FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Board of County Commissioners March 17, 2022



Okaloosa County Offers \$1.5 Million to Non-Profits Through ARPA Funding

Crestview, Fla. – As part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners has approved \$1.5 million in State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) to respond to the public health emergency with respect to COVID–19 and to address its negative economic impacts.

In acknowledgment of the significant challenges which non-profits have faced and in recognition of the critical services that they provide, the county will accept ARPA funding applications from eligible non-profit organizations beginning Thursday, March 17, 2022.

"Many Okaloosa County non-profit organizations have continued to serve our community, despite the long-lasting challenges introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic," said Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners Chairman, Mel Ponder. "We are pleased to offer some relief."

In addition to accepting applications for consideration of ARPA funding, the County has also opened its annual funding opportunity to non-profit organizations who assist the county in carrying out its vision of providing economic opportunity and excellence in critical services to enhance the quality of life for all residents.

Non-profit organizations interested in applying for either funding opportunity may visit the <u>County's</u> <u>website</u> to learn more about eligibility and to download an application. Applications will be accepted through May 2, 2022 at 5 pm. Eligible applicants are encouraged to participate in a webinar scheduled for Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 9 am. For more information on ARPA, the County's application process or to register for the upcoming webinar, visit <u>myokaloosa.com/nonprofitfunding</u>.

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