



Legislation Text

File #: 1223-2024, **Version:** 1

Background: This ordinance authorizes the City Clerk to enter into a grant agreement with Our Community Group in support of their Break Bread Men's Wellness Series.

The mission of Our Community Group is to educate, mobilize, and empower African Americans in wellness, education, and economics. They strive to create a supportive and inclusive environment where individuals can thrive and reach their full potential. By offering resources, advocacy, and opportunities for growth, they aim to improve the overall quality of life for black people across central Ohio.

The Break Bread program is an integral part of the "Brother to Brother" initiative, aimed at addressing mental health challenges within the African American male community in Columbus, Ohio. This innovative program recognizes the unique needs of this demographic and offers a supportive environment where African American men can come together, engage in open dialogue, receive valuable education, and access group therapy facilitated by mental health professionals. Through the Three Ts: Talking, Teaching, and Therapy, this program aspires to foster a culture of emotional well-being, resilience, and empowerment among its participants. Up to \$9,000.00 of food and non-alcoholic beverage expenses are authorized under this grant.

Break Bread meetings are scheduled to take place twice a month throughout the year, once virtually and once in person. This balanced approach ensures accessibility while allowing for the benefits of both virtual and in-person interactions.

The Break Bread Wellness Series will also have a Brother to Brother Men's Summit which is a half-day summit comprising informative workshops, engaging keynotes, and community resources specifically focused on addressing the needs of Black Men. Attendees will complete a survey as well as a needs assessment and will have a success coach follow up with them to assist with referrals to appropriate resources, follow up programming, and track outcomes.

Fiscal Impact: Funding is available within the Neighborhood Initiatives subfund.

To authorize the City Clerk to enter into a grant agreement with Our Community Group in support of their Break Bread Men's Wellness Series; to authorize payment for reasonable food and non-alcoholic beverages for residents; and to authorize an appropriation and expenditure within the Neighborhood Initiatives subfund. (\$75,000.00)

WHEREAS, the mission of Our Community Group is to educate, mobilize, and empower African Americans in wellness, education, and economics; and

WHEREAS, the Break Bread program is an integral part of the "Brother to Brother" initiative, aimed at addressing mental health challenges within the African American male community in Columbus, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the Break Bread program recognizes the unique needs of this demographic and offers a supportive environment where African American men can come together, engage in open dialogue, receive valuable education, and access group therapy facilitated by mental health professionals; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

SECTION 1. That the City Clerk is authorized to enter into a grant agreement with the not-for-profit Our Community Group in support of their Break Bread Men's Wellness Series.

SECTION 2. That the appropriation and expenditure of \$75,000.00, or so much thereof as may be needed pursuant to the action authorized in SECTION 1, is authorized in the Neighborhood Initiatives subfund, fund 1000, subfund 100018, per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

SECTION 3. That up to \$9,000.00 of said expenditure may be for food and non-alcoholic beverage purchases and that City Council finds such expenditure to be for a proper public purpose. No expenditure may be made for alcoholic beverage purchases.

SECTION 4. That the funds necessary to carry out the purpose of this ordinance are deemed appropriated, and the City Auditor shall establish such accounting codes as necessary.

SECTION 5. That the City Auditor is authorized to make any accounting changes to revise the funding source for all contracts or contract modifications associated with this ordinance.

SECTION 6. That this ordinance will take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.