County Employee Benefit Consortium of Ohio
CEBCO
Health & Wellness
CONGRATULATIONS!
Hancock County
is now a CEBCO Member!

CEBCO is now 44 Counties Strong

October 3, 2022

Last week it was announced that Hancock County will join the County Employee Benefit Consortium of Ohio (CEBCO) effective January 1, 2023! With the additional add of Pickaway County on January 1 (announced in July), CEBCO will have a membership of 44 counties, or half the state!

Learn more about the services CEBCO provides here.

If you are having issues viewing Counties Current in your email, click [View this email in your browser] at the top of the email.

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ASSOCIATION AND MEMBER NEWS

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Ohio's Human Services Data Warehouse and its potential for counties

Provided to CCAO by Evelyn Stratton (of EStratton Consulting), written by Sally Luken (of Luken Solutions)

Many Stepping Up counties have completed or are scheduled to complete a useful tool in planning - the Sequential Intercept Map (SIM). The SIMs process, facilitated by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Centers on Excellence at NEOMED, helps counties determine the intercepts of someone with mental illness with their criminal justice system. A county then strategically plans to disrupt key intercepts so as to reduce the historic trajectory to jail of someone with mental illness. In Ohio, Stepping Up counties' SIMs strategic plans highlight the need to share data among systems the Stepping Up population encounters locally. Good data that is shared can also be an important tool to determine solutions, such as the type and number of housing units needed to end the population's cycling.

In Ohio, a source for data collection, data sharing and data matching is the Ohio Human Services Data Warehouse. This Data Warehouse is held and managed by the Ohio Housing Finance Agency's (OHFA) research and policy department and is led by a statewide Steering Committee. The Data Warehouse successfully uploads on a regular basis data from all homeless data management systems across our 88 counties, and data from Medicaid on utilization of behavioral health services. One Ohio county jail's data (26,000 records) was also uploaded one time from Cuyahoga County.

With the Human Services Data Warehouse Steering Committee and Cuyahoga County's permission, we are sharing the results of that 2019 data match project. If this type of data match is of interest to your Stepping Up county, please contact Chelsea Buckwalter, Policy Director at OHFA for more information on how your county jail can participate in the Human Services Data Warehouse. CBuckwalter@ohiohome.org or (614)-466-6094.

Ohio Ethics Commission issues statement regarding stimulus funds

Last week the Ohio Ethics Commission released a statement ensuring that public officials are aware that stimulus funds, such as those received under the federal American Rescue Plan Act and the funds that communities will receive under Governor Mike DeWine's Appalachian investment program, are public funds and that conflict of interest laws must be observed.

To that effect, the Commission also recirculated its Advisory Opinion No. 2009-006, issued in 2009 regarding stimulus funds made available to governments under the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. It provides a more in-depth examination of potential conflicts of interest with stimulus funds, including a discussing regarding vendors.

CCAO encourages members refamiliarize themselves with this Advisory Opinion and conflict of interest laws to ensure good stewardship of ARPA and Appalachia funds.

Reminder: Reimbursement available for use of psychotropic drugs and medication-assisted treatment

As a reminder to counties, costs incurred by your county jails for psychotropic drug treatment and medication-assisted treatment for withdrawal or detoxification can be reimbursed through the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS).

The current state operating budget allocated $3 million for the former and $2 million to the latter in each fiscal year. According to data provided by OMHAS, requested reimbursements for psychotropic drug reimbursement totaled slightly more than its $3 million appropriation, requests for reimbursement for medication-assisted treatment totaled only about $345,000 out of $2 million.

As cabinet departments finalize and submit their budget requests for the upcoming state budget, it is important that counties utilize programs such as these. If these programs are not used, it is unlikely they will be continued in future years.

You can read more about the psychotropic drug reimbursement program and the medication-assisted treatment reimbursement program at OMHAS' website. If you have questions regarding how to apply for reimbursement through the programs, please contact CCAO Legislative Counsel Kyle Petty at kpetty@ccao.org or 614-220-7977.

Registration open for John Glenn College of Public Administration Leadership Forum; Honeck to speak as ARPA panelist

On October 28, the John Glenn College of Public Administration at the Ohio State University is hosting its 10th annual Leadership Forum. The event provides coverage of current and emerging trends in public administration and public policy.

