



City of Wilmington

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City Council Member, 4th District

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Education, Youth & Families Committee

Michelle Harlee, Chair
Ernest "Trippi" Congo, II
Charles M. "Bud" Freel
Yolanda McCoy
Va'Shun "Vash" Turner
Dr. Hanifa Shabazz, Ex-Officio Member

➤ **REVISED NOTICE**

Education, Youth & Families Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

5:00 p.m.

1st Floor Council Committee Room

1. A Resolution Approving the Department of Parks and Recreation's Grant Application to the Laffey McHugh Foundation for the 2019 Youth Career Development Program
2. A Resolution Approving the Department of Parks and Recreation's Grant Application to the State of Delaware for the 2019 Summer Food Service Program
3. Presentation by Kevin Kelley, Director of Department of Parks & Recreation, regarding the Youth Career Development Program
4. Presentation by Dr. Abdullah R. Muhammad, Chairman, NCCo Library Advisory Board
- 5. A Resolution Calling Upon the Delaware General Assembly to Enact Legislation Requiring a Full-time Mental Health Counselor on Staff at Every Elementary and Middle School

(Rev. 1, 03/20/19)

If public comment is permitted during this committee meeting, any member of the public who wishes to speak during the committee meeting will be limited to three minutes per agenda item. If the public's permission to comment is abused, the Chair may exercise greater discretion in limiting public comment.

Wilmington, Delaware
April 4, 2019

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Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Harlee**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the City Code, the City may apply for grant funds, subject to the approval of City Council; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks and Recreation submitted a grant application to the Laffey-McHugh Foundation in the amount of \$10,000.00 for the City's 2019 Summer Youth Career Development Program (the "Youth Program"); and

WHEREAS, the grant funds will be used to provide training and technical assistance for the Youth Program; and

WHEREAS, the Youth Program offers employment opportunities to the City's youth ages 14 to 20; and

WHEREAS, the City is not required to provide matching funds for receipt of these grant funds; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks and Recreation recommends that City Council approve the City's grant application; and

WHEREAS, City Council deems it necessary and appropriate to authorize the grant application, for the aforesaid purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Department of Parks and Recreation's grant application to the Laffey-McHugh Foundation in the amount of \$10,000.00 is hereby authorized.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Parks and Recreation, or his designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept any and all funds associated with the grant application and to fulfill the grant requirements.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution authorizes the Department of Parks and Recreation's application for a grant from the Laffey-McHugh Foundation in the amount of \$10,000.00. The funds would be used to provide training and technical assistance for the City's 2019 Summer Youth Career Development Program. No local matching funds are required.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT: This grant would not have a negative impact on the City because no local matching funds are required.

Wilmington, Delaware
April 4, 2019

#

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Harlee**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the City Code, the City may apply for grant funds, subject to the approval of City Council; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks and Recreation has applied for a grant from the Delaware Department of Education in the amount of \$954,912.00 to support the City's 2019 Summer Food Service Program (the "Summer Food Program"); and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant funds will be used to provide meal service for the Summer Food Program; and

WHEREAS, the Summer Food Program offers breakfasts, lunches, and dinners during the months of June through August 2019 to children via local community centers, camps, and other organizations; and

WHEREAS, the City is not required to provide matching funds for receipt of these grant funds; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks and Recreation recommends that City Council approve the City's grant application; and

WHEREAS, the Council deems it necessary and appropriate to authorize the grant application, for the aforesaid purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Department of Parks and Recreation's grant application to the Delaware Department of Education in the amount of \$954,912.00 is hereby authorized.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Parks and Recreation, or his designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept any and all funds associated with the grant application and to fulfill the grant requirements.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: _____

City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution authorizes the Department of Parks and Recreation's application for a grant from the Delaware Department of Education in the amount of \$945,912.00. The funds would be used to provide meal service for the City's 2019 Summer Food Service Program. No local matching funds are required.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT: This grant would not have a negative impact on the City because no local matching funds are required.

Wilmington, Delaware
April 4, 2019

#XXXX

Sponsor:

**Council
President
Shabazz**

Co-Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Harlee**

WHEREAS, research indicates that one in five youth experience a mental health disorder, described as serious deviations from expected cognitive, social and emotional development; and

WHEREAS, the prevalence of mental health illness among children is a critical issue due to the effects on the child, their family and the community. Amply documented evidence confirms that early intervention and prevention can help to address a child's behavioral and mental needs before symptoms exacerbate into more detrimental social, emotional or academic behaviors or activities; and

WHEREAS, increasing the ratio of school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers and school nurses to students to minimally meet research-based best practices, would provide students more individual attention for academic or social guidance, early detection of learning problems and difficulties, and mental health service referrals and support; and

WHEREAS, without adequate resources to support our students, these challenges manifest as frequent and at times, severe disruptions in school that take impact learning and affect all our students.

WHEREAS, studies have shown that when mental health prevention and intervention programs are coordinated with families and communities, they are likely to be more effective than stand-alone programs. A strong and trusting relationship among providers, school-based mental health professionals, school administrators, educators and parents is essential to support positive student mental, behavioral, interpersonal and academic outcomes; and

WHEREAS, leading counseling and mental health organizations, including the American School Counselor Association, the National Association of School Psychologists, and the School Social Worker Association of America recommend that schools maintain all of the following:

- a) A maximum student to school counselor ratio of 250 to 1
- b) A maximum student to school social worker ratio of 250 to 1
- c) A student to school psychologist ratio of 500-700 to 1

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that City Council and its constituent associations urge state and local policymakers and school districts to employ research-based best practice ratios of school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, who are the most qualified professionals to provide school-based mental health services to students.

Passed by City Council,

Attest: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution calls upon the Delaware General Assembly to enact legislation employing research-based best practice ratios of school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers. Nearly 90% of Delaware elementary schools do not employ a school social worker, and ratios of students to school counselors and school psychologists far exceed national best practices. As youth spend a large amount of time in school settings, it is imperative that state and local policies prioritize the use of school-based mental health interventions, services and personnel to ensure all children, youth and their families can reach their fullest potential.