

TOWN OF KENT
ARPA NEEDS ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Prepared for the
Board of Selectmen
Submitted on June 6, 2022

Committee Members

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Connie Manes, Patricia Oris, Glenn Sanchez

Introduction

The ARPA Needs Assessment Subcommittee was convened on Wednesday, August 11, 2021. On August 29, 2021 the committee set a goal “to prepare a comprehensive report detailing our needs assessment findings, as well as a set of general conclusions and recommendations, for delivery to Kent’s Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance.” The Board of Selectmen officially charged the committee “to conduct a needs assessment to make recommendations to the BOS on potential uses for the ARPA funds.”

The committee met weekly or bi-weekly for a total of 31 times. Throughout, committee members were guided by the principles and values of 1) transparency, 2) community inclusiveness and participation, 3) economic restoration, and 4) future preparedness.

In the course of this assessment, committee members were inspired by the Kent community’s resilience. The committee heard countless expressions of support for family and friends, frontline workers, emergency workers, town businesses, municipal leaders, and volunteers. Many individuals working in Kent’s government, school system, and businesses including Kent’s grocery, pharmacy, banks, and restaurants rallied with creativity and courage to keep Kent open and running.

While some people in Kent did not experience financial harm directly attributable to COVID, more than 40% of the individuals and businesses that this committee surveyed (106 of 264 respondents) reported losses/added expenses between \$1,000 to more than \$10,0000, resulting variously from loss of employment, loss of business, interruptions in employment or business operations, increased medical expenses or COVID-related safety expenses such as personal protective equipment, changed layouts and plexiglass barriers, and increased cleaning.

Aside from financial impacts, some people in the Kent community experienced (and are still experiencing) significant mental health and wellness issues resulting from isolation, anxiety, and grief. Some children in the Kent community are behind in their learning, particularly in Math, and experienced setbacks in socialization. Some community members feel isolated and disengaged, without a good sense of what is happening in the community or how to get involved.

Overview of ARPA, Compliance and Reporting

Signed into law on March 11, 2021, The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program, a part of the American Rescue Plan, delivers \$350 billion to state, local, and Tribal governments across the country to support their response to and recovery from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

The state funding portion is approximately \$195 billion with \$25.5 billion distributed equally among the 50 states and the District of Columbia and the remaining amount distributed according to a formula based on unemployment.

The local funding portion is approximately \$130 billion, equally divided between cities and counties. Localities will receive the funds in two tranches—the first after the U.S. Treasury certifies the proceeds to each jurisdiction and the second one year later.

Kent's share of this funding totals \$821,854.76, split into two payments

- 6/17/21 First tranche of ARP funding was received
- 6/17/22 Second tranche of ARP funding is expected

The Treasury released the [Final Rule](#) (117 pages of small type) for the program, which took effect on April 1, 2022. This rule implements the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund established under the American Rescue Plan Act.

Eligible Uses

- A. Public Health and Negative Economic Impacts - Eligible uses under this category must be in response to the disease itself or the harmful consequences of the economic disruptions resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID–19 public health emergency.
- Public Health; identify a need or negative impact of the COVID–19 public health emergency and, second, identify how the program, service, or other intervention addresses the identified need or impact. To assess whether additional uses would be eligible under this category, identify an effect of COVID–19 on public health, including either or both of immediate effects or effects that may manifest over months or years, and assess how the use would respond to or address the identified need.”
 - Negative Economic Impacts; eligible use must ‘respond to’ the identified negative economic impact. Responses must be related and reasonably proportional to the extent and type of harm experienced; uses that bear no relation or are grossly disproportionate to the type or extent of harm experienced would not be eligible uses.”
- B. Premium Pay - may be used “to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID–19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the

government that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers.

- Premium pay is designed to compensate workers that, by virtue of their employment, were forced to take on additional burdens and make great personal sacrifices as a result of the COVID–19 pandemic. Premium pay can be thought of as hazard pay by another name.
- ARPA defines “eligible workers” as “those workers needed to maintain continuity of operations of essential critical infrastructure sectors and additional sectors as each government may designate as critical to protect the health and wellbeing of [its] residents.”
- Treasury defined “essential work” as work that (1) is not performed while teleworking from a residence and (2) involves either (i) regular, in-person interactions with patients, the public, or coworkers of the individual that is performing the work or (ii) regular physical handling of items that were handled by, or are to be handled by, patients, the public, or coworkers of the individual that is performing the work

C. Revenue Loss - funds may be used “for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such government due to the COVID–19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the government prior to the emergency.”

- In the final rule, Treasury included an option for recipients to use a standard allowance for revenue loss. Recipients will be permitted to elect a fixed amount of loss that can then be used to fund government services. This fixed amount, “standard allowance,” is set at up to \$10 million total for the entire period of performance not to exceed the recipient’s SLFRF award amount. Treasury anticipates that this standard allowance will be most helpful to smaller local governments.
- Government services include, but are not limited to, maintenance or pay-go funded building of infrastructure, including roads; modernization of cybersecurity, including hardware, software, and protection of critical infrastructure; health services; environmental remediation; school or educational services; and the provision of police, fire, and other public safety services.

D. Investments in Water, Sewer and Broadband Infrastructure - recipients may use funds to make necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband that involve the provision of essential services to residents, businesses and other consumers.

- “Necessary” investments are defined as meaning those designed to provide an adequate minimum level of service.

Ineligible Uses

- Funds allocated to states cannot be used to directly or indirectly to offset tax reductions or delay a tax or tax increase;
- Funds cannot be deposited into any pension fund.

Sunset

- 12/31/2024 ~ All funding must be obligated; unobligated funding must be returned.
- 12/31/2026 ~ Return any obligated funding that has not been expended.
- Funds can only be used to cover costs incurred during the period beginning 3/3/2021 and ending 12/31/2024
- Funds are considered obligated if cost has been incurred by 12/31/2024

Reporting

Recipients are required to account for every dollar spent and provide detailed information on how funds are used. All reporting is submitted through an online portal that is provided by the Treasury. Kent is classified as a local government NEU. Each non-entitlement unit of local government (NEU) is required to meet compliance and reporting responsibilities. The reporting requires program and performance information to build public awareness, increase accountability, and monitor compliance of eligible uses. Each NEU must submit a Project and Expenditure Report by April 30, 2022 (this has been completed by the Kent Treasurer) and then annually thereafter.

Methodology

The elements of the committee's assessment included five different and distinct techniques:

1. Tracking Surrounding Towns' ARPA Matters - the committee researched and compiled a report about how other towns in the Kent region have approached the distribution of ARPA funding. The committee took guidance from ARPA grant application processes successfully used in other Connecticut towns in creating the suggested application forms attached hereto as Exhibit A. A copy of the report is attached as Exhibit B.

The committee was further informed by current initiatives and community surveys in Kent including the update of Kent's Plan of Conservation and Development, the creation of the Town's Housing Plan, Kent's Streetscapes effort, and the hiring of new staff within Kent's Park and Recreation and Social Services Departments.

2. Survey - the committee conducted a public, online survey to collect information about the economic impact of the COVID pandemic on Kent's residents and businesses, as well as public opinion as to community needs and prospective uses of ARPA funds. The survey was open for 19+ weeks (November 20, 2021 through April 4, 2022), and was widely publicized through the First Selectman's eNewsletter, the Town's website, the Town of Kent Facebook page, the Kent CT Community Facebook page, a town-wide postcard mailing, and flyers posted at village businesses. Paper copies of the survey were made available at the Kent Memorial Library and Town Hall for people who needed or wanted to complete it in hardcopy.

A total of 264 respondents completed the survey. A summary of the results is attached as Exhibit C.

3. Focus groups - to supplement and gain a deeper understanding of the quantitative and qualitative information gathered by survey, the committee hosted a series of three focus groups, for the following specific groups: Residents, Nonprofit organizations, and Social Services organizations. Notes from the focus groups are available upon request.
4. One-on-One interviews - members of the committee expanded on our information by speaking with other businesses and groups within Kent. Notes from the one-on-one interviews are available upon request. The following one-on-one interviews were conducted:

Davis IGA - Gary Davis, Proprietor
Fife N Drum Restaurant - Elisa Potts, Proprietor
Housatonic Valley Regional High School - Ian Strever, Principal
Kent Center School - Michelle Mott, Principal
Kent School - Jeff Cataldo, CFO and Associate Head of School
Kent Volunteer Fire Department
Lore's Nails - Lorraine Astudillo, Proprietor
Marvelwood School - David Fiorillo, CFO
South Kent School - Carrie DePuy, CFO
W Rhythm Fitness and Wellness Studio - Wanessa Anderson, Proprietor

5. Correspondence - the committee received correspondence from the following individuals and groups detailing proposed uses for ARPA monies. It should be noted that no solicitation or request for applications were made by our committee during the period of the assessment.

Lorraine Astudillo, Lore's Nails
Sarah Baird, Resident
Greenwoods Counseling & Referrals
Housatonic Valley Association
Kent Cemetery Association
Kent Center School Board of Education
Kent Chamber of Commerce
Kent Falls Brewing
Kent Memorial Library
Kent Volunteer Fire Department (Emergency Responders)
Kent Volunteer Fire Department (John Russell)
Kent Volunteer Fire Department (Matt Starr)
Northwest Hills Council of Governments
Northwestern CT Transit District
Town of Kent Land Use Administrator
Town of Kent Road Foreman Rick Osborne
Town of Kent Sewer Commission
United Way of Western Connecticut
Geraldine Woodruff, Terston

Copies of this correspondence are available upon request.

Recommendations

After careful analysis of collected information, it became clear to the committee that there were six distinct categories – or pools of funds – from which ARPA Grants should be made:

1. Aid to individuals and families that experienced economic harm because of the COVID 19 pandemic
2. Aid to local businesses that experienced economic harm because of COVID
3. Aid to local and regional nonprofits that address a range of community needs
4. Municipal projects that address specific town needs revealed by COVID
5. Infrastructure upgrades
6. Kent Volunteer Fire Department – a category unto its own

Once category pools were identified, the committee discussed, debated, averaged, compromised and finally agreed upon the following pool amounts:

CATEGORY	POOL AMOUNT
Individuals and families	\$100,000
Local businesses	\$100,000
Non-profits	\$200,000
Municipal projects	\$180,000
Infrastructure upgrades	\$150,000
Kent Volunteer Fire Department	\$80,000
Reserve/unallocated -can be reallocated within 6 categories -can be held in reserve for excess applications in any one category	\$11,855

TOTAL: \$821,855

The committee's discovery processes were extensive; however, it is impossible to know precisely how many people, businesses and organizations in Kent (and our surrounding region) suffered economic harm due to the COVID 19 pandemic and are in need of assistance. Therefore, the committee recommends employing an application process to disburse grants in the first three categories of funds

(individuals and families, businesses and nonprofits). We envision a straight-forward and short-term application process:

1. Application information and promotion will be widely available through electronic and traditional mediums.
2. The application process will be in place for only 6 – 8 weeks maximum.
3. Applications will not be cumbersome or arduous to complete, but still ensure eligibility compliance.
4. An application packet including information, application forms and grant agreement are attached hereto as Exhibit A.
5. For efficient processing, we recommend that all applications be handled by Kent's Treasurer, Barbara Herbst, including application receipt, review and disbursement. The Treasurer will provide monthly reports to the Board of Selectmen on status; i.e.: # of applications, # of approvals, # of rejections, and \$ amounts disbursed.
6. If total funding requests in any category fall short of the established pool amount, those excess funds should be rolled-over into any other category.

Category-specific Recommendations

1. Aid to Individuals and families

- Pool amount \$100,000.
- Each grant within this category will be capped at \$5,000.
- Eligibility criteria will be established, i.e.: applicants must list Kent as their primary residence, and/or fall within household income guidelines
- Applications will require an estimate of household loss and disclosure of additional aid received
- The application form for Category 1 is attached within Exhibit A.

2. Aid to Local Businesses

- Pool amount \$100,000.
- Each grant within this category will be capped at \$10,000.
- Applications will require business-loss documentation and disclosure of additional aid received
- The application form for Category 2 is attached within Exhibit A.
- Given the permitted use of ARPA funding for Premium Pay, the committee encourages Kent businesses that employ essential workers to discuss with Kent's Treasurer their eligibility for such funds to compensate workers who risked health and wellbeing during the initial COVID shutdown so that Kent businesses could stay open and serve community needs.

3. *Aid to Non-profits*

- Pool amount \$200,000
- Each grant within this category will be capped at \$15,000
- The committee took a **hybrid approach** to grant awards in Category 3, because some nonprofits sent correspondence (as previously discussed on page 6) containing information that would otherwise be required as part of an application. Rather than require these organizations to restate their applications, these organizations will be considered to have already applied. Such organizations must, however, supply compliance documentation.
- New applicants in this category must provide an estimate of losses, disclosure of additional aid. The application form for Category 3 is attached within Exhibit A.
- Non-Profit Grants may be made for lost income and/or increased expense as well as for programs to serve the Kent community by addressing needs directly related to the COVID pandemic or COVID response (e.g., mental health, remedial education, socialization, recreation and physical health, substance use/abuse, domestic violence.
- Grant applications for funding to compensate for lost income/increased expense will require substantiation of loss and disclosure of other aid received. Grant applications for programs will include a short description of the program and program budget.
- **The committee strongly encourages non-profit organizations that are based in Kent or provide services to residents of Kent to submit applications for ARPA grant monies.**

The organizations recommended for grant disbursement:

ORGANIZATION	GRANT AMOUNT	GRANT RATIONALE
Kent Chamber of Commerce	\$15,000	Replace income lost as a result of canceled fundraisers
Marvelwood School	\$15,000	Community Blueberry Orchard grant for orchard refurbishment.
Housatonic Youth Service Bureau	\$10,000	Counseling services for young people who may be experiencing socialization and other mental health issues as a result of COVID and other modern-world stresses.
Kent Cemetery Association	\$7,000	Upkeep town cemeteries.
Kent Memorial Library	\$5,000	Purchase outdoor heaters and more streaming content from KANOPY

Housatonic Valley Association	\$5,000	2022 River Information and Outreach program, overtime pay for weekend patrols, and development of a long-term plan for park management.
TOTAL	\$57,000	
Amount remaining in pool for new applicants	\$143,000	

4. *Municipal Projects*

- Pool amount \$180,000
- No individual grant caps
- All grant disbursements in the Municipal project category should be utilized (committed and expended) within the ARPA compliance time frame
- No application process is recommended. Rather, after much discussion, consideration and observation of the town's recent budget process, the committee strongly recommends the following specific disbursements:
 - A. \$24,000 for the purchase of hybrid meeting equipment
 - B. \$10,000 for the purchase of Chrome books for the Land Use office and commissioners.
 - C. \$26,000 to the Board of Education for their proposed after-school and summer Education Enrichment Program.
 - D. \$40,000 to Kent seniors who represent our town's largest population group, and who suffered severe effects of isolation during COVID. The grant should be administered by Kent's Social Services Department, and be used to upgrade the Senior Center and to develop a full-breadth, program of activities that are available to all seniors in Kent.
 - E. \$80,000 to the Department of Public Works for improvements to or an addition on the break room at the town garage.

