COUNTY OF ALBANY, NEW YORK
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT - EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY APPLICATION

For the past three years, Albany County has been leading our community through COVID-19 response, monitoring, and recovery. The infusion of $1.9 trillion in flexible funds provided through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) allows local governments, like ours, the opportunity to invest in technology to support long-term recovery efforts while delivering better services to our constituents now and in the future.

To take advantage of this opportunity, the County is soliciting Departmental proposals for up to $100,000 in ARPA funds for projects that will improve service delivery through investments in data analysis, program evaluation, process improvement, community engagement, and public accessibility to programs and services.

Applicants are encouraged to identify non-ARPA funding sources to complement their ARPA funding requests. Applications for projects with total budgets exceeding $100,000 must identify all other funding sources that have been secured to support their project. While applicants are strongly encouraged to adhere to the $100,000 funding cap, projects in need of more than $100,000 in ARPA funds may be considered by the County Projects Subcommittee on a case-by-case basis if they are deemed to be high-impact and will be fully funded after receiving ARPA funds.

As you develop an application consider strategic technology investments your Department can make to ensure the required digital infrastructure is in place to provide stability for citizen-facing and backend services. Projects should target needs identified during the COVID-19 pandemic and should further improve your Department's ability to maintain successful continuity of operations while also supporting future needs.

Completed applications form should be emailed to: tvouzakis@capmark.org by November 3rd, 2023
Applicants are encouraged to include backup materials with their submissions that justify the project need, impact, and budget

Project Name	**Go and Dine**
Department	**Aging**
Project Manager	**Deb Riitano**
Select ARPA Expenditure Category	2: Negative Economic Impacts Household Assistance: Food Programs*^

1. Project Eligibility

Please identify which of the following categories best describes your project:

1) Program evaluation Survey
2) Data analysis: resources to gather, assess, share, and use data PeerPlace Data
3) Technology infrastructure to improve access to/user experience of government IT systems and/or increase public access to services
4) Community outreach and engagement activities Outreach participants will number 800
5) Capacity building resources to support using data and evidence to improve service delivery
6) Equipment purchase to improve service delivery

2. Project Overview

Summarize your proposed project including a description of how it will improve the way your department delivers services

Dining out program will enable seniors to enjoy a meal out at participaating restaurants helping to increase socialization and reduce isolation in the older adult community. Research shows that there are social and economic benefits to "Dining Out " programs for older adults. Shared meals have a positive effect on seniors who live independently. There is a significant association with improved dietary intake and meal sharing. It supports the health well-being of seniors. Improves menal health and expands social networks.

3. Project Need

Please describe how your project responds to a need that was caused or exacerbated by the COVID-19 Pandemic

We have seen an increase in older adults needing home-delivered meals as well as attedance in congregate sites. Also an increase at food pantries, use of farmers market coupons and food give-aways. Inflation at the market has caused an increase in grocery items and has decreased the opportunity to share a meal.

4. Project Implementation

Describe the major step s in your project implementation including coordination with any internal and external partners, especially coordination with the Division of Information Services.

Contracts with 6-8 restaurants will include all dietary requirements and menu subject to dietician reiew. .Program offered to those who are in target population and within 200% of the poverty level. Registration of clients that will be included in PeerPlace database.There will be grouping of 200 clients each quarter. !2 vouchers will be distributed per client enabling them to dine at participating restaurants once a week. Total of 800

For IT-related project, have you consulted with the Division of Information Services?	☐ YES	☐ NO

5. Project Timeline

All ARPA funds must be expended by December 31, 2026. Please provide the estimated date that requested funds will be fully expended and highlight key project milestones

Secure contracted restaurants by Nov. 15. Day 1 of program December 15. First half of program will be completed by May 15, 2025.

6. Project Impact

Please describe in detail how this investment in your Department will allow you to address the project need identified above and more effectively deliver services to the public. Describe whether the project directly or indirectly benefits County residents Use quantifiable metrics where possible and discuss how project impact will be measured

This project will effect county residents directly. Older adults will reap the benefits as well as small business.

7. Project Budget

Please Identify:	
1) ARPA Funding Requested	$100,000/
2) Total Project Budget	200,000
3) Non-ARPA Funding Sources and Amounts	$100,000
4) Recurring Costs	Lunch/Dinner cost $20-$25

8. Project Sustainability

Will the project be sustained after ARPA funds are expended?	☑ YES	☐ NO

If yes, describe how your Department will address any ongoing project costs

With data supporting this program, it is our hope that Association on Community Living and NYSOFA will assign extra money to this agency and/or make other grants available. Or include as Unmet Need.