

Introduced by the Council President at the request of the Mayor:

**ORDINANCE 2025-528**

AN ORDINANCE REGARDING THE PUBLIC SERVICE GRANT MICRO-GRANT PROGRAM GRANTS ALLOCATED BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE GRANT COUNCIL TO FOSTERING CONNECTIONS, INC., EMPOWERMENT RESOURCES INC., LITTLE HANDS, BIG HEARTS LITTLE PEOPLE'S SERVICE ORGANIZATION, INC., BORN 2 EXCEL, INC., GIRLS OF VIRTUE, INC., SUBLIMINAL DREAMZ INC., YOUTH GIVING BACK SPORTS MENTOR PROGRAM INC., AND DREAM RELEASE, INC. (COLLECTIVELY, THE "AGENCIES"), IN FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 (GENERAL PROVISIONS), PART 2 (DISBURSEMENT OF CITY GRANTS), PART 3 (ADMINISTRATION OF CITY GRANTS), PART 4 (DISALLOWANCE OF EXPENDITURES) AND PART 5 (LIABILITY AND LOSS OF ENTITLEMENT OR ELIGIBILITY FOR CITY GRANTS), CHAPTER 118 (CITY GRANTS), *ORDINANCE CODE*; PROVIDING FORGIVENESS TO THE AGENCIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 118 (CITY GRANTS), *ORDINANCE CODE*, INCLUDING THE AUDIT AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS IN SECTION 118.201 (RELEASE OF APPROPRIATIONS), *ORDINANCE CODE*; AUTHORIZING THE COUNCIL AUDITOR TO REMOVE THE AGENCIES FROM THE CHAPTER 118 NON-COMPLIANCE LIST; PROVIDING FOR CITY OVERSIGHT BY THE GRANTS AND CONTRACT COMPLIANCE DIVISION OF THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

1       **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Ordinance 2022-623-E, the City Council  
2 appropriated funds to the Public Service Grant Council (the "PSG  
3 Council") for administration of the Micro-Grant Pilot Program  
4 established in the 2022-2023 Most Vulnerable Persons and Needs  
5 category through Ordinance 2022-214-E.; and

6       **WHEREAS**, the PSG Council allocated micro-grants in fiscal year  
7 2023-2024 to Fostering Connections, Inc., Empowerment Resources Inc.,  
8 Little Hands, Big Hearts Little People's Service Organization, Inc.,  
9 Born 2 Excel, Inc., Girls of Virtue, Inc., Subliminal Dreamz Inc.,  
10 Youth Giving Back Sports Mentor Program Inc., and Dream Release, Inc.  
11 (collectively, the "Agencies") in accordance with Chapter 118 (City  
12 Grants), Part 1 (General Provisions), Part 2 (Disbursement of City  
13 Grants), Part 3 (Administration of City Grants), Part 4 (Disallowance  
14 of Expenditures) and Part 5 (Liability and Loss of Entitlement or  
15 Eligibility for City Grants), *Ordinance Code*; and

16       **WHEREAS**, Section 118.201, *Ordinance Code*, requires grant  
17 recipients to provide certain audits and annual reports; and

18       **WHEREAS**, during the fiscal year 2023-2024 micro-grant period,  
19 the Agencies were unable to comply with Section 118.201, *Ordinance*  
20 *Code*, requiring an annual report or audit through no fault of their  
21 own because the deliverables for the first year of the program  
22 consisted of training and mentoring for the Agencies. Because there  
23 was no budget established for first year of the program, the Agencies  
24 were unable to comply with Section 118.201, *Ordinance Code* and, as a  
25 result, the Agencies were placed on the Council Auditor's Chapter  
26 118, *Ordinance Code*, non-compliance list (the "Non-Compliance List");  
27 and

28       **WHEREAS**, as a consequence of being on the Non-Compliance List,  
29 the Agencies are ineligible to receive future grants or other  
30 disbursements; and

31       **WHEREAS**, the Agencies request that the City Council forgive

1 the non-compliance described above and any other non-compliance with  
2 Chapter 118 in connection with the Micro-Grant Pilot Program that was  
3 beyond the control of the Agencies, and authorize the Council Auditor  
4 to remove the Agencies from the Non-Compliance List; now therefore

5 **BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

6 **Section 1. Recitals.** The Recitals above are true and  
7 correct and incorporated herein by this reference.

8 **Section 2. Forgiveness of Non-Compliance by Agencies.** The  
9 City Council hereby forgives the Agencies for any non-compliance with  
10 Chapter 118, *Ordinance Code*, in connection with the Micro-Grant Pilot  
11 Program that was beyond the control of the Agencies, including the  
12 failure to submit audits and annual reports during the fiscal year  
13 2023-2024 that resulted in the non-compliance with Section 118.201,  
14 *Ordinance Code*. For avoidance of doubt, because such non-compliance  
15 was beyond the control of the Agencies, the foregoing forgiveness  
16 shall be retroactive to the date of any such non-compliance.

17 **Section 3. Removal from the Non-Compliance List.** The City  
18 Council authorizes the Council Auditor to remove the Agencies from  
19 the Non-Compliance List for the non-compliance described in Section  
20 2 above.

21 **Section 4. Oversight Department.** The Grants and Contract  
22 Compliance Division of the Finance Department shall cooperate with  
23 the Council Auditor as needed to effectuate this Ordinance.

24 **Section 5. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become  
25 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
26 without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

/S/ Joelle J. Dillard

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Joelle J. Dillard

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