



Legislation Text

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MOTION, dated April 29, 2021, submitted by Councilmember Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney, Unofficial juvenile courts have existed in three Cincinnati communities: Madisonville, Price Hill and Avondale. Juveniles who are charged with low level, nonviolent, and or status offenses are referred by the Hamilton County Juvenile Court to these unofficial community courts. For each case, volunteers work with the child and their family to understand the root cause of the behavior, strategize on how to best support those impacted, provide community-based resources, and connect them with other necessary services. This type of community programming helps to keep young people out of the court system, and thereby prevent their involvement in the system when they are adults.

The Madisonville branch of the Community Court is requesting funding to build a more expansive program with training materials, transportation, and resources for the youth and their families so that the Community Court can be replicated in other Cincinnati neighborhoods.

WE MOVE that City Council allocate \$50,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act to expand the reach and impact of Community Court with the goal of helping youth to stay out of the court and prison system as an adult. (STATEMENT ATTACHED)