RESOLUTION NO. 2022-043

SPONSOR Executive Shapiro

DATE February 28, 2022 COMMITTEE: Human Services

A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute an amendment to a grant agreement with the Akron Community Foundation to provide additional funds, in an amount not to exceed $250,000.00, to the Opiate Small Grant Program to provide grants in an amount not to exceed $25,000.00 per grantee, to be paid from the Opiate Litigation settlement monies, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution Nos. 2019-332 and 2019-361, this Council authorized the Executive to settle any or all claims, and to execute any corresponding settlement agreements, in litigation titled In re: National Prescription Opiate Litigation, Case No. 1:17-MD-2804, before Judge Dan Aaron Polster in the United States District Court, Northern District of Ohio (the “Lawsuit”), with any manufacturing or distributor Defendant, regardless of market share of the opioid market in Summit County and to additionally authorize settlement with any pharmacy Defendants; and

WHEREAS, the County has received monies as a result of settlement of the Lawsuit; and

WHEREAS, the Executive convened the Key Stakeholders Group and the Opiate Abatement Advisory Council (“OAAC”) to help determine how to spend the opiate money to best serve the residents of the County; and

WHEREAS, the OAAC determined that there are numerous small non-profit agencies in the community that are providing grass-roots assistance to individuals addicted to opiates and their families, and that such organizations, which usually require not more than $25,000.00 towards their mission, are not typically funded by larger agencies, such as, the ADM Board but which nonetheless help to abate the public health emergency that has come from the proliferation of opiates; and

WHEREAS, in response to the OAAC’s findings, this Council previously adopted Resolution No. 2021-200, which authorized the Executive to execute a grant agreement with the Akron Community Foundation (“ACF”) in an amount not to exceed $500,000.00, to be paid from funds received from the Lawsuit to fund the Opiate Small Grant Program pursuant to procedures established in cooperation between ACF, the County, the OAAC and the Key Stakeholders group; and

WHEREAS, the Opiate Small Grant Program has been operated by ACF in accordance with policies and procedures adopted in cooperation with the County, the OAAC and the Key Stakeholders and is subject to review by the County’s Department of Internal Auditing; and

WHEREAS, there continues to be a need for assistance from the Opiate Small Grant Program as the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has ravaged the Summit County community; and

WHEREAS, due to the continuing pandemic conditions and the quality results from the original round of funding, the Executive wishes to contribute additional funds to the Program
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totaling $250,000.00 to provide programmatic and operational grants not to exceed $25,000.00 each to small non-profit entities that provide assistance and relief to individuals addicted to opiates and their families, such grants being provided to both new agencies, and agencies who previously received funds and that achieved positive results; and

WHEREAS, this Council further finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information, that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit to authorize the Executive to execute an amendment to the grant agreement with ACF to provide additional funding to the Opiate Small Grant Program, in an amount not to exceed $250,000.00, to be paid from settlement dollars received by the County in the Lawsuit and due to the public health emergency with respect to opiate addiction;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Summit, State of Ohio, that:

SECTION 1

This Council hereby authorizes the Executive to execute an amendment to a grant agreement with the Akron Community Foundation ("ACF") to provide additional funding, in an amount not to exceed $250,000.00, to the Opiate Small Grant Program which is operated pursuant to procedures established in cooperation between ACF, the County, the Opiate Abatement Advisory Council ("OAAC") and the Key Stakeholders group.

SECTION 2

The additional funding to the ACF for the Opiate Small Grant Program shall be paid from funds received litigation titled In re: National Prescription Opiate Litigation, Case No. 1:17-MD-2804, before Judge Dan Aaron Polster in the United States District Court, Northern District of Ohio (the "Lawsuit") and the Program will be operated pursuant to procedures pursuant to the original grant agreement and program guidelines.

SECTION 3

This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the County of Summit, and for the further reason that the County wishes to authorize the Executive to execute an amendment to a grant agreement with ACF to fund the Opiate Small Grant Program to further address the public health emergency with respect to opiate addiction during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

SECTION 4

Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight members, it shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.
SECTION 5

It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

INTRODUCED __February 7, 2022__

ADOPTED __February 28, 2022__

APPROVED __February 28, 2022__

EXECUTIVE

March 3, 2022

ENACTED EFFECTIVE

Voice Vote - YES: 11-0: Darrow, DeVitis, Dickinson, Donofrio, Feeman, McKenney, Rodgers, Schmidt, Sims, Walters, Wilhite