



Date: December 30, 2019

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
Through: Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager
From: Constance Stancil, Director, Neighborhood Improvement Services
Subject: Grant from Duke University Health Systems' (DUHS) Office of Community and Local Government Relations

Executive Summary

The Community Engagement Division of the Neighborhood Improvement Services Department received a grant from Duke University Health Systems' (DUHS) Office of Community and Local Government Relations. Through this grant, and in collaboration with Healthy Durham 20/20, NIS is furthering the City's goal to provide services that make Durham a great place to live, work and play. Specifically, the grant will fund opportunities to educate residents on health-related issues and inspire residents to adopt healthy options that may transform their lives and the communities in which they live.

The City was awarded Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to support community-based events and activities, such as:

- Stress Management Seminars/ Workshops;
- Nutritionist/Dietitian-led Cooking Classes for Low-wealth Residents;
- Youth Gardening Courses;
- Mental Health Education (Seminars/Workshops); and
- Training on Racial Inequities and How Implicit Bias May Impact Equitable Health Outcomes.

Neighborhood Improvement Services' Community Engagement Division will help mobilize communities to make recommendations for events and activities that can address identified barriers to healthy outcomes and which can be funded through this grant. The City's collaboration and participation with Healthy Durham 20/20, and the annual Durham County Community Health Assessment, will help identify priority concerns. The overall goal of the grant is to improve the health of Durham residents by leveraging resident involvement, enhancing community relationships and empowering neighborhoods to solve local problems.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council approve the Grant Budget Ordinance to accept the grant from DUHS Office of Community and Local Government Relations in the amount of \$25,000.

Background

The DUHS Office of Community and Local Government Relations (OCR) was formed in April 2002 to establish and develop relationships between the Duke University Health System and the communities they serve. OCR employees are encouraged to participate in activities at local

schools, social and civic organizations, and other community events. They also develop and sustain collaborative relationships with local and state governmental entities.

Healthy Durham 20/20 is a multi-sector coalition of public and private entities that convene to address identified social determinants of health, and promote systems and policies to reduce health disparities. Founded in 2016, the Healthy Durham 20/20 movement exists to be a catalyst and amplifier for a thriving and coordinated culture of health throughout Durham. By bringing together leaders, experts, and community members for collaboration across a wide spectrum of areas, Healthy Durham 20/20 strives to go beyond healthcare treatment and address the social factors that determine individual and community health - strengthening and increasing awareness of existing health initiatives as well as advocating for system health policy improvements and creating programs to fill community health gaps.

NIS works to preserve and improve quality of life conditions for Durham residents. This includes ensuring safe and sanitary housing and neighborhood conditions through the Impact Team and Code Enforcement Divisions, promoting equitable access to housing choice and building harmonious cross-cultural relationships through the Human Relations Division, and implementing people-focused processes to help communities build capacity by engaging, informing and partnering with residents through the Community Engagement Division. Furthermore, NIS is a participating Healthy Durham 20/20 partner.

The funding provided by OCR, coupled with its Healthy Durham 20/20 partnership, will allow NIS to provide financial support towards community-based efforts of improving residents' health and quality of life.

Issues and Analysis

The Community Engagement Division of NIS has established trusting relationships with community and organization leaders. As a result, residents communicate their issues and concerns, as well as viable resolutions, with Community Engagement staff. However, the lack of resources is often a barrier to implementation of residents' recommendations. Availing resources through the referenced grant will help communities implement actions to address quality of health issues, and increase capacity and community cohesion in the process.

Alternatives

Council may opt to deny funding from the DUHS Office of Community and Local Government Relations. Such denial, however, would adversely impact the Department's ability to provide services to the community as it relates to community-based actions and activities to improve health and quality of life.

Financial Impact

The referenced grant is an additional resource for funding community-based engagement activities.

Equal Business Opportunity Summary

This is a grant to support events and activities to be performed or facilitated by City staff. It is, therefore, not required of review for compliance with the Ordinance to Promote Business Opportunities in the City Contracting.

Attachments

Grant Budget Ordinance
Notice of Award