

Consent Agenda

Agenda Item #	1B
Meeting Date	January 13, 2016
Prepared By	Gregory Clark, Director of Recreation
Approved By	Suzanne Ludlow City Manager

Discussion Item	Single Reading Ordinance Authorizing Execution of a Grant Agreement with Making A New United People (M.A.N.U.P.)
Background	<p>The FY 2016 budget includes funding in support of Making A New United People (M.A.N.U.P.) and its mentoring program for City youth ages 12-24.</p> <p>The accompanying ordinance authorizes the execution of an agreement with Making A New United People (M.A.N.U.P.) and the disbursement of funds in an amount not to exceed \$35,000. The M.A.N.U.P. program funds will be released for events specified in the grant application detailing planned activities, proposed benchmarks, and success measures. Funds will be distributed on a monthly basis after receipt of monthly financial statements and progress reports. The Agreement will expire on June 30, 2016.</p>
Policy	<p>Takoma Park City Council's vision of a sustainable and livable community.</p> <p><i>Takoma Park Strategic Plan FY2010 - FY2015</i></p>
Fiscal Impact	The FY 2016 Budget includes \$35,000 for this project. There is no matching requirement for M.A.N.U.P.
Attachments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single Reading Ordinance • Grant Application
Recommendation	Adopt the ordinance.
Special Consideration	

Introduced by:

Single Reading

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-

**AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH
MAKING A NEW UNITED PEOPLE (M.A.N.U.P.)**

WHEREAS, M.A.N.U.P. encourages and supports at-risk youth and young adults, ages 12-24, to achieve educational and life successes and provides prevention and support against youth violence and incarceration; and

WHEREAS, the City Council included \$35,000 in the FY 2016 budget to support M.A.N.U.P. programming for youth; and

WHEREAS, M.A.N.U.P. described its plans for implementing the programs in its grant application of September 24, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Recreation Department staff reviewed the plans and found them to be in conformance with the Council's goals for supporting Takoma Park's at-risk youth and young adults.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND THAT:

SECTION 1. City grant funds are awarded to Making A New United People in an amount not to exceed \$35,000 for programming in support of the City's at-risk youth and young adults.

SECTION 2. The City Manager is authorized to execute an agreement and take any action necessary to carry out the intent of this ordinance.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall become effective immediately.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2016 by roll-call vote as follows:

AYE:

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:



1. Application date: 9/24/2015
2. Grant Program: Program Support Grant
3. Organization name and contact information: Making A New United People (M.A.N.U.P.), 5379 Blaine St. NE, Washington, D.C. 20019, Mailing: 423 Browning Court, Takoma Park, MD 20912, 215.620.2849, www.manupnow.org
4. Federal tax-exempt number: 80-0426767
5. Name, title, telephone number, and email address of CEO or executive director: Brandon Johns, Executive Director, 215.620.2849, Brandon.johns@manupnow.org
6. Name, title, telephone number, and email address of contact person for this proposal: N/A
7. Total current organizational budget: \$197,155
8. Total project budget: \$ 123,150
9. Dollar amount of this grant request: \$35,000
10. Total value of required match: \$35,000
11. Organization's fiscal year: July - June
12. Purpose of this grant request, including brief description of the population and number of individuals served, and geographic area(s) that will benefit: The purpose of this grant is to provide operational support for our organization which will in turn offer support to at least 250 youth and young adults in the Takoma Park, MD community.
13. Signature of executive director or other authorizing official:



ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION: All grant applicants must complete this section. If applying for a general Operational Support Grant, this section should be no more than five (5) pages double-spaced. If applying for a Program Support, Cultural/STEM or Capital Project grant, this section should be no more than four (4) pages double-spaced.

1. Briefly describe your organization's history, mission, and goals.

Making A New United People (M.A.N.U.P.), is a 501.C(3) community created, non-profit, mentoring organization. It was created in Takoma Park, MD to encourage and support at risk youth and young adults, ages 12-24, to achieve educational and life successes, and to provide prevention and support against youth violence and incarceration.

Through our mentoring and supplementary programs we work to end the school to prison pipeline. We also change the culture of our youth by re-engaging them in their education, fostering self-awareness and empowerment, cultivating economic awareness, and developing social responsibility.

2. Briefly describe the role of your organization's board of directors, including how your board carries out its responsibilities for financial and programmatic oversight and fundraising.

