



DeKalb County Government

Manuel J. Maloof Center
1300 Commerce Drive
Decatur, Georgia 30030

Agenda Item Substitute

File #: 2023-1495
File Status: Preliminary Item

12/12/2023

Public Hearing: YES NO **Department:** Board of Commissioners - District 6

SUBJECT:

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

To appropriate \$13,000 from the District 6 Reserve for Appropriations to New American Pathways (New AP) to Ensure Every Family in Their Program Has the Support Needed to Ensure Student Success.

Information Contact: Commissioner Edward C. "Ted" Terry

Phone Number: 404-371-4909

PURPOSE:

To appropriate \$13,000 from the District 6 reserve for appropriations to New American Pathways to assist with the family support programs with community members who can communicate in languages as the population diversifies. On average each family receives 10 hours of in-language support each year. New AP pays approximately \$20 per hour for contract interpretation (including in person interpreters and limited use of language line). This support will allow New AP to ensure that every family in their program has the communication capacity critical to ensure student success.

NEED/IMPACT:

New American Pathways is a nonprofit located in DeKalb County that empowers refugees and supports their successful integration into Georgia's communities. Established in 2014, New AP resulted from the merger of Refugee Resettlement and Immigration Services of Atlanta (RRISA) and Refugee Family Services (RFS). This year the program is serving an increasingly diverse group of students and families reflecting the increasing number of refugees arriving in DeKalb County. Currently enrolled families speak 17 languages. New AP works to staff their family support programs with community members who can communicate in language but as the population diversifies, they do not have language capacity on staff for all participants. Interpreters are needed to provide orientation and enrollment support for the after-school program, host information sessions and workshops, follow up with parents on academic, behavioral, and health issues, and connect parents to community resources. This funding will allow 65 families to receive 10 hour of contract interpretation support @\$20 per hour = \$ 13,000.

FISCAL IMPACT: D6 Unincorporated Fund appropriation

Increase appropriations for the following account by the amount indicated below:

Non-Departmental - Unincorporated Fund - Other Miscellaneous Payments (09130.573099.272.0000.0000) -

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\$13,000.00

Decrease appropriations for the following account by the amount indicated below:

Non-Departmental - Unincorporated Fund - Reserve for Appropriation (09130.579002.272.0000.0000) -

\$13,000.00

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve the requested D6 Reserve for appropriation of \$13,000 to New American Pathways and authorize the Chief Executive Officer or his designee to execute all necessary documents.