



State of Rhode Island

Recovery Plan Performance Report

State Fiscal Recovery Fund

July 2025 Report

Submitted by the State of Rhode Island Pandemic Recovery Office

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**Rhode Island
July 2025 Recovery Plan**

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General Overview

This report is submitted by the State of Rhode Island pursuant to Section 602 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). This report is intended to provide the U.S. Department of Treasury (U.S. Treasury) and the citizens of Rhode Island with an explanation of the State's planning and spending activities for the ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF).

Executive Summary

As Rhode Island began to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Dan McKee understood that the well-being of all Rhode Islanders, families, businesses, and communities depended on the State's recovery plan. The Governor's strategy included a collection of near-term expenditures to offset the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and longer-term investments to transform and modernize key elements of the Rhode Island economy to ensure the state was well-positioned to continue its strong recovery.

His approach focused on leveraging all resources, including the federal funds allocated to the State in ARPA, to bring immediate relief to businesses and households while laying the groundwork for sustainable economic prosperity. The State is implementing SFRF projects, with the goal of providing recovery funds without onerous requirements, while ensuring that the State can collect and analyze data to assess the performance of recipients in achieving the projects' goals. The State is committed to making choices based on evaluating the best, available data within a framework that emphasizes the needs of all Rhode Islanders.

The Governor's strategy involved appropriating \$119 million of the State's \$1.13 billion SFRF allocation in State Fiscal Year 2022 for Rhode Island Rebounds (RI Rebounds) projects. These projects were designed to address the state's most pressing needs that resulted from or were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. These needs included supports for small businesses and impacted industries, retention payments for workers in sectors directly impacted by the pandemic, additional affordable housing units, and better access to medical services for children and families. The enacting legislation for the RI Rebounds projects was passed on January 4, 2022. As of June 30, 2025, the State completed 12 RI Rebounds SFRF projects.

In his State Fiscal Year 2023 budget, the Governor recommended spending priorities for the remainder of the \$1.13 billion SFRF allocation. The General Assembly incorporated most of the Governor's proposed uses of the State's SFRF allocation in its State Fiscal Year 2023 budget that was signed into law on June 27, 2022. As of June 30, 2025, the State completed 20 State Fiscal Year 2023 SFRF projects.

The Governor proposed alternative uses in his State Fiscal Year 2024 budget for a portion of the State's SFRF allocation for projects that did not incur spending in State Fiscal Year 2023. Two projects – Blue Economy Investments, \$70 million, and Bioscience Investments, \$30 million – could not move forward because the use of SFRF was contingent on the State securing additional federal matching funds that were not awarded.

The State Fiscal Year 2024 budget submission recommended providing previously approved SFRF projects with additional funds and creating new projects focused on transportation, elementary and secondary and higher education, and economic development, including a reconfigured Bioscience Investments project with enhanced SFRF funding of \$45 million. The State Fiscal Year 2024 budget was signed into law on June 16, 2023. As of June 30, 2025, the State completed three State Fiscal Year 2024 SFRF projects.

The State Fiscal Year 2025 budget submission and amendment process recommended new projects, additional appropriations for existing projects, and the removal of projects, such as Ongoing COVID-19 Response, \$41.8 million, South Quay Marine Terminal, \$35 million, and PFAS Water Treatment Plant, \$20 million.¹ The General Assembly made additional changes to the Governor's proposals, and the State Fiscal Year 2025 budget was signed into law on June 17, 2024. As of June 30, 2025, the State completed two State Fiscal Year 2025 SFRF projects.

The State Fiscal Year 2026 budget process resulted in one additional SFRF project, the SNAP Retail Incentive Pilot Program, with \$4.5 million being reclassified to this project from the underspend of other SFRF projects. The State Fiscal Year 2026 budget took effect on July 1, 2025.²

Process

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) into law. Immediately thereafter, the Rhode Island Department of Administration (DOA), the Rhode Island Pandemic Recovery Office (PRO), and the Rhode Island Office of Management and Budget (OMB) engaged state agencies in anticipation of the State receiving its SFRF allocation. A survey soliciting potential projects was sent on March 19, 2021, with agencies filling out the criteria for each project and submitting their proposed projects by March 31, 2021.

After U.S. Treasury issued the SFRF interim final rule on May 13, 2021, DOA re-solicited from agencies potential projects with tighter criteria around the use of funds. These initiatives were vetted and considered while developing the RI Rebounds projects presented in this report. The vetting process gave special consideration to projects that demonstrated evidence of timely implementation and execution, the ability to generate benefits within one year, and transformational capacity.

On October 7, 2021, the Governor unveiled his plan, seeking legislative approval to appropriate \$119 million of Rhode Island's SFRF allocation for the RI Rebounds projects. The Rhode Island House of Representatives and Senate Committees on Finance held multiple hearings on the projects to perform their due diligence and receive feedback from constituents.

Upon passage of the legislation enacting the RI Rebounds projects, PRO collaborated with the state and quasi-public agencies responsible for implementing the projects. This collaboration consisted of establishing procedures to comply with U.S. Treasury's reporting requirements for expenditure information and performance metrics. PRO worked with state and quasi-public agencies on the development of mandated state-determined metrics to supplement U.S. Treasury's own performance metrics.

The Governor's State Fiscal Year 2023 budget, which was submitted to the General Assembly on January 20, 2022, proposed projects for the remainder of the State's SFRF allocation. Together, the projects proposed further investments to support expanding affordable and middle income housing; ensuring every young Rhode Islander reaches their full potential; bolstering growing sectors of the state's economy; investing in the workforce to prepare Rhode Islanders for the jobs of the future; and strengthening the health care system in the event of surges in COVID-19 cases or the emergence of new variants. On June

¹ The funding for the PFAS Water Treatment Plant project was shifted from SFRF to the Rhode Island Capital Plan Fund.

² All expenses associated with this project were obligated prior to the December 31, 2024 deadline, in accordance with U.S. Treasury requirements."

9, 2022, the House Committee on Finance unveiled its State Fiscal Year 2023 budget proposal, which funded most of the SFRF projects proposed by the Governor in his budget submission.

Mirroring the process used for the RI Rebounds projects, PRO collaborated with the state and quasi-public agencies, as well as other entities on SFRF projects in subsequent fiscal years to ensure compliance with U.S. Treasury’s reporting standards.

This recovery report only includes information about projects that have advanced through PRO’s reporting and compliance approval process and thereby are authorized to spend SFRF appropriations. Similar information about new SFRF projects that were approved in State Fiscal Year 2026 will be included in future reports to U.S. Treasury.

Table 1. provides the breakdown of all SFRF projects for which appropriations have been made as of the enactment of the State Fiscal Year 2026 budget. For completed projects, the total is the final amount expended on the project.

Table 1. SFRF Appropriations

Project	Total
9-8-8 Hotline	\$5,350,000
Adult Education Investment	\$5,000,000
Affordable Housing Predevelopment	\$10,000,000
Aid to the Convention Center	\$10,000,000
Auto-Enrollment Program	\$1,614,068
Bioscience Investments	\$45,000,000
Broadband Mapping and Planning	\$500,000
Butler Hospital Short Term Stay Unit	\$8,000,000
Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics Development Grants	\$27,646,568
Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics Program Management	\$1,353,432
Child Care Enhanced TEACH Program	\$2,000,000
Child Care Family Provider Support	\$455,957
Child Care Quality Improvements	\$1,145,639
Child Care Retention Bonuses	\$37,398,404
Child Care Workforce Registry	\$1,000,000

Project	Total
Community Learning Center Programming Support Grant	\$2,000,000
Community Revitalization	\$20,000,000
COVID-19 Operational Support: Analytics	\$19,346,136
COVID-19 Operational Support: Epidemiology	\$10,080,721
COVID-19 Operational Support: Testing	\$2,770,226
Crisis Intervention Trainings	\$2,200,000
DCYF Sign-On Bonuses	\$884,422
DCYF Workforce Stabilization	\$23,236,344
Destination Marketing	\$3,000,000
Development of Affordable Housing	\$15,000,000
Development of Affordable Housing Phase II	\$75,000,000
DOC Personnel and Operating Support	\$20,000,000
Down Payment Assistance	\$30,000,000
Early Intervention Provider Relief and Recovery	\$11,000,000
Eat Well, Be Well Program	\$4,500,000
Enhanced Real Jobs	\$30,000,000
Female Youth Residential Facility Design	\$999,850
Fresh Start Scholarship	\$5,000,000
Health Care Facilities: For-Profit Hospital Assistance	\$4,515,113
Health Care Facilities: Health Center Assistance	\$2,500,000
Health Care Facilities: Nonprofit Hospital Assistance	\$40,484,887
Health Care Facilities: Nursing Home Assistance	\$30,000,000
Health Care Facilities: Nursing Home Assistance Phase II	\$10,000,000
Home Repair Program	\$4,500,000

Project	Total
Homelessness Assistance	\$1,485,529
Homelessness Assistance Phase II	\$10,686,836
Homelessness Assistance Phase III	\$19,627,635
Homelessness Assistance Warming Center and Shelter	\$7,000,000
Homelessness Infrastructure	\$4,855,476
Homelessness Infrastructure Phase II	\$30,144,524
Hospitality, Tourism, and Events (HTE) Direct Grants	\$7,999,999
Hospitality, Tourism, and Events (HTE) Marketing	\$2,000,000
Hospitality, Tourism, and Events (HTE) Placemaking	\$2,946,581
Hospitality, Tourism, and Events (HTE) Placemaking Phase II	\$2,053,419
Housing Related Infrastructure	\$3,000,000
Middle Income Housing	\$20,000,000
Minority Business Accelerator	\$5,200,000
Minority Business Accelerator: Rhode Island Black Business Association Grant	\$500,000
Minority Business Accelerator: Roger Williams University Start-Up Clinic	\$300,000
Municipal Fellows	\$1,300,000
Municipal Homelessness Support Initiative	\$2,200,000
Municipal Public Safety Infrastructure	\$11,000,000
Municipal Roads Grant Program	\$20,000,000
Municipal Roads Grants Program Phase II	\$7,000,000
Nonprofit Assistance	\$20,000,000
OER Heat Pumps	\$24,400,000
OHCD Support and Capacity	\$1,500,000

Project	Total
Out of School Time Education Providers	\$4,000,000
Pandemic Recovery Office	\$12,791,789
Pandemic Recovery Office Phase II	\$2,587,275
Pediatric Provider Relief and Recovery	\$7,500,000
Pediatric Provider Relief and Recovery Phase II	\$7,499,871
Permanent Supportive Housing: Crossroads	\$10,000,000
Port of Davisville	\$65,000,000
Preservation of Affordable Housing	\$500,000
Priority Projects Fund	\$22,000,000
Proactive Housing Development	\$1,400,000
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility	\$8,100,150
Public Health Clinics: Free Clinic	\$2,000,000
Public Health Clinics: Open Door	\$2,000,000
Public Health Response Warehouse Support	\$4,178,347
Public Housing Pilot Program	\$10,000,000
Rhode Island College Cybersecurity Institute	\$2,000,000
Rhode Island College Foster Care Youth Scholarship	\$1,021,859
Rhode Island Community Food Bank Grant	\$3,000,000
Rhode Island Reconnect	\$8,000,000
RI Rebounds Administration	\$1,500,000
RIPTA Operating Grant	\$15,000,000
R-Line Free Service Pilot	\$3,250,000
Safety Barriers Study	\$1,750,000
Site Acquisition	\$25,000,000

Project	Total
Small Business Bridge Support	\$2,600,000
Small Business Direct Grants	\$12,172,964
Small Business Energy Efficiency	\$421,995
Small Business Public Health Capital Improvements	\$5,869,294
Small Business Technical Assistance	\$8,735,746
Statewide Housing Plan	\$2,000,000
Support for Survivors of Domestic Violence	\$10,500,000
Transit-Oriented Development Districts	\$4,000,000
Transit-Oriented Zoning Municipal Technical Assistance	\$1,000,000
Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Contribution	\$100,000,000
Washington Bridge Support	\$35,000,000
Total	\$1,131,061,057

Use of Funds

The McKee Administration prioritized SFRF projects that:

- Address the short- and long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Minimize ongoing financial obligations.
- Generate outyear savings and efficiencies.
- Result in lasting benefits.
- Leverage existing administrative infrastructure, with simple and effective program design.

The following section describes the projects that have advanced through the Rhode Island Pandemic Recovery Office's reporting and compliance approval process as of the end of State Fiscal Year 2025.

Aid to Small Business and Impacted Industries and Economic and Workforce Development

Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Contribution: \$100,000,000: The State partially replenished its unemployment insurance (UI) trust fund. An infusion of at least \$78,625,000 was needed to move down the UI tax rate schedule from schedule H to schedule G. The contribution to the UI trust fund was made on September 26, 2022. This project was completed on March 31, 2024.

Enhanced Real Jobs: \$30,000,000: The Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training is addressing unemployment and underemployment by providing career readiness, workforce development, and supportive services to impacted workers to place them in sustainable jobs and on resilient career paths.

DOC Personnel and Operating Support: \$20,000,000: The State used these funds to cover an increase in personnel and operating expenses at the Rhode Island Department of Corrections as a result of the pandemic. This project was completed on September 30, 2024.

Small Business Supports

The program is comprised of five projects – *Direct Grants, Technical Assistance, Public Health Capital Improvements, Energy Efficiency, and Small Business Bridge Support* – available to entities that demonstrated a negative impact from the pandemic. At least 20% of the funds was reserved for minority business enterprises, including women-owned businesses, as defined by state law, except for the *Small Business Bridge Support* project, to which this requirement does not apply.

Small Business Direct Grants: \$12,172,964: Businesses initially received grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000 that were used for operating, reopening, personnel, and other costs. Some businesses received supplemental grants in the amount of \$800. This project was completed on July 24, 2024.

Small Business Technical Assistance: \$8,735,746: Technical assistance providers assisted small businesses apply for *Small Business Direct Grants* and *Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Direct Grants*. The providers also are offering targeted finance, technology, marketing, and planning assistance to boost small businesses’ knowledge base and resiliency. This project was completed on June 30, 2025.

Small Business Public Health Capital Improvements: \$5,869,294: Intermediaries purchased furniture, heat lamps, tents, outdoor Wi-Fi, lighting, power sources, signage, etc. needed for outdoor settings. Additionally, small businesses received technical assistance and needs assessments to improve ventilation systems. This project was completed on October 8, 2024.

Small Business Bridge Support: \$2,600,000: The State made the funding available to “assist small businesses impacted by the closure and reconstruction of the northern span of the Washington Bridge. ... Funds shall be used to provide direct grants or any such other forms of assistance as deemed appropriate ...” Of the \$2.6 million, \$1.2 million was allocated to the City of East Providence, \$800,000 to the City of Providence, and \$600,000 to the Rhode Island Executive Office of Commerce. The three entities coordinated to develop a grant program with a centralized application.

Small Business Energy Efficiency: \$421,995: The project supported small business owners who requested a comprehensive, no-cost energy assessment of their business. Upon completion of the assessment, businesses received measures they may implement to lower their energy costs and improve energy efficiency at their facilities. This project was completed on October 31, 2024.

Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Industries Supports

The hospitality, tourism, and events industries were hit especially hard by the pandemic. Rhode Island’s leisure and hospitality sector lost about 37,000 jobs in the initial months of the pandemic, representing a 61.5% decline in employment.³ As of December 2021, the sector was about 7,000 jobs below pre-pandemic levels.⁴ Businesses are eligible to receive funds or services from the following projects if they experienced a negative impact from the pandemic. The program is comprised of four projects – *Direct Grants, Marketing, Placemaking, and Placemaking Phase II*.

³ [Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training’s Current Employment Statistics Seasonally Adjusted Data 2020](#)

⁴ [Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training’s Current Employment Statistics Seasonally Adjusted Data 2021](#)

Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Direct Grants: \$7,999,999: Businesses in the hard-hit hospitality, tourism, and events industries received grants of up to \$250,000 to compensate for lost revenue and other negative financial impacts. This project was completed on November 15, 2023.

Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Placemaking: \$2,946,581: The project supported clean and safe placemaking, attraction development, and event programming, such as outdoor performances, outdoor food festivals, and other special events that attract visitors and residents to impacted businesses. This project was completed on February 28, 2025.

Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Placemaking Phase II: \$2,053,419: The project is supporting clean and safe placemaking, attraction development, and event programming, such as outdoor performances, outdoor food festivals, and other special events that attract visitors and residents to impacted businesses.

Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Marketing: \$2,000,000: The project advertised Rhode Island as a destination in key gateway cities, supporting direct advertising for the state's tourism regions, and sponsoring regional and event partnerships. This project was completed on September 12, 2023.

Aid to the Convention Center: \$10,000,000: The pandemic forced the cancellation of events, and the Rhode Island Convention Center Authority (RICCA) is intent on accelerating revenues and improving operations. The funds provided the RICCA with working capital to tailor its operations to a post-pandemic environment by reimagining the use of its spaces to ensure the comfort and confidence of patrons and attract new events to its facilities. This project was completed on July 28, 2023.

Minority Business Accelerator: \$5,200,000: Intermediaries are serving minority-owned businesses and increasing their access to capital and technical assistance.

Minority Business Accelerator: Rhode Island Black Business Association Grant: \$500,000: The Rhode Island Black Business Association (RIBBA) built out the Minority Business Hub, a co-working space for RIBBA's clients, members, and partners. Additionally, the project increased the capacity of RIBBA's Small Business Program – its outreach program to help small businesses scale. This project was completed on December 31, 2023.

Minority Business Accelerator: Roger Williams University Start-up Clinic Grant: \$300,000: The Roger Williams University School of Law worked with the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation to grow minority business enterprises. This project was completed on June 30, 2024.

Destination Marketing: \$3,000,000: The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation, in cooperation with the Rhode Island Airport Corporation, and partner airlines, targeted key gateway cities, including Los Angeles, Chicago, Washington, D.C., and Detroit, with a campaign focused on driving leisure travel to Rhode Island. This project was completed on December 31, 2024.

Bioscience Investments: \$45,000,000: The project is investing in the biosciences industry in conjunction with the creation of the Rhode Island Life Science Hub, which includes the development of one or more wet lab incubator spaces; the creation of a fund to support wrap-around services to aid in the commercialization of technology and business development; the growth of the biosciences talent pipeline, and support for staff to implement the project.

RI Rebounds Administration: \$1,500,000: In the Rhode Island Rebounds legislation, the Executive Office of Commerce was appropriated funding to administer the *Small Business Supports* and *Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Supports* projects.

Public Health

Health Care Facilities: Nonprofit Hospital Assistance: \$40,484,887: The State distributed grants to all 10 nonprofit hospitals in Rhode Island in accordance with a formula provided by the Rhode Island General Assembly. Each nonprofit hospital received a base payment of \$1 million supplemented by a pro rata share of the remaining appropriation based on the hospitals' operating costs from their 2021 Medicare cost reports relative to the aggregate operating costs of all hospitals – both nonprofit and for profit – from all 2021 Medicare cost reports. This project was completed on September 30, 2023.

Health Care Facilities: For-Profit Hospital Assistance: \$4,515,113: The State distributed grants to both for-profit hospitals in Rhode Island in accordance with a formula provided by the Rhode Island General Assembly. Each for-profit hospital received a base payment of \$1 million supplemented by a pro rata share of the remaining appropriation based on the hospitals' operating costs from their 2021 Medicare cost reports relative to the aggregate operating costs of all hospitals – both nonprofit and for profit – from all 2021 Medicare cost reports. This project was completed on September 30, 2023.

Health Care Facilities: Nursing Home Assistance: \$30,000,000: The State distributed grants to nursing homes to support their direct care workers and operations. The per-facility distribution was based on the number of Medicaid bed days a facility had out of the total number of Medicaid bed days for all nursing facilities as indicated in each nursing home's 2020 cost report. Nursing homes were required to dedicate at least 80% of the funds to direct care workers. This project was completed on November 15, 2023.

Health Care Facilities: Nursing Home Assistance Phase II: \$10,000,000: The State distributed grants to nursing homes to support their direct care workers and operations. The per-facility distribution was based on the number of Medicaid bed days a facility had out of the total number of Medicaid bed days for all nursing facilities as indicated in each nursing home's 2022 cost report. Nursing homes were required to dedicate at least 80% of the funds to direct care workers. This project was completed on December 31, 2024.

Health Care Facilities: Health Center Assistance: \$2,500,000: The State distributed grants to the eight federally qualified health centers in Rhode Island to be used for worker retention incentives. This project was completed on February 9, 2024.

COVID-19 Operational Support: Analytics: \$19,346,136: The Rhode Island Department of Health's COVID-19-related activities are grouped by workstreams, and these funds are supporting work being completed by the administrative assistance, communications, quantitative/data and analytics, and technology enablement workstreams.

COVID-19 Operational Support: Epidemiology: \$10,080,721: The Rhode Island Department of Health's COVID-19-related activities are grouped by workstreams, and these funds are supporting work being completed by the epidemiology and operations workstream, which oversees case investigation and outbreak response.

COVID-19 Operational Support: Testing \$2,770,226: The Rhode Island Department of Health's COVID-19-related activities are grouped by workstreams, and these funds are supporting work being completed by the testing workstream, which supports outbreak testing for congregate care settings and other key populations, genomic sequencing to identify circulating and new variants, and wastewater testing to provide alerts on increased COVID-19 prevalence.

Public Health Response Warehouse Support: \$4,178,347: These funds are being used for the proper storage of personal protective equipment and other supplies including other COVID-19 response-related supplies.

Auto-Enrollment Program: \$1,614,068: HealthSource Rhode Island (HSRI) created a pathway for individuals to retain health and dental insurance coverage as they were transitioned off Medicaid due to the end of the public health emergency. The program auto-enrolled individuals and families terminated from Medicaid who have household incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL) onto a qualified health plan (QHP) offered through HSRI and effectuated that coverage on their behalf by paying the premium for the first two months. Additionally, if these enrollees selected a dental plan, the State paid the premium for the first two months. For individuals and families with a household income greater than 200% of FPL and less than 250% of FPL, who are not eligible for auto-enrollment but transitioned off Medicaid and into a QHP by making an active selection for a medical and/or dental plan, the program paid the premium for the first two months. This project was completed on November 30, 2024.

Public Health Clinics: Open Door: \$2,000,000: The State provided a grant to Open Door Health to acquire land to expand services for people disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Funds remaining after the purchase were used for some architectural and engineering planning associated with the construction of the new location. This project was completed on April 4, 2025.

Public Health Clinics: Free Clinic: \$2,000,000: The State provided a grant to the Rhode Island Free Clinic to improve access to primary care and the quality of care for uninsured adults and to increase access to dental care for uninsured adults. This project was completed on May 9, 2025.

Housing

Development of Affordable Housing: \$15,000,000: The Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation is deploying no-interest, long-term loans to complement other state and federal resources to finance the production and preservation of units affordable to households earning less than 80% of the area median income.

Development of Affordable Housing: Phase II: \$75,000,000: The Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation is deploying no-interest, long-term loans to complement other state and federal resources to finance the production and preservation of units affordable to households earning less than 80% of the area median income.

Homelessness Infrastructure: \$4,855,476: The Rhode Island Department of Housing expanded the shelter system's capacity by adding temporary and permanent shelter beds through contracts with providers and targeting key constituencies, including families, couples, individuals experiencing chronic homelessness, and victims of domestic violence. This project was completed on November 30, 2024.

Homelessness Infrastructure Phase II: \$30,144,524: The Rhode Island Department of Housing is expanding the shelter system's capacity by adding temporary and permanent shelter beds through contracts with providers and targeting key constituencies, including families, couples, individuals experiencing chronic homelessness, and victims of domestic violence.

Down Payment Assistance: \$30,000,000: The Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation provided up to \$17,500 in down payment assistance and closing cost assistance to eligible first-time homebuyers to promote homeownership. This project was completed on July 8, 2024.

Priority Projects Fund: \$22,000,000: The Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation is subsidizing the development of projects that create new permanent supportive housing units or units designated for the following populations: extremely low-income Rhode Islanders, individuals transitioning out of state care, or vulnerable persons (includes people with disabilities, people fleeing dangerous living situations, and other populations are particular risk of homelessness or housing insecurity).

Site Acquisition: \$25,000,000: The Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation is providing grants to developers to purchase properties for the purpose of developing affordable housing units.

Community Revitalization: \$20,000,000: The project is supplementing existing funds to invest in spaces for housing units, commercial uses, and health, education, and employment training programming. The Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation is distributing grants to for-profit/nonprofit developers, municipalities, owners of existing affordable housing developments, and public housing authorities to redevelop existing real estate for these uses.

Middle Income Housing: \$20,000,000: The Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation is supporting the development of housing units that are affordable to households earning up to 120% of the area median income.

Affordable Housing Predevelopment: \$10,000,000: Unreimbursed predevelopment costs for multifamily projects can range from \$100,000 to \$750,000, and create delays and financial hardships, particularly for non-profit, mission-driven developers. The funds are offsetting these costs and expediting the production of affordable housing.

Permanent Supportive Housing: Crossroads: \$10,000,000: Crossroads Rhode Island is launching the Summer Street project to replace The Tower with 176, one-bedroom units, with private bathrooms and kitchens.

Public Housing Pilot Program: \$10,000,000: The Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation is providing no-interest loans and grants to public housing authorities to increase the supply of affordable housing and stabilize existing affordable housing. These funds are being used to build technical capacity, secure predevelopment services, and begin the process of redevelopment and/or repositioning of existing units.

Homelessness Assistance Warming Center and Shelter \$7,000,000: The State-owned Cranston Street Armory in Providence and other *Homelessness Assistance* projects provided shelter and supportive services to people experiencing homelessness.

Home Repair Program: \$4,500,000: The pandemic meant fewer households had the necessary resources for major home repairs and improvements, which are needed to ensure a safe and healthy living environment. The Rhode Island Department of Housing developed a residential rehabilitation program to assist properties in distressed areas in meeting their housing rehabilitation needs.

Housing Related Infrastructure: \$3,000,000: The project administered by the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank is providing funding to municipalities and other public entities to improve public infrastructure necessary to develop additional housing units that meet the affordability criteria established by the Rhode Island Department of Housing.

Transit-Oriented Development Districts: \$4,000,000: The Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation is subsidizing the development of affordable housing in Transit-Oriented Development Districts, where density is often permitted to be higher than in other areas.

Municipal Homelessness Support Initiative: \$2,200,000: The Rhode Island Department of Housing is administering a program that provides grants to municipalities where new overnight shelter(s) have been opened or existing shelters have had their capacity expanded since May 1, 2023.

Statewide Housing Plan: \$2,000,000: This project is making it possible for the Rhode Island Secretary of Housing to develop reports required by the Rhode Island General Assembly.

Homelessness Assistance: \$1,485,529: The Rhode Island Department of Housing implemented a range of new housing stabilization services, especially those targeting homeless populations that have traditionally had difficulty accessing services. This project was completed on September 30, 2024.

Homelessness Assistance Phase II: \$10,686,836: The Rhode Island Department of Housing is implementing a range of new housing stabilization services, especially those targeting homeless populations that have traditionally had difficulty accessing services.

Homelessness Assistance Phase III: \$19,627,635: The Rhode Island Department of Housing is implementing a range of new housing stabilization services, especially those targeting homeless populations that have traditionally had difficulty accessing services.

OHCD Support and Capacity: \$1,500,000: The Rhode Island Office of Housing and Community Development is onboarding staff or contractors to expand and enhance agency capacity in the areas of housing/homelessness.

Proactive Housing Development: \$1,400,000: The Rhode Island Department of Housing is providing an operating grant for the creation and staffing of a new subsidiary under the Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation. This subsidiary will focus on identifying and bolstering potential housing developments that meet Rhode Island's most significant needs and work proactively to support cities and towns, property owners, and developers to bring these expanded housing options to fruition.

Municipal Fellows: \$1,300,000: The project is supporting a housing development-focused municipal fellows program within the Rhode Island Department of Housing. It procured a third party to administer the program that involves implementing a shared learning program for the fellows to enhance their efficacy and expertise and matching municipalities with a fellow for planning, zoning, and/or a development project that relates to increasing the housing stock.

Transit-Oriented Development Zoning Municipal Technical Assistance: \$1,000,000: Complementing the ongoing development of regulations implementing a pilot program for the creation of additional Transit-Oriented Development Districts, these funds are providing technical assistance grants to municipalities to support zoning changes that enable additional housing development in proximity to transit.

Preservation of Affordable Housing: \$500,000: This program created a fund that preserves affordable housing through foreclosure prevention or rehabilitation. The Rhode Island Department of Housing awarded a grant to establish the fund. This project was completed on November 30, 2024.

Climate

Port of Davisville: \$65,000,000: The Quonset Development Corporation is making infrastructure improvements at the Port of Davisville, including the reconstruction of a portion of Pier 1, constructing a new terminal, creating approximately 40 additional acres of cargo laydown space, and creating new access drives and security gate in compliance with federal standards.

OER Heat Pumps: \$24,400,000: The Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources' project is aimed at stimulating the market for high-efficiency electric heat pumps by providing financial incentives to make this efficient heating and cooling technology more accessible and affordable.

Children, Families, and Education

Child Care Retention Bonuses: \$37,398,404: The Rhode Island Department of Human Services paid \$1,500 semiannual retention bonuses (up to \$3,000 per person) during State Fiscal Year 2022 to all child care staff who were employed with a provider for at least six consecutive months. The State extended the

project from State Fiscal Year 2023 through State Fiscal Year 2025, with quarterly \$750 bonuses paid to all child care staff who were employed with a provider for at least three consecutive months.

DCYF Workforce Stabilization: \$23,236,344: The Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth, and Families is providing foster care, congregate care, and home- and community care-based provider staff who earn less than \$75,000 annually with retention payments of up to \$694.50 per month for work since July 1, 2021.

Nonprofit Assistance: \$20,000,000: The Rhode Island Foundation provided general operating grants to nonprofit organizations that are working to address food insecurity, housing instability and homelessness prevention, and behavioral health needs. This project was completed on September 30, 2024.

Early Intervention Provider Relief and Recovery: \$11,000,000: As of February 2022, all nine Early Intervention (EI) providers in Rhode Island struggled to accept referrals due to significant staffing shortages. This project helped reopen referrals by providing stabilization grants to EI providers to cover operating costs, such as staffing, outreach, and professional development. The project also provided performance payments to EI providers for meeting specified targets, such as recovering referrals to their 2019 levels, increasing the percentage of children referred who complete the eligibility process and engage in services, and reducing disproportionality for families with Medicaid coverage and families of color. This project was completed on March 31, 2024.

Support for Survivors of Domestic Violence: \$10,500,000: The Rhode Island Department of Public Safety is providing funds to nonprofits whose primary mission is supporting survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Rhode Island Reconnect: \$8,000,000: The project is providing free supports to individuals in their pursuit of educational and workforce training advancement. Students are paired with a dedicated navigator who facilitates success by addressing external barriers to completion, providing personalized academic coaching, and mentoring.

Pediatric Provider Relief and Recovery: \$7,500,000: The Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services designed this project to place children on a path toward healthy development, improved mental health, and school readiness. Pediatric and family practice primary care providers who serve Medicaid-covered children received a portion of \$6 million in grant funds to improve access to services, as well as a portion of \$1.3 million in performance-based grants. Finally, approximately \$200,000 was used to retain a technical assistance contractor to assist recipients of the performance-based grants. This project was completed on March 29, 2023.

Pediatric Provider Relief and Recovery Phase II: \$7,499,871: This phase of the project continued incentivizing pediatric primary care providers to improve access to care, immunizations, and screenings, and invest in primary care practices to support the staffing and infrastructure necessary to rebound from pandemic-related delays in care. The Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services made six payments to participating practices. This project was completed on April 18, 2024.

Adult Education Investment: \$5,000,000: Rhode Island's publicly funded network of 19 adult education providers delivers high-quality services that support adults in reaching their diverse college and career goals, including high school equivalency preparation, English for Speakers of Other Languages, digital literacy skills development, and workforce preparation and training. This project, administered by the Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is providing direct grants to adult education providers to create regional hubs, purchase devices and software, support the integration of digital literacy, and expand services.

Fresh Start Scholarship: \$5,000,000: The scholarship provides working adults with tuition, fees, and books allowance support for up to one year at the Community College of Rhode Island.

Out of School Time Education Providers: \$4,000,000: The project is building upon an investment in the Advancing Learning Beyond the 180-Day School Year program in support of the Learn365RI initiative, with the long-term goals of improving student learning outcomes and increasing three key metrics: Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System math and English language arts scores; school attendance rates; and Free Application for Federal Student Aid completion rates.

Rhode Island Community Food Bank: \$3,000,000: The Rhode Island Community Food Bank purchased food to distribute to its member agencies, which provide food across the state to individuals who are food insecure. This project was completed on August 8, 2024.

Child Care Enhanced TEACH Program: \$2,000,000: The project, administered by the Rhode Island Department of Human Services, is supporting the TEACH Early Childhood RI (TEACH) program that helps child care businesses implement best practices, reduce staff turnover, onboard staff, and continue to provide high-quality early child care learning and education. TEACH provides access to a higher-education curriculum on the academic, social, and cognitive skills that develop from birth through school age.