5. *Infrastructure Upgrades*

- Pool amount \$150,000
- No individual grant caps
- No application process
- All grant disbursements in the Infrastructure upgrades category must be utilized (committed and expended) within the ARPA compliance time frame.
- The committee recommends the following specific grant awards:

- A. \$110,000 to WPCA for much-needed improvements to the sewer plant, including \$57,000 for a new roof, LED lighting for the garage, bearings for the centrifugal blowers, and upgrades to the alarm system; and for engineering costs for a new tank.
- B. \$40,000 to Kent's Park & Recreation Department exclusively for upgrades to Kent Commons Park, including remediation of the drainage problem, and for the purchase and installation of a series of outdoor exercise stations in the park.

6. *Kent Volunteer Fire Department*

- Pool amount \$80,000
- No application process
- All grant disbursements to KVFD must be utilized (committed and expended) within the ARPA compliance time frame
- The committee recommends disbursing ARPA grants to address these specific needs:
 - A. \$40,000 for a Next Generation 2-way emergency communication system
 - B. \$30,000 for fitness room upgrades to promote the fitness and health of our firefighters and emergency personnel
 - C. \$10,000 for the purchase of a new stair chair and Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs)

STATEMENT BY THE COMMITTEE

After months of information-gathering and discussion, the committee is satisfied that we have developed recommendations that are:

- in keeping with ARPA guidelines
- address the real needs of our community as articulated to us in the survey, in focus groups and in one-on-one conversations
- are fair and balanced
- add tangible, long-term benefit to our community as a whole
- are understandable not only to the Board of Selectmen, but to the people of Kent who have great interest in the subject of ARPA funds and who should read this report in full. After all, the \$821,855 awarded to us by the Federal government belongs to the taxpayers of Kent, not to any particular committee or board.

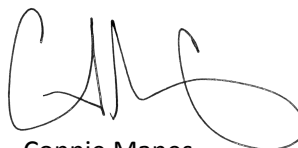
The ARPA Committee has done a comprehensive study of how the pandemic affected Kent's community. From disasters oftentimes opportunities present themselves. This report attempts to address both the consequences of the pandemic and opportunities to improve our town. The report provides an even-handed methodology for processing and dispensing Kent's allocation of U.S. Treasury Recovery funds.

It is the committee's sincere expectation that the Board of Selectmen recognize the value in our efforts, the fairness in our recommendations; and approve the recommendations we have made in totality or in majority part.

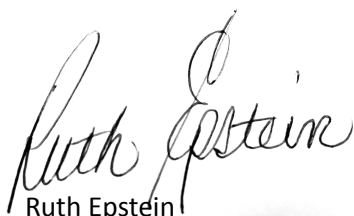
Sincerely,



Joe Agli



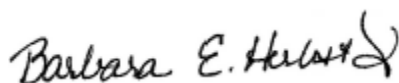
Connie Manes



Ruth Epstein



Patricia Oris



Barbara Herbst



Glenn Sanchez

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant Application Information and Submission

The ARPA committee of the Town of Kent recommends distribution of a portion of the ARPA funds through a grant application process in the following categories.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Individuals and families | Maximum grant per applicant \$5,000 |
| • Local small businesses | Maximum grant per applicant \$10,000 |
| • Non-profits | Maximum grant per applicant \$15,000 |

Applications will be accepted from July 1st 2022 through August 30th 2022.

Applications and supporting documentation are to be submitted by one of the following means;

- email to ARPA@townofkentct.org
- hand delivered to the Selectmen’s office during regular business hours
- mailed to Treasurer, Town of Kent, PO Box 678, Kent CT 06757

Grants will be awarded based upon funds available and the number of applications received.

All grant awards are subject to conformity with federal requirements and a signed grant agreement will be required before any grant is released.

Application forms and the draft grant agreement are located in the appendices of this document.

Eligibility

Individuals and families must have Kent CT as their primary residence and must be able to demonstrate that they have been economically harmed by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Local small business is a company or business that is located within the bounds of Kent CT, has less than 500 employees, provides commodities, goods, products or services to the local public, has customers and ideally, provides local employment.

Non-profit is an entity with a Kent CT presence, organized and operated for a collective, public or social benefit.



American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant Application Information and Submission

- Applicants must be in good standing with the Connecticut Secretary of the State in terms of tax filings and if applicable, business / non-profit filings
- Non-profits must have proof of 501c status

Application Requirements

Applications must be complete; all requested information must be supplied and the application must be signed.

Supporting documents requested may include

- Tax returns documenting residency status.
- Tax returns documenting economic harm.
- Listing of all federal or state assistance applied for and / or received (i.e., PPP loans, etc.)
- If applicable, dates of closure due to the pandemic need to be provided.
- If applicable, documentation supporting the number of employees before the pandemic and at the time of this application.
- Written statement that will identify a need or negative impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency and identify how your grant request addresses the identified need or negative impact.

TOWN OF KENT

Individuals or Family ARPA FUNDING APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Size of household: _____

Number of school age children in the household: _____

Number of Seniors in the household: _____

Number of working members of the household: _____

Amount of Funding requested \$_____

- Kent CT must be your primary residence.
- Must have experienced financial hardship as a result of COVID-19. These impacts must be documented, quantifiable, and clearly related to COVID-19.
- All tax filings must be up to date with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the State of Connecticut.

In what ways has the COVID-19 pandemic affected your household.

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Experienced Unemployment

Experienced increased housing insecurity

Experienced increased food insecurity

Disruptions to healthcare

Increased challenges to emotional wellbeing

Remote learning children in the household

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Been furloughed

Had wages or hours reduced

Disruptions to transportation

Disruptions to child care

Household member contracted the virus

Drew from reserves or savings

<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify) _____

In the following section please provide details on how you or your family would utilize grant funding. Note: We are looking for general information about how that money would be spent to combat the effects of COVID-19.

Please provide a brief narrative of how you or your family would use the ARPA grant funding in response to the negative health and/or economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

ARPA grant recipients will be asked to file a brief report within six months of receiving this grant funding that explains how the money was used. The Town of Kent Board of Selectmen reserves the right to terminate a grant if it is determined that the grantee is not in compliance with federal, state, or local regulations.

Application signature below acknowledges the accuracy of application and responsibility for submitting all required materials.

_____Signature of Applicant _____Date

Printed or Typed Name of Applicant

Applications and supporting documentation are to be submitted by one of the following means;

- email to ARPA@townofkentct.org
- hand delivered to the Selectmen's office during regular business hours
- mailed to Treasurer, Town of Kent, PO Box 678, Kent CT 06757

TOWN OF KENT

Local Small Business ARPA FUNDING APPLICATION

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

Commodity, goods, products or services: _____

Number of employees: _____

Amount of Funding requested \$ _____

- Must have a business presence in Kent CT.
- Must have been in operation since March 3, 2021 or earlier.
- Must have experienced financial hardship as a result of COVID-19. These impacts must be documented, quantifiable, and clearly related to COVID-19.
- All tax filings must be up to date with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the State of Connecticut.

In what ways has the COVID-19 pandemic affected your business.
Please select all that apply

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Decreased demand for product or service | <input type="checkbox"/> Increased demand for products or services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Required to close by executive order | <input type="checkbox"/> Increased hours due to demand |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced staff hours, wages or benefits | <input type="checkbox"/> Disruptions to receipt of supplies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laid off or furloughed employees | <input type="checkbox"/> Disruptions to delivery of your products |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced operational costs | <input type="checkbox"/> Employ Essential workers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced programs or services | <input type="checkbox"/> Drew from reserves or savings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Received a PPP loan | <input type="checkbox"/> Incurred installment debt to continue operations |

☐ Other (please specify) _____

In the following section please provide details on how your business would utilize grant funding. Note: We are looking for general information about how that money would be spent to combat the effects of COVID-19.

Please provide a brief narrative of how your business would use the ARPA grant funding in response to the negative health and/or economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

ARPA grant recipients will be asked to file a brief report within six months of receiving this grant funding that explains how the money was used. The Town of Kent Board of Selectmen reserves the right to terminate a grant if it is determined that the grantee is not in compliance with federal, state, or local regulations.

Application signature below acknowledges the accuracy of application and responsibility for submitting all required materials.

_____Signature of Applicant _____Date

Printed or Typed Name of Applicant

Applications and supporting documentation are to be submitted by one of the following means;

- email to ARPA@townofkentct.org
- hand delivered to the Selectmen's office during regular business hours
- mailed to Treasurer, Town of Kent, PO Box 678, Kent CT 06757

TOWN OF KENT

Non-Profit ARPA FUNDING APPLICATION

NFP Name: _____

Address: _____

Number of employees: _____

Amount of Funding requested \$ _____

- Must conduct nonprofit operations in or service the Town of Kent CT.
- Must be an open and operating nonprofit.
- Must have been in operation since March 2, 2021 or earlier.
- Must have been operating for a public or social benefit.
- Must be a nonprofit registered with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the State of CT.
- All tax filings must be up to date with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the State of Connecticut.
- If your NFP has experienced financial hardship as a result of COVID-19, these impacts must be documented, quantifiable, and clearly related to COVID-19.

Type of Organization, select all that apply

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Human Services / Basic Needs | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Child Care or Adult Care Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Behavioral / Mental Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residential Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Welfare |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Addiction Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Organizing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Immigration | <input type="checkbox"/> Racial Justice |

☐ Other (please specify) _____

In what ways has the COVID-19 pandemic affected your operations, select all that apply

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Decreased demand for product or service | <input type="checkbox"/> Increased demand for products or services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Required to close by executive order | <input type="checkbox"/> Increased hours due to demand |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced staff hours, wages or benefits | <input type="checkbox"/> Disruptions to receipt of supplies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease in fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Disruptions to delivery of your products |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced operational costs | <input type="checkbox"/> Employ Essential workers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced programs or services | <input type="checkbox"/> Drew from reserves or savings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Received a PPP loan | <input type="checkbox"/> Incurred installment debt to continue operations |

☐ Other (please specify) _____

In the following section please provide details on how your NFP would utilize grant funding. Note: We are looking for general information about how that money would be spent to combat the effects of COVID-19.

Please provide a brief narrative of how your NFP would use the ARPA grant funding in response to the negative health and/or economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

ARPA grant recipients will be asked to file a brief report within six months of receiving this grant funding that explains how the money was used. The Town of Kent Board of Selectmen reserve the right to terminate a grant if it is determined that the grantee is not in compliance with federal, state, or local regulations.

Application signature below acknowledges the accuracy of application and responsibility for submitting all required materials.

_____Signature of Applicant _____Date

Printed or Typed Name of Applicant

Applications and supporting documentation are to be submitted by one of the following means;

- email to ARPA@townofkentct.org
- hand delivered to the Selectmen’s office during regular business hours
- mailed to Treasurer, Town of Kent, PO Box 678, Kent CT 06757

TOWN OF KENT, CT
ARPA FUNDING/GRANT AGREEMENT

Before we can release this grant, you must agree to these terms and conditions and confirm that there has been no change in the information provided on the submitted application. If any change has occurred, please notify us immediately.

Under the United States law, the ARPA grant funds may be expended pursuant to the criteria outlined in the *Final Rule* issued by the United States Treasury on January 6th 2022. This grant is made exclusively for the purposes stated in your application. Any grant funds not expended or committed for the purposes of the grant, or within the grant period ending on December 31st 2024, must be returned to the Town of Kent.

The Town of Kent will require a written report signed by an appropriate officer of your organization or the individual receiving this grant to be furnished to the Town of Kent within six months of receipt of this grant funding. This report should include a brief narrative account of what was accomplished by the expenditure of ARPA funds, including a description of progress made toward achieving the goals of the grant. In addition, the Town of Kent reserves the right to and may request:

- A financial accounting, according to the line-item categories of your application, which is to be certified by a responsible individual or official of your organization,
- Annual financial statements, and
- An audited report (if such audit can be performed).

If applicable, the Town of Kent may monitor and conduct a review of your operations under this grant, which may include a visit from Town personnel to observe your program, discuss the program and its finances with your personnel, and review financial and other records and materials connected with the activities financed by the grant.

The Town of Kent may include information on this grant in its periodic reports and press releases. Any other publications regarding this grant must be approved by the Town of Kent prior to publication. Copies of any such recognition should be sent to the Town of Kent for our files. Any deviation from this process could result in termination of the grant.

The ARPA funding is intended to serve the public interest and gives high priority to equality of opportunity for all members of society. Accordingly, it is the Town's expectation that in carrying out this grant, you or your organization will take appropriate affirmative action steps with respect to individuals of all races and backgrounds.

If you are a Not-For Profit entity, there must be no change in your organization's qualification as an organization exempt from income taxation pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code or its classification as not a private foundation.

The Grantee agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Town of Kent and its agents and employees from any liability, loss, cost, injury, damage or other expense that may be incurred by the Town of Kent or claimed by any third party against the Town of Kent as a result of the Town of Kent's funding of the grant/project or any action or non-action taken in connection with the grant/project.

These conditions contain the full extent of our agreement. There are no other terms stated or implied.

I have read and fully understand the Town of Kent, CT ARPA Funding / Grant Agreement written on the reverse of this signature page.

I agree to the terms and conditions stated in the ARPA Funding / Grant Agreement.

I have received check #: _____

ARPA Grant #: _____

In the amount of: \$_____

Made Payable to: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Organization: _____

(If applicable)

Exhibit B - Report Tracking Surrounding Towns' ARPA Matters

A SUMMARY OF HOW OTHER TOWNS ARE CONDUCTING ARPA FUNDING

There are a range of methods.

