



Above: BrookLynk Constructions & Trades Program Participants, 2023

# American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

## 2023 Report



City of Brooklyn Park

Brooklyn Park, Minnesota

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Yog xav tau kev pab, thov hu rau 763-424-8000 lawv mam li nrhiav ib tus neeg txhais lus rau koj.

# Strategic Investment Summary

**The City of Brookly Park received \$11,052,580 million** from the State’s allocation of the America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF). The City Council has approved investments of over \$9 million dollars and has deployed over \$6 million in various City-implemented and community partnership programs as of 2023.

In 2021, the community identified priorities for use of the ARPA funds and the City developed and adopted a strategy to respond to those identified priorities, which included:

- Violence interrupters and support services
- Mental health services
- Violence prevention and intervention to stabilize the community
- Administration of ARPA funds

This report is a comprehensive update of the use of the City’s spending of ARPA funds from 2021 – 2023 and the impact on residents and businesses through direct programs implemented by the city and our community partners. It highlights how the city’s priorities adopted in 2021 continued to alleviate the aftereffects of COVID-19.

## City allocation and investments

ARPA Total Funding Available (2021-2024)	\$11 million
City Council approved investments (2021-2023)	\$9.2 million
Invested Funds (2021-2023)	\$6.5 million

Figure 1: 2021-2023 ARPA Investment Categories

\*Numbers have been rounded

# Impact of Strategic Initiatives

## Violence Interruption

In 2023, the City continued to prioritize violence interruption strategies. Activities focused on interruption in strategic areas in the city using partners to provide resources and support to residents. Some of the activities included partnering with The Village BP for street-based outreach and intervention including critical incident intervention as needed. The City also continued to embed mental health professionals with police response through the pilot program launched in 2022.

### Highlights

- **Police Mobile Security Cameras** – the two mobile cameras purchased in 2022 continue to assist law enforcement and provide oversight in strategic areas in the city.
- **Mental health professionals embedded with Police** – assisted Police with individuals in crisis and provided referrals to resources or provided professional expertise to increase safety of civilians and officers. In 2023, this project reported over 1,096 mental wellbeing interventions, 1,714 Alternative Response Team (ART) social worker and a community paramedic working together activities, with 52% repeat calls for service.
- **Violence Interrupter partners** – in collaboration with the Police, engaged with 913 residents and intervened in various incidents in the city to interrupt violence in the community. During these interactions, they provided information on resources available to the resident including housing, food, medical or mental health providers.



Violence Intervention Activities



Violence Intervention Activities

## Community Partnership

From 2022 – 2023, the City deployed \$640,000 to community partners working in the community to alleviate the aftereffects of the pandemic. The activities that began in 2022 continued into 2023 as local community-based organizations implemented strategic programs and projects to support residents.

During the summer of 2023, the City Council awarded ten high-performing organizations contract extensions to continue their work into 2024 and approved a second round of funding using a request for proposals process that resulted in funding for ten additional partner organizations. These organizations will provide support services to businesses and nonprofits, engage in workforce development activities, and provide basic support to community members.



LACM: Housing Stability Event



Senior Community Services: Technology Assistance



COPAL Community Outreach Event

“Funding from the City of Brooklyn Park allowed us expand services in the Brooklyns and engage over 7,000 LatinX Brooklyn Park residents to connect them with resources and COPAL’s services. We collaborated to host 5 COVID vaccine clinics and over 100 residents directly benefited from COPAL’s services.”

– Cecilia Calabria,  
Health & Wellness Director at COPAL

# Violence Prevention and Community Health

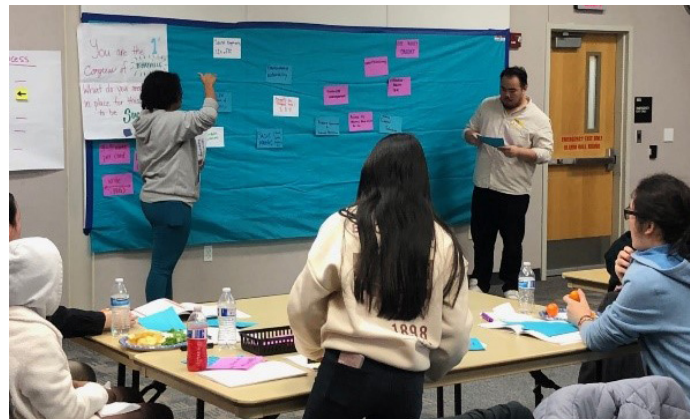
In 2023, the City continued implementation of various programs in collaboration with community partners to alleviate safety and health challenges in the community exacerbated by the COVID pandemic. Through outreach and City-implemented initiatives, city staff and community partners held various events aimed at youth and adults. For example, partners held outreach and health related programs to engage youth and adults and workforce development opportunities to enable unemployed and underemployed youth and residents to acquire new skills that would allow them to support their families and contribute to the community.

