruit families for the upcoming school year. PreK programs across the county have been under enrolled by 25% this past school year. The DHS Head Start Program will develop an expanded marketing strategy as well as hire temporary staff to assist with canvassing the community in an effort to fully enroll the program in 2021 – 2022. In addition, DHS will utilize the supplemental funding to make improvements to the DHS Head Start Brady Building that are necessary to safely resume and maintain full in-person program operations. DHS will improve the plumbing system that is over 20 years old, grade and repave the entire parking lot pavement to allow for proper water run-off away from the building, and repair a structural beam located in the building. With these repairs, DHS can ensure that the Head Start Brady Building is up to code and that these issues do not pose any health concerns to staff and families who work and or visit the facility. DHS requests approval for the following expenditures.