- A) In Falls Village and Goshen, the first selectman with suggestions from townspeople and input from BOF are devising their plans. 1) In FV. Total amount \$155,817 with \$42,000 toward new septic system. 2) In Goshen how to spend \$469,956.00 with purchase of new fire truck and ambulance as well as \$25,000 to 2 non profits. End result: BOS and BOF decide.
1.
- B) Watertown and Canaan relying on a committee made up of a town officials on how to spend the money.
1.
- C) Probably ARPA panel most similar to Kent's is Woodbury. It has six members including one member from the town government. The goal is to make recommendations through a needs assessment.
1.
- D) Litchfield's ARPA plan consists the board of selectman identifying spending needs following the federal guidelines. There is additional input from residents gotten through a town hearing.

Figures: \$316,000 in two installments

Needs identifying: \$203,000 for upgrade to waste water control facility

\$60,000 for public works storm water study

\$20,000 for social services

\$150,000 for nonprofits

Individual organisations then fill out an application, the town will formulate. These materials are submitted to the state to assure all guidelines have been met. Once approved, the BOF and the BOS then give it's approval. Lastly at a town meeting the voters have their say.

1.

UPDATE - 10/16/2021

New Milford has received a request represented by the New Milford Community Ambulance, to the town council. An amount of more the \$646,000 was asked for from ARPA funds.
3.

The request would cover new equipment, new vehicles, and the salary for a new EMS personnel management position. Extra disinfectant increased usage volume of calls, and lack of volunteer staffing was the reasoning for their request. The town council, BOF, and Towns people arrive at ARPA funding decisions.

UPDATES OF 10/27/2021

1). Goshen was holding a town meeting for the consideration of the BOF plan. The plan is to spend \$200,000 on a new fire truck, \$128,000 toward a new ambulance for its fire company, and \$25,000 each to two nonprofits- Tyler Lake Protective Association- and Friends of West Side Pond. The remainder of ARPA funds would stay in the town's fund balance to make up for tax revenue lost by keeping tax rate flat during the pandemic. 1.

2). As part of the Sharon recovery effort for allocation of ARPA funds, they are planning to hire a temporary administrator. An allocated \$11,236 maximum budget was made for it's committee's work. This amount is reported to be 2% of the total funds ARPA expected. 2.

UPDATES OF 11/3/2021-11/17/2021

1). New Milford has finalized a plan on how to spend it's first round of ARPA Funds of \$3 million. The plan consists of 16 items approved by voters at a town meeting November 8th. Perhaps their allocations can serve as a road map to other towns struggling with ways to address the pandemic recovery. Their breakdown of the \$3 million ARPA Funds:

- A) Two new hires a domestic violence and family advocate worker under social services department, two year trial, \$200,000.00
- B) EMS operation manager, two year cost avoidance \$180,000.00
- C) New Milford Ambulance \$336,163
- D) Art Commission \$125,000.00
- E) Nonprofits \$125,000.00
- F) New Milford Fire Marshall, equipment and supplies \$209,990.00
- G) Rental Assistance Funds \$200,000.00
- H) New Milford Police Department, safety and supplies \$72,800.00
- I) That is freezer for food bank \$7,500.00
- J) Repairing a reservoir dam at reservoir park \$ 1.2 million
- K) Business loans/grants \$395,000.00

A small business relief program was created modeled after the town of Bethels. Funds were used up to \$5,000.00 per business for relief to 70 local businesses. 3.

Woodbury wants to spend \$50,000.00 of ARPA Funds to improve wireless internet access at their Senior/ Community Center. Voters will decide on the spending at the annual town meeting on November 15. This spending needs to be approved by voters according to the town's charter.

2). FallsVillage is using suggestions from town's people and the BOF in deciding how to spend ARPA funds. Some new suggestions: From the BOE chair two building projects at the local school. A reminder of the qualifications needed to be met was given by the first selectman. Gameplan: Develop a survey for town residents and hold a public forum on what to do with the funds. Final say: The first selectman. 2.

UPDATES AS OF DECEMBER-JANUARY 2022

Litchfield has a comprehensive list of recommendations with costs prepared by BOS.

The list

- A) Mixer. For waste water treatment plants \$168,000.00
 - B) Ultraviolet light system- waste water treatment plant \$250,000.00
 - C) Flood resilience study \$35,000.00< storm water study \$60,000.00
 - D) Ventilation system upgrade at Bantam Post Office \$40,000.00
 - E) Renovate second floor of Northfield Fire house \$50,000.00
 - F) Pay off Litchfield Volunteer ambulance new vehicle \$111,000.00
 - G) Electric charging stations \$10,000.00
 - H) Broadband hubs \$50,000.00
 - I) Sidewalk replacements \$75,000.00< Trail development \$60,000.00< Firehouse East Litchfield fire house improvements \$25,000.00
 - J) Local nonprofits and businesses \$150,000.00
 - K) Mental health resources \$30,000.00
 - L) A four year community development position \$120,000.00
- A town meeting will give voters a chance to approve the allocations. 1.

Two area communities, Naugatuck, and Winsted formulated use of ARPA Funds with a vision towards future economic development. Naugatuck's Plan involves doing an engineering study. It will identify infrastructure improvements for future growth planning. Winsted's Town manager/ ARPA Committee proposed 17 project recommendations needing BOS approval. Some of the recommendations< New equipment for emergency services, economic development, technology improvement, and a plan to improve water quality by offering grants to individuals. The grants will cover low impact development of properties near bodies of water hence controlling stormwater runoffs. 1.

State Of Connecticut,

Connecticut law makers approved 34M from state budget surpluses to create a Covid Relief Fund. It is for essential workers. The fund will cover lost wages, out of pocket medical

expenses, and burial costs tied to covid 19 incurred between March 2020-July 2021. Program applications will be accepted through July,2022. Details @www.ct.essentialworkrelief.org. 4.

FINAL UPDATES-FEBRUARY-MARCH 25,2022

FALLSVILLAGE The town put out a survey with 67 respondents. The selectman's outline of the \$311,000.00 total amount: \$221,000.00 earmarked for infrastructure projects ie. A new septic system, sidewalks, parking ev charging station, and road and bridge maintenance. Nonprofits receive \$50,000.00 through a fund administered by an oversight committee. \$30,000.00

Amount of \$30,000.00 is allocated for broadband access. 2.

SALISBURY First selectman via news release listed projects earmarked ARPA usage:

- a). \$50,000.00 for nonprofits
- b). \$100,000.00- A study for town owned Pope property usage
- c). \$50,000.00 For water pollution control authority new pump
- d). \$100,000.00- Large hydraulic lift for the town garage
- e) Money also spent for town hall technology that was not specified. 1.

The Town of Morris identified priorities for ARPA Funds usage at a public forum March 23,2022. The process of their committee, composed of selectman and BOF member(s), used for \$668,000 total ARPA funds was to rank priorities. They were gleaned from a list of 26 requests totaling 1 million. Projects selected include:

- a). security systems at town hall-\$10,000
- b). Upgrades to the firehouse-\$40,000-Air filtrate A/C System and \$40,000 for a shower room used for emergency clean/decontamination.
- c).New fire truck for Morris fire Company - \$200,000
- d). New stairs for playing fields at town recreation area- \$40,000
- e).Digital message board at Memorial Park -\$25,000
- f).Aid of \$10,000 each to Greenwoods Counseling and NW Transit.
- g).A food share initiative from a local farm to the town's food pantry- \$3,700.
- h).Purchase and pre develop land to add to the ElkRidge senior housing community. It would add to the Morris Housing Authority affordable housing supply-\$140,000 1.

IN CONCLUSION.

Speaking at the Nation's Mayors 90th winter meeting In January 2022 U.S. Treasury Secretary, Janet Yellen, said that the 1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan was " like a vaccine for the American economy". As of January 6th, The Treasury Department has distributed more than \$245 billion of the fund to localities. It has since broadened the scope of eligibility with the SFLR Final Rule for projects under the fund. 5.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN DATA -Submitted by Joe Agli

REFERENCES

- 1).Waterbury Republican American
- 2).Lakeville Journal
- 3).New Milford Spectrum
- 4).CT MIRROR.org
- 5). Associated Press

Q1 Your contact information:

Answered: 199 Skipped: 65

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Name	98.99%	197
Company	0.00%	0
Address	0.00%	0
Address 2	0.00%	0
City/Town	0.00%	0
State/Province	0.00%	0
ZIP/Postal Code	0.00%	0
Country	0.00%	0
Email Address	97.99%	195
Phone Number	91.96%	183

The following information has been removed from this published document

Respondent Names

Dates completed

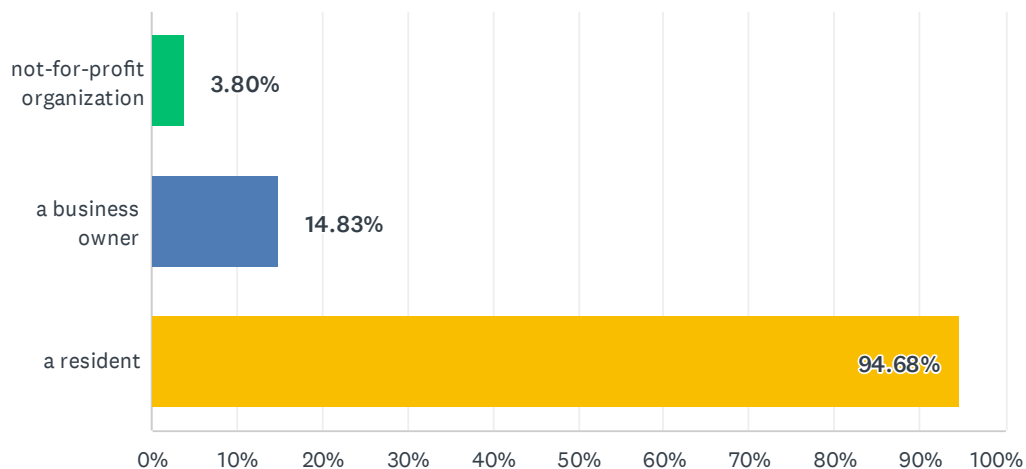
Addresses

Phone numbers

Email addresses

Q2 Are you completing this survey as: (choose all that apply)

Answered: 263 Skipped: 1

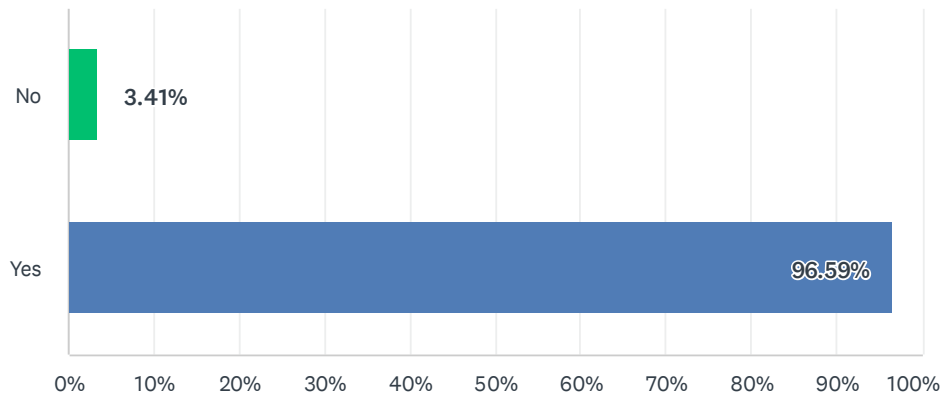


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
not-for-profit organization (3)	3.80%	10
a business owner (2)	14.83%	39
a resident (1)	94.68%	249
Total Respondents: 263		

BASIC STATISTICS				
Minimum	Maximum	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation
1.00	3.00	1.00	1.20	0.48

Q3 Are you a Kent resident?

Answered: 264 Skipped: 0

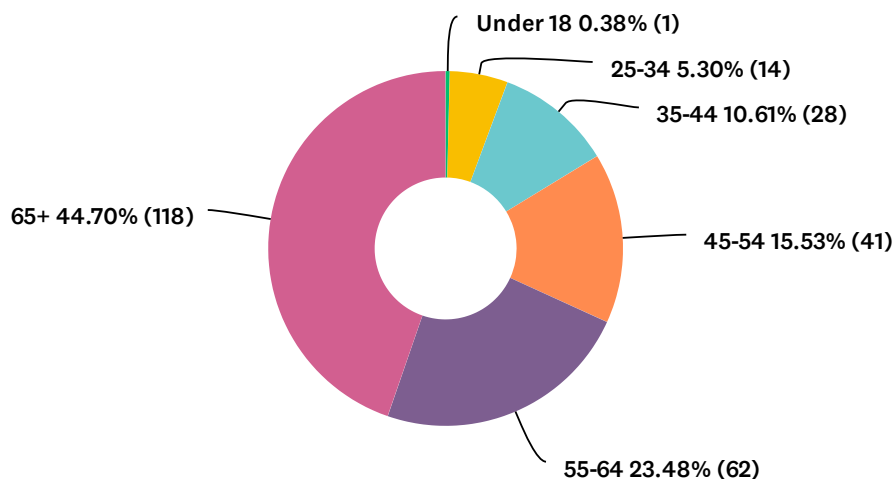


ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
No (2)		3.41%	9
Yes (1)		96.59%	255
TOTAL			264

BASIC STATISTICS				
Minimum	Maximum	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation
1.00	2.00	1.00	1.03	0.18

Q4 What is your age range?

Answered: 264 Skipped: 0

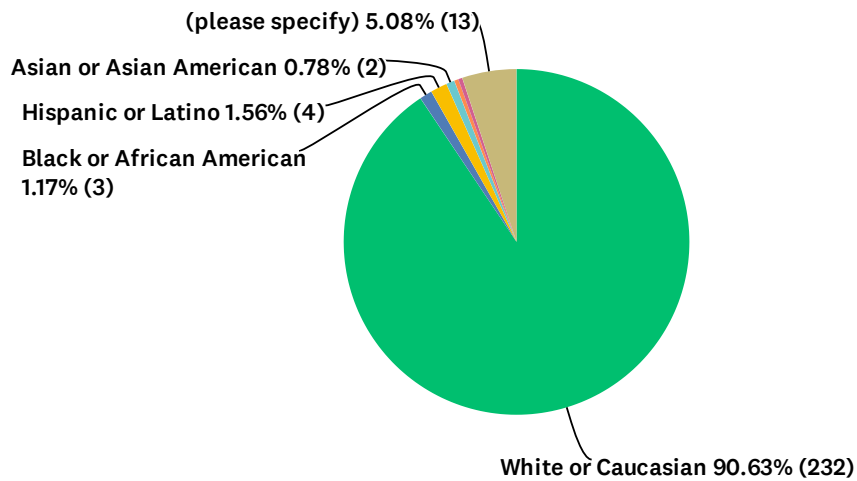


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18 (1)	0.38%	1
18-24 (2)	0.00%	0
25-34 (3)	5.30%	14
35-44 (4)	10.61%	28
45-54 (5)	15.53%	41
55-64 (6)	23.48%	62
65+ (7)	44.70%	118
TOTAL		264

BASIC STATISTICS				
Minimum	Maximum	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation
1.00	7.00	6.00	5.90	1.26

Q5 What is your race/ethnicity?

