

City Council ARPA Workshop
Monday, July 29, 2024 @ 5:15 pm

- 1. American Rescue Plan Update**
- 2. Annual Beneficiary Report**
- 3. Unobligated ARPA Funds**

As of June 30, 2024, \$2,551,851 in ARPA funds remain unobligated. The City must obligate all funds by December 31, 2024. The deadline for full expenditure of all funds is December 31, 2026.

This year, the City Council identified housing as its priority. Further, to date the City Council has supported obligating significant funding to fund the installation of infrastructure within the 10-acre Grandview parcel that the City is seeking a developer for. In addition, development in the area adjacent to Stillwater and Hogan, which has large areas of undeveloped property, is currently impacted by a lack of capacity at the "Kmart" pump station. The City is expecting the results of an engineering study within the next two weeks, which will identify options to address this location.

Based on the direction to date, staff recommendation is obligate the balance of the ARPA funds to support development of housing within our community.

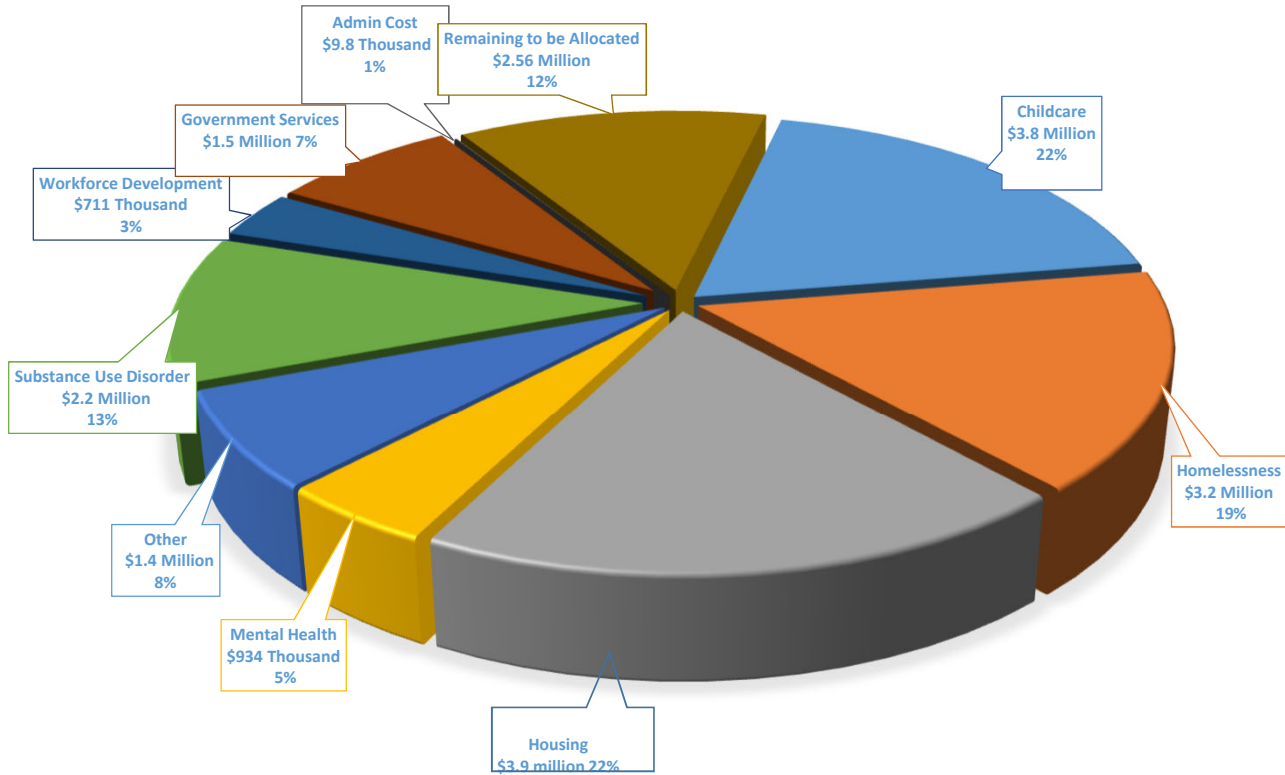
- 4. Next Meeting**

Staff will return in August to provide updates on projects to ensure all projects will be able to be undertaken within the required timeframe as well as to address any questions that arise from this evening's workshop. This will allow the City Council, in concert with beneficiaries, to answer outstanding questions and determine if funding changes are necessary.

