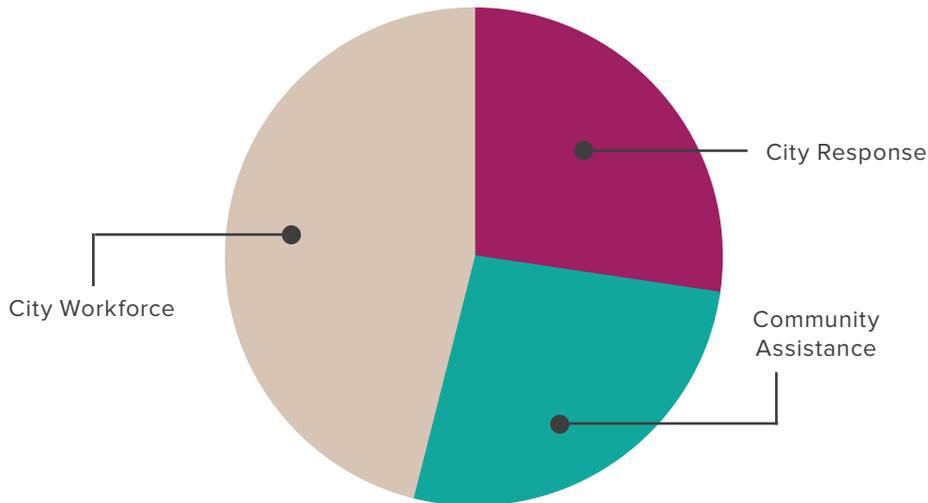


CARES Act Relief Fund Success Story



Mayor Keller and City leaders worked closely with the New Mexico Congressional Delegation and Mayors nationwide to make sure Albuquerque and other major cities received direct funding from the CARES Act, passed in March of 2020. \$150 million was allocated to the City, along with guidance from the Treasury Department that it could be used broadly in support of COVID relief efforts.

USES OF CARES ACT RELIEF FUNDS



The City of Albuquerque used all \$150 million it received in federal CARES Act Relief funding by the original end of year deadline set by Congress. Priorities for use of the funds included shoring up the safety net for seniors, workers living paycheck-to-paycheck, and the homeless, as well as preventing the bottom from falling out of the local economy as local businesses endured shutdowns and restrictions.

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

The City invested significantly in caring for Albuquerque residents who were vulnerable to falling through the cracks of the recovery and supporting small businesses that suffered financial hits during the pandemic.

MAJOR PROJECT & PROGRAMS

- Business Economic Support (1,740 small business grants, \$10,700,000)
- Food Assistance for Vulnerable Populations (89,025 individuals served, \$691,915)
- Eviction and Foreclosure Prevention (1,513 individuals aided, \$748,807)
- Non-Profit Economic Support (42 non-profit grants, \$992,462)
- Direct Payments to Artists impacted by COVID-19 (135 artist organizations assisted, \$627,973)
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Small Businesses (\$1,118,116)



Free Wifi programs



Food assistance to those in need



Small business support

CITY RESPONSE

The city focused much of the funding on shifting employees from jobs that were limited by the pandemic into roles directly related to supporting the community in crisis. Using city workers for direct COVID response also helped avoid mass layoffs or furloughs that risked further negative economic effects. Overall, employees across 20 city departments were shifted into COVID response roles.





“ When this crisis hit, we came up with innovative and unorthodox solutions to keep people safe, help businesses stay afloat, and make sure we looked after our seniors and the homeless. Albuquerque has shown the world its trademark resilience and grit, and there’s nowhere else I’d rather be than here while we make our way through the pandemic.”

—Mayor Tim Keller

MAJOR PROJECT & PROGRAMS

- Emergency Operations Center
- Communications of Public Health Orders
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Cleaning Supplies and Services
- Telework Capabilities
- Care and Shelter for Homeless in Compliance with Public Health Measures



Activation of the EOC



Emergency wellness hotels throughout the city



PPE for City employees

CHANGING ROLES FOR CITY EMPLOYEES

- Community Center employees went from hosting summer camps to providing essential workers with child care options when they had to continue going to work
- Senior Center employees pivots from their regular programs, leading social events in senior centers, to setting up a network that distributed more than half a million meals and conducted regular wellness checks
- Economic Development staff shifted into managing more than \$10 million in grants and other support programs to help small businesses stay afloat



“ Keeping a small business alive is a difficult task. Restaurants in particular have had great challenges, and we thank the community for continuing to support small businesses. The \$10,000 grant from the City during last fall’s lockdown was very much appreciated, and we recognize all the help that the City of Albuquerque provided during Covid, especially the quick permits for outdoor eating”

—Mona Ghattas,
Owner/President of Duran’s Central Pharmacy