Answered: 256 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
White or Caucasian	90.63%	232
Black or African American	1.17%	3
Hispanic or Latino	1.56%	4
Asian or Asian American	0.78%	2
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.39%	1
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
Another race	0.39%	1
(please specify)	5.08%	13
TOTAL		256

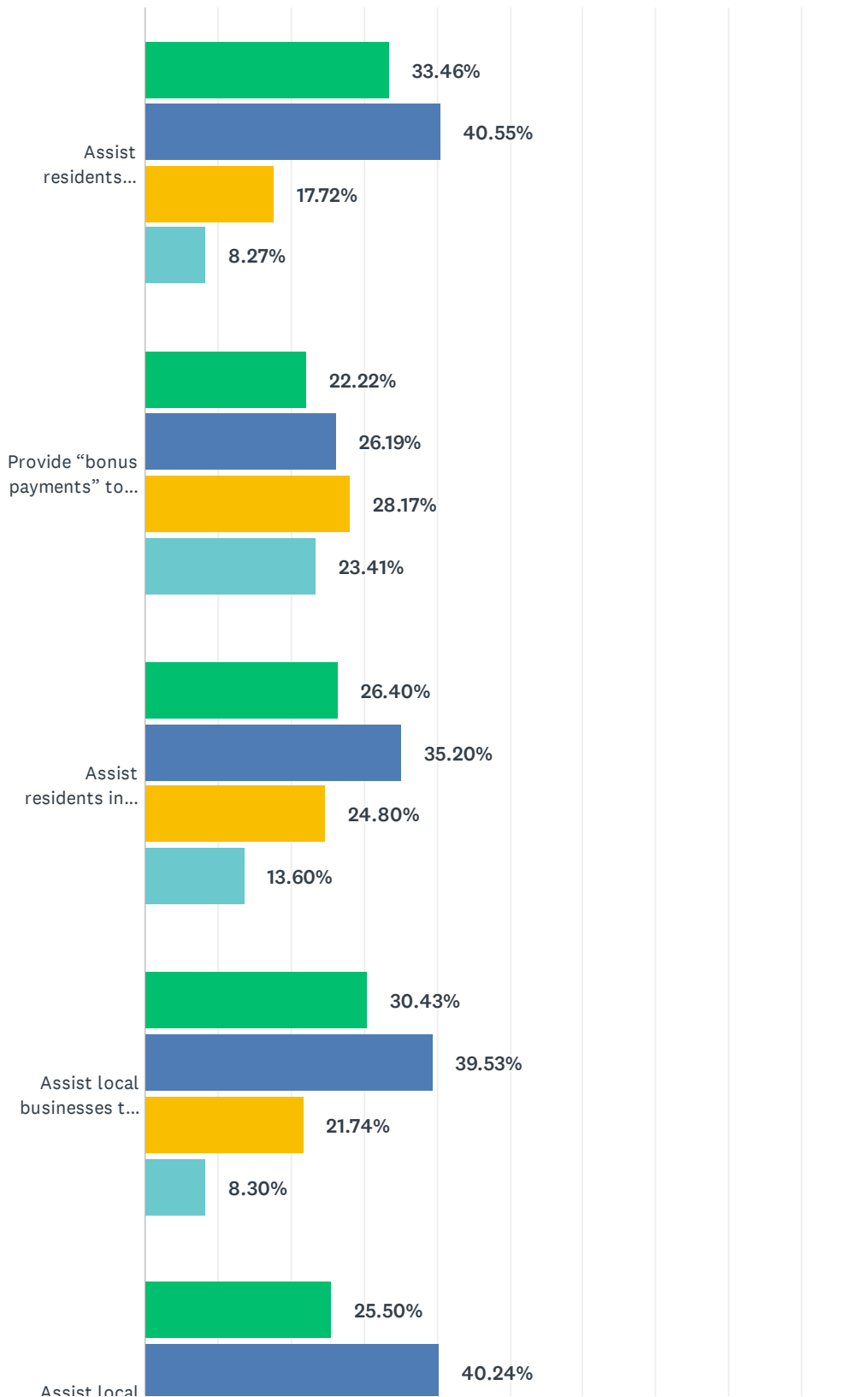
#	(PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Mixed heritage	1/28/2022 2:18 PM
2	Italian american	1/20/2022 3:31 PM
3	American	1/18/2022 11:49 AM
4	Decline.	1/16/2022 7:04 PM
5	I don't think race has anything to do with this question and survey	12/21/2021 10:18 AM
6	Prefer not to say	12/16/2021 8:01 PM
7	N/A	12/6/2021 4:28 PM
8	WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?	12/3/2021 11:58 PM
9	American	12/3/2021 10:17 AM

Town of Kent ARPA Residential Community Needs Assessment Survey

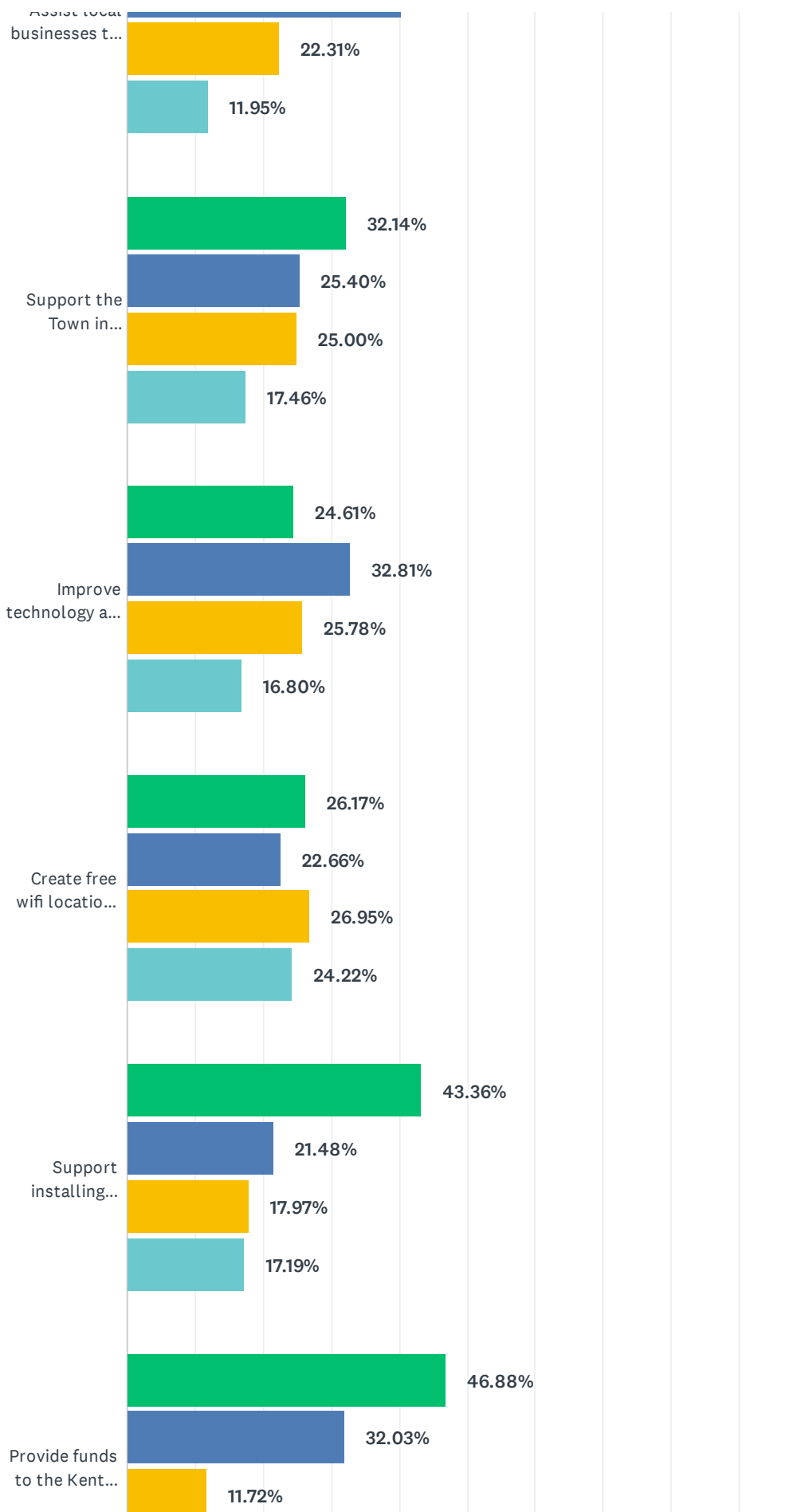
10	refuse to identify	11/22/2021 9:44 AM
11	Prefer not to answer	11/19/2021 11:40 PM
12	mixed	11/19/2021 9:34 AM
13	Not applicable	11/19/2021 8:03 AM

Q6 Thinking about possible uses of Kent's ARPA funding, please indicate your support of possible uses below:

