



COMMISSIONERS
Jimmy Dimora
Peter Lawson Jones
Tim McCormack

CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION

Proclaiming April 2002 as Minority Health Month and Urging public and private health and allied health organizations to engage in activities and collaborative planning processes to reduce health disparities in underserved and disenfranchised populations.

WHEREAS, the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners of Cuyahoga County is empowered by its mission statement to provide for the “public’s well being, economic opportunity, and improved quality of life through courteous, efficient and effective delivery of County resources with forward-thinking leadership.

WHEREAS, the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners have developed policy and engaged in activities to protect the health and safety of Cuyahoga’s children, frail elderly, and vulnerable populations.

WHEREAS, the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners have committed this Board to high quality public health through its investment in The MetroHealth System, which serves a large underserved and disenfranchised and/or vulnerable population, its investment in behavioral health services through the Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Board of Cuyahoga County and the Cuyahoga County Community Mental Health Board.

WHEREAS, the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners have facilitated ongoing work on improving health outcomes through various partnerships and programs including the Cuyahoga County Health Care Council, the Cuyahoga Regional HIV/AIDS Services Council, the Cuyahoga Access to a Medical Home Initiative, A Guide to Free and Affordable Health Care for Adults, and the AIDS Funding Collaborative.

WHEREAS, national, state, and local data exists that reflects ongoing health disparities within underserved and disenfranchised communities (in example, although African Americans comprise 27% of the Cuyahoga population they represent 53% of persons infected with HIV disease; similarly Latinos comprise 3% of the Cuyahoga population while representing 9% of the HIV infected population in Cuyahoga county).

WHEREAS, underserved and disenfranchised populations are more likely to be disproportionately affected by cancer, diabetes, heart disease, HIV/AIDS, and stroke.

WHEREAS, underserved and disenfranchised persons in Cuyahoga county are more likely to be among the working uninsured.

AND WHEREAS, Members of the Congress have expressed belief that there should be a National Minority Health Month;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Cuyahoga County, Ohio that they hereby urge public, private and allied health organizations to engage in activities and collaborative planning processes to reduce health disparities in underserved and disenfranchised populations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board be and she is hereby instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution to Sandra Chappelle, Administrator's Office/Health and Human Services with instruction to transmit a copy of this resolution each to the Cuyahoga legislative delegation, the Cuyahoga County District Board of Health, the Shaker Heights Health Dept., the Lakewood Health Dept., the Mayor of the City of Cleveland, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored Persons, the Cleveland Metropolitan Housing Authority, El Barrio, the Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Outreach Project, the Hispanic Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Outreach Project, the Cleveland Health Museum, the Greater Cleveland Health Education Council along with a copy of A Guide to Free and Affordable Health Care for Adults.

On Motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Dimora, the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

Ayes: Jones, Dimora, McCormack.

Nays: None.

Resolution Adopted.

**Penelope M. Hughes,
Clerk of the Board pro tem**

**Journal 274
April 23, 2002
021602
fg**