

RESOLUTION NO. 168-2023(AS),
Second Reading as Amended

Introduced by Councilmember Boyd

A Resolution authorizing an agreement with the Journey Center for Healing and Safety for a Victim Advocate as well as access to a High Risk Victim Advocate for the Cleveland Heights Municipal Court, Danger Assessment- Law Enforcement Protocol Training, and a pilot program of Parenting Classes to Support Reunification, at a total cost not to exceed Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00); and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

WHEREAS, the City currently has an agreement with the Journey Center for Healing and Safety (the “Center”) (fka as the Domestic Violence and Child Advocacy Center) to provide a Domestic Violence Victim Advocate in the Cleveland Heights Municipal Court for victims of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to continue for an additional two (2) years the services of the Victim Advocate, who assists victims with safety planning, protection orders and understanding of court processes and options, and provides access to domestic violence prevention services such as supervised visitation, therapy, safe housing and support groups as well as local community resources such as food banks, furniture, education, job training and child support resources; and

WHEREAS, the City also seeks to expand access to the “High Risk Victim Advocate” for higher risk victims; and

WHEREAS, the Center proposes to provide other services such as biannual training for Cleveland Heights Court and City law enforcement personnel on the Danger Assessment-Law Enforcement (DA-LE) Protocol; and

WHEREAS, the Center is also proposing a pilot program to operate for a period of one (1) year which will offer a specialized curriculum of parenting and domestic violence education classes which are often required for reunification of non-abusive parents and children; and

WHEREAS, it would be in the best interest of the City and its residents to continue to provide existing services and to expand services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. This Council hereby authorizes an agreement with the Journey Center for Healing and Safety (fka the Domestic Violence and Child Advocacy Center) to continue the provision of existing services for victims of domestic violence in the Cleveland Heights Municipal Court and for the expansion of services. The agreement

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shall provide for services and compensation as follows:

- Continued Services of the Victim Advocate and expanded access to a “High Risk Victim Advocate” for a period of two (2) years at a cost of Ninety-five Thousand Dollars (\$95,000.00) per year, or One Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$190,000.00) for the two (2) year period; and
- Biannual Training for the Cleveland Heights Court and City law enforcement personnel for Danger Assessment-Law Enforcement (DA-LE) Protocol at a sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) per year or Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) total for the two-year period; and
- A Pilot Program to operate for a period of one (1) year at a cost of Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) which will offer a specialized curriculum of parenting and domestic violence classes which are often required for reunification of non-abusive parents and children

Total compensation for the two-(2) year contract period shall not exceed the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00). Funding for this agreement shall be from American Rescue Plan Act funds. The agreement shall contain such further terms as recommended by the Mayor and Director of Law, and shall be approved as to form by the Director of Law.

SECTION 2. Notice of the passage of this Resolution shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of its contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 4. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective as an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need to continue to provide services for victims of domestic violence without interruption. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more of the members elected or appointed to this Council, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.



MELODY JOY HART
President of Council

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ADDIE BALESTER
Clerk of Council

PASSED: 12/18/2023

Presented to Mayor: 12/22/2023

Approved: 12/27/2023



KAHLIL SEREN
Mayor