

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Resolution No. R2021-0091

<p>Sponsored by: County Executive Budish/Department of Development</p> <p>Co-sponsored by: Councilmembers Conwell and Brown</p>	<p>A Resolution amending Resolution No. R2021-0075, dated 3/23/2021, which authorized awards totaling \$11,000,000 of U.S. Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance funds to nonprofit organizations to provide emergency rental assistance to income-eligible tenants unable to pay their full monthly rent due to the economic impact from COVID-19 for the period 4/1/2021 – 12/31/2021, by deleting certain qualifications for said awards; authorizing the County Executive to execute the agreements and all other documents consistent with said award and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.</p>
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WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused severe economic disruption including loss of income for many lower income households, resulting in the inability to pay their monthly rent and the subsequent threat of homelessness and housing instability; and

WHEREAS, the inability of lower income residents to pay their monthly rent also causes economic disruption for the owners of rental property; and

WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County is working in collaboration with nonprofit partners and municipalities to direct federal funds to a uniform countywide system for emergency rental assistance in order to prevent evictions and maintain housing for eligible county residents; and

WHEREAS, based on a Request for Qualifications issued by the Department of Development, the County Executive has recommended awards to and agreements with CHN Housing Partners and the Legal Aid Society, as detailed below, with the primary goal of providing countywide emergency rental assistance to income-eligible tenants unable to pay their full monthly rent due to the economic impact from COVID-19 for the period 4/1/2021 – 12/31/2021; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue.

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

SECTION 1. That Section 1 of Resolution R2021-0075, passed March 23, 2021, is hereby amended to read as follows (new text is bold and underlined; deleted text is stricken):

SECTION 1. That the Cuyahoga County Council hereby awards the following amounts of U.S. Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance funds to provide emergency rental assistance to income-eligible tenants, in Cuyahoga County municipalities outside the City of Cleveland, unable to pay their full monthly rent due to the economic impact from COVID-19 for the period 4/1/2021 – 12/31/2021:

- a) Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000) to CHN Housing Partners for rental assistance, with not more than 10% of the amount awarded used for eligible operating costs and housing stability services under written guidance issued by the U.S. Treasury; and
- b) One Million Dollars (\$1,000,00) to the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland **for legal representation of eligible tenants, charged to the 10% of Cuyahoga County's allocation of U.S. Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance funds that may be used for housing stability services;** ~~subject to confirmation by the Law Department that the cost of providing legal representation is an eligible "other expense" under written guidance issued by the U.S. Treasury.~~

SECTION 2. That any provision of Resolution R2021-0075 not amended hereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County; the preservation of public peace, health, and safety in 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 4. 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.