Our board members advise and assist us with recruitment, fundraising, curriculum and direct services. They develop our organization's policies, as well as provide oversight and management of the organization. We have monthly meetings where we discuss the activities and direction of the organization in relation to our intended goals. Our board of directors determines how to budget and disperse funds to support our overarching



missions including advocacy and public relations, elevating awareness of our goals and raising funds. They also determine staff payment and administrative costs, while crafting the budget. Everyone serving on the board is involved in raising monies through the use of marketing, one-on-one engagement, publicity and their volunteer workforce.

3. Briefly describe the current activities, recent accomplishments, and future plans of your organization.

We currently provide mentorship in community centers and in schools in Montgomery and Prince George's county. We have recently received the Azalea Award for Mentor Organization of the Year, Wells Fargo Community Organization of the year and have received acknowledgement from the schools and communities we are supporting. Future plans for our organization include building M.A.N.U.P's capacity to continue advocacy and community building. We plan to implement additional mentoring and support services for disconnected youth in the community.

4. Briefly describe how the population you serve is involved in the work of your organization.

The youth we work with are very instrumental in developing our program curriculum and activities. We implement their suggestions as they participate in the decision-making process. They are involved in the planning and execution of all projects and goals. Furthermore, they are represented throughout the organization and there are



opportunities for them to grow. The older youth transition to peer mentors and manage the weekly sessions. The youth help us reach our goals and are essential in influencing the direction of the program.

5. Briefly describe your most significant collaborations and partnerships with other entities in your field or geographic area.

We are currently one of the lead organizations in the Takoma Park Youth Collaborative convened by CHEER and we are also one of the lead organizations involved in a new Montgomery County collaborative that holds forums for African American Youth. In addition, we are among the lead non-profits supporting the county's pledge to promote the President's "My Brother Keeper Initiative". Furthermore, the Takoma Park Recreation Department is one of our prime and most appreciated partners.

6. Program Support, Cultural/STEM or Capital Project grant requests only: What results are you committed to achieving during the grant period? What is the timeline for accomplishing these results? What evidence will prove your success?

During the grant period we will give support to over 100 youth in the Takoma Park community, through group and individual mentoring programming. Our youth will have a relationship with at least one caring adult, which is a developmental need for youth. In addition, they will receive programs that will increase their developmental capacities. We work with youth ages 19-24 for our peer mentorship program, which



also develops their capacity and workforce skills. We plan to complete all tasks related to program and youth development by February and March of 2016. We will evaluate curriculum and develop critical indicators of success to be used as outcome measures as well as design evaluation instruments. Our success will come from higher youth engagement and graduation rates as well as a steady growth of our youth joining the workforce.



PROGRAM INFORMATION: Complete only if applying for Program Support or Cultural/STEM grants. For Capital Project and general Operational Support grant requests, please see Appendices I and II. This section should be no more than four (4) pages double-spaced.

1. What problem or need does your project or program address?

In the Takoma Park community, large segments of youth are failing in key educational achievement metrics and becoming both the victims, as well as the perpetrators, of violent crime, leading to incarceration. The Montgomery County Child Welfare Department has identified the need for strategies to support their adolescent population: “Each year increasing numbers of these youth are exiting the child welfare system devoid of any connection to supportive and caring adults. This lack of positive relations, compounded with limited education, life skills and resources, places these young adults at risk.” Statistics show students who meet regularly with their mentors are 52% less likely than their peers to skip a day of school and 37% less likely to skip a class. Youth who meet regularly with their mentors are also 46% less likely than their peers to start using illegal drugs and 27% less likely to start drinking. The strongest benefit of mentoring, and most consistent across risk groups, was a reduction in depressive symptoms.

2. What is your proposed solution to this problem or need?

We will encourage and support at risk youth and young adults, ages 12-24, to achieve educational and life successes, and to provide prevention and support against youth violence



and incarceration. Through our mentoring and supplementary programs we work to end the school to prison pipeline. We also change the culture of our youth by re-engaging them in their education, fostering self-awareness and empowerment, cultivating economic awareness, and developing social responsibility.

3. What is the plan for implementation of this project or program?

Our plan for implementation is through the following programs:

- **Mentoring Program**

Our original mentoring program remains our core program and is conducted every Tuesday at the Teen Lounge of the Takoma Park Community Center. The mentoring sessions vary from role-play sessions for conflict management, college preparatory classes, financial management seminars, health and nutrition sessions, workforce development courses, and a host of other activities to expose the youth to positive role models and goals. All of our topics fall inside of our platforms of education, self-empowerment, economic awareness and social responsibility. This program is meant to support them in their weekly endeavors and prepare them to lead successful lives.

