



The Collaborative Advocacy Network (CAN) of the Bucks-Mont Collaborative developed a survey to ask community organizations for their funding priorities for the \$161 million in unrestricted aid allocated to Montgomery County through the American Rescue Plan Act. This survey asked eight questions to directly engage organizations in their priorities for eligible use funds, with questions assessing immediate needs and long-term community investment priorities.

This survey was shared with CAN partner, [Here for Us MontCo](#), as well as the [Interagency Council of Norristown](#) and the [Tri-County Community Network](#) for member distribution and amplification. This survey supports the larger [community engagement recommendations of Here for Us MontCo](#) for ARPA fund decision making; the Bucks-Mont Collaborative, ICN and TCN are steering committee members of Here for Us MontCo and signed on to these recommendations.

This survey is intended to be a small part of these recommendations and the work that the County undertakes in engaging the community. We encourage the County to conduct community meetings and partner with organizations and groups serving diverse communities, especially those whose voices have historically or presently not been included in decision making processes. Community voices, and those with lived experiences with safety net services, need to be included in identifying priorities; they are critical to making decisions for ARPA funding. For groups to consider for surveys, listening sessions, or town halls, please see responses to question five, “Are there community groups, coalitions or other stakeholders you recommend for additional focus groups for the Montgomery County Recovery Office?”

This survey resulted in 77 responses, with raw survey data available to the County as an exported survey spreadsheet. Please see the survey dashboard here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/stories/SM-G69NKHKQ/>

Also included here for County consideration are the notes from the Bucks-Mont Collaborative and Here for Us MontCo 9/28/21 Recovery Office Presentation and Listening Session, saved as a padlet, or online note-sharing system: <https://padlet.com/kristyn9/wkfirt92ofa0gk0r>

Please reach out with any questions to:

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Supplemental:

- 1) Survey responses as exported Excel file
- 2) Survey Highlights

## Survey Highlights: Snapshot 4 Questions

**Based on your personal, family, or professional experiences, what are 3 of the most important community needs to address as we look to rebuild after the pandemic?**

*Note: Individuals responded through checkboxes, with these three community needs receiving the greatest response.*

- 61.04% (47 responses): Services to address behavioral healthcare needs such as mental health treatment, substance use, crisis intervention
- 53.25% (41 responses): Invest in housing and neighborhoods through assistance to those experiencing homelessness, housing affordability programs and housing navigation assistance
- 31.17% (24 responses): Address health disparities and the social determinants of health through community health workers, benefit navigators, lead remediation, and violence intervention