American Rescue Plan Act Update

The City of Bangor was awarded American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in the amount of	\$ 20,478,297
Agreements have been executed with 28 beneficiaries in the amount of	15,866,646
Funding has been allocated to support government services, middle school health clinics and grant application administration in the amount of	<u>2,059,800</u>
Unobligated ARPA funds	<u><u>\$ 2,551,851</u></u>

ARPA AWARDS BY CATEGORY IN \$ AND %



American Rescue Plan Act Update - Continued

City staff, in conjunction with our consultant, developed agreements and reporting requirements for each beneficiary to be reflective of the data points in support of the initial award.

All beneficiaries have a required 5-year annual reporting period. Depending on the timing of the project and/or disbursement, annual reporting periods begin December 31, 2023, June 30, 2024 or December 31, 2024.

If awards were \$100,000 or less the full amounts were disbursed upon execution of the agreements. For operating or capital projects, city staff developed a schedule of payments to meet the needs of the beneficiary (typically quarterly).

Status of Awards

Childcare	Amount	Reporting Start Date	Updates
Bangor Children's Home	350,748	12/31/2024	Window and roof renovation began in June
Bangor Region YMCA	2,000,000	12/31/2023	Update on status to City Council August 12, 2024
Penquis CAP	1,500,000	12/31/2023	Planning Board approved Land Development Permit (LDP) July 2024
	<u>3,850,748</u>		
Homelessness			
Bangor Public Library	241,271	12/31/2023	
Penobscot Community Health Ctr	2,484,880	12/31/2023	Staff meeting with PCHC and Preble Street in August
Community Care	550,000	12/31/2024	
	<u>3,276,151</u>		
Housing			
Bangor Housing Develop Corporation	2,000,000	12/31/2023	LITC funding awarded, Planning Board approved LDP August 2023
Habitat for Humanity Greater Bangor	1,000,000	12/31/2023	Staff continues to partner for land opportunity
Penquis	540,000	12/31/2023	Utility work began in July 2024
Together Place Housing	375,000	12/31/2024	Difficult to identify building for acquisition - competitive market
	<u>3,915,000</u>		
Mental Health			
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Mid Maine	130,000	12/31/2023	
Christine B Foundation	100,000	12/31/2023	Meeting with city staff in later this week
St. Andre Home	50,000	12/31/2023	
Middle School Health Clinics	500,000		Projects underway, expect to be open for new school year
Together Place Peer Run Recovery Ctr	154,765	12/31/2023	Anticipated hire date July 2024
	<u>934,765</u>		
Other			
Bangor Symphony Orchestra	40,000	12/31/2023	With closure of Launchpad, ongoing discussions with BSO and staff
Eastern Area Agency on Aging	67,000	12/31/2023	
Food and Medicine Gardens Program	75,000	12/31/2024	Funds disbursed
Maine Discovery Museum	500,000	12/31/2023	Design complete, soliciting HVAC replacement responses
Maine Multicultural Center	70,700	12/31/2023	
Wabanaki Public Health & Wellness	648,000	12/31/2024	Work is upcoming
BNRC	50,000	12/31/2024	Anticipate this fall
	<u>1,450,700</u>		
Substance Use Disorder			
Bangor Area Recovery Network	415,600	12/31/2023	
Fresh Start Inc	896,100	12/31/2023	
Wellspring	221,540	12/31/2024	Meeting with city staff August 5, 2024
HEAL	694,700	6/30/2024	Began operations April 2024
	<u>2,227,940</u>		
Workforce Development			
Food and Medicine Workforce Navigator	261,342	12/31/2024	Position is filled
Heart of Maine United Way	400,000	12/31/2024	
Literacy Volunteers of Bangor	50,000	12/31/2023	
	<u>711,342</u>		
Government Services			
Grant Writer	150,000		Position filled in April 2024
Sidewalk Plow	200,000		To be bid this year
Public Restrooms	250,000		4 of 5 in place, public art to Cultural Commission on 8/2/2024
Homelessness Position	350,000		Position filled in June 2024
Housing Position	350,000		Position filled in April 2024
Quality Housing Provider	250,000		Program will be rolling out in July
	<u>1,550,000</u>		

**Annual Beneficiary Report
12/31/2023**

Childcare

Bangor Region YMCA: Construction of new facility in downtown Bangor
We are still in the schematic design stage. \$ 2,000,000

Penquis CAP: Construction of consolidated childcare facility in Bangor \$ 1,500,000

Approximate completion percentage of project and estimated date of completion. 5%

Construction completion is expected by January of 2026

Affirmation of continued participation in the State's Child Care Subsidy Program Yes

Statement about what if any concerns about transportation have been raised and what if any changes related to overcoming transportation barriers have been incorporated into the program.

