

**Public Comments Received for the January 24, 2022
Regular Session Meeting
(The Deadline for Comments was Sunday, January 23rd at 2pm)**

Thank You for the opportunity to submit comments via email.

To Durham Board of County Commissioners.

Thank you for an opportunity to submit comments related to ARPA funds. We, the Durham Social Determinant of Health (SDoH) Network, have submitted a detailed plan to the city of Durham and the County Managers' office. Please consider it.

The Durham SDoH network ARPA plan builds off its tremendously successful SSP (Social Support Program) that ended last March. In SSP 1.0 eleven Durham CBOs distributed 7,977 Food Boxes, 53,415 meals, 192 rides, and over 5,124 Covid PPE supplies over a 6 month period. The program also distributed \$400 and \$800 checks to 2,602 Durham households totaling \$ 2Million, enabling many families (88%) to quarantine without going to work.

Overwhelmingly clients had positive things to say about the program. They felt connected to and cared for by their communities. A very common response was "You all helped me when I could not help myself".

The Durham SDoH networks plan includes similar services: Food and Housing assistance, Transportation along with Interpersonal Safety. The SDoH plan targeta households living in Socially Vulnerable neighborhoods as defined by the CDC Socially Vulnerable Index (SVI) as well as client tracking and reporting system – NCARES360.

The Final ARPA Fund Regulations (437 pages) from Treasury Department clearly expands eligible populations and usage of funds. We ask the BOCC consider proposals targeting households of SVI neighborhoods, the most vulnerable populations, as well as support for a mechanism or process for Joint County and City funding of proposals.

With Appreciation

Fred Johnson, 200 Morris Street, Durham 27701 – Lead Organizer Durham SDoH Network

Fred S Johnson MBA
Assistant Professor
Duke Family Medicine & Community Health
Division of Community Health
<https://fmch.duke.edu/division-community-health>
Director, Northern Piedmont Community Care (NPCC)
DUHS Population Health Management Office (PHMO)
<https://phmo.dukehealth.org/>
200 Morris Street – 3rd Floor
Durham NC, 27701
Tel. 919-681-4220
Cell 919-812-5531