

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Application

[Print](#)**Submitted by:****Status:** Open**Priority:** Normal**Assigned To:** Jonathan Storage**Due Date:** Open

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Application

Non-Profit, Community Groups, Neighborhood Associations, and Businesses

APPLICATION DEADLINE: December 15th 2021

Application must be completed in full to be considered. Applications may be submitted online using this fillable form. But forms and attachments may also be submitted by email to ARPA@cityofcharleston.org or by U.S. Mail to City Manager's Office, 501 Virginia Street East Charleston, WV 25301.

All requests for funding **must be directly related to COVID-19 mitigation or recovery efforts** and must fall within the parameters of at least one of the goals set by the treasury department along with other requirements listed within this application.

GENERAL INFORMATION

*** Name of Project/Program:**

Cafe' Appalachia Express

*** Organization Name:**

Pollen8, LLC

*** Address:**

PO Box 8011 South Charleston, WV 25303

*** Primary Contact Person:**

Cheryl Laws

Title:

Founder/Chief Executive Officer

*** Phone:**

13043890803

*** Email:**

cheryl@pollen8wv.org

Federal Tax ID:

81-0777076

If applicable: DUNS Number:

007277637

To obtain a DUNS number please visit <https://fedgov.dnb.com/webform> After obtaining, please register your organization with the System for Award Management at <https://sam.gov/SAM/>

List the organization's owner(s), Board of Directors, senior staff members, and other key members:

Cheryl Laws, MA- Founder/Chief Executive Officer Hollie McCraw- Chief Operating Officer Stacie Priestley- ABHC Program Director Lory Lyles- Board President Marlee Layh- Board Vice President Jordan Crist- Board Secretary Dawn Holstein- Board Treasurer Pam Harvit- Board Member Samantha Stone- Board Member Autumn McCraw- Board Member Hawley Carlson- Board Member

Describe any partner organizations, their roles, and your relationship with them:

Our Executive Staff and Treatment Team have been chosen not only for their professional experience but for their passion for the mission of Pollen8. These providers have worked with us without any compensation to build our programs. Their dedication is irreplaceable, and they have been intricate in the planning and implementation of this project. Pollen8 has successfully managed federal funds on previous occasions and complies with all awards. Pollen8 has a Certified Public Accountant on a contract that can provide a letter affirming the strength of Pollen8's accounting policies and procedures. Our financial management system complies with 45 CFR Part 74 and demonstrates Pollen8's ability to manage federal funds responsibly. Pollen8 has instituted a system to track grant spending alongside grant performance so that these can be managed proactively during the funding. Pollen8 Accountant- Susan Graves Susan Graves is a CPA, MBA. Susan has over 35 years of professional experience, and nonprofit organizations are a priority and have become a specialty niche. In addition to providing services that small businesses employ, Susan has expert-level knowledge and experience in fund accounting, grants management and financial reporting, establishing and implementing quality financial policies and procedures, preparing and presenting financial reports to Boards of Directors, fund development software implementation and use, nonprofit management advice, and assisting organizations to prepare and manage financial audits, including A-133 audits as required. Founder/Chief Executive Officer- Cheryl Laws Cheryl Laws is a natural-born entrepreneur. She is the Founder of Pollen8 and has overseen the creation of its program and services. The business plan for Pollen8 and the Reintegr8 program it created was derived from the research during her Master of Arts in Appalachian Studies from Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. Her role is that of a Project Manager for all programs where she oversees the creation, operations, funding, and execution to ensure that the mission of Pollen8 is fulfilled and all contracts are executed to the fullest. Cheryl also builds community relationships and secures funding from grants, foundations, and private donors. Chief Operating Officer - Hollie McCraw Hollie McCraw has over five years of operational management experience. She effectively creates and implements policies and procedures and actions of day-to-day operations and ensures that program goals are being met. She is also in long-term recovery from Substance Use Disorder and provides direct insight into needs and personal experience to recovery processes. Hollie oversees the operations of the treatment center and all social enterprises to ensure policies and procedures are implemented and protocol is followed. She also oversees that all Directors and Managers and their staff execute their assignments and assess the programming flow and adjust operations as needed. Clinical Program Director- Stacie Priestley The Clinical Program Director will oversee all ABHC employees and ensure Policy and Procedure adherence. The Director will review notes and assist in billing and compiling patient data and maintaining files to ensure proper documentation and tracking for each program participant. Stacie has over 11 years of experience as a Practice Manager and Addiction/Behavioral Health Coach. With over 10,000 hours in addiction treatment in all five required domains, she has met all required qualifications for a Drug and Alcohol Counselor. She will be certified prior to the opening of the Appalachian Behavioral HealthCare facility. We also have a Behavioral Treatment Team consisting of a Licensed Clinician, Addiction Counselor, Case Managers, Peer Recovery Support Specialists, and overnight staff to provide 24/7 supervision for participants.

BUDGETARY OVERVIEW - Must match Budget Worksheet

* Funds Requested	* Total Program/Project Cost	Annual Organization Budget
1,246,264.30	2,659,275.36	1,623,225.89

Request Summary

1. Provide a narrative overview/summary of the request.

Topics that may be included but not limited to:

- Purpose and anticipated outcomes
- Individuals, entities, or communities served
- How the pandemic has necessitated this request
- Amount of any estimates and bids received to date
- Timeline for project completion

1. Pollen8 is requesting these funds for startup costs to include buildout, rent, food costs, supplies, marketing, insurance, and wages for trainers for our internship program to ensure proper staffing levels and provide more individualized support during the internship training for the participants in our Reintegr8 program. This location would be downtown Charleston and a duplicated effort of our downtown South Charleston location, Café Appalachia. These startup costs would be from October 2022 to December 2024. a. Purpose and anticipated outcomes through 2024 1 business created 4 businesses improved 9 fulltime positions created for women in recovery 90 interns trained b. Individuals, entities, or communities served Women above the age of 18 who are committed to recovering from Substance Use Disorder in Kanawha, Cabell, Putnam, Boone, Lincoln, and Logan counties. e. Timeline for project completion The Appalachian Regional Commission funds we will be using as Match for this grant necessitates that we have the social enterprise open by October 2022. This funding request is in support of this project throughout December 31,2026.

