



Empowerment Center program model, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein, is hereby approved.

Section 2: That this ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.

### Analysis

This ordinance approves a contract between the Metropolitan Government and the United Way for the continuation of the Nashville Financial Empowerment Center. The Metropolitan Government was the recipient of a grant from Bloomberg Philanthropies for the purpose of operating the financial empowerment program through December 2015. The Financial Empowerment Center program has subsequently been extended by Ordinance Nos. BL2016-387, BL2017-869, BL2018-1313, BL2019-10, BL2020-552, BL2021-914, and BL2022-1386.

The Financial Empowerment Center provides one-on-one financial counseling and other financial education activities at no charge to low-income residents. The term of this contract began July 1, 2023, and ends June 30, 2024. The United Way agrees to conduct a minimum of 2,160 counseling sessions during this period. At least three full-time (or equivalent) counselors would be retained and supervised to provide these services. Metro will provide \$500,000 to the United Way for this purpose. This is an increase from prior contracts. Metro provided \$276,000 for the Financial Empowerment Center through BL2022-1386 and BL2021-914 and \$250,000 through BL2020-552.

*Fiscal Note: Metro would pay United Way of Middle Tennessee an amount not to exceed \$500,000 to provide free one-on one financial counseling and other financial education activities to low-income residents in accordance with the Financial Empowerment Center program model through June 30, 2024.*