

January 25, 2023

**To:** Mayor and Members of City Council

**From:** Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager *SM* 202300395

**Subject:** **Emergency Ordinance – Law: Moral Obligation Payment to Women Helping Women (WHW)**

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Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

**AUTHORIZING** a payment of \$10,795.86 to Women Helping Women (“WHW”), a gender-based abuse prevention and victim assistance organization, as a moral obligation for services provided to the City of Cincinnati over the past year as part of WHW’s victim advocate program in Hamilton County Municipal Court, to be paid from the Law Department’s General Fund non-personnel operating budget account no. 050x112x7000x7281.

This Emergency Ordinance authorizes a payment of \$10,795.86 to Women Helping Women as a moral obligation for services provided to the City of Cincinnati over the past year as part of WHW’s victim advocate program in Hamilton County Municipal Court, to be paid from the Law Department’s General Fund non-personnel operating budget account no. 050x112x7000x7281. Sufficient funds exist in this account for the payment.

The annual funding agreement between the City and Women Helping Women was inadvertently not submitted to the Solicitor’s Office by Women Helping Women in September 2021, resulting in the provision of victim advocate services being provided to the City for domestic violence cases in Hamilton County Municipal Court between September 2021 and November 2022 without a contract.

The Law Department is implementing a software solution for document management and contract tracking which will improve current administrative processes to aid in identifying expiring contracts.

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to pay Women Helping Women as a moral obligation for victim advocate services provided to the City of Cincinnati.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

cc: Andrew M. Dudas, Budget Director  
Karen Alder, Finance Director

Attachment