

The American Rescue Plan: An opportunity for the City of Fayetteville to support housing and community safety

The U.S. Department of Treasury allocated approximately \$40.5 million to the City of Fayetteville as part of the American Rescue Plan’s State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and economic crises. The following needs have been identified as critical for the community to ensure people can stay housed, safe, and can provide for themselves and their families.

Needed Resource	Statement of Need
<p>Transitional Housing for People Experiencing Homelessness (Estimated Cost: \$10 million)</p>	<p>The City of Fayetteville lacks adequate shelter for people experiencing homelessness, and affordable housing is out of reach for many. Affordable housing is out of reach for many living in Fayetteville. Recent research shows that a 2-bedroom unit at fair market rent in Fayetteville costs \$36,520 annually, which is 2.4 times the income generated from a full-time job at minimum wage. ⁱ</p>
<p>Gun Violence Prevention Center (Estimated Cost: \$5 million)</p>	<p>From 2016 to 2020, gun homicides in Fayetteville increased from 11.3 to 12.5 per 100,000 people, an increase of nearly 11%. ⁱⁱ Research shows that the rise in gun homicides is linked to systemic disinvestment in the community, racial segregation, and poverty, while recommended approaches to gun violence emphasize community-based safety alternatives including quality housing, youth workforce development, and green space. ⁱⁱⁱ</p>
<p>LGBTQ Safe Center (Estimated Cost: \$5 million)</p>	<p>While North Carolina has made some progress toward creating a less hostile policy climate for LGBTQ issues from 2010 to 2020, new challenges continue to threaten the safety and well-being of LGBTQ North Carolinians. ^{iv} LGBTQ students face discrimination, are more likely to be bullied, and more likely to miss school and therefore need additional supports to ensure they can learn in a safe and inclusive environment. ^v</p>
<p>Rent and Utility Assistance</p>	<p>There are approximately 62,000 renter households in Fayetteville, earning an average hourly wage of \$15.41. ⁱ Many families are continuing to struggle making ends meet, and more rental and utility assistance is needed than was available from the city and county Rental Assistance Programs, which provided more than \$14 million in assistance to at least 2,500 households. ^{vi}</p>
<p>Cash Assistance</p>	<p>Approximately one in five residents of Fayetteville lives below the poverty line, meaning they earn below \$27,750 for a family of four. ^{vii} Cash assistance is critical</p>



for ensuring families have what they need to make ends meet, including filling their tanks with gas, providing diapers for their children, and paying for utilities.

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At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5 Those at risk of homeless are severely cost burdened, paying over 30% of their monthly income toward housing expenses. In Fayetteville, for households making less than \$50,000 per year, 69% are housing cost-burdened.

For renter households, it's even higher at 75% housing cost-burdened. Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice Two service providers offer 16 beds total for women and families fleeing domestic violence.

Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability as defined by HUD in the Notice The City of Fayetteville will not identify additional characteristics to refine the definition of "other populations further." Identification of any gaps within the current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system: The City of Fayetteville's population has continued to grow over the last decade while the number of housing units constructed has declined, consequently constraining the housing supply. The City of Fayetteville and Cumberland County have an ample supply of rental housing that does not meet the minimum property standards, and 35.9% of all households are cost-burdened and spend 30% or more of their monthly income on housing.

Please join us for upcoming events on American Rescue Plan Project "Where is the Money" Fayetteville PACT. www.fayettevillepact.com

National Low Income Housing Coalition. 2022. Out of Reach: The High Cost of Housing.
https://nlihc.org/sites/default/files/2022_OOR.pdf

ii Everytown for Gun Safety. City Dashboard: Murder and Gun Homicide. Last updated December 16, 2021.
<https://everytownresearch.org/report/city-data/>

iii Brookings Institution. 2022. Mapping gun violence: A closer look at the intersection between place and gun homicides in four cities.
<https://www.brookings.edu/2022/04/21/mapping-gun-violence-a-closer-look-at-the-intersection-between-place-and-gun-homicides-in-four-cities/>.



- iv Movement Advancement Project and Campaign for Southern Equality. July 2020. Telling a New Southern Story: LGBTQ Resilience, resistance, and Leadership. https://www.lgbtmap.org/file/2020-report-southern_broad.pdf and Movement Advancement Project. North Carolina's Equality Profile. https://www.lgbtmap.org/equality-maps/profile_state/NC
- v GLSEN. The 2019 National School Climate Survey. <https://www.glsen.org/research/2019-national-school-climate-survey>
- vi Fayetteville Cumberland Rental Assistance Program. Last updated January 4, 2022. <http://www.fayettevillecumberlandrap.com/>
- vii U.S. Census Bureau. Quick Facts: Fayetteville City, North Carolina. <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/fayettevillecitynorthcarolina>

