

On March 10, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) into law. The \$1.9 trillion package provides direct assistance to individuals and families, as well as critical funding to state and local governments and safety net programs. All of this speeds up recovery from the COVID pandemic and avoids harmful cuts. ARPA offers flexibility to state and local governments, creating new opportunities for better, community-specific responses to current needs. This is an overview of how the law affects Montgomery County.

CRITICAL FUNDING IN ARPA FOR THE MONTCO SOCIAL SAFETY NET

Funding Category (Selected)	Amount
Unrestricted Aid - County	\$161.1 million
Unrestricted Aid - Municipalities	\$133.9 million
Aid to Local School Districts	\$90.9 million*
Transportation	\$85.1 million*
Child Care & Early Childhood Programs	\$79.7 million*
Aid to Renters, Homeowners, Homeless	\$71.3 million*
Mental & Behavioral Health	\$6.1 million*
Support for Older Adults	\$3.8 million*

Altogether, Montgomery County is likely to receive \$631.9 million or more!

This will support and strengthen the social safety net, and
build a better normal than before the pandemic.

*Estimated based on total funding to Pennsylvania and population in Montgomery County (subject to state implementation).



Expands the Child Tax Credit to over 100,000 children

ARPA works to cut child poverty in half by increasing the child tax credit to \$3,000 per child ages 6-17, and \$3,600 for children under age 6. The increase in the maximum amount begins to phase out for heads of households making \$112,500 and married couples making \$150,000.



Makes healthcare more affordable for 46,315 residents

For the 31,615 already covered with a Marketplace plan, their monthly premiums will significantly decrease as assistance expands. For the 14,700 uninsured residents, ARPA creates low cost coverage options and expands assistance to individuals previously ineligible for help.



Extends food security for over 54,065 people

ARPA increases SNAP benefits and extends the time individuals are eligible for these increased benefits. For the 37,186 children who receive free or reduced lunch in school, ARPA also extends benefits when they are not in the school building.



Improves care for 14,001 seniors and people with disabilities

Medicaid provides Home and Community-Based Services to ensure vulnerable individuals have the supports they need to live with dignity in their homes. ARPA increased federal funding for this program to ensure the program can respond to the needs of workers and those they serve.



Continues critical unemployment benefits for 55,150 workers

ARPA extends Federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) at \$300 a week for an extra 23 weeks into September, and Emergency Unemployment Compensation for an extra 29 weeks.