CCAO's own Jon Honeck, Senior Policy Analyst, is one of the panelists for a breakout session at 10:30 a.m. regarding how the state and local communities have been utilizing American Rescue Plan Act funds. The other speakers on the panel are Kim Murnieks, the Director of the Office of Budget and Management, and Kate Warren, the Director of the Greater Cleveland American Rescue Plan Coalition at The Center for Community Solutions.

The Leadership Forum is a full day event, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and concluding at 5:30 p.m. More information regarding registration can be found here.

Approved purposes for OneOhio opioid settlement dollars

As a reminder, the first payment of the OneOhio Distributor Settlement (McKesson, Cardinal, AmerisourceBergen) was sent to participating local governments in July. This payment is from the 30% Local Government Share. This is the first of 18 payments for the Distributor Settlement. This document lists the payment amounts each local government received. CCAO also created an Excel sheet (available here) that organizes the payment amounts by county.

Settlement dollars must be spent according to the approved purposes found in the Ohio Abatement Strategies in Exhibit A of the OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding. The Ohio Abatement Strategies can be found here.

Please review Auditor of State Bulletin 2022-003 (available here) that explains accounting procedures for these dollars. The bulletin states, in part:

"Before the local government receives its portion from the state, the Auditor of State (AOS) recommends that each participating subdivision accepting the Funds provide by a written ordinance or resolution that the LG Share of the OneOhio Funds shall be placed in a separate fund and used only for the approved purposes as required by the OneOhio MOU. As the special fund is created under Ohio Rev. Code §5705.09(F), local governments do not need to seek AOS approval for establishing this new fund.

AOS recommends that each participating subdivision accepting OneOhio Funds clearly document their rationale for each expenditure. This documentation is best provided by legislation adopted by the entity's legislative body explaining how the expenditure meets the approved purposes definition of the OneOhio MOU. To aid in our future audit work, we also ask that each expenditure be carefully tracked and adequate documentation of the expenditure be maintained."

If you have questions, please contact CCAO Outreach & Member Engagement Manager Rachel Massoud Reedy at rreedy@ccao.org or 513-543-3723.

STATE AND FEDERAL NEWS

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URGENT: Department of Rehabilitation and Correction requires input regarding T-CAP program participation

The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (ODRC) administers the Targeted Community Alternatives to Prison (T-CAP) grant program. This grant provides funding to counties who volunteer and agree to participate in the program and who submit Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) pursuant to ORC §2929.34 and §5149.38 that indicate their willingness to participate. In FY22/23, 58 counties volunteered to participate. Of those 58 counties, 22 counties also chose to include non-violent, non-mandatory, non-sex Felony 4 offenses along with non-violent, non-mandatory, non-sex Felony 5 offenses. Additional information about T-CAP, including funding levels for FY22/23 can be found here: https://drc.ohio.gov/tcap.

In preparation for the FY 24/25 state biennium operating budget, ODRC is seeking input regarding which counties intend to participate in the T-CAP grant program during FY24-25 in order to determine the correct amount of funding to request from the general assembly to support the T-CAP grants. ODRC is respectfully requesting that counties provide an email response from one person authorized to respond on behalf of the county to DRC.BCSgrants@odrc.state.oh.us by **Friday October 21**, 2022 with the following information:

County:
FY24/25 T-CAP participation (choose only one):
{ } YES Felony 5 T-CAP
{ } YES Felony 5 and Felony 4 T-CAP
{ } NO

A county's response to this request is for budget planning purposes only and will not obligate the county to participate in T-CAP during the FY 24/25 biennium. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation and response. Should you have any questions, please contact BCS Chief Chris Galli at: Christopher.galli@odrc.state.oh.us.

TODAY: NACo hosting membership call regarding Local Assistance and Trival Consistency Fund payments

Last week the US On September 29, the U.S. Department of the Treasury announced the release of the first round of Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) payments, providing $1.5 billion in two equal payments of $750 million for FYs 2022 and 2023 to "eligible revenue sharing counties" under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). **TODAY from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**, NACo will be hosting a membership call regarding the release.

NACo staff will give an overview of the distribution of LATCF funds, eligible uses and reporting requirements, and answer questions from county officials about the program. ARPA states that LATCF funds are available "for any governmental purpose other than a lobbying activity." These funds can be treated like general revenue or federal Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funds.

