



Committee: Directly to Council
Committee Review: N/A
Staff: Vivian Yao, Legislative Analyst
Purpose: To receive testimony/final action - vote expected
Keywords: #PYD

AGENDA ITEM #7
June 23, 2020
Public Hearing/Action

SUBJECT

Special appropriation to the County Government's FY20 Operating Budget, Department of Health and Human Services, Positive Youth Development Program, \$575,706 (Source of Funds: General Fund Reserves) and Amendment to Fiscal Year 2020 Operating Budget Resolution 19-128 Section G, FY2020 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Contract Award Status: Identity, Inc.

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Public hearing and action on special appropriation and action on amendment for the noncompetitive contract award.

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

The COVID-19 public health crisis has disproportionately affected lower-income communities and communities of color in the County. Restrictions intended to slow the spread of disease have placed stress on vulnerable families. The recent protests of police brutality and the death of George Floyd happening locally and across the country have also added tension during this period of high stress due to COVID restrictions. These stressors along with having families in close quarters exacerbate family tensions.

This special appropriation is needed to provide support services for families in crisis to prevent jeopardizing the safety of vulnerable youth and avoid risky behaviors during these unstructured, tense times, including \$183,846 to Identity Inc. to provide culturally responsive and trauma-informed services that support at-risk children and their families and \$381,860 to support a family strengthening and intervention program in two targeted communities in the County.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- This appropriation will provide \$183,846 to Identity Inc. to provide culturally responsive and trauma-informed services that support at-risk children and their families. The service will address the complex needs of these families to improve family stability and reduce risky behaviors.
- The appropriation will provide \$381,860 to support a pilot family strengthening and intervention program in two of the following areas: Germantown, Montgomery Village, Wheaton/Silver

Spring, and East County. The program will provide holistic one-on-one coaching for families that are struggling with instability and violence at home with the goals of reducing community violence and improving family well-being. The services will be delivered by community-based nonprofit provider(s) with ties to the targeted communities. A Program Manager II position is being added to add capacity to the Positive Youth Development program to provide oversight of the program.

- This resolution will amend Resolution 18-506, Section G, FY17 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Award Status to add a new contract with Identity Inc. to read "Provide for culturally responsive and trauma-informed services to youth at risk of gang violence and their families" in the amount of \$183,846.

This report contains:

Proposed Resolution

© 1-3

Alternative format requests for people with disabilities. If you need assistance accessing this report you may [submit alternative format requests](#) to the ADA Compliance Manager. The ADA Compliance Manager can also be reached at 240-777-6197 (TTY 240-777-6196) or at adacompliance@montgomerycountymd.gov

Resolution No.: _____
Introduced: _____
Adopted: _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Lead Sponsor: County Council

SUBJECT: Special Appropriation to the Fiscal Year 2020 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Government
Department of Health and Human Services,
Positive Youth Development Program
\$565,706 (Source of Funds: General Fund Reserves) and
Amendment to Fiscal Year 2020 Operating Budget Resolution 19-128
Section G, FY2020 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive
Contract Award Status: Identity, Inc.

Background

1. Section 308 of the County Charter provides that a special appropriation is an appropriation which states that it is necessary to meet an unforeseen disaster or other emergency, or to act without delay in the public interest. Each special appropriation shall be approved by not less than six Councilmembers. The Council may approve a special appropriation at any time after public notice by news release. Each special appropriation shall specify the source of funds to finance it.
2. On March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization declared coronavirus COVID-19 a pandemic, and it has spread rapidly throughout the world. As of June 2, 2020, there were 11,731 confirmed cases in Montgomery County. There were 584 confirmed deaths and 40 probable deaths in Montgomery County. To slow the spread of the disease, Maryland Governor Hogan declared a State of Emergency on March 5, 2020 and issued Executive Orders that have closed schools, closed non-essential business, and required Maryland residents to shelter at home. The disease has disproportionately affected lower-income communities and communities of color in the County. Restrictions intended to slow the spread of disease have placed stress on vulnerable families. Although the County has begun the initial process of reopening, some stay-at-home restrictions remain in place.
3. Because of these restrictions, many county residents have been challenged with unemployment or significantly reduced work and income and difficulty meeting basic needs, such as food and housing. Since the beginning of March, Montgomery County residents have filed over 87,000 initial unemployment claims.

4. The recent protests of police brutality and the death of George Floyd happening locally and across the country have also added tension during this period of high stress due to COVID restrictions. These issues have impacted our vulnerable communities of color in the County.
5. These stressors along with having families in close quarters exacerbate family tensions. Positive Youth Development staff engaged young people who were not practicing social distancing at home and learned that for a number of young people, home was not a safe place for them to be and that they lacked basic needs like food. Indeed, since the COVID-19 restrictions went into effect, the County has experienced an increase not only in the number of domestic violence cases but also in their severity.
6. Support services are critically needed for families in crisis to prevent jeopardizing the safety of vulnerable youth and avoid risky behaviors during these unstructured, tense times. This special appropriation will provide:
 - \$183,846 to Identity Inc. to provide culturally responsive and trauma-informed services that support at-risk children and their families. The service will address the complex needs of these families to improve family stability and reduce risky behaviors.
 - \$381,860 to support a pilot family strengthening and intervention program in two of the following areas: Germantown, Montgomery Village, Wheaton/Silver Spring, and East County. The program will provide holistic one-on-one coaching for families that are struggling with instability and violence at home with the goals of reducing community violence and improving family well-being. The services will be delivered by community-based nonprofit provider(s) with ties to the targeted communities. A Program Manager II position is being added to add capacity to the Positive Youth Development program to provide oversight of the program.
7. Notice of public hearing was given and a public hearing was held.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

A special appropriation to the FY20 Operating Budget of the Montgomery County Government, Department of Health and Human Services in the amount of \$565,706 is approved as follows:

<u>Personnel Expense</u>	<u>Operating Expense</u>	<u>Capital Outlay</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$81,860	\$483,846	\$0	\$565,760	General Fund Undesignated Reserves

This special appropriation must only be used to implement the program using the guidelines described in paragraph 6.

This resolution amends Resolution 18-506, Section G, FY17 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Award Status to add a new contract with. Identity, Inc. to read "Provide for culturally responsive and trauma-informed services to youth at risk of gang violence and their families" in the amount of \$183,846.

The funds appropriated in this special appropriation must be placed in a General Fund account in which any unspent funds will be re-appropriated in FY2021.

This appropriation is needed to address a public health emergency and to act without delay in the public interest.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.
Clerk of the Council