



Ryan James
Councilmember

February 17th, 2026

Motion

We MOVE that City Council allocate funds from the Operating Contingencies Budget for

'FY25 to:

- Immigration & Refugee Law Center¹ - \$210,000
- Access to Counsel - \$210,000
- West End Sports Bar & Grill² - \$70,000

These funds will work to protect and uplift our vulnerable residents by supporting free legal representation programming for those facing eviction and in need of immigration support and community revitalization efforts.

Statement

This funding will support the work of three community entities to empower, support, and uplift residents. The proposed funding will support community efforts to protect Cincinnatians facing eviction as well as the final allocation to support a long-anticipated family-friendly business, the West End Sports Bar and Grill to ensure the project is completed. Supplemental documentation provided from the Immigrant & Refugee Law Center is attached, detailing the planned uses for these funds which include, Legal services for immigrants facing deportation proceedings, Employer Engagement and support, Know your Rights campaigns, Community Awareness and Toolkits and Trainings.

¹ See attachment A

² This allocation is the final allocation by the City of Cincinnati for the West End Sports Bar & Grill. This funding allocation is held until DCED provides a report on the status of the project and previous city funds provided. Additionally, the owner and future operator of the West End Sports Bar and Grill come before Council to report specific uses for the allocation. DCED will provide an update on this funding 180 days after this allocation to notify council on the status of the allocation project status.

Ryan Turner

Ryan James

Jan-Michael Lemo Kearney

Joseph

Mark D. O.

Scott Johnson