Fifty-two Ohio counties qualify to receive funds, ranging from $100,000 to $481,824 over both payments. The full list is available here.

Register for the membership call here.

Auditor of State releases bulletin regarding findings for recovery provisions of SB 15

Last week Auditor of State Keith Faber issued a bulletin to clarify the effects that SB 15, which revises fiscal officer liability for the loss of public funds. The bulletin, available here, clarifies that since the statute does not make explicit that it applies retroactively, the Auditor of State will apply those new provisions codified by SB 15 to fiscal officer conduct that occurs after September 13, 2022 (the date the bill became effective).

CCAO encourages members acquaint themselves with the bulletin should any questions arise during audit reports.

October 19 Broadband Access Ohio meeting open to public

On October 19, Broadband Access Ohio is hosting its October meeting in Columbus. The meeting is open to non-members as long as registration (free and can be completed here) is provided. The meeting will include sessions on community broadband financing, current challenges, and the legal landscape of community broadband programs.

Broadband Access Ohio is an organization supporting high-speed, high-quality internet access through public-private partnerships and is comprised largely of local governments and government associations. CCAO is a member of the organization, as are Medina County, Summit County, Defiance County, and Union County.

COSI, Ohio Distance Learning Initiative issue Phase 1 report

The partnership between the Center of Science and Industry (COSI) and the Ohio Distance Learning Initiative (ODLI) has released a report regarding their collaboration to address a shortfall in the area of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education caused in part by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The effort involved distribution of COSI's "Learning Lunchboxes," which provide five days of learning content about a central theme. It also includes a STEM career connection resource and a reading enrollment resource, developed through the Office of Workforce Transformation and the Imagination Library, respectively.

As part of the effort, COSI and ODLI engaged with elected officials from across the state to help distribute the boxes. Among the elected officials that the partnership highlighted in the report were Columbiana County Commissioners Mike Halleck and Roy Paparodis, Mahoning County Commissioner Carol Rimedio-Righetti, and Licking County Commissioners Duane Flowers, Rick Black, and Tim Bubb. Also featured were former CCAO Board of Directors members and current State Representatives Brian Stewart (Pickaway County) and Dan Troy (Lake County).

You can access the complete report here.

EDUCATION AND GRANTS

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CCAO will be posting notifications of pertinent grants in this section. Additional grants can be found on the Grants and Funding Opportunities page on the CCAO website. We recommend you keep an eye on this page since it will be updated frequently and is a permanent fixture as opposed to this Counties Current section which changes weekly.

Application window for $50 million in jail project funding is open

The Department of Rehabilitation & Correction (DRC) has opened the application window for $50 million in jail project funding that was included in the most recent capital appropriations bill.

Applications will be evaluated through a process similar to that used for projects funded under the prior capital budget, with one notable change. The question regarding cost per bed will no longer be a "scored question" but it will still be considered for projects intending to expand a jail's housing capacity.

The application can be found here, as well as the announcement letter and an OBM guide on allowable capital expenditures.

CCAO recommends that all counties apply for funds through the program. Even if you consider it unlikely your county will receive funding through the program, applying shows the Dewine-Husted Administration the overwhelming need for jail funding and will help the Association lobby for more funding in the future.

In addition to the $50 million discussed above, there is a total of $575,000 available for designated jails identified in HB 687. A funding guide will be sent directly to these recipients from DRC.

The application deadline for the $50 million pool is November 30, 2022.

NOTE: the application PDF states that the deadline is October 30, 2022. This is an error; the deadline is November 30.

If you have any questions about the grant program or would like to discuss issues with your county jail that may not be covered by these funds, please contact Legislative Counsel Kyle Petty at kpetty@ccao.org or 614-220-7977.

Community Violence Prevention Grant launched

Last week Governor Mike DeWine announced the opening of a new grant program available to local communities. The Community Violence Prevention Grant Program is now accepting applications for grants to fund programs to establish or enhance community-based interventions to prevent violence and connect crime victims to recovery services.

Examples of eligible projects include, but are not limited to, wrap-around services for child victims of violence, civilian-based crisis response teams to support individuals undergoing behavioral crises, and trauma recovery programs to address the needs of underserved crime survivors.

A total of $20 million is available through the program. The funding comes from state-level ARPA dollars.

Applications must be submitted by November 1. Funding can be extended over 24 months and can be back-dated to September 1, 2022.