There have been no concerns raised at this time. We believe that this may be due to existing resources and programs available to families. We are focused on ensuring ample parking at the site to meet the needs of parents, visitors, and staff. Through our regular planning process, we will factor in changes to existing services and adapt accordingly so that we can continue to meet the needs of the families we serve.

Homelessness

Bangor Public Library: workforce to support under served individuals \$ 241,271

Narrative that explains how additional personnel has impacted the library

Statistical data related to the number of individuals assisted

Since coming on board the social worker has made significant progress connecting with other agencies and nonprofits that provide critical services to all library visitors. Through the end of the year, she has connected with 55 organizations in Maine and the list continues to grow. These connections allow her to make more effective referrals and understand the current landscape of services. In the seven months she has been here, Olivia has had over 650 interactions with patrons. The total number of referrals logged is 74 and is broken down as follows: ● Medical (physical health): 7 ● Housing: 16 ● Domestic Violence/Human Trafficking: 10 ● Substance Use Services: 8 ● Mental Health and Case Management: 13 ● Legal: 6 ● Family Services: 3 ● Financial/General Assistance/Utilities: 9 ● Schools: 2

As a new resource available in the library setting, where patrons already seek help navigating paperwork and online systems, she has assisted patrons with gaining access to: ● Housing ● Substance use treatment providers ● Mental health services ● Domestic violence safety planning and awareness ● Sex trafficking safety planning and awareness ● Health and medical care, including MaineCare sign-ups ● Basic needs (food, water, clothing, heating assistance) ● Support systems and groups ● Child and family support ● Transportation ● Benefits ● Education resources ● Case management systems ● Legal help

An unexpected benefit has been freeing library staff time from some of the more complicated social service assistance tasks that they have provided in the past such as filling out paperwork or trying to track down the right person at a government agency.

To better connect with patrons dealing with substance use disorders, mental health disorders, or housing issues, she has increased the number of our open Coffee & Conversation meetings to once a month during the colder months. December's meeting welcomed nearly 60 people. This number included patrons in need of services as well as representatives from area agencies. This program provides important connections among three groups: people in crisis who frequent the library, staff of social services agencies, and library staff. These connections foster positive interactions between these three groups and decrease the risk of escalation when staff respond to unacceptable behaviors. Additionally, the program provides the opportunity for direct contact with the service providers, who connect with patrons and each other.

Penobscot Community Health Center: Expansion and Renovation of Hope House \$ 2,484,880

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Subsequent to the award, the PCHC Board announced they would cease operating the Hope House unless another agency could be identified to operate it after October 2024. Therefore this project was on hold, pending a final decision

Housing

Bangor Housing Development Corporation: Affordable housing infrastructure \$ 2,000,000

Application for funding submitted to Maine State Housing Authority March 29, 2024. Potential response data is June 30, 2024. If approved estimated loan closing and construction start date is November 1, 2024, with an estimated completion date of January 2026.

Habitat for Humanity Greater Bangor: Construction of affordable single family housing \$ 1,000,000

Since being awarded ARPA funding in November of 2023, HFHGB has been in the planning stages of our proposed project with a focus on land acquisition. While we have not yet confirmed a site, we are encouraged by a potential partnership with the City of Bangor. HFHGB has been approached by the city to gauge our interest and capacity to collaborate with other affordable housing developers toward a multi-housing development on a city-owned, 10-acre parcel of land. As described, the goals of the city for this parcel closely align with what HFHGB intends to accomplish with these funds – produce more affordable housing. The site under consideration would be ideal for homeowner families that Habitat typically serves, offering convenience to a nearby grocery store and shopping area, access to public transportation, proximity to a hospital and medical facilities, Bangor High School and its amenities, childcare center, and walking trails. By collaborating, significant cost savings would be realized by all involved, which would leverage these funds even further and expedite the timeline for construction and the completion of our six single-family homes.