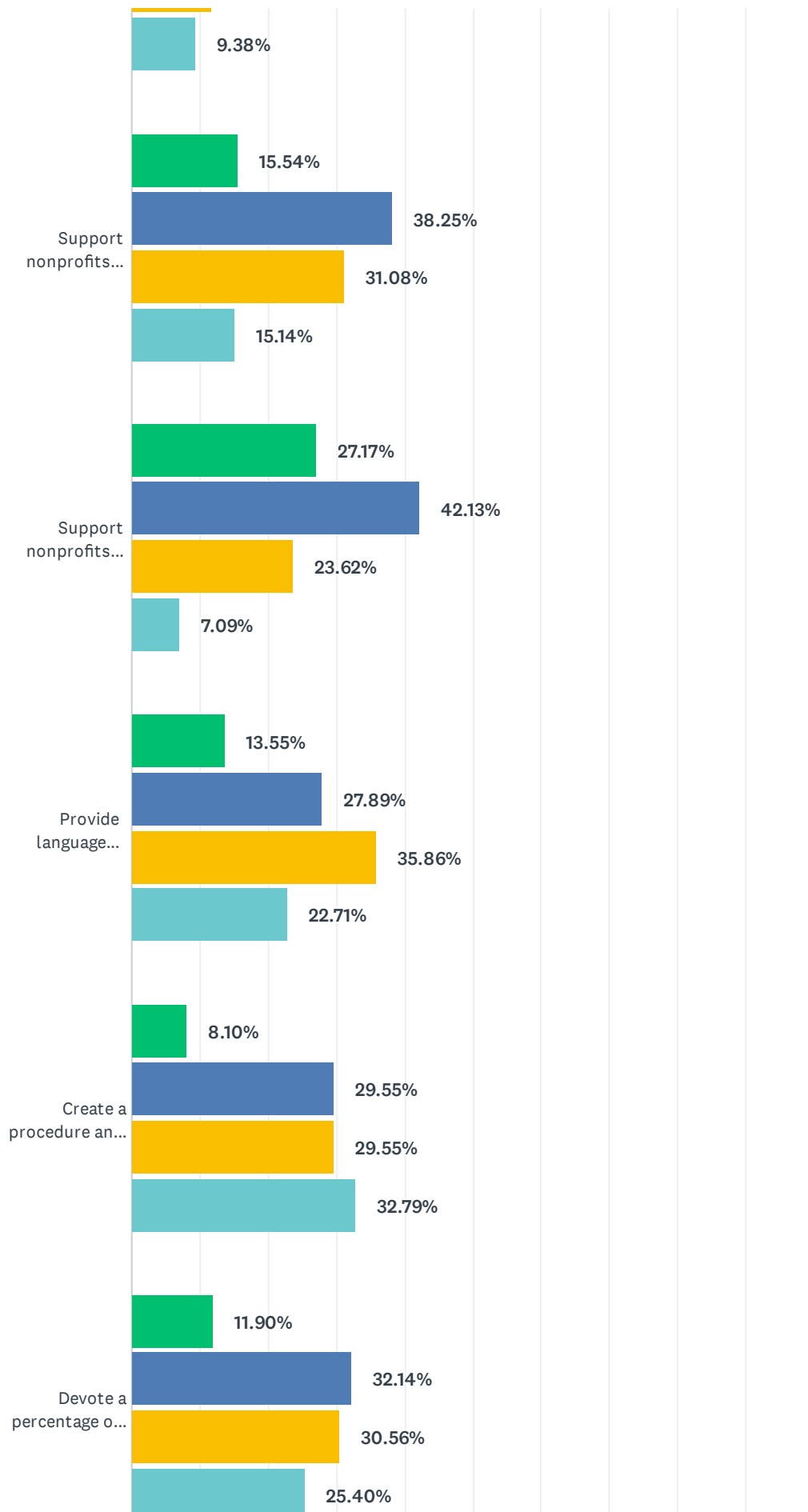
Answered: 262 Skipped: 2



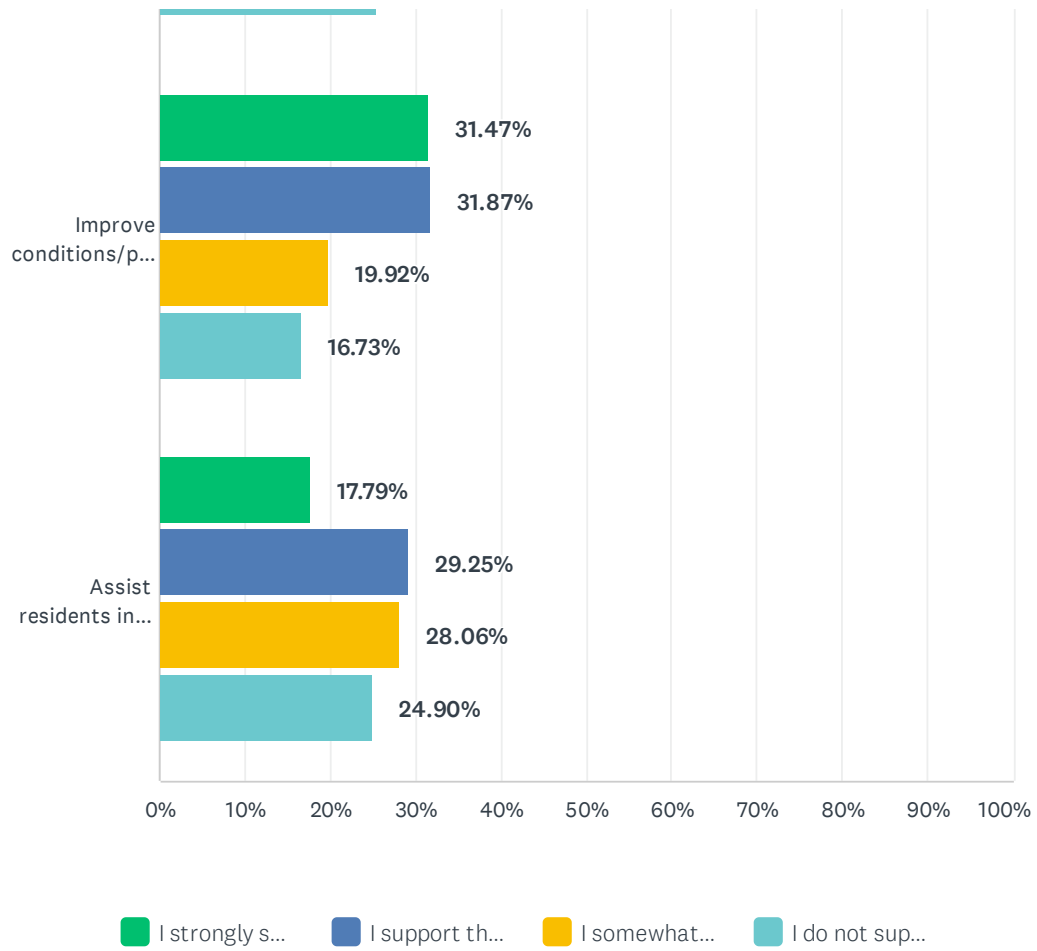
Town of Kent ARPA Residential Community Needs Assessment Survey



Town of Kent ARPA Residential Community Needs Assessment Survey



Town of Kent ARPA Residential Community Needs Assessment Survey



Town of Kent ARPA Residential Community Needs Assessment Survey

	I STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS INITIATIVE	I SUPPORT THIS INITIATIVE	I SOMEWHAT SUPPORT THIS INITIATIVE	I DO NOT SUPPORT THIS INITIATIVE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Assist residents struggling to pay bills because of Covid-related issues.	33.46% 85	40.55% 103	17.72% 45	8.27% 21	254	2.01
Provide “bonus payments” to those who kept our Town running during the worst days of Covid (showing up to work at local shops, delivering supplies, providing health services, etc.).	22.22% 56	26.19% 66	28.17% 71	23.41% 59	252	2.53
Assist residents in accessing and paying for mental health treatment, substance misuse treatment and other behavioral health issues or crisis intervention.	26.40% 66	35.20% 88	24.80% 62	13.60% 34	250	2.26
Assist local businesses that had to close or that lost business because of pandemic rules.	30.43% 77	39.53% 100	21.74% 55	8.30% 21	253	2.08
Assist local businesses that purchased equipment, etc., so they could operate safely.	25.50% 64	40.24% 101	22.31% 56	11.95% 30	251	2.21
Support the Town in providing recreational programming	32.14% 81	25.40% 64	25.00% 63	17.46% 44	252	2.28
Improve technology at Town Hall to be able to communicate with residents, including being able to conduct hybrid in-person and online public meetings of boards and commissions.	24.61% 63	32.81% 84	25.78% 66	16.80% 43	256	2.35
Create free wifi locations on Main Street, Kent Commons Park, etc, so residents can stay connected.	26.17% 67	22.66% 58	26.95% 69	24.22% 62	256	2.49
Support installing high-speed internet access to all homes and businesses.	43.36% 111	21.48% 55	17.97% 46	17.19% 44	256	2.09
Provide funds to the Kent Volunteer Fire Department to support their emergency response.	46.88% 120	32.03% 82	11.72% 30	9.38% 24	256	1.84
Support nonprofits whose fundraising efforts were curtailed because of COVID19 restrictions.	15.54% 39	38.25% 96	31.08% 78	15.14% 38	251	2.46
Support nonprofits whose workload increased as they responded to community needs.	27.17% 69	42.13% 107	23.62% 60	7.09% 18	254	2.11
Provide language translation to address barriers that create health disparities.	13.55% 34	27.89% 70	35.86% 90	22.71% 57	251	2.68
Create a procedure and fund regular deep-cleaning of public areas.	8.10% 20	29.55% 73	29.55% 73	32.79% 81	247	2.87

Town of Kent ARPA Residential Community Needs Assessment Survey

Devote a percentage of funds to assist struggling arts and cultural organizations.	11.90% 30	32.14% 81	30.56% 77	25.40% 64	252	2.69
Improve conditions/parking/services at local parks and recreation spots so residents can enjoy free, healthy activities.	31.47% 79	31.87% 80	19.92% 50	16.73% 42	251	2.22
Assist residents in need with basic technology equipment (laptop computers, tablets, etc)	17.79% 45	29.25% 74	28.06% 71	24.90% 63	253	2.60

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Free wifi for affordable housing units, templeton farms, reduced or free cable for templeton farms and affordable housing units	2/7/2022 5:41 PM
2	Provide multi-use trails/rail trails for walking dogs, cross country, biking. Unrestricted - scooters, e-bikes allowed	2/7/2022 5:32 PM
3	public school needs K-8 & Housy	2/3/2022 6:07 PM
4	Support individuals that lost their jobs due to COVID and were not fully or over compensated by unemployment. Support businesses that prove they lost money due to COVID.	2/3/2022 4:19 PM
5	HVA proposed a plan to utilize funds for improving Housatonic River access and monitoring. Thier proposal seemed a wise use of funding to help maintain this valuable local resource.	2/3/2022 12:41 PM
6	N95 and proper PPR for teachers/Town Hall staff/ Firefighters etc.	1/28/2022 2:18 PM
7	It is pertinent that we make sure first and foremost that our KVFD has the funds it needs. They are facing significant increases in costs, and have not been able to have the in-person fundraising events that have kept them afloat.	1/25/2022 10:36 AM
8	Support for a more active senior center with trips, events, social interactions. How about opening the Kent School pool for exercise classes and general use on a scheduled basis??	1/20/2022 3:32 PM
9	A senior center that is active with ongoing classes, provides physical exercise yoga and more. Perhaps a bigger place not just meals on wheels. We are active senior going to other towns because we have nothing	1/20/2022 3:31 PM
10	Add a sidewalk on Lane Street so that Kent village would finally have an entire block with continuous sidewalks!!! Also, while at it, fix/upgrade the very degraded and dangerous sidewalk on Elizabeth Street between Lane and Bridge Streets. Another idea would be to bury some electrical lines between the railroad and South Main Street. In an alternate reality Kent would look really sharp.	1/19/2022 7:32 AM
11	Should support library for this	1/18/2022 9:13 PM
12	improve services to the elderly including senior center, lunches and game room	1/18/2022 5:35 PM
13	support cell towers to ensure that everyone has good connection for cell phones	1/18/2022 5:32 PM
14	I Strongly Support Affordable housing needs and senior needs	1/18/2022 5:19 PM
15	Strongly support Rental Assistance/ landlords made whole without restrictions	1/18/2022 5:14 PM
16	Create Free wifi - Very Much oppose	1/18/2022 5:09 PM
17	help seniors to communicate esp with their medical providers, also can communicate with fam, friends, learn new topics, keeps their minds active. When the pandemic allows, speakers invited to lecture community esp seniors ie info regarding Medicare, DSS - reorganization of Food Bank with improved networking - Improvement of road conditions, huge pot holes downed trees branches hanging close or on the side of the roads.	1/18/2022 5:01 PM
18	For the most part our area was spared by the devastation. And PPP assisted in keeping many businesses afloat. I see these funds as a manner in which we can help those who did suffer but also to improve our existing structure so when this happens again, Kent will be prepared. 1.	1/18/2022 11:49 AM

Town of Kent ARPA Residential Community Needs Assessment Survey

KVFD- if funded should not have those funds as part of operating funds. There should be money set aside for the KVFD to come and ask the BOS/BOF for specific use in the year's ahead. 2. Funds to make Kent's recreational system is important as an attraction for people to stay here. 3. Social Services/Food Bank and Fuel Assistance should also be funded. 4. Water, Sewer and other utilities should be considered a priority for Town to consider funding some way. 5. Child care in Kent should be a priority to fund so as to maintain and retain parents and children. 6. Thought should be given to those who will suffer from this impact that has not yet manifested.

19	Housatonic Valley Association has put together some great ideas to work with a neighboring towns to improve our river. This proposal includes specific plans and associated costs. The river is a wonderful resource to both our residents and visitors to town but currently the use is limited and / or is detrimental to the river. The proposal was sent to the First Selectman and she said she would forward it to you.	1/18/2022 11:12 AM
20	Covid money for covid related things. In my thinking.	1/18/2022 11:06 AM
21	Upgrade technology so that residents can send/receive faxes, scan documents and email documents via an individual kiosk in An easily accessible location in town.	1/18/2022 9:29 AM
22	Reduce taxes	1/18/2022 8:56 AM
23	Help seniors in need and get a functional Senior Center with relevant technology.	1/18/2022 8:42 AM
24	The majority of this money should be used to help seniors who suffered lack of access to medical care during covid. Any left-over should go to the Kent VFD.	1/18/2022 8:11 AM
25	All of these are wonderful and all needed! I fully support all of them and at first had them all "strongly agree". But then I remembered I have had experience with that and it's not helpful! So I tried to prioritize a little in terms of reopening and getting back on our feet!	1/18/2022 7:35 AM
26	Many of these initiatives are very loosely related to Covid and using the money to support them is a stretch. I support some of these initiatives personally-unrelated to Covid 19. For example, fixing recreational areas should be improved regardless of the pandemic.	1/17/2022 8:37 PM
27	Activities for children including afternoons school program	1/16/2022 10:18 AM
28	Improved ventilation systems in commonly used locations in town (i.e. community center, library, churches) and in some essential businesses (post office, IGA, hardware store, restaurants etc...)	1/13/2022 11:26 AM
29	The elderly at Templeton Farms are the least computer literate of any group in town. Most do not seem to be connected to the internet, most are far from computer literate. Funds might be used to dramatically increase this literacy level. My gut says they may not be interested. But I have to believe they might welcome feelings of security and connectedness if this could be demonstrated. Many have no cellphone. So that might be a starting point.	1/6/2022 11:43 AM
30	Develop and build a Housatonic small watercraft (canoe/kayak) access point and dock next to the Kent Center School. The boat access would be run by Park & Rec and be open during non-school hours and from dawn to dusk on non-school days/holidays/summer months. Several kayaks would be purchased and maintained by P&R for use by the residents. Provide Port-a John facilities and garbage cans for refuse. Its a shame Kent has no Town access directly to the River for recreational use.	12/27/2021 1:25 PM
31	The town of Kent should help those mostly financially affected by Covid, such as: performing arts, places of recreation, theaters, and other small businesses who saw a decline in sales. In addition to that, it should help workers who saw their take-home income fall and could not or were not eligible for unemployment benefits. If there are funds left over, we should concentrate on improving recreation in town (the playground leaves a lot to be desired) so young families can enjoy the town and be more attracted to living here. We should also run more events that draw people here, especially younger folks. Too many art galleries for monied folks and not enough fun events like food truck festivals, carnivals, etc.	12/24/2021 12:59 PM
32	Increase support of Kent Memorial Library which serves the entire community	12/22/2021 11:52 AM
33	Since much of our income comes from visitors and tourists to our town, improve sidewalks for safety and appearance to the town.	12/22/2021 7:47 AM
34	Assist with transportation needs and career training.	12/20/2021 9:33 PM