Attach any additional information such as bids, concepts, designs, letters of support, etc. If submitting electronically the documents must be in PDF, Excel, or Word format and total file size must not exceed 10 megabytes.

Program/Project Details

* 1. The funding will be used to:

- Start a new program/project
 Maintain an existing program/project
 Expand an existing program/project

* 2. If funded, will the program/project be completed within FY 2022?

If no, when is expected completion year?

Yes No

3. Which eligible ARPA Expenditure Category does this program/project represent (See

<https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance.pdf> for further details)? Please check all that apply:

*

- Public Health
 Negative Economic Impacts
 Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities
 Premium Pay
 Infrastructure
 Other

4. Briefly describe the program/project funds are being requested for:

Our program's value and uniqueness are grounded in scholarly literature to address the gaps in current Substance Use Disorder treatment programs. Women in recovery need exposure to as many professional careers and certifications as to create educational attainment of knowledge and experience to allow for more significant opportunities to reintegrate into the workforce. The purpose of this funding request is to build upon a treatment model which will enable us to create an ecosystem of recovery that envelopes women in treatment, provide them a safe place to heal, gives them knowledge in the skill sets they'll need to function within society, and allows them to have the job skills they will need to obtain full-time employment. Pollen8 seeks funding to complete our ecosystem of recovery through the addition of a downtown Charleston location of Café Appalachia called Café Appalachia Express.

5. Describe the need for this program/project:

Prior to the COVID 19 outbreak, West Virginia, the only state entirely inside the Appalachian Region, already had the highest age-adjusted rate of drug overdose deaths involving opioids. In 2018, drug overdose deaths involving opioids totaled 702 (a rate of 42.4), a decline compared to the 833 deaths (a rate of 49.6) in 2017. Deaths involving prescription opioids declined from 304 deaths (a rate of 17.2) in 2017 to 234 deaths (a rate of 13.1) in 2018. This decrease, masked as progress, was largely credited to the use of Naloxone. Naloxone was patented in 1961 and approved for opioid overdose in the United States in 1971. Still, it did not hit the mainstream market in West Virginia until 2015 when a bill was passed by then-Governor Tomblin, allowing the use of Naloxone by first responders, hospitals, and family/friends to reverse the overdose effects of opioids. Deaths involving synthetic opioids other than methadone (mainly fentanyl and fentanyl analogs) or those involving heroin remained steady, with a respective 551 (a rate of 34.0) and 195 deaths (a rate of 12.3) in 2018 (www.drugabuse.gov). Recently, The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) released preliminary data regarding 2020 fatal drug overdoses in the state, indicating an increase in overdose deaths. There were 1,275 confirmed overdoses reported in 2020, increasing from 878 reported in 2019. An increase in overdose deaths has been seen nationwide and according to the Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention (CDC), the recent increase began in 2019 and continued into 2020 before the pandemic. However, the CDC reported increases in overdose deaths appeared to have accelerated during the pandemic. Furthermore, the stress of COVID 19 has increased the number of individuals who are turning to opioids, narcotics, and alcohol as coping mechanisms. The actual increase in overdose deaths during the pandemic will continue to rise as death certificates are processed, as these numbers are preliminary. "While West Virginia is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are also continuing to fight the drug overdose epidemic," said Dr. Ayne Amjad, Commissioner and State Health Officer of DHHR's Bureau for Public Health. "This is a disease, not a choice."

6. List other Charleston organizations in Charleston that address this need:

Recovery Point of Charleston is the only other female inpatient facility in Charleston. However, they do not provide the program or services that Pollen8 offers to women committed to recovering from Substance Use Disorder.