At this time, no ARPA funds have been expended. Until a site is secured, existing HFHGB and board members are being utilized for scouting land and in the research/planning of the actual construction of the homes.

Penquis: Affordable housing infrastructure \$ 540,000

The current estimated start dates are as follows: phase I June 2024, phase II August 2025, phase III August 2026
With no residents, statistical data is not available

Mental Health

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Mid Maine: Mentoring hub \$ 130,000

Narrative that details the process of the Maine Mentoring Hub

The Mentoring Hub project is on track to reach its targets. We estimate that staff has dedicated over 700 hours laying the groundwork for a successful program. The majority of the first phase has been identifying partnerships and developing relationships with community organizations, which will be the sources of Bigs, as well as developing the framework for the program with the Boys and Girls Club.

In addition to developing a memorandum of understanding between our organizations, we worked to ensure that organizationally-dictated Boys and Girls Clubs and Big Brothers Big Sisters policies and procedures were harmonized. For example, our organizations have slightly different youth protection policies that are tied to risk management directives, and we needed to ensure that our transportation and one-on-one arrangements allow both organizations to meet our individual objectives. We met with regional representatives of both organizations to ensure procedures we will use will be in compliance, and that this model would be successful.

Annual Beneficiary Report
12/31/2023

We have identified the initial group of Littles that are ready to match, working closely with the director of the Boys and Girls Club, Grace Hamel. Of the first cohort of 10 Littles who are ready to be matched, we are finalizing the matches for the first two, and have completed initial steps for the remainder. The process requires that we conduct interviews, perform assessments, and facilitate trainings for each of the matches. We are coordinating with the club to establish a schedule that works for the pairing. We have developed individual development plans and month by month plans for the summer to ensure continuity wherever possible. We are now recruiting and training volunteer coordinators to help with the program. We expect that our first matches will begin meeting in earnest this spring.

Our source for Littles is in place, as they all come from the Boys and Girls Club. These children come from Bangor Housing Authority families and are majority low-to-middle-income. Bigs always require more effort to source, as it is a considerable commitment from adults and/or college and high school students.

We expect to add another full-time program manager over the next year, dedicated to Bangor. This will significantly increase our ability to reach a wider target-base for Bigs, promote, and expand the program into 2026.

As our foundational efforts begin to bear fruit, we anticipate making a rapidly-increasing volume of matches. Our background efforts connecting with businesses and organizations will begin paying off this spring and summer, and then grow rapidly in the fall when school resumes and the college students are back. In addition to developing relationships with the partners listed below we have also distributed fliers to high-traffic locations in Bangor and made numerous cultivation visits to additional businesses and organizations.

Our cohort of partnerships include:

Husson University: Several students from here were previously matched with Littles during our previous program conducted with BGC. We are working closely with Associate Dean of Student Life, Troy Morehouse, to engage different clubs and organizations that might be sources of Bigs, as well as Husson's athletic department. We have had initial interest from the football team.

Bangor Savings Bank: We engaged the community relations staff and are developing a presentation for employees in which we will outline the requirements for Bigs. We are also creating marketing materials to be posted and distributed among their employees.

Versant Power: We are in discussions with Versant to explore the best ways to reach the employees with a call to action. We have produced some short video clips demonstrating the mentoring work we do and what the Big/Little relationships entails. These will be made accessible to the employees.

University Credit Union: We are in discussions with the Union and are also developing videos to be distributed to their employees.

Hannaford: We have had several conversations with Hannaford about recruiting Bigs and expect that they will be as supportive as they have proven over the past.

UMaine Ed Dept. We have been in contact with Eastern Maine Community College and UMaine Augusta (Bangor Campus), and like Husson, have engaged leadership to enlist clubs and organizations within the campus community.

WS Emerson: We have had interest from them to support our efforts – we are in talks for next steps.

Maine Masons: We are engaging in a broader effort to engage male mentors and are working closely with the Maine Masonic foundation to conduct presentations with Bangor-area lodges to solicit volunteers.

Bangor Breakfast Kiwanis: As with other service organizations, we are in the process of scheduling speaking arrangements to amplify the need for mentors.