- **Basketball Program**

Our Friday Night Lights basketball- mentorship program which partners with the Hank Gathers Legacy Group is a monthly combination of basketball and mentoring designed to keep at risk youth off the street during major crime periods



and pair them with positive role models. It combines mentorship, discipline from basketball activities and a safe place to pair mentors with “at risk” youth. The programs are held in Takoma Park and Montgomery County Recreation Centers. Clips from our first program on March 13th 2015 at the Takoma Park Recreation center, were aired on CBS prior to the March Madness NCAA Elite 8 basketball game as part of the story of the son of Hank Gathers our partner in the program.

- **Youth Led Forums**

Our youth leadership program trains and supports youth in strategizing, leading and implementing forums with law enforcement, City and County officials, and community/youth organizations. Youth have an opportunity to exchange questions and comments with leaders in our community. At our last forum youth exchanged questions and comments with Takoma Park Police Department Captain Tyrone Collington and Mr. Ron Hampton a former metropolitan police officer. These quarterly forums provide youth with a safe place to have their voices heard by diverse members of society.

- **Peer Mentorship Program**

Certain youth who have graduated from the M.A.N.U.P. program have become peer mentors. The peer mentorship program allows our graduated youth to interact with youth still participating in the program. These sessions are extremely beneficial because the peer-to-peer relationships develop close connections and positive trust



influences. The Peer Mentorship Program also provides the graduates with a vehicle to give back to the community.

- **In-School Mentoring Program**

Our in-school mentoring program consists of both group and one on one mentoring sessions during school hours for Prince George's and Montgomery County High School and Middle Schools. The program pairs students with positive mentors. This additional support system assists students in overcoming obstacles in their personal and academic lives, thus allowing them to be more engaged in school. This mentoring improves performance and graduation rates. We are currently working with Prince George High Schools and will begin work with schools in Montgomery County in April.

4. Is this a new project or program? If yes, how was the project approach developed?

If not, what have you accomplished so far?

We have made many strides since the implantation of our program. Since 2009 we have worked with nearly 400 youth, and young adults in the Takoma Park area. Our work has resulted in youth gaining supportive relationships with positive role models and gaining reassuring relationships needed to succeed. Our program also provides youth with a safe and positive place to discuss the serious issues they face. Additionally, this year we have received AYD Youth Development Training and will be adding programs that build youth capacity.



5. Are there additional partners who you are working with for this project (who were not listed in the previous section)? If so, who are they and what are their roles?

We are currently one of the lead organizations in the Takoma Park Youth Collaborative convened by CHEER and we are also one of the lead organizations involved in a new Montgomery County collaborative that holds forums for African American Youth. These recent endeavors have expanded our partnerships to organizations such as CHEER, Montgomery College, Arts on the Block, Gandhi Brigade, City of Takoma Park, Washington Adventist University, Our Voices Matter, and a number of other organizations. We also work and have facilitated forums with a new Montgomery County Collaborative aimed at helping at risk males. We will also be one of the non-profits supporting the county's pledge to promote the President's "My Brother Keeper Initiative". Additionally, the Takoma Park Recreation Department is one of our prime and most appreciated partners. The organizations involved in the Takoma Park Youth Collaborative assist in facilitating and planning the youth serving programs.

6. What results are you committed to achieving during the grant period? What is the timeline for accomplishing these results? What evidence will prove your success?

During the grant period we will give support to over 100 youth in the Takoma Park community, through group and individual mentoring programming. Our youth will have a relationship with at least one caring adult, which is a developmental need for youth, as well as receive programs that will increase their developmental capacities. We also work with



youth ages 19-24 for our peer mentorship program, which also develops their capacity and workforce skills. Through our youth led forums we have created a secure space for youth and law enforcement to have a healthy dialogue. These continuous conversations will assist in preventing further negative youth and community - law enforcement contact.

Our work with the TP Youth Collaborative has aided in drawing together different communities of Takoma Park. We have been successful in bringing together vulnerable youth with positive members of the Takoma Park community that historically have not worked together. We have also had these same youth attend City Council and other civic meetings.

Evidence of our success will include the feedback we receive from local high schools and parent groups indicating that our program has assisted in increased youth attendance and improved high school graduation rates.