Town of Kent ARPA Residential Community Needs Assessment Survey

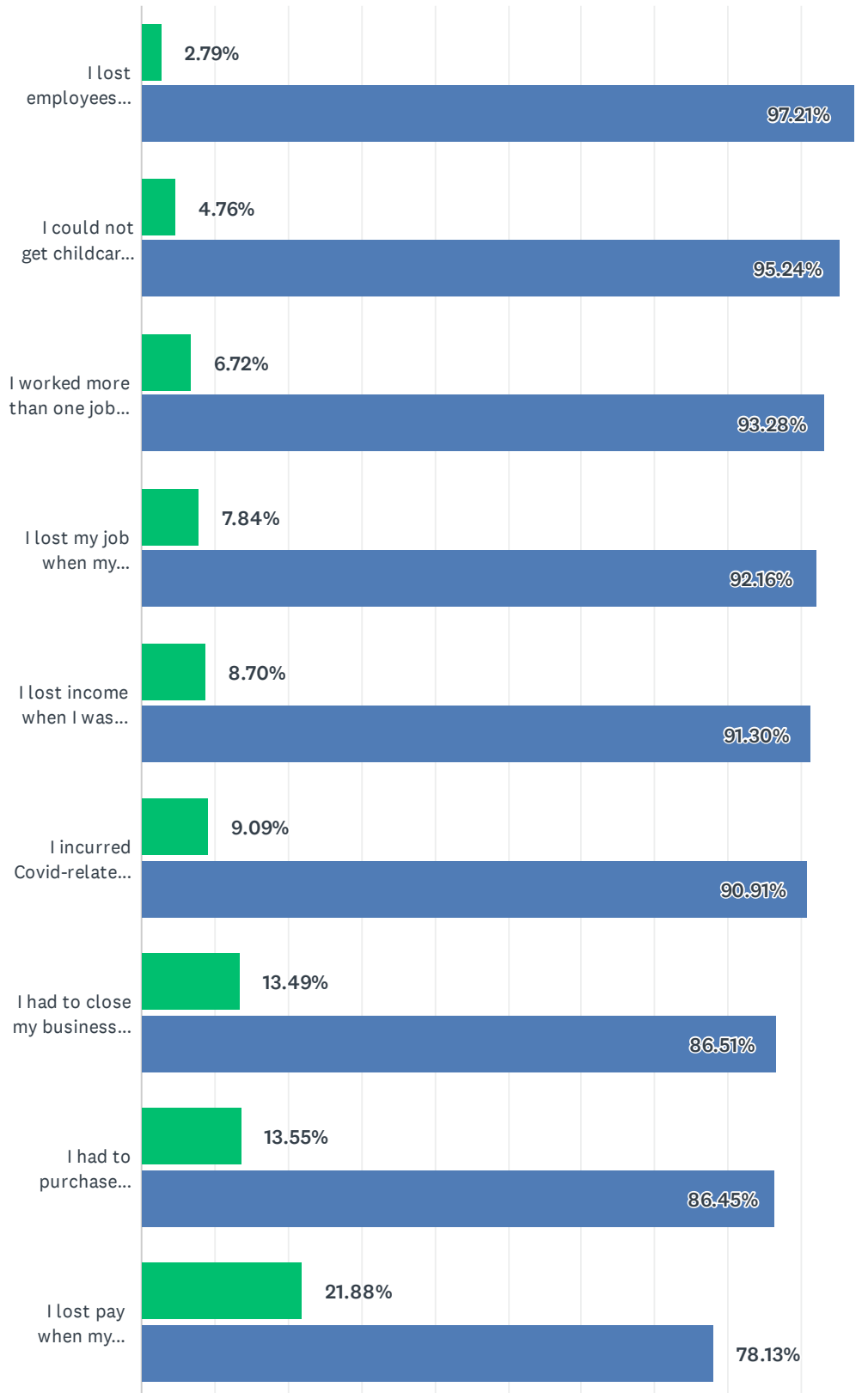
35	Contribute to KCS and nursery school for equipment needed to facilitate new learning strategies. Create a summer recreational program for children (not through Park and Rec only bc town hall is such a mess)	12/16/2021 7:12 PM
36	replace electric car charging station at town hall improve ventilation and A/C in school	12/12/2021 4:09 PM
37	Most people receiving this email will miss this survey because it's at the very bottom of the email.	12/11/2021 7:16 PM
38	1. Since there is no local Kent newspaper support funding/staff for more informative town newsletter. 2. Support restaurants/food suppliers who increased pick-up availability and fund extra so they can use recyclable containers.	12/10/2021 2:30 PM
39	The use of virtual transmission and high speed internet services must involve the creation of simple, easy to navigate devices for seniors. Big tech needs to understand this and respond with product lines.	12/8/2021 7:15 PM
40	Providing families with an updated, state of the art outdoor park for children and families to enjoy.	12/8/2021 1:15 PM
41	Another eligible use of ARPA funds is for green infrastructure/stormwater mitigation - why don't any of the response options relate to that? For example, a community rain garden may be widely supported.	12/7/2021 3:13 PM
42	I think Kent should have a park and Rec Pool. Kent needs a swim team.	12/6/2021 4:28 PM
43	I was going by the library and as I was passing the entrance walk.... a woman coming out of the library fell down. I was able to help her up. The condition of the walk had broken flagstone at the end or concrete and was in need of repair... this woman may not have been able to get up easily if i were not passing by	12/6/2021 2:31 PM
44	High Speed Internet & ensuring basic technology, bonus for the grocery store, EMS & gas station workers, to all is my highest. All suggestions are very. Senior and child recreation and low income support is admirable.	12/6/2021 8:17 AM
45	It might be helpful in the event of a future lockdown/quarantine situation for the Town to assist residents directly or non-profits who can do so in delivering goods and services or even check-in visits to those who were isolated in their homes or apartments and couldn't get out to Town or were afraid to do so in order to to obtain food, pharmacy supplies, books from the Library and other items from town businesses.	12/4/2021 6:00 PM
46	Distribute the funds equally among all property tax owners in Kent as property tax relief	12/3/2021 6:32 PM
47	There are many worthy causes here, but I have only prioritized those that were impacted by or might continue to be affected by the pandemic. Much as I support (and church) arts, tech, etc.: Not for these funds.	12/3/2021 5:59 PM
48	Support our town library. The staff did such a nice job providing books even though the library was closed.	12/3/2021 4:42 PM
49	Construction of a street parallel to Main Street from east of the monument at Route 341 north to the railroad station which could be a bypass, either one way or two-way, especially for thru, trucks and on weekends with heavy traffic.	11/23/2021 5:50 PM
50	i am aware there are no or very few mental health providers taking new patients at this time. This is very concerning, as need has increased.	11/23/2021 5:40 PM
51	Can these funds be used to fix the roads? I would make that a priority if possible.	11/20/2021 8:34 AM
52	I believe the mos useful thing the town could do is to install air filtraion at KCS. As the climate warms we need o cool down and clean that air just as we need heat and cleaning in the winter. This would go a long way in making sure students are healthy and parents can work. By the time these funds get released most payments will be bonuses.	11/19/2021 11:03 AM
53	I support connectivity and feel cell towers are part of that need.	11/19/2021 8:03 AM
54	Affordable Housing!	11/19/2021 7:39 AM
55	Make the social services director a full time position and fund the office generously. All 4 selectman candidates supported making it full time. Someone in that position would know best how the funds should be spent.	11/19/2021 7:10 AM

Town of Kent ARPA Residential Community Needs Assessment Survey

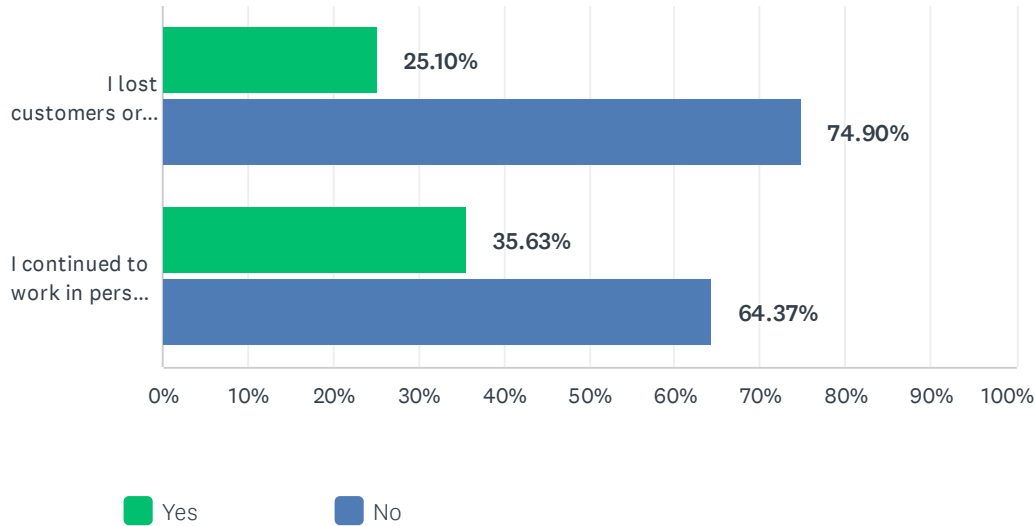
56	Support adult education (ESL), public transit, housing and services for local immigrants	11/19/2021 6:52 AM
57	Provide waste receptacles at all entrances and exits or recreational sites. I commonly see that dog owners are not cleaning up an agree that it is unpleasant to put same in the car. This would also lessen the bottles, cans etc as many people keep their cars pristine.	11/19/2021 6:36 AM
58	Kent needs a community center with fitness center, conference rooms, indoor sports facilities where residents can gather safely and meet organically throughout the year. I would support using the funds for this as well as increased property taxes.	11/19/2021 6:04 AM
59	The essential worker at our local stores, supermarket, pharmacy, gas station and restaurants should pay bonuses to employees	11/18/2021 9:57 PM
60	Bonus payment to Kent center school employees and teachers, I very strongly Support this and they worked very hard doing remote classes, delivering school lunches, and much more. Support senior center lunches. Provide funds for parks and rec. Give a percentage to housatonic youth service bureau. Funds for dial a ride. Help Kent thrift store as they had to shut down for a long while. Give to Sharon support services to help given the increase in domestic violence rates. Create a job for someone to deliver items from around town to those who can't or don't feel comfortable leaving home. Make all school breakfast and lunch free. Create training classes on using technology like zoom, etc at the library so older folks can stay in touch better. Use some funds to help support and grow the community response training team. A bonus to IGA, Ace hardware, jp Gifford's, the people who lost work for Kent centers after school program and the parks and rec summer camp being shut down. Free internet for all under a certain income. Designate some funds to Santa fund so it continues to be maintained for many years. Add some safe colocation space as library closed when school did. Get a resident town doctor. Update food bank to allow non peak work hour shopping and buy more storage/fridge so can self sustain town best	11/18/2021 9:09 PM
61	Return monies to the taxpayer..	11/18/2021 8:48 PM
62	Property tax refund/credit for residents.	11/18/2021 8:05 PM
63	Money should support the town as a whole not individuals	11/18/2021 7:29 PM
64	Open the transfer station at least one day during the weekday	11/18/2021 7:09 PM

Q7 Thinking about how you were personally affected by the ongoing pandemic, please answer the following statements:

Answered: 258 Skipped: 6



Town of Kent ARPA Residential Community Needs Assessment Survey



	YES	NO	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
I lost employees because I had to close my business temporarily.	2.79% 7	97.21% 244	251	1.97
I could not get childcare and lost pay when schools/day cares closed or quarantined.	4.76% 12	95.24% 240	252	1.95
I worked more than one job before Covid. During Covid, I lost some jobs, but kept at least one and therefore did not qualify for Expanded Unemployment Insurance payments.	6.72% 17	93.28% 236	253	1.93
I lost my job when my employer closed permanently or downsized.	7.84% 20	92.16% 235	255	1.92
I lost income when I was exposed to Covid and had to quarantine.	8.70% 22	91.30% 231	253	1.91
I incurred Covid-related medical bills for myself or members of my household.	9.09% 23	90.91% 230	253	1.91
I had to close my business temporarily because of the mandated pandemic shutdown.	13.49% 34	86.51% 218	252	1.87
I had to purchase equipment to make my workplace safe for employees and customers.	13.55% 34	86.45% 217	251	1.86
I lost pay when my workplace closed temporarily or reduced its hours.	21.88% 56	78.13% 200	256	1.78
I lost customers or planned work had to be suspended because of the pandemic	25.10% 64	74.90% 191	255	1.75
I continued to work in person during Covid, exposing myself to possible infection (you might be eligible for "bonus pay" using these federal funds).	35.63% 88	64.37% 159	247	1.64

#	I WAS PERSONALLY AFFECTED IN ANOTHER WAY (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	I felt my workplace was unsafe so I resigned from my position	2/7/2022 5:41 PM
2	Teaching became difficult during covid. Had to do hybrid teaching, (still doing) Virtual and in person which is nearly impossible to focus on both groups	2/7/2022 5:32 PM
3	NOTE: I do not want any reimbursement. We're fine, thank God.	1/25/2022 10:36 AM
4	I was alone, by myself , which was very difficult.	1/20/2022 3:31 PM

Town of Kent ARPA Residential Community Needs Assessment Survey

5	It was very challenging to work from home with a newborn at first and then a toddler. It was not possible to find a safe and local babysitting options.	1/19/2022 7:32 AM
6	As a teacher we were expect to teach a "regular" day while taking care of our children as well. It was a very stressful and challenging time	1/18/2022 9:37 PM
7	Constant anxiety trying to keep business open and retain employees while having kids home with no child care. PTSD in 2022 every time school/daycare shuts down because of the stress caused during 2020/21.	1/18/2022 9:17 PM
8	some consulting work curtailed as travel was shut down	1/18/2022 5:32 PM
9	Retired	1/18/2022 5:27 PM
10	Loss of rent from rental properties	1/18/2022 5:12 PM
11	I am disabled so every question in #7 is N/A for me I experienced Isolation and mental health issues	1/18/2022 5:01 PM
12	I was furloughed at my job for 25%. I did not qualify for unemployment benefits. I eventually retired earlier than I might have due to the pandemic.	1/18/2022 3:25 PM
13	I lost my job due to Covid, my husband Eric, was furloughed and lost a significant amount of income throughout Covid. We all had Covid (me, my husband, and son) in December 2021. My husband was out of work for almost 20 days. He caught Covid from a co worker and we lost substantial income durning that time	1/18/2022 3:01 PM
14	Keep in mind that the suffering was more acute to some in the beginning and others two years in. Like the supply chain issues many face, my industry is only now beginning to suffer the shortages of available homes to sell. The market's shortage of supply will not ebb for the foreseeable future and will cause much pain. I would hope that the disbursement of funds should be done with the thought that we have yet to see the full impact of this virus' wrath.	1/18/2022 11:49 AM
15	Retired. Was able to stay home.	1/18/2022 11:06 AM
16	My business, Cooper Creek B&B, is permanently closed due to covid. We also own rental property & lost a significant amount of rental income due to covid....\$30,000+	1/18/2022 9:29 AM
17	My business, Cooper Creek B&B, is permanently closed due to covid. We also own rental property & lost a significant amount of rental income due to covid....\$30,000+	1/18/2022 9:29 AM
18	I'm retired, the above do not apply to me.	1/18/2022 8:22 AM
19	My inconvenience was very minir compared to those who got covid and lost jobs. I have no complaints. Also, Kent did a masterful job helping its residents. Kudos to all involved.	1/18/2022 8:11 AM
20	Increased stress and anxiety especially in the early months as a volunteer EMT.	1/13/2022 3:57 PM
21	I was personally affected because I own the Children's dance studio in town and a lot of the kids can't get vaccinated yet. Also our towns rules aren't the same as New York's rules and I have quite a bit of NY border students so it's been devastating and very hard to keep kids in the classroom learning. It has almost depleted my business entirely. Devastating is not even the word. It has been emotionally, physically, and financially.... Depleting... is the only word I can really think of because we have glimmers of hope and then it just gets worse ☹	1/13/2022 12:58 PM
22	I worked on the frontlines in the Hospital (did not receive any hazard pay). Unemployed people received a lot more benefits than most of us who continued to work. Funds should be allocated to things that benefit all Kent residents.	1/13/2022 10:54 AM
23	I lost 3 months of rental income in the spring of 2019 as I could not show an available apartment until the tenants residing there moved out.	1/9/2022 12:29 PM
24	Becasue of the pandemic, I had less work at peoples homes and lost income as result.	12/21/2021 7:20 AM
25	Covid took us on a bumpy rollercoaster ride and flipped our lives upside down in so many ways. I had been caring for my elderly father who underwent (unrelated) surgery just before the health crisis began. He got through the recovery process well enough and was just getting back on is feet by the time the pandemic finally reached our shores and put us all back to square one. He lived in New York city which was hit especially hard, so it was only a matter of time before he got sick with the virus next. This was a very hard time for us to be apart because by then, we were all under lockdown. Thankfully, he had a visiting nurse service that	12/20/2021 9:33 PM