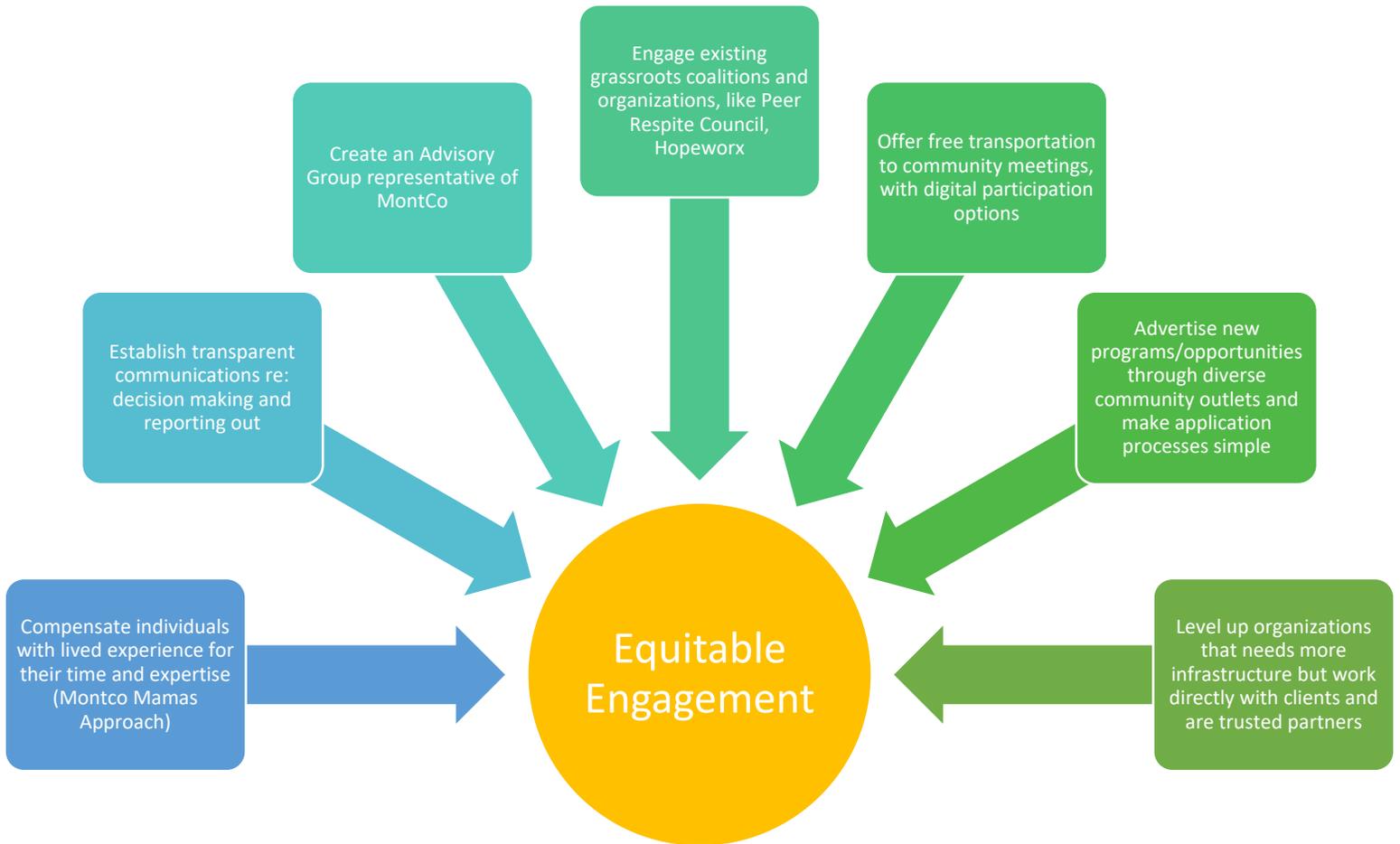
**Are there community groups, coalitions or other stakeholders you recommend for additional focus groups for the Montgomery County Recovery Office?**

Issues, Topics, or Group Categories	Specific Organizations
Peer Respite	ACLAMO
Faith Based Organizations	Asian American Coalition for Healthcare (AACH)
Public Officials and Tax administrators in charge of assessments for taxes	Black Lives Matter
United Way Partner Agencies	Catholic Social Services Montco
Shelters	CCATE
Intermediate Unit	Children and Family Focus
Behavioral Health Partners	Credit Counseling Center
Philanthropy	HealthSpark Foundation
County-funded Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Service Providers	Hopeworx
Front Line Staff (not just CEOs)	Lenape Valley Foundation
School Districts	Manna on Main Street
Community Facebook Networks	Martha's Choice Marketplace
Patch; Local News	Maternal and Early Childhood Consortium (MECC)
Public Libraries	Montco Mamas Project
Small Organizations	Mission Kids Child Advocacy Center
Academic Community	MontCo Anti-Hunger Network
People Experiencing Food Insecurity	Montgomery County Association for the Blind
Teachers	Montgomery County CSP
Nurses, CNA's	Montgomery County Reuniting Family Bail Fund
Minorities/ English Language Learners	NAACP
The Bala Cynwyd Community	NAMI
Housing/homeless service providers	Peer Respite Council, Hopeworx
	Penn Foundation
	Pottstown Works

<p>Low cost or free mental health providers</p> <p>Mental health/substance use programs that support children, youth, and families</p> <p>Basic needs organizations</p> <p>Montgomery County Funders (Private and public funders)</p> <p>Establish a community-based advisory group with diverse representation from across all regions and representative groups</p>	<p>Rahab's Hope</p> <p>Student Assistance Program (SAP)</p> <p>The Council of Southeast PA</p> <p>The Hospitality Center</p> <p>The Upper Merion Community Cupboard</p> <p>Valley Youth House</p> <p>Victim Services Center</p> <p>Women's Center of Montgomery County</p> <p>Your Way Home</p>
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**How do we ensure equity throughout this process?**

*Note: This is a sample of responses. Please see the survey dashboard for a complete list of responses.*



**What are our community's shared challenges? Are there two areas that we could all advocate for regardless of our organizations' missions?**

*Note: Individuals responded through checkboxes, with these two challenge areas receiving the greatest response.*

- Safe, affordable housing (54.67%, 41)
- Mental health services and trauma support (52%, 39)