The COVID-19 pandemic resurfaced an undeniable truth: charitable nonprofits and governments are natural partners, serving the same constituents in the same communities. The challenges of one are the challenges of all. Partnerships between the sectors allow for leveraging of resources, relationships, and strengths to serve communities even better.
Nonprofits are perfectly positioned to maximize public benefits with their deep knowledge of community needs, reach, and existing relationships, particularly in low-income and underserved or hard-to-reach populations. We are stronger when we invest together; the allocation of Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds provides an ideal opportunity to strengthen these natural partnerships and secure relief, recovery, and greater impact for the public good.

Congress allocated $350 billion in COVID-19 relief funds for state, local, Tribal, and territorial governments to use in providing “assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or to aid impacted industries.” The federal government showed tremendous trust that governments closest to the people and their problems are best positioned to decide the best ways to spend their allocated resources to meet local needs.

**Strengthening State and Local Economies in Partnership with Nonprofits** provides substantive guidance to governments and solutions for nonprofits seeking support from the American Rescue Plan Act funds.
Governments Can Use ARPA Funds to Partner with Nonprofits in Two Broad Ways

Guiding Principles for Identifying High-Impact Programs

Recommendations for Designing and Managing Programs with Impact

Successful Models of Nonprofit Relief from Around the Country

The Role of Nonprofit Advocacy

Roles for Philanthropy

ARPA Federal Allocations Per State

More About ARPA Funds

State and Local Funds | American Rescue Plan Funds, National Council of Nonprofits