



**AGENDA**  
**CUYAHOGA COUNTY EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2025**  
**CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS**  
**C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR**  
**3:00 PM**

**Committee Members:**

**Sunny M. Simon, Chair – District 11**  
**Robert Schleper, Jr. Vice Chair – District 6**  
**Michael J. Houser, Sr. – District 10**  
**Pernel Jones, Jr. – District 8**  
**Dale Miller – District 2**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 5, 2025 MEETING**
- 5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**
  - a) R2025-0081: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to the Black Environmental Leaders Association for the Jaqueline E. Gillon Annual Scholarship Celebration from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.
  - b) R2025-0097: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$20,000, to Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship, Inc. Greater Cleveland Chapter for the Mentoring Achieves Positive Pupils Program from the District 3

ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

- c) R2025-0098: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$35,000, to Food Strong for the Superior Avenue Community Farm Restoration and Development Project from the Districts 3 & 11 ARPA Community Grant Funds; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.
- d) R2025-0101: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to SOS: Strengthening Our Students for the SOS IGNITE 360 Programs from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

## **6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

*\*Complimentary parking for the public is available in the attached garage at 900 Prospect. A skywalk extends from the garage to provide additional entry to the Council Chambers from the 5<sup>th</sup> floor parking level of the garage. Please see the Clerk to obtain a complimentary parking pass.*

*\*\*Council Chambers is equipped with a hearing assistance system. If needed, please see the Clerk to obtain a receiver.*



## **MINUTES**

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2025  
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS  
C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
3:00 PM**

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chairwoman Simon called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.**

### **2. ROLL CALL**

**Ms. Simon asked Assistant Deputy Clerk Georgakopoulos to call the roll. Committee members Simon, Schleper, Houser and Miller were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Committee member Jones entered the meeting after the roll call was taken.**

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**There were no public comments given.**

### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 19, 2025 MEETING**

**A motion was made by Mr. Schleper, seconded by Mr. Miller and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2025 meeting.**

### **5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

- a) R2024-0396: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$250,000, to the Murtis Taylor Human Services System for the Students of Promise Leadership Academy from the District 8 ARPA Community

Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

**Mr. Bob Ivory, representing Students of Promise Leadership Academy; and Pastor Darian Sheppard, Senior Pastor of Imani Temple Ministries, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0396. Discussion ensued.**

**Committee members asked questions of Mr. Ivory and Pastor Sheppard pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.**

**On a motion by Mr. Jones with a second by Mr. Miller, Resolution No. R2024-0396 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.**

**Committee member Houser requested to have his name added as a co-sponsor to the legislation.**

- b) R2025-0071: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$5,000, to the Case Western Reserve University Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusive Engagement for the 2-day experience to empower Black Women from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

**Mr. Julian Rogers, Associate Vice President for Local Government and Community Affairs; Ms. Evelin Nunez-Rodriguez, Diversity Program Manager for Case Western Reserve University; and Ms. Tiara Sargent, Organizer of Protecting Your Crown Conference, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0071. Discussion ensued.**

**Committee members asked questions of Mr. Rogers, Ms. Nunez-Rodriguez and Ms. Sargent pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.**

**On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Mr. Miller, Resolution No. R2025-0071 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.**

**Committee members Miller, Simon and Jones requested to have their names added as co-sponsors to the legislation.**

- c) R2025-0081: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to the Black Environmental Leaders Association for the Jaqueline E. Gillon Annual Scholarship Celebration from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

**There was no legislative action taken on Resolution No. R2025-0081.**

- d) R2025-0094: A Resolution authorizing a Subgrant Agreement with the City of Painesville in the amount not-to-exceed \$80,665,500.00 to implement clean energy and nature-based solutions approved as part of the EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant work plan for installation of a large solar array and a battery system including brownfield reforestation work for the period 10/1/2024 – 9/30/2029; authorizing the County Executive to execute Contract No. 5195 and all other documents consistent with said agreement and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

**Mr. Michael Foley, Administrator of Cuyahoga Green Energy; Mr. Joe Price, Electric Superintendent for the City of Painesville; and Mr. Derek Schafer, Executive Director of West Creek Conservancy, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0094. Discussion ensued.**

**Committee members asked questions of Messrs. Foley, Price and Schafer pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.**

**On a motion by Mr. Miller with a second by Mr. Schleper, Resolution No. R2025-0094 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.**

**Committee members Simon, Schleper and Miller requested to have their names added as co-sponsors to the legislation.**

#### **6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

**Ms. Simon discussed the federal government's proposal to cut down trees and the impact that it will have on the Endangered Species Act.**

#### **7. ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Simon adjourned the meeting at 4:13 p.m., without objection.**

# County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

## Resolution No. R2025-0081

Sponsored by: <b>Councilmember Turner</b>	<b>A Resolution</b> awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to the Black Environmental Leaders Association for the Jaqueline E. Gillon Annual Scholarship Celebration from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.
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**WHEREAS**, Cuyahoga County received \$239,898,257 from the Federal Government through the American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”); and

**WHEREAS**, Cuyahoga County calculated 100% of the ARPA dollars as loss revenue under the U.S. Department of the Treasury Final Rule; and

**WHEREAS**, since all the ARPA dollars have been calculated as loss revenue, the ARPA dollars have been deposited in the County’s General Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Executive and County Council have authorized \$86 million of the ARPA dollars for community grants to benefit the residents of Cuyahoga County (the “ARPA Community Grant Fund”); and

**WHEREAS**, of the \$86 million for community grants, \$66 million have been encumbered for equal distribution to each County Council District; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cuyahoga County Council desires to provide funding from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund in the amount of \$10,000 to the Black Environmental Leaders Association for the Jaqueline E. Gillon Annual Scholarship Celebration; and