Rhode Island College Cybersecurity Institute: \$2,000,000: The funds are providing the resources needed to establish and launch the Rhode Island College Institute for Cybersecurity and Emerging Technologies, which will engage with the cybersecurity community to deepen the Institute's alignment to the field and expand the College's ability to deliver education and workforce training.

Community Learning Center Programming Support Grant: \$2,000,000: These funds are being distributed to municipalities with community learning center projects being completed with awards from the State's ARPA Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund allocation. These funds must be used to support Treasury-compliant health monitoring, work, and/or education programming that will take place in the community learning center.

Rhode Island College Foster Care Youth Scholarship: \$1,021,859: The Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner provided a grant to the Rhode Island College Foundation for the establishment of the Foster Care Youth Scholarship program, a last-dollar scholarship program for Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth, and Families foster care youth aging out of the system to attend Rhode Island College. This project was completed on March 12, 2025.

Child Care Workforce Registry: \$1,000,000: The Rhode Island Department of Human Services created a workforce registry to better serve child care providers by targeting interventions to the workforce's needs. Having an accurate list of past and present educators will allow the State to survey educators on the working conditions in child care facilities and tailor policies to address these conditions and reduce staff turnover. This project was completed on October 31, 2024.

Child Care Quality Improvements: \$1,145,639: The project is increasing the Rhode Island Association for the Education of Young Children's capacity to improve the environmental rating scale (ERS) scores for child care providers. ERS scores are tied to improved quality interactions and environments for children, while also increasing reimbursement rates for participating programs.

DCYF Sign-on Bonuses: \$884,422: The Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth, and Families is offering \$750 sign-on bonuses to newly hired employees at contractor agencies after 90 days of employment.

Child Care Family Provider Support: \$455,957: The Rhode Island Department of Human Services provided \$2,000 grants to new family child care (FCC) providers to cover the startup costs associated with opening an FCC setting. This project was completed on October 23, 2024.

Eat Well, Be Well Program: \$4,500,000: The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Eat Well, Be Well (EWBW) Pilot Rewards Program is the first statewide program of its kind in the country. EWBW rewards health-conscious food purchases for customers using SNAP benefits.

Behavioral Health

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics Development Grants: \$27,646,568: The Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services is providing infrastructure development grants to community-based behavioral health and social services providers to recover from the pandemic and comply with federal Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) standards. These grants are supporting CCBHC providers and organizations seeking to become designated collaborating organizations.

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics Program Management: \$1,353,432: The Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services is using these funds to pay for various activities, including monitoring and oversight, data collection, updates to certification standards and cost reporting, and the full disbursement of development grant funds.

Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility: \$8,100,150: The Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth, and Families is adding psychiatric residential treatment facility (PRTF) beds, with the construction of a new facility or facilities.

Butler Hospital Short Term Stay Unit: \$8,000,000: The project supported the construction of a 25-bed short-term stay unit at Butler Hospital, a nonprofit psychiatric hospital, to provide behavioral health care services, crisis intervention, and related services. The unit cares for patients with mental health needs and alleviates the overcrowding at emergency departments. This project was completed on December 17, 2024.

9-8-8 Hotline: \$5,350,000: The project addresses the increased demand for mental health services related to the pandemic. Congress designated 9-8-8 as the new, easy-to-remember dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. 9-8-8 is a mental health safety net, intended to reduce suicides and mental health crises and provide a pathway to well-being.

Crisis Intervention Trainings: \$2,200,000: The Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals, in conjunction with Thundermist Health Center, is expanding the Crisis Intervention Training program, which is aimed at training, educating, and building networks for law enforcement, mental health providers, hospitals, etc., to better respond to communities' behavioral health needs.

Female Youth Residential Facility Design: \$999,850: The Rhode Island Department of Administration, Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance assisted with the design and architectural plans for a new residential facility to care for female clients, ranging in age from 13 to 18. The new facility will provide 16 residential beds, classrooms, treatment rooms, recreation areas, and support spaces for youth, staff, and families. This project was completed on September 18, 2024.

Public Infrastructure, Technology, and Administration

Washington Bridge Support: \$35,000,000: In December 2023, as part of ongoing bridge rehabilitation activities, inspectors identified structural conditions in multiple locations of the Washington Bridge

westbound that required its immediate closure. After further inspection and structural analysis, it was determined that Washington Bridge westbound needed to be demolished and rebuilt. This project is assisting with three phases: (1) emergency repairs required to safely demolish the bridge, (2) demolition of the bridge, and (3) rebuilding the bridge.

Municipal Roads Grant Program: \$20,000,000: The project is providing funding to cities and towns for the construction or maintenance of roads, sidewalks, and bridges. Of the \$20 million available, \$5 million is equally divided among the 39 municipalities, and the remainder is divided proportionately based on municipalities' share of non-federal lane miles.

Municipal Roads Grant Program Phase II: \$7,000,000: The project is providing funding to cities and towns for the construction or maintenance of roads, sidewalks, and bridges. The funding is being distributed equally among the municipalities.

RIPTA Operating Grant: \$15,000,000: The funding aided the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority's short-term needs as it conducts an efficiency review of all transit operations and administration to identify opportunities for greater efficiency and cost reduction for future fiscal years.

Pandemic Recovery Office: \$12,791,789: The funds are supporting state employees and contractors to administer and oversee State Fiscal Recovery Fund projects. The Pandemic Recovery Office creates and publishes reports required by U.S. Treasury and the Rhode Island General Assembly, and it posts monthly transaction data and final reports for all State Fiscal Recovery Fund projects once all the funds are spent and key performance indicator data are collected.

Pandemic Recovery Office Phase II: \$2,587,275: The funds are supporting state employees and contractors to administer and oversee State Fiscal Recovery Fund projects. The Pandemic Recovery Office creates and publishes reports required by U.S. Treasury and the Rhode Island General Assembly, and it posts monthly transaction data and final reports for all State Fiscal Recovery Fund projects once all the funds are spent and key performance indicator data are collected.

Municipal Public Safety Infrastructure: \$11,000,000: The Rhode Island Department of Administration is awarding grants for matching support to municipalities with an ongoing or immediate public safety infrastructure need through a competitive grant process. Eligible activities include design, predevelopment, construction, and direct administrative costs related to a public safety infrastructure project.

R-Line Free Service Pilot: \$3,250,000: The Rhode Island Public Transit Authority implemented a free fare pilot project on the R-Line – a route from Pawtucket through Providence that has the system's heaviest ridership. The project was designed to see if ridership could be brought back to pre-pandemic levels. This project was completed on January 2, 2024.

Safety Barriers Study: \$1,750,000: The Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority retained a consulting firm to develop a detailed report on what, if any, safety barrier measures are possible on four bridges to reduce the incidence of suicide.

Broadband Mapping and Planning: \$500,000: About one-in-five Rhode Islanders do not have in-home wireline broadband internet. Half of the state does not reliably access internet download and upload speeds above the new federal minimum of 100mbps/20mbps. This funding helped hire a statewide broadband coordinator, build the broadband maps for a strategic plan, and complete the plan to guide the work moving forward. This project was completed on April 30, 2023.

Community Engagement

In 2021, Governor McKee and Lt. Governor Sabina Matos convened a process called Rhode Island 2030 (RI 2030) to develop a long-term strategy for a more resilient, prosperous, and equitable Rhode Island over the next decade and beyond. These discussions centered on creating a brighter future that, in part, could be realized by the effective use of Rhode Island's State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF) allocation.

Throughout the spring and summer of 2021, the Governor and Lt. Governor held 13 Community Conversations with participation from members of the General Assembly, policy experts, community leaders, and others to discuss subjects such as housing, the economy, climate change, children and youth services, health, and higher education. For those who could not watch live, recordings with automatically generated captions were made available on Facebook. Outreach for each event was conducted via email, social media, and promotion in the local press.

On October 15, 2021, Governor McKee and Lt. Governor Matos released a working document, titled RI 2030, with goals, objectives, and opportunities that were shaped by the input and insights from the Community Conversations. In October and November 2021, the Administration held in-person public input sessions to solicit feedback on the RI 2030 working paper to further shape the vision. Translation services were available at these events, giving non-native English speakers an opportunity to provide input. In addition to these events, Rhode Islanders were encouraged to submit feedback online.

In addition to the engagement that informed the development of RI 2030, state agencies led robust outreach campaigns to notify potential beneficiaries about funding opportunities through SFRF. Below is a description of the outreach conducted by the Rhode Island Department of Human Services (DHS) around the *Child Care Retention Bonuses* and *Child Care Family Provider Support* projects and by the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce) for its *Small Business Supports* programs.

DHS made all outreach materials, applications, program materials, and the [Funding Opportunities](#) webpage available in English and Spanish. All application materials were accessible via mobile or desktop, required no more than 15 minutes, and were free of jargon or technical language. Ninety-seven percent of applicants for the second round of the semiannual retention bonuses responded neutrally or positively to a question regarding the ease of the application process. For the *Child Care Family Provider Support* grant project, 100% of applicants responded neutrally or positively to the same question.

DHS worked closely with vendors and community partners who have trusted relationships in the field and acted as its liaison on all programming. Intensive outreach across both programs included:

- Emails to child care programs, potential applicants, vendors, etc.
- For the *Child Care Retention Bonuses* project, all employers and previous grant recipients received direct outreach with updates on the program.
- For the *Child Care Family Provider Support* project, all providers received emails, encouraging them to share the opportunity with their networks. Any recent participants in the family child care provider orientation also received repeated outreach.
- For the first round of the *Child Care Retention Bonuses* project, the team conducted 1,837 direct outreaches.
- DHS worked with community partners to share social media posts advertising the opportunities and a promotional video about the *Child Care Family Provider Support* project that resulted in an increase in applications.

- When an applicant required additional support, DHS, a vendor, and community partners collaborated on direct outreach via phone or email, often multiple times, to resolve the issue and provide technical assistance where necessary.

As a result, in the first round of the retention bonus program, a vast majority of licensed programs had at least one employee apply.

For its *Small Business Supports* programs, Rhode Island Commerce worked with eight marketing/outreach partners – East Greenwich Chamber of Commerce, North Kingstown Chamber of Commerce, Newport Chamber of Commerce, Multicultural Innovation Center, Social Enterprise Greenhouse, Rhode Island Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Rhode Island Hospitality Association, and Innovation Studio – to provide support through social media campaigns, website homepage takeovers, webinars, and e-blasts to their constituents. Additionally, Rhode Island Commerce distributed print flyers in English and Spanish at community event locations, launched a paid advertising and social media campaign, and spread the word through Main Street events in Central Falls and South Kingstown.

Project Inventory

The project inventory provides an overview of each initiative (including problem statement, use of evidence, key performance indicators, labor requirements, etc.) that had advanced through the Rhode Island Pandemic Recovery Office's reporting and compliance approval process in State Fiscal Years 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025.

Aid to Small Business and Impacted Industries and Economic and Workforce Development

Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Contribution

Project Identification Number: 10029

Project Completion Date: March 31, 2024

Funded Amount: \$100,000,000

Final Amount Expended: \$100,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.28 Negative Economic Impacts: Contributions to Unemployment Insurance Trust Funds

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Unemployment Insurance (UI) provides temporary income support to workers who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own and meet the State's eligibility requirements. UI benefits are funded from State and Federal UI taxes paid by Rhode Island employers. UI tax rates are calculated using a statutory formula based on the balance of the State's employment security fund. In calendar year 2022 when this project was approved by the Pandemic Recovery Office (PRO), schedule H – with rates ranging from 1.2% to 9.8% – was in effect, and the taxable wage base for most Rhode Island employers was \$24,600. For employers at the highest tax rate, the taxable wage base was set \$1,500 higher at \$26,100.⁵

The COVID-19 pandemic contributed to an unprecedented increase in unemployment insurance (UI) claims in Rhode Island – peaking at 100,265 in April 2020.⁶ This increase contributed, in part, to the depletion of the UI trust fund. From January 27, 2020, to August 1, 2022, the balance decreased from approximately \$525.9 million to \$258.2 million. The lower balance resulted in the UI tax rate schedule moving up from schedule F to H in calendar year 2021 and remaining at schedule H in calendar year 2022, costing businesses approximately \$31 million in additional UI taxes. Without a contribution to the UI trust fund, businesses would have continued paying higher UI tax rates than they had been before the pandemic.

Project Overview: The State partially replenished its UI trust fund. An infusion of at least \$78,625,000 was needed to move the UI tax rate schedule down from schedule H to schedule G. The UI tax rate schedule for calendar year 2023 moved to schedule G after receipt of this deposit.

Timeline: The State deposited \$99,970,000 of State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) into the UI trust fund in September 2022.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training (DLT) deposited the funds in the UI trust fund.

⁵ [Department of Labor and Training Announces Unemployment Insurance Tax Rates for 2022](#)

⁶ Department of Labor and Training - Monthly Update for April 2020

Use of Evidence: While this intervention has not been identified as evidence based, the analysis of the key performance indicators evaluated its effectiveness.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Reduction in UI tax rate schedule	Reduction from schedule H to schedule G	0	1	1
Number of businesses impacted	Number of businesses that contribute to the UI trust fund in calendar year 2023 that realized tax relief	0	41,390	24,595
Total tax impact on businesses	Total tax savings to businesses in calendar year 2023	0	\$10,713,030	\$12,165,052

Enhanced Real Jobs

Project Identification Number: 10035

Funded Amount: \$30,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$29,927,308

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10 Negative Economic Impacts: Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: The pandemic resulted in thousands of Rhode Islanders becoming unemployed or underemployed. As of August 2022, the underemployment rate was 7.4% (approximately 41,292 workers), according to the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training’s (DLT) Labor Market Information Section.⁷ The percentage does not include employed individuals seeking a position with greater opportunities for economic advancement. The rate of employees who voluntarily quit their job is another data point used to assess employment dissatisfaction and gauge individuals’ interest in seeking better opportunities. At the start of the pandemic, the rate was 9%. It fluctuated between 12% and 14% in the first half of 2022, underscoring the need for upskilling and better job opportunities.

Project Overview: The *Enhanced Real Jobs* (ERJ) project, which is built on the existing Real Jobs Rhode Island (RJRI) initiative, is addressing unemployment and underemployment by providing career readiness, workforce development, and supportive services to impacted workers to place them in sustainable jobs and on resilient career paths.

Specific training modules are developed through a collaborative process in which ERJ Partnerships identify skills gaps, job openings, and career opportunities, and work with training providers and

⁷ [US Bureau of Labor Statistics - Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization for States](#)

community-based organizations to establish curricula and related services. The Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner (OPC) is providing supportive services, including transportation, child care, training supplies, general workplace skills training, financial literacy training, etc. Participants who complete an ERJ training program are matched with an employer or are provided with new skills and/or credentials that increase the participant’s career and earning prospects.

Timeline: The project is scheduled to assist the workforce from October 2022 through the second quarter of State Fiscal Year 2026.

Mechanisms and Partners: The project is leveraging the RJRI platform for procurement, performance management, and functionality. The procurement involved a competitive solicitation for bids from industry clusters that represent a collaboration of employers, training providers, community groups, and labor to create workforce development solutions. The industry clusters submitted training programming proposals to DLT for consideration to be recognized as ERJ Partnerships.

The ERJ Partnerships submit training programming proposals to DLT, which evaluates the proposals for breadth, effectiveness, likelihood of success, and anticipated job placements or skills/income gains before approving or denying the proposals. The ERJ Partnerships are contracted through their fiscal agent, which can be the ERJ Partnership itself or one of its entities. Grant amounts are based on the financial requirements of the specific proposal.

DLT treats the ERJ Partnerships as contractors who provide consultant-style services in the development of trainings, identification of job opportunities, recruitment of participants, and delivery of training. The ERJ Partnerships perform the services or contract with another entity to provide them. DLT staff oversee the contractual relationships and direct ERJ Partnerships in the collection of key performance indicator data.

Use of Evidence: Adult vocational training and sector-based workforce initiatives receive the highest and second-highest ratings for evidence-based positive impacts, according to the Pew Results First Clearinghouse.⁸ Additionally, support services, such as child care subsidies, receive the highest rating.⁹

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs		0	7,435
U.S. Treasury Required Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs		0	7,028

⁸ [Penn State Social Science Research Institute Clearinghouse Database](#)

⁹ [County Health Rankings & Roadmaps](#)

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs		0	0
Percentage of participants placed in jobs	Participants who find employment upon completion of or during participation in program services as measured against the entire participant universe	0	56%
Percentage of participants upskilled	Participants with a measurable skill gain upon completion of programming services as measured against the entire participant universe	0	78%
Percentage of participants in sustainable employment one year from ERJ training completion	Participants who remain employed in the job in which they were placed, or are in a job of equivalent or greater pay, or are employed in a substantially similar or better-compensated position or in a substantially similar or related field	0	60%
Percentage of participants upskilled to higher-level jobs	Incumbent (employed at time of training) upskilled workers who move into higher-level jobs	0	50%

DOC Personnel and Operating Support

Project Identification Number: 10089

Funded Amount: \$20,000,000

Final Amount Expended: \$20,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Department of Corrections (DOC) used these funds to address the increase in personnel and operating expenses because of the pandemic. These funds helped cover overtime expenses, holiday pay, and briefing time pay for essential positions.

Correctional officer classes are required annually to address attrition and an aging workforce. Prior to the pandemic, DOC operated correctional officer classes through which between 40 and 60 recruits graduated. The two most recent correctional officer classes had 13 and 15 recruits, representing a significant decrease in class size. As of the middle of June 2024, 89 correctional officer positions were vacant and 18 more were on leave without pay. DOC is reforming its recruitment and training efforts to mitigate the effects of the pandemic and adjust to the post-pandemic recruitment situation.

Timeline: The State transferred the \$20 million in SFRF to DOC in June 2024.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Performance-to-date
Journal submitted in State's accounting system*	0	1	1
Bring DOC operating budget into surplus* ¹⁰	0	1	1

*These are yes/no binary indicators: 0 meaning 'no', 1 meaning 'yes'.

Aid to Small Businesses and Impacted Industries

The State is implementing interventions targeting *Small Businesses* and those in the *Hospitality, Tourism, and Events* (HTE) sector.

- In March 2021, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) noted that the pandemic's effects on small businesses were felt most acutely in metropolitan and coastal areas, along with restaurants, educational support services, taxi/limousine services, child day care services, self-employed individuals, and Black and Asian business owners.¹¹ The State is assisting small businesses through three projects: *Small Business Direct Grants*, *Small Business Technical Assistance*, and *Small Business Public Health Capital Improvements*. These projects are targeting small businesses with less than \$2 million in annual gross revenues that demonstrate a negative impact from the pandemic as determined by the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce). Under these projects, total support cannot exceed \$10,000 per eligible business through any of the three projects separately and \$30,000 in the aggregate.
- The hospitality, tourism, and events industries were hit especially hard by the pandemic. Rhode Island's leisure and hospitality sector lost about 37,000 jobs in the initial months of the pandemic,

¹⁰ The State Fiscal Year 2024 Preliminary Unaudited Closing Statements indicated that DOC ended State Fiscal Year 2024 with a \$12,332,706 surplus, which includes the \$20 million in SFRF. Without the \$20 million in SFRF, DOC would have ended State Fiscal Year 2024 with a \$7,667,294 deficit.

¹¹ [The Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Small Businesses](#)

representing a 61.5% decline.¹² As of December 2021, the leisure and hospitality sector was still about 7,000 jobs below pre-pandemic levels.¹³ Hospitality, tourism, and events businesses are eligible to receive funds or services from three projects – *Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Direct Grants*; *Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Placemaking*; and *Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Marketing* – if they demonstrate a negative impact from the pandemic as determined by Rhode Island Commerce.

The pandemic further stressed minority- and women-owned businesses. According to a McKinsey & Company study from 2020, there is a “\$290 billion ... [gap in the] opportunity to grow overall wealth by achieving revenue parity between Black- and white-owned businesses. Furthermore, Black business owners have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic-linked economic downturn, in part, because they were more likely to be in a precarious position (e.g., more likely to be in communities with business environments more likely to produce poor business outcomes). Indeed, about 58 percent of Black-owned businesses were at risk of financial distress before the pandemic compared with about 27 percent of white-owned businesses. The pandemic contributed to tipping 41 percent of Black-owned businesses into closure from February to April 2020.”¹⁴ These data are not specific to Black-owned businesses in Rhode Island but are illustrative of the data that support minority- and women-owned businesses as being historically underserved or marginalized.

At least 20% of the *Small Business* funds are reserved to assist minority business enterprises (MBEs), including women-owned businesses, as defined by state law.¹⁵ For the purposes of the *Small Business* projects, a “minority-owned business” must be (1) at least 51% owned by such individuals who also control and operate the business; or (2) in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51% of the stock is owned by one or more such individuals. “Minority” means a person who meets one or more of the following definitions:

- Woman.
- Black (a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa).
- Hispanic (a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race).
- Portuguese (a person of Portuguese, Brazilian, or other Portuguese culture or origin, regardless of race).
- Asian American (a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands).
- American Indian and Alaskan Native (a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America).
- Members of other groups or other individuals found to be economically and socially disadvantaged by the SBA under § 8(a) of the Small Business Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 637(a).¹⁶

¹² [Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training’s Current Employment Statistics Seasonally Adjusted Data 2020](#)

¹³ [Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training’s Current Employment Statistics Seasonally Adjusted Data 2021](#)

¹⁴ [Building support ecosystems for Black-owned US businesses](#)

¹⁵ [R.I. Gen. Laws § 37-14.1-3](#)

¹⁶ [15 USC 637](#)

Small Business Direct Grants

Project Identification Number: 10008

Project Completion Date: July 24, 2024

Funded Amount: \$12,500,000

Final Amount Expended: \$12,172,964

Project Expenditure Category: 2.29 Negative Economic Impacts: Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: In March 2021, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) noted that the pandemic's effects on small businesses were felt most acutely in metropolitan and coastal areas, with restaurants, educational support services, taxi/limousine services, child day care services, self-employed individuals, and Black and Asian business owners most impacted.¹⁷

Project Overview: The project initially provided \$2,500 or \$5,000 grants to small businesses to be used for salaries to avoid furloughs or layoffs, operating costs, reopening costs, and other expenses. Eligible businesses were those that had less than \$2 million in gross receipts or sales in either tax year 2020 or tax year 2021 and suffered a revenue loss because of the pandemic. Industries eligible to receive grants were accommodation/hotels, agriculture, arts, entertainment, recreation, child care providers, construction, education services, finance, insurance, health care, manufacturing, personal care services, professional/science and technical services, restaurants, bars, caterers, food trucks, other food services, retail, transportation, wholesale, and warehousing. Between March and August 2022, 2,471 small businesses received grants totaling \$11,352,500.

The provision of these \$2,500 or \$5,000 grants did not exhaust the \$12.3 million in funding for direct grants; the remaining \$0.2 million in project funding was for a vendor who provided payment processing support to the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce), the subrecipient for the project. Rhode Island Commerce decided to distribute the remaining funds to small businesses that received a previous grant that operate in one of the following industries: food services, drinking places, personal care services, and arts, entertainment, and recreation. Of the original 2,471 beneficiaries, 1,055 were eligible for a supplemental grant of \$800. Between March and August 2023, 794 small businesses received a supplemental grant totaling \$635,200.

Timeline: In January 2022, the project framework and technology solution were implemented. In mid-January through the end February 2022, the technical assistance partners were activated, trained on the technology solution, and trained on program requirements, including the SAM.gov registration process. Applications were accepted between February 1 and February 15, 2022. Grants were distributed from March through August 2022. Supplemental grants were distributed from March through August 2023.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Rhode Island Executive Office of Commerce (EOC) executed a subaward agreement with Rhode Island Commerce to deliver the project on behalf of EOC.

Use of Evidence: Research indicates that direct financial support to small businesses has a positive impact on the economy. According to an analysis of the Paycheck Protection Program by the Hutchins Center on Fiscal and Monetary Policy at Brookings, there is "a direct cumulative increase in GDP of roughly 25 cents over the course of 3 years for every dollar of grants to small businesses."¹⁸ Additionally, the

¹⁷ [The Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Small Businesses](#)

¹⁸ [What Could Additional Fiscal Policy Do for the Economy in the Next Three Years?](#)

Congressional Budget Office reported in *The Effects of Pandemic-Related Legislation on Output* that “grants ... will provide liquidity to businesses experiencing financial distress, increasing the likelihood that they will survive and preserve jobs for their employees while economic activity is weak.”¹⁹

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
U.S. Treasury Required Number of small businesses served	0	0	0
Number of businesses provided a small business grant	0	2,500	2,471
Dollars disbursed	0	\$12,500,000	\$11,987,700
Number of MBEs, including women-owned businesses, served	0	500	1,498
Percentage of businesses in operation at least six months after receiving grant	0	70%	65%
Number of businesses provided a supplemental grant award	0	1,055	794

Small Business Technical Assistance

Project Identification Number: 10013

Project Completion Date: June 30, 2025

Funded Amount: \$9,800,000

Final Expended Amount: \$8,735,746

Project Expenditure Category: 2.30 Negative Economic Impacts: Technical Assistance, Counseling, or Business Planning

¹⁹ [The Effects of Pandemic-Related Legislation on Output](#)

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Businesses, particularly small businesses, suffered from a lack of experience with agile business practices as they faced pandemic-related disruptions. Many businesses did not have the knowledge or resources to quickly pivot to e-commerce, access federal and state funding, and generally plan for and adapt to a changing world.

Project Overview: This project provides targeted finance, technology, marketing, and planning assistance to improve small businesses' knowledge base and resiliency. The first phase of the project helped businesses apply for *Small Business Direct Grants* and the *Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Direct Grants*. In the second phase, vendors selected through a competitive procurement are providing a range of technical assistance services.

Timeline: The first phase from the third quarter of State Fiscal Year 2022 through the first quarter of State Fiscal Year 2023 helped businesses apply for direct grants offered through two other SFRF-funded projects: *Small Business Direct Grants* and *Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Direct Grants*. The second phase from the first quarter through fourth quarter of State Fiscal Year 2024 involved the provision of various technical assistance services.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Rhode Island Executive Office of Commerce (EOC) executed a subaward agreement with the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce) to deliver the project on behalf of EOC. For the first phase of the project, three partners were selected through a competitive procurement process – the Center of Southeast Asians, Roads Consulting Group, and the Rhode Island Hispanic Chamber of Commerce – to help potential direct grant applicants register on SAM.gov, apply for a Data Universal Numbering Systems (DUNS) number, and calculate their net need. For the second phase of the project, a central vendor coordinator, Skills for Rhode Island's Future, matched eligible small businesses with vetted and qualified vendors to receive up to \$10,000 in technical assistance services.

Use of Evidence: There is a growing body of evidence to support the provision of technical assistance to small businesses. In a September 2018 report, the Milken Institute stated, “[Technical assistance] is one of the most effective methods for building the capacity of entrepreneurs and small-business owners.”²⁰ Additionally, a 2014 evaluation of the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Small Business Development Center programming found that most small businesses served had a positive experience with the program.²¹

Rhode Island Commerce is evaluating and measuring the project's impacts by collecting data from the application and intake processes. For the first phase, Rhode Island Commerce is assessing the impacts that the technical assistance had on businesses' successful application for the *Small Business Direct Grants* and the *Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Direct Grants*. Technical assistance partners are required to track the businesses they support, the amount of time they work with a business, the type of support provided, and the business size, industry, and minority business status. This allows Rhode Island Commerce to track applications and awards to provide data on the interventions' efficacy.

For the second phase, Rhode Island Commerce is evaluating the project's success against input and output metrics, specifically: the number of eligible small businesses that are served, the percentage of these businesses that are minority- or women-owned businesses, the hours of support provided to each business by service type, and the percentage of served small businesses that a) remain in business, b) have maintained or increased staff, and c) increased revenue after one year.

²⁰ [Best Practices for Technical Assistance Programs Serving Black and Hispanic Entrepreneurs and Small-Business Owners](#)

²¹ [Small Business Management and Technical Assistance Training Programs](#)

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
U.S. Treasury Required Number of eligible small business served	0	1,325	1,377
Hours of support provided to each business	0	6,650	69,151
Percentage of small businesses served remaining in business one year after support ²²	0	70%	97%
Number of successful applications to the <i>Small Business Direct Grant</i> program due to service provision	0	325	352

Small Business Public Health Capital Improvements

Project Identification Number: 10010

Project Completion Date: October 8, 2024

Funded Amount: \$6,900,000

Final Expended Amount: \$5,869,294

Project Expenditure Category: 1.8 Public Health: COVID-19 Assistance to Small Businesses

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Data clearly show that infectious diseases like COVID-19 are less transmissible in outdoor settings.²³ To support this public health imperative, it is important that small businesses can relocate more of their services to outdoor settings and enhance their ventilation systems. Studies have shown that good air circulation inside buildings (ventilation) reduces the spread of COVID-19 in aerosols.²⁴ Ventilation upgrades not only help small businesses conduct business in a safer manner, but also provide the public with a sense of safety.

²² Two rounds of surveys were distributed: one for businesses that received services from the beginning of the *RI Rebounds Technical Assistance Program* through March 2024 and the second businesses served from April 2024 through the end of the program. The KPI only represents the responses of the 615 businesses that completed a survey of the 914 that received it.

²³ [Indoor Air and Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) | US EPA](#)

²⁴ [Ventilation in Buildings](#)

In the summer of 2021, the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce) conducted a survey of over 500 businesses and found that 77% of responding food service businesses and 88% of responding nonprofits/social assistance businesses would benefit from outdoor capacity supports.²⁵

Project Overview: This project consisted of two subprojects: outdoor activity support (*Take It Outside*) and indoor ventilation support (*Ventilation*).

Take It Outside, \$4.9 million: This subproject provided grants to intermediaries (e.g., merchant/industry associations, chambers of commerce, nonprofits, downtown improvement districts, municipalities, and others) that procured, installed, or otherwise enabled the use of the following: chairs, tables, heat lamps, tents, outdoor Wi-Fi systems, masks, hand sanitizer, staffing, security, insurance costs related to specific outdoor activities, lighting, power sources, relevant signage, bike racks, and other goods or services that increase outdoor opportunities for impacted businesses and other entities.

Ventilation, \$2.0 million: This subproject provided initial technical assistance and needs assessment services to help small businesses improve their ventilation systems. The project also supported the purchase and installation of air filters and other ventilation equipment to increase air flow through buildings. Ventilation vendors provided small businesses a needs assessment and made necessary ventilation enhancements to improve air quality and better position businesses to address any future surges of COVID-19.

Timeline: *Take It Outside:* Intermediaries completed activities from June 2022 through May 2024.

Ventilation: A request for proposals was issued to solicit intermediaries to support the program in March 2023. Business applications for ventilation services began in March 2023. Intermediaries invoiced for reimbursement from April 2023 through March 2024.

Mechanisms and Partners: Only businesses that had up to \$2 million in annual gross revenues and demonstrated a negative public health impact from the COVID-19 pandemic were eligible to participate. Grants were capped at \$10,000, which applied to both *Take It Outside* and *Ventilation*. At least 20% of the funding awarded to small businesses was reserved for minority business enterprises (MBEs), including women-owned businesses.

The Rhode Island Executive Office of Commerce (EOC) executed a subaward agreement with Rhode Island Commerce to deliver the project on behalf of EOC. *Take It Outside* intermediaries were selected through a request for proposals process to procure, install, or otherwise enable the use of *Take It Outside*-related goods and services. The *Ventilation* subproject used numerous heating, ventilation, and air conditioning vendors and a payment processing vendor to distribute ventilation-related goods and services.

Use of Evidence: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend a layered approach to reduce exposures to SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. This approach uses multiple mitigation strategies, including improvements to building ventilation, to reduce the spread of disease and lower the risk of exposure.²⁶

Performance:

²⁵ [RI Small Business Coalition Survey](#)

²⁶ <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/ventilation.html>

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
U.S. Treasury Required Number of small businesses served		0	0	0
<i>Take It Outside:</i> Number of business reporting expanded outdoor capacity supports	Reported by geography and industry	0	450	502
<i>Take It Outside:</i> Number of businesses reporting expanded business operations	Reported by survey data	0	315	502
<i>Take It Outside:</i> Number of MBEs, included women-owned businesses, served	Number of businesses that report expanded business operations, as reported by survey data	0	90	228
<i>Ventilation:</i> Number of small businesses served	Reported by geography and industry	0	450	166
<i>Ventilation:</i> Number of small businesses that received ventilation technical assistance	Reported by geography and industry	0	150	40
<i>Ventilation:</i> Number of small businesses with increased indoor air flow (air quantity)	Reported by intermediaries and in alignment with approved projects/purchases list. Reported by geography and industry	0	350	136
<i>Ventilation:</i> Number of small businesses with increased indoor air quality	Reported by intermediaries and in alignment with approved projects/purchases list. Reported by	0	350	143

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
	geography and industry			
<i>Ventilation</i> : Number of MBEs, including women-owned businesses, served		0	90	101

Small Business Bridge Support

Project Identification Number: 10092

Funded Amount: \$2,600,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$2,600,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The closure and reconstruction of the northern span of the Washington Bridge has impacted businesses throughout the state, particularly in Providence and East Providence. Immediately after the bridge closure in December 2023, the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce) conducted outreach to businesses and opened a helpline. Businesses in Providence and East Providence accounted for over 60 percent of inquiries and survey responses that indicated a negative impact from the bridge closure. Businesses reported loss of revenue, lack of customers, and issues receiving goods from suppliers in a timely fashion.