7. Describe the level of collaboration with other organizations on this program/project:

Continuum of Care Pollen8's overarching philosophy is a communitarianism approach. Meaning, every individual is a product of their environment. Multiple organizations have an impact on a person's life and have a certain sense of obligation to the success of that individual. These organizations include the family unit, education, churches, municipalities, healthcare providers, and social programs. It is our belief that there is a certain sense of responsibility from each of these entities when an individual "falls through the cracks". With a communitarianism approach, this means that those who created the problem- must be a part of the solution. Therefore, we partner with our local municipality (The City of South Charleston), churches (Rock Lake Presbyterian Church and St. Paul's United Methodist Church), universities for internships (WVSU Extension Office, Marshal University and WVU MSW programs, and University of Charleston Marketing and MBA programs), Thomas Health Systems, and multiple nonprofit organizations (Manna Meal Garden, Dress for Success, YWCA). Our goal was to create a program that can change the trajectory of women from across West Virginia and to become a leader in the solution to Substance Use Disorder across the United States. Furthermore, we did not create the wheel, so we have partnered with other members of our community with a passion and experience in Substance Use Disorder so that we can pull together our resources and provide the best opportunity at long-term sobriety possible to our participants. Referrals: Addiction Healing Center at St. Francis Hospital Thomas Health Systems, Addiction Healing Center at their St. Francis Hospital campus is an inpatient treatment program designed to assist adult patients with establishing and maintaining sobriety through a 12-step program based on the disease model of addiction. Patients are first detoxed with ongoing nursing and medical care. The length of stay is approximately 28 days. Patients will have an initial evaluation with an Addictionologist or Psychiatrist and regular follow-up throughout the detox program. Therapists will meet with patients to develop an individualized treatment plan and refer those in need of long-term treatment into our RelIntegr8 program at Appalachian Behavioral HealthCare. We also take referrals from Highland Hospital and CAMC detox units. Kanawha and Boone County Adult Drug Court An adult drug court is a specially designed court program. The purpose is to achieve a reduction in recidivism and substance abuse among offenders and to increase the likelihood of successful rehabilitation through early, continuous, and intense treatment; mandatory periodic drug testing; community supervision; appropriate sanctions and incentives; and other rehabilitation services, all of which is supervised by a judicial officer. Drug courts provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, and other related treatment and rehabilitation services. Recovery support through step-down services over the term an offender participates in drug court, provided in phases, is incorporated in every West Virginia drug court. Kanawha and Boone County will refer participants in their Adult Drug Court into our RelIntegr8 program that requires inpatient, long-term treatment. Health Care Providers: Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT) For those participants in our RelIntegr8 program who choose MAT, we have partnered with Bez Psychological to provide Medically Assisted Treatment Services. Bez Psychological is owned and operated by Michelle Bez who started her own clinic to provide Medical Treatment and Counseling to our participants. The Opioid crisis affects not only a person but that person's family and society at large. Bez Psychological understands that the individual entering our program is a daughter, wife, mother, sister, and employee; nonetheless, they are a member of our community seeking help. They see the individual. Their focus is to empower our participants to control their destiny through much-needed quality and collaborative care to function, be productive, and successful, one participant at a time. Medical Screenings: We have partnered with a local health organization, Cabin Creek Health Systems, to provide all medical screenings for our participants. Dr. Catherine Calloway (DO, MPH) has 20 years of experience in women's health with a specialty in hormone replacement therapy. Each participant who comes through our program will receive a medical examination and if medically recommended, have their hormones evaluated and regulated. More often than not, hormone deficiencies are an underlying cause of erratic behavior, depression, and anxiety. Cabin Creek Health Systems will also evaluate each participant for hearing and vision, and those in need of further treatment will be referred out for additional care. Gynecological Care Dr. Michaela Kessler, DO is a Gynecology Specialist in South Charleston, WV, and has over 17 years of experience in the medical field. Dr. Kessler has more experience with Gynecologic Care than other specialists in her area. She graduated from West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine medical school in 2003 and will ensure all our participants receive an annual gynecological evaluation and mammogram to ensure optimal health. Cabin Creek Health Systems Dental Clinics Research indicates that people who suffer from Substance Use Disorder (SUD) generally have poor oral health, which also damages interpersonal skills and results in poor nutrition, increased oral and general infections, and debilitating oral pain. In most cases, SUD leads to tooth decay and gum disease and can be prevented with proper care and treatment. Cabin Creek Health Systems provides low-cost dental care at their Clendenin and Sissonville Health Centers. RelIntegr8 participants will be evaluated and linked to this service as needed at the beginning of their treatment journey. Barriers to Employment: Jobs and Hope Jobs & Hope West Virginia is the state's comprehensive response to the substance use disorder crisis. Established by Governor Jim Justice and the West Virginia Legislature, this program offers support through a statewide collaboration of agencies that provide West Virginians in recovery