**WHEREAS**, the Black Environmental Leaders Association estimates approximately 100 to 150 people will be served annually through this award; and

**WHEREAS**, the Black Environmental Leaders Association estimates the total cost of the project is \$24,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the Black Environmental Leaders Association indicates the other funding source(s) for this project includes \$13,500 from the CCEC Racial Equity Committee and \$500 from individual contributions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Black Environmental Leaders Association is estimating the project date will be February 4, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the Black Environmental Leaders Association requested \$10,000 from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund to complete this project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cuyahoga County Council desires to provide funding in the amount of \$10,000 to the Black Environmental Leaders Association to ensure this project is completed; and

**WHEREAS**, this Council by a vote of at least eight (8) members determines that it is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue to provide for the usually, daily operations of the County.

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

**SECTION 1.** That the Cuyahoga County Council hereby awards a not-to-exceed amount of \$10,000 to the Black Environmental Leaders Association from the General Fund made available by the American Rescue Plan Act revenue replacement provision for the Jaqueline E. Gillon Annual Scholarship Celebration.

**SECTION 2.** If any specific appropriation is necessary to effectuate this agreement, the Director of the Office of Budget and Management is authorized to submit the requisite documentation to financial reporting to journalize the appropriation.

**SECTION 3.** That the County Council staff is authorized to prepare all documents to effectuate said award.

**SECTION 4.** That the County Executive is authorized to execute all necessary agreements and documents consistent with said award and this Resolution.

**SECTION 5.** If requested or necessary, the Agency of the Inspector General or Department of Internal Audit is authorized to investigate, audit, or review any part of this award.

**SECTION 6.** To the extent that any exemptions are necessary under the County Code and contracting procedures, they shall be deemed approved by the adoption of this Resolution.

**SECTION 7.** It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County; the preservation of public peace, health or safety in the County; and any additional 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 8.** 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.

On a motion by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted.

Yeas:

Nays:

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Council President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Executive

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: February 25, 2025

Committee(s) Assigned: Education, Environment & Sustainability

Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_





## Cuyahoga County Council

2079 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor • Cleveland Ohio 44115  
(216) 698-2010

### COUNTY AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION:	
Name of Requesting Entity (City, Business, Non-Profit, etc.):	
Black Environmental Leaders Association	
Address of Requesting Entity:	
6100 Richmond Road, Bedford, OH 44146	
County Council District # of Requesting Entity:	
#9	
Address or Location of Project if Different than Requesting Entity:	
N/A	
County Council District # of Address or Location of Project if Different than Requesting Entity:	
Same	
Contact Name of Person Filling out This Request:	
SeMia Bray	
Contact Address if different than Requesting Entity:	
Same	
Email:	Phone:
admin@BlackEnvironmentalLeaders.org	216-682-5349
Federal IRS Tax Exempt No.:	Date:
85-2819234	12/31/2024

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

**REQUEST DESCRIPTION (include the project name, a description of the project, why the project is important or needed, and timeline of milestones/tracking of the project):**

Jaqueline E. Gillon Annual Scholarship Celebration (Tuesday, February 4, 2025)

Jacqueline Gillon, co-founder and co-facilitator of the Black Environmental Leaders Association, passed away on August 24th, 2021. Jacqueline was a passionate advocate for racial and environmental justice who left a profound impact on her family, neighbors, colleagues and friends.

During her career, Jacqueline served her community as a member of East Cleveland City Council, the Western Reserve Land Conservancy's Thriving Communities program and as a beloved trainer and mentor to 29 classes of leaders at Neighborhood Leadership Institute.

Jacqueline genuinely cared for people and the environment around them. Her distinct ability to welcome and affirm persons of all backgrounds, ages and abilities, made her leadership unique and invaluable.

Jacqueline was loved by all and will be greatly missed. The impact she made on the world will never be forgotten. Several efforts are underway to celebrate her life and impact.

Each year, the Black Environmental Leaders Association hosts the Jacqueline E. Gillon Scholarship Celebration to honor youth in the Environmental and STEAM career pathways through scholarships. Resources from this award will be used to support the celebration.

**Project Start Date:**  
February 4, 2025

**Project End Date:**  
February 4, 2025

## **IMPACT OF PROJECT:**

**Who will be served:**

**Highschool and College youth ages 16 – 24 from low/moderate income households**

**How many people will be served annually:**

**100 - 150**

**Will low/moderate income people be served; if so how:**

**Yes, all scholarships are awarded to youth from low/moderate income households**

**How does the project fit with the community and with other ongoing projects:**

**This project supports and encourages youth to continue their exploration of environmental and STEAM careers.**

**If applicable, how many jobs will be created or retained (specify the number for each) and will the jobs be permanent or temporary:**

**N/A**

**If applicable, what environmental issues or benefits will there be:**

**Youth selected are pursuing careers within the environmental and STEAM pathways. This program provides support, networking and resources to assist in their successful continuation on their journey.**

**If applicable, how does this project serve as a catalyst for future initiatives:**

**This project provides exposure to environmental and STEAM employers and mentors within Cuyahoga County.**

<b>FINANCIAL INFORMATION:</b>
<b>Total Budget of Project:</b>  <b>\$24,000</b>
<b>Other Funding Sources of Project (list each source and dollar amount separately):</b>  <b>\$13,500 – CCEC Racial Equity Committee</b> <b>500 – Individual Contributions</b>
<b>Total amount requested of County Council American Resource Act Dollars:</b>  <b>\$10,000</b>
<b>Since these are one-time dollars, how will the Project be sustained moving forward:</b>  <b>BEL will continue to seek funding through federal, state and local funders, corporate donations and individual contributions.</b>

## DISCLAIMER INFORMATION AND SIGNATURE:

### Disclaimer:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have the authority to apply for financial assistance on behalf of the entity described herein, and that the information contained herein and attached hereto is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

I acknowledge and agree that all County contracts and programs are subject to Federal Guidelines and Regulations, the Ohio Revised Code, the Cuyahoga County Charter, and all County Ordinances including all information submitted as part of this application is a public record.

