



Legislation Text

File #: 2325-2020, **Version:** 1

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this ordinance is to authorize Columbus City Council to enter into a grant agreement with The Ohio State University College of Social Work to assist low-income senior residents impacted by COVID-19.

The Increasing Our Capacity To Recover program is a collaboration between The Ohio State University College of Social Work and Age-Friendly Columbus that will increase equity in recovery and resiliency, increase equity in social connection through access to technology, resources, and services, and increase capacity to recover through education and workforce development for those working with older adults. These two organizations will partner with agencies in the community to complete the following deliverables, which have been identified as a need by residents and agencies:

- Purchase “3-day emergency preparedness kits” to distribute across the county in response to an increased need related to potential shelter-in-place ordinances and increasing power through partnerships with low-income housing communities and other agencies
- Purchase 55 tablets and one year of data to provide to individuals that do not have access to technology or internet to participate in focus groups and other social connection programs through partnerships with low-income housing communities and other agencies
- Launch a community-wide campaign to meet economic demands for service providers in aging and to direct older adults to resources in the community by featuring positive aging images, media, videos and “community connection messaging” that counter stereotypes of older adults.

Columbus City Council is supporting this program with \$165,000.00 in funding from the CARES Act fund.

EMERGENCY DESIGNATION: Emergency action is requested in order to immediately provide the funds necessary to assist residents in need.

FISCAL IMPACT: Total appropriation is \$165,000.00 and is available within the CARES Act fund.

To authorize Columbus City Council to enter into a grant agreement with The Ohio State University College of Social Work in support of the Increasing Our Capacity To Recover program; to authorize a transfer of appropriations and an expenditure of \$165,000.00 within the CARES Act fund, and to declare an emergency. (\$165,000.00)

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has resulted in unprecedented loss of employment, government revenue, and social services funding, and affected the ability of many Columbus residents to socially connect with one another to meet basic needs; and

WHEREAS, the goal of The Ohio State University College of Social Work and Age-Friendly Columbus is to assist low-income seniors in our City with basic social needs; and

WHEREAS, the federal CARES Act has provided additional resources for states and cities across the country to address community needs as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, expenditure of CARES Act funding for these outreach materials is necessary to address the needs of low-income seniors who do not have basic preparedness needs and connectivity to others in the community; and

WHEREAS, \$165,000.00 is available in the CARES Act fund for appropriation and expenditure to provide for this need; and

WHEREAS, such expenditure of funds has not been previously accounted for in the 2020 Budget; and

WHEREAS, an emergency exists in the usual daily operation of Columbus City Council, in that it is necessary to ensure that The Ohio State University College of Social Work and Age-Friendly Columbus have the ability to offer this funding for these residents impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic for the immediate preservation of the public health, peace, property, safety, and welfare; **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 Ohio State University College of Social Work in support of the Increasing Our Capacity To Recover program.

SECTION 2: That the City Auditor is hereby authorized and directed to transfer appropriations within the CARES Act fund, fund 2207, subfund 220702, per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

SECTION 3: That the expenditure of \$165,000.00, or so much thereof as may be needed, pursuant to the action authorized in SECTION 1 of this ordinance is hereby authorized in the CARES Act fund per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

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

SECTION 5: That for reasons stated in the preamble hereto, which is hereby made a part hereof, this ordinance is 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.