County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Resolution No. R2012-0008

Sponsored by: County Executive FitzGerald on behalf of Common Pleas Court

A Resolution proclaiming the month of March 2012 as Save Our Homes Month in Cuyahoga County, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

WHEREAS, the County Executive on behalf of Common Pleas Court requests County Council to proclaim March 2012 as Save Our Homes Month in Cuyahoga County to educate Cuyahoga County residents about the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas Foreclosure Mediation Program and the free resources that are available to help them through the foreclosure process; and,

WHEREAS, foreclosures affect every neighborhood and community in Cuyahoga County. Homeowners should reach out for assistance before, during, and after the foreclosure process, and they should not leave their homes if a foreclosure action is filed; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio and the Ohio Supreme Court have called for all counties with foreclosure dockets to initiate Foreclosure Mediation; and,

WHEREAS, the Foreclosure Mediation is a free service offered by the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas. The program stops a foreclosure action from going forward, and is an opportunity for the homeowner and the lender to sit down face-to-face to find a solution to the foreclosure; and,

WHEREAS, the goal of the Foreclosure Mediation Program is to minimize case processing time, save costs and expenses to the parties working out new mortgage terms or other agreements mutually acceptable to the parties, and to prevent adverse social consequences of vacated and abandoned houses in the community; and,

WHEREAS, through collaboration with Cuyahoga County's many communities and interested partners in the fight against foreclosure and blight in our neighborhoods, residents become empowered to reach financial stability; and,*

WHEREAS, even homeowners who do not want to keep their homes can benefit from mediation and communication with the lender by discussing graceful exit strategies; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order to ensure timely recognition of this celebration, and to continue the usual, daily operation of the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. The Cuyahoga County Council and Cuyahoga County Executive hereby proclaim March 2012 as Save Our Homes Month in Cuyahoga County to educate Cuyahoga County residents about the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas Foreclosure Mediation Program and the free resources that are available to help them through the foreclosure process.

SECTION 2. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order to ensure timely recognition of this celebration, and to continue the usual and daily operation of the County. Provided that this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of at least eight members of County Council, this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon the signature of the County Executive; otherwise it shall be in full force and effect from and immediately after the earliest time permitted by law.

SECTION 3. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

On a motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Schron, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted.

Yeas: Schron, Conwell, Jones, Rogers, Simon, Greenspan, Miller, Brady, Germana,

Council resident

Gallagher and Connally

Nays: None

2/28/12 Date 2/38/2012 Date First Reading/Referred to Committee: <u>January 10, 2012</u> Committee(s) Assigned: <u>Health, Human Services & Aging</u>

Journal CC005 February 28, 2012