The State made the funding available to “assist small businesses impacted by the closure and reconstruction of the northern span of the Washington Bridge. ... Funds shall be used to provide direct grants or any such other forms of assistance as deemed appropriate ...” Of the \$2.6 million, \$1.2 million was appropriated to the City of East Providence, \$800,000 to the City of Providence, and \$600,000 to the Rhode Island Executive Office of Commerce (EOC). The three entities coordinated to develop a grant program with a centralized application.

Grants are being made in the amounts of \$500, \$1,000, and \$2,500, based on the amount of revenue lost between December 2023 and February 2024. Grant awards are being made in tiers based on the percentage of revenue loss on a first-come, first-served basis. EOC transferred \$109,000 of its allocation to the City of Providence to pay for additional grants.

Timeline: The application opened in September 2024 for an initial two-week period, with the award process occurring approximately 30 days after opening.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of grants disbursed by Rhode Island Commerce	0	198

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of grants made to municipalities	0	2
Number of businesses that received a direct grant from the City of Providence or the City of East Providence	0	487
Number of gift cards distributed by the City of East Providence	0	0

Small Business Energy Efficiency

Project Identification Number: 10083

Completion Date: October 31, 2024

Funded Amount: \$600,000

Final Expended Amount: \$421,995

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The *Small Business Energy Efficiency* project made it possible for small business owners to request a comprehensive, no-cost energy assessment to receive recommendations on how to lower energy costs and be reimbursed for eligible expenses.

The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce) created an online application for eligible businesses, reviewed submissions, and pre-approved businesses for up to \$10,000 in eligible costs. Applicants submitted their energy efficiency assessment as part of the application process.

After Rhode Island Commerce made approval decisions, it notified approved businesses so that they could begin implementing the energy efficiency recommendations. To receive reimbursement of approved costs, businesses provided documentation to Rhode Island Commerce to demonstrate that the eligible projects were completed.

Timeline: The application window opened on February 5, 2024, and the deadline for reimbursement requests was June 30, 2024.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Number of small businesses served	0	60	64

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Number of applications received	0	72	141
Number of minority- and women-owned businesses served	0	12	30

Hospitality, Tourism, and Events (HTE) Direct Grants

Project Identification Number: 10009

Project Completion Date: November 15, 2023

Funded Amount: \$8,000,000

Final Expended Amount: \$7,999,999

Project Expenditure Category: 2.35 Negative Economic Impacts: Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: While there has been a range of federal and state supports for the hospitality, tourism, and events sector (e.g., Paycheck Protection Program, Shuttered Venue Operators Grant Program, Rhode Island Hotel, Arts & Tourism Grant Program), it continued to face significant negative economic impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. Strategic investments in the hospitality, tourism, and events sector support a strong, equitable, and broad-based economic recovery. Eligible recipients of grants through this program are restaurants, events-related businesses, valet operators, hotels, travel/tour-related businesses, and arts and culture organizations.

Project Overview: The project provided direct grants to businesses in the hard-hit hospitality, tourism, and events sector to compensate for lost revenue and other negative financial impacts. The arts and culture organizations are a key component of Rhode Island’s tourism industry and fall under the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Supersector code for leisure and hospitality. Eligible businesses are in one of three categories:

- *Restaurants, Events, and Valet Operators:* Businesses had to demonstrate a revenue loss of at least 25% to be eligible for a \$12,500 grant.²⁷ National and regional chains were ineligible.
- *Hotels, Travel Agents, and Tour Operators:* Businesses had to demonstrate a revenue loss of at least 35%. Grant amounts were pro-rated based on actual 2021 net financial need. Recipients were awarded a percentage of their demonstrated net need or \$250,000, whichever was less. Entities that received over \$100,000 had to remain operational as of September 1, 2022. Entities with publicly traded stock or that are majority owned by publicly traded companies were ineligible.
- *Arts and Culture Organizations:* Businesses had to demonstrate a revenue loss of at least 35%. Grant amounts were pro-rated based on actual 2021 net financial need. Recipients were awarded

²⁷ For entities that received a grant under the *Small Business Direct Grants* project, the maximum *Hospitality, Tourism, and Event Direct Grant* that can be received is \$12,500 less the amount of the *Small Business Direct Grant* received.

a percentage of their demonstrated net need or \$250,000, whichever was less. To be eligible, applicants had to own their facility or spend at least 20% of their operating budget on rent or performance space or have been a recipient of a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Shuttered Venue Operators Grant. Entities that received over \$100,000 had to remain operational as of September 1, 2022. National and regional chains were ineligible.

The breakdown in grant recipients by the three categories was as follows: 113 restaurants, events, and valet operators; 26 hotels, travel agents, and tour operators; and 24 arts and culture organizations.

Timeline: Applications were received in March and April 2022. Between May and November 2022, 163 grants were awarded for a total of approximately \$7.5 million. Additional grants were awarded to 32 recipients in the hotels, travel agents, and tour operators (11 recipients) and the arts and culture categories (21 recipients) in March and April 2023. These recipients originally received less than \$250,000 (the maximum for those categories) and had remaining, unmet, net financial need. Additional awards were made to bring all recipients to the same percentage of net financial need met or \$250,000 (whichever was less). These additional awards totaling approximately \$0.4 million addressed underspend due to updated data from the financial review process of applications.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Rhode Island Executive Office of Commerce (EOC) executed a subaward agreement with the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce) to deliver the project on behalf of EOC.

Use of Evidence: While this intervention has not been identified as evidence based, the analysis of the key performance indicators evaluated its effectiveness.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Dollars disbursed	0	\$7,882,314	\$7,881,122
Number of restaurants, valet operators, and events-related organizations assisted	0	215	113
Number of hotels and travel agents/tour operators assisted	0	20	26
Number of arts and culture organizations assisted	0	35	24
Percentage of businesses operational within six months of receiving awards	0	70%	83%

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Number of leisure and hospitality Supersector employees (seasonally adjusted) within six months of receiving awards	53,700	54,237	57,100
Number of businesses receiving supplemental grants	0	32	32

Hospitality, Tourism, and Events (HTE) Placemaking

Project Identification Number: 10014

Project Completion Date: January 31, 2025

Funded Amount: \$3,000,000

Final Expended Amount: \$2,946,581

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: There are certain events and activities that have a ripple-effect impact for local businesses, as well as improve consumer confidence and drive new traffic to regions. During the pandemic, many of these events and activities were paused, canceled, or modified. Tourism destinations were hit hard by stay-at-home orders and other pandemic-related requirements.

The *Hospitality, Events, and Tourism Placemaking* project provided \$2.9 million in grants to support clean and safe placemaking, attraction development, and event programming. Eligible activities included upgrading public or shared outdoor dining space; maintaining and improving public spaces, main streets, and outdoor performance/events venues; and supporting outdoor performances, food festivals, and seasonal events.

The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce) awarded a small number of grants totaling \$150,000 for large-scale projects, such as renovations to and programming for outdoor performance venues, while most grants were under \$75,000.

Timeline: Applications to a request for proposals (RFP) for intermediaries to support the grant program were opened in April 2022, with funds disbursed by February 2024. After this RFP, \$365,000 remained. A second RFP was issued on March 25, 2024, and October 31, 2024, was the deadline to invoice.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Number of businesses in the hospitality, tourism, and events industries impacted by events/activities	Based on grantee estimates (reported via survey data)	0	275	203
Number of customers/individuals participating/taking advantage of the event/activity	Based on grantee estimates (reported via survey data)	0	3,500	288,623
Number of events/activities held	Reported via survey data	0	35	106

Hospitality, Tourism, and Events (HTE) Placemaking Phase II

Project Identification Number: 10093

Funded Amount: \$2,053,419

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$319,276

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: There are certain events and activities that have a ripple-effect impact for local businesses, as well as improve consumer confidence and drive new traffic to regions. During the pandemic, many of these events and activities were paused, canceled, or modified. Tourism destinations were hit hard by stay-at-home orders and other pandemic-related requirements.

The *Hospitality, Events, and Tourism Placemaking Phase II* project is providing \$2.1 million in grants to support clean and safe placemaking, attraction development, and event programming. Eligible activities include upgrading public or shared outdoor dining space; maintaining and improving public spaces, main streets, and outdoor performance/events venues; and supporting outdoor performances, food festivals, and seasonal events.

The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce) is awarding a small number of grants totaling \$250,000 for large-scale projects, such as renovations to and programming for outdoor performance venues, while most grants are under \$75,000.

Timeline: Grant applications opened October 1, 2024, and closed November 15, 2024. The deadline for grant recipients to submit reimbursement requests is October 31, 2025.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Performance-to-Date
Number of businesses in the hospitality, tourism, and events industries impacted by events/activities	Based on grantee estimates (reported via survey data)	0	27
Number of customers/individuals participating/taking advantage of the event/activity	Based on grantee estimates (reported via survey data)	0	3,127
Number of events/activities held	Reported via survey data	0	68

Hospitality, Tourism, and Events (HTE) Marketing

Project Identification Number: 10015

Project Completion Date: September 12, 2023

Funded Amount: \$2,000,000

Final Expended Amount: \$2,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.35 Negative Economic Impacts: Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Rhode Island hosted 21.6 million visitors in 2020, a 17.5% decline from pre-pandemic levels.²⁸ While the share of day visitors and leisure visitors increased, a drop in business travel negatively impacted mid-week hotel occupancy rates particularly in Providence, Warwick, and the Blackstone Valley. International travel was severely restricted through 2021, resulting in significant declines in visitation and spending by international travelers. The pandemic's impact to the Rhode Island Airport Corporation (RIAC) included:

- Passenger traffic declined by 96.9% year over year in April 2020, the lowest point.
- Of the nine airlines that serviced Rhode Island T.F Green International Airport before the pandemic, four stopped flying there in 2020 (Delta, Frontier, JetBlue, and United). The airlines resumed service to the airport between June 2020 and March 2021.
- Passenger traffic in calendar year 2020 was down 67% from 2019.
- Passenger traffic in calendar year 2021 was down 42% from 2019.
- The earliest that passenger traffic is expected to reach pre-pandemic levels is 2024.²⁹

²⁸ [Economic Impact of Visitors in Rhode Island 2020](#)

²⁹ <https://flyri.com/riac/passenger-numbers/>

The pandemic underscored tourism’s importance to Rhode Island’s economy and its potential moving forward. Marketing is a key tool to aid in that recovery. In 2021, Rhode Island’s lodging sector sustained a 26% loss in sales compared to 2019. Lodging sales make up approximately 14% of visitor spending in Rhode Island, according to Rhode Island’s tourism impact study prepared by Tourism Economics.³⁰ Furthermore, direct visitor industry employment (related to spending by visitors to Rhode Island who spent the night or traveled at least 50 miles for a day trip) registered 28,412 in 2020, a 27.8% decline from 2019.

Project Overview: The project targeted advertising in key gateway cities³¹, supported direct advertising for the state’s tourism regions, and sponsored regional and event partnerships. The goal was to boost tourism and business travel to pre-pandemic levels. Promotion included digital marketing, billboards, radio, and an international marketing plan. Such programming aimed to increase mid-week hotel occupancy rates and visitation for inland regions. Funding was allocated as follows:

- *RIAC*, \$1,000,000: RIAC advertising included digital marketing, billboards, radio, and an international marketing plan with Brand USA.
- *Tourism Regions*, \$749,400: Direct grants were awarded to the state’s tourism districts to engage in marketing campaigns.
- *Regional Marketing*, \$250,000: The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce) used these funds for regional and event partnerships, increased public relations efforts, and other media.

Timeline: In November 2022, Rhode Island Commerce launched a targeted, integrated marketing campaign to attract visitors from the competitive four-hour drive market. In January 2023, regional tourism organizations received subawards to be used on advertising media in support of regional tourism drive market initiatives. Rhode Island Commerce also deployed air service destination marketing programs on behalf of RIAC, targeting select gateway cities. The campaigns began in December 2022, with pre-purchased media through June 2023.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Rhode Island Executive Office of Commerce (EOC) executed a subaward agreement with Rhode Island Commerce to deliver the project on behalf of EOC.

Use of Evidence: While this intervention has not been identified as evidence based, the analysis of the key performance indicators evaluated its effectiveness.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Rental home occupancy rate	Occupancy data is provided by AirDNA monthly	December: 40%	December 2022: 43%	June 2023: 65%

³⁰ [Economic Impact of Visitors in Rhode Island 2020](#)

³¹ Gateway cities are cities that have direct flights to Rhode Island T.F. Green International Airport and include Atlanta, Chicago, Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Detroit, Charleston, SC, Charlotte, Philadelphia, Raleigh-Durham, and Minneapolis-St. Paul.

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Meals tax revenue	Revenue collected from 1% meals tax	July through December: \$16,910,255	July through December 2022: \$17,755,766	July 2022 through June 2023: \$38,620,204
Airplane load factors	Percentage of total seats filled on flights to Rhode Island T.F. Green International Airport	45%	December 2022: 50%	June 2023: 88%
Consumer visitation overnight vs. daytime	Ratio of visitors to Rhode Island that stayed overnight to those that did not	2.57	December 2022: 2	June 2023: 4.1
Hotel occupancy rate	Daily occupancy rates statewide broken down by regional tourism district	October through December: 64%	December 2022: 68%	June 2023: 75%
Group sales	Meetings and conventions lead generation metrics	90	July through December 2022: 97	July 2022 through June 2023: 817

It should be noted that the tourism promotion programs noted above were expected to have been completed by December 2022 but were not in fact completed until June 2023. This means the Final Performance metrics include an additional six months of data vis-à-vis the Goal metrics.

Aid to the Convention Center

Project Identification Number: 10018

Project Completion Date: July 28, 2023

Funded Amount: \$10,000,000

Final Expended Amount: \$10,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The transfer of approximately \$10 million in SFRF provided the Rhode Island Convention Center Authority (RICCA) with sufficient working capital to tailor its operations to a post-pandemic environment by reimagining the use of its spaces to ensure the comfort and confidence of patrons and attract new events to the facility.

Timeline: Two transfers of approximately \$5 million each were made to RICCA. The first transfer was made in August 2022, and the second transfer was made in December 2022.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Dollars disbursed to RICCA	0	\$9,997,000	\$9,997,000
Fiscal Year 2023 operating margin	Projected Fiscal Year 2023 operating margin without State Fiscal Recovery Funds: \$(472,536)	\$9,524,464	\$14,317,436

Minority Business Accelerator

Project Identification Number: 10041

Funded Amount: \$5,200,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$5,200,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.32 Negative Economic Impacts: Business Incubators and Start-up or Expansion Assistance

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Reports make it clear that the pandemic disproportionately impacted minority- and women-owned businesses. The Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland concluded in an October 2020 report that these businesses were “facing higher rates of closures and sharper declines in cash balances as compared to nonminority-owned small businesses.”³² A May 2020 report from McKinsey stated that “minority-owned small businesses in the United States are also more likely to have conducted layoffs or furloughs or to have shut down their businesses: 55 percent compared with 48 percent for all respondents.”³³

In Rhode Island, minority-owned small businesses make up a smaller percentage of firms than population statistics would indicate. While Black or African Americans make up 8.8% of the state’s population,³⁴ Black- or African American-owned businesses comprise only 3.7% of firms in the state.³⁵ Similarly, while Hispanic residents make up 17.1% of the state’s population, Hispanic-owned businesses comprise only 9.2% of firms in the state.

Project Overview: The project is funding the following initiatives:

- \$2.45 million to increase access to capital through a competitive grant program, with grant awards of up to \$20,000. The grants are intended to stimulate growth for minority business enterprises (MBEs), including women-owned businesses. The support includes, but is not limited to, assistance through the *Small Business Technical Assistance* project.

³² [An Uphill Battle: COVID-19’s Outsized Toll on Minority-Owned Firms](#)

³³ [COVID-19’s Effect on Minority-owned Small Businesses in the United States](#)

³⁴ [U.S. Census Bureau](#)

³⁵ [Rhode Island BIPOC Small Business Ecosystem Assessment](#)

- \$2.18 million to support a network of intermediary organizations that serve minority-owned businesses.
- \$334,000 for a full-time staff member and contract support to operate the project.
- \$253,000 for technical to ensure timely reporting and compliance with all relevant guidelines.

Together, these initiatives are designed to increase the percentage of MBEs, including women-owned businesses, in Rhode Island and support existing businesses.

Timeline: The *Minority Business Accelerator* project conducted two rounds of requests for proposals (RFPs) for technical assistance and training. The first RFP opened on April 3, 2023, and closed on April 28, 2023. As a result, eleven intermediaries were selected and began providing services on September 1, 2023.

The second RFP opened on September 27, 2023, and closed on October 11, 2023, and four additional intermediaries were onboarded, focusing on food and beverage, construction trades, and child daycare services. These four intermediaries started providing services on April 1, 2024. The intermediaries concluded their services in March 2025.

The MBA program issued 244 direct grants totaling \$2,130,000 from October 2024 through May 2025.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Rhode Island Executive Office of Commerce (EOC) executed a subaward agreement with the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce) to deliver the project on behalf of EOC.

Use of Evidence: The project draws on the success of the Cincinnati Minority Business Accelerator, which has a portfolio of minority-owned businesses with annual revenues of at least \$1 million and potential for accelerated growth in two to five years. As of 2020, the program reported 67 companies being supported, \$150 million in new business secured, \$1.2 billion in regional minority business spending, over \$100 million in new credit commitments awarded in 2019, and over \$2 million secured in new grant support since 2018.³⁶

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs		0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs		0	0

³⁶ [Making Cincinnati the National Epicenter for Minority Business Development](#)

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs		0	0
Number of MBEs, including women-owned businesses, served	Examples include attending an entrepreneurship training session, using a co-working space, receiving a grant, attending a procurement seminar, etc.)	0	1,404
Number of programs, trainings, or initiatives started by intermediaries		0	882
Number of businesses helped by the program that submitted a complete application to the DEDI directory		125	129
Percentage of businesses that received financial assistance that are still in operation following receipt of the assistance		0	N/A

Minority Business Accelerator: Rhode Island Black Business Association Grant

Project Identification Number: 10051

Project Completion Date: December 31, 2023

Funded Amount: \$500,000

Final Expended Amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Black Business Association (RIBBA) is a nonprofit dedicated to advancing opportunities for Black-owned and minority businesses in Rhode Island. Black and Latino businesses were among the hardest hit by the pandemic. According to news reports, Black business ownership rates dropped 41% between February and April 2020, the highest rate of any racial group.³⁷

RIBBA provides an array of business development services, including technical assistance, access to contracts, loan programs, business coaching and mentorship, workshops, and leadership opportunities.

The funds are supporting the build-out of the Minority Business Hub, a co-working space for RIBBA’s clients, members, and partners. It will serve as a co-working center, providing access to workspace and Wi-Fi, private offices, conference rooms, and meeting spaces for RIBBA’s clients and other organizations. These tools are essential to small and micro-businesses’ success. A 2015 study by the Harvard Business Review shows that employees thrive in co-working settings. According to the report, employees in these spaces tend to see their work as meaningful, have more job control, and feel like part of a community.³⁸

Funds are also supporting the Small Business Program, RIBBA’s premier outreach program to help small businesses scale by increasing the capacity of the program team.

Timeline: The grant funding was transferred to RIBBA in March 2023, and key performance indicator data was tracked through December 2023.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Number of small businesses with their MBE certifications	0	20	29
Number of small businesses that are bankable by partnering with local banks and credit unions	0	10	16

Minority Business Accelerator: Roger Williams University Start-Up Clinic Grant

Project Identification Number: 10048

Project Completion Date: June 30, 2024

Funded Amount: \$300,000

Final Expended Amount: \$300,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

³⁷ [Black-owned small businesses hit harder by pandemic than White-owned firms](#)

³⁸ <https://hbr.org/2015/05/why-people-thrive-in-coworking-spaces>

Project Overview: The Roger Williams University School of Law worked with the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce) to enhance the growth of minority business enterprises (MBEs). Client services included:

- Prospective client interviews
- Client onboarding meetings
- Business registration, internal governance and operating document review and preparation
- Contract law guidance, regulatory law guidance, employment law guidance, and trade secret and trademark law guidance
- Trademark registrations
- Translation services

Timeline: The clinic operated through June 30, 2024.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Number of legal services provided to current or prospective MBEs, including women-owned businesses	0	100	97
Number of MBEs, including women-owned businesses, in existence	0	20	54

Destination Marketing

Project Identification Number: 10056

Funded Amount: \$3,000,000

Expended Amount as of June, 30, 2025: \$3,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: Air travel to Rhode Island T.F. Green International Airport was heavily affected by the pandemic, with the airplane load factor decreasing by as much as 77%.³⁹ While air travel was recovering overall, business travel, which traditionally drives off-season travel, remained sluggish during the recovery. Additional leisure travel marketing was necessary to offset the effect of travel trends.

The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce), in cooperation with the Rhode Island Airport Corporation (RIAC) and partner airlines, targeted key gateway cities, including Los

³⁹ Data provided by the Rhode Island Airport Corporation

Angeles, Chicago, Washington, D.C., and Detroit, with a campaign promoting leisure travel to Rhode Island. The project was comprised of the following components:

- Integrated campaigns that spurred interest in Rhode Island, targeted at cities with air service to Rhode Island T.F. Green International Airport.
- New England sports media buys that encouraged fan travel to professional sporting events.
- In-market experiential events and installations in high-visibility locations that created top-of-mind destination impressions.
- A lodging value campaign during January when lodging occupancy is at its lowest statewide.

Rhode Island Commerce matched the \$3 million in SFRF with its allocation of state hotel tax revenue to pay for additional marketing and advertisement campaigns that promoted Rhode Island as a destination for leisure travel. These additional funds supported the creation of visual and technical assets from conception to implementation.

Timeline: The components of the project were implemented from January 2023 through December 2024.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Airplane load factors	Increase factor to match pre-pandemic levels	81%	83%
Matching funds from hotel tax		0	\$3,143,827

Bioscience Investments

Project Identification Number: 10082

Funded Amount: \$45,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$20,810,722

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The project invests in the biosciences industry in conjunction with the creation of the Rhode Island Life Science Hub (RILSH), which includes the development of one or more wet lab incubator spaces; the creation of a fund to support wrap-around services to aid in the commercialization of technology and business development; the growth of the biosciences talent pipeline; and support for staff to implement the project.

The State Fiscal Year 2024 budget established RILSH to be the central entity and coordinating organization of life science initiatives on behalf of the State. RILSH will:

- Facilitate the development of medical advances and scientific breakthroughs with companies who specialize in the fields of medical devices, biomedical technology, medical therapeutic therapies, biogenetics, biomedical engineering, biopharmaceuticals, genomics, and life sciences; and,

- Incubate Rhode Island-based life science companies that will promote economic and workforce development and allow the State to successfully compete in the national and international life science industries.

The initial \$1.75 million approved for expenditure was used to support start-up operations for the RILSH, including staff salaries and related employee expenses, professional and consulting services, marketing, travel, and office supplies and technology. The remaining funds are being used for the following purposes:

- Up to \$25.3 million is allocated for grant programs that are incentivizing life science companies to establish new operations in Rhode Island. The goal is to create high-paying jobs and foster economic growth.
- \$9.8 million is allocated to support the development of life science, wet lab incubator spaces in collaboration with industry partners. Incubators provide move-in-ready space that can be expanded or contracted to fit occupants’ needs. The spaces include essential equipment and services, as well as connectivity to adjacent institutions and life science companies.
- \$5 million is allocated to be contributed to the RI Life Science Equity Fund.
- Up to \$3.2 million is allocated for operating costs.

Timeline: The investment programs are designed to be completed in 24 months and concluded in calendar year 2026. RILSH selected a project manager to create the incubator space in July 2024. The space is expected to be completed by December 2025.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
File articles of incorporation for the RILSH*	0	1
Issue professional and consulting service requests for proposals for RILSH	0	9
Hire president and CEO for RILSH*	0	1
Schedule and hold inaugural board meeting for RILSH board of directors*	0	1
Opening of the incubator*	0	0

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Incubator occupancy rate	0	N/A
Incubator development contract signed*	0	1
Hire two RILSH full-time equivalents	0	2
Number of companies funded and operating through RILSH investment program	0	30

*These are yes/no binary indicators: 0 meaning 'no', 1 meaning 'yes'.

RI Rebounds Administration

Project Identification Number: 10085

Funded Amount: \$1,500,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The Executive Office of Commerce (EOC) was appropriated \$1.5 million to administer six State Fiscal Recovery Fund projects: *Small Business Direct Grants*; *Small Business Public Health Capital Improvements*; *Small Business Technical Assistance*; *Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Direct Grants*; *Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Placemaking*; and *Hospitality, Tourism and Events Marketing*. The funding is paying for:

- Technology (e.g., website hosting and creation of *Small Business Direct Grants* calculator and the data aggregator tool).
- Staffing costs (e.g., cost sharing for staff assigned to Rhode Island Rebounds projects).
- Consulting (e.g., translation services, contractor to support administration of projects, and grants administration consultant for *Small Business Direct Grants* and *Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Direct Grants*).
- Legal (e.g., ongoing support of projects, developing subaward agreements, and other legal documents).
- Auditing (e.g., federal single audit and year-end financial statement audit).
- Other operating (e.g., purchase of checks to process certain payments).

Timeline: This project is incurring spend throughout the implementation and execution of the Rhode Island Rebounds projects.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Completed projects supported by these funds	0	6
Implementation of the data aggregator tool*	0	1
Hire contractor to support administrative operations*	0	1

**These are yes/no binary indicators: 0 meaning 'no', 1 meaning 'yes'.*

Public Health

Health Care Facilities: Nonprofit Hospital Assistance

Project Identification Number: 10030

Project Completion Date: September 30, 2023

Funded Amount: \$40,484,887⁴⁰

Final Expended Amount: \$40,484,887

Project Expenditure Category: 2.34 Negative Economic Impacts: Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: The waves of COVID-19 variants stressed the already-limited financial and staffing resources of the state's 10 nonprofit hospitals, which incurred operating losses of \$13 million in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2019, the last pre-pandemic federal fiscal year. The 10 hospitals are:

- Butler Hospital
- Emma Pendleton Bradley Hospital
- Kent County Memorial Hospital
- Landmark Medical Center
- Miriam Hospital
- Newport Hospital
- Rhode Island Hospital
- South County Hospital
- Westerly Hospital
- Women and Infants Hospital of Rhode Island

Through June 30, 2022, the nonprofit hospitals reported operating losses of \$107 million for FFY 2022 (October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022). The increased losses reflect pandemic-induced temporary contract staffing, the implementation of COVID-19 protocols, purchase of personal protective equipment, delay of elective surgeries, and other pandemic-related activities.

Project Overview: To alleviate the financial hardship of the pandemic, the Rhode Island Department of Administration (DOA) distributed grants to each nonprofit hospital in accordance with a formula provided by the Rhode Island General Assembly. Each nonprofit hospital received a base \$1 million payment in addition to a pro rata share of the remaining total appropriation of \$45 million based on the hospitals' operating costs from their 2021 Medicare cost reports relative to the aggregate operating costs of all hospitals – both nonprofit and for profit – from all 2021 Medicare cost reports.

Timeline: Grants were distributed to the 10 nonprofit hospitals in September 2022.

⁴⁰ The total appropriation for the State Fiscal Recovery Fund Health Care Facilities Hospital Assistance project was \$45 million. This figure is the amount of the \$45 million appropriation that was allocated to the state's 10 nonprofit hospitals.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Hospital Association of Rhode Island (HARI) collected information on the nonprofit hospitals for U.S. Treasury reports. HARI reported monthly to the Rhode Island Pandemic Recovery Office (PRO) with the operating margins of each nonprofit hospital.

Use of Evidence: While this intervention has not been identified as evidence based, the analysis of the key performance indicators evaluated its effectiveness.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
U.S. Treasury Required Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs	0	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs	0	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs	0	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of nonprofits served	0	10	10
Total grant dollars distributed	0	\$40,472,743	\$40,472,743
Operating margin	January - March 2022: \$(70,953,000) April - June 2022: \$(31,640,776)	\$(10,000,000)	\$(3,586,679)

Health Care Facilities: For-Profit Hospital Assistance

Project Identification Number: 10042

Project Completion Date: September 30, 2023

Funded Amount: \$4,515,113⁴¹

Final Expended Amount: \$4,515,113

Project Expenditure Category: 2.36 Negative Economic Impacts: Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Since March 2021, Roger Williams Medical Center (RWMC) and Our Lady of Fatima Hospital (OLF) incurred \$3,006,884 in non-contracted labor-related COVID-19 expenses. This amount includes additional staff, personal protective equipment, test kits, cleaning supplies, etc. Unlike nonprofit hospitals, for-profit hospitals were not eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement for their COVID-19-related expenses.⁴²

Additionally, RWMC and OLF experienced higher contract labor costs from Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2019 to FFY 2022. In FFY 2019, contract labor costs were \$698,642, and in FFY 2022 they were \$9,461,545. The Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services outlined the fiscal challenges for hospitals utilizing travel nurses in a May 2022 report. “Hospitals responding to the 2021 [Office of the Inspector General] OIG survey reported facing increased labor market competition from staffing agencies, particularly for nurses and that they were unable to compete with the salaries being provided through staffing agencies,” the report said.⁴³

Project Overview: To alleviate the financial hardship of the pandemic, the Rhode Island Department of Administration (DOA) distributed grants to both for-profit hospitals in accordance with a formula provided by the Rhode Island General Assembly. Each for-profit hospital received a base \$1 million payment in addition to a pro rata share of the remaining total appropriation of \$45 million based on the hospitals’ operating costs from their 2021 Medicare cost reports relative to the aggregate operating costs of all hospitals – both nonprofit and for profit – from all 2021 Medicare cost reports.

Timeline: Grants were distributed to the two for-profit hospitals in November 2022.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Hospital Association of Rhode Island (HARI) collected information on the for-profit hospitals for U.S. Treasury reports. HARI reported monthly to the Rhode Island Pandemic Recovery Office (PRO) with the operating margins of both for-profit hospitals.

Use of Evidence: While this intervention has not been identified as evidence based, the analysis of the key performance indicators evaluated its effectiveness.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Number of for-profit hospitals served	0	2	2
Total dollars distributed	0	\$4,513,757	\$4,513,757

⁴¹ The total appropriation for the State Fiscal Recovery Fund Health Care Facilities Hospital Assistance project was \$45 million. This figure is the amount of the \$45 million appropriation that was allocated to the state’s two for-profit hospitals.

⁴² [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Pandemic: Private Nonprofit Organizations](#)

⁴³ [Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Hospital and Outpatient Clinician Workforce](#)

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Operating margin	FFY 2019: \$19,382,376 FFY 2020: \$32,828,343 FFY 2021: \$(6,137,217)	\$(986,227)	\$(9,989,866)

Health Care Facilities: Nursing Home Assistance

Project Identification Number: 10046

Project Completion Date: November 15, 2023

Funded Amount: \$30,000,000

Final Expended Amount: \$30,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.36 Negative Economic Impacts: Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), from January 3, 2021, through December 26, 2021, Rhode Island’s 79 nursing homes reported a shortage of nurses 883 times on a weekly basis, or 21.5% of the time.⁴⁴ During the same period, the nursing homes reported a shortage of aides 1,011 times, or 24.6% of the time. The nursing homes reported a staffing shortage of both nurses and aides 841 times, or 20.5% of the time. These data underscore the crisis in direct care staffing that Rhode Island’s nursing homes experienced due to the public health emergency. Since the CMS data was collected, four of the 79 nursing homes closed. Comparing December 2019 through February 2020 to September through November 2021, employment in Rhode Island’s nursing and residential care facilities sector declined by 18.4%.⁴⁵

Project Overview: The Rhode Island General Assembly appropriated \$30 million to be distributed to Rhode Island’s 75 nursing homes. The per-facility distribution was based on the number of Medicaid bed days a facility had out of the total number of Medicaid bed days for all nursing facilities as indicated in each nursing home’s 2020 cost report. Nursing homes that filed a 2020 cost report but were no longer in business in 2022 and nursing homes that do not accept Medicaid were excluded from the distribution. Eligible nursing homes were required to dedicate at least 80% of the monies received to direct care workers.⁴⁶

Timeline: Grants were distributed to the 75 nursing homes from December 2022 through April 2023.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Rhode Island Pandemic Recovery Office (PRO) worked with the 75 nursing homes to have them sign grant agreements and collect key performance indicator data.

Use of Evidence: While this intervention has not been identified as evidence based, the analysis of the key performance indicators evaluated its effectiveness.

