



## RESOLUTION NO. 18-01-01

### Honoring the Life and Valuable Contributions of Valeria A. Harper, MA, CDCA

**WHEREAS**, Valeria A. Harper dedicated her life to the care of others: she served her entire career in social services and was an employee of the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board for more than 30 years; Ms. Harper became the Chief Executive Officer of the Board on August 1, 2017 and prior to that served as Vice President of Operations, Chief Operating Officer and other administrative roles; and,

**WHEREAS**, under the direction of Ms. Harper, the Board was enhancing its continuum and system of care for those living with mental illness and substance use disorders in Cuyahoga County; Ms. Harper believed that every person deserved dignity, respect and access to treatment and that it would take our entire community coming together to achieve this success; and,

**WHEREAS**, she often called herself an old-school social worker and we all knew that meant she was passionate about people and making sure they had what they needed to succeed and live fulfilling lives; she demonstrated this both personally and professionally; and,

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Harper was a devoted woman, mother and grandmother, a faithful leader, a loyal friend, Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority sister, an active member of Good Shepherd Baptist Church, and an advocate for all who needed a voice. She had high expectations for service - and she could - because she gave nothing less than everything she had and her work was inspiring as she helped to shape the behavioral healthcare system in Cuyahoga County.

#### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED.**

1. The Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County celebrates the life and accomplishments of Ms. Valeria A. Harper, MA, CDCA, while mourning her loss and remembering her commitment, compassion, collaboration, and the valuable contributions she made to the Cuyahoga County Behavioral Healthcare System.
2. The Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County extends its sincere condolences to the family, friends and coworkers of Ms. Valeria A. Harper.

On the motion of Katie Kern-Pilch, ATR-BC, LPC-S, seconded by J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D., the foregoing resolution was adopted unanimously.

**AYES:** E. Caraballo, R. Fowler, B. Gohlstin, C. Handler, P. Jones, K. Kern-Pilch, S. Killpack, E. Kirkland, M. Rodas, S. Rosenbaum, H. Shannon, H. Snider, M. Step, E. Thoms

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**DATE ADOPTED:** January 31, 2018