

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Resolution No. R2013-0086

<p>Sponsored by: Councilmembers Connally, Greenspan and Simon</p> <p>Co-sponsored by: Councilmembers Rogers, Miller, Jones, Conwell and Germana</p>	<p>A Resolution determining the services and programs that shall be provided and funded from the Veterans Services Fund in 2013; approving an alternative procurement process; making awards to various providers in the total amount of \$758,306.00 for said services and programs for the period ending 6/30/2014; authorizing the County Executive to execute the agreements, contracts and all other documents consistent with said awards and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.</p>
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WHEREAS, Chapter 5901 of the Ohio Revised Code established a veterans service commission in each Ohio county, among whose duties include providing for the “administration of assistance” to veterans and “establishing programs of outreach and coordination with other agencies to enhance available services to veterans within the county;” and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Service Commission of Cuyahoga County is required to annually determine the amount it needs to provide assistance to veterans and must prepare and submit a budget to the Cuyahoga County Council, such budget to be within a statutorily prescribed formula; and

WHEREAS, the Council may review the proposed budget, but is required to appropriate the requested amount so long as the proposed budget is within the statutorily prescribed formula; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Service Commission of Cuyahoga County has not traditionally spent all of its annual appropriation, returning an average of \$1.2M per fiscal year to the General Fund of Cuyahoga County for fiscal years 2008 through 2011;” and

WHEREAS, by Ordinance No. O2012-0013, Cuyahoga County Council established the Veterans Services Fund, whereby the amounts appropriated and unspent by the Veterans Service Commission of Cuyahoga County are to be placed in a Veterans Services Fund and used to benefit veterans of the county; and

WHEREAS, \$733,306.00 has been deposited in the Veterans Services Fund from the 2012 appropriation for the Veterans Services Commission; and

WHEREAS, under Ordinance No. O2012-0013, Cuyahoga County Council shall determine the services and programs that shall be provided or funded from the Veterans Services Fund, consistent with the amount of funds available and with the purpose of the Fund; and

WHEREAS, under Ordinance No. O2012-0013, Council directed that 20% of the available funds each year shall be used for a workforce development program to assist veterans with the costs of post-secondary education; and

WHEREAS, Council now desires to determine the services and programs that shall be provided or funded from the remaining available 2012 funds, and the amounts to be designated for the services and programs; and consistent with Ordinance No. O2012-0013, Council desires to direct additional funds in the amount of \$25,000.00 to the Veterans Services Fund and to designate the service and program to be funded by the additional funds; and

WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County Council has adopted and amended a Contracting and Purchasing Ordinance under which the appropriate contracting authority may approve an alternative procurement process when it is determined to be advantageous to the County; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide for the beneficial and immediate impact of these funds, Council has determined that it would be advantageous to the County to distribute the 2012 funds to public bodies with veterans related programs or services that benefit or exist to serve veterans or to non-profit agencies with existing or prior county contracts and programs or services dedicated to veterans.

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

SECTION 1. That the Cuyahoga County Council authorizes an alternative procurement process for the one-time expenditure of available 2012 Veterans Services Funds, and additional directed funds, in the total amount of \$758,306.00, for the following services and programs in the 2013 calendar year:

- 1) Cuyahoga Community College, Veterans Services & Program Office for scholarships for veterans residing in Cuyahoga County in the amount of **\$73,330.00**.
- 2) Cleveland State University, Veterans Benefit Office, for scholarships for veterans residing Cuyahoga County in the amount of **\$73,330.00**.
- 3) Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services for
 - a. the Supportive Services for Veterans Families Program (Operation Cleveland Home Front) administered by MHS, Inc. in the amount of **\$175,000.00**.
 - b. move-in kits required for veterans entering permanent supportive housing in Cuyahoga County, supplied and administered by EDEN, Inc., in the amount of **\$47,500.00**.

- c. the Louis Stokes Veterans Affairs Medical Center Community Resource and Referral Center (CRCC) for support of the veterans initiative to end homelessness in the amount of **\$20,000.00**.
- 4) Cleveland Municipal Court, Veterans Treatment Docket for operational support in the amount of **\$104,146.00**.
- 5) Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation for support of a revolving loan fund to rehab houses for veterans and provide financial counseling in the amount of **\$100,000.00**.
- 6) The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland for its Legal Services for U.S. Veterans program in the amount of **\$75,000.00**.
- 7) Cuyahoga County Department of Workforce Development for operational support of the CO-VETT United Way 2-1-1 program in the amount of **\$55,000.00**.
- 8) Cuyahoga County Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Commission for outreach to recruit veterans as Monument volunteers, programming and transportation for Wade Park Campus Bound Veterans and annual recognition for active duty service members and veterans in the amount of **\$10,000.00**.
- 9) Economic and Community Development Institute (ECDI) for microloans and other services to veterans consistent with ECDI's existing agreement with Cuyahoga County in the amount of **\$25,000.00**, from the additional funds directed to the Fund.

SECTION 2. Each of the offices, agencies, departments, or other bodies, awarded funds under the VSF in 2013 shall provide written reports to Council, by January 30, 2014 and July 30, 2014, summarizing the uses, amounts, and impacts of the distributed funds. Council may request additional information, in the form of oral or written reports.

SECTION 3. That the County Executive is authorized to execute any necessary agreements and contracts in connection with the authorized expenditures and all other documents consistent with this Resolution.

SECTION 4. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County and the reasons set forth in the preamble. Provided that this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of at least eight members of Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon the earliest occurrence of any of the following: (1) its approval by the County Executive through signature, (2) the expiration of the time during which it may be disapproved by the County Executive under Section 3.10(6) of the Cuyahoga County Charter, or (3) its passage by at least eight members of Council after disapproval pursuant to Section 3.10(7) of the Cuyahoga County Charter. Otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

SECTION 5. 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.