Additionally, a training webinar regarding application preparation and the review process will be held on October 6 at 10:00 a.m., registration for which can be completed here.

Bricker & Eckler to host annual workshop regarding construction claims

Join Bricker & Eckler for the 20th annual "Top Gun Construction Claims Seminar" on October 13! This full-day workshop covers important construction concepts, including key contract language, best practices for project documentation, the risks of unforeseen site conditions, delays and lost productivity claims, and the design professional's standard of care; strategies to address damage and claims; tools to analyze, prepare for and defend against claims for additional compensation; options to manage and resolve construction claims efficiently; and cost escalation of materials and shipping delays.

1. In-person tuition includes breakfast, lunch, snacks and handout materials. (Space is limited to the first 120 registrations)
2. Virtual tuition includes a PDF of handout materials.
3. If two or more people are attending from the same organization, contact Kayla Entsminger for a discounted group rate.

This program has been submitted to the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Continuing Legal Education for 7 total CLE hours of instruction. *Approval is pending*. Certificates for Engineering CPD will be available upon request. For more information, visit: bit.ly/Top-Gun-Construction-2022.

ARPA and BIL RESOURCES

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This section of Counties Current will be a permanent fixture for the foreseeable future to help counties with the ins and outs of the American Rescue Plan Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. These two laws provide a once-in-a-generation investment.

Updated Treasury guidance provides flexibility for using ARPA funds for affordable housing

Last week the US Department of Treasury released new guidance that provides additional flexibility to use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to boost the supply of affordable housing. This updated guidance follows the White House's recently released Housing Supply Action Plan that outlines how counties can leverage ARPA dollars for affordable housing.

Key highlights of the update guidance include:

- **Increased flexibility to use Recovery Funds for long-term affordable housing loans**: As outlined in the Final Rule, Recovery Funds may be used to finance long-term affordable housing loans. SLFRF permits funds to be used, among other uses, to combat the public health and negative economic effects of the pandemic, including by building affordable housing. The updated guidance allows counties to use Recovery Funds to fully finance long-term affordable housing loans, including the principal of any such loans, subject to certain conditions. These changes will facilitate significant additional financing for affordable housing projects, including those that may be eligible for additional assistance under Treasury's Low Income Housing Credit (LIHTC).
- **Expanded eligible uses:** Under Treasury's Final Rule, counties were permitted to use funds for affordable housing, identifying uses consistent with two major U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs – the National Housing Trust Fund (NTF) and Home investments Partnerships Program (HOME) – as presumptively eligible under the Recovery Fund. The updated guidance expands that list to include an expanded range of federal programs from multiple agencies, permitting more options for how states and local governments can presumptively use funds for affordable housing. Additionally, Treasury updated its guidance to clarify that Recovery Funds may be used to finance the development, repair, or operation of any affordable rental housing unit that provides long-term affordability of 20 years or more to households at or below 65 percent of the local area median income.
- **Treasury and HUD released new "How-To" guide**: Treasury worked with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to publish a How-to Guide for Affordable Housing. The guide provides a summary of how counties can use ARPA Recovery Funds for affordable housing and combine these dollars with other federal funds. In addition to this guide, Treasury and HUD will host a series of webinars, which will be announced at a later date.

Treasury has reflected the above updates related to eligible housing expenditures in their Final Rule FAQs. Specific updates include:

- **FAQ 2.14 (pgs. 10-11):** The updated FAQ reflects new presumptively eligible uses, which include: 1. projects that would be eligible for funding under an expanded list of federal housing programs and; 2. projects for the development, repair or operation of affordable rental housing with certain income and affordability requirements.
  - Presumption 1: In addition to projects funded by the National Housing Trust Fund (NTF) and Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), which were already eligible under previous guidance, any projects funded by the following federal housing program are now also eligible:
    - The Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (administered by Treasury)
    - The Public Housing Capital Fund (administered by HUD)
    - Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program and Section 811
    - Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities Program (administered by HUD)
    - Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA) (administered by HUD)
    - Multifamily Preservation & Revitalization program (administered by USDA)
  - Presumption 2: Under the new guidance, Treasury will presume that an investment in the development, repair, or operation of any affordable rental housing unit is an eligible use of Recovery Funds if the unit has a limited maximum income of 65 percent area median income (AMI, as imposed through a covenant, land use restriction agreement, or other enforceable legal requirements for a period of at least 20 years. A jurisdiction may establish a longer period of affordability at its discretion.

