

The background of the slide features a scenic view of a city skyline, likely New York City, with several prominent skyscrapers. In the foreground, there is a lush green park with many trees, some of which are weeping willows, and a body of water, possibly a lake or a wide river. The sky is bright blue with scattered white clouds. The overall scene is vibrant and urban.

Mayor's Office for
Immigrant Advancement
ARPA Funds Listening Session

Tuesday, September 21, 2021



Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions 2:00 - 2:05 pm
Yusufi Vali, Director, MOIA
- MOIA's Priorities and Programs 2:05 - 2:10 pm
Yusufi Vali, Director, MOIA
- ARPA Funds Priorities Presentation 2:10 - 2:20 pm
Omar Khoshafa, Director of Key Initiatives and Strategic Planning, Mayor's Office
- Breakout Sessions 2:20 - 3:20 pm
- Closing 3:20 - 3:30 pm
Yusufi Vali, Director, MOIA



Mayor's Office for

IMMIGRANT ADVANCEMENT

Mission:

To strengthen the ability of immigrants and Boston's diverse cultural and linguistic communities to fully participate in the economic, civic, social, and cultural life of our great City. We also work to promote the recognition and public understanding of immigrant contributions to Boston.

MOIA's Role:

- 10 staff office focused on advocacy in areas of Stability, Civic Integration, Economic Integration & Social/Cultural Integration for immigrant residents.
- Advocacy happens through policy changes, pilot programming, and support for constituents struggling to connect with resources and appropriate City departments.

MOIA Initiatives: Stability, Civic Ownership, Integration

- **COVID-19 Basic Needs Cash Assistance:** Awarded \$1 million dollars from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to the Massachusetts Immigrant Collaborative (MIC) to support Boston residents who were not eligible for federal COVID-19 relief benefits. Eligible Boston households will be able to apply for up to \$1,000 in cash aid until funding is exhausted. Approximately 1,200 households in need will benefit from this pandemic relief grant.
- **Greater Boston Immigrant Defense Fund (GBIDF):** City of Boston through MOIA annually contributes \$100,000 annually to this fund to: (1) increase access to legal representation for low-income individuals facing deportation; and (2) to build capacity for community education programs. An additional \$128,000 has been designated to support application assistance led by community-based organizations in response to new and emerging pathways such as Temporary Protected Status (TPS).

MOIA Initiatives: Stability, Civic Ownership, Integration

- **Immigrants Lead Boston:** A 12-week course for a cohort of 20 diverse immigrant residents who meet key City of Boston officials and learn how to effectively navigate local government. The goal is for these participants to become leaders in their communities, sharing what they learned with others and becoming civically active on issues that matter to them.
- **Dreamers Fellowship:** Undocumented Bostonians who entered the U.S. as minors – known as Dreamers – have limited access to programs that are essential to their economic and social inclusion. The Dreamers Fellowship is a stipend program that provides leadership development, work-readiness training, and academic support to undocumented youth by placing them in immigrant-serving nonprofit partners across the city.

