



Legislation Text

File #: 2646-2019, **Version:** 1

This ordinance authorizes an appropriation of \$50,000 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.

Round 1 grants engaged and expanded the MBK network in Columbus by supporting work focused on BYMOC. Round 2 grants will help project teams test ideas and learn what works. Grants may support work such as piloting initiatives at the organizational, individual or systemic levels.

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

Emergency action is requested in order to avoid any disruption in service for at-risk residents.

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; and to declare an emergency (\$50,000.00)

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, an emergency exists in the usual daily business of the Department of Neighborhoods in that it is immediately necessary 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 \$50,000.00 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 \$50,000.00 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 for the reasons stated in the preamble hereto, which is hereby made a part hereof, this ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor, or ten days after passage if the Mayor neither approves nor vetoes the same.