⁴⁴ [COVID-19 Nursing Home Data](#)

⁴⁵ [U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

⁴⁶ “Direct care workers” was assumed to have the same meaning as the term “direct care staff” in R.I. Gen. Laws § 40- 8-19(a)(3)(i). Maintenance staff was also included under the category of “other similar employees” in R.I. Gen. Laws § 40-8-19(a)(3)(i) as these direct care workers are akin to laundry staff who are deemed to be direct care staff under the law

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Number of nursing homes receiving grant payments	0	75	75
Percentage of grant award dedicated to direct care workers	0	80%	93%
Number of nursing homes still in operation three months after receipt of grant payment	0	75	74

Health Care Facilities: Nursing Home Assistance Phase II

Project Identification Number: 10090

Project Completion Date: December 31, 2024

Funded Amount: \$10,000,000

Final Expended Amount: \$10,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.36 Negative Economic Impacts: Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), from January 3, 2021, through December 26, 2021, Rhode Island’s 79 nursing homes reported a shortage of nurses 883 times on a weekly basis, or 21.5% of the time.⁴⁷ During the same period, the nursing homes reported a shortage of aides 1,011 times, or 24.6% of the time. The nursing homes reported a staffing shortage of both nurses and aides 841 times, or 20.5% of the time. These data underscore the crisis in direct care staffing that Rhode Island’s nursing homes experienced due to the public health emergency. Since the CMS data was collected, six of the 79 nursing homes closed. Comparing December 2019 through February 2020 to September through November 2021, employment in Rhode Island’s nursing and residential care facilities sector declined by 18.4%.⁴⁸

Project Overview: The Rhode Island General Assembly appropriated \$10 million to be distributed to Rhode Island’s 73 nursing homes. The per-facility distribution was based on the number of Medicaid bed days a facility had out of the total number of Medicaid bed days for all nursing facilities as indicated in each nursing home’s 2022 cost report. Nursing homes that filed a 2022 cost report but were no longer in

⁴⁷ [COVID-19 Nursing Home Data](#)

⁴⁸ [U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

business in 2024 and nursing homes that do not accept Medicaid were excluded from the distribution. Eligible nursing homes were required to dedicate at least 80% of the monies received to direct care workers.⁴⁹

Timeline: Grants were distributed to the 73 nursing homes in July 2024.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Rhode Island Pandemic Recovery Office worked with the 73 nursing homes to have them sign grant agreements and collect key performance indicator data.

Use of Evidence: While this intervention has not been identified as evidence based, the analysis of the key performance indicators evaluated its effectiveness.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Number of nursing homes receiving grant payments	0	73	73
Percentage of grant award dedicated to direct care workers	0	80%	93%
Number of nursing homes still in operation six months after receipt of grant payment	0	73	73

Health Care Facilities: Health Center Assistance

Project Identification Number: 10047

Project Completion Date: February 9, 2024

Funded Amount: \$2,500,000

Final Expended Amount: \$2,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.34 Negative Economic Impacts: Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations

⁴⁹ “Direct care workers” was assumed to have the same meaning as the term “direct care staff” in R.I. Gen. Laws § 40- 8-19(a)(3)(i). Maintenance staff was also included under the category of “other similar employees” in R.I. Gen. Laws § 40-8-19(a)(3)(i) as these direct care workers are akin to laundry staff who are deemed to be direct care staff under the law

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Community health centers provide care for approximately 200,000 Rhode Islanders, most of whom live below 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL). While health center administrators, physicians, nurses, social workers, community health workers, and front-desk personnel persevered through this pandemic, a significant number of health center employees are leaving their jobs. Across Rhode Island community health centers, the monthly voluntary turnover rate increased from 14% in January 2020 to 16% in January 2022. The average employee tenure dropped 5.9% from January 2020 to June 2022.⁵⁰ Several reasons contribute to these departures, including burnout and higher compensation offered by other healthcare providers.

According to a June 2022 report by the Kaiser Family Foundation, “Staff recruitment and retention remain common concerns at health centers nationally.”⁵¹ Attrition and the struggle to recruit employees jeopardize community health centers’ ability to continue to effectively respond to their patients and communities.

Project Overview: The project provided grants to the eight federally qualified health centers in Rhode Island to restore and support community health center employment through worker retention incentives that were no more than 25% of an employee’s base pay.⁵² The bonuses did not result in long-term base pay increases.

Timeline: Grants were distributed to the eight community health centers in December 2022.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Rhode Island General Assembly provided a direct award to the Rhode Island Health Center Association (RIHCA) to serve as a subrecipient for this project. As the subrecipient, RIHCA distributed the grants to the eight community health centers. The grant distribution formula was based on the percentage of patients served at each health center out of the total of patients served at all eight health centers using 2021 Uniform Data System data from the federal Health Resources and Services Administration.⁵³

Use of Evidence: While this intervention has not been identified as evidence based, the analysis of the key performance indicators evaluated its effectiveness.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
U.S. Treasury Required Number of nonprofits served	0	8	8
Dollars distributed in health professional shortage areas	0	\$2,499,250	\$2,499,250

⁵⁰ Data provided by the eight federally qualified health centers in response to a survey

⁵¹ [How Community Health Centers Are Serving Low-Income Communities During the COVID-19 Pandemic Amid New and Continuing Challenges](#)

⁵² Community health centers’ designation as “federally qualified health centers” require that they are in health professional shortage areas (HPSA), which have a shortage of primary, dental, or mental health care providers, as defined by the federal Health Resources and Services Administration.

⁵³ [Health Center Program Uniform Data System \(UDS\) Data Overview \(hrsa.gov\)](#)

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Employee retention rate	76%	December 2023: 85%	December 2023: 83%
Average employee tenure	5.2 years	December 2023: 5.7 years	December 2023: 5.2 years

COVID-19 Operational Support: Analytics

Project Identification Number: 10069

Funded Amount: \$19,346,136

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$18,764,168

Project Expenditure Category: 1.7 Public Health: Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Although the federal public health emergency ended in May 2023, COVID-19 remains an infectious disease of great concern and impact in Rhode Island. The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) is continuing appropriate response activities to protect the health of Rhode Island residents; prevent COVID-19 spread, morbidity, and mortality; and promote evidence-based COVID-19 vaccinations, treatments, and mitigation measures.

Project Overview: RIDOH's COVID-19-related activities are grouped by workstreams.

- The administrative assistance workstream provides support with logistics, operational readiness, and liability protection to ensure the continuity of operations by relieving administrative burden and reducing the risk of legal repercussions or cybersecurity breaches.
- The communications workstream delivers clear, timely, accurate, effective public health messaging about COVID-19 information, resources, and guidance. This includes resource preparation in multiple languages, media campaigns, and the maintenance of a website.
- The quant/data and analytics workstream maintains a sustainable COVID-19 surveillance program to support situational awareness, prevention, and planning efforts within and beyond RIDOH. Quant responds to changes in the data landscape, including the breadth and frequency of policy changes and resource constraints. Quant monitors and detects COVID-19 incidence, RIDOH interventions (e.g., vaccination and treatment programs), and severity of disease, outbreaks, and new variants, and provides data for risk communication to the public. These data are critically important to inform policy and any strategy changes as the disease evolves.
- The technology enablement workstream supports the implementation and maintenance of technology so that the workstreams can meet their operational goals.

Timeline: The funds are being spent from July 2023 through September 2025.

Mechanisms and Partners: The workstreams are integrated into RIDOH's divisions and work cooperatively to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and mitigate the impacts of infection on Rhode Islanders.

Use of Evidence: RIDOH follows national COVID-19 guidelines, and its response evolved as national evidence changed and medical countermeasures were developed (e.g., vaccines and treatment). That is

why RIDOH’s current focus is on the most vulnerable Rhode Islanders. The agency continues to evaluate data and tailor its response as a result. RIDOH is focused on data- and evidence-based strategies that will minimize disease burden on the population so that hospital systems are not overwhelmed with COVID-19 admissions.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of COVID-19 data categories reported	9	5
Percentage of reporting that was reported during the expected reporting cadence	89%	100%

COVID-19 Operational Support: Epidemiology

Project Identification Number: 10068

Funded Amount: \$10,080,721

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$9,897,916

Project Expenditure Category: 1.3 Public Health: COVID-19 Contact Tracing

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Although the federal public health emergency ended in May 2023, COVID-19 remains an infectious disease of great concern and impact in Rhode Island. The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) is continuing appropriate response activities to protect the health of Rhode Island residents; prevent COVID-19 spread, morbidity, and mortality; and promote evidence-based COVID-19 vaccinations, treatments, and mitigation measures.

Project Overview: RIDOH’s COVID-19-related activities are grouped by workstreams. The epidemiology and operations workstream oversees case investigation and outbreak response. Case investigation focuses on educating individuals at highest risk of severe outcomes on isolation recommendations and treatment options, and to identify any links to known outbreaks. Outbreak response focuses on congregate and educational settings. Upon outbreak identification, the workstream provides education and mitigation support to facilities.

Timeline: The funds are being spent from July 2023 through September 2025.

Mechanisms and Partners: The workstreams are integrated into RIDOH’s divisions and work cooperatively to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and mitigate the impacts of infection on Rhode Islanders.

Use of Evidence: RIDOH follows national COVID-19 guidelines, and its response evolved as national evidence changed and medical countermeasures were developed (e.g., vaccines and treatment). That is why RIDOH’s current focus is on the most vulnerable Rhode Islanders. The agency continues to evaluate data and tailor its response as a result. RIDOH is focused on data- and evidence-based strategies that will

minimize disease burden on the population so that hospital systems are not overwhelmed with COVID-19 admissions.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Percentage of priority COVID-19 cases attempted for outreach within 72 hours	86%	94%
Percentage of calls to the COVID-19 information line resolved on the first call	98%	100%

COVID-19 Operational Support: Testing

Project Identification Number: 10067

Funded Amount: \$2,770,226

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$2,770,226

Project Expenditure Category: 1.2 Public Health: COVID-19 Testing

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Although the federal public health emergency ended in May 2023, COVID-19 remains an infectious disease of great concern and impact in Rhode Island. The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) is continuing appropriate response activities to protect the health of Rhode Island residents; prevent COVID-19 spread, morbidity, and mortality; and promote evidence-based COVID-19 vaccinations, treatments, and mitigation measures.

Project Overview: RIDOH’s COVID-19-related activities are grouped by workstreams. The testing workstream supports outbreak testing for congregate care settings and other key populations, genomic sequencing to identify circulating and new variants, and wastewater testing to provide alerts on increased COVID-19 prevalence.

Timeline: The funds are being spent from July 2023 through June 2025.

Mechanisms and Partners: The workstreams are integrated into RIDOH’s divisions and work cooperatively to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and mitigate the impacts of infection on Rhode Islanders.

Use of Evidence: RIDOH follows national COVID-19 guidelines, and its response evolved as national evidence changed and medical countermeasures were developed (e.g., vaccines and treatment). That is why RIDOH’s current focus is on the most vulnerable Rhode Islanders. The agency continues to evaluate data and tailor its response as a result. RIDOH is focused on data- and evidence-based strategies that will minimize disease burden on the population so that hospital systems are not overwhelmed with COVID-19 admissions.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Percentage of COVID-19 positive samples that are successfully sequenced	87%	80%
Number of wastewater sampling sites	8	11

Public Health Response Warehouse Support

Project Identification Number: 10023

Funded Amount: \$4,178,347

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$3,159,836

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The funds are paying for the proper storage of personal protective equipment, other necessary COVID-19 response-related supplies, and other supplies at two State-operated warehouses. Costs include monthly lease payments, contracted labor, supplies, equipment, and utilities. This project was eligible for federal Stafford Act funding, with the State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF) appropriation serving as the State's 10% match, through May 11, 2023 (the end of the public health emergency), at which point the SFRF appropriation started covering 100% of the costs.

Timeline: The project is anticipated to pay for costs through the third quarter of State Fiscal Year 2026.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Inventories		0	32
Percentage of personal protective equipment with a shelf life beyond 120 days		60%	60%
Inventory accuracy	Determined by monthly inventory compared to information in the inventory management system	90%	100%

Auto-Enrollment Program

Project Identification Number: 10044

Project Completion Date: November 30, 2024

Funded Amount: \$1,614,068

Final Expended Amount: \$1,614,068

Project Expenditure Category: 2.6 Negative Economic Impacts: Household Assistance: Health Insurance

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Throughout the public health emergency, many Rhode Islanders became eligible for Medicaid due to changing circumstances related to employment and income. In the same period, the federal government prohibited states from terminating Medicaid enrollment except in limited circumstances. As a result of this federal requirement for continuous coverage, Medicaid enrollment grew by over 76,000 enrollees in Rhode Island since the start of the pandemic – bringing the total to 371,000 as of April 2023. In December 2022, congressional action separated the end of the continuous coverage requirement from the end of the public health emergency. Annual recertification of Medicaid eligibility was required to resume in all states no later than April 1, 2023. When annual recertification of Medicaid eligibility resumed, members who were no longer eligible had their Medicaid coverage terminated.

Before the public health emergency, Medicaid enrollees with fluctuating income transitioned back and forth between Medicaid and qualified health plan (QHP) coverage, potentially resulting in coverage gaps, as well as changes in their health plans and provider networks. According to enrollment data from HealthSource RI (HSRI), Rhode Island’s official marketplace for health insurance coverage, in 2019, 6,203 members moved from Medicaid to a QHP, and 4,404 members moved from a QHP to Medicaid. Historically, many individuals who leave Medicaid do not enroll in a QHP. For example, for one type of Medicaid termination suspended during the pandemic, of the people who moved from Medicaid to QHP eligibility in a year period, over 75% did not select a QHP, and only 12% were enrolled in a QHP at the end of that year. Without health insurance coverage, many of these individuals may be required to pay an individual mandate tax penalty when filing their Rhode Island personal income tax return.

Project Overview: The State’s goal with this project was to transition as many individuals as possible who were no longer eligible for Medicaid into one of the many QHPs available through HSRI. HSRI created a pathway for individuals to retain health and dental insurance coverage once they were transitioned from Medicaid during the recertification process. The program provided two months of premium payments for two groups no longer eligible for Medicaid:

- Eligible individuals and families with household income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL) were auto-enrolled into a QHP offered through HSRI. The project provided two months of premium payments. The payments effectuated coverage on behalf of the customer. All auto-enrollees were eligible for a special enrollment period of 60 days from the date their Medicaid coverage ended and could change plans at that time. In this instance, the project’s premium payments were applied to the customer’s chosen plan. If auto-enrollees self-selected a dental plan, the project also paid the premium for the first two months of dental coverage.
- For individuals and families with household income up to 250% FPL who actively selected a medical and/or dental plan through HSRI, the project provided two months of premium payments for the medical and/or dental plan chosen by the applicant.

The average monthly premium for medical coverage was \$651. Federally funded advance premium tax credits paid an average of \$601, and the customer’s responsibility was \$50. The most recent measure of the uninsured rate in Rhode Island found that 2.2% of all residents were uninsured – the lowest rate the State has ever recorded.

Timeline: The federal continuous coverage requirement ended April 1, 2023. The Medicaid redetermination process began on that date in Rhode Island, and the earliest auto-enrollments had June 2023 coverage start dates. HSRI continued the auto-enrollment program for 12 months, and the last group of auto-enrollees generally had a coverage start date in May 2024; however, payments continued for eligible individuals and households for a few months after if they enrolled manually during a special enrollment period. The State continued the *Auto-Enrollment Program* in State Fiscal Year 2025, which began on July 1, 2024, using a different funding source. The program now provides one month of premium payments instead of two.

Mechanisms and Partners: Technological changes to HSRI’s enrollment system were necessary to make auto-enrollment possible and create a pathway to cancel coverage for individuals who are auto-enrolled and want to cancel coverage. The program specifically covered costs for program extensions, such as modifying payment eligibility criteria to include customers who were not auto-enrolled, including dental premiums, and modifying systems to pay for two months of coverage. Several legal notices had to be updated to clearly communicate the program and the options available to the consumer.

Use of Evidence: The University of Wisconsin’s Population Health Institute County Health Rankings and Roadmaps Program found that outreach and assistance programs increase health insurance coverage and awareness of health insurance availability. Additionally, and more specifically, auto-enrollment and auto-renewal have been shown to increase participation in areas, such as employer-sponsored health insurance. For example, the study showed a 4.5% increase in participation for employers that defaulted employees into a health plan versus employers that did not.⁵⁴

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
U.S. Treasury Required Number of households served	Households with a payment applied, both auto-enrolled and non-auto-enrolled	0	10,329	20,952
Number of individuals auto-enrolled in a QHP	Number of individuals enrolled in a QHP after being terminated from Medicaid	0	12,000	15,234

⁵⁴ [The Power of Suggestion: Automatic Enrollment and Employee Health Insurance Coverage Take-Up Rates](#)

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Number of individuals served through premium assistance	Individuals with a payment applied, both auto-enrolled and non-auto-enrolled	0	13,427	27,159
Retention of program participants (QHP/Medicaid)	Customers who remain covered after the two-month subsidized period ends – either by paying for their QHP coverage or by re-qualifying for Medicaid coverage	0	70%	73%

Public Health Clinics: Free Clinic

Project Identification Number: 10057

Project Completion Date: May 9, 2025

Funded Amount: \$2,000,000

Final Expended Amount: \$2,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.34 Negative Economic Impacts: Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Since its establishment in 1998, the Rhode Island Free Clinic (Free Clinic) has relied on volunteer healthcare professionals. During the pandemic, the Free Clinic experienced a shortage of medical professionals and volunteers. The Free Clinic sought these funds to return to needed staffing levels and transition from a solely volunteer staffing model to one that adds direct hires to complement and augment the services provided by volunteers. The number of volunteers were:

- 409 from February 2019 to January 2020
- 263 from February 2020 to January 2021
- 278 from February 2021 to January 2022
- 210 from February 2022 to January 2023

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) provided a grant to the Free Clinic to improve the access to and quality of primary care for uninsured adults and to increase access to dental care for uninsured adults. With the grant, the Free Clinic satisfied its operational needs and hired 6.46 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. The Free Clinic created two positions, a grant writer and director of donor relations, to secure the organization’s long-term viability. The goal was to establish regular funding channels through grants and donor contributions, which would ensure continued funding for the positions after the SFRF funding was exhausted.

RIDOH also provided quarterly grants to implement and maintain the Rhode Island Health Information Exchange’s electronic medical records system, which consolidates healthcare information on Rhode Island patients to replace the Free Clinic’s internal system.

Timeline: Hiring began in April 2023. The electronic medical records system was completed in December 2023.

Mechanisms and Partners: RIDOH provided the grant to the Free Clinic.

Use of Evidence: While this intervention has not been identified as evidence based, the analysis of the key performance indicators evaluated its effectiveness.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
U.S. Treasury Required Number of nonprofits served	0	1	1
New FTEs hired	0	6.46	6.46
Add one paid, part-time dentist*	0	1	1
Build infrastructure for electronic medical records*	0	2	1
Number of patients served	2,400	2,646	1,704
Number of dental visits	1,300	1,573	1,867

*These are yes/no binary indicators: 0 meaning ‘no’, 1 meaning ‘yes’.

Public Health Clinics: Open Door

Project Identification Number: 10049

Project Completion Date: April 4, 2025

Funded Amount: \$2,000,000

Final Expended Amount: \$2,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: Open Door Health (ODH), a program of the Rhode Island Public Health Institute (RIPHI), is a not-for-profit community clinic that provides primary care, mental health services, and sexual health services to Rhode Islanders, with a focus on the LGBTQ+ populations. ODH provides

services regardless of patients’ ability to pay. Many LGBTQ+ populations lack access to culturally congruent health care and, as a result, experience suboptimal health outcomes for mental health, chronic conditions, and infectious diseases (e.g., HIV and other sexually transmitted infections). There is unmet need for health services in this urban community. Approximately 40% of ODH patients identify as Latina or Latino, which is a population that also experiences disparate health outcomes. The pandemic compounded these disparities.

Since opening in March 2020, ODH has outgrown its existing, leased space on 7 Central Street in Providence. As a result, ODH needs to increase its footprint to meet patient demand and expand the suite of services offered.

The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) provided a grant to ODH to acquire land to expand its physical capacity and therefore the number of people it serves. With the grant, ODH performed due diligence activities and purchased two adjacent parcels located at 14 Cargill St. and 257 Dean St. in Providence. ODH plans to relocate all programs and staff to the new location. With the funds remaining after the purchase, ODH paid for some architectural and engineering planning associated with the construction of its new location.

Timeline: The initial grant to ODH was made in December 2023, and the land for the facility was purchased in March 2024.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Dollars transferred to ODH	0	\$1,999,400	\$1,999,400
Land purchased*	0	1	1

**This is a yes/no binary indicator: 0 meaning ‘no’, 1 meaning ‘yes’.*

Housing

Development of Affordable Housing

Project Identification Number: 10016

Funded Amount: \$15,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$15,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.15 Negative Economic Impacts: Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Only eight of Rhode Island's 39 communities met the State-mandated goal that 10% of every municipality's housing stock qualify as Low- and Moderate-Income Housing as of calendar year 2024. Rhode Island consistently ranks among the lowest nationally in per-capita building permit activity, ranking 51st on this measure in 2020.⁵⁵ The state has ranked far behind its New England neighbors in the investment of state resources for affordable housing. The result is that Rhode Island is experiencing a critical housing shortage at all price points, but particularly for lower-income households.

In recent years, sale and rent prices have increased significantly. As of 2021, rent for a market-rate, two-bedroom apartment was about \$1,700, up about 8.5% from 2019, when it was \$1,575. The rental vacancy rate and inventory of homes for sale were also at historically low levels. The rental vacancy rate, the number of unoccupied rental units, was 2.8%, down from 3.7% in May 2021, and 6.2% in 2019. A vacancy rate that would not be expected to have an impact on prices is between 6% and 7%.⁵⁶

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (RIHousing), a quasi-public agency, is deploying the funds as no-interest, long-term loans to complement other state and federal resources to finance the production and preservation of housing affordable to households earning less than 80% of the area median income (AMI). All projects financed through this project are income eligible for the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) investment. Funds can be used for construction, architectural and consulting fees, legal fees, etc.

U.S. Treasury presumes that any housing project that is eligible to be funded under any of the following federal housing programs is an eligible use of State Fiscal Recovery Funds under the Negative Economic Impacts eligibility category:

- National Housing Trust Fund
- Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)
- LIHTC
- Public Housing Capital Fund
- Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program and Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Developmental Disabilities Program
- Project-Based Rental Assistance
- Multifamily Preservation & Revitalization Program

⁵⁵ U.S. Census Bureau Building Permits Survey

⁵⁶ CoStar Market Analytics

The *Development of Affordable Housing* project aligns with HOME and LIHTC.

Timeline: A RIHousing consolidated request for proposals (RFP) that was issued in Fall 2022 included the *Development of Affordable Housing* funding. As of May 2025, five projects were completed, six were under construction, and one was in the pipeline.

Mechanisms and Partners: RIHousing is administering this program as a subrecipient and made funding available through an RFP that was open to nonprofit and for-profit developers, public housing authorities, and municipalities. The RFP was coordinated with other programs to streamline the process for applicants, facilitate the underwriting of the projects by RIHousing staff, and allow RIHousing to calibrate the resource mix appropriate for each project to ensure compliance with each program’s requirements and maximize the use of available resources.

Use of Evidence: The project is similar to programs, such as LIHTC, that have been rigorously evaluated and found to have a positive impact on the development of affordable housing based on high-quality evidence, according to the Pew Results First Clearinghouse. LIHTC programs not only improve access to affordable housing for low-income individuals, but also produce other benefits including, but not limited to:

- In distressed neighborhoods, LIHTC programs can increase property values and reduce crime rates.
- LIHTC use is associated with less racial segregation in low- and high-poverty neighborhoods at the metropolitan level. Segregation increases racial disparities in housing stability, homeownership, and property values.
- LIHTC developments can positively influence nearby property maintenance.⁵⁷

Labor Requirements: RIHousing requires that all borrowers execute an agreement stating that they will provide a certification that a project includes a labor agreement or a workforce continuity plan detailing how RIHousing will ensure the project has access to skilled and unskilled labor; how the borrower will minimize risk disruptions and disputes; and how the borrower will provide a safe and healthy workplace.

Performance: In addition to the metrics shown below, RIHousing will collect information relating to minority and disproportionately impacted communities, such as the number of minority developers and projects in qualified census tracts.

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of people or households receiving eviction prevention services	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required	0	253

⁵⁷ [County Health Rankings – Low Income Housing Tax Credits \(LIHTCs\)](#)

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed		
Number of projects awarded (defined as preliminary commitment)	0	12
Number of closings	0	12
Number of affordable units built	0	253
Number of affordable units preserved	0	0

Development of Affordable Housing Phase II

Project Identification Number: 10036

Funded Amount: \$75,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$40,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Only eight of Rhode Island’s 39 municipalities met the state-mandated goal that 10% of every municipality’s housing stock qualify as Low- and Moderate-Income Housing (LMIH) as of calendar year 2024. Rhode Island consistently ranks among the lowest in the nation in per-capita building permit activity, ranking 51st on this measure in 2020.⁵⁸ Additionally, Rhode Island has ranked far behind its New England neighbors in the investment of state resources for affordable housing. The result is that Rhode Island is experiencing a critical housing shortage at all price points, but particularly for lower-income households.

In recent years, sale and rent prices have increased significantly. As of 2021, rent for a market-rate, two-bedroom apartment was about \$1,700, up about 8.5% from 2019, when it was \$1,575. The rental vacancy rate and inventory of homes for sale were also at historically low levels. The rental vacancy rate, the number of unoccupied rental units, was 2.8%, down from 3.7% in May 2021, and 6.2% in 2019. A vacancy rate that would not be expected to have an impact on prices is between 6% and 7%.⁵⁹

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (RIHousing), a quasi-public agency, is deploying the funds as no-interest, long-term loans to complement other state and federal resources to finance the production and preservation of housing affordable to households earning

⁵⁸ U.S. Census Bureau Building Permits Survey

⁵⁹ CoStar Market Analytics

less than 80% of the area median income (AMI). All projects financed through this project are income eligible for the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) investment. Funds can be used for construction, architectural and consulting fees, legal fees, etc. Funding cannot be used for costs covered by a separate State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF) project administered by RIHousing.

U.S. Treasury presumes that any housing project that is eligible to be funded under any of the following federal housing programs is an eligible use of SFRF under the Negative Economic Impacts eligibility category:

- National Housing Trust Fund
- Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)
- LIHTC
- Public Housing Capital Fund
- Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program and Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Developmental Disabilities Program
- Project-Based Rental Assistance
- Multifamily Preservation & Revitalization Program

The *Development of Affordable Housing Phase II* project aligns with HOME and LIHTC.

Timeline: Three RIHousing consolidated requests for proposals (RFPs) included the *Development of Affordable Housing Phase II* funding. The RIHousing Board of Commissioners awarded the last of the remaining funds at a meeting in April 2025. Awards made at a May 2024 meeting were expected to close by June 2025. RIHousing will be in contact with developers receiving these funds to ensure deadlines for beginning construction are met.

Mechanisms and Partners: RIHousing is administering this program as a subrecipient and making funding available through RFPs that are open to nonprofit and for-profit developers, public housing authorities, and municipalities. The RFPs are coordinated with other programs to streamline the process for applicants, facilitate the underwriting of the projects by RIHousing staff, and allow RIHousing to calibrate the resource mix appropriate for each project to ensure compliance with each program's requirements and maximize the use of available resources.

Use of Evidence: Affordable housing programs such as the LIHTC have been rigorously evaluated and found to have a positive impact based on high-quality evidence, according to the Pew Results First Clearinghouse. LIHTC programs not only improve access to affordable housing for low-income individuals, but also produce other benefits, including, but not limited to:

- In distressed neighborhoods, LIHTC programs can increase property values and reduce crime rates.
- LIHTC use is associated with less racial segregation in low- and high-poverty neighborhoods at the metropolitan level. Segregation increases racial disparities in housing stability, homeownership, and property value.
- LIHTC developments can positively influence nearby property maintenance.⁶⁰

⁶⁰ [County Health Rankings – Low Income Housing Tax Credits \(LIHTCs\)](#)

Labor Requirements: RIHousing requires that all borrowers execute an agreement stating that they will provide a certification that a project includes a labor agreement or a workforce continuity plan detailing how RIHousing will ensure the project has access to skilled and unskilled labor; how the borrower will minimize risk disruptions and disputes; and how the borrower will provide a safe and healthy workplace.

Performance: In addition to the metrics shown below, RIHousing will collect information relating to minority and disproportionately impacted communities, such as the number of minority developers and projects in qualified census tracts.

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of households receiving eviction prevention services	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed	0	169
Number of projects awarded (defined as preliminary commitment)	0	19
Number of closings	0	16
Number of units completed at or below 30% AMI	0	15

Homelessness Infrastructure

Project Identification Number: 10037

Project Completion Date: November 30, 2024

Funded Amount: \$5,000,000

Final Expended Amount: \$4,855,476

Project Expenditure Category: 2.16 Negative Economic Impacts: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Homelessness in Rhode Island increased significantly during the pandemic as documented by the Rhode Island Point in Time Count conducted by the Rhode Island Coalition to End Homelessness on January 26, 2021.⁶¹ Findings included:

- 1,267 people experienced homelessness, a 14% increase from 2020.
- 869 people were in emergency shelter, a 17% increase from 2020.
- 181 people were living outdoors, a 67% increase from 2020.

The Point in Time Count conducted on January 26, 2022, indicated that Rhode Island continued to see significant increases in homelessness.⁶² Findings included:

- 1,576 people experienced homelessness, a 24% increase from 2021.
- 1,151 people were in emergency shelter, a 32% increase from 2021.
- 248 people were living outdoors, a 37% increase from 2021.

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Department of Housing (Department) expanded the shelter system's capacity to provide temporary emergency shelter to individuals. The Department added temporary (i.e., seasonal) and permanent shelter beds through contracts with providers, who reconfigured or expanded their shelter space to serve additional people or rented hotel/motel rooms and other suitable accommodations to house people. Some of these emergency shelter bed additions were only for the winter of 2022-2023, and others are permanent.

Timeline: Winter shelter beds were available from November 2022 through March 2023, and permanent shelter beds were added from November 2022 through September 2023.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Department issued a letter of interest in September 2022 and issued contracts in October 2022. The following is the list of partners and the services each provided:

- *Amos House:* Operated the Charlesgate Family Center shelter.
- *Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center:* Converted its administrative offices into shelter space with 12 beds and purchased an office building for its new administrative offices.
- *Catholic Social Services of Rhode Island:* Paid increased food and staffing costs for increased capacity of 30 to 35 individuals at the Emmanuel House Shelter.
- *Community Care Alliance:* Provided emergency shelter and services at the Sure Stay motel.
- *Sojourner House:* Created five, new units of crisis housing and extended the availability of five, existing units.
- *Thrive Behavioral Health:* Rented 40 hotel rooms in Kent County for additional shelter capacity.
- *Westerly Area Rest Meals:* Secured 10 hotel rooms for additional shelter capacity and provided transportation seven days a week for meals, social service programs, and appointments.

Use of Evidence: According to The National Alliance to End Homelessness, the five keys to effective emergency shelter are: a Housing First approach, safe and appropriate diversion, immediate and low-barrier access, housing-focused rapid exit services, and data to measure performance.⁶³ Shelters in Rhode

⁶¹ [RI Point in Time Storybook | Tableau Public](#)

⁶² [Ibid](#)

⁶³ [Emergency Shelter Learning Series - National Alliance to End Homelessness](#)

Island are encouraged to adhere to Continuum of Care Standards and Guidelines, which emphasize these five keys as central to ensuring that homelessness “is a rare and brief event.” With training on Housing First and Best Practices and these five keys in place, Rhode Island shelters are using evidence-based interventions to address the homelessness crisis, including this project.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
U.S. Treasury Required Number of households receiving eviction prevention services	0	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed	0	0	0
Number of temporary shelter beds added to the system	0	233	296
Number of permanent shelter beds added to the system	0	42	62
Increased number of people provided with emergency shelter and essential services	1,551	2,360	2,219*

**This is a point-time-time KPI, and the final performance was taken in June 2023, which was the last month that all providers were funded through this project.*

Homelessness Infrastructure Phase II

Project Identification Number: 10062

Funded Amount: \$30,144,524

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$25,690,415

Project Expenditure Category: 2.16 Negative Economic Impacts: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons

Pandemic-related Problem Statement Homelessness in Rhode Island increased significantly during the pandemic, according to the annual Rhode Island Point in Time Counts. Between 2021 and 2023, the study

found that the number of people experiencing homelessness increased by 43%, the number of people in emergency shelters increased by 48%, and the number of people living outdoors increased by 85%.⁶⁴

Project Overview: The Department of Housing (Department) is expanding the capacity of the shelter system to better respond to homelessness. Providers are either reconfiguring or expanding their shelter space to serve additional people or renting hotel/motel rooms and other suitable accommodations to house people who would otherwise be unhoused. Some of these shelter bed additions were only for the winter, and others are permanent. The overarching goal is to expand the State’s capacity to provide temporary housing to individuals while they find more permanent housing arrangements.

Timeline: The Department began executing contracts with homelessness providers for this project in October 2023 and will spend all funds by December 2026.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Department is expanding the capacity of the shelter system to better respond to homelessness through contracts with providers and targeting key constituencies, including families, couples, individuals experiencing chronic homelessness, and victims of domestic violence.