the opportunity to obtain career training and to secure meaningful employment. Each participant in our ReIntegr8 program will be assigned a Transition Agent that will work with them to alleviate the barriers that keep people in recovery from identifying meaningful employment. These barriers include: Driver's License Reinstatement: The Safety Treatment Program, now under the authority of the Division of Motor Vehicles, is aimed at West Virginians who have had their licenses suspended or revoked for driving under the influence of alcohol, controlled substances, or drugs. If not otherwise prohibited by state law, West Virginians who successfully complete the program will be eligible to have their driver's licenses reissued. High School Equivalency (GED): If applicable, participants will complete a 30-day job readiness and training resulting in basic certifications such as food handler's card, safety/customer service, and entry level hospitality. Transition Agents will also help participants earn their High School Equivalency, which is mandatory in our ReIntegr8 program. Long-Term Training (1-2 years): Advanced Career Education (ACE) offers credentials, certifications, licenses, and on-the-job training opportunities in growing industries across the state, creating a highly-skilled talent pipeline for West Virginia businesses. ACE students can gain industry-specific skills (Electrician, Barber, EMT, Welding, Nursing, Veterinary Tech, and Carpentry) through hands-on training with specialized equipment at nationally accredited career centers across the state. Expungement: West Virginians convicted of certain non-violent criminal offenses and certain non-violent felonies will be eligible to have their crimes expunged after completing the Jobs & Hope program's appropriate steps. This expungement can only be used once. Time for expungement varies based on the specific violation. If sentenced to a period of supervision or confinement, individuals must complete the sentenced period before being eligible for expungement. Certain crimes are not eligible for expungement under the state law, which pertains to Jobs & Hope. These include (but are not limited to) violent felony offenses, felony offenses in which the victim was a minor, non-violent criminal offenses involving intentional injury to a minor or a law enforcement officer, offenses in which the victim was a spouse, and offenses for which the sentencing judge made a written finding that the offense was sexually motivated. Employment: The City of South Charleston- Chamber of Commerce Our Employment Outreach Coordinator (EOC) is a Certified Peer Recovery Support Specialist that works with local business owners to build our Community Hiring Partners (CHP) initiative. Community Hiring Partners are local business owners that are willing to be trained in our curriculum featuring Trauma-Informed Peer Support (TIPS), Mental Health First Aid, and Naloxone training. These CHPs will be a leader in their industry in creating a system of recovery-conducive employment opportunities for women in recovery. We have partnered with the mayor of South Charleston and their Chamber of Commerce division to recruit local business members willing to participate. Those businesses that join us in helping the women in our program re-enter the workforce will be rewarded with free marketing offered by the City of South Charleston as one of our Community Hiring Partners. This marketing incentive will include banners, print, radio, and social media. Housing: Reloc8 is another portion of our program that works with local property owners throughout Charleston and surrounding areas that have apartment complexes and multi-family units and who are willing to create sober living housing opportunities for the women in our program after they graduate from our in-patient treatment program. Women living in this housing must also have full-time employment with one of our Community Hiring Partners and be willing to participate in an additional 12-months of out-patient clinical services provided by our Appalachian Behavioral HealthCare treatment team. Charleston-Kanawha Housing Authority Charleston-Kanawha Housing has provided decent, safe, & sanitary housing for low & moderate-income residents for more than 75 years. It is the largest assisted housing agency in West Virginia, providing housing assistance for more than 4,400 families. Charleston-Kanawha Housing offers two types of housing assistance. Public housing is made up of housing units located in developments owned and operated by Charleston-Kanawha Housing. Rental Assistance or Section 8 allows the tenant to find their accommodation, and Charleston-Kanawha Housing provides a subsidy to the landlord. It administers Section 8 Housing Vouchers throughout Clay, Kanawha, & Putnam Counties. Chapter 1 participants of our ReIntegr8 program are immediately assisted by their Case Manager in completing their Section 8 voucher application that pre-qualifies them for when they have full-time employment (Week 19) and qualifies to be placed on the waitlist for housing. A current system of unsubstantiated reporting amongst care providers creates a perpetual treatment cycle per patient and lack of adequate reporting statistics. This prevents current treatment models the ability to assess and adapt programming for increased long-term results. The Continuum of Care will meet on a monthly basis to share news and information, additional resources, and joint-venture funding opportunities so that there is not a duplication of services, but that already existing and successful programs can be expanded upon and improved. This COC will also ensure that each resident being discharged from our program is referred/linked to services/supports as needed to enable her to continue her recovery.

8. How will duplication of services be prevented?

Recovery from Substance Use Disorder can often take an average of 5.35 attempts through treatment programs (www.williamwhitepapers.com). Understanding this, Pollen8 seeks to decrease that amount by filling gaps within the current treatment model. We have created Reintegr8 so there is extended care that not only treats the disorder but also provides social reintegration services for a continuous 18 months until recovery sustainability is achieved. However, there is the possibility of a duplication of services if an individual is discharged or leaves the program. We will always provide space to give someone a second chance. Furthermore, along the lines of duplication, there is currently no treatment program that provides a full continuum of care incorporating prevention, treatment, and reintegration within the same program. Our long-term goal is to replicate our program in a kit to pollinate it across West Virginia and beyond.

Program Requirements and Objectives

1. Identify the target recipients of proposed services. Specify the number of City residents the program will serve during the fiscal year and explain the basis upon which this number is calculated.

Our Reintegr8 program will bring through 60 women per year at Appalachian Behavioral HealthCare (ABHC). We also provide healthy food options for our communities (South Charleston and downtown Charleston).

2. List any eligibility requirements the program has with respect to age, gender, income, or residence.

Our Reintegr8 program targets women aged 18-60 years old who are residents of West Virginia and in need of recovery from Substance Use Disorder. Participants must be low-income and qualify for medical cards through the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources.

3. If this is a continuing activity, describe a measurable outcome of the previous year's work regardless of funding source.

Pollen8's Reintegr8 program was launched in 2018. To date, Pollen8 has successfully graduated 15 participants from our pilot Reintegr8 program. All of them are currently still sober and several have gone on to do meaningful jobs within the recovery community. Autumn M. is the female housing inspector for West Virginia Alliance for Recovery Residencies, Gina V. is in graduate school at Marshall University for her Masters in Social Work and works as a Peer Recovery Support Specialist at Mountaineer Recovery, Ashley M. is an AmeriCorps VISTA and is currently serving at Pollen8, Kendra S. is a Rehabilitation Specialist in Wayne County, Amber D. is the 2nd Shift Supervisor at Recovery Point of Charleston- to name a few. The impact of our programming has proven successful in long-term and sustainable recovery for women in our community. We look forward to watching this opportunity grow through our treatment center.

4. If this is a new program describe two anticipated measurable outcomes for the proposed program.

Although our Reintegr8 program is an ongoing program, Café Appalachia Express, which is the portion of this programming that we are requesting funding for, is a new business. Therefore, we will produce 1 business created, 9 jobs created, and 30,000-foot traffic in the first 2 full years of operation. Furthermore, we anticipate training 90 interns within that same timeframe.

Budget

*** 1. Has the organization received funding from the City of Charleston in the past for a similar program/project?**

Yes No

*** 2. Has the organization requested funding from other Federal, State, or Local government entities for any program/project support related to COVID-19?**

Yes No

3. If yes, explain from which entities and the amounts requested for each program/project.

We requested ARP funding through the Kanawha County Commission to help complete the project for Appalachian Behavioral HealthCare and received \$200,000 in 2021.

4. List any other Federal, State, Local, or private funding or grant awards received in the last three years and the amount and status of each award.

