

RESOLUTION NO. 2018 - 11-178

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION TO THE JP MORGAN CHASE & CO.
ADVANCING CITIES INITIATIVE**

WHEREAS, Linn County received a request for support to sponsor an application to the JP Morgan Chase & Co. *Advancing Cities* Initiative, a \$500 million, five-year initiative to invest in solutions that bolster the long-term vitality of the world's cities and the communities within them that have not benefited from economic growth; and,

WHEREAS, a cross-sector coalition of partnering agencies in Linn County have created the framework for the "Advancing Opportunity" program which enables access to coordinated services and supports, with a focus on populations that typically are underrepresented and face disproportionate barriers to economic mobility, resource access and financial stability; and,

WHEREAS, The Advancing Opportunities Collaborative is a collective, systems approach partnership between and among Kirkwood Community College and coalition partners; and,

WHEREAS, this work will operate through the leadership of coalition partner members and through the Opportunity Center located at Ladd library serving the 52404 neighborhood of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, together, the coalition partners commit to work in concert with one another through collective action to ensure all families residing in the Advancing Opportunities Collaborative (ACO) neighborhoods have a clear path to economic prosperity, and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors supports such activities which promote and facilitate economic development objectives of the community, including support for education and training opportunities for workforce development; and,

WHEREAS, Advancing Opportunities seeks to address significant inequities in Cedar Rapids, Iowa's most diverse and vulnerable neighborhood, the 52404 zip code, as determined by the Social Vulnerability Index; and,

WHEREAS, a high number of households experience financial instability, housing insecurity and unemployment. Furthermore, students are not fully school ready with less than 50% of students assessing as kindergarten ready and less than 50% able to read at grade level. With education level, language, culture, transportation and employability skills and resource desert barriers, many individuals are not prepared for advancement toward education, training or career readiness; and,

WHEREAS, Advancing Opportunities supports a multidisciplinary team approach that will streamline family experiences resulting in a collaborative plan to address barriers and building resiliency, while strengthening executive functioning and employability skills that impact long-term results and harness opportunities from birth to adulthood; and,

WHEREAS, this collaboration will facilitate equity of voice, enhance TAV data systems to monitor progress, inform collective action and promote mechanisms for transparency and accountability to ensure all families have a clear path to economic prosperity through family stability, education, employment and community opportunities, and resource accessibility; and,

WHEREAS, the request for proposal from JP Morgan Chase & Co. states lead applicants are required to be nonprofit organizations submitting applications on behalf of cross-sector actors within a city, and applications must include at least one letter of recommendation or references from local government official(s); and,

WHEREAS, JP Morgan Chase and Co. requests examples of government policy that will support implementation, or policy prescriptions that would accelerate efforts; and,

WHEREAS, proposals must also describe how this effort fits into the priorities of local elected leaders, including evidence that this effort will be supported (including actions already taken to support these goals), demonstrates a clear understanding of the project and affirms government's active engagement in this work; and,

WHEREAS, many of the characteristics of the project are consistent with Linn County's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2017 – 2021 and, in combination, establish the public purpose and overall benefit to the County; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors desires to express its support for the Advancing Opportunities application to JP Morgan Chase & Co *AdvancingCities* Initiative.

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED the Linn County Board of Supervisors approves the endorsement for the Advancing Opportunities application and request for County engagement in the process.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 28 day of November 2018.

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

John W. Harris
John Harris, Chair

Ben Rogers
Ben Rogers, Supervisor

Jim Houser
Jim Houser, Vice Chair

Brent Oleson
Brent Oleson, Supervisor

Stacey Walker
Stacey Walker, Supervisor

Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0

ATTEST:

Joel Miller by Rebecca Sloop, Deputy
Joel Miller, Linn County Auditor

I, Joel Miller, Linn County Auditor, certify that at a regular meeting of the Linn County Board of Supervisors the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by a vote of:

5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain and 0 Absent from Voting.

Joel Miller by Rebecca Sloop, Deputy
Joel Miller, Linn County Auditor

State of Iowa
County of Linn

This instrument was acknowledged before me on the 28 day of November 2018. by Joel Miller by Rebecca Sloop, Deputy as Linn County Auditor.

Amanda Hoy
Notary Public, State of Iowa

