



Legislation Text

File #: 1518-2018, **Version:** 1

This ordinance authorizes Columbus City Council to enter into a grant agreement with the African American Male Wellness Walk Initiative in support of the 2018 Walk, which will take place on August 11, 2018.

The National African American Male Wellness Walk was established in 2004 to empower men to better understand and take action to improve their health. The Walk is currently in its 15th year and will have an estimated participation of 25,000 individuals in Central Ohio and over 50,000 nationally.

The initiative is dedicated to changing health disparities among African American men by encouraging them to know their numbers through health screenings, get moving through increased physical activity and exercise, and to visit the doctor annually.

At the 2016 event in Columbus, 781 individuals completed one or more free health screenings. Medical professionals and advocates explained the screening results and provided information on additional steps to improve wellness. Reporting from the event consists of aggregated results for the following screenings: blood pressure, body mass index, glucose, cholesterol, prostate, HIV, dental, vision, cardiovascular, sexually transmitted diseases, mental health, colon cancer, and oral cancer.

The Initiative has partnered with The Ohio State University to collect and analyze data from the event for future research targeted at further improving health and wellness in the community.

Programming at the event includes a "Kids Stay Well" event that provides free health screenings to youth (over 1,000 in 2016) and interactive activities covering nutrition, exercise, and safety education. Quarterly education and life services workshops are also held throughout the year which cover topics such as mental wellness, fatherhood, infant mortality, and financial literacy amongst other topics. The wellness walk event is the culmination of these efforts throughout the year to not only empower African American men, but to address the needs of the entire family.

The Walk is currently the largest African American focused event in Central Ohio. The Initiative expects to increase the number of completed free health assessments to 1,200 and for participation numbers to reach 25-30,000 in 2018.

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

To authorize Columbus City Council to enter into a grant agreement with the African American Male Wellness Walk Initiative in support of the 2018 Walk; and to authorize an appropriation and expenditure within the Neighborhood Initiatives subfund. (\$10,000.00)

WHEREAS, the National African American Male Wellness Walk was established in 2004 to empower men to better understand and take action to improve their health; and

WHEREAS, the initiative is dedicated to changing health disparities among African American men by encouraging them to know their numbers through health screenings, get moving through increased physical activity and exercise, and to visit the doctor annually; and

WHEREAS, the Walk is currently in its 15th year and will have an estimated participation of 25,000 individuals in

Central Ohio and over 50,000 nationally; and

WHEREAS, this Council deems it an effective use of funds to support the African American Male Wellness Walk Initiative in their efforts to empower African American men and to address the health and wellness needs of the entire family; **now, therefore**,

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

SECTION 1. That Columbus City Council is hereby authorized to enter into a grant agreement with the African American Male Wellness Walk Initiative in support of the 2018 Walk.

SECTION 2. That the City Auditor is hereby authorized and directed to appropriate \$10,000.00 in the Neighborhood Initiatives subfund, fund 1000, subfund 100018, to Columbus City Council per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

SECTION 3. That the expenditure of \$10,000.00 or so much thereof as may be needed pursuant to the action authorized in SECTION 1 of this ordinance, 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 this ordinance shall take effect at the earliest date allowable under law.