I understand that any willful misrepresentation on this application or on any of the attachments thereto could result in a fine and/or imprisonment under relevant local, state, and/or federal laws or guidelines.

I agree that at any time, any local, state, or federal governmental agency, or a private entity on behalf of any of these governmental agencies, can audit these dollars and projects.

### Printed Name:

SeMia Bray

### Signature:



### Date:

12/31/2024

## Additional Documents

Are there additional documents or files as part of this application? Please list each documents name:

1. Non-Competitive Bid Form – Notarized
2. Independent Contractor Form
3. Current W-9
4. Bureau of Worker's Compensation Certificate
5. Certificate of Liability Insurance

# County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

## Resolution No. R2025-0097

Sponsored by: <b>Councilmember Sweeney</b>	<b>A Resolution</b> awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$20,000, to Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship, Inc. Greater Cleveland Chapter for the Mentoring Achieves Positive Pupils Program from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.
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**WHEREAS**, Cuyahoga County received \$239,898,257 from the Federal Government through the American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”); and

**WHEREAS**, Cuyahoga County calculated 100% of the ARPA dollars as loss revenue under the U.S. Department of the Treasury Final Rule; and

**WHEREAS**, since all the ARPA dollars have been calculated as loss revenue, the ARPA dollars have been deposited in the County’s General Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Executive and County Council have authorized \$86 million of the ARPA dollars for community grants to benefit the residents of Cuyahoga County (the “ARPA Community Grant Fund”); and

**WHEREAS**, of the \$86 million for community grants, \$66 million have been encumbered for equal distribution to each County Council District; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cuyahoga County Council desires to provide funding from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund in the amount of \$20,000 to Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship, Inc. Greater Cleveland Chapter for Mentoring Achieves Positive Pupils program; and

**WHEREAS**, Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship, Inc. Greater Cleveland Chapter estimates approximately 1,500 people will be served annually through this award; and

**WHEREAS**, Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship, Inc. Greater Cleveland Chapter estimates the total cost of the project is \$50,000; and

**WHEREAS**, Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship, Inc. Greater Cleveland Chapter indicates the other funding source(s) for this project includes:

- A. \$2,000 from membership dues;

- B. \$8,000 from fundraisers;
- C. \$2,500 from in-kind donations; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to R2024-0132 Cuyahoga County Council previously awarded a total sum not to exceed \$15,000 to Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship, Inc. Greater Cleveland Chapter for the Mentoring Achieves Positive Pearls Program from the District 7 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship, Inc. Greater Cleveland Chapter is estimating the start date of the project will be May 2024 and the project will be completed by May 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship, Inc. Greater Cleveland Chapter requested \$20,000 from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund to complete this project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cuyahoga County Council desires to provide funding in the amount of \$20,000 to Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship, Inc. Greater Cleveland Chapter to ensure this project is completed; and

**WHEREAS**, this Council by a vote of at least eight (8) members determines that it is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue to provide for the usually, daily operations of the County.

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

**SECTION 1.** That the Cuyahoga County Council hereby awards a not-to-exceed amount of \$20,000 to Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship, Inc. Greater Cleveland Chapter from the General Fund made available by the American Rescue Plan Act revenue replacement provision for the Mentoring Achieves Positive Pupils program.

**SECTION 2.** If any specific appropriation is necessary to effectuate this agreement, the Director of the Office of Budget and Management is authorized to submit the requisite documentation to financial reporting to journalize the appropriation.

**SECTION 3.** That the County Council staff is authorized to prepare all documents to effectuate said award.

**SECTION 4.** That the County Executive is authorized to execute all necessary agreements and documents consistent with said award and this Resolution.

**SECTION 5.** If requested or necessary, the Agency of the Inspector General or Department of Internal Audit is authorized to investigate, audit, or review any part of this award.

**SECTION 6.** To the extent that any exemptions are necessary under the County Code and contracting procedures, they shall be deemed approved by the adoption of this Resolution.

**SECTION 7.** It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County; the preservation of public peace, health or safety in the County; and any additional 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 8.** 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.

On a motion by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted.

Yeas:

Nays:

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Council President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Executive

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



First Reading/Referred to Committee: March 11, 2025  
Committee(s) Assigned: Education, Environment & Sustainability

Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_



## Cuyahoga County Council

2079 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor • Cleveland Ohio 44115  
(216) 698-2010

### COUNTY AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION:	
<b>Name of Requesting Entity (City, Business, Non-Profit, etc.):</b>	
Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship, Inc. Cleveland Graduate Chapter	
<b>Address of Requesting Entity:</b>	
381 Royal Oak Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143	
<b>County Council District # of Requesting Entity:</b>	
County District 3	
<b>Address or Location of Project if Different than Requesting Entity:</b>	
Franklin D. Roosevelt School 800 Linn Rd. Cleveland, Ohio	
<b>County Council District # of Address or Location of Project if Different than Requesting Entity:</b>	
County District # 7	
<b>Contact Name of Person Filling out This Request:</b>	
Sherdina Williams, M.Ed., RN, LSN	
<b>Contact Address if different than Requesting Entity:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>
swingphiswingcleveland@gmail.com	(440) 622-6026
<b>Federal IRS Tax Exempt No.:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
20-0049804	2/13/2025

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The program is a MENTORING PROGRAM called (MAPP) Mentoring Achieves Positive Pupils. Ebony Pearls is a national mentoring program under the umbrella of Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship, Incorporated. The goals of the Pearl program are to fellowship with young ladies of all creeds. To promote leadership, academic excellence, community involvement, civic and cultural consciousness.

