

November 20, 2025

Office of the City Clerk
City of Bridgeport
45 Lyon Terrace, Room 204
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604

Re: Resolution –United States Conference of Mayors (USCM)- Dollarwise Innovation Grant (#26320)

Attached, please find a Grant Summary and Resolution for the **United States Conference of Mayors- Dollarwise Innovation Grant (#26320)** to be referred to the **Committee on Economic and Community Development and Environment** of the City Council.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact me at 203-576-7732 or Candice.peterkin@bridgeportct.gov

Thank you,

Candice Peterkin
Central Grants Office



GRANT SUMMARY

PROJECT TITLE: **United States Conference of Mayors- Dollarwise Innovation Grant (#26320)**

NEW ☒ RENEWAL ☐ CONTINUING ☐

DEPARTMENT SUBMITTING INFORMATION: **Central Grants Office**

CONTACT NAME: **Candice Peterkin**

PHONE NUMBER: **203-576-7732**

PROJECT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION: The City of Bridgeport is applying for the USCM DollarWise grant to support the Mayor's Initiative for Reentry Affairs (MIRA) through its Tools for Trades: "Buy the Tools, Unlock the Job" program. Funding will be used to purchase professional tool kits for returning citizens enrolled in a 3- to 6-week trade training program. Through partnerships with EMERGE and MATCH, participants receive free training in HVAC, plumbing, electrical, or manufacturing, along with employment-readiness coaching and direct job-placement support. This grant will help MIRA equip and train 15 returning citizens, creating a clear pathway into stable, good-paying careers. All grant funds will go toward purchasing complete starter toolkits for each reentering citizen who completes training. Valued at approximately \$1,000 per person, each toolkit includes essential hand tools, trade-specific equipment, personal protective gear, lockable storage, and warranty coverage.

CONTRACT PERIOD: TBD

FUNDING SOURCES (include matching funds):	
Federal:	\$
State:	\$
City:	\$ 5,000
Other:	\$ 10,000

GRANT FUNDED PROJECT FUNDS REQUESTED	
Supplies & Materials	\$ 10,000.00 (Funds will be used to purchase personalized starter toolkits for 10 reentering citizens)
Supplies & Materials	\$5,000.00 (Funds will be used to purchase personalized starter toolkits for 5 reentering citizens)

MATCH REQUIRED		
	CASH	IN-KIND
Source: (MIRA) General Fund	\$5,000.00	
Other:	\$	\$

A Resolution by the Bridgeport City Council

Regarding the

**United States Conference of Mayors
Dollarwise Innovation Grant (#26320)**

WHEREAS, the **United States Conference of Mayors** is authorized to extend financial assistance to municipalities in the form of grants; and

WHEREAS, this funding has been made possible through the **United States Conference of Mayors Dollarwise Innovation Grant**; and

WHEREAS, funds under this grant will be used to purchase complete starter toolkits for programs in construction, HVAC, plumbing, electrical, and manufacturing trades; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the City of Bridgeport submits an application to the **United States Conference of Mayors Dollarwise Innovation Grant** to support returning citizens by providing access to free workforce training, professional toolkits, and job placement support, which will ultimately strengthen economic mobility and reduce recidivism.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL:

1. That it is cognizant of the City's grant application to and contract with the **United States Conference of Mayors** for the purpose of the **Dollarwise Innovation Grant**; and
2. That it hereby authorizes, directs and empowers the Mayor or his designee, the Director of Central Grants, to execute and file such application with the **United States Conference of Mayors** and to provide such additional information and to execute such other contracts, amendments, and documents as may be necessary to administer this program.