

NOV 28 2023

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RESOLVED that an ordinance adopted by the City Council on November 21, 2023, and signed by the Mayor on November 22, 2023, authorizing the Mayor to accept a grant in the amount of \$150,000.00 from Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund and execute a technical assistance service agreement with said organization to establish the Mount Vernon Financial Empowerment Center within the City of Mount Vernon, be and the same is hereby approved.

Vote Taken As Follows: 11/28/2023

Browne: Yea Morton: Yea

Patterson-Howard: Yea

Resolution Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM



Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY  
BOARD OF ESTIMATE  
AND CONTRACT

APPROVED

Dept. \_\_\_\_\_



Clerk

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NOV 21 2023

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AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR  
TO ACCEPT GRANTS FROM CITIES AND EXECUTE  
A TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE AGREEMENT  
FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MOUNT  
VERNON FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT CENTER

WHEREAS, by letter dated November 14, 2023, the Commissioner of the Department of Planning and Community Development has requested legislation be enacted authorizing the Mayor to accept a grant from Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund in the amounts of \$150,000 and execute a technical assistance service agreement with said organization to establish the Mount Vernon Financial Empowerment Center within the City of Mount Vernon; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Vernon has prepared an implementation proposal to establish and operate a Financial Empowerment Center (FEC) in collaboration with Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund (CFEF) and Mercy University; and

WHEREAS, the City has participated in a year-long process to prepare the FEC implementation proposal, requesting a grant of \$150,000 from Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund to support the operation of the FEC; and

WHEREAS, in anticipation of receiving the grant, the City requests approval to enact legislation authorizing the Mayor to accept the grant and execute a technical assistance service agreement with Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund; and

WHEREAS, the FEC will provide free, professional, one-on-one financial counseling and coaching to residents, managed by Mercy University with support from federal funds, the Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund grant, and the African American Mayors Association; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council, convened, hereby ordains, and enacts:

**Section 1: Authorization to Accept Grant and Execute Agreement.** The City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to accept grants from Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund in the amount of \$150,000 and execute a technical assistance service agreement with said organization to establish the Mount Vernon Financial Empowerment Center within the City of Mount Vernon.

**Section 2: FEC Operational Budget.** The FEC's operational budget for two years, totaling \$580,000, shall be funded through \$400,000 in federal funds from the City's American Rescue Plan Act budget, \$150,000 grant from Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund, and \$30,000 from the African American Mayors Association.

**Section 3: FEC Management.** Mercy University is authorized to manage the FEC and hire and train three full-time employees. The FEC will become operational in February 2023 after staff training and facilities are set up.

**Section 4: Oversight and Promotion.** The Department of Planning and Community Development will oversee the initiative, work with community and nonprofit partners to promote services, and establish partnerships with local service providers.

**Section 5: Effective Date.** This ordinance shall take effect upon its approval by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Assistant Corporation Counsel

Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE  
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

President

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED

Dept.

APPROVED

NOV 22 2023

Date

By

Mayor

Vote Taken As Follows: 11/21/2023

Copeland: Yea Gleason: Yea

Poteat: Yea Thompson: Yea

Browne: Yea Ordinance Adopted