Town of Kent ARPA Residential Community Needs Assessment Survey

cared for him but outside of that, he also suffered the depression that comes with constant isolation and loneliness. Especially for someone who didn't feel comfortable with strangers providing care. Unfortunately, my hands were tied because I lack reliable transportation and the harsh winters didn't help matters. Either way, we were all required to social distance, at which time, he was diagnosed with COVID. Prior to this we made it through a separate tragedy (Hurricane Maria) that had forced him and so many others to flee their homes in Puerto Rico, where he's originally from and had lost everything. It's been a struggle caring for a parent when you're also a parent (in my case of a child with special needs who was previously diagnosed with an autoimmune disease.) An incredibly challenging journey without any loved ones nearby. Adding to my stress is the fact that my child's condition required us to see specialists in Manhattan on a regular basis. These are not appointments that could be done virtually, due to blood work and other testing that must be handled in person. Another obstacle was having to board a Metro North train to reach their facility when travelling was not the safest plan. The fear of not being able to receive essential supplies and/or medications in a timely manner also keeps us on edge. As a former babysitter, I also didn't have the option of working from home as others are able to do since this all began. My services were not something one could provide with technology. Not to mention that most people were home with their families too and we were all afraid to risk infection and wanted to keep everyone safe as best we could. Needless to say that I've felt defeated in more ways than one and have experienced unexpected hardships as a direct result of this pandemic. Therefore, I appreciate any additional resources that I may be able to receive through the grant that's recently been made available to local families in need. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your support of town residents through this unprecedented time.

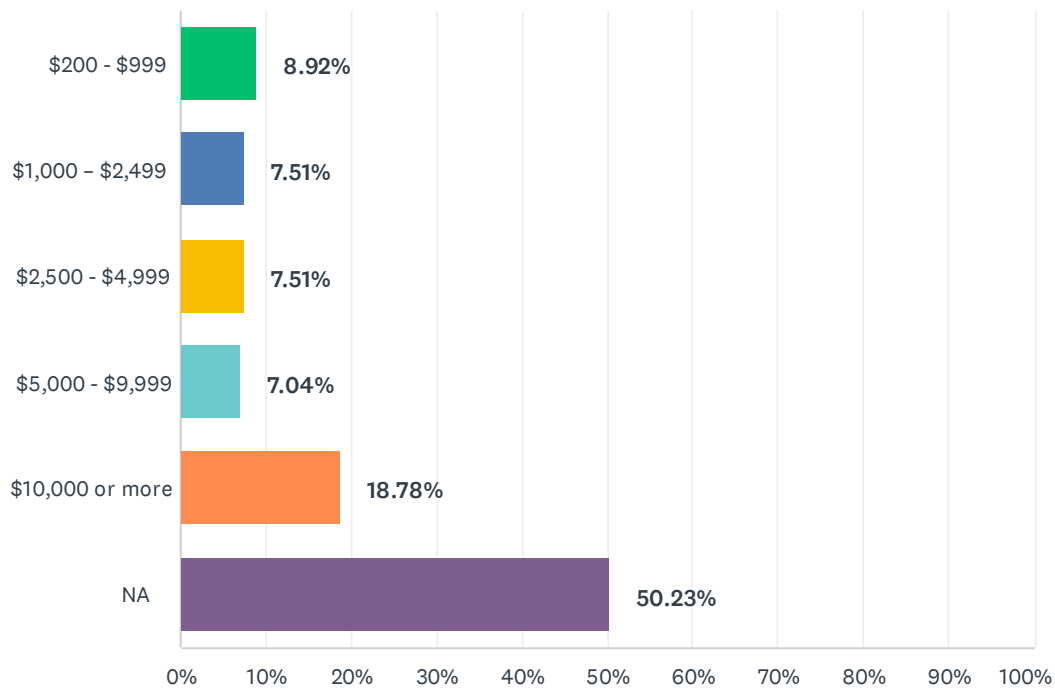
26	My workload increased due to changed procedures and inefficiencies due to covid, and I didn't have a commensurate increase in pay	12/20/2021 5:54 PM
27	we continued to pay employees in lieu of lay offs or furloughs even during then worst of the economic slowdown. I don't think it appropriate to request or receive "danger pay".	12/16/2021 7:53 PM
28	Two of my three adult children and my daughter in law were all quite ill with covid. Another adult son was overseas and couldn't get home for almost two years. Lots of anxiety!	12/16/2021 7:12 PM
29	Nine-tenths of the COVID challenge was putting up with the Tech. smart phones, zoom mutes, social media misinformation Rx Again make tech that is simple for seniors to operate. Putting out information needs control.	12/8/2021 7:15 PM
30	I lost my brother in the early months of Covid and was forced to pay for his burial, and forced to sell his house to help pay for debts while putting my other brother out of the residence leaving him homeless.	12/8/2021 1:15 PM
31	I had to tear down the wall to my small tarot reading room (Tarot in Thyme) because it was considered too small since Covid. Now I have to close my shop during sessions with makes me miss out on Shoppers and was not my original business plan.	12/6/2021 4:04 PM
32	I teach students how to reach their retirement goals at classrooms at centers in major cities. Students have not been able to come because of Covid. Lost 20 months of income \$160,000 and could not get PPP. Just started a part time job much lower pay. Difficult financial situation. Centers are not opening as student fearful to attend or closing because of no students. Over past 10 years I have taught 5000 students and help so many to improve their path for retirement.	12/6/2021 2:31 PM
33	I do photography and play bagpipes for musical events. This is incremental income to my social security income. Both were impacted by Covid with parties and weddings being cancelled etc. And I was forced to not have photos sessions in my home studio on in a customers home, or closed environment.	12/5/2021 6:58 PM
34	I was personally not affected because retired with good pension, so that I donated my covid relief funds to charities. Since then, only affected mildly by inflation and supply chain issues.	12/4/2021 7:39 AM
35	Many parts of question 7 warrant a "n/a" choice or should have been worded to include something to the effect of "leave section blank if not applicable to you".	12/3/2021 11:58 PM
36	Mountain view Farm was open the entire time of the first Covid lockdown we provided fresh fruit and vegetables for many regular customers and many new customers who moved into the town of Kent we went to our farmers markets and saw increased interest in our local produce we followed all safety protocols outlined by the health department and all of this was at our expense	12/3/2021 6:32 PM

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37	Had to turn away clients who did not "believe" in the virus, or assured me they were "clean," and also later had to turn down clients and jobs with those who avoided and/or disparaged the vaccine. This led to the permanent loss of a number of long-time clients.	12/3/2021 5:59 PM
38	Cost of doing business has drastically gone up	12/3/2021 2:57 PM
39	I lost my job because of a medical exemption from mask wearing that they would not accept it.	12/3/2021 10:17 AM
40	Poorly administered vaccination caused shoulder injury	11/29/2021 8:01 AM
41	The value of my time for the extra hours I put in. I do not expect extra pay for that time because of the type of business I'm in.	11/26/2021 12:25 PM
42	Being self employed...under the radar...particular communication with gig and self employed concerns and considerations.	11/24/2021 7:35 AM
43	I enjoyed the opportunity to attend church and meetings via You-Tube and Zoom.	11/23/2021 5:50 PM
44	I am fortunate enough to be retired and able to stay home with a stable income.	11/23/2021 5:40 PM
45	I operate as an independent consultant, my income was reduced as all on-site work was curtailed based on travel restrictions this resulted in a reduction of billable hours	11/23/2021 12:09 PM
46	My wife's business was severely affected and had to close temporarily.	11/22/2021 12:04 PM
47	Before the pandemic, I not only ran my shop here in Kent but I also managed a store for someone else in Grand Central Terminal. On March 17, 2020 my employer closed the store for good. I have been trying to reinvigorate my business here in Kent ever since the "lockdown" was lifted.	11/21/2021 8:19 PM
48	Delay in completing projects, some of which are still incomplete due to travel restrictions, restricted or lack of access to public buildings, etc.	11/20/2021 12:55 PM
49	I am self-employed and there was not much real help out there as the freelance community continues to be ignored like in the above questions. I did get mortgage help although it was more punitive than actual help.	11/19/2021 11:03 AM
50	Family members experienced deteriorated mental health during the quarantine phase.	11/19/2021 9:29 AM
51	mental stress of family member that kept working in the public all throughout covid	11/19/2021 8:51 AM
52	Had Covid from workplace exposure because of working three jobs	11/19/2021 8:03 AM
53	Moved to Kent full time.	11/19/2021 7:10 AM
54	My salary was reduced because my employer's revenue was reduced.	11/19/2021 6:54 AM
55	I volunteer at a program stressing health and bought equipment to keep members safe and risked exposure to the virus by attending. We lost members , some temporarily and one forever. Others health likely declined by non attendance.	11/19/2021 6:36 AM
56	I was lucky in that I was able to work from home and did not lose my job. Out retirement benefits were cut for 6 months but have since been restored.	11/19/2021 6:04 AM
57	Working from home while child concurrently doing online school, setting up two work areas	11/18/2021 9:09 PM
58	This is a dumb questionnaire	11/18/2021 8:48 PM
59	Worked more than ever with little to no time off. Continue to work more than ever due to employee shortages	11/18/2021 8:23 PM

Q8 If you answered “yes” to any statements in question 7, please estimate the financial impact (in dollars) you experienced. This might be loss of hourly wages, or could be an increase in unexpected expenses you had to make but to the pandemic. (if you answered “no” to any of the statements, please choose “n/a”):

Answered: 213 Skipped: 51

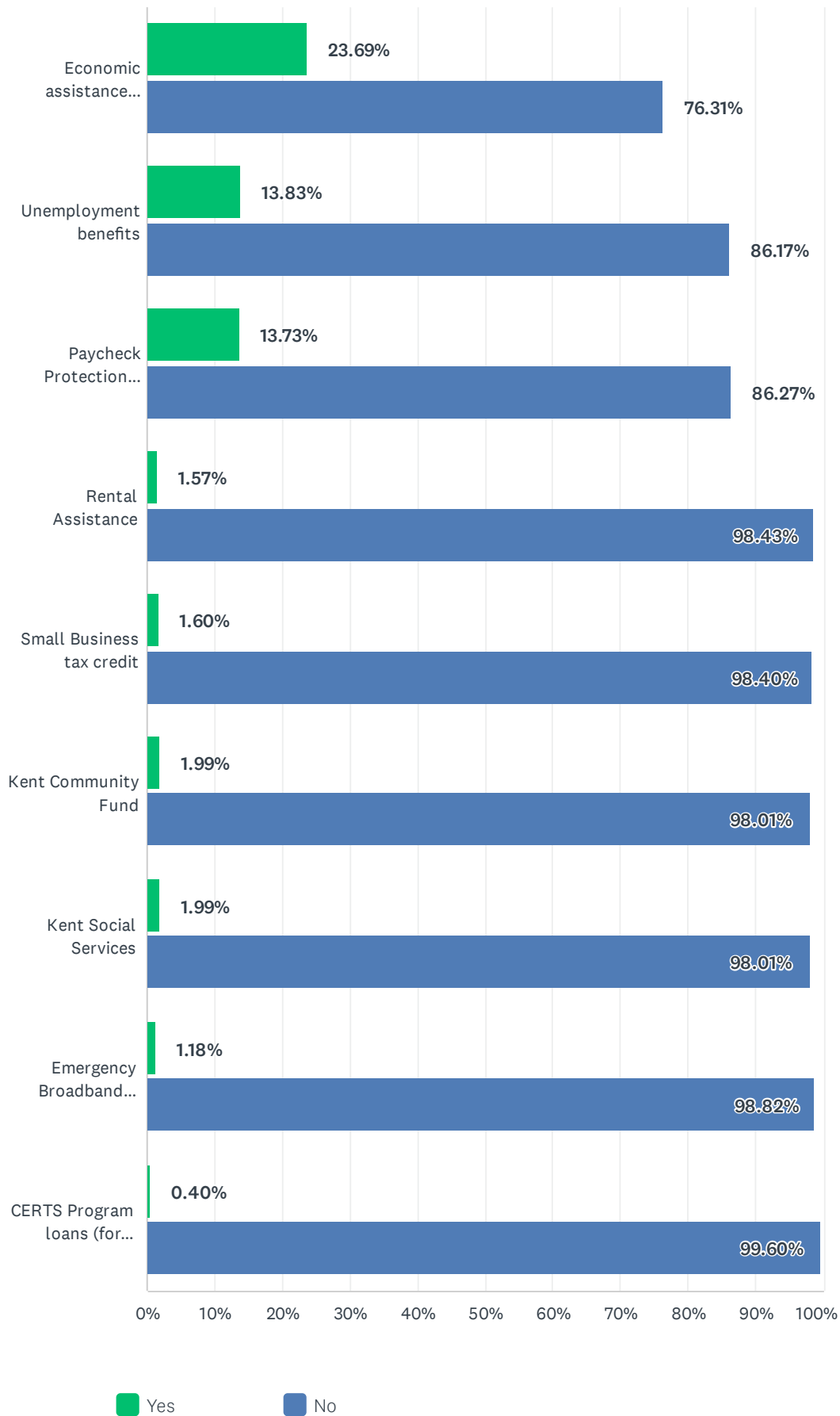


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
\$200 - \$999	8.92%	19
\$1,000 – \$2,499	7.51%	16
\$2,500 - \$4,999	7.51%	16
\$5,000 - \$9,999	7.04%	15
\$10,000 or more	18.78%	40
NA	50.23%	107
TOTAL		213

Q9 Have you received any assistance through these programs or organizations to help offset the income loss during the pandemic?