## Highlights

- **Park Engagement Ambassadors** – provided patrol services in city parks during evening and weekends to curb non-criminal, nuisance issues occurring in the parks. In 2023, they responded to 108 incidents in various parks in the city.
- **Health on the Go outreach and activities** – in 2023, the city coordinated 13 events, held outreach 7 additional events, and coordinated 21 food distributions. The estimated total attendance at these events was 4,660.
- **Workforce Development Initiatives** – worked in collaboration with community partners to connect job seekers with high in demand wage employment opportunities. In 2023, we connected 19 residents with various employers. In partnership with BrookLynk and the City’s youth services division, the entrepreneur program also introduces Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) youth and young adults to business and entrepreneurship opportunities as a career pathway. We engaged 134 youth and hired 57 into various internship opportunities.
- **Brooklyn Bridge Alliance for Youth** – in 2023, over 3,453 residents were engaged in various activities related to youth programming with 198 youth directly participating in various youth empowering activities.



Health on the Go Senior Health Fair & Food Distribution



Brooklyn Bridge Alliance Youth on Hate Activity

# Resident Impact

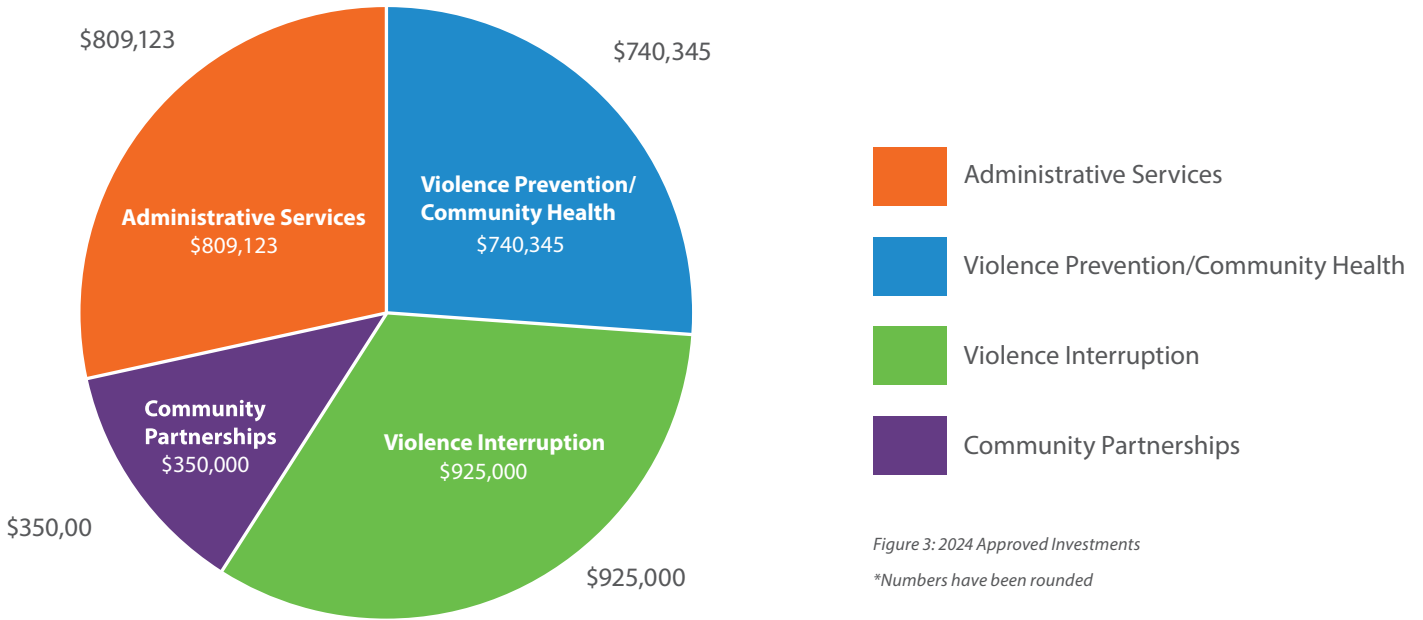
<b>Violence Interruption</b> <b>3,723</b> residents served	<b>Violence Prevention and Community Health</b> <b>8,355</b> residents served	<b>Community Partnership</b> <b>8,088</b> residents served
<p><b>Key Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Violence interruption in key strategic areas of the city in partnership with The Village BP</li> <li>• Implementing the Alternate Response initiative to embed mental health staff with police</li> <li>• Continued use of the Police Mobile Cameras in strategic areas to monitor and ensure a safe environment in various areas of the city</li> </ul>	<p><b>Key Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health related outreach in the community for COVID awareness and vaccine information and access to vaccines with community partners</li> <li>• Youth engagement, workforce development and career training services</li> <li>• Police Cadets for park ordinance enforcement</li> <li>• City media collaboration with cultural media and youth for discussion on COVID impact</li> <li>• Media outreach and engagement of youths and cultural communities</li> </ul>	<p><b>Key Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anti-violence related activities</li> <li>• Housing/outreach/support services navigation</li> <li>• Support to youth, young mothers and seniors</li> <li>• Media and outreach focusing on cultural communities</li> <li>• Job/career training and mentoring</li> <li>• Mental wellbeing/COVID awareness and vaccine resources</li> <li>• Food distribution</li> </ul>

Figure 2: Resident Impact

# 2024 ARPA Strategic Focus

In December 2023, the City Council approved \$2,824,362 for 2024 ARPA investments. The allocations focus on continuation of the strategic initiatives adopted in 2021 in response to continued community feedback.

## 2024 Approved Investments



For more information on how the City is spending ARPA dollars, please call 763-493-8030.