

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Resolution No. R2014-0264

<p>Sponsored by: Councilmember Greenspan</p> <p>Co-sponsored by: Councilmembers Miller, Simon, Hairston, Germana, Connally, Conwell and Gallagher</p>	<p>A Resolution determining the services and programs that shall be provided and funded from the Veterans Services Fund in 2014; authorizing payments to various providers, in the total amount of \$241,867.20, for said services and programs for the period ending 12/31/2015; authorizing the County Executive to negotiate and execute any necessary agreements, contracts or other documents for same; 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, \$282,334.00 has been deposited in the Veterans Services Fund from the 2013 appropriation for the Veterans Services Commission and \$20,000.00 remains unspent from the previous appropriation deposited in the Veterans Services Fund; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 711 of the Cuyahoga County Code, 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, pursuant to Chapter 711 of the Cuyahoga County Code, 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, under Resolution No. R2014-0204, Council authorized payments of \$30,233.40 each to Cuyahoga Community College and Cleveland State University to fulfill the requirement for workforce development programs 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 2013 funds, and the amounts to be designated for the services and programs; 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 2013 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 contracts with the County or other governmental agencies 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 hereby authorizes the Fiscal Officer to make one-time expenditures of available 2014 Veterans Services Funds, in the total amount of \$221,876.20, for the following services and programs in the 2015 calendar year:

- 1) Joseph's Home for wraparound services and transition to permanent housing for medically fragile, homeless veterans in Cuyahoga County in the amount of **\$16,867.20.**
- 2) 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 **\$70,000.00.**
 - b. move-in kits required for veterans entering permanent supportive housing in Cuyahoga County, supplied and administered by EDEN, Inc., in the amount of **\$30,000.00.**

- 3) The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland for its Legal Services for U.S. Veterans program in the amount of **\$40,000.00**.
- 4) Cuyahoga County Department of Workforce Development for operational support of the CO-VETT United Way Help2Veterans 2-1-1 program in the amount of **\$55,000.00**.
- 5) Towards Employment for career pathway services for low-income veterans in Cuyahoga County with significant barriers to employment in the amount of **\$10,000.00**.

SECTION 2. The Council hereby pledges a one-time contribution to the Greater Cleveland Fisher House for the creation of a facility to provide free lodging for families of veterans hospitalized and being treated at the Louis B. Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center, Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals, MetroHealth System, and other area hospitals in the amount of **\$20,000.00**, provided however that the Greater Cleveland Fisher House must have met its community fundraising goal of \$3,500,000.00 on or before December 31, 2017. The Fiscal Officer shall reserve \$20,000.00 in the Veteran Service Fund until presented with sufficient evidence, in his or her reasonable determination, that the Greater Cleveland Fisher House has met its community fundraising goal, or until January 1, 2018, whichever occurs earlier. Upon the timely presentation of such evidence, the Fiscal Officer shall make the one-time expenditure of funds in the amount of \$20,000.00 to the Greater Cleveland Fisher House for the purposes stated herein.

SECTION 3. The Cleveland Municipal Court, Veterans Treatment Docket is hereby authorized to expend those funds previously awarded for operational support pursuant to County Council Resolution No. R2013-0086 for the period ending December 31, 2015.

SECTION 4. Each of the offices, agencies, departments, or other bodies, granted pursuant to this resolution shall provide written reports to Council by June 30, 2015 and November 30, 2015, summarizing the uses, amounts, and impacts of the distributed funds. Council may request additional information, in the form of oral or written reports.

SECTION 5. The County Executive is hereby authorized to negotiate and execute any necessary agreements or contracts in connection with the authorized expenditures and all other documents consistent with this Resolution. To the extent that any exemptions are necessary under the County Code and contracting procedures, they shall be deemed approved by the adoption of this Resolution.

SECTION 6. 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 7. 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. Greenspan, seconded by Ms. Simon, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted.

Yeas: Hairston, Simon, Greenspan, Miller, Brady, Germana, Gallagher, Conwell, Jones and Connally

Nays: None

County Council President

Date

County Executive

Date

Clerk of Council

Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: November 12, 2014

Committee(s) Assigned: Education, Environment & Sustainability

Additional Sponsorship Requested: December 3, 2014

Legislation Substituted on the Floor: December 9, 2014

Additional Sponsorship Requested on the Floor: December 9, 2014

Journal CC016

December 9, 2014