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# 2021 American Rescue Plan Act

## Opportunities in Behavioral Health



This document is intended to provide guidance on funding opportunities within the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for communities such as the Bureau of Justice Assistance's Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program grantees.

### *What is the American Rescue Plan Act?*

Also known as the COVID-19 Stimulus Package or American Rescue Plan, the Act is a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus bill signed into law in March 2021. The package contains provisions across a range of domains, including nearly \$4 billion for mental health and substance use services.

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Specific provisions pertaining to Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder are presented in Subtitle H of the Bill, Sections 2701-2713.

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#### **1.5 billion** | **Sec. 2701 - Block Grants for Community Mental Health Services**

Block grants for states to carry out aspects of the Public Health Service Act (PHS Act) related to community mental health services.



##### **Potential Focus**

Set up or enhance a Co-Responder Model to better connect individuals to treatment and support

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#### **1.5 billion** | **Sec. 2702 - Block Grants for Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse**

Block grants for states to carry out aspects of the PHS Act related to substance abuse.



##### **Potential Focus**

Expand jail-based treatment and effective reentry programs

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#### **80 million** | **Sec. 2703 - Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Training**

Funding to plan, operate, or participate in trainings and programs to address suicide, burnout, and mental and behavioral health conditions (including SUDs) among healthcare professionals



##### **Potential Focus**

Support prescriber education programs

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#### **20 million** | **Sec. 2704 - Education and Awareness Campaign for Healthcare Professionals/First Responders**

Funding for a national campaign to encourage prevention of mental and behavioral health conditions among health care providers, including risk factor identification and response.



##### **Potential Focus**

Expand awareness about opioid, stimulant, and substance abuse

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**\$ 40 million | Sec. 2705 - Promoting Mental and Behavioral Health Professional Workforce**

Grants to healthcare providers to establish, enhance, or expand programs to promote mental and behavioral health among their providers, other personnel, and members.



**Potential Focus**

Implement programs to address burnout among health care practitioners in cases of repeat overdoses

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**\$ 30 million | Sec. 2706 - Community-Based Funding for Local Substance Use Disorder Services**

Grants to state, local, or other governments, non-profit, or primary and behavioral health organizations to support overdose prevention, syringe services, and other harm reduction services programs.



**Potential Focus**

Implement or expand activities to increase naloxone access to reduce overdose fatalities

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**\$ 50 million | Sec. 2707 - Community-Based Funding for Local Behavioral Health Needs**

Grants to state, local, or other governments, non-profit, or primary and behavioral health organizations to address increased community behavioral health needs worsened by COVID-19.



**Potential Focus**

Broaden community-based substance abuse services to include more emphasis on behavioral health

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**\$ 10 million | Sec. 2708 - National Child Traumatic Stress Network**

Grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements to public and nonprofit entities to address the problem of high-risk or medically underserved persons who experience violence-related stress.



**Potential Focus**

Implement and expand victim services and early childhood programming to address opioid impacts

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**\$ 30 million | Sec. 2709 - Project AWARE**

Grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements with states and political subdivisions of states to address priority mental health needs with respect to advancing wellness and resiliency in education.



**Potential Focus**

Link prevention activities to AWARE programs

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**\$ 20 million | Sec. 2710 - Youth Suicide Prevention**

Grants or cooperative agreements to public organizations, private nonprofit organizations, and political subdivisions to design early intervention and prevention strategies for youth suicide.



**Potential Focus**

Implement and expand victim services incorporating family-centered treatment to reduce youth suicide

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**\$ 100 million | Sec. 2711 - Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training**

Grants to support recruitment of students for, and education and clinical experience in, eligible institutions including state-licensed mental health and behavioral health organizations.



**Potential Focus**

Implement trainings that increase knowledge and capacity of public safety, criminal justice, and behavioral health professions to identify and respond to individuals with substance use disorders

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**80 million** | **Sec. 2712 - Pediatric Mental Healthcare Access**

Grants to states, political subdivisions, and similar entities to promote behavioral health integration in pediatric primary care.

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**420 million** | **Sec. 2713 - Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics**

Expansion grants to communities and community organizations that meet the criteria for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics.



**Potential Focus**

Develop the capacity of rural communities to address treatment and resource gaps

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**Did you know?**

**Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (Sec. 602-603)** provide \$350 billion in emergency funding for eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments. These funds can be used by each jurisdiction to meet local needs, including **building, maintaining, or upgrading broadband infrastructure.**

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