Statistical Data Related to the Number of Individuals Who Were Assisted

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As of the end of the first quarter of 2024 we are in a position to begin our first matches. These will serve our first 3 youth. The remaining Littles have been interviewed, assessed, and are working on their training. In BBBS parlance, they are “ready for match”. We are developing relationships with three more Bigs and will have them “ready to match” after their required training is completed. We have been in discussions and/or reached out to nine different regional organizations to provide mentors. So far two have completed training.

Brief narrative on sustainability of the Maine Mentoring Hub

Going forward, the sustainability of the Hub will be driven by a diverse revenue stream constituted by our special events, individual and corporate donations, and grants.

Our special events are targeted to raise over \$219,000.00. These include Bowl events that we conduct in the spring; Golf events in May and October; a fundraising dinner; as well as a cultivation event designed to identify and secure donors for specific projects like the Hub. We are looking to diversify our income stream by drawing on our coastal community connections to develop a boat donation program that will benefit our operations, including the Hub. We have applied for year two funding for more than \$90,000 in revenue specifically targeted to the Hub. Finally, we have begun discussion with a current funder to become an anchor donor for the Hub going forward.

Our activities in all these areas are facilitated by the filling of two full-time positions for the agency as a whole: a director of development and a director of grants and communications. These two positions, although not Hub-specific, will drive additional revenue to the Bangor project.

With a diversified revenue stream and new staff in place, we feel that we are in a good position to grow our program and reach many more children in the coming year, sustainably.

Christine B. Foundation: support site design/planning of Nutritional Health facility \$ 100,000

To date the ARPA funding we received, the full amount has been obligated to the planning and design phase of the cancer nutrition center. \$0 has been expended to date, with anticipated expenses occurring in Q3 and Q4 of 2024.

St. Andre Home: community based behavioral healthcare, and support \$ 50,000

Hire a mental health clinician and serve at least 50 individuals,

We continue to seek a full-time clinician and have been interviewing candidates. With this, \$20,000 from the ARPA funds will be continued for this purpose.

Hire case manager and serve at least 50 individuals.

A full-time case manager was hired in December 2023. She has served 129 adults who are Bangor residents during this timeframe. The services provided have been a range from one-time referrals to longer-term support. Services have included connections and linkages with services and additional resources such as healthcare and medical treatment, housing resources, employment, education, basic needs support, and substance use disorder referrals. All designated funds for this goal have been utilized.

Deliver at least 20 community educational groups on identifying and responding to the needs of survivors of human trafficking and exploitation.

We have delivered 20 educational groups to a variety of community organizations.

Deliver at least 20 community educational groups on the topic of identifying and responding to the needs of survivors of human trafficking and exploitation. Status: Training has been provided for the following organizations:

Training has been provided to the following organizations: Husson College, Penobscot county, Bangor Public Library, St. Joseph Hospital, tattoo artists, BARN, Partners for Peace, CHCS, faith leaders, Penquis, case management providers, U Maine, Fresh Start and residents. All designated fund for this goal have been expended

**Annual Beneficiary Report
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Expand the Empowerment Pantry to include community meals and the ability to either send out meals or the ingredients to fully prepare meals to families in need to provide at least 500 meals over the next year.

We have provided 617 meals to Bangor residents. Compared to the prior year, this is a 50% increase in the number of meals we provided to Bangor residents.

In our original proposal, we had intended to have an AmeriCorps/Vista volunteer this year to assist with our food security goals. Due to federal delays in the AmeriCorps program, we have not yet had a volunteer placed with us. With this, we will continue \$6,000 until a new volunteer is placed with us.

Together Place Peer Run Recovery Ctr.: support grant writer/development manager \$ 154,765
Search process has not yet begun., Anticipated hiring date July 2024

Other

Bangor Symphony Orchestra: support relocation of Bangor Arts Exchange \$ 40,000
The BSO has suspended the Bangor Arts Exchange with Launchpad and is no longer seeking performance in downtown Bangor.
Staff has spoken with BSO representatives who would like an opportunity to propose an amendment to present to the City Council. This change from application will need to be addressed in September if not earlier.

Eastern Area Agency on Aging: support healthy aging in Bangor \$ 67,000
Estimated number of meals provided and overall completion % of target; unique community café attendees; residents benefit by Furry Friends
To the extent possible statistical data related to households and communities served (i.e. change in wait list, increase in meals)

Jan - March - Meals 7192, Meals @ 25% - 1798
Pet Food & Supplies - 4166 Units
Salaries - Jan - March \$4927.92

Maine Discovery Museum: Air handling and HVAC equipment replacement \$ 500,000
We are still in the engineering assessment of the HVAC capacity, our needs and what can be updated/replaced given the building's structural capacity.