Swing Phi Swing, Social Fellowship, Incorporated was founded 1969 in Winston Salem, North Carolina. The Cleveland Graduate Chapter was chartered July of 2023. The Cleveland Graduate Chapter of Swing has opted to recruit 20-25 Pearls from Franklin D. Roosevelt from Cleveland Metropolitan School District in grades 4<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup>. We will remain with these same girls until they graduate from high school. Thereby, keeping with our name and motto: **Sisters With Interest Never Gone (SWING)**. By remaining with the girls, we will develop meaningful relationships with their families and school communities.

This Pearl mentoring program purpose is to engage in the uplifting of our girls in leadership roles via various community engagements the girls will participate in. The girls will have opportunities to spearhead culturally conscious community events and service projects. Our Pearls will learn to value academic excellence. Our purpose is to develop future leaders that like Pearls will shine brilliantly within the community. We will meet weekly at FDR in a space designed for the program. And bi-monthly in the community for girls not attending FDR Academy school.

This project is needed to teach our Pearls the value of service and importance of dedicating their time, energy, and resources to enrich the quality of life within their communities. And to assist with promoting academic excellence. The purpose of the Pearls program is to expose the girls to various social emotional activities and inter-generational service projects. The Pearl program is needed to give the girls an opportunity to travel, meet, collaborate, and work directly with other Pearls and the community. The program designed will expose the girls to professional adult mentors many like themselves are products of Cleveland Public School System.

The MAPP program will be an ongoing outreach program of the Cleveland Chapter of Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship, Incorporated. We will meet weekly at FDR school and bi-monthly at The Davis with our Pearls. More frequently if the activity requires such as field trips, community service programs and traveling. We utilize a personalized van, public and private transportation to events.

Our monitoring will be.

1. Community engagement and participation will be tracked by attendance, Member of Swing will engage family members as required once they are members of the program. It is an expectation that the girls will remain Pearls for years.
2. Attendance at school all meetings and activities.
3. Academics rewards and incentives will be awarded for each report card period
4. Weekly meeting to monitor social emotional status and behavior ("Check In's")
5. On going communication with parents
6. On going communication with FDR Academy staff

**Project Start Date:**  
**May 2024**

**Project End Date:**  
**On going (Grant reporting May 2026)**

## IMPACT OF PROJECT:

**Who will be served:** The program will serve girls from Franklin D. Roosevelt (FDR) school and the community. The program will serve senior citizens at various community centers such as St. Martin De Porres Family Center & Seniors from various church congregations such as Antioch Baptist Church. The MAPP program will collaborate with Seniors. The girls will provide direct social & health educational services to their FDR school community. Collaborating with multiple community organizations engaged in community and civic work. Serving the greater Cleveland community.

### **How many people will be served annually?**

Via various community engagements community service activities, Health education, recreational activities and civic engagement programs, the Ebony Pearl program will service a minimum of 1500 people.

### **How will low/moderate income people be served; If so how:**

The school population at FDR qualifies 100 % for free and reduced school meals. All community programs will be inclusive and free to all residents and community program participants.

### **How does the project fit with the community and with other ongoing projects:**

1. The program follows all Swing Phi Swing national guidelines for the Ebony Pearl program.
2. The program will support all exiting academic guidelines and standards of the Cleveland Metropolitan School district. We will be working directly with the FDR school staff adhering to all protocols.
3. The Ebony Pearl program will collaborate and support existing community programs following all program guidelines.

### **If applicable, how many jobs will be created or retained (specify the number for each) and will the jobs be permanent or temporary:**

This program will not create paid employment.

### **If applicable, what environmental issues or benefits will there be:**

The Pearls will be instructed on conservation considerations and how to be good stewards of our earth during all meetings.

### **If applicable, how does this project serve as a catalyst for future initiatives:**

This program is building and developing future leaders. This program serves as a model. We're developing a procedure manual and lesson plans to be utilized by other mentoring programs.

## **FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

**Total Budget of Project** The budgeted amount for this program is approximately \$50,000.00. \$5,000.00 meetings. \$5,000.00 Ebony Pearl personal support & incentives \$5,000.00 Senior and community education, & health advocacy and programs. \$30,000.00 Ebony Pearls transportation to local events & traveling to Washington, Detroit & Niagara Falls. \$5,000.00. Schoolwide FDR community activity Holidays and end of school year.

### **Other Funding Sources of Project (list each source and dollar amount separately):**

Swing membership Dues \$2,000.00  
Fundraisers \$8,000.00  
In-kind donations of \$2,500.00

### **Total amount requested of County Council American Resource Act Dollars:**

The Swing Phi Swing Greater Cleveland Chapter is requesting \$20,000.00 from the County Council American Resource Act Dollars.

### **Since these are one-time dollars, how will the Project be sustained moving forward:**

Moving forward the Pearls program will be sustained by the membership expansion of growth of Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship Greater Cleveland Chapter, chapter Fundraisers and community collaborations and donations.