Use of Evidence: According to The National Alliance to End Homelessness, the five keys to effective emergency shelter are: a Housing First approach, safe and appropriate diversion, immediate and low-barrier access, housing-focused rapid exit services, and data to measure performance.⁶⁵ Shelters in Rhode Island are encouraged to adhere to Continuum of Care Standards and Guidelines, which emphasize these five keys as central to ensuring that homelessness “is a rare and brief event.” With training on Housing First and Best Practices and these five keys in place, Rhode Island shelters are using evidence-based interventions to address the homelessness crisis, and this program, including this project.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of households receiving eviction prevention services	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed	0	0
Number of acquisitions to support people long term for permanent shelters and essential services	0	2

⁶⁴ [RI Point in Time Storybook | Tableau Public](#)

⁶⁵ [Emergency Shelter Learning Series - National Alliance to End Homelessness](#)

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of permanent shelter beds added through acquisitions	0	97
Number of shelter beds for which funds have been obligated through the execution of contracts	0	804
Temporary shelter beds available for use	0	435

Down Payment Assistance

Project Identification Number: 10043

Project Completion Date: July 8, 2024

Funded Amount: \$30,000,000

Final Expended Amount: \$30,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (RIHousing), a quasi-public agency, provided \$17,500 in down payment and closing cost assistance to help first-time homebuyers during a period of rising housing costs. The project helped 1,672 households purchase a home across 35 of Rhode Island's 39 cities and towns. RIHousing used a marketing campaign to target homeownership to lower-income and racially/ethnically diverse areas.

Eligible properties were one-to-four-unit, owner-occupied properties and approved or warrantable condominiums. The income limits were \$112,555 for one- or two-person households and \$129,438 for households with at least three people.

Grant recipients were required to complete a RIHousing-approved, first-time homebuyer course; qualify for a RIHousing-funded, first mortgage; and have a 660 minimum representative credit score.

Timeline: RIHousing distributed down payment assistance grants from January 2023 through June 2024.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Number of grant contracts signed	0	1,670	1,672
Number of mortgage of loans closed	0	1,670	1,672

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Percentage of borrowers who are minorities	0	55%	41%

Priority Projects Fund

Project Identification Number: 10077

Funded Amount: \$22,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$3,999,999

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Rhode Island consistently ranks among the lowest nationally in per-capita building permit activity.⁶⁶ The state has ranked far behind its New England neighbors in the investment of state resources for affordable housing. The result is that Rhode Island is experiencing a critical housing shortage at all price points, but particularly for lower-income households.

In recent years, sale and rent prices have increased significantly. Rent for a market-rate two-bedroom apartment increased by 7% from \$1,869 in 2017 to \$1,966 in 2022, according to the HousingWorksRI 2023 Housing Fact Book. Based on this average rent, a household earning the state’s median renter income could afford to rent in only one Rhode Island municipality.⁶⁷

The rental vacancy rate and inventory of homes for sale are also at historically low levels. The rental vacancy rate, the number of unoccupied rental units, was 4.6% in January 2022, up from 3.7% in May 2021. A vacancy rate that would not be expected to have an impact on prices is between 6% and 7%.⁶⁸

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (RIHousing), a quasi-public agency, is using the funds to subsidize the development of affordable housing. Projects must create:

- New permanent supportive housing; or
- Affordable housing units designated for one or more of the following populations:
 - Extremely low-income Rhode Islanders,
 - Individuals transitioning out of state care, or
 - Vulnerable persons (i.e., people with disabilities, people fleeing dangerous living situations, and other populations are particular risk of homelessness or housing insecurity).

Funding is being deployed as zero-interest, long-term loans to complement other state and federal resources to finance the production and preservation of housing affordable to households earning less than 50% of the area median income (AMI). Funding can be used for construction, legal fees, architectural and

⁶⁶ U.S. Census Bureau Building Permits Survey

⁶⁷ [HousingWorksRI 2023 Housing Fact Book](#)

⁶⁸ CoStar Market Analytics

consulting fees, etc. It cannot be used for costs previously paid for under a separate State Fiscal Recovery Fund project administered by RIHousing.

Timeline: A RIHousing consolidated request for proposals was issued in November 2023, with eight developments being selected for funding. All eight were expected to close by June 2025. RIHousing is in contact with developers receiving these funds to ensure deadlines for beginning construction are met.

Mechanisms and Partners: RIHousing is administering this program as a subrecipient and made funding available through an RFP that was open to nonprofit and for-profit developers, public housing authorities, and municipalities. The RFP was coordinated with other programs to streamline the process for applicants, facilitate the underwriting of the projects by RIHousing staff, and allow RIHousing to calibrate the resource mix appropriate for each project to ensure compliance with each program’s requirements and maximize the use of available resources.

The Rhode Island Department of Housing (Department) and RIHousing coordinated the application review process. Department staff conducted threshold determinations and scored the applications in accordance with the competitive scoring criteria for each program posted with the RFP. In May 2024, staff sent recommendations to a review committee. Staff also consulted with the Credit Committee of RIHousing before finalizing their recommendations.

Use of Evidence: Affordable housing programs such as the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program have been rigorously evaluated and found to have a positive impact based on high-quality evidence, according to the Pew Results First Clearinghouse. LIHTC programs not only improve access to affordable housing for low-income individuals, but also produce other benefits, including, but not limited to:

- In distressed neighborhoods, LIHTC programs can increase property values and reduce crime rates.
- LIHTC use is associated with less racial segregation in low- and high-poverty neighborhoods at the metropolitan level. Segregation increases racial disparities in housing stability, homeownership, and property value.
- LIHTC developments can positively influence nearby property maintenance.⁶⁹

Labor Requirements: As of the current reporting period, no grants have been distributed by RIHousing, and no construction has begun. As the grants are distributed and the construction of the affordable housing or mixed-use developments begins, the State will report on the relevant labor requirements.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of households receiving eviction prevention services	0	0

⁶⁹ [County Health Rankings – Low Income Housing Tax Credits \(LIHTCs\)](#)

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed	0	0
Number of projects funded	0	8
Number of units built or preserved under 50% AMI (including permanent supportive housing)	0	0

Site Acquisition

Project Identification Number: 10012

Funded Amount: \$25,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$24,999,100

Project Expenditure Category: 2.15 Negative Economic Impacts: Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Rhode Island consistently ranks among the lowest nationally in per-capita building permit activity.⁷⁰ The state has ranked far behind its New England neighbors in the investment of state resources for affordable housing. The result is that Rhode Island is experiencing a critical housing shortage at all price points, but particularly for lower-income households.

In recent years, sale and rent prices have increased significantly. As of 2021, rent for a market-rate, two-bedroom apartment was about \$1,700, up about 8.5% from 2019, when it was \$1,575. The rental vacancy rate and inventory of homes for sale were also at historically low levels. The rental vacancy rate, the number of unoccupied rental units, was 2.8%, down from 3.7% in May 2021, and 6.2% in 2019. A vacancy rate that would not be expected to have an impact on prices is between 6% and 7%.⁷¹

The housing shortage has created an extremely competitive real estate environment. Many sellers are inclined to accept cash offers instead of waiting for a purchaser to secure financing through a traditional financial institution. This puts affordable housing developers at a severe disadvantage because they are unlikely to have the necessary cash on hand. A solution is needed to help developers purchase suitable properties for affordable housing development.

Project Overview: The project is providing grants to developers to purchase properties for the development of affordable housing units. In all, 45 properties are being acquired. There is a nine-month

⁷⁰ U.S. Census Bureau Building Permits Survey

⁷¹ CoStar Market Analytics

closing requirement, and the maximum grant amount is \$1.5 million.⁷² By supporting the development of affordable and supportive housing, this project is addressing inequities and closing gaps for populations that are disproportionately affected by homelessness and housing instability, including low-income Rhode Islanders and Rhode Islanders of color.

The project builds upon the Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation's (RIHousing) Land Bank program, which provides financing for eligible applicants to acquire undeveloped real estate, vacant lots, developed properties, or a combination thereof for affordable housing.

U.S. Treasury presumes that any housing project that is eligible to be funded under any of the following federal housing programs is an eligible use of State Fiscal Recovery Funds under the Negative Economic Impacts eligibility category:

- National Housing Trust Fund.
- Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME).
- Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program (LIHTC).
- Public Housing Capital Fund.
- Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program and Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Developmental Disabilities Program.
- Project-Based Rental Assistance.
- Multifamily Preservation & Revitalization Program.

The *Site Acquisition* project aligns with HOME and LIHTC.

Timeline: RIHousing began marketing the project in February 2022 and began selecting recipients for grant awards in May 2022. Forty-one projects have been awarded funds, all of which have closed and secured sites for development of affordable housing.

Mechanisms and Partners: RIHousing is administering the project and collaborating with the Rhode Island Department of Housing to oversee the implementation.

Use of Evidence: Land banks across the country are helping to make equitable, inclusive neighborhoods and resilient communities possible. By acquiring unused properties, stewarding them on behalf of the public, and attracting new investment, land banks are generating significant positive impacts for the communities they serve. Specific outcomes achieved by land banks across the country include:

- The Houston Land Bank partnered with the City of Houston and the Houston Community Land Trust to provide over 500 (and counting) new affordable homes for low-income Houstonians since 2004.
- Over the last decade, RIHousing's Land Bank program has provided nearly \$9 million in financing for the acquisition of properties upon which 572 affordable housing units were constructed.⁷³

⁷² RIHousing's definition of a closing requirement is when the appropriate loan documents are signed, and funds are provided to the developer.

⁷³ <https://communityprogress.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Progress-Points-Land-Banks-Land-Bank-Impacts-2022.pdf>.

Labor Requirements: This project does not include labor costs; the project is for the acquisition of properties to be repurposed as affordable housing.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of households receiving eviction prevention services	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed	0	0
Number of properties acquired	0	63
Number of applications vetted	0	44

Community Revitalization

Project Identification Number: 10040

Funded Amount: \$20,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$14,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.23 Negative Economic Impacts: Strong Healthy Communities: Demolition and Rehabilitation of Properties

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: There are scarce financial resources to redevelop properties into spaces for quality housing, commercial uses, and the provision of community services. Much of the funding for deployment in the poorest parts of Rhode Island is focused on housing, and necessarily so. However, this leaves a gap for communities that need critical services and more commercial development. It is simply too costly to build without support.

Project Overview: The project distributes grants to finance the acquisition and redevelopment of blighted properties in qualified census tracts (QCTs) to increase the development of affordable housing, including projects that include commercial or community spaces that are ancillary to the housing and serve the residents of the affordable housing.

Timeline: Two Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (RIHousing), a quasi-public agency, consolidated requests for proposals (RFPs) included the *Community Revitalization* funding. The RIHousing Board of Commissioners awarded the last of the remaining funds at a meeting in May 2024.

Mechanisms and Partners: The RFPs were coordinated with other programs, such as Building Homes Rhode Island, the Housing Production Fund, etc., to streamline the process for applicants, facilitate the underwriting of the projects by RIHousing staff, and allow RIHousing to calibrate the resource mix appropriate for each project to ensure compliance with each program’s requirements and maximize the use of available resources.

Use of Evidence: There is a wide range of research demonstrating the positive impact that stable, affordable housing has on health, educational, and economic outcomes for families and individuals. Research also has shown a clear link between infrastructure investments and economic growth and development. A Brookings Institution report found that infrastructure investments provide demand stimulus to the economy in the short term and serve as a critical component of economic growth in the medium and long term.⁷⁴ The \$9 million American Revitalization Program run by RIHousing, which is like the *Community Revitalization* project, has funded the creation of 100 rental units, 15 commercial spaces, and 11 public facilities throughout Rhode Island.

RIHousing is working with developers and property managers to ensure that minority populations and other members of disadvantaged classes are made aware of and have access to the affordable housing created by this program. All participating developers are required to produce an Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan for assisted developments. RIHousing is collecting information relating to minority and disproportionately impacted communities, such as the number of minority developers and projects in QCTs.

Labor Requirements: RIHousing requires that all borrowers execute an agreement stating that they will provide a certification that a project includes a labor agreement or a workforce continuity plan detailing how RIHousing will ensure the project has access to skilled and unskilled labor; how the borrower will minimize risk disruptions and disputes; and how the borrower will provide a safe and healthy workplace.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of projects awarded (defined as preliminary commitment)	0	13
Number of closings	0	9
Number of affordable units developed	0	124
Number of commercial and/or community spaces developed	0	1

⁷⁴ [The start of America’s infrastructure decade: How macroeconomic factors may shape local strategies](#)

Middle Income Housing

Project Identification Number: 10039

Funded Amount: \$20,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$11,674,903

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: Rhode Island is experiencing a critical housing shortage at all price points. Affordable housing, especially for low-income renters earning less than 80% of the area median income (AMI), is particularly limited because of rapidly rising housing costs and an extremely low inventory – resulting from an influx of out-of-state buyers and years of under-production.

Most state- and federally financed affordable housing programs are limited to renters earning no more than 80% AMI. This project is supporting the development of apartments affordable to middle-income households earning between 80% and 120% AMI. By constructing middle income housing, these renters will be able to move to rental units targeted to their income level, thereby freeing up the rental units targeted for lower-income renters that they currently occupy. This program is building on Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation’s (RIHousing), a quasi-public agency, \$9 million Workforce Housing Innovation Challenge (WHIC).

No-interest loans, which are being distributed through requests for proposals (RFPs) to for-profit and not-for-profit developers, are covering hard and soft development costs, including property acquisition, site remediation, construction, legal fees, architectural and consulting fees, etc. The maximum, per-project award is the lesser of \$2.5 million or the maximum allowable per housing rental unit. In no event can the award amount exceed 25% of the total development cost. At least 20% of the project’s units must be affordable to residents earning less than 120% AMI.

Timeline: Two RIHousing consolidated RFPs were issued for the *Middle Income Housing* funding, as well as a final mini-funding round in 2024. As of June 2025, eight projects are under construction, and one is completed.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of projects awarded (defined as preliminary commitment)	0	14
Number of closings	0	10
Number of units completed between 80% and 120% AMI	0	5

Affordable Housing Predevelopment

Project Identification Number: 10021

Funded Amount: \$10,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$10,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.15 Negative Economic Impacts: Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: In recent years, sale and rent prices have increased significantly. As of 2021, rent for a market-rate, two-bedroom apartment was about \$1,700, up about 8.5% from 2019, when it was \$1,575. The rental vacancy rate and inventory of homes for sale were also at historically low levels. The rental vacancy rate, the number of unoccupied rental units, was 2.8%, down from 3.7% in May 2021, and 6.2% in 2019. A vacancy rate that would not be expected to have an impact on prices is between 6% and 7%.⁷⁵

To increase housing production, Rhode Island must create a pipeline of sites ready for redevelopment. Building that pipeline requires developers to identify potential sites, determine if those sites are suitable for the development of affordable housing, and design a project. Many developers may have limited capacity to finance predevelopment costs, restricting the number of developments they can have in predevelopment at one time. With additional resources available to finance developments in the pipeline, it is important that Rhode Island also replenishes that pipeline with new projects.

Typical unreimbursed predevelopment costs for multifamily projects – such as architectural and engineering studies, permitting fees, and site control costs – can range from \$100,000 to \$750,000, and create delays and financial hardship particularly for nonprofit developers.

Project Overview: This project is making grants available to affordable housing developers for critical predevelopment tasks, such as soil testing and environmental assessment, site remediation, preliminary architectural and engineering planning, and municipal zoning and planning approval processes. Having access to predevelopment funding allows developers, particularly nonprofit entities, to complete these activities on an accelerated track, resulting in projects being ready for development activity sooner. This will maintain a development pipeline for the next several years as the Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (RIHousing) implements other State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF) affordable housing projects. RIHousing will fund at least 40 projects at a maximum cost of \$250,000 per project, and projects must include deed restrictions that specify that units must be at or below 80% area median income (AMI) for at least 30 years.

U.S. Treasury presumes that any housing project that is eligible to be funded under any of the following federal housing programs is an eligible use of State Fiscal Recovery Funds under the Negative Economic Impacts eligibility category:

- National Housing Trust Fund
- Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)
- Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program (LIHTC)
- Public Housing Capital Fund

⁷⁵ CoStar Market Analytics

- Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program and Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Developmental Disabilities Program
- Project-Based Rental Assistance
- Multifamily Preservation & Revitalization Program

The *Affordable Housing Predevelopment* project aligns with HOME and LIHTC.

Timeline: All project funds have been committed to 40 awards, all of which have closed.

Mechanisms and Partners: RIHousing is considering responses to the RFPs for costs associated with predevelopment activities that include, but are not limited to:

- Architectural and engineering studies, environmental assessments, or costs associated with development professionals.
- Filing fees and other costs to obtain permits and approvals and apply for public or private grants.
- Site control costs.
- Other predevelopment activities approved by RIHousing.

Use of Evidence: While this intervention has not been identified as evidence based, the analysis of the key performance indicators will evaluate its effectiveness. Additionally, RIHousing maintains an existing predevelopment loan program that provides similar loans to developers. The program made 10 loans totaling about \$2.1 million that resulted in the development of 577 affordable units.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of households receiving eviction prevention services	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed	0	0
Number of projects given predevelopment grants	0	43

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of projects that submitted an application for development funding	0	46
Number of projects that received a development funding award	0	41

Permanent Supportive Housing: Crossroads

Project Identification Number: 10024

Funded Amount: \$10,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$10,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.15 Negative Economic Impacts: Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Crossroads Rhode Island (Crossroads) owns and operates The Tower – a 176-unit single-room occupancy building, with shared bathrooms and kitchens on each floor. These shared spaces present a high-risk environment for the spread of infections and viruses. The Tower houses individuals experiencing homelessness at or below 30% of area median income (AMI) who have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

Project Overview: Crossroads is constructing the Summer Street Apartments – a development comprised of 176, one-bedroom units, with private bathrooms and kitchens, on a vacant lot adjacent to The Tower. Upon completion of the Summer Street Apartments, residents of The Tower will relocate to the new apartment building. The apartments are reserved for individuals at or below 60% AMI, with the majority reserved for individuals at or below 30% AMI.

The development decreases the potential of COVID-19 infection among an at-risk population, and it also allows for The Tower to be redeveloped into 84 units (32 one-bedroom units and 52 efficiency units) in a future phase that is not part of the *Permanent Supportive Housing: Crossroads* project.

Timeline: Construction began in August 2023. The development is expected to be fully occupied within two months of its completion in November or December 2025.

Mechanisms and Partners: Crossroads serves as the subrecipient for the project, which is also being funded with \$2.5 million from the *Development of Affordable Housing* project, \$4.0 million from the *Development of Affordable Housing Phase II* project, and \$1.9 million from the *Community Revitalization* project.

Use of Evidence: Permanent supportive housing has been shown to significantly reduce healthcare and other institutional costs while improving household outcomes. According to the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, dozens of studies demonstrate that the costs of delivering permanent supportive housing are offset in large part by reductions in the use of crisis services, including shelters,

jails, ambulances, and hospitals. Even tenants with the longest histories of homelessness and most complex needs remain stably housed once connected with supportive housing. Evaluations of supportive housing programs using a Housing First approach generally show housing retention rates between 75% and 85% for single adults and between 80% and 90% for families.⁷⁶

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of people or households receiving eviction prevention services		0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of affordable units preserved or developed		0	0
Number of affordable units for households under 30% AMI		0	0
Number of units for households under 50% AMI		0	0
Number of units for households under 60% AMI		0	0
Occupancy rate	Percent of total number of units occupied	0	N/A
Annual turnover rate	Turnover rate for one-bedroom apartments	18% for The Tower	N/A

Public Housing Pilot Program

Project Identification Number: 10054

Funded Amount: \$10,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$4,997,999

⁷⁶ [Supportive Housing: A Community Solution \(csh.org\)](https://www.csh.org)

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: In recent years, sale and rent prices have increased significantly. As of 2021, rent for a market-rate, two-bedroom apartment was about \$1,700, up about 8.5% from 2019, when it was \$1,575. The rental vacancy rate and inventory of homes for sale were also at historically low levels. The rental vacancy rate, the number of unoccupied rental units, was 2.8%, down from 3.7% in May 2021, and 6.2% in 2019. A vacancy rate that would not be expected to have an impact on prices is between 6% and 7%.⁷⁷

In many communities, public housing authorities (PHAs) administer subsidized units to serve very low-income residents. Historic disinvestment in PHAs has resulted in deferred maintenance of the housing stock. Additionally, PHAs are restricted from putting debt on their properties, removing many forms of financing which could be used to improve the units and/or increase the number of PHA-administered units that can be developed. With proper funding, PHAs can improve their technical ability to redevelop or construct units, investigate how they can leverage their resources to serve more Rhode Islanders, and engage in predevelopment work to help ease the shortage of available units.

Project Overview: This project is providing grants to PHAs to increase the supply of affordable housing and stabilize existing affordable housing. The grants will build technical capacity, secure predevelopment services, and fund redevelopment and/or repositioning of existing units.

Of the \$10 million in project funding:

- \$8.1 million is providing three development awards to finance the demolition of obsolete housing in conjunction with the construction of net new housing units. Loans may also be used to rehabilitate or reposition existing units and/or create new, subsidized units.
- \$1.6 million is providing technical assistance/predevelopment awards to assess the feasibility of development projects.
- \$175,000 is financing a feasibility study on the public developer approach to develop affordable housing.
- \$100,000 is covering administrative costs.

U.S. Treasury presumes that any housing project that is eligible to be funded under any of the following federal housing programs is an eligible use of State Fiscal Recovery Funds under the Negative Economic Impacts eligibility category:

- National Housing Trust Fund
- Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)
- Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program (LIHTC)
- Public Housing Capital Fund
- Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program and Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Developmental Disabilities Program
- Project-Based Rental Assistance
- Multifamily Preservation & Revitalization Program

⁷⁷ CoStar Market Analytics

The *Public Housing Pilot Program* project aligns with HOME and the Public Housing Capital Fund.

Timeline: All technical assistance/predevelopment awards were awarded from July 2024 through November 2024. Two development awards are closed. The last development award is expected to close by August 2025.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (RIHousing), a quasi-public agency, is the subrecipient for this project. The maximum development grant is \$2.5 million per projector \$50,000 per unit, whichever is less.

Use of Evidence: Public housing has been a critical resource for low-income households for over 75 years, especially for extremely low-income households, which often include households experiencing homelessness. Through job loss and/or the inability of wage earners to work due to the pandemic, the demand for affordable rental housing has increased. Increasing the affordable housing stock, as well as preserving the existing stock, is vital to addressing this demand. This project supports the creation of new housing through PHAs by providing funds for technical assistance, pre-development and construction financing. It also provides the same resources to preserve existing stock by leveraging United States Department of Housing and Urban Development sponsored programs that can transition PHA units to a different housing subsidy program that put the units on a more stable financial footing in the long term and result in capital improvements.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of households receiving eviction prevention services	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of affordable units built or preserved	0	
Number of projects awarded (defined as preliminary commitment)	0	3
Number of closings	0	2
Number of grants given for technical assistance	0	7

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of projects given predevelopment grants	0	5
Number of projects to submit an application for development funding	0	3
Number of projects to receive a development funding award	0	3

Homelessness Assistance Warming Center and Shelter

Project Identification Number: 10045

Funded Amount: \$7,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$6,901,034

Project Expenditure Category: 2.16 Negative Economic Impacts: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Homelessness in Rhode Island increased significantly during the pandemic, according to the annual Rhode Island Point in Time Counts. Between 2021 and 2023, the study found that the number of people experiencing homelessness increased by 43%, the number of people in emergency shelters increased by 48%, and the number of people living outdoors increased by 85%.⁷⁸

Project Overview: The State used \$2 million of the \$7 million project budget to operate a warming center at the State-owned Cranston Street Armory from December 7, 2022, through May 15, 2023. In addition to providing shelter, the facility made it possible for individuals to receive housing-related services to improve their chances of securing stable housing. The remaining \$5 million supported homelessness providers to operate shelters and expand shelter capacity.

Timeline: Five of the homelessness programs funded with this project ran through June 30, 2023, while the remaining 6 ran through September 30, 2023. Additionally, a renovation project at 662 Hartford Avenue is expected to be completed by August 30, 2025.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Rhode Island Department of Housing selected organizations, such as Amos House, Crossroads Rhode Island, Open Door, and Thrive, to operate warming centers and shelters through a letter of interest process.

Use of Evidence: According to The National Alliance to End Homelessness, the five keys to effective emergency shelter are: a Housing First approach, safe and appropriate diversion, immediate and low-barrier access, housing-focused rapid exit services, and data to measure performance.⁷⁹ Shelters in Rhode

⁷⁸ [RI Point in Time Storybook | Tableau Public](#)

⁷⁹ [Emergency Shelter Learning Series - National Alliance to End Homelessness](#)

Island are encouraged to adhere to Continuum of Care Standards and Guidelines, which emphasize these five keys as central to ensuring that homelessness “is a rare and brief event.” With training on Housing First and Best Practices and these five keys in place, Rhode Island shelters are using evidence-based interventions to address the homelessness crisis, and this program, which seeks to expand available shelter beds, was also evidence based.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of households receiving eviction prevention services	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of affordable units built or preserved	0	0
Number of temporary shelter beds added	16 beds for every \$300,000	296
Number of people receiving emergency shelter and supportive services	3.75 people per bed	537
Number of people served by the warming center		606

Home Repair Program

Project Identification Number: 10060

Funded Amount: \$4,500,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$761,805

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: The pandemic meant fewer households had the necessary resources to make home repairs and improvements. While small and cosmetic repairs can often wait, deferring major repairs, such as plumbing needs, can result in unsafe and unhealthy living environments and, eventually, the need for more expensive repairs.

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Department of Housing (Department) developed a residential, rehabilitation program to assist owners of properties in distressed areas meet their housing rehabilitation needs. The primary beneficiaries are households at or below 80% of area median income (AMI) in

qualified census tracts (QCTs). QCTs are those where more than 50% of households are identified as at or below 65% AMI.

Applications are being accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. One- or two-unit properties are eligible for grants in the amount up to \$50,000, and three- or four-unit properties are eligible for grants in the amount of up to \$75,000. Eligible rehabilitation activities address health and safety issues or major deficiencies and include, but are not limited to, electrical, heating, energy improvements, accessibility improvements, roofing repair/replacement, lead hazard reduction, plumbing improvements.

Timeline: The program administrator, the Providence Revolving Loan Fund, was selected and contracted in March 2024. An information session with community stakeholders was held in April 2024, and the program was rolled out in June 2024. As of April 30, 2025, the program administrator awarded funds for 66 properties. It is anticipated the program will operate through December 2025.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Department procured the Providence Revolving Loan Fund through a competitive bidding process to serve as the project administrator. It assists homeowners in procuring the lowest, responsive contractor for rehabilitation projects. If the homeowner selects a contractor other than the lowest, responsive contractor, the homeowner must pay the difference between the lowest, responsive bid and the selected bid.

The administrator facilitates the execution of a contract between the contractor and homeowner. The administrator directly pays the contractor, with the homeowner’s involvement in the transaction limited to certifying that the project was completed. Five-year liens are placed on participating properties, with a term dependent on the grant amount. If the property is sold or transferred during the lien term, the grant must be repaid.

Use of Evidence: Research by the Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard University shows that home repair programs are critical for lower-income and vulnerable homeowners.⁸⁰ There is evidence that these programs result in health benefits, especially when repairs address inside temperatures through insulation and energy efficiency measures.⁸¹

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of households receiving eviction prevention services	0	0

⁸⁰ [Housing Perspectives: Research, trends, and perspective from the Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies](#)

⁸¹ [County Health Rankings & Roadmaps: Housing rehabilitation loan & grant programs](#)

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of affordable units built or preserved	0	0
Number of units with obligated funds for the rehabilitation of residential units	0	41
Number of units rehabilitated	0	14

Housing Related Infrastructure

Project Identification Number: 10080

Funded Amount: \$3,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$1,071,500

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank (RIIB) is providing funding to municipalities and other public entities to improve public infrastructure necessary to develop additional housing units that meet the Rhode Island Department of Housing’s affordability criteria. Funding is being targeted to projects in areas or districts that communities have determined are best suited and prepared to efficiently accommodate additional housing development.

Pursuant to the affordability criteria, RIIB is prioritizing projects that maximize the number of housing units affordable to Rhode Islanders earning up to 80% of area median income (AMI) and that maximize the density of units to be built. To be eligible for funding, projects must be for infrastructure to support rental or homeownership developments that are affordable or mixed income with at least 10% of units reserved for those earning up to 120% AMI.

Timeline: Project funding was included in a request for proposals issued by RIIB in January 2024 that closed the following month. Awards were expected to be made in June 2024 followed by the execution of contracts, at which point projects will begin spending the funds. In August 2024, a subaward agreement between the Department of Housing (Department) and RIIB was executed. In September 2024, RIIB announced the five grant recipients: Coventry, East Providence, Pawtucket, Providence, and West Warwick. In October 2024, RIIB sent grant agreements to the awardees, with a total funding amount of \$2,880,000.

Applicants were instructed to include a timeline in their proposal for spending funds within a year of awards being made. These timelines were reviewed and evaluated as a part of the selection process. As the projects focus on construction activities, there might be delays. RIIB will remain in contact with grantee municipalities to ensure that hiring and contractors’ work schedules allow for timely completion. Due to construction-related issues, there were delays in the project. From February to April 2025, RIIB

collaborated with the municipalities to submit the necessary supporting documentation for reimbursement. In May 2025, RIIB initiated its first funding draw from the Department.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of awards or grants obligated	0	5
Number of projects for which infrastructure development began	0	1

Transit-Oriented Development Districts

Project Identification Number: 10084

Funded Amount: \$4,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$4,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Housing Mortgage and Finance Corporation (RIHousing) is subsidizing the development of affordable housing in Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) districts, where density is often permitted to be higher than in other areas. For the purposes of this project, a TOD district is a zoning district designated as such in the municipal zoning code because of its proximity to public transit. At least 10% of units must be deed restricted as affordable for at least 30 years for households earning less than 80% of area median income (AMI). Developments must include at least 10 units per acre developed.

Funding is being deployed as no-interest, long-term loans to complement other state and federal resources to finance the production and preservation of housing affordable to households earning less than 80% AMI. All projects will become income eligible for the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit investment. Funding can be used for construction, legal fees, architectural and consulting fees, etc. It cannot be used for costs previously paid for under a separate State Fiscal Recovery Fund project administered by RIHousing.

Timeline: Funding was included in a request for proposals released by RIHousing in November 2023. One development was awarded funds in December 2024, committing all project funds. The development is under construction.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of projects funded	0	2

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of units built or preserved under 80% AMI	0	0

Municipal Homelessness Support Initiative

Project Identification Number: 10078

Funded Amount: \$2,200,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$1,480,874

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Department of Housing (Department) is providing grants to municipalities where new overnight shelters have been opened or existing shelters have had their capacity expanded since May 1, 2023. Grants must directly or indirectly benefit individuals and/or families served by the new or expanded overnight shelters. These benefits may be facilitated through partnerships with organizations and other stakeholders. Potential services may include, but are not limited to:

- Emergency medical services and/or security
- Waste management and/or sanitation services
- Transportation for individuals staying at the shelter
- Day programs, professional development, education services
- Behavioral health services and substance use disorder services
- Public facility improvements near the shelter
- Meal programs
- Housing resource counseling
- Outreach services
- Community and business outreach
- Emergency warming/cooling center costs

Awards are being made under two categories: (1) a formula providing \$2,000 per new shelter bed and (2) a competitive process:

Formula Grants: Municipalities where new overnight shelters open and/or existing shelters have their capacity expanded after May 1, 2023, and remain in service until at least April 15, 2024, were eligible to receive \$2,000 per new shelter bed.

Regional Emergency Hub/Competitive Grants: The Department is providing competitive grants for emergency regional hubs during severe winter weather conditions.

Competitive Grants: The Department is assisting municipalities with additional costs that are not covered by the formula grants. These competitive grants ensure the success and longevity of shelter projects through municipal services, staffing, transportation, infrastructure, or programs that exceed the amount provided in the per-bed formula.

Timeline: Applications initially opened on October 31, 2023. Through June 2025, the Department ran three rounds of applications, resulting in the awards referenced in the section above. The Department plans to run a fourth round of applications in the summer of 2025 to support the winter of 2025-2026.