The Maine Discovery Museum served almost 40,000 patrons within our museum in 2023, and approximately 27% (~14,000) we from Bangor. We utilized individual air conditioning units and air filters throughout the summer months to keep the temperature in the building at a level that allowed us to remain open. The estimated cost (both the equipment and the electricity costs of running those units) to MDM was approximately \$13,000- \$15,000. For the winter, we have paid for window inserts on the first floor (Window Dressers), at a cost of approximately \$2200, and have been running air filters continuously on each floor.

Maine Multicultural Center: start up funding for program manager \$ 70,700
An annual statement as to the level of success gained.
to the extent possible, statistical data related to housed and communities served.

Since August 1, 2023, MMCC has assisted in the resettlement of 5 single individuals and 18 families (71 individuals, 23 of whom are school age children). All families have been assigned a volunteer support team and all single individuals have been assigned one volunteer to work with them. From October 2023 through April 2024, volunteers logged 2,062.25 hours of service - a value of \$69,065.75.

**Annual Beneficiary Report
12/31/2023**

All families who arrived in 2023 have at least one adult who is employed with one exception. The head of one household recently sustained injuries in an accident and has been temporarily unable to work. Of the 14 families who arrived in January & February of 2024, at least one adult in 6 of the families has found work and others are actively seeking work and enrolled in English language classes. All 23 of the school aged children are enrolled in school and attend regularly.

The funding received was intended to cover 1 year of Program Manager salary & benefits. The year is 75% complete. The project has been very successful, and funding has been secured to cover two more years of operation. MMCC's accompaniment model of volunteer support has been very successful. Most families have an adult member working within 4 to 6 months of arrival. Most have significantly improved English language skills after 1 year. Most of the children have adapted well to school and many are engaged in extracurricular activities. Families that have been here for a year or more are setting down roots and integrating well into the community. One family has started a restaurant business, and another is in the process of developing a business plan for a market.

Substance Use Disorder

Bangor Area Recovery Network: facility improvements enhance/expand services \$ 415,600
We have engaged in a contract with Haley Ward to manage the project.

Fresh Start Inc: investment in energy efficient communal recovery housing (2 awards) \$ 896,100
Statistical data related to social detox

Social detox is not feasible at this time, therefore the Center Street property remains with 7 apartments, that provide housing to 11 individuals (included in #s below)

Statistical data related to medically assisted treatment 37

Annual recovery capital index

The recovery capital index is a self-assessment tool utilized to measure addiction wellness. It is built on three domains, nine indicators, and 22 components which have demonstrated a positive affect on recovery and intervention effectiveness.

The assessment is undertaken every 45 days, the first on intake into a Fresh Start facility

Assessment #1	4%
Assessment #2	18%
Assessment #3	24%
Assessment #4	26%
Assessment #5	29%
Assessment #6	29%

Annual utility usage

Natural gas (therms)	15,038
Heating oil (gallons)	847
Electricity(kwh)	135,569

Statistical; data related to residents living in Bangor facilities

# of clients served	264
Average length of stay	147
Living arrangements prior to intake	
Incarcerated	71
Inpatient	43
Inpatient rehabilitation	14
Living at home	34
Unhoused	87

Workforce Development

Literacy Volunteers of Bangor: support of greater adult self-sufficiency and ready workforce \$ 50,000
Statistical data related to the number of individuals who were assisted

Annual Beneficiary Report

12/31/2023

To date, the ARPA funding is in a restricted account earning interest. Last fall, the board of directors approved a strategic plan that included hiring an additional part time staff member in FY25 (beginning July 2024). We have specifically designated the ARPA grant to fund that person's salary over the next two years.

Number of students enrolled (Bangor 77), Other towns (98)	175
Number of students enrolled by service	
Basic reading/writing	64
English language learning	111
High school equivalency	33
Individuals are counted above and may have the following goals	
US citizenship	45
Transition to post-secondary education	45
Family	56
Financial literacy	12
Digital literacy	12
# of new tutors on-boarded	31
Estimated % of unemployed or underemployed students	67%