



Parent Blocks

NEWSLETTER



“Providing resources to parents throughout West Virginia”

Volume 18, Issue 2, Winter 2022

West Virginia CARES Act Funds

In December 2021, Governor Justice provided a detailed breakdown of the State’s allocation of remaining discretionary funds appropriated to the state by Congress through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act

(CARES Act). As part of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), West Virginia received \$1.25 billion in funding. This funding can only be used for coronavirus-relat-

ed expenditures. No other expenditures are authorized.

West Virginia Checkbook provides an accounting of the monies at the State and local level once entities start spending money.

Previous allocations of CARES Act dollars resulted in a remaining balance of approximately \$122.8 million.

The remaining funds have now been allocated as follows:

Nursing program: \$48 million

Announced on Tuesday, this program will improve and expand nursing education, retention, and recruitment in the state.

WV Parent Blocks Newsletter is a project of West Virginia Early Childhood Training Connections and Resources, a collaborative project of West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources/Bureau for Children and Families/Division of Early Care and Education; WV Head Start State Collaboration Office; Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health/West Virginia Birth to Three; and West Virginia Home Visitation Program and is supported and administered by River Valley Child Development Services.

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Back-to-Work initiative: \$22 million

This money will be transferred to Workforce West Virginia to set up a back-to-work program. More details will be announced soon.

Emergency Management Crisis Fund: \$10 million

This fund will be created at DHHR and provide resources that will help all first responders across our state.

Support for food pantries/homeless shelters: \$7.25 million

Support includes \$5,000 being provided to each of West Virginia's 600 food banks, plus \$1 million to each of the state's two largest food banks – Facing Hunger Food Bank and Mountaineer Food Bank – to provide resources to better serve those facing food insecurity. Another \$500,000 will go to the West Virginia National Guard's Rock Branch emergency food bank facility for the purchase of a large-scale combination cooler and freezer that will allow for proper cold storage.

Additionally, \$250,000 will be provided to each of the following organizations to help citizens find shelter, food, and medical care:

Union Mission
Clarksburg Mission
Huntington City Mission
Martinsburg Union Rescue Mission
Bluefield Union Mission
Union Mission of Fairmont | WV Rescue Ministries
Faith Mission Homeless Shelter

Salvation Army Potomac**Division: \$6 million**

Funding will go to the Salvation Army Potomac Division, serving Raleigh, Wyoming, Fayette, Green-

brier, Nicholas, Webster, and Pocahontas counties to help expand their programs and provide basic necessities, food, and shelter to citizens in need.

Shepherd University research program: \$500,000

This will fund a new, cutting-edge program that will aim to reduce the impact of deadly diseases such as COVID-19, and will also help with pain treatment to help fight the ongoing opioid crisis.

Remote work facilities: \$3 million

This funding will go to WVU to help expand remote work facilities across West Virginia, which will be open to the public and have free WiFi available.

West Virginia State Fairgrounds: \$1.5 million

Due to the pandemic, the use of this facility has been expanded to include COVID-19 response activities at their mass vaccination location in Greenbrier County. These funds will provide additional resources to support this effort.

West Virginia Game Changers: \$2 million

This funding will go toward the WV Game Changer program, which has been vital during the COVID-19 pandemic due to the increase in drug use. WV Game Changers is a student-powered, substance misuse prevention movement, connecting West Virginia students and the educators who care about them through a coordinated, comprehensive prevention education program.

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources:**\$2.7 million**

Pandemic-related costs, such as COVID-19 testing and vaccine distribution.

Do it for Babydog Vaccination Sweepstakes: \$1.3 million

Additional Do it for Babydog: Save a Life, Change your Life vaccination incentive sweepstakes funds.

Administrative costs: \$3.3 million
COVID-19-related administrative costs.

Additional eligible COVID-19 costs for state agencies: \$15.2 million

These funds will go to state agencies to recover costs for frontline employees who have served tirelessly throughout the entirety of the pandemic.

Source: <https://governor.wv.gov/News/press-releases/2021/Pages/COVID-19-UPDATE-Governor-Justice-provides-update-on-allocation-of-remaining-CARES-Act-funds.aspx>