2019 \$10,000 The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation COMPLETED \$6,000 Encova COMPLETED \$2,970 Try This West Virginia COMPLETED \$2,500 Sister of St. Joseph Health and Wellness Foundation COMPLETED 2020 \$13,750 The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation COMPLETED \$10,000 Glotfelty Foundation COMPLETED \$25,200 United Way COMPLETED \$2,150 Try This West Virginia COMPLETED \$3,000 Try This West Virginia COMPLETED \$11,200 Pallottine Foundation ACTIVE \$1,750 Sisters f St. Joseph Health and Wellness Foundation COMPLETED \$95,000 United HealthCare ACTIVE \$1,000 City of Charleston COMPLETED \$1,500 Encova COMPLETED \$384,407 Ryan Brown Funding ACTIVE \$133,225 State Opioid Response (SOR) COMPLETED 2021 \$494,652 Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) ACTIVE \$43,000 Pallottine Foundation ACTIVE \$29,750 The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation ACTIVE \$10,000 WV Department of Health and Human Resources COMPLETED \$143,638 State Opioid Response (SOR) ACTIVE \$200,000 Kanawha County Commission ACTIVE \$10,000 Huntington Banks ACTIVE \$20,000 Truist (BB&T) ACTIVE \$5,000 City of South Charleston COMPLETED

5. Briefly summarize project revenues and expenses related to this request. This should coincide with the budget worksheet.

6. If this request is not fully funded, what adjustments to the program/project is the organization prepared to make?

7. Describe the plan for sustainability of the program/project or initiative after the requested award has been exhausted.

8. Briefly describe the organization’s fiscal oversight / internal controls to minimize opportunities for fraud, waste, and mismanagement.

9. How does your agency plan to separate ARPA funds from other agency funds for purposes of identification, tracking, reporting and auditing?

REQUESTED BUDGET WORKSHEET

Revenue Source Projections

List all Estimated Funding for this Program/Project

* Proposed City ARPA Funding	Internal/Self-Funding
1,246,264.30	1,215,929.18
Donations/Other Fundraising	Government Grants/Other
0	197,081.88
* TOTAL REVENUE	
2,659,275.36	

Expenses Projections

List all Estimated Expenses for this Program/Project

Salaries/Wages

Amount Requested from City	Amount from Other Sources	Total Estimated Expenses
480,000	515,650	995,650

Benefits & Matchings

Amount Requested from City	Amount from Other Sources	Total Estimated Expenses
49,680	334,169.78	383,849.78

Contracted Services

Amount Requested from City	Amount from Other Sources	Total Estimated Expenses
0	0	0

Program Materials

Amount Requested from City	Amount from Other Sources	Total Estimated Expenses
496,046.30	304,918.88	800,965.18

Marketing

Amount Requested from City	Amount from Other Sources	Total Estimated Expenses
26,000	2,000	28,000

Supplies

Amount Requested from City	Amount from Other Sources	Total Estimated Expenses
0	0	0

Other

Amount Requested from City	Amount from Other Sources	Total Estimated Expenses
194,538	256,272.40	450,810.40

Total Expenses

* Amount Requested from City	* Amount from Other Sources	* Total Estimated Expenses
1,246,264.30	1,413,011.06	2,659,275.36

NOTE: Revenues and Expenses must balance, and the use of requested funds must be directly related to COVID-19 recovery efforts.

Organizational Details

1. Describe the history of the organization and its current programs and activities.

Pollen8 is a nonprofit organization that aspires to create a recovery ecosystem that includes treatment, personal development, employment, and housing for women in recovery from Substance Use Disorder. Pollen8 created a proprietary social-human sustainability model designed to fill a gap within current Substance Use Disorder programs. Pollen8's Reintegr8 program was developed out of research and best-demonstrated practices of evidence-based programming across the United States, Canada, and Brazil. Statistics gathered from that research were used in the thesis of the founder of Pollen8 during her Master of Arts in Appalachian Studies that later became the business plan for Pollen8. A direct link has been identified from that research between poverty and drug usage with the underlying cause Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). Furthermore, it was identified that 85% of individuals who participate in an in-patient treatment program relapse within the first-year post-treatment due to three habitual environmental factors; (1) monotony of life- lack sense of purpose, (2) return to the same low socioeconomic status- live in poverty, and (3) unsafe living environment- the threat of returning to the place where they used drugs before. The removal of these barriers is pertinent for successful reintegration and long-term recovery from Substance Use Disorder. Without removal, this will perpetuate the cycle of drug use until the gaps in services are filled. At Pollen8, we believe by addressing the causes of relapse, we will grow sober women who can become reconnected and productive members of society through our reintegration process and

