



**TO: LINDA GORTON, MAYOR  
URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL**

**FROM: THERESA REYNOLDS, DIRECTOR  
DIVISION OF GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 17, 2025**

**SUBJECT: Professional Services Agreement with Blue Grass Community Foundation**

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**Request:** Council authorization for the Mayor to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Blue Grass Community Foundation for the Be The Change Scholarship fund for Fiscal Year 2026, at a cost not to exceed \$65,625. Funds are budgeted.

**Purpose of Request:** Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government partnership with Blue Grass Community Foundation to administer the One Lexington, Be The Change Scholarship for FY26. Be The Change Scholarships support graduating high school seniors of Fayette County Public Schools who have previously faced limited opportunities to pursue careers in fields where diverse voices and perspectives are underrepresented – such as criminal justice, mental health, education, nursing, and social work. Blue Grass Community Foundation will also liaise with appropriate ONE Lexington staff in determining the status of application process and payments.

ONE Lexington created the Be the Change Scholarship Program four years ago. \$10,000 in our budget was used as a match to the \$10,000 annual donation from Galls, and \$10,000 from Central Bank. Our budget allocation and the donations help to cover our annual one-time recipients and our renewable scholarship winner, Nola Lewis, who graduates this year.

In FY25 ONE Lexington was gifted a one-time grant from the Kentucky Everybody Counts Initiative which allowed us to expand our Be the Change Scholarship Program to all FCPS high schools. The impact of that expansion was immeasurable. To continue that expansion for this year, we will use Kenan Foundation Grant to continue providing \$10,000 Be the Change Scholarship opportunities at all six of FCPS public high schools.



**What is the cost in this budget year and future budget years?** The cost for Fiscal Year 2026 is \$65,625, which includes \$5,625 fiscal Agent Fees. All costs are supported by grant funds from the Kenan Charitable Trust a partner of Cities United. No cost anticipated in future years.

**Are the funds budgeted?** Yes, 3300-133006-1321-71299 CITIESU\_2022 OTH\_GRANT 2022

**File Number:** 1112-25

**Director/Commissioner:** Devine Carama / Tyler Scott

