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Newton ARPA Investment Economic Stability & Economic Mobility - \$2 million

We are using ARPA funding to assist those Newtonians who suffered disproportionately as a result of the pandemic. ARPA investments complement funding previously deployed, including \$418,000 in CARES funds, \$2.7 million of CPA funds, \$1.7 million in Community Development funds, and \$1.1 million in Emergency Solutions Grants. All of these dollars have supported pandemic relief, housing and rental assistance, and health and human services.

More is needed. I, along with our social services and housing staff, are acutely aware that the human impact of the pandemic is still being felt. A few days ago, I announced that our Annual Action Plan uses an additional \$3.5 million in Federal funds to support affordable housing, rental assistance, human services, and architectural access here in Newton in Fiscal Year 2023.

Tonight, I am proud to announce that we will dedicate another \$2 million in ARPA funds to support low-income residents and residents impacted by the pandemic, both of which are disproportionately people of color. This allocation of funds comes after the completion of the [Community Needs Assessment](#) in February 2022, which includes a series of short-term and long-term recommended actions. We will make \$250,000 available for low-barrier emergency expenses such as rent and utility assistance to address immediate hardships and \$1.75 million for long-term economic mobility and self-sufficiency initiatives that address systemic barriers. This funding again complements the approximately \$2 million in ARPA funds that we have already committed to rent and utility relief and affordable housing.

One of our important goals is to make a permanent impact on affordable housing availability and stability. These ARPA investments, coupled with the development of the West Newton Armory and our support of the good work of partners such as 2LifeCommunities, the Newton Housing Authority, the Newton Community Development Foundation, and MetroWest, reinforces our forward momentum.