Important note for Presumption 1: These programs use different income limits than the definitions of low- and moderate-income adopted by Treasury. If a county chooses to invest in an affordable housing project under the above federal program, the investment agreement must adhere to all applicable local codes and requirements related to: Resident income restrictions; period of affordability and related covenant requirements for assisted units; tenant protections; and housing quality standards.

Counties may use Recovery Funds as part of the financing for a mixed-income housing project if the total financing made up of Recovery Funds does not exceed the total development costs attributable to affordable housing units limited to households at or below 65 percent AMI for the affordability period.

- **FAQ 4.9 (pgs. 35-36):** The updated FAQ reflects loans to fund investments in affordable housing projects. Recovery Funds can be used to finance certain loans that finance affordable housing investments. Counties may use Recovery Funds to make loans to finance affordable housing projects, funding the full principal amount of the loan, if the loan and project meet the following requirements:
  - The loan has a term of no less than 20 years
  - Affordable housing project being financed has an affordability period of no less than 20 years AFTER the project or assisted units are available for occupancy after ARPA investment
  - For loans to finance projects expected to be eligible for the low-income housing credit the project owner must agree to waive any right to request a qualified contract and repay any loaned funds to the entity that originated the loan at the time the project becomes non-compliant
  - This additional flexibility to finance qualified low-income housing projects aligns with that of the LIFELINE Act, which NACo endorsed.

If you have any questions, please contact Eryn Hurley, Director of Government Affairs for NACo, at ehurley@naco.org.

Treasury releases updated ARPA reporting guidance; NACo provides overview

The U.S. Department of the Treasury recently released updated reporting guidance for Project and Expenditure Reports and a template for the Recovery Plan Performance Report. Both have been released ahead of the next reporting deadline, July 31. **This reporting deadline only applies to counties with a population over 250,000 or that have received a total distribution of more than $10 million.**

NACo provided a summary of key updates to the reporting guidelines. These requirements will impact all counties regardless of population size and award amount.

- **Additional programmatic data for capital expenditures:** When using Recovery Funds for capital expenditures projects, counties need to report the type of expenditure based on a list of enumerated uses. Examples of enumerated uses are COVID-19 vaccination sites, job and workforce training centers, and public health data systems. A full list of enumerated uses is available on pages 27 to 28 of the updated guidance.
- **Written justification for capital expenditures:** Counties are required to provide a written justification for capital projects of any category that cost at least $10 million and for projects in the "other" (i.e., project not explicitly enumerated by Treasury) category that cost at least $1 million. Previously, counties needed to create a written justification for these projects but were not required to submit them as part of regular reporting.
- **Description of labor requirements for capital expenditures:** Counties are required to provide additional labor reporting. For projects that cost at least $10 million, counties will need to report on the strength of the project's labor standards, including information on the presence of a project labor agreement, community benefits agreement, prevailing wage requirement, or local hiring. This new required information is outlined under Infrastructure Project on pages 30-31 of the updated guidance.
- **Project information for broadband projects:** The updated guidance requires counties to provide detailed project information for broadband infrastructure investments. Counties need to report what kind of technology is involved in the project (i.e., fiber optic cables, coaxial cables, etc.), the total miles of fiber deployed over the project, and the total number of funded locations served broken out by both speed of connection and type of location (i.e., residential, business, or community). This new required information is outlined under Broadband Projects on pages 32-33 of the updated guidance.
- **Moving of Recovery Plan Performance Report data into P&E Report:** Under the updated guidance, some of the data that was previously only required for the Recovery Plan Performance Report (Recovery Plan) is now required for large counties (populations above 250,000 and/or above $10 million in awards) on their quarterly P&E Report. For example, large counties investing in housing security programs must now report the number of households receiving eviction prevention services. A full list of changes to programmatic data requirements for large counties is available on page 33 of the compliance and reporting guidance.
- **Updated template for Recovery Plan:** The updated guidance also provides a template for the Recovery Plan due for large counties on July 31, 2022, reflecting the expenditure categories and other changes made by the Final Rule.

If you have any questions, please contact Eryn Hurley, Director of Government Affairs for NACo, at ehurley@naco.org.

