



American Rescue Plan Act Project/Funding Update

As of June 1, 2025

The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) received more than **\$518 million** in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for **152 projects** and initiatives. As of June 1, 2025, **72 projects are 100% complete.**

Community-Based, Youth-Focused Behavioral Health Services (project #23CBYFS01)

The ARPA Community-Based, Youth-Focused Behavioral Health Services project addresses Nevada's behavioral/mental health workforce shortage crisis. Under this project, five organizations received funds to provide social emotional learning and counseling services; innovative approaches to delivery of services; graduate and undergraduate student integration; and family support and counseling accessibility in youth from first through twelfth grades.

In one project, ARPA funds enabled the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southern Nevada (BGCSNV) to build a program specifically to engage and serve kids and families who often fall through the cracks of traditional systems. Staff across BGCSNV's 13 locations received mental and behavioral wellness training in areas such as suicide prevention, substance use awareness and prevention, and behavior management strategies such as anger/impulse control. Funds also have been used to fully staff the BGCSNV counseling and mental health department to serve as a link to social services and other supports available in the community. In the fall, BGCSNV will begin offering parent/caregiver support groups.

"I am incredibly proud of what we have built," said Dr. Megan Freeman, BGCSNV Senior Mental Health Consultant. "Our model is culturally responsive, sensitive to the specific needs of each neighborhood in which we operate, addresses the real barriers affecting families, and creates family-driven, youth-focused access to care. None of this would have been possible without the generous ARPA funding from DCFS, which gave us the foundation to build something truly impactful."

Under a Northern Nevada project subgrant, The Children's Cabinet in Reno has held in-person workshops for parents of Washoe County School District students and for parents and educators of Pyramid Lake High School, as well as teletherapy counseling for Winnemucca and Elko families. In another Northern Nevada project, Community Chest used funds to train Virginia City and Fernley therapists in both talk and play evidence-based therapy techniques to work with children on depression, anxiety and other mental health-related symptoms. This was particularly important because of the severe lack of available mental health services for children and their families, especially those that are evidence-based.