From: DAVID B LONSDORF

To: CSC

Subject: Restore full funding for Operation Fresh Start Legacy Program

Date: Monday, November 21, 2022 5:30:55 AM

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Dear City of Madison Community Services Committee -

Thank you for your work to help fund and strengthen the city's many community service agencies.

I am requesting you provide full funding for Operation Fresh Start's Legacy program this year.

For over 50 years Operation Fresh Start has helped provide the city's disenfranchised older youth population with an avenue to self-sufficiency. The Legacy program is a key part of this. OFS Legacy's helps youth get a high school diploma and a driver's license, the two most important credentials for future success.

I have worked as a volunteer in the "field" with Legacy youth for the past nine years and have seen firsthand the transformation they make from disconnected, unfocused kids to young adults ready to make something of themselves. It's an astonishing change to see happen in a year's time or less. They change from heading towards being a burden on society to become productive members of it.

Please adjust your funding priorities to align with the Mayor's budget focusing funding on the older youth population, and please restore full funding to the Operation Fresh Start Legacy program.

Thank you, David Lonsdorf, MD