

Ordinance No. 229-2026

By Council Members Conwell and Griffin
(by departmental request)

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE

Authorizing the Director of Public Health to enter into one or more contracts with The Urban League of Greater Cleveland for the purpose of providing facilitation, coordination and implementation support for the Racism as Public Health Crisis Coalition in order for the City to develop innovative solutions to address racial inequities and disparities that negatively impact public health systems, community outcomes and overall quality of life, for Department of Public Health, for a period of one year, with a one-year option to renew, exercisable by the Director of Public Health.

WHEREAS, under Resolution No. 296-2020, passed June 3, 2020, Cleveland City Council formally declared racism to be a public health crisis, recognizing the pervasive and systemic impact of structural racism on the health, safety, and establishing a working group to promote racial equity and overall well-being of residents of the Cleveland; and

WHEREAS, as a result of that Resolution, the Racism as a Public Health Crisis Coalition (“RAPHIC-C”) was established as a cross-sector body comprised of community leaders, advocates, public health professionals, and institutional partners to collaboratively examine the root causes of racial inequities; and

WHEREAS, the Urban League of Greater Cleveland serves as the facilitating organization for the RAPHIC-C, providing administrative support, coordination, and operational infrastructure necessary to advance the Coalition’s work and implement its strategies and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to continue supporting the work of the Racism as a Public Health Crisis Coalition to develop innovative, data-informed solutions to address racial inequities and disparities that negatively impact public health systems, community outcomes, and overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance constitutes an emergency measure providing for the usual daily operation of a municipal department; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That the Director of Public Health is authorized to enter into one or more contracts with The Urban League of Greater Cleveland for the purpose of providing facilitation, coordination and implementation support for the Racism as Public Health Crisis Coalition in order for the City to develop innovative solutions to address racial inequities and disparities that negatively impact public health systems, community outcomes and overall quality of life, on the basis of its proposal received on

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August 28, 2025, for the Department of Public Health, for a period of one year, with a one-year option to renew, exercisable by the Director of Public Health.

Section 2. That under Section 108(b) of the Charter, the services authorized by this ordinance may be made through cooperative arrangements with other governmental agencies. The Director of Public Health may sign all documents that are necessary to obtain such services and may enter into one or more contracts with the vendors or consultants selected through that cooperative process.

Section 3. The contract or contracts shall not exceed \$200,000 and shall be paid from Fund No. 01-5008-6320. (RQS 5008, RLA 2025-137)

Section 4. That this ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

ST:uo
2-23-26

FOR: Director Margolius

