



CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, N.Y.
MOUNT VERNON YOUTH BUREAU

SHAWYN PATTERSON-HOWARD
Mayor

City Hall, One Roosevelt Square
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DEBBIE BURRELL-BUTLER, MBA
Executive Director

DENA T. WILLIAMS, MPA
Deputy Director

August 4, 2026

Honorable Members of the City Council
Through the Office of the Mayor
City Hall – One Roosevelt Square
Mount Vernon, NY 10550

Dear Honorable Members:

This letter respectfully requests that the City Council enact legislation enabling the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the New York State Office of Children and Family Services allowing the Mount Vernon Youth Bureau (MVYB) to accept funds of **\$20,000.00** for the Youth Bureau's **EmpowerMED** Program. The Program is scheduled to begin in February 2027 in partnership with the Mount Vernon Montefiore Medical Center and Albert Einstein, Bronx location.

The purpose of the EmpowerMED Program is to dramatically expand students' awareness of the diverse array of careers in medicine and healthcare beyond the most visible ones. This will be accomplished by interaction with professionals across the spectrum from surgeons and radiologists to epidemiologists, clinical lab scientists, respiratory therapists, and hospital administrators. Exposure of such career will help students find a potential fit they may never have known exists, especially in high demand, high growth, technical, and supportive roles. The MVYB alongside with the Montefiore Hospitals will create a structure immersive experience that levels the play field, which will provide 12 high school juniors and seniors with the confidence, vocabulary, and understanding to navigate through the medical field which aid in reducing barriers for first minority students.

Funds are to be accounted for in revenue code A3389.1 with appropriations in budget codes: A7340.104 (Salaries), A7340.402 (Travel), A7340.405 (Contracted Outside Services), A7340.407 (Leasing & Printing), A7340.458 (Misc.), A7340.467 (Program Supplies), A7340.803 (FICA). This is a reimbursable grant which requires no matching obligation.

Should you require further information, please feel free to contact me at (914) 665-2347 or by email at Dburrell@mountvernony.gov.

Sincerely,

Debbie Burrell-Butler

Debbie Burrell-Butler
Executive Director, MBA



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Enclosed: Award Letter

CC: Shawyn Patterson-Howard, Mayor
Darren Morton, Comptroller
Brian Johnson, Corporation Counsel