THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date: April 27, 2021

Subject: Request approval to enter into agreement in support of the Buncombe County United For Youth Partnership.

Staff Resource(s): Cathy Ball, Assistant City Manager and Peggy Rowe, Special Assistant to the City Manager

Action Requested: Approval of United For Youth (U4Y) Partnership Agreement, a multigenerational, cross-sector, cradle to career partnership built on the foundational principle that "Equity and Educational Excellence are Inseparable."

Background:

- Addressing the opportunity gap specifically for black and brown children is a priority for the City of Asheville.
- Addressing the "*whole child"* as a community and specifically as a City, is crucial to improving the education system which ultimately improves the quality of life for everyone in a community.
- Addressing the whole child includes but it is not limited to, providing workforce development, affordable housing, better access to transportation, afterschool programs and support to families.
- Asheville-Buncombe United for Youth Network is a multigenerational, cross-sector, cradle to career partnership built on the foundational principle that "Equity and Educational Excellence are Inseparable."
- Coordinated by United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County, this collaboration is working toward the following:
    - **Vision:** ALL children and youth learn, grow and thrive in a vibrant, healthy and connected community.
    - **Mission:** To actively identify and remove barriers to opportunity and co-create solutions that support student success. Bold Community Goal: By 2035, ALL Asheville City and Buncombe County students graduate from high school ready and fully prepared to pursue their goals and dreams.
    - By committing to a results-based accountability framework, partners will support one another and hold one another accountable through continuous learning and course corrections along our path towards our shared vision, mission and bold community goal.
    - By joining the partnership, including the shared vision, mission and bold community goal, The City of Asheville commits to act in good faith to uphold the agreements described in the partnership agreement.
- The City will continue to prioritize and support the effort to address the achievement gap for black and brown children.

- The City agrees to continue to provide community learning centers or Positive Opportunities to Develop Success (PODS) at our recreation centers.

- The City will continue and potentially expand Asheville Parks & Recreation programs in a safe environment for everyone in our community to include:
  - ○ Summer Youth Programs
  - ○ Teen Summer Camp Program
  - ○ Summer Camp at Malvern Hills
  - ○ Therapeutic Recreation Summer Camp
  - ○ WNC Nature Center Wild Weeks Camp

- The City will continue to prioritize utilization of funding through the Strategic Partnership Fund to address the opportunity gap.

- The City will continue to
  - ○ Reimagine role of Resource Officers to include support of United for Youth Partnership.
  - ○ Evaluate affordable housing needs to align with the United for Youth Program.
  - ○ Continue to grow the City of Asheville Youth Leadership Academy, also known as CAYLA as well as other opportunities for workforce development.
  - ○ Continue to improve and expand transit access to those who rely on it most
  - ○ Fully participate in data sharing and mutual accountability.

Council Goal(s):
- An Equitable and Diverse Community

Pro(s):
- Partnership will help ALL children and youth learn, grow and thrive in a vibrant, healthy and connected community.
- Partnership will actively identify and remove barriers to opportunity and co-create solutions that support student success.
- Partnership will help ALL Asheville City and Buncombe County students graduate from high school ready and fully prepared to pursue their goals and dreams.

Con(s):
- None

Fiscal Impact:
- None at this time.

Suggested Motion:
- Motion to authorize the City Manager to enter into partnership agreement with The Asheville Buncombe United for Youth Network which includes Lead Organization, The United Way, Buncombe County as well as other community partners which will form the Asheville Buncombe United for Youth partnership agreement.

Attachment(s)
- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 21- _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ASHEVILLE BUNCOMBE UNITED FOR YOUTH NETWORK

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has authority pursuant to Chapter 160A-20.1 of the North Carolina General Statutes to enter into agreements in order to carry out a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 160A-461 of the North Carolina General Statutes, any unit of local government and any one or more other units of local government may enter into contracts or agreements with each other in order to execute any undertaking; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville desires to partner with the United for Youth Network to actively identify and remove barriers to opportunity and co-create solutions that support student success; and

WHEREAS, the proposed partnership agreement endeavors to help Asheville City and Buncombe County students graduate from high school ready and fully prepared to pursue their goals and dreams;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The City Manager is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement on behalf of the City of Asheville with Asheville Buncombe United for Youth Network, other organizations, and other local governments, and to perform any requirements in said agreement or documents, which may arise during performance of said partnership.

Read, approved and adopted this 27th day of April, 2021.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

_____

City Attorney