model. We feed their physical, social, and spiritual needs, and we teach them the path to productive and sober living (Grow, Feed, Teach). Reintegr8 Model Reintegr8 was created to empower women to break free from the chains of addiction with intensive treatment for the underlying causes of their addiction, employability internships at 4 social enterprises (Café Appalachia, Café Appalachia Catering, Café Appalachia Express, and Cultiv8), a Basic Life Skills curriculum (Adult Roles/Responsibilities, Finance, Effective Communication, ACEs Reduction, and Health/Wellness/Nutrition), post-graduation job placement at one of our Community Hiring Partners (CHP), and safe/sober housing (Reloc8). Our specialty is reintegration strategies to offer long-term sustainability for recovery by providing community inclusion and positive relationships as a foundation for sobriety versus a life of exclusion through active addiction. Furthermore, we forge community partnerships with local municipalities, churches, nonprofit organizations, community colleges, and universities to draw upon the resources available within our community to lend support to the women we serve to provide them with optimal opportunities to thrive. Our goal is to restore healthy women to their families, friendships, and society at large. Reintegr8 is comprised of 4 chapters: Chapter 1 (weeks 1-5): The women come to live with us at Appalachian Behavioral Healthcare (ABHC) in our community style, in-patient, treatment center where they participate in 17 hours/weekly of intensive individual and group therapy for the underlying causes of their addiction. Chapter 2 (weeks 6-19): During this chapter, treatment decreases to 5 hours/weekly of individual and group therapy. Participants begin their internship at our social enterprises (Cultiv8, Café Appalachia Catering, Café Appalachia, and Café Appalachia Express) where they learn valuable employability skills and gain agriculture, culinary, barista, and event planning, as well as resume building and interview skills. During their internships, participants will acquire techniques that can be utilized in the workforce and in their home to prepare healthy meals for their families. They will also receive a state-certified Food Handlers Card. During this chapter, they are also required to acquire a bare minimum of their General Education Development (GED) and follow a curriculum that is compiled of the 12 Steps and Basic Life Skills (Adult Roles/Responsibilities, Finance I, Effective Communication, ACEs Reduction, and Health/Wellness/Nutrition). At week 19, participants interview and are placed with a Community Hiring Partner for full-time employment. Chapter 3 (weeks 20-26): During this chapter, participants who have successfully transitioned through Chapter 1 and 2 can move into our community style apartment for the remainder of their in-patient treatment. They will receive more freedom (i.e., cell phones) and begin working their permanent positions with one of our Community Hiring Partners. At the completion of week 26, participants will graduate our in-patient treatment program. Chapter 4 (52 weeks): Upon graduation of our in-patient treatment program, successful graduates will continue to work for their assigned Community Hiring Partner while also receiving assistance in locating safe/sober housing through Reloc8. Our ABHC treatment team will continue to provide out-patient services and their treatment plan will be modified according to their immediate needs. Treatment (Monotony of life) To house our Reintegr8 program, Pollen8 has created a treatment center, Appalachian Behavioral HealthCare (ABHC), that is unlike any other. Appalachian Behavioral HealthCare (ABHC) is a licensed behavioral health facility with an ASAM 3.5 and 3.1 level of care. The residential treatment facility provides intensive inpatient treatment to an all-female population. At full capacity, the facility will house 30 women (60 annually) for a minimum of 6 months (26-weeks). Residents will be supervised by staff onsite twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week. The demographics served will be from Kanawha and surrounding counties due to the resources and community partnerships we build on a regional basis. Our pre-requisite is a completed short-term detoxification (3.7 level of care). We focus on a person-centered approach to recovery that allows everyone the opportunity to choose their path to life-long sobriety. This will include access to all (3) FDA approved, medically assisted treatment (MAT) options, including buprenorphine, methadone, and naltrexone as well as abstinence-based recovery. Our team of highly trained professionals will work with the women in our program to create a treatment plan focused on the individual and what works best for their recovery. Participants will make that decision with our experienced team of addiction specialists and medical providers. Our Medical Director, Michele Bez of Bez Psychological, will carry out the evaluations, treatment plans, follow-ups, monitoring, and medication administration for each patient under MAT. This will also include those being treated with a dual diagnosis. Each MAT participant will adhere to a medication and treatment contract per WV State Substance Abuse treatment rules and regulations. Whichever path they choose, treatment will immediately begin to identify (2) key questions: Why are you here (underlying causes of addiction), and why are you alive (what is your reason for living)? The first path will address the underlying causes of addiction onset (ACE's, genetic predisposition for addiction, and dual diagnosis) provided by our treatment team. Clinical hours will be spent identifying these causes and met with Cognitive Behavioral Therapy to begin to dis-identify with the precursors and focus on the next question: What will excite them to change the monotony of life and to help them create a life worth abstaining from relapse? We help them build this life through exposing them to potential hobbies, nature, and a supportive community. Our highly trained ABHC treatment team comprised of a Licensed Clinician, Alcohol and Drug Counselor, Case Managers, and Peer Recovery Support Specialists work with the women to alleviate any barriers they may have to complete the program chapters. Our Clinical Program Director is an Alcohol and Drug Counselor and will oversee our Peer Recovery Support Specialists (women in long-term recovery) who will work with participants during day to day living and acclimation into the program while monitoring resident attendance to all group meetings (such as NA/AA), volunteer activity, drug/alcohol abstinence and participation with all conditions of community placement. Case Managers mentor and aid participants in a successful transition back into the community by providing supportive services to identify the present-day state of their social (family, friends, community), financial (restitution, citations, child support, student loans), and legal (civil, CPS, criminal) situations. Our long-term goal is to create a spark within participants to want to continue to remain drug-free by finding a passion or dream they can work towards to better themselves (through higher education attainment, career choice, and future aspirations). We provide various forms of liberal arts therapy such as music, poetry, art, movement, and theater as an evidence-based emotional expression to alleviate feelings, emotions, and trauma. Additionally, each participant will receive a medical screening to include physical, psychological, gynecological, dental, and vision to ensure that they are healthy and on the path to a full recovery both mentally, physically, and spiritually. Social Enterprises (socioeconomic status) Social enterprises are real-time work experiences that provide internships for participants in our Reintegr8, to elevate their socioeconomic status. Through our social enterprises, we not only provide economic development to our community through 4 businesses open to the public, but also lend long-term