## DISCLAIMER INFORMATION AND SIGNATURE:

### Disclaimer:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have the authority to apply for financial assistance on behalf of the entity described herein, and that the information contained herein and attached hereto is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

I acknowledge and agree that all County contracts and programs are subject to Federal Guidelines and Regulations, the Ohio Revised Code, the Cuyahoga County Charter, and all County Ordinances including all information submitted as part of this application is a public record.

I understand that any willful misrepresentation on this application or on any of the attachments thereto could result in a fine and/or imprisonment under relevant local, state, and/or federal laws or guidelines.

I agree that at any time, any local, state, or federal governmental agency, or a private entity on behalf of any of these governmental agencies, can audit these dollars and projects.

### Printed Name:

**Sherdina Williams, M.Ed., RN, LSN, Cleveland Swing Phi Swing, Cleveland Chapter President**

### Signature:

*Sherdina Williams*

### Date:

**February 13, 2025**

## Additional Documents

**Are there additional documents or files as part of this application? Please list each documents name:**

1. District of Columbia Swing Phi Swing Reporting Entity form
2. National Treasure letter of authorization

# County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

## Resolution No. R2025-0098

Sponsored by: <b>Councilmembers Sweeney and Simon</b>	<b>A Resolution</b> awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$35,000, to Food Strong for the Superior Avenue Community Farm Restoration and Development Project from the Districts 3 & 11 ARPA Community Grant Funds; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.
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**WHEREAS**, Cuyahoga County received \$239,898,257 from the Federal Government through the American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”); and

**WHEREAS**, Cuyahoga County calculated 100% of the ARPA dollars as loss revenue under the U.S. Department of the Treasury Final Rule; and

**WHEREAS**, since all the ARPA dollars have been calculated as loss revenue, the ARPA dollars have been deposited in the County’s General Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Executive and County Council have authorized \$86 million of the ARPA dollars for community grants to benefit the residents of Cuyahoga County (the “ARPA Community Grant Fund”); and

**WHEREAS**, of the \$86 million for community grants, \$66 million have been encumbered for equal distribution to each County Council District; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cuyahoga County Council desires to provide \$10,000 in funding from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund and \$25,000 in funding from the District 11 ARPA Community Grant Fund for the total amount of \$35,000 to Food Strong for the Superior Avenue Community Farm Restoration and Development Project; and

**WHEREAS**, Food Strong estimates approximately 1,500 to 2,000 people will be served annually through this award; and

**WHEREAS**, Food Strong estimates approximately 5 permanent and temporary jobs will be created or retained through this project; and

**WHEREAS**, Food Strong estimates the total cost of the project is \$550,000; and

**WHEREAS**, Food Strong indicates the other funding source(s) for this project includes:

- A. \$30,000 from the Tecovas Foundation;
- B. \$20,000 from the Bicknell Fund;
- C. \$30,000 from the Food Strong annual gala;
- D. \$10,000 from the Food Strong Vacant Lot Restoration Initiative;
- E. \$5,000 from the Akron Community Foundation;
- F. \$32,000 from Private Donations; and

**WHEREAS**, Food Strong requested \$10,000 from the District 7 ARPA Community Grant Fund to complete this project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cuyahoga County Council desires to provide funding in the amount of \$35,000 to Food Strong to ensure this project is completed; and

**WHEREAS**, this Council by a vote of at least eight (8) members determines that it is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue to provide for the usually, daily operations of the County.

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

**SECTION 1.** That the Cuyahoga County Council hereby awards a not-to-exceed amount of \$35,000 to Food Strong from the General Fund made available by the American Rescue Plan Act revenue replacement provision for the Superior Avenue Community Farm Restoration and Development Project.

**SECTION 2.** If any specific appropriation is necessary to effectuate this agreement, the Director of the Office of Budget and Management is authorized to submit the requisite documentation to financial reporting to journalize the appropriation.

**SECTION 3.** That the County Council staff is authorized to prepare all documents to effectuate said award.

**SECTION 4.** That the County Executive is authorized to execute all necessary agreements and documents consistent with said award and this Resolution.

**SECTION 5.** If requested or necessary, the Agency of the Inspector General or Department of Internal Audit is authorized to investigate, audit, or review any part of this award.



**SECTION 6.** To the extent that any exemptions are necessary under the County Code and contracting procedures, they shall be deemed approved by the adoption of this Resolution.

**SECTION 7.** It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County; the preservation of public peace, health or safety in the County; and any additional 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 8.** 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.

On a motion by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted.

Yeas:

Nays:

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Council President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Executive

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: March 11, 2025  
Committee(s) Assigned: Education, Environment & Sustainability

Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_



## Cuyahoga County Council

2079 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor • Cleveland Ohio 44115  
(216) 698-2010

### COUNTY AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT APPLICATION

<b>APPLICANT INFORMATION:</b>	
<b>Name of Requesting Entity (City, Business, Non-Profit, etc.):</b> Food Strong	
<b>Address of Requesting Entity:</b> 1901 Train Ave, Cleveland, OH 44113	
<b>County Council District # of Requesting Entity:</b> District 7	
<b>Address or Location of Project if Different than Requesting Entity:</b> 6527 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44103	
<b>County Council District # of Address or Location of Project if Different than Requesting Entity:</b> District 7	
<b>Contact Name of Person Filling out This Request:</b> Sara Continenza	
<b>Contact Address if different than Requesting Entity:</b> N/A	
<b>Email:</b> info@foodstrong.org	<b>Phone:</b> 216-640-0342

<b>Federal IRS Tax Exempt No.:</b> 83-1580187	<b>Date:</b> 2/24/2025
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION
<p><b>REQUEST DESCRIPTION (include the project name, a description of the project, why the project is important or needed, and timeline of milestones/tracking of the project):</b></p> <p><b>Project Name:</b> Superior Avenue Community Farm (SACF) Restoration and Development</p> <p>The Superior Avenue Community Farm (SACF) project is an ambitious initiative aimed at restoring and repurposing a historically significant farmhouse, church building, and surrounding land in the St. Clair-Superior neighborhood to establish a sustainable, community-centered hub focused on food sovereignty, environmental sustainability, and workforce development. SACF will serve as a permanent headquarters for Food Strong, a small nonprofit organization, and will provide a space for the organization to expand its educational programs, foster local agricultural production, and enhance community involvement in sustainable practices. It will create opportunities for residents to engage in farming, environmental, and construction trades training while contributing to the revitalization of their community.</p> <p>By moving Food Strong’s headquarters to the SACF property, this project will be critical in reducing operational costs for the nonprofit. Currently, Food Strong incurs expenses renting office space, but by transitioning to this new location, the organization will eliminate rent costs, thereby freeing up critical resources to reinvest directly into programmatic work and community initiatives. This move will allow Food Strong to expand its impact, reaching more individuals with educational opportunities in agriculture, sustainability, and workforce development.</p> <p>This restoration project will address immediate structural and functional needs of the farmhouse to allow Food Strong to move in. This includes repairs to electrical, plumbing, and HVAC, as well as fixing drywall, replacing old windows, addressing leaks, and making aesthetic improvements to the farmhouse, such as painting and flooring. In addition, the project will prioritize environmental sustainability by insulating the building, installing energy-efficient windows, and repurposing materials when possible. Food Strong will also begin landscaping and beautification efforts on the property, and create growing spaces on the 2.85 acre property that will help enhance local food production through permaculture practices and hands-on training for youth and community members.</p> <p>This project is critical for addressing the pressing need for food sovereignty, especially in underserved communities. By transforming the SACF property, we aim to provide equitable access to healthy, locally grown food while fostering environmental stewardship and regenerative farming practices. The restoration of the property will also create an educational environment for local residents to develop valuable skills in farming, construction, and sustainable practices, thus enhancing workforce development and community cohesion.</p> <p><b>Budget:</b> The total project budget is \$550,000, which includes costs for property restoration, infrastructure upgrades, landscaping, and community engagement. This grant will contribute an additional \$10,000 toward the project, specifically towards reglazing the old windows on the home. This will make the home more energy efficient while making them safer. These funds will support the successful completion of the restoration process and support the long-term sustainability of the project.</p> <p><b>Timeline:</b> The SACF project will begin in March 2025 with site preparation and essential structural repairs to ensure the farmhouse is safe and stable. In the following months, plumbing, electrical work, and interior demolition will be completed, along with the installation of energy-efficient windows and insulation. From September to November 2025, the focus will shift to renovating volunteer housing and office spaces, including the installation of HVAC systems and aesthetic updates. By December 2025 through February 2026, final structural and cosmetic touches will</p>

be made, followed by furnishing the office space, completing safety inspections, and conducting a final walkthrough to ensure everything meets design and functionality goals.

**Project Start Date:**

**Project End Date:**

### **IMPACT OF PROJECT:**

**Who will be served:** The SACF project will positively impact the St. Clair-Superior neighborhood in Cleveland and the broader region by addressing food insecurity, promoting sustainability, and providing workforce development. Local residents, especially those in underserved areas, will benefit from access to fresh produce and educational programs in sustainable farming and environmental stewardship. The project will also offer job training in agriculture, construction, and green jobs, equipping youth and adults with valuable skills. Food Strong's relocation to SACF will expand its reach, allowing for more community engagement and educational workshops. The ultimate goal is that SACF will serve as a model for sustainable food systems and community development, creating lasting change in both the local community and Cleveland at large.

