

## RESOLUTION

Recognizing December 1, 2008 as World AIDS Day and reaffirming our commitment to strengthen prevention, education and treatment services through the continued efforts of the Cuyahoga Regional HIV Services Planning Council, our service provider agencies and administration of the Ryan White Part A Program.

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

WHEREAS, this year marks the 20 year anniversary of the World wide commemorations on December 1<sup>st</sup> as a day commemorated with messages of compassion, hope, solidarity and understanding about HIV/AIDS to every country and community of the world.

WHEREAS, leadership is the key to the theme: “Stop AIDS: Keep the Promise” and is an appeal to all national governments and policy makers to deliver on the promises they have made to provide leadership to halt the spread of HIV/AIDS:

- Reducing HIV prevalence by 25% among 15 – 24 year olds in the most affected countries.
- Ensure that at least 90% of people 15 – 24 years old 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 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, more than 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, Part A of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization 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 Part A Program.**

**WHEREAS, the Ryan White funded programs currently provide free medical and social support services to more than 3,400 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, 2008 as World AIDS Day and reaffirm a commitment to encouraging leaders at all levels to address the AIDS pandemic in northeast Ohio by increasing awareness and coordinating treatment services through the efforts of the Cuyahoga Regional HIV Services Planning Council and the administration of the Ryan White Part A Program.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, recognize the impact of twelve consecutive years of federal funding of services for persons living with HIV/AIDS in our community through Title I of the Ryan White Care Act and Part A of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act and the tireless efforts of the volunteers who serve on the Cuyahoga Regional HIV Services Planning Council as well as the efforts of our medical and support service providers.**

**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 County of Cuyahoga, Ohio and the City of Cleveland, Ohio; Senator George Voinovich; Senator Sherrod Brown, Representative Dennis Kucinich and Representative Marcia Fudge.**

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

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

**Nays: None.**

**Resolution Adopted.**

**Jeanne M. Schmotzer,  
Clerk of the Board**

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