



Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney
Councilmember

202101611

April 29, 2021

MOTION

WE MOVE that City Council allocate \$1,000,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act to expand the Cincinnati Recreation Commission's summer and year round Youth2Work employment program from approximately 300-400 youth per year to at least 1,000 youth, ages 14-24 years old. The funds also will enhance program components that mirror the City's former, popular Cincinnati Commission on Youth (CCY) program, including job training, mentorships, job readiness skills.

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STATEMENT

Our town hall meetings, calls to community leaders, discussions via telephone, radio, email, and social media made it clear that jobs for youth was one of citizens' top priorities. Economic challenges have resulted in increased gun violence in many of our neighborhoods, and with young people in particular. The need to employ our youth, mentor them, and guide them in a positive direction is undeniable. In order to increase the numbers of youth being employed, more funds are needed. Given the popularity of the former Cincinnati Commission on Youth (CCY) program, components of the Youth2Work program include key elements from CCY such as job training, mentorships, job readiness skills.