

## RESOLUTION

**Recognizing December 1, 2006 as World AIDS Day – “Stop AIDS: Keep the Promise” and reaffirming our commitment to strengthen prevention, education and treatment services through the continued efforts of the Cuyahoga Regional HIV Services Planning Council and administration of the Ryan White Title I HIV/AIDS Program.**

-----

**WHEREAS, World AIDS Day is observed each year on December 1<sup>st</sup> to strengthen global efforts to address the AIDS pandemic.**

**WHEREAS, since 1988, December 1<sup>st</sup> has been a day commemorated with messages of compassion, hope, solidarity and understanding about AIDS to every country and community of the world.**

**WHEREAS, this year’s theme: “Stop AIDS: Keep the Promise” is an appeal to all national governments and policy makers to ensure they meet the targets agreed to by all 189 members of the United Nations including:**

- **Reducing HIV prevalence by 25% among 15 – 24 year olds in the most affected countries.**
- **Ensure that at least 90% of people 15 – 24 have access to the information, education and services necessary to develop the life skills required to reduce vulnerability to HIV infection.**
- **Reduce the proportion of infants infected with HIV by 205 by increasing access to services, which prevent mother-to-child transmission.**
- **Increase annual spending on HIV and AIDS to \$7-10 billion in low and middle income countries and those countries experiencing or at risk of experiencing rapid expansion of HIV epidemics.**

**WHEREAS, the number of reported cases of HIV/AIDS in the United States has now exceeded 1,000,000 infected men, women and children including over 4,000 cases in northeast Ohio.**

**WHEREAS, at least 25% of those individuals living with HIV/AIDS in northeast Ohio have no health insurance.**

**WHEREAS, the cost and complexity of treating persons with HIV/AIDS often includes addressing homelessness, mental health issues, substance abuse, other sexually transmitted diseases and the prevention of perinatal transmission.**

**WHEREAS, Title I of the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act directs federal emergency funding to urban areas hardest hit by the HIV/AIDS epidemic.**

**WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, has established the Cuyahoga Regional HIV Services Planning Council to assess the community’s service needs and coordinate annual service planning for uninsured and underinsured persons living with HIV/AIDS through the Title I Program.**

**WHEREAS, the Ryan White CARE Act funded programs currently provide free medical and social support services to more than 3,200 individuals in northeast Ohio living with HIV/AIDS.**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Cuyahoga, Ohio, hereby recognize December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 as World AIDS Day – “Stop AIDS: Keep the Promise” and reaffirm their commitment to address the AIDS pandemic in northeast Ohio by increasing awareness and coordinating treatment services through the continued efforts of the Cuyahoga Regional HIV Services Planning Council and the administration of the Ryan White Title I Program.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, recognize the impact of eleven consecutive years of federal funding of services for persons living with HIV/AIDS in our community through Title I of the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act and the tireless efforts of the volunteers who serve on the Cuyahoga Regional HIV Services Planning Council as well as those of the medical and other service providers and their dedicated staff.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, supports the reauthorization of the federal Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act and Title I of the Act which directs federal financial resources to those urban communities most affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic to relieve the burden on the local community to pay for the high cost of medical and other critical supportive services for uninsured and underinsured persons living with HIV and AIDS.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board be, and she is, hereby instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution to Rick Werner, Deputy County Administrator/Health & Human Services; a copy to the Cuyahoga Regional HIV/AIDS Planning Council and to each of the Planning Council Co-Chairperson representing the City of Cleveland, Ohio and the County of Cuyahoga, Ohio.**

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

**Ayes: Jones, Hagan, Dimora.**

**Nays: None.**

**Resolution Adopted.**

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

**Journal 292  
November 30, 2006  
065006  
fg**