



## Legislation Text

---

**File #:** 0518-2018, **Version:** 1

---

This ordinance authorizes an appropriation to the Department of Neighborhoods within the Neighborhood Initiatives subfund and expenditures associated with the My Brother's Keeper grants program.

In 2014 President Obama called on cities, non-profits, and the private sector to collaborate and close opportunity gaps for boys and young men of color (B&YMOC). Columbus was one of the first cities to answer this call. The city and partner organizations brought together more than 500 B&YMOC to ensure that Columbus' My Brother's Keeper (MBK) work was grounded in testimony from the target population. Numerous non-profit service providers, schools, and companies have created programs to serve vulnerable youth of color since the launch of the national MBK initiative. In 2015, Senator Sherrod Brown and former Chair of the National MBK initiative and Obama Cabinet Secretary Broderick Johnson hosted an event to highlight Columbus' MBK initiative.

After the event, Secretary Johnson said that without hard data, the city would not be able to effectively serve B&YMOC in Columbus. Columbus City Council contracted with the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity to gather data on youth vulnerability, map community assets, and determine a strategic investment framework. The study was released in the December of 2017.

The purpose of the MBK grants is to financially support programs that have shown success in one of the four categories the Kirwan Institute identified as contributing to youth vulnerability: economics, safety, education, and health. Many non-profits, churches, and community leaders have led the charge in our neighborhoods for years. The MBK Grants Program will allow those organizations to grow their capacity and serve more B&YMOC in Columbus.

The Department of Neighborhoods will administer the competitive grants program based on the outcomes of four community/service provider conversations, one conversation per realm of vulnerability. These conversations, along with the Kirwan Report's spatial analysis of vulnerability in Columbus, will help the Department of Neighborhoods construct the evaluation criteria and grant size.

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

To authorize an appropriation and expenditure within the Neighborhood Initiatives subfund in support of the My Brother's Keeper Grants Program; and to authorize the Director of the Department of Neighborhoods to enter into grant agreements with various service providers. (\$100,000.00)

**WHEREAS**, in 2014 President Obama called on cities, non-profits, and the private sector to collaborate and close opportunity gaps for boys and young men of color; and

**WHEREAS**, numerous non-profit service providers, schools, and companies have created programs to serve vulnerable youth of color since the launch of the national My Brother's Keeper (MBK) initiative; and

**WHEREAS**, Columbus City Council contracted with the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity to gather data on youth vulnerability, map community assets, and determine a strategic investment framework; and

**WHEREAS**, the MBK grants is to financially support programs that have shown success in one of the four categories the Kirwan Institute identified as contributing to youth vulnerability: economics, safety, education, and health; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Neighborhoods will administer the competitive grants program based on the outcomes of four community/service provider conversations; and

**WHEREAS**, it has become necessary in the usual daily operation of the Department of Neighborhoods to authorize an appropriation and expenditure within the Neighborhood Initiatives subfund in support of the My Brother's Keeper Grants Program; **now, therefore**,

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

**SECTION 1.** That the City Auditor is hereby authorized and directed to appropriate \$100,000.00 in the Neighborhood Initiatives subfund, fund 1000, subfund 100018, to the Department of Neighborhoods per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

**SECTION 2.** That the Director of the Department of Neighborhoods is authorized to enter into grant agreements with service providers under the My Brother's Keeper Grants Program.

**SECTION 3.** That the expenditure of \$100,000.00 or so much thereof as may be needed pursuant to the administration of the MBK Grants Program, is hereby authorized in the Neighborhood Initiatives subfund, fund 1000, subfund 100018 per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

**SECTION 4.** 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 legislation.

**SECTION 5.** That this ordinance shall take effect at the earliest date allowable under law.