sustainability to our organization. Social enterprises improve the knowledge and health of women to work and succeed in Appalachia and create full-time, livable wage positions so that the women can change the trajectory of their futures. Furthermore, we provide other local businesses (Community Hiring Partners) a drug-free and skilled labor force with a population that has been deemed unbeneficial by society. Community Hiring Partners (CHP) are locally owned businesses in our community that we certify as Recovery Conducive Employers. These are business that receive training in Naloxone and are educated in recovery and how to provide an environment that is safe for our participants to work and prosper. Pollen8 aspires to create a network of social enterprises that offers a social experience that centers around the table to our community and generates revenue for program sustainability. They allow women to gain workforce development and to receive valuable social and employability skills. We focus on not just the culinary and hospitality skills within each social enterprise, but the soft skills such as stress management and effective communication. These skills help them create social resources and a long-term sustainability plan for their future. Social Enterprises provide real-time, controlled workforce environments. These social enterprises are also the building blocks to our long-term sustainability plan for Pollen8. Each will generate revenue to cover its overhead, and excess revenue will be reinvested back into our ReIntegr8 program. Our social enterprises promote community healing and are agriculturally driven. Lastly, they provide an opportunity for the women to begin to reintegrate back into their community. In contrast, their community experiences the difference between active addiction and a person in recovery. To ensure our participants receive the training necessary for long-term employment, we have created the following social enterprises to serve as training hubs: Café Appalachia (opened 7/23/2018) - is open to the public as a coffee house and popular breakfast and lunch destination. The Café offers garden-to-table foods grown onsite and locally sourced through Cultiv8. ReIntegr8 participants intern at Café Appalachia, where they learn how to prepare wholesome, nutritious meals, and gain valuable skills and employment experiences. It also provides a safe and recovery-conducive environment to allow the community and person in recovery to interface. Job skills in barista, cooking, front/back of the house, and hospitality are obtained. Café Appalachia also serves as a venue for hosting private events for Café Appalachia Catering. In March 2021, Pollen8 received a \$494,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) to complete our social enterprises. The following will be our expansions: Cultiv8 (launched 4/20/2018) – Cultiv8 was created to train women in agriculture while they tend and manage multi-location grow sites for Pollen8. They train in growing, harvesting, irrigation, aggregation, and marketing. Cultiv8 currently has 24 raised beds, hydroponic towers, and a greenhouse. In 2023, through the support of the ARC, we will expand this operation to include 2 USDA greenhouses and an urban farm. The ability to expand our operation to include a greenhouse and urban farm will allow us to extend our growing season and, therefore, our reach into our community by providing year-round, fresh, and locally sourced food. Café Appalachia Catering Kitchen (opening First Quarter, 2022) – Café Appalachia Catering provides training in the culinary arts and event planning for women in our ReIntegr8 program. The catering offers healthy, nutritious food options for corporate events, receptions, graduations, birthdays, holiday events, baby showers, or getting the gang together for lunch or dinner. The catering kitchen was designed for processing, stabilizing, and producing value-added products grown at the various grow sites of Cultiv8. The catering kitchen acts as a commissary kitchen which is a centralized location to prepare the fresh produce and aggregate it to our other social enterprises (Café Appalachia and Café Appalachia Express). The internship will include training in basic food handling, preparation, and event planning in 3 tiers of training. All skills that are learned will be able to be utilized at home in their kitchen or even planning the next family reunion. • Tier 1- they learn valuable culinary skills by preparing the produce harvested from Cultiv8 for value-added items for Café Appalachia, Café Appalachia Express, and Café Appalachia Catering, where they learn knife skills and receive a Food Handlers Certificate. They also learn to store excess, prepare meals for caterings, and acquire real-life cooking skills. • Tier 2- they learn how to prepare offsite caterings to local businesses and organizations. • Tier 3- they gain experience in hosting private events at Café Appalachia. Café Appalachia Express (opening Third Quarter, 2022) - will be a downtown Charleston location to extend our reach and branding and provide another atmosphere for the community and place to create more internships and full-time employment for women in recovery. Upper management of all of Pollen8's social enterprises will be trained in Trauma-Informed Peer Support (TIPS) and Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) to educate on the patience and requirements they will need to successfully train the women in our ReIntegr8 program. Through Case Management and a controlled work and living environment, we can ensure a full continuum of care and identify daily stressors to teach navigation and ensure healthy coping skills are applied. Pollen8 seeks to advance our effectiveness with the women we serve and to strengthen our ability to extend our reach further into our community. Funds we've acquired through United HealthCare will allow us to create an evidenced-based program built upon the best practices of existing programs such as Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP), Motivational Interviewing, Person-Centered Care, and Mental Health First Aid (MHFA). Best practices from these training programs and our developed Basic Life Skills curriculum will become certified as evidenced-based by an accredited, outside organization.

2. Provide the organization's mission statement/purpose.

Pollen8 breaks the cycle of addiction by providing prevention, treatment, and reintegration strategies for women in recovery through our proprietary social-human sustainability program, ReIntegr8. We envision an Appalachia where women are no longer bound by addiction. We believe in the values of purpose, health, and community and honor those ideals in our services.

3. List any third-party references that can verify the organizations qualification or prior grant experience.

The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation- Stephanie Hyre (304-346-3620 Ext. 15) The Pallottine Foundation- Jannel Ray (304-397-5955) Try this West Virginia- Brittney Barlett (304-997-4628)

COVID-19 Impact

1. Explain the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and how it relates to your request. For example, reduction in services, closures, increased costs, community impact, etc.

