

EMERGENCY

City of Cincinnati

CMZ

AWB

An Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_

- 2020

**AUTHORIZING** the designation of \$235,000 of the \$1,000,000 included in the Approved FY 2021 Budget Update for the Community Safety Response Program for the Victims Assistance Liaison/Cincinnati Citizens Respect Our Witnesses Unit of the Cincinnati Police Department's Criminal Investigation Section; and **AUTHORIZING** the designation of \$20,000 of the \$1,000,000 included in the Approved FY 2021 Budget Update for the Community Safety Response Program for the UCanSpeakForMe program for assistance in community outreach and crime solving initiatives; and **AUTHORIZING** the designation of \$20,000 of the \$1,000,000 included in the Approved FY 2021 Budget Update for the Community Safety Response Program for a new anti-violence mentoring youth program from Cincinnati Works.

WHEREAS, the Victims Assistance Liaison/Cincinnati Citizens Respect Our Witnesses ("CCROW") Unit of the Cincinnati Police Department's ("CPD") Criminal Investigation Section, led by Karen Rumsey, serves a vital role by providing victim services to all victims of crime in the City of Cincinnati who are cooperating in the investigation of violent criminals; and

WHEREAS, recently a Victims Assistance Liaison/CCROW Unit part-time staff member lost a grant covering part of her salary in the amount of \$20,000, and replacement of this grant would allow CPD to continue its important victims' services; and

WHEREAS, the Victims Assistance Liaison/CCROW Unit has very limited staffing for all five CPD Districts, and one additional part-time staffer at the cost of \$40,000 would greatly assist in continuing to provide victims' services; and

WHEREAS, the Victims Assistance Liaison/CCROW Unit currently utilizes six college undergraduate interns and six Masters' Degree interns on a part-time basis, and a budget to pay stipends in the total amount of \$120,000 would greatly assist in providing victims' services; and

WHEREAS, the Victims Assistance Liaison/CCROW Unit also has a very limited budget for program expenses, and an infusion of \$55,000 would greatly assist in its important work; and

WHEREAS, the fundraising interruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has created funding gaps for numerous local non-profit organizations which serve vital roles in the City of Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, a unique community outreach program by UCanSpeakForMe, led by Hope Dudley, prints reward cards and flyers that include photos of individuals who have been murdered and distributes them in the specific police districts and communities where those unsolved murders occurred and is a critical tool in helping solve crimes; and

WHEREAS, Council wishes to designate \$20,000 of the \$1,000,000 included in the City Manager's Office Approved FY 2021 Operating Budget Update for the Community Safety Response Program to the UCanSpeakForMe program; and

WHEREAS, Cincinnati Works provides critical career coaching and support services to all willing and capable people living in poverty to assist them in advancing to economic self-sufficiency through employment; and

WHEREAS, Cincinnati Works, through the leadership of Mitch Morris, will add a mentoring program for youth so they will be aware of other paths to take before they start down a path of violent crime, and will provide mental health and other services for those who are involved in gun violence and who want to break the cycle; and

WHEREAS, Council wishes to designate \$20,000 of the \$1,000,000 included in the City Manager's Office Approved FY 2021 Operating Budget Update for the Community Safety Response Program for this new Cincinnati Works violence prevention program; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That Council hereby designates \$235,000 of the \$1,000,000 included in the Approved FY 2021 Budget Update for the Community Safety Response Program for the Victims Assistance Liaison/Cincinnati Citizens Respect Our Witnesses Unit of the Cincinnati Police Department's Criminal Investigation Section in order to provide grant replacement funding for staff, additional part-time staff, stipends for college interns, and additional program expenses.

Section 2. That Council hereby designates \$20,000 of the \$1,000,000 included in the Approved FY 2021 Budget Update for the Community Safety Response Program for the UCanSpeakForMe program for assistance in community outreach and crime solving initiatives.

Section 3. That Council hereby designates \$20,000 of the \$1,000,000 included in the Approved FY 2021 Budget Update for the Community Safety Response Program for a new anti-violence mentoring youth program from Cincinnati Works.

Section 4. That the appropriate City officials are hereby authorized to do all things necessary and proper to implement the provisions of Sections 1 through 3 herein.

Section 5. That this ordinance shall be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and general welfare and shall, subject to the terms of Article II, Section 6 of the Charter, be effective immediately. The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to accomplish the authorized designations so that the funding described herein is in place immediately and the necessary expenditures described herein may be made as soon as possible to avoid interruptions in the victims' services provided and to allow immediate implementation of new programs to address violent crime.

Passed: \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

\_\_\_\_\_

John Cranley, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk