

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Council Communication</b> Office of the City Manager</p>	<b>Date:</b>	March 11, 2013
	<b>Agenda Item No.</b>	<b>Ex. 2</b>
	<b>Roll Call No.</b>	<b><u>13-0428</u></b>
	<b>Communication No.</b>	<b><u>13-129</u></b>
	<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Rudy Simms, Director of the Des Moines Human Rights Commission</b>

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Authorizing Application to Participate in the Authentic Youth Civic Engagement Initiative.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Submittal of application for participation in the Authentic Youth Civic Engagement Initiative, a partnership with the National League of Cities (NLC): Institute for Youth, Education & Families to assist local civic leaders in improving education, work, and family outcomes for black men and boys.

**FISCAL IMPACT: NONE**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

The Authentic Youth Civic Engagement Initiative is a new initiative to provide in-depth assistance to cities as they develop comprehensive local agendas for reducing disparities between black males and their peers and engaging black male youth in local government and the community. Cities selected to participate in the project will receive customized assistance as they build strong cross-sector leadership teams; identify local challenges and opportunities; explore policies and strategies that have the potential to make an impact on outcomes for black males; and develop mechanisms to evaluate and sustain progress over time. NLC will provide a framework and process for the development of comprehensive local action plans to promote black male achievement, informed by structured conversations with national experts and federal agency representatives on specific topics of interest.

Participating sites will also benefit from an extensive set of opportunities for peer learning and interaction with other communities working toward similar goals. These opportunities will include monthly conference calls with individual city teams, bi-monthly peer group calls, site visits to each city, and cross-site meeting of local teams.

Additionally, cities selected to participate in this initiative will receive technical assistance focused on giving young black men a greater voice in local government decision-making through the authentic youth civic engagement model. NLC will help the chosen cities to more intentionally engage youth in working alongside municipal officials to promote black male achievement.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE**

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

If the application is successful, an action item for approval of a contract will be required.

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the first floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D. Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to [cityclerk@dmgov.org](mailto:cityclerk@dmgov.org).