Guidance and overview of available BIL funding available from NACo and the Ohio Department of Transportation

NACo and ODOT each host a resource page providing information to counties about the Bipartican Infrastructure Law. The pages are rich with information including multiple tables providing overviews and links to funding opportunities, a timeline of upcoming grant programs, and much more.

The NACo website can be found here and the ODOT website can be found here.

CCAO strongly encourages counties to frequently visit the sites and apply for funding through the myriad of programs to bring valuable federal funds to Ohio communities.

NACo provides overview of U.S. Treasury's allocation of second ARPA Recovery Funds tranche

On May 26, NACo provided statewide associations an update that the U.S. Treasury has begun the process of allocating funds from the second tranche of the ARPA Recovery Fund.

Key highlights to the second tranche payment process include:

1. All counties must have an active SAM.gov registration in order to receive their second tranche of funding
2. Effective **April 4, 2022,** the federal government switched service providers and stopped using the DUNS number and began using the Unique Entity ID (UEI) – **All counties are required to switch from a DUNS number to a UEI**
3. If a county's SAM.gov registration expired (12-month coverage) before it is due to receive its second tranche payment (and after April 4, 2022) the county is required to re-active its SAM.gov registration, which will require them to adopt a UEI (instead of a DUNS number) **PRIOR TO** receiving their second tranche

Process for Counties to Receive Second Tranche ARPA Recovery Fund Payment

- Section 603 of ARPA provides payments to eligible local governments in two tranches, with the second tranche payment being made no earlier than 12 months after the first payment
- Consistent with this requirement, Treasury expects to provide second tranche payments to local governments **approximately 12 months after their first payment**
- In the coming weeks, Treasury will open the submission portal in a phased approach, **allowing counties to access the portal for 30 days prior to their second tranche payment date**
- Counties will receive a notification from Treasury by email letting them know that they can enter the portal – **it is very important to make sure that the assigned point of contact is still available to receive future communications**
  - The **point of contact is the individual designated in the portal during the first tranche submission** who will receive email notifications on submission status, including any issues found during the verification and communication regarding payments
  - The **individual entering the portal for the second tranche submission will be the same individual with the registered** ID.me who submitted for the first tranche allocation
  - If that individual is no longer with the county and you need to designate a new individual, email COVIDReliefITSupport@treasury.gov with the subject line "Entity Name – Update to Designated Individuals" and include the role that needs to be updated along with the full name, title, email and phone number of the new person designated
- After the email is received by the county, the point of contact will be able to update their entity information to include banking information in the portal
- In preparation for the second tranche payment, counties should ensure their SAM.gov entity registration is still active – **all counties are required to have a SAM.gov registration to receive their second tranche payment**
  - Note that on **April 4, 2022,** the federal government changed service providers and stopped using the DUNS Number and began using the Unique Entity ID (UEI) in SAM.gov to identify entities
  - All counties, even those already registered in SAM.gov, must validate their entity information through the new service provider
  - Counties may need to provide additional supporting documentation through the new system
  - The General Services Administration (GSA) released FAQs to support counties through this new process
  - **Counties are required to renew their SAM.gov registration every 12-months. If a county's SAM.gov registration expired (12-month coverage) before it is due to receive its second tranche (and after April 4, 2022) the county is required to re-active their SAM.gov registration, which will require them to adopt a UEI (instead of a DUNS number) PRIOR TO receiving their second tranche**

If you have any questions, please contact Eryn Hurley, Director of Government Affairs for NACo, at ehurley@naco.org.

JobsOhio's American Rescue Plan Guidebook is available

JobsOhio's revised ARPA Guidebook is available for download at the following address: https://www.jobsohio.com/american-rescue-plan-guidebook/

The Guidebook is a resource for local leaders looking to maximize the impact of ARP funds and become better informed about ARP funds and potential investments. The Guidebook is a result of conversations with local, regional, and state leaders to learn their plans for ARP funds, share best practices, and support leaders in maximizing the potential economic impact of ARP funds.

