

Wilmington, Delaware
January 15, 2026

#0167

Sponsor:
**Council
Member**
Harlee

WHEREAS, Section 2-369 of the City Code requires grants awarded by the Mayor, City Council, or the City Treasurer in the amount of \$5,000 or more within a fiscal year to be approved by Resolution of City Council; and

WHEREAS, A Heart for the City DE has previously received more than \$5,000 in Community Support/Discretionary Funds from City Council President Ernest “Trippi” Congo, II and Council Members Coby J. Owens, Michelle Harlee, Nathan Field, Latisha Bracy, Maria D. Cabrera, Alexander D. Hackett, and James Spadola in Fiscal Year 2026, as well as additional support from Council Special Funds; and

WHEREAS, A Heart for the City DE is a non-profit organization that supports individuals in transition. Building on the 40-year legacy of the Ministry of Caring, the program offers meals and connects those in need of housing and other critical resources; and

WHEREAS, the iRise Café, located on East 3rd and Walnut Street, is one of A Heart for the City’s key initiatives. More than 150 individuals and families access weekly meals and a safe, welcoming space. Under the leadership of the founders, Arnold and Sharee Dorsett, iRise is seeking to expand into the iRise Dining Hall with the capacity to provide two hot meals to its serving population weekly; and

WHEREAS, Council Member Michelle Harlee wishes to provide additional funding to assist A Heart for the City with operational needs, including support for the iRise initiative.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that this Council hereby approves the issuance of a grant to A Heart For the City DE.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that A Heart For the City DE, inclusive of the iRise Dining Hall, provides critical resources to individuals and families facing housing instability in the City of Wilmington.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST:_____

City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution approves grant funding for A Heart For the City DE from Council Community Support Funds for operational needs, including the expansion of the iRise Dining Hall to offer an additional hot meal weekly to those in need.