Answered: 257 Skipped: 7

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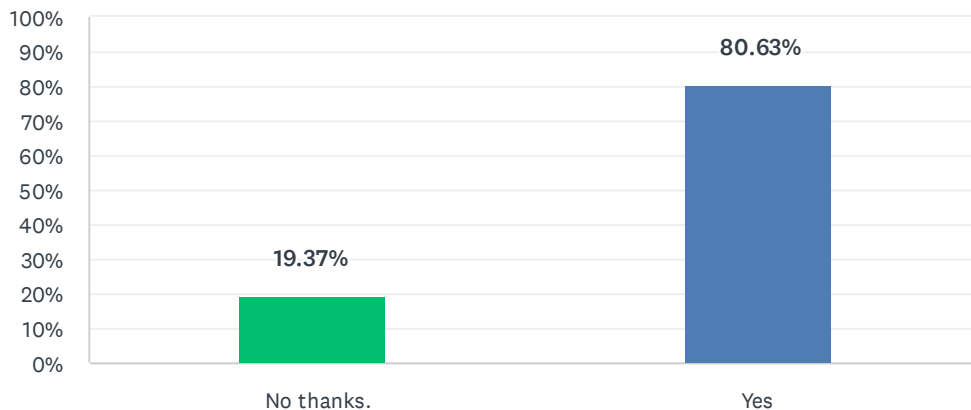
Town of Kent ARPA Residential Community Needs Assessment Survey

	YES	NO	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Economic assistance payments (from the IRS)	23.69% 59	76.31% 190	249	1.76
Unemployment benefits	13.83% 35	86.17% 218	253	1.86
Paycheck Protection Program loans (for businesses)	13.73% 35	86.27% 220	255	1.86
Rental Assistance	1.57% 4	98.43% 251	255	1.98
Small Business tax credit	1.60% 4	98.40% 246	250	1.98
Kent Community Fund	1.99% 5	98.01% 246	251	1.98
Kent Social Services	1.99% 5	98.01% 246	251	1.98
Emergency Broadband Benefit	1.18% 3	98.82% 251	254	1.99
CERTS Program loans (for businesses)	0.40% 1	99.60% 250	251	2.00

#	I RECEIVED OTHER ASSISTANCE (PLEASE SPECIFY):	DATE
1	EIDL	2/18/2022 5:31 PM
2	we received federal funds for our child which have ended	2/7/2022 5:41 PM
3	Federal funds for our child, now discontinued	2/7/2022 5:32 PM
4	retired as is my husband	2/3/2022 6:07 PM
5	Student loan freeze.	1/18/2022 9:17 PM
6	Food Bank - WONDERFUL	1/18/2022 5:27 PM
7	Food and heating oil assistance	1/18/2022 5:19 PM
8	I received one month rent on a house from the Kent community Fund	1/18/2022 5:12 PM
9	I was denied assistance to help me with my car repairs from Kent Community Fund back in 2019; Explained that my car was very old. I networked and received assistance from Independent Northwest. My vehicle is my mode of transportation to many MD appts.	1/18/2022 5:01 PM
10	Snap program	1/18/2022 10:07 AM
11	Free vaccinations and booster thanks to Highwatch.	1/18/2022 8:11 AM
12	N/A	12/8/2021 1:15 PM
13	(self-employed) unemployment was for just several weeks, mostly at the start of the pandemic, when I had zero or almost no clients or income.	12/3/2021 5:59 PM
14	Mortgage relief for two months	11/19/2021 11:03 AM
15	Small state grant for the arts	11/19/2021 8:18 AM
16	My employer received a PPP loan	11/19/2021 6:54 AM
17	Kent center school breakfast/lunch delivery	11/18/2021 9:09 PM

Q10 Would you like to receive the results of this survey and be informed on what happens next?

Answered: 253 Skipped: 11



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No thanks.	19.37%	49
Yes	80.63%	204
TOTAL		253

Q11 Did we miss anything? We welcome your comments and ideas!

Answered: 60 Skipped: 204

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Give \$50000 each for 3 intown churchs no	3/3/2022 6:40 AM
2	Allocate funds for guard rail on skiff mt rd to prevent vehicles from going into the Housatonic River	2/7/2022 5:41 PM
3	Provide trails for multi-use purposes - walking dog, biking cross country etc	2/7/2022 5:32 PM
4	in answering some of these questions, I wonder about the qualifications and implementation of funds going out. And when is your goal to decide what to do with the money? thank you!	2/4/2022 7:57 AM
5	If we don't find uses for the full \$800,000 for people/ businesses that truly suffered COVID related losses, we should send the balance back to the federal govt	2/3/2022 4:19 PM
6	Any distributions to businesses/individuals must be need-based, not a blanket amount - if any. Our KVFD is the most important.	1/25/2022 10:36 AM
7	Highly considered questions — thanks for the time and energy you are giving this!	1/18/2022 9:17 PM
8	I think isolation of some elderly people was especially difficult	1/18/2022 5:35 PM
9	Thanks for asking	1/18/2022 5:32 PM
10	Make information more available	1/18/2022 5:14 PM
11	Cooper Creedk B & B lost \$22,678 in year 2020 2021 will be higher than \$22,678 for that year. Also lost over\$8,953 from rental income because of non payments.	1/18/2022 5:12 PM
12	Please post results on Kent Website	1/18/2022 5:09 PM
13	The poorest individuals are likely hit hardest by any hardship including this pandemic. Please focus all efforts on the most vulnerable and poorest in our community.	1/18/2022 2:49 PM
14	Thank you for your efforts- this is not an easy task!	1/18/2022 11:49 AM
15	Thank you for taking the time and giving thoughtful considerations on how to distribute these funds, to the residents and businesses that need it most.	1/18/2022 10:51 AM
16	The money should be spent for long term needs not short term instant gratification	1/18/2022 8:42 AM
17	Stop trying to make Kent “na-na land”! Leave the town alone. We don't need low-income housing, drug rehab facilities or any other inducements to have welfare and food stamp people come here and destroy our lovely's little town.	1/18/2022 8:11 AM
18	While we clearly need to use these funds for Covid-related problems, installing broadband in Kent is a top priority under any circumstances. To attract businesses and people.	1/18/2022 7:55 AM
19	I am a weekend resident, not full time!	1/18/2022 7:45 AM
20	Town Hall gov. continues to show that they are not capable of running the town or handle finances. One just needs to look at the inability to run meetings (showing up unprepared, poor online connections, no sense of urgency - (just view sidewalk meetings)	1/17/2022 10:58 AM
21	I was in a huge time of need and the town of kent helped me pay my heating bill. I was and am so appreciative but since then it's just been still so hard to maintain the heating bill because I'm still not able to run my childrens dance studio back at full capacity. I've been in the community for ten years and it's been devastating to watch my business be slowly crushed with essentially no help. I received \$4400 on PPP loan and that didn't even cover two months of rent in Kent. I'm trying my hardest to keep the doors open for the kids but I've run out of options on what to do honestly	1/13/2022 12:58 PM
22	Ensure ongoing testing acesses for both PCR and rapid tests in the community.	1/13/2022 11:26 AM

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23	Thank you for creating a survey to allow residents to contribute to decision making process. I feel as though the funds should be allocated to things that improve the town, and thus everyone who comes to Kent can enjoy the benefits of the funds.	1/13/2022 10:54 AM
24	Though I don't presently live in Kent, I own a 2 family house there and have resided and/or owned property in Kent for 60 years.	1/9/2022 12:29 PM
25	I only said No to funding recreational programs because I know the town has a budget for recreation and we do not have a recreation director currently. I don't think more funds are needed at this time. Although I do believe that in person social, recreational activities are vital to the well being of every citizen regardless of age.	1/9/2022 12:04 AM
26	The town needs to improve cell service and improve the reliability of broadband for both safety and economic development purposes. We should try to be an attractive destination for families fleeing NYC	12/28/2021 1:01 PM
27	I would mostly recommend returning the \$800K for use by municipalities that truly suffered during the early pandemic. Kent was able to take care of itself and each other, in most cases, and the use of PPP funds helped out small businesses that were smart enough to apply. For any infrastructure projects, the current legislation in Congress should cover that cost and projects. If Kent does use some funds, it should go to developing an in-town Park near/on the Commons with a wading/exercise pool near Templeton that could be used by our elderly as well as our young families. Overall, if Kent uses the funds it should be to develop and expand our recreational opportunities that promote a healthier lifestyle and enjoyment of our beautiful outdoors.	12/27/2021 1:25 PM
28	We are Kent Residents for 48 years. We lost income because our business had a 75% set back. Our business is located in Brookfield, CT.	12/22/2021 7:47 AM
29	Without knowing what the criteria is on specific areas it's hard to make that call.	12/21/2021 10:18 AM
30	Not sure I understand the logic that by answering NO to any question in #7 one is supposed to ignore financial loss and answer n/a in #8	12/17/2021 12:09 AM
31	I volunteer at the quality thrift shop and I want it known that they lost a tremendous amount of revenue due to the pandemic. The results was that they were unable to pay their rent to the First congressional Church of Kent. The Church absorbed the loss of funds with no penalty. The thrift store (and the church) are valuable assets at to the community and provide important civic benefits. I think they should be entitled to Arpa funds. Just saying.	12/16/2021 8:01 PM
32	I believe in transparency and ethical assessments of suggestions.	12/16/2021 7:12 PM
33	On Halls Ln, we created an neighborhood group chat through WhatsApp, which works on PCs, Macs, and phones, so we could keep in touch with one another. I think it might be worthwhile to create a program that helps neighbors connect in a similar way. I'm happy to assist in this.	12/16/2021 1:38 PM
34	Thank you	12/10/2021 2:30 PM
35	I could not have survived without delivery services: groceries, mail, liquor, restaurant food, pharmacy.	12/9/2021 10:57 AM
36	Kent should have a medical clinic for immediate testing results, and which should be open during regular hours.	12/8/2021 7:15 PM
37	N/A	12/8/2021 1:15 PM
38	I tried to answer these questions from the perspective of HVA, not as an individual, so some things did not apply. I filled in N/A for question #8 because we lost over \$10,000 due to covid, but I didn't want to skew your results (again-because I was answering as an organization not an individual).	12/7/2021 3:13 PM
39	<3 I believe the low income housing in Kent could use someone to garden and take care of the property to make it look nice - people might get outside more <3	12/6/2021 4:28 PM
40	Just thinking about winter and how even if we don't shut down again many people are not going to come into town.	12/6/2021 4:04 PM
41	PPP seemed to favor businesses that were hosted by their banks. My business did not get the adequate PPP or loan forgiveness.... I tried to work with M&T bank but after spending time in	12/6/2021 2:31 PM

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filling out the forms the "window closed". When it opened again worked with M&T bank but another technicality.

42	Thank you for including me in this survey.. and providing feedback on the general consensus.	12/5/2021 6:58 PM
43	Just try not to throw money at people already making more than median income. It's very disturbing to see government programs supposedly assisting the middle class yet aimed at hundredthousandaires. Middle class is closer to 40thousandaires and below.	12/4/2021 7:39 AM
44	Please keep in mind that all comments contained in this section are my opinions, nothing more. It is difficult for me to determine why questions 4 and 5 are important to this survey. Question 8 should have a \$0 - \$199 choice. While I worked throughout the pandemic, my workplace supplied all materials and covered all expenses I incurred. Before question 9 there is a statement, "The next two questions address assistance programs made available during the pandemic." I do not see how question 10 relates to that statement. Some of the choices in question 6 give no relationship to COVID19 or recovering from the impact of the COVID19 pandemic. Put simply, if it was not impacted by COVID19, it should not be considered for COVID19 Funds. I would not want to see \$800,000 be put in jeopardy due to frivolous considerations.	12/3/2021 11:58 PM
45	These funds should be distributed evenly amongst our community using these funds for a special interest project would be inappropriate	12/3/2021 6:32 PM
46	Some concerns and considerations cannot, necessarily, be addressed in a survey. Important for community to keep an open dialogue with many perspectives. It will be difficult to resolve all needs completely but being supportive as much as possible with, at least consideration, acknowledgement and appreciation of all. Thanks for the opportunity	11/24/2021 7:35 AM
47	I very strongly support a major upgrade of the local parks and recreational options for both young people and the elderly. Also, I very strongly support internet access for all residents. As far as park equipment, even adding 1 or 2 ping pong tables would be a great asset. Also, in addition to upgrading playground equipment, there is a growing trend toward equipment geared to adults (especially older people). This would be great at the park near Templeton Farms. I'd love to be on any committee that researches options for parks/recreational activities once a director is hired.	11/22/2021 12:41 PM
48	Public health initiatives directed to families and elderly.	11/20/2021 12:55 PM
49	Cell towers on Segar Mountain or North Kent so folks have access in cases of emergency	11/19/2021 10:11 AM
50	Assistance to those whose housing is at risk.	11/19/2021 7:39 AM
51	I fully support helping Kent residents who are most vulnerable and who were most affected by COVID. I also support helping our town's businesses, even if they are now "back on their feet," with the financial losses they endured as a result of COVID. Those businesses are important to our community.	11/19/2021 6:54 AM
52	My home in Kent needs work. I will be leaving and returning when it is completed. Hopefully by May.	11/19/2021 6:36 AM
53	Kent seems to be focused on bringing young families into the town when it's focus should be on the growing retirement community. A portion of the funds should be used to foster the retirement trend in Kent.	11/19/2021 6:04 AM
54	need to know who is not computer savvy and/or lives alone in Kent and reach out to them	11/18/2021 9:51 PM
55	Kent center school janitors, cafeteria workers, nurse, all staff and teachers should get a fund dedicated to their priority items in addition to a bonus The town lacks a doctor that's a really big deal in a health crisis.	11/18/2021 9:09 PM
56	Hope you didn't get paid for this worthless piece..	11/18/2021 8:48 PM
57	No questions about how those over 65 year old managed - the loss of friends, community, support	11/18/2021 8:04 PM
58	While I honor the efforts to address the negative effects the pandemic has had on businesses and individuals, I think the priority should be on building community resilience for the future. In other words, rather than commuting precious funds to cleaning up the past, they should be spent on investing in the future. Investing in infrastructure, modernization and emergency	11/18/2021 8:04 PM

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response capacity builds community resilience, addresses social inequities and strengthens us against future challenges. Thank you!!

59	Impact on KCS and Housy?? Mental health support for kids	11/18/2021 7:54 PM
60	Keep testing sites available	11/18/2021 7:26 PM