MOIA Initiatives: Stability, Civic Ownership, Integration

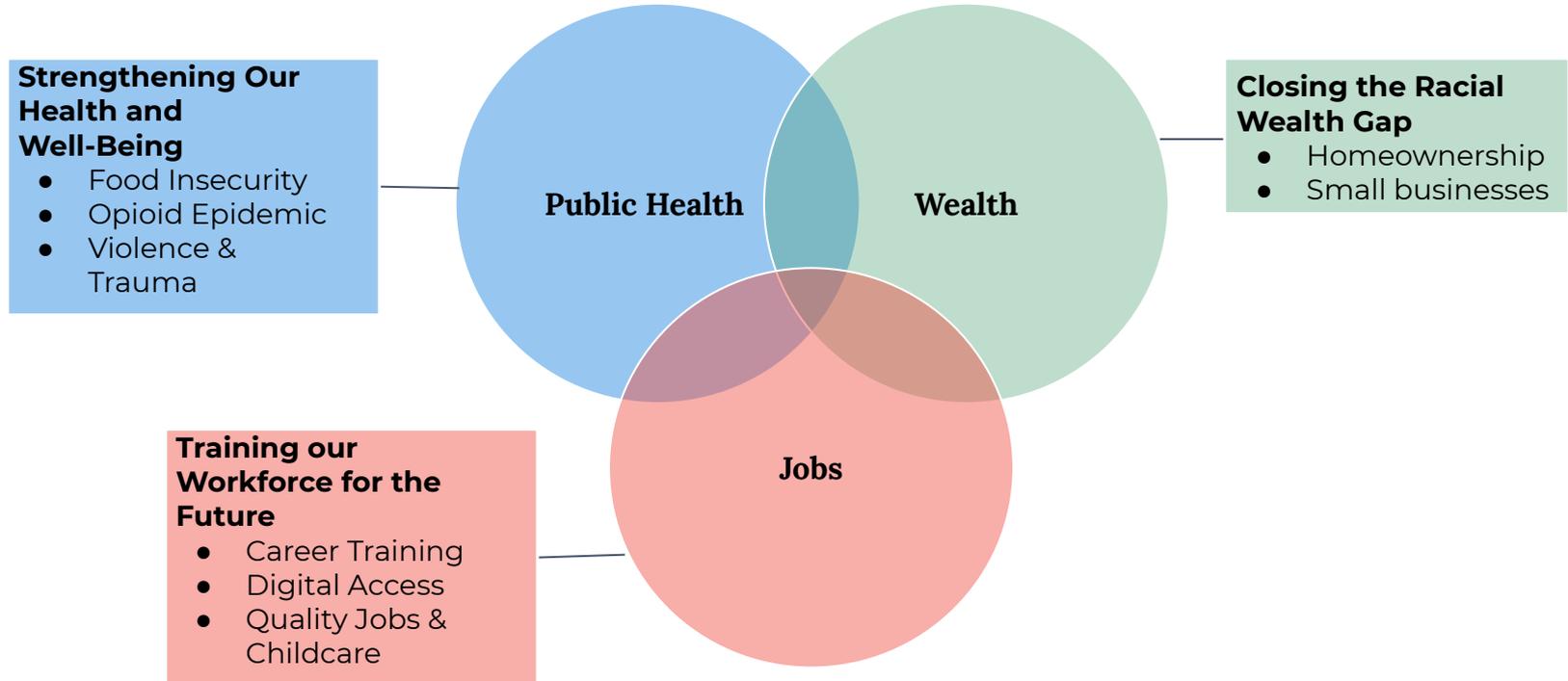
- **Foreign-Trained Professionals Fellowship:** MOIA is working with the African Bridge Network to help Black immigrant residents build a career healthcare. The program identifies, provides training and coaching, and places qualified immigrant professionals in hospitals for a three-month paid fellowship, allowing them to gain U.S. work experience.

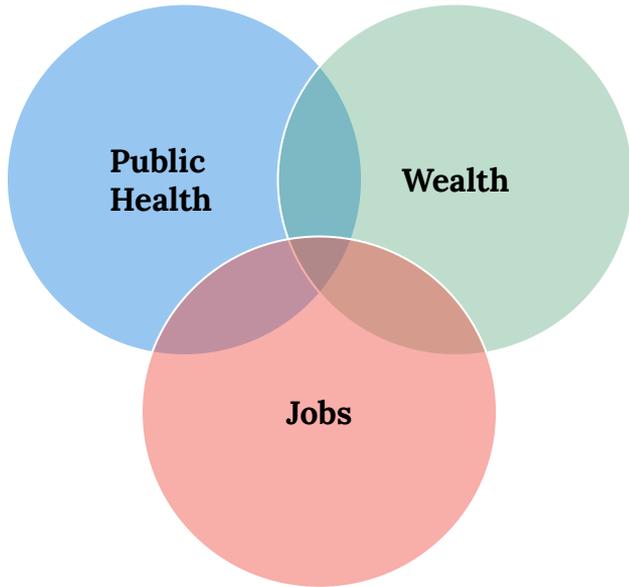
- **Helping Advance Immigrant Worker-Owned Cooperatives:**
 - ◆ **Black & Brown Worker Co-Op Initiative:** A coop-development pilot to provide opportunities for more immigrant and BIPOC entrepreneurs to join the green economy. Partners include MOIA, the Boston Center for Community Ownership, the Economic Mobility Lab, and the Environment Department.
 - ◆ **Boston Immigrant Cooperative Alliance (BICA):** A project that enables residents to strengthen their English skills to fully participate in the solidarity economy in East Boston. BICA is a collaboration between MOIA, English for New Bostonians, the Center for Cooperative Development and Solidarity, and Harborside Community Center, and is funded by Massachusetts General Hospital.