The following awards have been made:

Round 1		
Municipality	Grant Type	Amount
Burrillville	Formula	\$74,000
Newport	Regional Emergency Hub/Competitive	\$119,124
Providence	Formula	\$364,000
Smithfield	Competitive	\$150,000
Warwick	Formula	\$240,000
West Warwick	Regional Emergency Hub/Competitive	\$119,317
Woonsocket	Regional Emergency Hub/Competitive	\$90,900
	Formula	\$40,0000
Total		\$1,197,341

Round 2		
Municipality	Grant Type	Amount
Burrillville	Competitive	\$75,000
Newport	Regional Emergency Hub/Competitive	\$65,854
West Warwick	Regional Emergency Hub/Competitive	\$37,5187
Westerly	Competitive	\$176,469
Woonsocket	Competitive	\$77,234
	Regional Emergency Hub/Competitive	\$375,817
Total		\$807,893

Round 3		
Municipality	Grant Type	Amount

Providence	Regional Emergency Hub/Competitive	\$54,046
East Providence	Regional Emergency Hub/Competitive	\$30,642
West Warwick	Regional Emergency Hub/Competitive	\$33,000
Total		\$84,688

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of municipalities awarded a grant	0	9
Number of regional emergency hub grants awarded	0	6
Number of shelter beds available	965 (April 2023)	1,438
Number of warming centers opened in winter of State Fiscal Year 2024	0	6

Statewide Housing Plan

Project Identification Number: 10032

Funded Amount: \$2,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$974,139

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: In December 2022, the Rhode Island Department of Housing (Department) issued a request for proposals to help develop the *Statewide Housing Plan*. It retained a consultant to create a plan that contains the following information:

- Evaluation of existing plans related to housing and homelessness.
- Assessment of current and future housing needs for each municipality and across the spectrum of age and income demographics and housing typologies, as well as recommendations for metrics to measure success.
- Identification of barriers to housing development, homeownership, affordability, and preservation of existing affordable housing, and recommendations to address same.

- Identification of the opportunities and means for increased investments toward disproportionately impacted individuals and communities.
- Identification of other jurisdictions’ best practices to address Rhode Island’s housing needs.
- Evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the state’s current housing production and preservation delivery system, and provider developer network.
- Evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the state’s housing stabilization/homelessness provider network.
- Two-year, five-year, and 10-year goals for housing production and preservation that align with the Rhode Island 2030 plan.⁸²

Funds are also being used to support focused research on school costs, housing sustainability, and vacant/underutilized state and municipal properties.

Officials and/or the public often cite school costs as a burden and reason to oppose new housing developments, particularly family housing. The Department is hiring a consultant to quantify the net increase in municipal school costs associated with additional housing and develop a “school impact offset payments” formula related to such conclusions.⁸³

The State and municipalities have identified adaptive re-use as an attractive option to create housing. The Department will hire an architectural and engineering consulting firm to investigate the suitability of vacant/underutilized property for conversion to housing and/or shelter, and to provide cost estimates for such conversions to facilitate budgetary and feasibility determinations.

Timeline: It is anticipated that all components of the *Statewide Housing Plan* will be completed by December 2025.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Consultant team hired to produce the statewide housing plan*	0	1
Development of statewide housing plan*	0	1
Consultant teams hired for three additional research studies used to inform statewide housing plan*	0	2

⁸² [Rhode Island 2030](#)

⁸³ “School cost offset payments” are authorized by [R.I.G.L. § 42-128.3-5](#)

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Final school cost impact study and fiscal impact rebate formula	0	0
Recommendations for governance structure*	0	1
Consultant teams hired in support of municipal planning efforts	0	1
Architectural and engineering assessments and cost estimates	0	1
Housing toolkit to support implementation of the statewide housing plan*	0	0
Visualization to support implementation of the statewide housing plan*	0	0
Report mapping housing stabilization resources within state government	0	1

**These are yes/no binary indicators: 0 meaning 'no', 1 meaning 'yes'.*

Homelessness Assistance

Project Identification Number: 10017

Project Completion Date: September 30, 2024

Funded Amount: \$1,500,000

Final Expended Amount: \$1,485,529

Project Expenditure Category: 2.16 Negative Economic Impacts: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Homelessness in Rhode Island increased significantly during the pandemic as documented by the Rhode Island Point in Time Count conducted by the Rhode Island Coalition to End Homelessness on January 26, 2021.⁸⁴ Findings included:

- 1,267 people experienced homelessness, a 14% increase from 2020
- 869 people were in emergency shelter, a 17% increase from 2020
- 181 people were living outdoors, a 67% increase from 2020

The Point in Time Count conducted on January 26, 2022, indicated that Rhode Island continued to see significant increases in homelessness.⁸⁵ Findings included:

- 1,576 people experienced homelessness, a 24% increase from 2021
- 1,151 people were in emergency shelter, a 32% increase from 2021
- 248 people were living outdoors, a 37% increase from 2021

Project Overview: Through the Consolidated Homeless Fund Program, the Rhode Island Department of Housing, Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) issued a request for proposals (RFP) for a range of new housing stabilization services, especially those targeting homeless populations that have traditionally had difficulty accessing services. These services included:

- Increased homelessness prevention, diversion, and rapid rehousing services to help prevent homelessness and secure safe, healthy, and affordable housing for individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Emergency shelter and housing stabilization services for individuals who identify as LGBTQ+ and victims of domestic violence, with the goal of obtaining permanent housing.

OHCD also developed and implemented a best practices training program for staff of Continuum of Care, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Consolidated Homeless Fund-funded programs to ensure the delivery of effective services and programming.

Timeline: In January 2022, OHCD issued an RFP in partnership with Consolidated Homeless Fund Program partners. Proposals were received in February 2022 and selected in April 2022. Projects began in July 2022 and were completed in April 2024.

Mechanisms and Partners: The following is the list of partners selected through the RFP and the services each provided:

- *Rhode Island Coalition to End Homelessness:* Organized and implemented a Housing First and best practices training program for organizations serving individuals experiencing homelessness.
- *Community Care Alliance:* Converted its Providence location into a shelter specifically for LGBTQ+ individuals.
- *Blackstone Valley Advocacy Project:* Converted three residential units in Pawtucket into 14 shelter units to serve families as they secure permanent housing.

⁸⁴ [RI Point in Time Storybook | Tableau Public](#)

⁸⁵ [Ibid](#)

- *Sojourner House Inc.*: Operated Respect, Inclusion, Safety, and Empowerment (RISE) – a shelter for victims of abuse who are LGBTQ+ or who identify as male and left an abusive relationship or situation.
- *Community Action Partnership of Providence*: Expanded financial literacy/resiliency training so that clients can make better decisions involving household finances, including securing/retaining secure and affordable housing.
- *Amos House*: Provided resources to clients to prevent or exit homelessness, including connecting individuals with entitlement programs, emergency financial assistance, and other resources to retain or regain permanent housing.

Use of Evidence: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) Family Options Study demonstrated that access to rapid rehousing and housing stability services resulted in key improvements for housing stability, family preservation, adult well-being, and self-sufficiency, as highlighted below:

- Families participating in rapid rehousing interventions were less likely to be separated from their children.
- Adults receiving rapid rehousing services demonstrated reduced psychological distress, reduced evidence of alcohol and drug problems, and halved intimate partner violence compared with usual care (i.e., shelter).
- Children whose families received rapid rehousing services had fewer school absences and reduced behavior problems reported by parents.
- Families served by rapid rehousing services reported improvements in food security.⁸⁶

From 2014 to 2018, Building Changes, a nonprofit in Washington state, used data from 1,898 families to test diversion as an approach to exiting homelessness. The results of this study, which were highlighted in *Homeless to Housed in a Hurry*, revealed that diversion costs less than shelter care, takes less time to get families successfully housed, and keeps families out of homelessness.⁸⁷

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
U.S. Treasury Required Number of people or households receiving eviction prevention services	0	31	175
U.S. Treasury Required Number of affordable housing units	0	0	0

⁸⁶ [The Family Options Study](#)

⁸⁷ [Resources Archive - Building Changes](#)

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
preserved or developed			
Number of people or households receiving financial literacy training/diversion assistance	0	290	194
Number of homeless households receiving emergency housing and stabilization services	0	92	237
Number of provider staff receiving Housing First and other best practices training	0	1,060	1,004
Percentage of people or households avoiding the homelessness system because of diversion assistance	0	25%	88%
Percentage of exits to positive housing destinations ⁸⁸	0	25%	17%
Percentage of trainees able to display increased knowledge of Housing First and best practices training	0	75%	100%

Homelessness Assistance Phase II

Project Identification Number: 10061

Funded Amount: \$10,686,836

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$10,686,816

⁸⁸ Positive housing destinations include exiting homelessness to a more stable housing situations, such as permanent housing or living with friends and family members.

Project Expenditure Category: 2.16 Negative Economic Impacts: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Homelessness in Rhode Island increased significantly during the pandemic, according to the annual Rhode Island Point in Time Counts. Between 2021 and 2023, the study found that the number of people experiencing homelessness increased by 43%, the number of people in emergency shelters increased by 48%, and the number of people living outdoors increased by 85%.⁸⁹

Project Overview: In response to this crisis, the Rhode Island Department of Housing (Department) initiated programs that increased homelessness prevention, diversion, and rapid rehousing services; provided emergency shelter through warming stations and temporary seasonal shelters; provided housing stabilization services; and developed and implemented systemwide programs to provide innovative solutions to housing issues.

The entities providing services were Amos House, Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center, Catholic Social Services of Rhode Island, Community Care Alliance, Crossroads Rhode Island, Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County, East Bay Community Action Program, Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center, Foster Forward, Harvest Community Church, Haus of Codec, House of Hope Community Development Center, Lucy's Hearth, Open Doors RI, Rhode Island Coalition to End Homelessness, Sojourner House, Thrive Behavioral Health, Tri-County Community Action Agency, Turning Around Ministries, Washington Square Services, and Westerly Area Rest Meals.

The intended outcome was to ensure that individuals and families experiencing homelessness had access to a safe place to stay and appropriate services to move forward in finding permanent supportive housing.

Timeline: The Department funded projects through September 30, 2024, to ensure that individuals experiencing homelessness were sheltered and received housing-related services that improved their chances of becoming stably housed.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Department, in partnership with the Rhode Island Housing Resources Commission and the Rhode Island Department of Human Services (DHS), created the Consolidated Homeless Fund Partnership (CHFP), with the Emergency Solutions Grant entitlement cities of Pawtucket, Providence, and Woonsocket. Through the CHFP, the Department solicited proposals from eligible, qualified nonprofits and vendors to implement the programs.

Use of Evidence: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Family Options Study demonstrated that access to rapid rehousing and housing stability services resulted in key improvements for housing stability, family preservation, adult well-being, and self-sufficiency, as highlighted below:

- Families participating in rapid rehousing interventions were less likely to be separated from their children.
- Adults receiving rapid rehousing services demonstrated reduced psychological distress, reduced evidence of alcohol and drug problems, and halved intimate partner violence compared with usual care (i.e., shelter).
- Children whose families received rapid rehousing services had fewer school absences and reduced behavior problems reported by parents.

⁸⁹ [RI Point in Time Storybook | Tableau Public](#)

- Families served by rapid rehousing programs reported improvements in food security.⁹⁰

From 2014 to 2018, Building Changes, a nonprofit in Washington state, used data from 1,898 families to test diversion as an approach to help families exit homelessness. The results of this study, which were highlighted in *Homeless to Housed in a Hurry*, revealed that diversion costs less than shelter care, takes less time to get families successfully housed, and keeps families out of homelessness.⁹¹

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of households receiving eviction prevention services	0	120
U.S. Treasury Required Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed	0	0
Number of people receiving housing stability services	0	1,249
Number of people receiving warming center services	0	70
Percentage of exits to positive destinations	0	35%
Number of rapid rehousing units secured	0	113

Homelessness Assistance Phase III

Project Identification Number: 10097

Funded Amount: \$19,627,635

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$10,609,779

Project Expenditure Category: 2.16 Negative Economic Impacts: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons

⁹⁰ [The Family Options Study](#)

⁹¹ [Resources Archive - Building Changes](#)

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Homelessness in Rhode Island increased significantly during the pandemic, according to the annual Rhode Island Point in Time Counts. Between 2021 and 2023, the study found that the number of people experiencing homelessness increased by 43%, the number of people in emergency shelters increased by 48%, and the number of people living outdoors increased by 85%.⁹²

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Department of Housing (Department) is providing a range of new housing stabilization services, especially those that target homelessness populations that have traditionally had difficulty accessing services. These services include:

- Increased homelessness diversion and rapid rehousing services to help prevent homelessness and assist individuals experiencing homelessness to find safe, healthy, and affordable housing.
- Emergency shelter and housing stabilization services for unsheltered individuals and victims of domestic violence.
- Systems projects to increase access to services and more effectively deliver services in the homeless crisis response system.

Timeline: The Department is funding these projects from the second quarter of State Fiscal Year 2025 through the second quarter of State Fiscal Year 2026.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Department, in partnership with the Rhode Island Housing Resources Commission and Rhode Island Department of Human Services (DHS), created the Consolidated Homeless Fund Partnership (CHFP), with the Emergency Solutions Grant entitlement cities of Pawtucket, Providence, and Woonsocket. Through the CHFP, the Department solicited proposals from eligible, qualified nonprofits and vendors to implement the programs.

Use of Evidence: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Family Options Study demonstrated that access to rapid rehousing and housing stability services resulted in key improvements for housing stability, family preservation, adult well-being, and self-sufficiency, as highlighted below:

- Families participating in rapid rehousing interventions were less likely to be separated from their children.
- Adults receiving rapid rehousing services demonstrated reduced psychological distress, reduced evidence of alcohol and drug problems, and halved intimate partner violence compared with usual care (i.e., shelter).
- Children whose families received rapid rehousing services had fewer school absences and reduced behavior problems reported by parents.
- Families served by rapid rehousing programs reported improvements in food security.⁹³

From 2014 to 2018, Building Changes, a nonprofit in Washington state, used data from 1,898 families to test diversion as an approach to help families exit homelessness. The results of this study, which were highlighted in *Homeless to Housed in a Hurry*, revealed that diversion costs less than shelter care, takes less time to get families successfully housed, and keeps families out of homelessness.⁹⁴

⁹² [RI Point in Time Storybook | Tableau Public](#)

⁹³ [The Family Options Study](#)

⁹⁴ [Resources Archive - Building Changes](#)

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of households receiving eviction prevention services	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed	0	0
Number of people receiving housing stability services	0	2,846
Number of people receiving emergency shelter/warming center services	0	2,664
Percentage of exits to positive destinations	0	27%
Number of rapid rehousing units secured	0	29

OHCD Support and Capacity

Project Identification Number: 10007

Funded Amount: \$1,500,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$1,457,499

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The programs administered by the Rhode Island Department of Housing (Department), Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) were severely understaffed. During the pandemic, additional initiatives were assigned to OHCD, adding functions to an already strained staff. This project allowed OHCD to onboard staff or contract resources to expand and enhance the capacity of the Department and OHCD in the areas of housing/homelessness.

Timeline:-As of May 2025, the Department had three remaining contractors. The remaining funding will continue to support the three contractors until the funds are exhausted, which should occur by the second quarter of State Fiscal Year 2026.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Contract services hired		0	3
Hiring of FTE roles		0	0
Number of subrecipient compliance reviews	Complete six CDBG and six homeless compliance review over six months	0	12
Assessment reports for potential acquisitions for new purchases and provider locations		0	14

Proactive Housing Development

Project Identification Number: 10087

Funded Amount: \$1,400,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$700,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Department of Housing (Department) is providing an operating grant for the creation and staffing of a new subsidiary under the Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (RIHousing). This subsidiary will focus on identifying and bolstering potential housing developments that meet Rhode Island’s most significant needs and work proactively to support cities and towns, property owners, and developers to bring these expanded housing options to fruition. This new subsidiary will help identify and assess properties for potential development, assist with the development of site plans, support efforts to identify and secure funding sources and facilitate financing, and help navigate approval processes.

Timeline: In August 2024, the first operating grant payment of \$699,790 was made to RIHousing. The second and final payment is scheduled to be made in the second quarter of State Fiscal Year 2026.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Operating grant funding issued	0	\$699,790

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Staff hired	0	1
Shared services agreement*	0	1

* This is a yes/no binary indicator: 0 meaning 'no', 1 meaning 'yes'.

Municipal Fellows

Project Identification Number: 10073

Funded Amount: \$1,300,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$260,460

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The project is supporting a housing development-focused municipal fellows program to assist municipalities with planning, zoning, and/or development capacity to increase the housing supply. Priority is given to municipalities that have fewer full-time planning staff, have outdated comprehensive plans, and are undertaking regional projects with similarly situated communities.

Timeline: As of February 2025, eight municipal fellows were hired. The Department of Housing (Department) is working with eight municipalities under executed agreements: Newport, Westerly, Cranston, Foster, Lincoln, Cumberland, Johnston, and Coventry. The total funding awarded to these municipalities is \$1,146,000. The municipalities have begun requesting monthly reimbursements for costs incurred. If all fellows are retained, the Department expects to spend all obligated funds by October 2026.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Issue request for proposals for program manager*	0	1
Issue grant solicitation*	0	1
Fellows hired	0	8
Municipal fellow reports submitted	0	42

* These are yes/no binary indicators: 0 meaning 'no', 1 meaning 'yes'.

Transit-Oriented Development Zoning Municipal Technical Assistance

Project Identification Number: 10081

Funded Amount: \$1,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$0

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: These funds are providing technical assistance grants to municipalities to support zoning changes that enable additional housing development in proximity to transit. Grants are covering a consultant’s costs to determine the Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) area boundary, draft the zoning by-law, and present/facilitate meetings leading to the adoption of the zoning revisions (e.g., Planning Board, City Council/Town Council meeting).

Timeline: The Department of Housing (Department) executed a memorandum of agreement with the Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (RIHousing) to operate the project. This consolidation integrates the *Transit-Oriented Development Zoning Municipal Technical Assistance* project with other municipal technical assistance programs provided by RIHousing, creating a cohesive and user-friendly system. Municipalities can choose from a pre-approved consultant list for transit-oriented development-related services. RIHousing issued a request for proposals to create a consultant roster, and as a result, in May 2025, the RIHousing Board approved five consultants. RIHousing plans to announce a grant application opportunity for municipalities in late May or early June 2025, with a deadline of early to mid-July. The Department expects that all funds will be contracted by the first quarter of State Fiscal Year 2026 and spent by the end of State Fiscal Year 2026.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Issue grant solicitation*	0	0
Tentative awards	0	0
Final awards	0	0
TOD zoning adopted by municipality	0	0

* This is a yes/no binary indicator: 0 meaning ‘no’, 1 meaning ‘yes’.

Preservation of Affordable Housing

Project Identification Number: 10071

Project Completion Date: November 30, 2024

Funded Amount: \$500,000

Final Expended Amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: This program created a fund that will preserve affordable housing through foreclosure prevention or rehabilitation. The Rhode Island Department of Housing granted an award to the Community Housing Land Trust of Rhode Island (CHLT) to establish the fund. CHLT “is a nonprofit affiliated with the Housing Network of Rhode Island with a mission to expand and maintain the supply of long-term affordable housing available for generations of Rhode Islanders.”⁹⁵

Timeline: The Department awarded the grant in September 2024.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Issue solicitation*	0	1	1
Award grant*	0	1	1

** These are yes/no binary indicators: 0 meaning ‘no’, 1 meaning ‘yes’.*

⁹⁵ [Community Housing Land Trust of Rhode Island](#)

Climate

Port of Davisville

Project Identification Number: 10034

Funded Amount: \$65,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$64,995,913

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The Quonset Development Corporation, a quasi-public agency, is making the following infrastructure improvements at the Port of Davisville, which is one of the top auto and frozen seafood ports on the East Coast: reconstructing a portion of Pier 1, constructing the Terminal 5 Pier, including dredging to access the Pier, creating approximately 40 additional acres of cargo laydown space, and creating new access roads and a security gate in compliance with federal standards. The Terminal 5 Pier will increase the port's capacity to ship offshore wind turbine components, such as blades, towers, and foundations, while meeting existing users' needs.

Timeline: the Pier 1 reconstruction is scheduled to be completed by June 2025, and the construction of Terminal 5 Pier, dredging, access improvements, and completion of approximately 40 additional acres of cargo laydown space is scheduled to be completed by December 2026.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of berths with a service life of 30 years or greater	2	3
Number of ship arrivals per quarter	40	67
Acres available for cargo laydown	200	200
Short tons of cargo delivered at the port per quarter	87,500	123,049

OER Heat Pumps

Project Identification Number: 10063

Funded Amount: \$24,400,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$23,702,509

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources’ project is providing financial incentives to make efficient heat pumps more accessible and affordable. There are three categories of heat pump rebates: residential, residential income-eligible, and community/commercial. A third-party program administrator is managing and overseeing all aspects of funding deployment and reporting. It is using sub-vendors to execute various program functions, including rebate application and processing, data collection, and outreach strategies and customer communications.

An online portal streamlines application reviews and rebate approvals and allows for the rapid distribution of funds. The program administrator is operating a call center and quote comparison tool to assist customers in understanding and comparing heat pump quotes and to ensure that the equipment being recommended for installation meets the needs of their property.

Timeline: The project began in September 2023 and is anticipated to end in March 2026. The project began in September 2023 and is anticipated to end in January 2026.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of residential financial incentives	0	4,017
Estimated lifetime emissions reductions from residential financial incentives	0	164,627
Number of residential, income-eligible financial incentives	0	321
Estimated lifetime emissions reductions from residential, income-eligible financial incentives	0	13,984
Number of community/commercial financial incentives	0	190
Estimated lifetime emissions from community/commercial financial incentives	0	64,729

Children, Families, and Education

Child Care Retention Bonuses

Project Identification Number: 10001

Funded Amount: \$37,400,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$37,396,893

Project Expenditure Category: 2.36 Negative Economic Impacts: Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, the child day care services industry in Rhode Island experienced a 21.6% employment loss from 2019 to 2020.⁹⁶ Nationally, the industry had an average employment loss of 9.8% from early 2020 to the fall of 2021.⁹⁷

A National Association for the Education of Young Children survey found that 78% of respondents identified low wages as the main obstacle to recruiting educators, while 81% cited low wages as a key obstacle to retaining educators. In Rhode Island’s Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act Child Care Stabilization Grant program, 95% of grant recipients used at least 20% of their grant for wage bonuses, demonstrating the need to financially recognize staff and promote retention. The retention of these essential workers impacted nearly every single child care provider in the state by ensuring that centers remained open and served families at their licensed capacity. Families could not return to work if there were not enough quality child care options, and child care providers could not operate at capacity because of employee shortages.

Project Overview: To address these challenges, Rhode Island initially paid \$1,500 semiannual retention bonuses (up to \$3,000 per person) during State Fiscal Year 2022 to all child care staff who had been employed with a provider for at least six consecutive months. The State extended the project for State Fiscal Year 2023 and State Fiscal Year 2024, as well as a portion of State Fiscal Year 2025, replacing the \$1,500 semiannual bonuses with \$750 quarterly bonuses. There were 10 windows for which bonuses were paid. In the last window, payments were in the amount of \$392.63 to exhaust the remaining project funds.

Timeline: The Rhode Island Department of Human Services (DHS) drafted the application and established the application portal in March 2022. The following table shows the application periods for each retention bonus period:

Application Window	Application Period	Eligibility
1	March 18, 2022 – April 22, 2022	Employed for six consecutive months as of December 1, 2021
2	June 1, 2022 – June 30, 2022	Employed for six consecutive months as of June 1, 2022

⁹⁶ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (2019 – 2020)

⁹⁷ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (Jan. 2020 – March 2020, April 2021 – June 2021)

Application Window	Application Period	Eligibility
3	October 1, 2022 – October 31, 2022	Employed for three consecutive months as of September 1, 2022
4	January 1, 2023 – January 31, 2023	Employed for three consecutive months as of December 1, 2022
5	April 1, 2023 – April 30, 2023	Employed for three consecutive months as of March 1, 2023
6	July 1, 2023 – July 31, 2023	Employed for three consecutive months as of June 1, 2023
7	October 1, 2023 – October 31, 2023	Employed for three consecutive months as of September 1, 2023
8	January 1, 2024 – January 31, 2024	Employed for three consecutive months as of December 1, 2023
9	April 1, 2024 – April 30, 2024	Employed for three consecutive months as of March 1, 2024
10	July 1, 2024 – July 31, 2024	Employed for three consecutive months as of July 1, 2024

Mechanisms and Partners: DHS engaged with a fiscal intermediary, Public Consulting Group, to set up the application portal for child care educators, distribute the funds, and assist with data collection and analysis. The review of applications and payment of bonuses occurred on an ongoing basis during the application windows.

Use of Evidence: This project was modeled, in part, on the evidence-informed WAGES Model, which provides pay supplements every six months to early childhood educators as attraction and retention incentives.⁹⁸ Fifteen states have implemented a model like WAGES. To address the unique and pressing needs of the pandemic, the *Child Care Retention Bonuses* project provided the same bonus to all eligible educators to expedite payments and simplify the message to the workforce to increase engagement.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs	0	0

⁹⁸ <http://www.teachecnationalcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/WAGE-Overview-2015.pdf>

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
U.S. Treasury Required Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs	0	0
Number of unique educators submitting a complete application during the first and second application windows	0	4,463
Number of semi-annual bonuses distributed during the first and second windows	0	6,998
Retention rate for the first and second windows	0	91%
Number of unique educators submitting a complete application for the third through the tenth windows	0	6,592
Number of quarterly bonuses distributed during the third through tenth application windows	0	33,838
Retention rate for the third through tenth windows	0	76%

DCYF Workforce Stabilization

Project Identification Number: 10005

Funded Amount: \$23,236,344

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$23,031,180

Project Expenditure Category: 2.36 Negative Economic Impacts: Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: The Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) works with approximately 34 contractors, many of which are nonprofit agencies, that provide congregate care, foster care, and home- and community-based support for the state's most vulnerable children and families. The contractors were experiencing crisis-level staffing shortages that severely compromised the availability and quality of care for abused and traumatized children.

DCYF administered a survey in October 2021 that demonstrated the staffing crisis relative to pre-pandemic levels. In March 2020, providers reported 183 vacancies compared to 350 vacancies in October 2021, an increase of 91% and making up over 25% of the total full-time equivalent employees reported. A comparison of DCYF placement capacity from March 2020 to October 2021 showed a reduction in available beds from 343 to 240, a 30% reduction, which was often attributed to the critical staffing shortage among providers.

The consequences of the workforce shortage included children remaining in psychiatric hospitals past medical necessity and children being placed at out-of-state facilities at a greater cost, which made maintaining family connections and achieving reunification significantly more difficult. Additionally, DCYF's three residential treatment centers limited admissions below their capacity.

Project Overview: The project provides foster care, congregate care, and home- and community care-based provider staff who earn less than \$75,000 annually with retention payments of up to \$694.50 per full-time equivalent position per month for work done beginning July 1, 2021.

Timeline: DCYF distributed and collected current staffing data from the provider agencies. All individuals within the income requirements and employed at a provider agency as of July 1, 2021, were eligible for retention payments assuming that they were still employed on January 4, 2022. Retroactive payments for work done from July 2021 through December 2021 were made to eligible individuals. Monthly retention payments are being distributed to all staff employed starting in January 2022 and through December 2025.

Mechanisms and Partners: DCYF maintains a close relationship with the foster care, congregate care, and home- and community-based service providers taking part in this program. As a result, DCYF is administering this project, with the providers distributing the retention payments in accordance with an agreement with DCYF. DCYF requires providers to provide demographic, expenditure, and performance data.

Use of Evidence: While this intervention has not been identified as evidence based, the analysis of the key performance indicators will evaluate its effectiveness.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Placement availability to support children and youth	Increase number of placements available in the foster care, congregate care, and home- and community-based services provider agencies	0	880
Retention rate of existing provider staff	Percentage of current provider agency staff retained	0%	95%
Net change in provider staff	Number of new hires and departures per month	0	139
Number of workers served	Cumulative number of staff receiving some level of wage stabilization payment	0	2,223

Nonprofit Assistance

Project Identification Number: 10026

Project Completion Date: September 30, 2024

Funded Amount: \$20,000,000

Final Expended Amount: \$20,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.34 Negative Economic Impacts: Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: The Rhode Island Foundation (RI Foundation) surveyed nonprofit organizations in March 2020 and found that most experienced direct revenue losses due to reduced programming, client payments, and/or reimbursement for services. In September 2021, the Grantmakers Council of Rhode Island conducted a survey to understand the challenges facing nonprofit organizations and the communities they serve. Key findings included:

- 75% of respondents started new programs in response to the pandemic, yet 73% did not reduce pre-pandemic programming.
- 59% of respondents believed that demand for services would continue increasing as government relief programs ended.

- The most pressing challenges were financial (64%), staffing (55%), and organizational capacity (53%).⁹⁹

Project Overview: RI Foundation provided general operating grants to 240 nonprofit organizations that work to address food insecurity, housing instability and homelessness prevention, and behavioral health needs. Applicants had to be an Internal Revenue Code § 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in Rhode Island. Nonprofit hospitals, educational institutions, and foundations were ineligible.

Timeline: Applications were accepted in November 2022. Eligible nonprofits received one grant.

Mechanisms and Partners: Applications were submitted to RI Foundation through an online portal. Applicants had to attest that they were negatively impacted by the pandemic through revenue loss, staffing shortages, increased costs, etc. RI Foundation staff reviewed the applications and made funding recommendations to be reviewed and approved by RI Foundation leadership.

Use of Evidence: The project provided operating grants to nonprofits, which are shown to be a best practice. Unrestricted funding, also referred to as general operating support or flexible funding, is funding that a nonprofit can use to support their mission any way they see fit. The Trust Based Philanthropy project identifies the following benefits of unrestricted funding: it supports the stability of grantee organizations; it encourages emergent action, innovation, and creativity instead of sticking to proposal outcomes that may become outdated; and it supports grantees’ long-term planning by allowing them to project resources and make strategic investments to meet emerging needs.¹⁰⁰

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
U.S. Treasury Required Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs	0	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs	0	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs	0	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required	0	225	240

⁹⁹ [Grantmakers Council of Rhode Island/United Way of Rhode Island 2021 COVID-19 Impact on RI Nonprofits Survey](#)

¹⁰⁰ <http://trustbasedphilanthropy.org>

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Number of nonprofits served			
Percentage of nonprofits given grants to address behavioral health needs	0	25%	21%
Percentage of nonprofits given grants to address food insecurity	0	30%	22%
Percentage of nonprofits given grants to address housing instability and homelessness prevention	0	20%	10%
Percentage of nonprofits given grants that address more than one of the three areas of need	0	25%	47%
Percentage of dollars awarded to nonprofits operating in QCTs	0	50%	48%
Percentage of nonprofits awarded grants that end their fiscal year with a budget surplus	0	60%	61%
Number of grant recipients who report decreased challenges in covering payroll, rent or mortgage, and other operating costs ¹⁰¹	0	60%	16*

¹⁰¹ The data reported to PRO matched organization pre- and post-responses and calculated the percentage of organizations that did not report continued economic challenges at the end of the award period. PRO interpreted that to be the comparative measure for the original KPI.

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Percentage of grant recipients that continue operations for the full duration of the award period	0	80%	100%

Early Intervention Provider Relief and Recovery

Project Identification Number: 10003

Project Completion Date: March 31, 2024

Funded Amount: \$11,000,000

Final Expended Amount: \$11,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 1.12 Public Health: Mental Health Services

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: The Early Intervention (EI) Part C program of the Individuals with Disabilities Act provides crucial services to Rhode Island families with children experiencing developmental delays or medical conditions associated with developmental delays. During the pandemic, all nine EI providers in Rhode Island struggled to accept direct referrals due to significant staffing shortages.

The families enrolled in EI services before this project received fewer service hours per month (an average of 2.87 hours) than in State Fiscal Year 2019 (when service hours per month averaged 3.31 hours) and disengaged in EI services at a higher rate (31% as compared to 25% in State Fiscal Year 2019). This resulted in reduced program billings, creating financial solvency concerns in addition to the decrease in critical services for Rhode Island children. The EI system needed 54 additional workers to reach typical capacity to serve the number of families in Rhode Island in need of EI services.

An October 2020 *Pediatrics* article cited a national survey of parents with children under the age of 18 and found that since March 2020, 27% of parents reported worsening mental health for themselves, and 14% reported worsening behavioral health for their children.¹⁰²

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) provided stabilization grants totaling \$5.2 million to all nine EI providers. The grant amount was calculated based on the population size served by each provider. Eligible uses for the stabilization grant included, but were not limited to, enhanced outreach activities to ensure equitable access and family engagement in EI services; staff retention bonuses; workforce costs due to labor market conditions; professional development activities; and costs required to increase in-person visits.

EOHHS developed a pay-for-performance model to incentivize providers to increase service activity. EOHHS provided bonus payments totaling \$5.8 million based on EI providers meeting targets, such as recovering referral and staffing figures to 2019 levels, increasing the percentage of children referred to EI who completed the eligibility process and engaged in services, and reducing disproportionality for families with Medicaid coverage and families of color. Providers reported using these funds for

¹⁰² <https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/146/4/e2020016824>

recruitment and retention efforts, technology improvements, outreach to families, and improvements to the referral process, among other activities.

Timeline: EOHHS developed, distributed, and approved the applications for EI providers in mid-March 2022. Stabilization grants were distributed once applications were approved, with the last grants distributed by the end of March 2022. Once they received their grants, EI providers developed a performance plan with EOHHS, through which performance was tracked monthly. Providers received a performance grant at the end of each quarter (June 2022, September 2022, and December 2022) if they met certain identified targets.

EOHHS provided an additional stabilization grant to all nine EI providers in April 2023. The grant amount was calculated based on the size of the population served by each provider. Additional pay-for-performance bonuses were provided in June 2023, September 2023, and December 2023.

