

ORDINANCE No. 185967

* Grant funds for transitional foster youth programs, under City's Fostering Success Initiative, to New Avenues for Youth for \$117,000 (Ordinance)

The City of Portland ordains:

Section 1. The Council finds:

1. Our state has one of the highest rates of foster care placement in the nation. In Multnomah County alone we have nearly three times the number of children in foster care as compared to the national average. We also suffer from over-representation of children of color in our foster care system.
2. Unfortunately, children in the foster care system are at risk for attaining lower education levels, higher rates of teen pregnancy, lower rates of employment and increased involvement with the criminal justice system.
3. Children emancipating out of the foster care system are more likely to become homeless than to attain a four-year college degree. Only 36% of youth leaving foster care at age 18 graduate from high school on time, and four years later, only 48% have held a full-time job.
4. In the City of Portland former foster children are estimated to account for nearly 40% of all homeless youth.
5. Because of bleak long-term outcomes for former foster youth and the downstream costs to other areas of City responsibility, including the housing and public safety system, Council approved funds in the FY 2011-12 budget for the Fostering Success Initiative, a partnership with other governmental and non-governmental entities aimed at improving the lives and educational futures of our community's foster children. The funds were carried over to the FY 2012-13 budget.
6. In March of 2012, Portland State University (PSU) hosted the Positive Transitions for Youth in Foster Care: Preventing Homelessness Summit. Program models were identified to improve the outcomes for transitioning foster youth. Two program models identified at the summit are the subject of this grant.
7. The New Doors Program will focus on housing for youth transitioning out of the foster care system or who have former foster care experience and have become homeless. Partners in this program include Home Forward, Portland Community College (PCC), New Avenues for Youth, Multnomah County, Recovery Association Project (RAP) and the City of Portland. The goal is to address a major barrier to stabilizing former or transitioning foster youth, improving their educational attainment levels and helping them succeed later in life by supporting appropriate housing with wrap-around educational and

employment support.

8. The New Door Program will use a cost-effective adapted Oxford House Model. Six to eight youth will be housed in two single-family homes. Home Forward will provide ongoing rent assistance; Multnomah County will provide an ongoing Outreach Worker through the Recovery Association Project; PCC will provide ongoing college advising and financial aid literacy; the City of Portland will provide funding for one-time start-up costs for two homes and New Avenues for Youth will serve as the lead agency in this collaborative service model, provide fiscal oversight of the rent assistance, determine eligibility of referrals and work in partnership with RAP to assess referred youth for placement in the housing program and support participants' ongoing needs.
9. The Building Community Connections Program will focus on preventing foster youth from transitioning to homelessness by facilitating the development and maintenance of social capital and natural networks, developing this focus as a regular sustaining practice of local child welfare workers, and mobilizing youth's social capital to build independent living skills. This intervention strategy considers how social capital can be meaningfully retained or replaced for youth lacking the permanency a family might provide. These youth may have few close or lasting relationships providing reliable support ("bonding" capital), and they may lack instrumental ties that keep them engaged in services and connected to communities ("bridging" capital). The intentional facilitation and integration of these relationships with youth at an earlier developmental stage (ages 14-16) will increase the availability of network-based resources and support as youth approach transition.
10. The Building Community Connections program is designed to ensure that foster youth have multiple people in their support network that they *can* and *will* call if they need somewhere safe to stay in the future and that these youth have sustainable mentors and supports that will stay with them through their long journey to adulthood. The partners in this program are New Avenues for Youth, the Department of Human Services, Portland State University School of Social Work, Center for Child and Family Improvement and Child Welfare Partnership Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council directs:

- a. Commissioner Saltzman is hereby authorized to enter into a grant agreement with New Avenues for Youth in a form substantially in accordance with the grant attached as Exhibit A.
- b. The Mayor and Auditor are hereby authorized to draw and deliver warrants chargeable to FY 2012-13 Adopted Budget Special Appropriation SA_39, in an amount not to exceed \$117,000 once the grant agreement is executed.


Section 1. The council declares that an emergency exists because a delay in authorizing this portion of the grant funds could cause New Avenues a delay in delivering services; therefore, this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage by the Council.

Passed by the Council: APR 10 2013

Commissioner Saltzman
Prepared by: S. Callahan
Date Prepared: April 1, 2013

LaVonne Griffin-Valade
Auditor of the City of Portland

By

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Susan Larsons", is written over the printed name of the Deputy Auditor.

Deputy

200281

Agenda No. **185967**
ORDINANCE NO.
 Title

✓ * Grant funds for transitional foster youth programs, under City's Fostering Success Initiative, to New Avenues for Youth for \$117,000 (Ordinance)

INTRODUCED BY Commissioner/Auditor: Saltzman	CLERK USE: DATE FILED <u>APR 05 2013</u>
COMMISSIONER APPROVAL Mayor—Finance and Administration - Hales Position 1/Utilities - Fritz Position 2/Works - Fish Position 3/Affairs - Saltzman <i>Don Saltzman</i> Position 4/Safety - Novick	LaVonne Griffin-Valade Auditor of the City of Portland By: <i>[Signature]</i> Deputy ACTION TAKEN:
BUREAU APPROVAL Bureau: Bureau Head:	
Prepared by: S. Callahan Date Prepared: April 4, 2013	
Financial Impact & Public Involvement Statement Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input type="checkbox"/>	
Portland Policy Document If "Yes" requires City Policy paragraph stated in document. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Council Meeting Date April 10, 2013	
City Attorney Approval: required for contract, code, easement, franchise, comp plan, charter <i>[Signature]</i>	

AGENDA
TIME CERTAIN <input type="checkbox"/> Start time: _____ Total amount of time needed: _____ (for presentation, testimony and discussion)
CONSENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
REGULAR <input type="checkbox"/> Total amount of time needed: _____ (for presentation, testimony and discussion)

FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
		YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz	1. Fritz	✓	
2. Fish	2. Fish	✓	
3. Saltzman	3. Saltzman	✓	
4. Novick	4. Novick	_____	
Hales	Hales	✓	