<p><b>How many people will be served annually:</b> Between 1,500 - 2,000 individuals will be served annually at SACF once it is restored.</p>
<p><b>Will low/moderate income people be served; if so how:</b> The SACF will significantly benefit low-income individuals and families by providing access to healthy, locally grown food, directly addressing food insecurity. Through educational programs and hands-on farming opportunities, SACF will empower residents with the skills to grow their own food and build sustainable food systems.</p> <p>The focus on workforce development will offer unique experiences for job training in agriculture, sustainable farming, and construction trades, preparing local youth and adults for careers in the green economy. Food Strong's relocation to SACF will expand access to its programs, reduce operational costs, and reinvest savings into community services. Ultimately, this project will foster food sovereignty, economic mobility, and community resilience.</p>
<p><b>How does the project fit with the community and with other ongoing projects:</b></p> <p>The SACF project aligns closely with the community's needs and complements ongoing local initiatives. By partnering closely with local organizations and residents, SACF directly addresses food insecurity and offers agriculture, sustainability, and trades educational programs that support the region's economic and environmental goals. The project also enhances existing Food Strong efforts by creating hands-on learning opportunities for local youth and involving the community in farm restoration and operations. It will also allow us to sell our produce in various low-access locations through our Mobile Farm Stand, and we are soon to be selling our produce to CMSD, enhancing the availability of fresh local produce in the community and to school cafeterias and connecting our school programs directly to lunch daily. SACF doesn't have any grocery stores in walking distance from the site, so our work is imperative for the neighborhood. One of our program partners, the St. Clair-Superior Development Corporation, is working to engage the community and create more activities available to residents, and we will be able to contribute greatly toward this mission through the SACF project.</p>
<p><b>If applicable, how many jobs will be created or retained (specify the number for each) and will the jobs be permanent or temporary:</b> At least 5 permanent jobs will be created through the completion and continuation of the SACF property, with these being a Farm manager, 1-2 farmers, and 2 site maintenance staff. The project will also stimulate dozens of temporary jobs including contractors and companies to do repair and maintenance work and part-time employees to support the site.</p>
<p><b>If applicable, what environmental issues or benefits will there be:</b></p> <p>We are modifying</p> <p>The SACF project will address environmental issues and serve as a model of environmental stewardship. It will remediate soil contamination from a nearby gas station through research on effective treatments like mushroom-based and plant remediation methods. These efforts will improve soil quality and ensure safe food production.</p> <p>SACF will integrate sustainable farming practices such as permaculture, organic gardening, and water conservation, improving soil health, reducing waste, and increasing biodiversity. The farmhouse will undergo energy-efficient upgrades, including better insulation and windows, to reduce its carbon footprint, while repurposing materials to minimize waste. Additionally, SACF will offer hands-on training in sustainable farming and green building practices, empowering local residents to become environmental stewards. This project will address environmental challenges, promote sustainability, and model best practices for future initiatives.</p>
<p><b>If applicable, how does this project serve as a catalyst for future initiatives:</b></p> <p>The SACF project will allow Food Strong to maintain a consistent presence in the St. Clair-Superior community in order to do vital community engagement and placemaking. This will serve as a catalyst for ongoing community development and long-term sustainability. In 2024, we secured the property, refreshed our brand, and announced our capital campaign to kickstart the project.</p> <p>During 2025, SACF will focus on expanding food production with permaculture, hoop houses, and cold storage for year-round distribution, laying the foundation for food sovereignty. Starting this year and into 2026, we will restore the 7,000-square-foot farmhouse to house volunteers and serve as nonprofit office space, increasing our capacity to grow.</p> <p>In 2027, the 20,000-square-foot church will be converted into vocational workshops and entrepreneur incubators, empowering local residents with skills and business opportunities. By 2028, SACF will expand into wellness services,</p>

offering health screenings, addiction recovery, and mental health programs. By 2029, we will enhance the community experience by expanding gardens and creating recreational, music, and retail spaces. Each phase builds upon the last, creating a comprehensive, self-sustaining hub that drives future initiatives focused on food security, workforce development, and community well-being.

Each year of the SACF project builds on the previous, creating a self-sustaining ecosystem of community-driven solutions. As the project progresses, it will continue to inspire further initiatives focused on economic development, community wellness, and environmental sustainability. SACF will serve as a model of how community-led, integrated solutions can tackle a wide range of social, economic, and environmental challenges, creating a lasting legacy for future generations.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

**Total Budget of Project: \$550,000**

### Other Funding Sources of Project (list each source and dollar amount separately):

Raised \$117,000 Total Thus Far:

- \$30,000 from the Tecovas Foundation
- \$20,000 from the Bicknell Fund
- \$30,000 from our annual gala
- \$10,000 from our Vacant Lot Restoration Initiative funded by Cuyahoga County
- \$5,000 from the Akron Community Foundation
- \$32,000 from Private Donations

**Total amount requested of County Council American Resource Act Dollars: \$10,000**

### Since these are one-time dollars, how will the Project be sustained moving forward:

To ensure the long-term sustainability of the SACF project, Food Strong is shifting away from relying heavily on grants and payment for services. Once operational, the site will generate revenue through various avenues, including rental income from the farmhouse, which offers 10 bedrooms for housing, and space rental in the church for events and organizational meetings. Additionally, a membership-based fee structure for urban farmers working onsite will create a steady stream of income. The SACF will also allow us to ramp up our agricultural production, which we will begin to sell to CMSD schools to serve in their cafeteria salad bars. This will provide a continuous stream of revenue while also providing daily fresh produce for our local schools.

We have developed a phased business plan that outlines the path to financial sustainability. This plan ensures that as SACF grows, it will continue to support its operations and expand its impact without being solely dependent on one-time funding. By diversifying revenue sources, the project will create a self-sustaining model that allows us to reinvest in the community, expand our programs, and maintain operations for the long term.

## DISCLAIMER INFORMATION AND SIGNATURE:

**Disclaimer:**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have the authority to apply for financial assistance on behalf of the entity described herein, and that the information contained herein and attached hereto is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

I acknowledge and agree that all County contracts and programs are subject to Federal Guidelines and Regulations, the Ohio Revised Code, the Cuyahoga County Charter, and all County Ordinances including all information submitted as part of this application is a public record.

I understand that any willful misrepresentation on this application or on any of the attachments thereto could result in a fine and/or imprisonment under relevant local, state, and/or federal laws or guidelines.

I agree that at any time, any local, state, or federal governmental agency, or a private entity on behalf of any of these governmental agencies, can audit these dollars and projects.