COVID-19 has resulted in many unforeseen consequences to the people of our state including isolation, increased depression symptoms, lack of social support and ultimately a decline in mental health. Our community was hit most by COVID-19 with a rise in the overdose rate, increase in relapse, and therefore an importance and necessity to expand recovery services. Behavioral and mental health services are vital for battling the current influx in relapse and overdoses in our community. Mental healthcare and behavioral healthcare are under high demand and our organization has risen to the occasion to provide these services through funds made available through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). "Yearly overdose deaths have topped 100,000 for the first time with some of the largest increases in West Virginia, according to new federal data published Wednesday. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said the unprecedented milestone is tied to the COVID-19 pandemic and a more dangerous drug supply. Overdose deaths nationally increased nearly 30 percent from April 2020 to April 2021. In West Virginia, that number jumped by 62 percent." (www.wvmetronews.com) Organizationally, Pollen8 was affected through the creation of our treatment center, Appalachian Behavioral HealthCare (ABHC). The former Rock Lake Pool and Putt-Putt building was originally built in 1986. The building has sat vacant since 2008. The building was outdated, and we were required to install a sprinkler system, 4 new HVAC units, new electrical lines, plumbing, hot water tanks, fire alarm system, fire suppression system, and general renovations for our business purpose. The first 9 months of our remodel were during COVID. Construction and any forward progress were suppressed for the majority of this time while we were also faced with increased material costs and decreased productivity due to loss of manpower. Our initial budget was created to open in October 2020 and will not be able to take participants until January 3, 2022. Furthermore, our initial plan for Café Appalachia Express was to further our partnership with Thomas Health Systems where they had generously agreed to build out their administrative offices at their St. Francis location to allow us to house Café Appalachia Express inside of the hospital. Since COVID 19, the foot traffic has decreased significantly and would not be a promising location to sustain operations. We are currently seeking funding to identify a new downtown Charleston location.

2. If funds are being requested to replace revenue lost due to COVID-19, provide details, and attach supportive documentation.

N/A

3. If awarded, how will ARPA funding aid in the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic?

These funds would aid in the recovery from COVID-19 by providing access to a comprehensive program for people who suffer from Substance Use Disorder. Creating a social space, preventing isolation, and providing community connections. Furthermore, if awarded, these funds would aid in the recovery from COVID-19 pandemic because we have been forced to identify a new location downtown Charleston for Appalachia Express due to the loss of foot traffic at St. Francis Hospital, where we were originally intended to open. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) would allow us to expand our reach further into the community to bring services to women in recovery from Substance Use Disorder. Specifically, these funds would allow us to create a downtown location of Café Appalachia, Café Appalachia Express. Café Appalachia is an eatery that would provide downtown Charleston a healthy food choice of garden-to-table meals serving breakfast, lunch, and a dinner "grab and go" menu that can be taken home to eat with the family or eaten in an inviting atmosphere. This location would provide Charleston a unique opportunity to bring people from all walks of life together for a meal that is wholesome, locally sourced, and garden fresh. Menu items that we can't make or grow ourselves are as locally sourced as possible and we build partnerships with locally owned businesses such as bread from Charleston Bread and olive oil from DiTrapano Oil. During the weekend, Café Appalachia Express will also be a destination hang out spot for people in recovery or people who do not consume alcohol yet still want to socialize with their community and enjoy an evening out on the town. Additionally, this location will meet the need we have in Kanawha County to provide a space for the community to meet and connect with each other without the pressure (direct or indirect) of feeling they must be under the influence to have a good time. This provides a space not only for those in our community who are in recovery from Substance Use Disorder, but it is also proven that there are lower drinking rates in millennials and Generation Z. Temperance bars are a movement sweeping across the United States that provide people in recovery or people that do not participate in the consumption of alcohol a place to come together for social interaction without the pressures of walking in a venue that serves alcohol. While this will not have the deemed title of "sober bar" it will carry the concept. With our downtown location of Café Appalachia Express, we would like to provide a new space for Charlestonians where there is live music, trivia, karaoke, darts, even a pool table that can be enjoyed without relapse or a hangover.

THE APPLICANT UNDERSTANDS:

*

- 1. This application and other materials submitted to the City may constitute public records which may be subject to disclosure under the West Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Documents containing sensitive information may be marked as "confidential."**

*

- 2. Submitting false or misleading information in connection with an application may result in the applicant being found ineligible for financial assistance under the funding program, and the applicant or its representative may be subject to civil and/or criminal prosecution.**

THE APPLICANT CERTIFIES THAT:

*

1. I have reviewed the US Treasury guidelines regarding the eligible uses of American Rescue Plan State and Local recovery funds. <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/state-and-local-fiscal-recovery-fund/request-funding>

*

2. By submitting this request, I represent that I am an authorized officer, or member of the organization for which I am submitting, and the information contained in my submittal is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

*

3. The information submitted to the City of Charleston ("City") in this application, and substantially in connection with this application, is true and correct.

*

4. The applicant is in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, ordinances and orders applicable to it that could have an adverse material impact on the project. Adverse material impact includes lawsuits, criminal or civil actions, bankruptcy proceedings, regulatory action by a governmental entity or inadequate capital to complete the project.

*

5. The applicant is not in default under the terms and conditions of any grant or loan agreements, leases or financing arrangements with its other creditors that could have an adverse material impact on the project.

*

6. I understand and agree that I must disclose, and will continue to disclose, any occurrence or event that could have an adverse material impact on the project.

*

7. I certify that the requested funding is needed to ensure this program/project will occur within the City limits of Charleston West Virginia.

*

8. The Board of Directors or governing body of the organization has approved submission of this application. Please attach a copy of the authorizing resolution or meeting minutes using the file upload.

* **Signature*** **Date**

Cheryl Laws

12/15/2021

Authorized representative of Applicant/Organization

Format: MM/DD/YYYY

* **PRINTED NAME:**

Cheryl Laws

* **TITLE OF APPLICANT:**

Founder/CEO

* **ORGANIZATION NAME:**

Pollen8, LLC

Upload a File

Choose File No file chosen