Mechanisms and Partners: The project was overseen by EOHHS, which partnered with the State’s nine EI providers.

Use of Evidence: EI is federally required as part of the Individuals with Disabilities Act to address the developmental and behavioral needs of children.

- The National Early Intervention Longitudinal Study Special Education and Part C programs tracked children with a developmental delay and found 46% did not need special education by the time they reached kindergarten due to EI services.
- Studies found that children who participate in high-quality EI/early childhood development programs tend to have less need for special education and other remedial work, greater language abilities, improved nutrition and health, and experienced less child abuse and neglect.

Rhode Island is nationally recognized for implementing a high-quality EI model that delivers services through a caregiver coaching model in natural settings for children (i.e., the home or a care setting), which is the best practice.

Performance: As part of the pay-for-performance bonus agreement, EI providers submitted individualized performance plans with specific benchmarks.

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Referrals	Increase referrals to 100% of calendar year 2019 numbers	62%	March 2024: 100%	March 2024: 98%
Staffing capacity	Increase staffing capacity to calendar year 2019 numbers	242	296	281
Eligibility process completion	Increase the percentage of children referred to EI who complete the eligibility process	State Fiscal Year 2021: 67%	March 2024: 80%	March 2024: 83%

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Disengagement in services	Of the children who fully enroll in EI services, decrease the percentage of children who disengage with EI services before program completion	State Fiscal Year 2021: 31%	March 2024: 19%	March 2024: 19%

Support for Survivors of Domestic Violence

Project Identification Number: 10033

Funded Amount: \$10,500,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$5,895,385

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: The pandemic impacted nonprofits' capacity to provide services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault because of reduced fundraising opportunities, higher costs, reduced staffing, and increased demand. Annual reports by the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence showed a 9% decline in services provided by its member agencies from 2019 to 2020, with 10,134 victims served in 2019 and 9,259 in 2020. This decrease coincided with an increase in demand, as domestic violence calls to the Rhode Island Victims of Crime Helpline in July 2020 and August 2020 increased year over year by 93.7% and 69.5%, respectively.

On September 9, 2021, 80% of identified Rhode Island domestic violence programs participated in a national count of services conducted by the National Network to End Domestic Violence. In all, 493 victims received services, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, other housing services, counseling, legal advocacy, and support groups. Victims made 61 service requests that the programs could not provide because they lacked the resources, of which 93% were for housing and emergency shelter.¹⁰³

Project Overview: The funding is being distributed to nonprofits whose primary mission is providing services to adult and youth survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse. The Rhode Island Department of Public Safety (DPS) issued a request for proposals (RFP) for providers to apply for funding by describing their specialized skills, experience, and plans to use the funding to expand clinical and mental health services and/or access to temporary and long-term housing.

Timeline: DPS' Public Safety Grant Administration Office issued a memo in January 2024 outlining award recommendations from the RFP process, totaling \$10.2 million of the total \$10.5 million appropriation. All awards have been issued, and spending is being conducted on a reimbursement basis, meaning that funding will typically be disbursed after programmatic activity has been conducted and invoiced.

¹⁰³ [16th Annual Domestic Violence Counts Rhode Island Summary](#)

Mechanisms and Partners: DPS published the RFP, evaluated program submissions, and awarded funding based on the strength of the proposals and program needs.

Use of Evidence: Studies have shown that government-directed funding to community nonprofit organizations can contribute to improved delivery of services.¹⁰⁴

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of victims receiving services		13,699 in calendar year 2021	22,249
Number of victims receiving housing assistance	Individuals placed in temporary shelters and/or transitional housing units	884	10,980
Number of victims receiving clinical/mental health services		1,571	2,002
Percentage increase in victims receiving housing assistance		0	N/A
Percentage increase in victims receiving clinical/mental health services		0	N/A

Rhode Island Reconnect

Project Identification Number: 10079

Funded Amount: \$8,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$3,379,177

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: *Rhode Island Reconnect* provides free supports to individuals in their pursuit of educational and workforce training advancement. Students are paired with a dedicated navigator who addresses barriers to completion and provides personalized academic coaching and mentoring. The navigators complete a comprehensive needs assessment with each participant to determine if there are any barriers to education, such as food insecurity, lack of reliable child care, transportation, and mental health challenges. Navigators can address these barriers through the provision of wraparound supports for items

¹⁰⁴ [Best Practices – Fact or Myth? New Research Challenges Conventions in Nonprofit Management](#)

that are not eligible for traditional financial aid, such as the purchase of a laptop, providing Wi-Fi, or the purchase of a bus pass for students to get to class.

The Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner (OPC) is targeting the following populations: individuals with some college experience but no degree, individuals interested in workforce credentials, students who are 15 to 30 credits away from graduation, and multi-language learners.

Timeline: Between January 2020 and January 2023, the program served over 2,300 participants. With the State Fiscal Recovery Funds, OPC plans to serve an additional 1,600 participants through September 2026.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of students served	0	1,099
Number of student barriers addressed	0	3,045
Percentage of students served persisting from one semester to the next	0	70%

Pediatric Provider Relief and Recovery

Project Identification Number: 10004

Project Completion Date: March 29, 2023

Funded Amount: \$7,500,000

Final Expended Amount: \$7,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 1.14 Public Health: Other Public Health Services

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Healthy child development and infant/child mental health are essential to positive academic and health outcomes. Throughout the public health emergency, many children and their families with behavioral health conditions and related developmental delays were unable to access services and family supports. Early data demonstrated the significant negative impacts on child development and early childhood mental health.

According to a *Journal of the American Medical Association* article, “The COVID-19 pandemic may worsen existing mental health problems and lead to more cases among children and adolescents because of the unique combination of the public health crisis, social isolation, and economic recession.”¹⁰⁵ Furthermore, COVID-19 threatened the healthcare system’s ability to effectively screen for and identify behavioral health needs that cause and/or co-occur with developmental delays to initiate referrals for

¹⁰⁵ <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapediatrics/fullarticle/2764730>

critical services, such as Early Intervention (EI), Family Home Visiting, and Early Childhood Special Education.

Children in Rhode Island experienced delayed healthcare and developmental supports and were exposed to trauma due to the public health emergency, which could have a devastating long-term impact on development. Addressing the delayed access to supports and services is critical so that children enter the education system ready to learn.

Project Overview: The project, which provided payments to pediatric and family practice primary care providers who serve Medicaid-covered children, had two components:

1. The *Stabilization Grants* (\$6,000,000) created an incentive for pediatric primary care providers to improve access to care and drive investment into their practices. Support was necessary for staffing and infrastructure to rebound from COVID-19-related delays in care. Payments were contingent on practices reporting baseline data and either meeting targets or demonstrating measurable improvement in the Child and Adolescent Well Care Visit measure. The Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) tracked additional measures related to immunizations, including COVID-19 immunizations, and lead screening rates, which are expected to be closely tied to performance on the Child and Adolescent Well Care Visit measure.
2. The *Performance Bonus Grants* (\$1,266,993) provided an additional round of grants to pediatric and family practice primary care providers who participated in a technical assistance program. The grants were distributed to providers who engaged with the technical assistance vendor, the Care Transformation Collaborative of Rhode Island (CTC). CTC provided *Technical Assistance* (\$233,008) to support training and workflow redesign, data collection and reporting, and best practice sharing to aid providers in improving performance. CTC assisted in evaluating practices' performance.

As of June 30, 2022, 100% of providers engaged with CTC. According to the evaluation results as of June 7, 2022, 98.1% of respondents reported that the sessions were good, 17.5%, or excellent, 80.6%, and 46.9%, 75 providers, suggested that they were interested in customized psychosocial/behavioral health technical assistance.

Timeline: EOHHS engaged CTC in early March 2022. Applications were posted in mid-March 2022, with the first round of stabilization grants provided at the end of March 2022. Grant payments based on reporting and performance on the Child and Adolescent Well Care Visit measure were made on the following schedule: one in March 2022, one in April 2022, and one in July 2022. CTC began to engage providers in March 2022. The bonuses paid to providers who engaged with CTC were issued at the end of June 2022.

Mechanisms and Partners: EOHHS engaged CTC for the technical assistance portion of the project. EOHHS engaged with the pediatric and family practice primary care providers to manage and disburse funds.

Use of Evidence: The program built on Rhode Island's decade-plus investment in Person-Centered Medical Homes for Children (PCMH Kids). PCMH Kids is a national practice model supported by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the National Committee on Quality Assurance to ensure that children have comprehensive primary care.¹⁰⁶ Through investments by EOHHS and the Rhode Island Department of Health, about 80% of practices in the state are PCMH Kids practices. Additionally,

¹⁰⁶ <https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/article/145/1/e20193449/36971/Promoting-Optimal-Development-Identifying-Infants>

pediatric screening is an established evidence-based practice. The AAP supports screening tools and practices that EOHHS used in this program.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Child and adolescent well visit	Practice performance on the HEDIS Child and Adolescent (ages 3-17) Well Care Visit measure	CY 2019: 73.2% of children ages 3-17 in these practices received at least one well-care visit	June 2022: 78%	June 2022: 79%
Childhood vaccinations	Percentage of children eligible to enter kindergarten on August 31, 2022 meeting kindergarten immunization requirements (KidsNet Data)	December 2021: 73.6%	August 2022: 87%	August 2022: 81%
COVID-19 vaccinations	Percentage of Medicaid-covered children ages 5-11 vaccinated against COVID-19	January 2022: 14.8%	August 2022: 25%	August 2022: 27%
Technical assistance participation	Percentage of providers participating in technical assistance to stand up developmental, psychosocial, and behavioral health screenings	0%	August 2022: 70%	August 2022: 100%
Lead screenings administered	Percentage of children between 12 and 24 months, with at least one lead screening (KidsNet data)	December 2021: 72.7%	August 2022: 83%	August 2022: 79%

Pediatric Provider Relief and Recovery Phase II

Project Identification Number: 10031

Project Completion Date: April 18, 2024

Funding Amount: \$7,500,000

Final Expended Amount: \$7,499,871

Project Expenditure Category: 1.14 Public Health: Other Public Health Services

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Healthy child development and infant/child mental health are essential to positive academic and health outcomes. Throughout the public health emergency, many children and their families with behavioral health conditions and related developmental delays were unable to access services and family supports. Early data demonstrated the significant negative impacts on child development and early childhood mental health.

According to a *Journal of the American Medical Association* article, “The COVID-19 pandemic may worsen existing mental health problems and lead to more cases among children and adolescents because of the unique combination of the public health crisis, social isolation, and economic recession.”¹⁰⁷ Furthermore, COVID-19 threatened the healthcare system’s ability to effectively screen for and identify behavioral health needs that cause and/or co-occur with developmental delays to initiate referrals for critical services, such as Early Intervention (EI), Family Home Visiting, and Early Childhood Special Education.

Children in Rhode Island experienced delayed healthcare and developmental supports and were exposed to trauma due to the public health emergency, which could have a devastating long-term impact on development. Addressing the delayed access to supports and services is critical so that children enter the education system ready to learn.

Project Overview: The project built upon *Pediatric Provider Relief and Recovery* to incentivize pediatric primary care providers to improve access to care, immunizations, and screenings, and invest in the staffing and infrastructure necessary to rebound from pandemic-related delays in care. The Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) made six payments to participating practices:

- The first payment was based on practices submitting a program application, including a practice improvement plan and a commitment to participate in the technical assistance program.
- Four quarterly payments were contingent on practices’ performance on several vaccine and screening measures.
- One payment was based on participation in at least four sessions of a six-session Behavioral Health Learning Initiative that took place from January 2023 through June 2023.

Funds also supported a technical assistance contractor tasked with training and workflow redesign, data collection and reporting, and best practice sharing to aid providers in improving performance and evaluating practice performance. The contractor provided the quality improvement practice facilitation and implementation of the Behavioral Health Learning Initiative. Practices accessed a customized behavioral health practice facilitator as an optional service to assist with the development of responses to behavioral health needs.

Timeline: The first payment for applying to the program and committing to participate in the technical assistance program was made in October 2022. Quarterly payments were made in January 2023, April 2023, July 2023, and October 2023. The payment contingent on participating in the Behavioral Health Learning Initiative was made in July 2023.

¹⁰⁷ [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) and Mental Health for Children and Adolescents](#)

Mechanisms and Partners: EOHHS engaged Care Transformation Collaborative of Rhode Island for the technical assistance portion of the project. EOHHS engaged with the pediatric and family practice primary care providers to manage and disburse funds.

Use of Evidence: The program built on Rhode Island’s decade-plus investment in Person-Centered Medical Homes for Children (PCMH Kids). PCMH Kids is a national practice model supported by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the National Committee on Quality Assurance to ensure that children have comprehensive primary care.¹⁰⁸ Through investments by EOHHS and the Rhode Island Department of Health, about 80% of practices in the state are PCMH Kids practices. Additionally, pediatric screening is an established evidence-based practice. The AAP supports screening tools and practices that EOHHS is proposing in this program.

In 2022, the *Pediatric Provider Relief and Recovery* project provided another round of payments to pediatric and family medicine practices to catch up Rhode Island children on critical preventative care, including vaccinations and crucial developmental screenings. Payments were contingent on practices meeting well-child visit targets or demonstrating improvement. Each of the 44 practices enrolled in the program met the April 2022 and July 2022 targets or improvement targets, resulting in 38,000 Medicaid-covered children receiving well-child visits from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. In addition, each of the 44 practices participated in learning sessions related to developmental, psychosocial, and behavioral health screening.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Share of practices enrolled in ECHO	Practices are incentivized to increase psychosocial behavioral screenings through participation in this program	0	December 2022: 100%	April 2023: 100%
Share of practices participating in four of six ECHO sessions	Practices are incentivized to increase psychosocial behavioral screenings through participation in this program	0	June 2023: 100%	June 2023: 100%
Kindergarten vaccine readiness	Percentage of children eligible to enter kindergarten on August 31, 2023, who meet immunization requirements	August 2021: 81.2%	September 2023: 93%	September 2023: 94%

¹⁰⁸ [Promoting-Optimal-Development-Identifying-Infants Promoting Optimal Development: Identifying Infants and Young Children with Developmental Disorders through Developmental Surveillance and Screening](#)

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
7 th grade vaccine readiness	Percentage of children eligible to enter 7 th grade on August 31, 2023, who meet immunization requirements	August 2021: 59.6%	September 2023: 76%	September 2023: 78%
One lead screening by 24 months of age		September 2021: 79.5%	September 2023: 90%	September 2023: 91%
Two lead screenings by 36 months of age		September 2021: 59.6%	September 2023: 65%	September 2023: 70%

Adult Education Investment

Project Identification Number: 10058

Funded Amount: \$5,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$3,354,602

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: Rhode Island’s publicly funded network of 19 Adult Education providers delivers high-quality services that support adults in reaching their diverse college and career goals, including high school equivalency preparation, English for Speakers of Other Languages, digital literacy skills development, and workforce preparation and training, including Integrated Education and Training, which is a nationally recognized workforce development model shown to accelerate successful completion of sectoral job training by adults with foundational skill gaps. Specifically, the project is funding:

- Direct grants to create regional hubs to streamline access to services statewide and facilitate knowledge transfer.
- Direct grants to purchase devices and software to support the integration of digital literacy and use of eTests statewide.
- Direct grants for the expansion of Adult Education services statewide.
- Temporary increased capacity of the Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (RIDE) to oversee implementation, ongoing evaluation, and strategic planning of the project.
- Third-party evaluation to identify service gaps and ensure regional equity.
- Third-party marketing and outreach campaign in multiple languages.

The Adult Education providers applied for these direct grants, and RIDE reviewed proposals and awarded grants.

Timeline: RIDE hired a full-time employee in September 2023, with outreach campaigns beginning that same time. Using a reimbursement model, the three direct grant programs began in State Fiscal Year

2024. The Digital Literacy Grants will end in State Fiscal Year 2025, and Regional Referral Hub Grants and Expansion of Core Services Grants will end in State Fiscal Year 2026.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of participants who receive orientation, assessment, and referral services	5,000 annually	17,809
Number of participants who enroll with 12 or more hours	3,900 annually	12,493
Number of enrolled participants who demonstrate a measurable skill gain	1,350 annually	6,509
Number of enrolled participants who demonstrate a digital literacy skill gain	650 annually	2,381
Number of exited participants who are employed in the second quarter after exit	1,200 annually	2,745

Fresh Start Scholarship

Project Identification Number: 10066

Funded Amount: \$5,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$3,800,713

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The *Fresh Start Scholarship* provides working adults with tuition, fees, and books allowance support for up to one year at the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI). Specifically, the program supports individuals who previously attended CCRI but did not earn a degree. Fresh Start also targets adult Rhode Islanders that have disenrolled from CCRI and did not meet federal Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements, which makes them ineligible for federal financial assistance. Fresh Start also supports any incidental basic needs and outstanding balances through a partnership with *Rhode Island Reconnect*.

The combined effort provides adults with the direct wraparound supports needed for a “fresh start” to complete their degree. CCRI estimates that 1,350 students will participate in the Fresh Start program. Some participants will not receive Fresh Start scholarships because they will be eligible for Pell Grants and other financial aid that will be awarded before these funds.

Timeline: The project funds two years of the Fresh Start program, starting in fall 2023 and continuing through fall 2025.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of first semester scholarships awarded by academic year	0	1,075
Average dollar amount of first semester scholarship awarded by academic year	0	\$2,159
First semester course success rate	0	76%
Term-to-term persistence rate	0	63%

Out of School Time Education Providers

Project Identification Number: 10072

Funded Amount: \$4,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$1,302,368

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: Afterschool and out-of-school programs provide critical support to students and families. In the 2020 *America After 3PM* report by the Afterschool Alliance, for every Rhode Island student in an out-of-school program, there are three more waiting for a spot.¹⁰⁹ The pandemic widened the need for quality out-of-school programming that supports learning and engagement during the school day and provides economic relief for families who rely on consistent care for their children when school is not in session.

The project is building upon an investment in the Advancing Learning Beyond the 180-Day School Year program in support of the Governor’s Learn365RI initiative, with the long-term goals of improving student learning outcomes and increasing three key metrics: Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment

¹⁰⁹ [America After 3PM National Report](#)

System math and English language arts scores; school attendance rates; and Free Application for Federal Student Aid completion rates.

The funding is supporting:

- Direct grants to Learn365RI compact municipalities, including
 - Standard grants in the amount of \$40,000 and
 - Expanded grants up to \$400,000
- Temporary increased capacity for the Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to oversee implementation, evaluation, and strategic planning
- Third-party professional development for high-quality program delivery and management to municipalities and their out-of-school time providers and/or partners.

Timeline: Grants were awarded by September 2024, with student data tracked through June 2026.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of standard grants	0	18
Number of expanded grants	0	12
Participants enrolled in programs	0	3,747
Number of hours of student programming	0	108,258

Rhode Island Community Food Bank Grant

Project Identification Number: 10070

Project Completion Date: August 8, 2024

Funded Amount: \$3,000,000

Final Expended Amount: \$3,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.1 Negative Economic Impacts: Household Assistance: Food Programs

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: The pandemic had a lasting effect on low-income households' access to food. The 2022 RI Life Index Survey showed that food insecurity for Rhode Island households rose from 18% in 2021 to 31% in 2022.¹¹⁰ The rates of food insecurity were even higher for households with children, 41%, and people of color: 43% for Black households, 47% for Latino households; and 43% for other, non-white households. These rates compare to 26% for white households.

¹¹⁰ [2022 RI Life Index Survey](#)

In February 2023, the pandemic-era, emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program allotment ended, and families saw their benefits reduced by an average of \$153 per month. From March to June 2023, Rhode Island Community Food Bank (Food Bank) member agencies (e.g., food pantries and meal sites) served 80,000 people per month – a 25% increase from the same period in 2022.

On average, the per-pound cost of food was \$1.01 in State Fiscal Year 2023, up from \$0.40 to \$0.50 per pound prior to the pandemic. Examples included ground beef costing \$0.90 more per pound; eggs being \$0.80 more per pound; and rice being \$0.33 more per pound.

The increases had an impact on the Food Bank as it purchases food by the truckload at wholesale prices. The Food Bank budgeted \$7.8 million for food in State Fiscal Year 2024, which is significantly higher than before the pandemic.

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Department of Human Services was appropriated \$3 million by the General Assembly to provide a grant to the Food Bank. The Food Bank used the grant funding to purchase food for its 143 member agencies located in 32 of the state’s 39 cities and towns. The member agencies provided food to households experiencing food insecurity.

Timeline: The Food Bank distributed food purchased through this project to its member agencies from October 2023 through July 2024.

Mechanisms and Partners: The Food Bank operates as a member organization with 143 agencies, including food pantries and meal sites.

Use of Evidence: A United States Department of Agriculture study links food insecurity in adults to increased risk of chronic disease.¹¹¹ Another study shows that food insecurity hurts children’s academic achievement and behavior in school.¹¹²

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
U.S. Treasury Required Number of households served	24,000 families	24,000	31,078
Number of pounds of food purchased	0	2,856,286	3,360,609
Number of pounds of food distributed	0	2,856,286	3,360,609
Number of programs served	0	100	143

¹¹¹ Food Insecurity, Chronic Disease, and Health Among Working-Age Adults Summary

¹¹² [Food Insufficiency and American School-Aged Children’s Cognitive, Academic, and Psychosocial Development](#)

Child Care Enhanced TEACH Program

Project Identification Number: 10053

Funded Amount: \$2,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$931,980

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The funds are supporting the TEACH Early Childhood RI (TEACH) program that helps child care businesses implement best practices, reduce staff turnover, onboard staff, and continue to provide high-quality early child care and education. TEACH provides access to a higher-education curriculum on the academic, social, and cognitive skills that develop from birth through school age. It has a track record of supporting the incumbent workforce by funding their credential attainment and, in turn, increasing earnings and reducing turnover. The funds are supporting the research and development of new TEACH models tailored to meet the needs of the provider and scholar and allowing the program to expand options and incentives to increase enrollment.

Timeline: The program started in April 2023 and will end in March 2026.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of new scholars in the TEACH program	107	246
Number of new sponsoring programs	62	184
Additional training and/or degree pathways	5	8

Rhode Island College Cybersecurity Institute

Project Identification Number: 10074

Funded Amount: \$2,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$1,524,918

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The funds provide the resources needed to establish and launch the Rhode Island College (RIC) Institute for Cybersecurity and Emerging Technologies (Institute), which will engage with the cybersecurity community and expand RIC's ability to deliver education and workforce training. The expectation is that the Institute will position Rhode Island to lead the region in developing highly skilled cybersecurity professionals and programming while attracting leading researchers and education professionals to develop practical and policy approaches to cybersecurity challenges. The Institute is

providing students with the knowledge, skills, and tools to protect and secure sensitive information from cyberthreats or attacks. It is creating paths of opportunity for Rhode Island students while putting the State at the forefront of advancing workforce development and research in cybersecurity.

Timeline: The official launch of the Institute was November 6, 2023. With the help of the State Fiscal Recovery Fund allocation, the Institute plans to expand its course offerings and majors in the coming years.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Establishment of the Institute for Cybersecurity and Emerging Technologies*	0	1
Number of students enrolled in a cybersecurity major	27	97
Number of students enrolled in a cybersecurity minor	36	27
Number of students enrolled in an artificial intelligence major	0	6
Number of cybersecurity courses offered	5	5
Number of artificial intelligence courses offered	0	3

* This is a yes/no binary indicator: 0 meaning 'no', 1 meaning 'yes'.

Community Learning Center Programming Support Grant

Project Identification Number: 10088

Funded Amount: \$2,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$0

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: These funds are being distributed to municipalities with community learning center projects being completed with awards from the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund allocation. An equal

amount of funding is being allocated to each approved community learning center project that reaches substantial completion as defined by the U.S. Department of Treasury (Treasury) by October 31, 2026. These funds must be used to support Treasury-compliant health monitoring, work, and/or education programming that will take place in the community learning center.

Timeline: The grant agreements between the State and participating municipalities were signed by December 31, 2024. All grant funding will be spent by December 31, 2026.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of grant agreements signed	0	21
Number of grants paid to municipalities	0	0
Number of community learning centers established	0	0

Child Care Workforce Registry

Project Identification Number: 10038

Project Completion Date: October 31, 2024

Funded Amount: \$1,000,000

Final Expended Amount: \$1,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.11 Negative Economic Impacts: Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: The pandemic had a devastating effect on the child care industry, resulting in a significant reduction in available child care seats. The child day care services industry in Rhode Island experienced a 14.9% employment loss, vs. a 9.8% loss nationally, from the first quarter of 2020 to the second quarter of 2021. This affected families who faced immense pressure to re-evaluate how to meet their child care needs. Faced with this burden, families had to make tough decisions regarding employment.

Without a child care workforce registry, the Rhode Island Department of Human Services (DHS) was unable to regularly assess the state of the early learning workforce in terms of credentialing, turnover, retention, and compensation, or capture aggregate information about gaps and opportunities for workforce development. DHS was unable to regularly communicate with the early learning workforce about workforce development opportunities, compensation programs, etc. Much of DHS' staff time was devoted to the manual collection of data rather than monitoring and structuring policies targeted at improving the sector.

Project Overview: Through a request for proposals (RFP) process, the State contracted with MTX Group Inc. to help create the child care workforce registry. MTX Group Inc. helped design the registry and develop a cloud-based platform to house it.

Child care employees are encouraged to use the registry. Having an accurate list of past and present educators allows the State to survey educators on the working conditions in child care facilities and tailor policies to address these conditions and reduce staff turnover. The improvements that will be made in the child care workforce will benefit children and families.

Timeline: Through a request for proposals (RFP) process, the State contracted with MTX Group Inc. in July 2023 to help create the registry that launched in January 2024.

Mechanisms and Partners: The State worked with MTX Group Inc. to design the child care workforce registry and develop a cloud-based platform to house it. Promoting workforce participation among early educators requires significant and ongoing outreach to licensed programs who act as the liaisons to their educators. DHS used the personal data gathered from the *Child Care Retention Bonuses* project to input current educator profile data.

Use of Evidence: A 2016 study found that Early Childhood Education registry data can inform training needs and opportunities for the child care sector.¹¹³ Further, many large states have implemented workforce registries to collect large-scale data, communicate with the workforce, and directly disburse workforce stipends, especially during the pandemic.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
U.S. Treasury Required Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs	0	0	0

¹¹³ [Using State Early Care and Education Workforce Registry Data to Inform Training-Related Questions: Issues to Consider](#)

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
U.S. Treasury Required Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs	0	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs	0	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of children served by child care and early learning (pre-school/pre-K/ages 3-5)	20,240	24,909	27,236
U.S. Treasury Required Number of families served by home visiting	0	0	0
Launch of workforce registry*	0	1	1
Number of educators with complete profiles	0	6,000	5,387
Percentage of licensed programs with employee participation	0	100%	82%
Percentage of licensed programs reporting 80% employee participation	0	100%	22%

* This is a yes/no binary indicator: 0 meaning 'no', 1 meaning 'yes'.

Child Care Quality Improvements

Project Identification Number: 10055

Funded Amount: \$1,145,639

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$1,031,266

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The project will increase the Rhode Island Association for Education of Young Children’s (RIAEYC) capacity to focus on improving the environmental rating scale (ERS) scores for child care providers. ERS scores are tied to improved quality interactions and environments for children, while also increasing reimbursement rates for participating programs. The project is adding three contracted positions (two navigators and one assessment staff) within RIAEYC to be able to enroll 150 new participants into the LearnERS cohort. LearnERS is a series of modules and professional development for educators to address quality improvement.

The project is also providing additional operating support to RIAEYC, including additional licenses for LearnERS software, stipends to enrolled child care staff to incentivize participation, materials early learning educators need to meet ERS evaluations, travel costs for the navigators, and consultants to administer ERS assessments. Using the LearnERS model and a similar model developed by BrightStars for school-age programs, participating providers are being selected to join cohorts of 10 to 12 participants who have identified the same areas of improvement through an ERS pre-assessment.

This project is working in concert with the other child care investments, such as tailored technical assistance for early learning programs to increase BrightStars ratings and data system and workforce development initiatives, to maximize the targeted technical assistance and financial support available to providers.

Timeline: The project started in April 2023 and will end in the first quarter of State Fiscal Year 2026. .

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of participants enrolled in professional development cohorts	43	165
Percentage of participants who have improved their ERS score	0%	78%

Rhode Island College Foster Care Youth Scholarship

Project Identification Number: 10094

Funded Amount: \$1,021,859

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$1,021,859

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner (OPC) provided a grant to the Rhode Island College Foundation to establish the *Rhode Island College Foster Care Youth Scholarship*, a last-dollar scholarship program for Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) foster care youth aging out of the system. The enables these individuals to attend Rhode Island College. Funds provide tuition during academic year and summer, 52 weeks of room and board, books and supplies, transportation to clinicals/student teaching/internships and support services. The project is supporting 10 students in the 2024-25 school year and is projected to support between 24 and 32 students in the 2025-26 school year.

Funds also support a part-time success coach to work with the students to develop individualized plans for each semester, coordinate services, and help students navigate the college experience.

Timeline: The project was launched in February 2025, and the first students were supported in the 2024-25 school year.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Execution of grant agreement*	0	1
Establishment of internal process*	0	1
Launch of program*	0	1

DCYF Sign-On Bonuses

Project Identification Number: 10006

Funded Amount: \$884,422

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$832,638

Project Expenditure Category: 2.36 Negative Economic Impacts: Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: According to an August 2021 report from the Rhode Island Coalition for Children and Families, organizations were experiencing a 31% job vacancy rate overall, with a 36% vacancy rate in direct care positions and 25% vacancy rate in supervisory and clinical positions. These vacancy rates far exceeded the national best practice rate of 10% and are considered unsustainable. A total of 75% of responding residential agencies and 38% of community-based agencies indicated that they had capped or reduced the census of youth that they were able to serve because of staffing.

Capped or reduced capacity threatened the youth in the Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth, and Family (DCYF) custody and DCYF's ability to fulfill its legislative mandate. Respondents indicated that residential programs were operating at 55% of contracted capacity, while community-based programs were operating at 64% capacity. Budgeting is based on 80% to 90% capacity, with variation among

programs. Data showed that community-based agencies had vacancies on average for 11.3 weeks, indicating that there were not enough viable candidates for the pay community-based agencies can offer.

DCYF administered a survey in October 2021 that demonstrated the staffing crisis relative to pre-pandemic levels. In March 2020, providers reported 183 vacancies in comparison to 350 vacancies in October 2021, an increase of 91% and comprised over 25% of the total full-time equivalents reported.

Project Overview: DCYF is working with providers to offer a \$750 sign-on bonus contingent upon completion of 90 days of employment. The goal is to incentivize individuals to apply for employment so that providers were able to overcome the staffing shortages.

Timeline: The sign-on bonuses are offered to all new hires with a start date as of January 4, 2022.

Mechanisms and Partners: DCYF maintains a close relationship with the foster care, congregate care, and home- and community-based service providers who are taking part in this program. DCYF provides funds to the providers who then distribute the sign-on bonuses according to the agreement with DCYF. DCYF requires providers to provide demographic, expenditure, and performance data.

Use of Evidence: While this intervention has not been identified as evidence based, the analysis of the key performance indicators will evaluate its effectiveness.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of bonuses offered	0	1,176
Number of bonuses collected	0	1,031

Child Care Family Provider Support

Project Identification Number: 10002

Project Completion Date: October 23, 2024

Funded Amount: \$600,000

Final Expended Amount: \$455,957

Project Expenditure Category: 2.32 Negative Economic Impacts: Business Incubators and Start-Up or Expansion Assistance

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Parents of babies and toddlers rely on quality child care options so that they can work. During the pandemic, demand increased for family-based child care (FCC) while the supply dwindled. The state experienced a net loss of 113 providers, or over 25% of total FCC capacity, during the pandemic, according to licensing data from the Rhode Island Department of Human Services (DHS).

FCC providers typically care for a small group of children in a home and meet specific health and safety licensing requirements. This might be an attractive care setting for a variety of reasons, including a

smaller environment, a more culturally responsive setting (more than half of Rhode Island’s FCC provider community are native Spanish speakers), and/or more flexibility in terms of hours of care.

On average, the FCC workforce is older. Even after child care services were allowed to reopen during the pandemic, many FCC providers retired or permanently closed due to safety concerns.

Project Overview: This project provided \$2,000 grants to new FCC providers (i.e., those without an active license with DHS) for startup costs (e.g., health and safety materials, inspections, liability insurance, etc.) and technical assistance to facilitate the startup process. Defraying startup costs removed a potential barrier to entry and encouraged more of these primarily women-owned small businesses to replenish the lost supply.

The project provided grants to 130 individuals who sought to become a licensed FCC provider, of whom 83 were licensed as of May 2024. These new providers created 498 new child care seats across the state, including 19 in child care deserts.¹¹⁴

Timeline: Applicant submissions were opened at the end of March 2022, and grants distribution began in April 2022.

Mechanisms and Partners: DHS engaged with a fiscal intermediary, Public Consulting Group (PCG), to assist in program implementation and stakeholder outreach. DHS and PCG provided technical assistance to new FCC providers to ensure they serve Child Care Assistance Program families and participate in the State’s Quality Rating and Improvement System.