MOIA Initiatives: Stability, Civic Ownership, Integration

- **Racial Solidarity Dialogues:** MOIA hosted a series of racial solidarity conversations with 13 immigrant and African American nonprofit executives in partnership with the Center to Support Immigrant Organizing (CSIO). These workshops provided a space for self-reflection, building alliances, rooting out assumptions, and practicing hard conversations aiming to build a more inclusive and resilient movement to achieve racial equity in Boston.
- **MOIA Mini-Grants:** Every year MOIA gives out \$5,000 mini-grants to strengthen the capacity of immigrant-serving CBOs to better address the needs of our immigrant residents. Funds for these grants are raised through our annual We Are Boston event sponsorships.

An Equitable Recovery for All Boston Residents



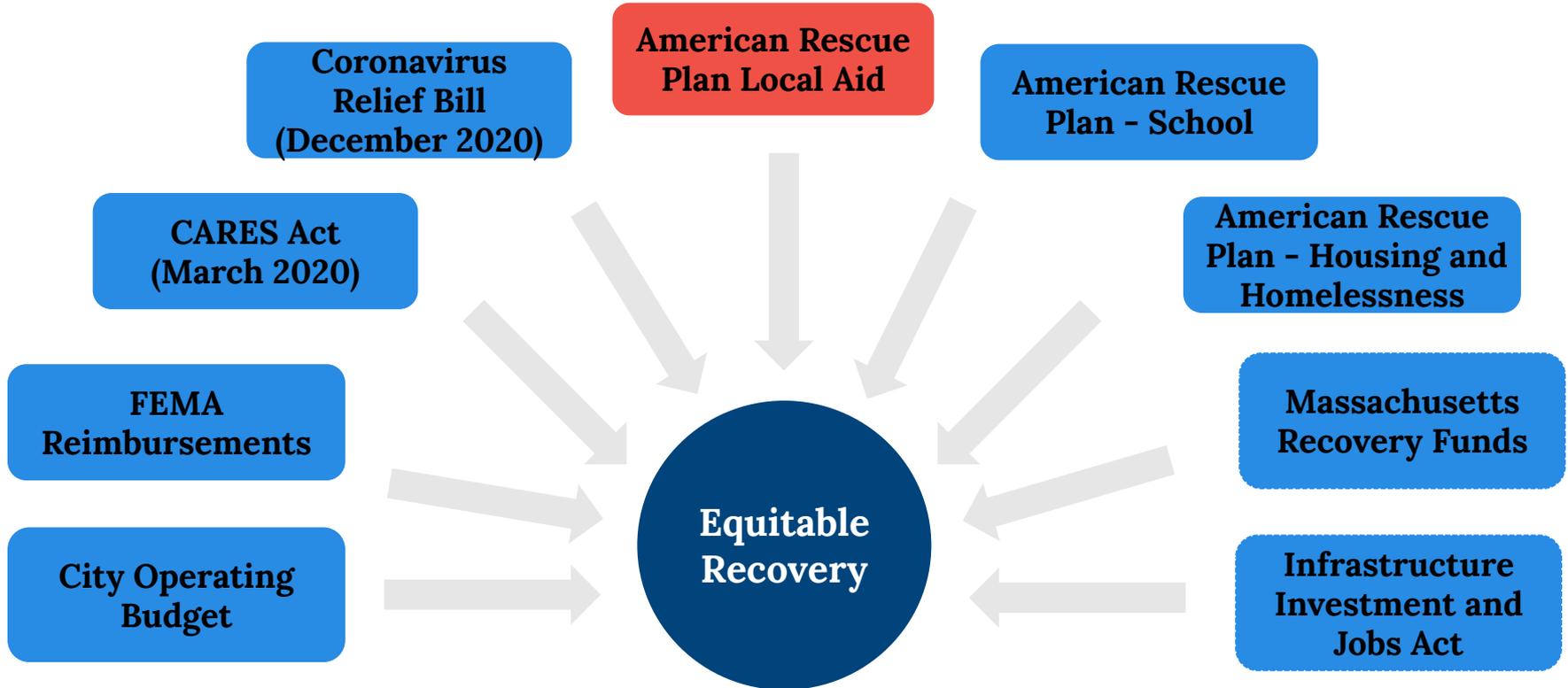


Additional Lens

*While exploring investment opportunities in these areas, there will be an emphasis on solutions that incorporate **Arts & Culture** and **Climate Resiliency***

What are Boston's available resources for recovery?

Funding Overview



Total Funds

- Boston estimated to receive **\$558 Million** from ARPA, with \$424 Million coming directly to Boston and an additional \$134 Million from Suffolk County to come from the Commonwealth.
- **\$136.5 Million** has been allocated to date for emergency relief investments and stabilizing Boston's budget

Guardrails

- ARPA funding must be committed **through December 2024**
- Fit into one of the **eligible "uses" of spending** on the next slide

What are Boston's eligible uses of ARPA Funding?



Funding Overview

Support Public Health Response

- **Services to contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19**, including vaccination, medical expenses, testing, contact tracing, quarantine costs, capacity enhancements, and many related activities
- **Behavioral healthcare services**, including mental health or substance misuse treatment, crisis intervention, and related services
- **Payroll and covered benefits** for public health, healthcare, human services, and public safety staff to the extent that they work on the COVID-19 response

Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss

- **Ensure continuity of vital government services** by filling budget shortfalls
- **Revenue loss is calculated** relative to the expected trend, beginning with the last full fiscal year pre-pandemic and adjusted annually for growth
- **Recipients may re-calculate revenue loss** at multiple points during the program, supporting those entities that experience revenue loss with a lag

Address Negative Economic Impacts

- **Deliver assistance to workers and families**, including support for unemployed workers, aid to households, and survivor's benefits for families of COVID-19 victims
- **Support small businesses** with loans, grants, in-kind assistance, and counseling programs
- **Speed the recovery of impacted industries**, including the tourism, travel, and hospitality sectors
- **Rebuild public sector capacity** by rehiring staff, replenishing state unemployment insurance funds, and implementing economic relief programs

Broadband Infrastructure

- **Focus on households and businesses** without access to broadband and those with connections that do not provide minimally acceptable speeds
- **Fund projects that deliver reliable service** with minimum 100 Mbps download / 100 Mbps upload speeds unless impracticable
- **Complement broadband investments** made through the Capital Projects Fund

Equity-Focused Services

- **Additional flexibility for the hardest-hit communities and families** to address health disparities, invest in housing, address educational disparities, and promote healthy childhood environments
- **Broadly applicable** to Qualified Census Tracts, other disproportionately impacted areas, and when provided by Tribal governments

Water & Sewer Infrastructure

- **Includes improvements to infrastructure**, such as building or upgrading facilities and transmission, distribution, and storage systems
- **Eligible uses aligned to Environmental Protection Agency project categories** for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

Thank you!

For any questions or concerns contact us call **(617) 635-2980** or email **immigrantadvancement@boston.gov**