Ohio leaders identified three priority investment areas that are broadly aligned to Treasury Recovery Fund objectives:

- Build a more resilient workforce by investing in talent hard-hit by the pandemic (e.g., support for training for high-demand skills for individuals in qualified populations and those disproportionately impacted by the pandemic)
- Upgrade critical infrastructure to revitalize communities and support Ohio's economy (e.g., expanding digital infrastructure coverage)
- Support the small businesses and industries most negatively impacted by the pandemic (e.g., scale access to grants/loans for SMBs)

Resources for ARPA Reporting and Compliance

Counties and other local governments are required to submit their ARPA financial reports to the US Treasury. The next deadline is July 31 (for large counties only). The following resources are available to help CCAO members to navigate reporting requirements:

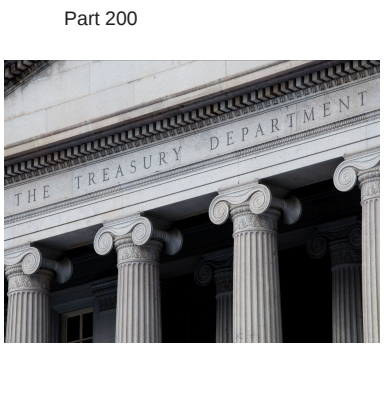
US TREASURY WEBINAR ON REPORTING GUIDELINES FOR THE STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS
National Association of Counties and US Treasury
Webinar recorded April 21, 2022
Join NACo for a review of the Treasury Department's webinar on reporting guidelines and compliance requirements for the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund program. To view the slides and recording of the webinar, click here.

ARPA FISCAL RECOVERY FUND: OVERVIEW OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND UNIFORM GUIDANCE
National Association of Counties and Government Finance Officers Association
Webinar recorded April 14, 2022
Join NACo and Government Finance Officers Association for an overview of what you need to know when it comes to reporting for the American Rescue Plan Act's (ARPA) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. During this session, participants will hear about key requirements as they related to the U.S. Department of Treasury's guidance and the federal Uniform Guidance. To view the slides and recording of the webinar, click here.

NACo provides updates on ARPA funding

NACo refreshed a major update of its analysis of Treasury's Final Rule for the ARPA Fiscal Recovery Fund. The updated analysis includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Clarifying information on eligible/ineligible uses from Treasury, including capital expenditures
- Deeper dive on the provisions around revenue loss allocations
- Treatment of loans
- Reporting requirements and background information on federal Uniform Guidance/2 CFR Part 200



To see a concise summary of the final rule for the Recovery Fund, please see the Overview Document.

NACo members with questions should contact Eryn Hurley, director of Government Affairs, at ehurley@naco.org.

COUNTY NEWS

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Each week Counties Current highlights the happenings in our counties in the words of their local media. One county from each of the CCAO's five districts is highlighted.

Northwest District

Ottawa County Commissioners talk renewable energy restrictions

WTOL.com, September 28, 2022

Commissioners in Ottawa County invited the public to talk about wind and solar projects Tuesday afternoon. The meeting was intended to gather information and plans from townships about restrictions on new large solar and wind energy projects, before taking action on a resolution that would restrict projects in the county.

Ohio Senate Bill 52's passage last year made the resolution possible, giving counties the power to restrict new renewable energy projects. Renewable energy developers would need input from townships before approval by a county's board of commissioners and the Ohio Power Siting Board.

However, the commissioners are moving the meeting back a month to give people more time to take a more informed position.

"That'll give everyone enough time," Ottawa County Commissioner Mark Coppeler said. "If they want to contact their township trustees, they can. They'll have plenty of time to do that."

Northeast District

Cuyahoga County raising social worker pay to $26 per hour - among highest in state - to help address DCFS issues

Cleveland.com, September 28, 2022

Cuyahoga County social workers will now be one of the highest paid in the state, making good on one of Executive Armond Budish's promises to increase wages to help fix problems at the Division of Children and Family Services office.

The county will now be offering entry-level social workers $26 per hour, up from the current $20.73, following a bargaining agreement change that county council unanimously approved on Wednesday. It also allows workers to receive raises faster, moving through four step increases, rather than the current nine.

The new agreement was passed as an emergency, under suspended rules, to expedite relief in a department that has struggled to fill vacancies. The county currently has 150 social worker vacancies, Jacqueline Fletcher, DCFS' interim director said.

Central District

Richland County commissioners approve sewer changes near Bellville

Mansfield News Journal, September 28, 2022

The Richland County Commissioners on Tuesday approved an addendum to a 41-year-old contract with the Village of Bellville that officials say will pave the way for major development in the area both now and in the future. The addendum calls for the county to upgrade county-owned sewer lines generally in the area of the Interstate 71 and Ohio 97 interchange, pay for an upgrade to a lift station and turn the infrastructure over to the village.

