

**ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BOARD  
OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 16-01-03**

**SUPPORT PRESIDENT OBAMA EXECUTIVE ACTION PLAN TO INVEST \$500 MILLION  
TO IMPROVE MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT IN AMERICA**

**WHEREAS**, on January 5, 2016, United States President Barack Obama announced Executive Actions that proposed a new \$500 million investment to help engage individuals with serious mental illness in care, improve access to care by increasing service capacity and the behavioral health workforce, and ensure that behavioral health care systems work for everyone; and,

**WHEREAS**, the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County fully supports this effort to increase funding and support for mental health treatment and recovery services while also recognizing that individuals living with mental illness are more often the victim of crime rather than the perpetrator, and supports this effort to help eliminate the stigma associated with mental illness and addiction; and,

**WHEREAS**, Cuyahoga County is grossly underfunded by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) for mental health support services including, but not limited to, prevention, intervention, peer support services, crisis intervention, housing, employment and vocation services; and,

**WHEREAS**, the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County receives a total of \$0.32 per capita from OhioMHAS to provide mental health recovery support services, the lowest level of funding per capita for any Ohio county while Cuyahoga County has the largest population and the largest need; and,

**WHEREAS**, while the ADAMHS Board recognizes the benefit of Medicaid Expansion for Ohio residents and its critical continuation to not only the nearly 7,000 people in Cuyahoga County who are receiving Medicaid funded treatments solely due to Medicaid Expansion, but also for the 17,000 plus Ohioans who are relying on this program, there remains a misperception that the ADAMHS Board has received an influx of cash as a result of Medicaid Expansion that resulted in a decrease of critical mental health funding for our community; and,

**WHEREAS**, the ADAMHS Board thanks and supports Congressman Tim Murphy (R-PA) and his Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act (H.R. 2646) that aims to deliver treatment before tragedy by providing inpatient stabilization for episodes of crisis mental illness, increasing of qualified providers, involving parents and families in the front line care team, and reorganize federal funding; and,

**WHEREAS**, the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County staff recommends that the Board of Directors approve the support of President Obama's Executive Action to invest \$500 million to increase access to mental health services to protect the health of children and communities, prevent suicide, and promote mental health as a top priority.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

1. The ADAMHS Board of Directors supports President Barack Obama for his efforts to increase access to mental health treatment and invest \$500 million to help make communities healthier and safer and thanks Congressman Tim Murphy (R-PA) for his efforts to pass the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act (H.R. 2646) to help increase and improve the quality of mental health treatment.

On the motion of Pythias D. Jones, M.D., seconded by Steve Killpack, MS, the foregoing resolution was adopted.

**AYES:** E. Cash, D. Biegel, R. Blue, E. Caraballo, R. Fowler, B. Gohlstin, C. Handler, P. Jones, S. Killpack, C. Rerko, R. Romaniuk, E. Saffran, H. Snider, E. Thoms, M. Warr

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**DATE ADOPTED:** January 27, 2016