

R E S O L U T I O N

Supporting the Moving Hearts Gallery showcasing children waiting to be adopted in Cuyahoga County.

WHEREAS, Children and Family Services of Cuyahoga County partnered with the Adoption Network of Cleveland through Adopt Cuyahoga Kids to create the "Moving Hearts Gallery" in 2006-2007 which was located at Tower City Center in downtown Cleveland. The idea for this Heart Gallery was inspired by original project, which was initiated in New Mexico. A Heart Gallery is an artistic exhibit of photos of children waiting to be adopted, typically older youth with special needs and sibling groups.

WHEREAS, the Department of Children and Family Services of Cuyahoga County has again partnered with the Adoption Network of Cleveland to develop this Gallery again to move to different locations throughout Cuyahoga County during 2009 and 2010.

WHEREAS, this exhibition is entitled the Moving Hearts Gallery will have its grand opening at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens on Wednesday, August 26, 2009 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

WHEREAS, the intent of the Gallery is to create awareness and to educate the community about the need for adoptive families, especially among our older youth and sibling groups.

WHEREAS, each photograph captures the children's and youth's personalities and will feature a personalized statement in each child's words on the kind of family they would like to adopt them and what are they looking for in a family.

WHEREAS, all photographs are professionally taken, framed with their features, digitally printed and placed beside their photographs.

WHEREAS, two photo galleries will move throughout Cuyahoga County and be stationary, in one month or longer intervals, at such venues as hospitals, libraries, settlement houses, community agencies and museums.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services in partnership with the Adoption Network of Cleveland to announce this worthwhile endeavor to find permanency for our older youth and sibling groups through adoption.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board be, and she is, hereby instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution to Deborah Forkas, Director, Department of Children & Family Services.

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

Ayes: Dimora, Jones, Hagan.

Nays: None.

Resolution Adopted.

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

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