Use of Evidence: A review of literature on the efficacy of home-based child care finds that most FCC settings are safe, and caregivers are generally nurturing.¹¹⁵ Additional research finds that coaching and professional development efforts promote improved quality.¹¹⁶

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
U.S. Treasury Required Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs		0	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs		0	0	0
U.S. Treasury Required		0	0	0

¹¹⁴ The following municipalities are considered child care deserts: Burrillville, Hopkinton, Little Compton, Narragansett, Newport, Richmond, Scituate, Tiverton, and Woonsocket.

¹¹⁵ https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/opre/lit_review.pdf

¹¹⁶ https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/occ/occ_fcc_brief.pdf

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs				
Number of grants distributed	The number of pre-licensed applicants receiving a grant. DHS distributes grants during pre-licensure to help applicants cover startup costs and ensure the applicants become licensed.	0	200	130
Number of newly licensed FCC providers		0	200	83
Number of new child care seats available		0	1,200	498
Number of newly-licensed providers ranking 2-stars or higher on the BrightStars quality continuum		0	100	7
Number of seats in child care deserts (among newly-licensed providers)		0	240	19

Eat Well, Be Well Program

Project Identification Number: 10100

Funded Amount: \$4,500,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$0

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Eat Well, Be Well (EWBW) Pilot Rewards Program is the first statewide program of its kind in the country. It rewards health-conscious food purchases for customers using SNAP benefits.

EWBW is a vital safety net for the approximately 140,000 SNAP recipients struggling with food insecurity and access to healthy, nutritious foods. The program provides Rhode Island households with up to \$25 more per month in benefits to purchase fruits and vegetables.

Customers receive \$.50 in SNAP benefits for every \$1 spent on qualifying fruits and vegetables at participating retailers. Only in-store purchases count toward the accrual of additional benefits. All SNAP recipients are automatically enrolled in the program. The additional benefits are loaded to the customer's EBT card for the future purchase of qualifying SNAP products at in-store locations.

Timeline: The transfer of funds to finance the program occurred in June 2025.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
EWBW Incentive Amount Spent	0	0
Program Impact Survey*	0	0

* This is a yes/no binary indicator: 0 meaning 'no', 1 meaning 'yes'.

Behavioral Health

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics

Project Identification Number: 10020

Funded Amount: \$27,646,568

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$26,568,227

Project Expenditure Category: 1.12 Public Health: Mental Health Services

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Challenges facing behavioral health providers in 2019 and early 2020, particularly low reimbursement rates, were exacerbated when the need for their services increased during the pandemic. Online surveys conducted during that time found that two-in-five Americans reported mental illnesses – double the usual prevalence. Rates of anxiety, depression, trauma-related disorders, and suicidal thinking were elevated, especially among youth, young adults, and racial/ethnic minority groups.¹¹⁷ This spike in demand confronted a provider community that was struggling financially because of years of underinvestment and pandemic-related economic harm, evidenced by the following data.¹¹⁸

- 92.6% of behavioral health providers reduced operations
- 31% of patients were turned away, cancelled, or rescheduled
- 61.8% of providers closed at least one program
- 46.7% laid off or planned to lay off staff
- 82.9% did not have personal protective equipment (PPE) to last two months
- 62.1% could survive financially for fewer than three months

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) is providing infrastructure development grants to community-based behavioral health and social services providers to recover from the pandemic and comply with federal Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) standards. These grants are supporting CCBHC providers and organizations seeking to become designated collaborating organizations (DCO). Specifically, this funding is being used to:

- Provide infrastructure grants to community-based behavioral health and social services providers to build capacity to operate as CCBHCs (e.g., electronic health records, data and payment/claims systems, staffing and training, capital needs, and related infrastructure).
- Equip DCOs focused on substance use, cultural competency, and related specialties to participate in service delivery and collaboration with CCBHCs.

EOHHS will provide up to \$25.5 million to be split among organizations as follows:

CCBHCs

Phase 1: Readiness Assessment – \$300,000 per grantee clinic site was provided upon award. This was spent on initial planning, including actuarial assistance for grantees seeking to become CCBHCs. Funds were spent in Year 1 of the grant program.

¹¹⁷ CDC MMWR, August 2020

¹¹⁸ Interdepartmental Serious Mental Illness Coordinating Committee (ISMICC) SAMHSA Update: Behavioral Health Issues and COVID 19. Elinore F. McCance Katz MD, PhD, Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. September 29, 2020

Phase 2: Capacity Development/Planning Collaboration Participation – \$760,000 per grantee clinic site, based on funding request developed and submitted in Phase 1. Funds were distributed upon completion of specified projects and milestones, contingent on documented participation in the Rhode Island Executive Behavioral Health Interagency Collaborative planning collaborative. Funds were spent on a range of activities, including staffing, technology and physical plant upgrades, staff training, and other activities specific to readying the grantees to become CCBHCs. Funds were spent in Year 2 of the program by the majority of CCBHC grantees, with a small number needing a No Cost Extension to complete their projects in State Fiscal Year 2025.

Phase 3: \$650,000 per grantee site has been encumbered to support primarily staff recruitment and retention, as well as other start-up operational costs and the development of relevant memoranda of understanding (MOUs), contracts, and partnership agreements. EOHHS was able to allocate braided funding in the amount of \$1.65 million from Home and Community-Based Services Enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (E-FMAP) funds to extend beyond the originally budgeted amount for the grants. Payments for Cohorts 1 and 2 (90% of \$650,000) are in process, with the final 10% due at the end of their deliverables. Payment for Cohort 3 happened in April 2025.

DCOs Providing Other CCBHC Services

Phase 1: Readiness Assessment – \$30,000 per grantee was provided upon award. This was used for initial planning and an equity review.

Phase 2: Capacity Development/Planning Collaboration Participation – \$370,000 per grantee site was provided, based on funding request developed and submitted in Phase 1. Funds were distributed upon completion of milestones. Most DCOs have spent their entire allocation, with just a few receiving No Cost Extensions to complete the spending in State Fiscal Year 2025.

Phase 3: \$45,000 per DCO grantee site has been encumbered for final preparation for go live. Activities include start-up operational costs and the development of relevant MOUs, contracts, and partnership agreements. Payments went out in early State Fiscal Year 2025.

The total amount and number of awards distributed will be determined by the number of qualified applicants. EOHHS projects the following number of awards by entity type for Phase 1: up to 10 CCBHCs and up to 22 DCOs offering other CCBHC services.

Timeline: All Phase 1 deliverables were submitted in February 2023. EOHHS reviewed all submitted deliverables and reviewed contract renewal requests and notified participants who were selected for Phase 2. Twenty-five percent of Phase 2 funds was distributed upon selection; 65% was distributed as participants met the milestones outlined in their Phase 1 workplan. Participants had 12 months to achieve their milestones and submit all Phase 2 deliverables to EOHHS. Participants who achieved a minimum of two milestones were eligible for Phase 3 funding. Eighty percent of Phase 3 funding was disbursed upon grant award, and the remaining 20% toward the end of Phase 3. The CCBHC Interagency Team contingently certified eight CCBHC sites as eligible to go live on October 1, 2024. EOHHS continues to work with providers on quality improvement and monitoring activities.

Mechanisms and Partners: Community organizations interested in participating in this grant program must submit a proposal detailing their existing capacity and ability to participate in these infrastructure development activities, including proven engagement with diverse populations and experience delivering relevant services. Successful applicants will need to demonstrate organizational and leadership readiness, a history of, or capacity for, community engagement, and a commitment to build capacity to become either a lead CCBHC or DCO within their community.

The CCBHC interagency team is committed to using a fair means of allocating funds to qualified community organizations that demonstrate the ability and intention to establish capacity related to the CCBHC model. The final allocation of grant funding will depend upon the number and quality of applications received.

Use of Evidence: The federal CCBHC model has been widely studied. As a demonstration program, there are requirements for rigorous evaluation that have begun to produce a compelling and deep evidence base. Continued assessment of the CCBHC model is underway across the country in a variety of settings. The U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) offers CCBHC Expansion Grants to selected states and clinics, including five recipients in Rhode Island. In addition to the evaluation completed by SAMHSA, other parties are analyzing CCBHCs’ impact, including the National Council for Behavioral Health and Mathematica.

The EOHHS-led interagency team with representation from the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Development Disabilities and Hospitals (BHDDH); the Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF); the Rhode Island Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner (OHIC); and Medicaid conducted a mixed methods assessment of Rhode Island’s behavioral health system from September 2020 through December 2020. This study included qualitative work engaging stakeholders from both state agencies and the community, as well as a quantitative assessment of Rhode Island’s behavioral health system. The study culminated in a public report published in July 2021 – the Behavioral Health System Review Technical Assistance: Final Report (2021 BH Report).¹¹⁹ The CCBHC project seeks to address gaps in the Rhode Island behavioral health system that were identified by the 2021 BH Report.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of CCBHC infrastructure grantees that submit a qualified cost report and equity checklist	Grantees will use grant funding to begin infrastructure and capacity development activities for eligibility to be a CCBHC in year one of the program	0	8
Number of DCO infrastructure grantees that submit a continuation application and qualified workplan toward CCBHC partnership	Entities interested in becoming a DCO must submit a workplan for capacity and infrastructure development based on identified gaps in readiness and health equity	0	14

¹¹⁹ [Rhode Island Behavioral Health System Review Technical Assistance Final Report](#)

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of potential CCBHC providers with electronic medical records (EMR) that complete a CCBHC certification application	Entities interested in becoming a CCBHC must have an EMR that meets minimum CCBHC standards	0	8
Number of CCBHC providers that are contingently or fully certified	Entities interested in becoming a CCBHC must complete a qualifying CCBHC certification application for certification determination	0	8
Number of DCO infrastructure grantees that complete the readiness assessment and equity checklist, and execute an MOU or contract with at least one potential CCBHC	The goal of the grant funding is to expand the network of community providers who have the capacity to become a CCBHC and/or partner with a CCBHC as a DCO	0	12

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics Program Management

Project Identification Number: 10099

Funded Amount: \$2,353,432

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$505,139

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The *Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC)* project addressed challenges faced by Rhode Island’s behavioral health providers, enabling them to better treat Rhode Islanders with behavioral health conditions. Previously, behavioral health services for Rhode Island families were fragmented, with a problematic division of child and adult behavioral health services. There was also evidence of a lack of co-located, integrated mental health and substance use disorder services to treat individuals with co-occurring disorders. The State successfully launched the CCBHC program on October 1, 2024, with clinics providing coverage across seven of eight designated “catchment” areas across the state. The overall areas of essential continued work are as follows:

- State monitoring and oversight to ensure provider compliance with all federal and State CCBHC program certification and billing requirements, including demonstration requirements.

- State data collection and reporting to meet all federal demonstration program requirements, and to inform continuous program quality improvement.
- Annual update of the State CCBHC certification standards and agency regulations in alignment with required federal program updates and to align the program with ongoing statewide health care system planning priorities and initiatives.
- State update of the cost reporting process and resetting of prospective payment system (PPS) rates on an annual basis in alignment with federal program requirements and updated rate setting guidance.
- Full disbursement of remaining, committed infrastructure grant funding to provider grantees to strengthen their organizational capacity to serve in these roles and to expand the partnership network across Rhode Island to increase client service access, equity, and choice with a goal of having full statewide coverage by October 1, 2025.

Timeline: The project is operating concurrently with the *Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics* project.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of individuals formally attributed to a CCBHC per month	10,425	15,320
Number of emergency department visits for individuals served by CCBHCs (per individual over two years)	9	9

Butler Hospital Short Term Stay Unit

Project Identification Number: 10050

Funded Amount: \$8,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$8,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 1.12 Public Health: Mental Health Services

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: Across Rhode Island patients are seeking medical help for mental and behavioral health issues at hospital emergency departments (EDs) in numbers that the system cannot manage. The unprecedented demand for these services, driven in part by the COVID-19 pandemic, resulted in delayed treatment for those with mental health and substance abuse issues, as well as overcrowding in EDs.

Between August 1, 2022, and October 21, 2022, the average daily number of behavioral health patients awaiting placement was 73. The time that patients were boarded in an ED could range from several hours to several days, resulting in patients leaving hospitals without treatment.

The pandemic added a new at-risk population for mental health problems – adolescents and young adults. Each cohort faced a myriad of challenges, with the social and academic changes during the pandemic. Children ages 13-18 have had a staggering increase in the demand for treatment. According to Rhode Island Kids Count, in federal Fiscal Year 2021 (FFY), “there were 837 children and youth awaiting psychiatric inpatient admission (psychiatric boarding), almost double (a 92% increase) the number in FFY 2019 when there were 437 boarders.”¹²⁰

Project Overview: The project supported the construction of a 25-bed short-term stay unit at Butler Hospital to provide behavioral healthcare services, crisis intervention, and other related services. The unit cares for patients with mental health needs and alleviate the overcrowding at EDs. It was designed to accommodate distinct patient populations through flexible pod systems to ensure that access to care is not impacted by space limitations. Butler Hospital has the capability of increasing or decreasing the number of adolescent beds, isolation rooms, and beds for varied adult populations.

Timeline: The short term stay unit opened in July 2024.

Mechanisms and Partners: Butler Hospital was the subrecipient of these funds and engaged with a construction manager to provide timely feedback to the design team to keep the project on track and on budget. The construction manager engaged multiple subcontractors for each scope of work and received at least three bids for each scope of work to ensure fair and competitive pricing.

Use of Evidence: This project was based on the success of a similar model of care at Butler Hospital, the 24-bed Brief Stay Unit. The unit opened in January 2022 to address the overwhelming number of patients experiencing a mental health crisis that were boarding in EDs. Within three weeks of opening, the average daily census at Butler Hospital rose from 147.5 to 169.3. Patients were taken from EDs across the state. The census did not reach full capacity due to limitations imposed by the physical space (converted conference center), preventing high-acuity patients from being admitted despite referrals from EDs.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Status of construction completion	Unit construction will be completed	0	100%	100%

¹²⁰ [RIKCFactbook2022 \(rikidscount.org\)](https://rikidscount.org)

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Statewide average daily behavioral health beds holding for placement	The project is tracking the reduction of behavioral health beds that hospitals across the state reserve for behavioral health patients	72.9 beds	49.9 beds	26.2 beds

9-8-8 Hotline

Project Identification Number: 10025

Funded Amount: \$5,350,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$3,537,426

Project Expenditure Category: 1.12 Public Health: Mental Health Services

Pandemic-related Problem Statement: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Monthly Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report showed that in June 2020 the U.S. adult population reported experiencing increased levels of mental health symptoms including anxiety, depression, trauma-related symptoms, substance use, and serious suicidal ideation compared to pre-pandemic data. These findings were heightened for specific populations, including Black and Hispanic populations, essential workers, and younger respondents.¹²¹

Surveillance data showed increased emergency department visits for individuals between the ages of 12 and 17, especially girls, presenting with suspected suicide attempts. According to the Rhode Island Student Survey, there was a slight increase in suicidal ideation among adolescents and significant increases in feeling very hopeless and depressed.¹²²

Project Overview: To address the increased demand for mental health services related to the pandemic, Congress designated 9-8-8 as the new, easy-to-remember dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Launched on July 16, 2022, 9-8-8 is a mental health safety net that is intended to reduce suicides, address mental health and substance-use crises, and provide a pathway to well-being. Individuals who call, text, or chat the suicide and crisis lifeline have immediate access to effective suicide prevention, crisis services, and behavioral healthcare. Importantly, calls and texts are routed by area code to ensure crisis counselors have knowledge of available local resources.

Through Rhode Island’s 9-8-8 call center, residents have convenient access to a high-quality, personalized experience that includes connection to appropriate resources, localized community response, and follow-up. The 9-8-8 mental health lifeline aims to reduce the dispatch of law enforcement to persons in non-emergency mental health crises, resulting in more appropriate care.

¹²¹ [Ready to Respond: Mental Health Beyond Crisis and COVID-19](#)

¹²² [2020 Rhode Island Student Survey](#)

Timeline: The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 9-8-8 launched on July 16, 2022, with SFRF funding starting on December 28, 2022.

Mechanisms and Partners: 9-8-8 is subcontracted to Community Care Alliance (CCA) through Horizon Healthcare Partners (HHP), which has administrative oversight of CCA’s operation of the call center. CCA hires, trains, and employs the staff that work at the call center, including crisis counselors, supervisors, and managers. Program expenses represent items necessary to operate the 9-8-8 mental health lifeline, such as language line/translation services, printing costs, background checks for new employees, emergency on-call backup, and training.

Use of Evidence: Building out a behavioral health crisis service continuum anchored by the National Suicide Prevention 9-8-8 Lifeline is the first step in establishing the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) vision for post-pandemic crisis services. This vision provides national guidelines focusing on a three-pronged system of someone to call, someone to respond, and somewhere to go.¹²³ Crisis lines are effective suicide prevention tools. According to Gould and Lake, “Suicidal crisis callers report significant reductions in intent to die, hopelessness, and psychological pain over the course of their crisis call.”¹²⁴

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Percentage of calls answered in state	198 calls per month – 98%	99%
Percentage of texts answered in state	0	31%
Percentage of chats answered in state	0	29%
Percentage of follow-up calls made within 24 to 72 hours of initial 9-8-8 call	0	78%

Crisis Intervention Trainings

Project Identification Number: 10059

Funded Amount: \$2,200,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$982,459

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

¹²³ [Guidelines for Behavioral Health Crisis Care: Best Practice Toolkit](#)

¹²⁴ Madelyn S., Gould, Ph.D., M.P.H., and Alison M. Lake, M.A. “[Suicide Prevention and 988: Beyond Beds Before, During and After COVID-19.](#)”

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals (BHDDH) is transferring funds to Thundermist Health Center (Thundermist) to expand the Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) program. CIT is an evidence-based program aimed at training, educating, and building networks for law enforcement, mental health providers, hospitals, etc., to better respond to communities' behavioral health needs. The expansion includes:

- 24 CIT training academies and several specialized training academies to train at least 700 police officers, first responders, behavioral health providers, and advocacy/peers.
- Monthly technical assistance to all four regional CIT programs including policy development, data specifications, dispatch workflows, and protocols.
- A quarterly statewide community of practice for new and emerging CIT programs.

Thundermist is hiring regional coordinators and collaborating with institutions of higher education in the state to research the following outcomes: behavioral and culture changes among police and police departments; diversion of residents from criminal justice to treatment; reductions in resident and officer injury; and decreases in officer use of force. Data and program evaluation will be used to improve curriculum and to inform program development in regions and municipalities.

Timeline: The program started January 1, 2023, and is anticipated to end in June 2026.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of eligible sworn officers trained	205	444
Percentage of Rhode Island police departments certified	0%	0%

Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility

Project Identification Number: 10052

Funded Amount: \$11,100,150

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$1,539,027

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: Rhode Island needs expanded residential treatment capacity to care for and treat adolescent females who face some of the most severe and complex behavioral health challenges of any youth in the state. Because of a long-standing shortage of intensive residential treatment options for this population, some youths have been treated in psychiatric hospitals for prolonged periods at enormous cost to the State and harm to the youth. Additionally, due to a lack of appropriate, in-state options, the Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) must identify out-of-state placements where it can be difficult for family to visit a youth and where crucial work to help youths transition back to living with their families cannot be done. The State proposes an investment in a facility to increase the number of psychiatric residential treatment facility beds for female adolescents.

Timeline: The State is procuring a vendor to complete site and facility evaluation to determine the viability of the project prior to purchasing the property.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Complete site and facility evaluation*	0	0
Execute acquisition of property for PRTF*	0	0

**These are a yes/no binary indicators: 0 meaning 'no', 1 meaning 'yes'.*

Female Youth Residential Facility Design

Project Identification Number: 10027

Project Completion Date: September 18, 2024

Funded Amount: \$1,000,000

Final Expended Amount: \$999,850

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The funds paid design and architectural planning costs for a new, residential facility to address the behavioral health needs of female youth ages 13 to 18. The approximately 30,000-square-foot facility on State-owned property in Exeter will include two, eight-bedroom suites, activity rooms, classrooms, a media center, visitor space, and staff offices. Recreational spaces will include a fitness center, gym, multi-use outdoor courts, and a sports field. Construction is scheduled for completion by late spring 2026.

Timeline: In January 2023, the Rhode Island Department of Administration, Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) executed a contract with DBVW Architects Inc. to serve as the State's design agent. In March 2023, DCAMM executed a contract with Peregrine Group LLC to serve as the owner's program manager. Programming, schematic, and preliminary design documents were completed in February 2024, and construction began in July 2024.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Design documents*	Completion of the programming, schematic, and preliminary design documents	0	1	1
Construction begins*		0	1	1

* These are yes/no binary indicators: 0 meaning 'no', 1 meaning 'yes'.

Public Infrastructure, Technology, and Administration

Washington Bridge Support

Project Identification Number: 10095

Funded Amount: \$35,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$16,963,015

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: In December 2023, as part of ongoing bridge rehabilitation activities, inspectors identified structural conditions in multiple locations of the Washington Bridge westbound that required the immediate closure of the bridge. After further inspection and structural analysis, it was determined that Washington Bridge westbound needed to be demolished and rebuilt.

This project is assisting with three phases: (1) emergency repairs required to safely demolish the bridge, (2) demolition of the bridge, and (3) rebuilding the bridge.

Examples of activities that could be supported by these funds include emergency inspections, municipal reimbursements for police details, public safety costs, the removal of the existing bridge deck and other parts of the bridge superstructure, replacing and constructing off-ramps, general roadwork related to the bridge, and construction of a new bridge.

Timeline: The bridge demolition was substantially completed in the third quarter of State Fiscal Year 2025, and the bridge replacement contract is expected to be awarded in the first quarter of State Fiscal Year 2026.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Bridge demolition contract awarded*	0	1
Bridge demolition substantially complete*	0	1
Bridge replacement contract awarded*	0	1

* These are yes/no binary indicators: 0 meaning 'no', 1 meaning 'yes'.

Municipal Roads Grant Program

Project Identification Number: 10065

Funded Amount: \$20,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$13,824,340

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The program provides funding to municipalities for the construction or maintenance of roads, sidewalks, and bridges. To be eligible for funding, bridges must be on a local public way and on the State Bridge Inventory. The funding is being distributed in the following way:

- \$5 million is being equally divided among the 39 municipalities (\$128,205 each).
- \$15 million is being divided proportionately based on municipalities’ share of non-federal lane miles.

Municipalities must provide a 67% match to use the funds provided with the *Municipal Roads Grant Program*. Funds awarded under this program cannot cover more than 33% of the total project cost. For example, if a municipality received \$500,000, adjusted total project costs would be \$1.5 million. Multiplying the \$1.5 million by the 67% match yields a local match of \$1.0 million.

Timeline: Cities and towns were required to apply to the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) by October 15, 2023. RIDOT made total awards available to cities and towns by December 15, 2023. Funds are projected to be fully spent by December 2025.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Amount of funding obligated by municipalities	0	\$20,000,000
Number of projects funded	0	838
Lane miles of roads rehabilitated	0	3,176
Number of bridges repaired	0	2
Linear feet of sidewalks rehabilitated	0	320,123

Municipal Roads Grant Program Phase II

Project Identification Number: 10098

Funded Amount: \$7,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$1,016,819

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The program provides funding to municipalities for the construction or maintenance of roads, sidewalks, and bridges. To be eligible for funding, bridges must be on a local public way and on the State Bridge Inventory. The funding is being distributed equally among 38 municipalities. The Town of Warren is unable to participate because of financial constraints.

Municipalities must provide a 67% match to use the funds provided with the *Municipal Roads Grant Program Phase II*. Funds awarded under this program cannot cover more than 33% of the total project cost. For example, if a municipality received \$500,000, adjusted total project costs would be \$1.5 million. Multiplying the \$1.5 million by the 67% match yields a local match of \$1.0 million.

Timeline: The project was approved on November 19, 2024, with all agreements with cities and towns executed by December 2024. Municipalities can access *Phase II* funding once they complete phase I spending. Funds are projected to be fully spent by March 2026.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Amount of funding obligated by municipalities	0	\$6,997,900
Number of projects funded	0	231
Lane miles of roads rehabilitated	0	169

RIPTA Operating Grant

Project Identification Number: 10091

Project Completion Date: June 30, 2025

Funded Amount: \$15,000,000

Final Expended Amount: \$15,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Public Transit Authority’s (RIPTA) five-year operating plan projects a structural operating deficit totaling \$174.7 million from State Fiscal Years 2025 through 2029, including a shortfall of more than \$18 million in State Fiscal Year 2025. This operating grant of \$15 million in State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) is aiding RIPTA’s short-term needs as it conducts an efficiency review of all transit operations and administration to identify opportunities for greater efficiency and cost reduction for future fiscal years. This study, which was due March 1, 2025, will include, but not be limited to, an analysis of operating costs, ridership data, per-rider costs, and other relevant data for each route. The operating grant is providing RIPTA with sufficient working capital to maintain bus routes and sustain operations for the next fiscal year as RIPTA adapts to a post-pandemic environment.

Timeline: The State provided the operating grant to RIPTA in August 2024.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Grant made to RIPTA*	0	1	1
Operating margin	0	\$(3,078,197)	\$(2,015,360)

* This is a yes/no binary indicator: 0 meaning 'no', 1 meaning 'yes'.

Pandemic Recovery Office

Project Identification Number: 10022

Project Completion Date: December 31, 2024

Funded Amount: \$12,791,789

Final Expended Amount: \$12,791,789

Project Expenditure Category: 7.1 Administrative Expenses

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Department of Administration (DOA) Pandemic Recovery (PRO) serves as the central office for policy coordination and compliance for federal COVID-19 stimulus funds, including but not limited to those provided under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

The funds supported state employees and contractors to administer and oversee State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF) projects. PRO creates and publishes reports required by U.S. Treasury and the Rhode Island General Assembly, and it posts monthly transaction data and final reports for all SFRF projects once all the funds are spent and key performance indicator data is collected.

Timeline: PRO will function through the end of the SFRF program, with a likely end date in the fourth quarter of State Fiscal Year 2027. The funded amount for this project paid for PRO activities through December 31, 2024.

Pandemic Recovery Office Phase II

Project Identification Number: 10096

Funded Amount: \$2,587,275

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$625,865

Project Expenditure Category: 7.3 Costs Associated with Satisfying Certain Legal and Administrative Requirements of the SLFRF Program After December 31, 2024

Project Overview: The Department of Administration (DOA) Pandemic Recovery (PRO) serves as the central office for policy coordination and compliance for federal COVID-19 stimulus funds, including but not limited to those provided under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

The funds are supporting state employees and contractors to administer and oversee State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF) projects. PRO creates and publishes reports required by U.S. Treasury and the Rhode Island General Assembly, and it posts monthly transaction data and final reports for all SFRF projects once all the funds are spent and key performance indicator data is collected.

Timeline: PRO will function through the end of the SFRF program, with a likely end date in the fourth quarter of State Fiscal Year 2027. The funded amount for this project is paying for PRO activities as of January 1, 2025.

Municipal Public Safety Infrastructure

Project Identification Number: 10075

Funded Amount: \$11,000,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$6,599,764

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Department of Administration is awarding grants for matching support to municipalities with an ongoing or immediate public safety infrastructure need through a competitive grant process. Eligible activities include design, predevelopment, construction, and direct administrative costs related to a public safety infrastructure project. Grant amounts are limited to \$5 million for projects that serve a regional purpose and \$1 million for all others.

Timeline: Cities and towns were required to apply to the program by February 2024. An evaluation committee scored the proposals using a scoring rubric, and award decisions were communicated to the cities and towns in March 2024.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Number of grants awarded	0	14
Percentage of grants expended	0	39%
Number of attestations received	0	3

R-Line Free Service Pilot

Project Identification Number: 10028

Project Completion Date: January 2, 2024

Funded Amount: \$3,250,000

Final Expended Amount: \$3,250,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: From September 2018 through August 2019, the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) provided 2,489,179 rides on the R-Line – a bus route from Pawtucket through Providence with RIPTA’s heaviest ridership. The pandemic significantly reduced ridership on the R-Line, with 1,227,744 rides from September 2020 through August 2021.

RIPTA implemented a free fare pilot on the R-Line. The funds paid for the installation of passenger counters on the buses, offset lost revenue at a rate of \$2 per ride, and paid for a consultant to complete studies required by the Federal Transit Administration and the Rhode Island General Assembly, the latter of which was due by March 1, 2024. The funding also supported lost revenue for paratransit services that operate within three-quarters of a mile of the R-Line.

RIPTA exhausted the initial SFRF appropriation of \$2.5 million provided in the State Fiscal Year 2023 budget in March 2023. The State Fiscal Year 2024 budget provided an additional \$750,000 from SFRF that was used for costs incurred in July and August 2023.

Timeline: The pilot took place from September 1, 2022, through August 31, 2023.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Ridership	Return to pre-pandemic ridership levels on the R-Line	2,489,179	2,489,179	2,592,553
Increase in ridership because of fare-free service	Studies show that fare-free transit can increase ridership by 48%	1,227,744	1,817,060	2,592,553

Safety Barriers Study

Project Identification Number: 10019

Funded Amount: \$1,750,000

Expended Amount as of June 30, 2025: \$1,569,414

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: Between January 2018 and June 2022, there were 23 known suicides from the four bridges maintained by the Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority (RITBA) – the Jamestown Verrazzano Bridge, Mount Hope Bridge, Claiborne Pell (Newport) Bridge, and Sakonnet River Bridge. Existing tools to prevent such loss of life include cameras and signs with contact information for the Samaritans and the Bristol Health Equity Zone for individuals to use in times of crisis.

RITBA retained a consultant, Atkins North America Inc., to develop detailed reports on what, if any, safety barrier measures are possible for use on the four bridges. The studies, which included high-level cost estimates for each measure and the potential impact of ongoing maintenance and inspections,

provided RITBA with a basis for informed decision-making. The reports and their findings are available on RITBA’s [website](#)¹²⁵.

Timeline: In July 2021, RITBA issued a request for proposals (RFP) for conceptual study services for safety barrier measures. Proposals were evaluated, and a task order was executed with Atkins North America, Inc. in November 2022 to study possible measures on the Jamestown Verrazzano and Mount Hope bridges. The firm issued the final study on the Jamestown Verrazzano and Mount Hope bridges in May 2024, and the final study on the Claiborne Pell (Newport) and Sakonnet River bridges was released in January 2025.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Performance-to-date
Engineering study	Issuance of two studies by an external engineering firm on possible suicide deterrents	0	2
Action plan	Development of two action plans to be implemented contingent upon appropriation of funds	0	0

Broadband Mapping and Planning

Project Identification Number: 10011

Project Completion Date: April 30, 2023

Funded Amount: \$500,000

Final Expended Amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: Rhode Island has one of the nation’s strongest middle-mile fiber broadband networks, with over 90% of its residents living within one mile of high-speed fiber-optic broadband.¹²⁶ The state, however, still has issues with the uptake of broadband, broadband access, and broadband reliability, especially in rural, lower-income, and island communities, often due to cost. About one in five Rhode Islanders lack in-home wireline broadband,¹²⁷ and the state has the highest-percentage reliance on cellular data for internet access in New England. Additionally, close to half of the state does not reliably access internet download and upload speeds above the new federal minimum of 100mbps/20mbps.¹²⁸

¹²⁵ [Financial Reports - Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority](#)

¹²⁶ <https://broadbandnow.com/Rhode-Island>

¹²⁷ Source: 2019 American Community Survey Estimated Data (Table S2801-Types of Computers and Internet Subscriptions)

¹²⁸ [Rhode Island Broadband Analysis](#)

The project allowed for the hiring of a statewide broadband coordinator, building the broadband maps needed to complete the necessary strategic planning, and completing a statewide broadband strategic plan to guide work in upcoming fiscal years. These three foundational elements were necessary to unlock and utilize additional federal funding being designated for broadband. The State needed a clearly articulated strategic plan and a five-year implementation plan that is developed in partnership with and in consultation of other state and local stakeholders. These plans must be grounded in data and built from strong broadband access and planning maps. Rhode Island also needed an office and director who will oversee the effort, ensure compliance with various federal programs, and ensure the program meets the State’s targeted goals and engages all relevant stakeholder groups.

Timeline: The State submitted its strategic plan to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) in May 2022. Additional work on the broadband plan was completed from July through September 2022 to align with General Assembly requirements and based on feedback from NTIA. While mapping must be done at a high level prior to plan finalization, it will remain ongoing.

Performance:

Key Performance Indicator	Description	Baseline	Goal	Final Performance
Director of broadband*	Hire a director of broadband	0	1	1
Strategic plan*	State strategic plan finalized and released	0	1	1
Broadband map phase 1*	State broadband map created with, at minimum, the following layers: known fiberoptic cable in state, household and business locations, low-income housing locations, and median internet speeds experienced by census tract, as well as the following functionality: ArcGIS Survey 123 to be used for crowd-sourcing data; capacity to accept FCC data; and structured mapping framework, data standards, and data models to allow additional layers/expansion	0	1	1
Broadband map phase 2*		0	1	1

* These are yes/no binary indicators: 0 meaning ‘no’, 1 meaning ‘yes’.