The sewer lines existed before Bellville expanded its corporation lines north but remained in the county system because of what Commissioners' Chairman Tony Vero explained was a "quirk" in Ohio law. An operating agreement was approved in 1981 under which users of the county lines paid a 40% equalization surcharge on the county sewer rate to cover upgrades at that time to the Bellville sewer plant. Now, sewage is passed through Bellville to a new regional treatment plant in Butler.

Southwest District

Greene County to restore exterior of historic courthouse

Dayton Daily News, September 26, 2022

The Greene County Courthouse will be getting a facelift this fall as the county seeks to repair and restore the exterior of the historic building.

County Commissioners on Thursday authorized just over $322,000 to restore the outside of the century-old building, which is one of Greene County's most recognizable landmarks. The courthouse currently has some limestone that is spalling and in need of repairs, county administrator Brandon Huddleson said.

Quality Masonry Company, based in Dayton, will undertake the work, which includes fixing cracks, patching or replacing the spalled stonework, tuckpointing (which is a process of replacing mortar between bricks), and pressure-washing the entire thing.

Southeast District

Holmes County commissioners ok bid for $3.9M sanitary sewer project

The Daily Record, September 26, 2022

A $3.9 million contract to do the second part of the Winesburg Area Sanitary Collection and Treatment project will be done by J. Miller & Son Excavating.

Holmes County Engineer Chris Young recommended that county commissioners accept the company's bid, which the board did on Monday.

It is the second part of the expansion project to upgrade the wastewater and sewage treatment plant and improve lines going into the plant.

Young said there are at least 75 connections between businesses and residences heading south out of Winesburg toward Berlin.

"It has the ability to affect quite a large group of people," Young said. "If you count employees, it's probably pushing around 400 people."

DATES TO REMEMBER

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OCTOBER 7, 2022
NORTHWEST DISTRICT MEETING (DEFIANCE COUNTY)

OCTOBER 21. 2022
CCAO OCTOBER BOARD MEETING

OCTOBER 28, 2022
CEBCO OCTOBER BOARD MEETING

NOVEMBER 8, 2022
GENERAL ELECTION

DECEMBER 7 - DECEMBER 9, 2022
CCAO-CEAO WINTER CONFERENCE

DID YOU KNOW?

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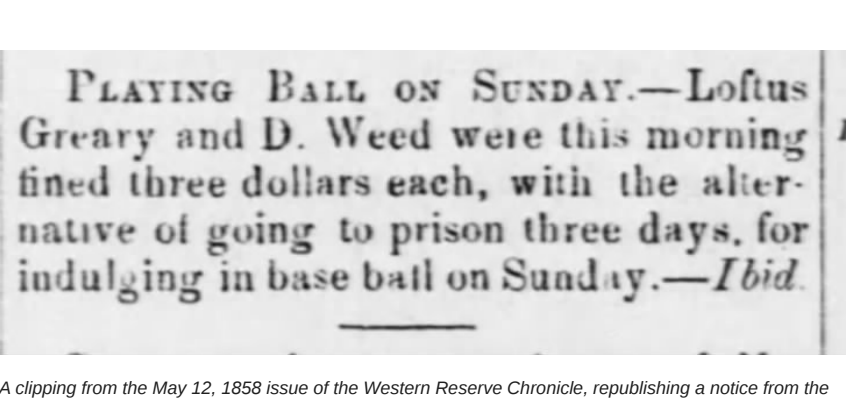
Cuyahoga County

According to the archives at Newspapers.com, which consists of more than 795 million pages from over 25,100 newspapers, one of the earliest references to the sport of baseball being played in Ohio comes from a May 1858 issue of the Cleveland Herald. It notes that two individuals, a Loftus Greary and D. Weed, were fined $3 "for indulging in base ball on Sunday." That fine (which was an alternative to spending three days in prison) is equal to a fine of about $108 today.



PLAYING BALL ON SUNDAY.—Loftus Greary and D. Weed were this morning fined three dollars each, with the alternative of going to prison three days, for indulging in base ball on Sunday.—*Ibid.*

A clipping from the May 12, 1858 issue of the Western Reserve Chronicle, republishing a notice from the Cleveland Herald, with what may be one of the earliest references to baseball being played in Ohio.