**Printed Name:** Sara Continenza

**Signature:**



**Date:** 2/24/2025

**Additional Documents**

Are there additional documents or files as part of this application? Please list each documents name:

[updated house plans 20250110.pdf](#)

[Copy of Save the Date \(8.5 x 11 in\).png](#)

[Map of communities served by Food Strong overlaid on food insecurity map](#)

**Commented [1]:** @taylor@foodstrong.org please link this in the fancy way you did the others  
\_Assigned to taylor@foodstrong.org\_



# County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

## Resolution No. R2025-0101

Sponsored by: **Councilmember  
Turner**

**A Resolution** awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to SOS: Strengthening Our Students for the SOS IGNITE 360 Programs from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

**WHEREAS**, Cuyahoga County received \$239,898,257 from the Federal Government through the American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”); and

**WHEREAS**, Cuyahoga County calculated 100% of the ARPA dollars as loss revenue under the U.S. Department of the Treasury Final Rule; and

**WHEREAS**, since all the ARPA dollars have been calculated as loss revenue, the ARPA dollars have been deposited in the County’s General Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Executive and County Council have authorized \$86 million of the ARPA dollars for community grants to benefit the residents of Cuyahoga County (the “ARPA Community Grant Fund”); and

**WHEREAS**, of the \$86 million for community grants, \$66 million have been encumbered for equal distribution to each County Council District; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cuyahoga County Council desires to provide funding from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund in the amount of \$10,000 to SOS: Strengthening Our Students for the SOS IGNITE 360 Programs; and

**WHEREAS**, SOS: Strengthening Our Students estimates approximately 50 youth will be served annually through this award; and

**WHEREAS**, SOS: Strengthening Our Students estimates approximately 2 permanent and temporary jobs will be created or retained through this project; and

**WHEREAS**, SOS: Strengthening Our Students estimates the total cost of the project is \$35,000; and

**WHEREAS**, SOS: Strengthening Our Students indicates the other funding source(s) for this project includes:

A. \$7,000 from the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District;

- B. \$3,000 from Cuyahoga Arts and Culture;
- C. \$15,000 from a fundraiser; and

**WHEREAS**, SOS: Strengthening Our Students is estimating the start date of the project will be April 2025 and the project will be completed by August 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, SOS: Strengthening Our Students requested \$10,000 from the District 7 ARPA Community Grant Fund to complete this project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cuyahoga County Council desires to provide funding in the amount of \$10,000 to SOS: Strengthening Our Students to ensure this project is completed; and

**WHEREAS**, this Council by a vote of at least eight (8) members determines that it is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue to provide for the usually, daily operations of the County.

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

**SECTION 1.** That the Cuyahoga County Council hereby awards a not-to-exceed amount of \$10,000 to SOS: Strengthening Our Students from the General Fund made available by the American Rescue Plan Act revenue replacement provision for the SOS IGNITE 360 Programs.

**SECTION 2.** If any specific appropriation is necessary to effectuate this agreement, the Director of the Office of Budget and Management is authorized to submit the requisite documentation to financial reporting to journalize the appropriation.

**SECTION 3.** That the County Council staff is authorized to prepare all documents to effectuate said award.

**SECTION 4.** That the County Executive is authorized to execute all necessary agreements and documents consistent with said award and this Resolution.

**SECTION 5.** If requested or necessary, the Agency of the Inspector General or Department of Internal Audit is authorized to investigate, audit, or review any part of this award.

**SECTION 6.** To the extent that any exemptions are necessary under the County Code and contracting procedures, they shall be deemed approved by the adoption of this Resolution.

**SECTION 7.** It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County; the preservation of public peace, health or safety in the County; and any additional 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 8.** 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.

On a motion by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted.

Yeas:

Nays:

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Council President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Executive

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: March 11, 2025

Committee(s) Assigned: Education, Environment & Sustainability

Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_



## Cuyahoga County Council

2079 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor • Cleveland Ohio 44115  
(216) 698-2010

### COUNTY AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT APPLICATION

<b>APPLICANT INFORMATION:</b>	
<b>Name of Requesting Entity (City, Business, Non-Profit, etc.):</b> SOS: Strengthening Our Students	
<b>Address of Requesting Entity:</b> SOS: 7901 Quincy Avenue – Cleveland, Ohio 44104	
<b>County Council District # of Requesting Entity:</b> District 7	
<b>Address or Location of Project if Different than Requesting Entity:</b> 7901 Quincy Avenue 44104/13240 Euclid Avenue 44112/3637 Suite 1A Green Road 44122	
<b>County Council District # of Address or Location of Project if Different than Requesting Entity:</b> District 7	
<b>Contact Name of Person Filling out This Request:</b> Dyeatra Williams	
<b>Contact Address if different than Requesting Entity:</b> 2214 Mt. Vernon Blvd, East Cleveland, Ohio 44112	
<b>Email:</b> Sos4sustainability@gmail.com	<b>Phone:</b> 216-965-7943
<b>Federal IRS Tax Exempt No.:</b> 34-1710719	<b>Date:</b> 2/26/2025

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

**REQUEST DESCRIPTION** (include the project name, a description of the project, why the project is important or needed, and timeline of milestones/tracking of the project):

**Project Name:** SOS “IGNITE 360” Programs. The SOS Summer Program is an evolving series of enrichment programs that are innovative, educational and focus on life skills. It is now in its 12<sup>th</sup> year of operation. Initially the six-week program was geared for youth between the ages of 7 through 12. This year we are expanding the ages to include teens; this is based in part on the U.S. Surgeon General’s Advisory on “Social Media and Youth Mental Health.” In the past we have held a six-week program that consisted of environmental and historical field trips, exercise (yoga), arts-n-crafts, a spell master quiz show, and music. In 2024 we revamped our program to include weekly program that concentrated on a particular area as an example. Sports Week with a visit to a local high school (John Hay Campus) to not just play basketball but to learn the training aspects (weight room, fundamental skills and game strategies). The SOS youth had the opportunity to work with the high school girls basketball team and listen to their experiences. We featured a workshop for youth and adults entitled “Health for my Purpose.” The authors conducted a hands-on food demonstration as well as conducted a tour to a local urban farm. This was in addition to a yoga class as a grocery store tour. We partnered with Emmanuel Baptist Church and the Guardians to offer a Baseball Camp as the historic League Park. Youth were taught by former baseball players. We were fortunate to offer youth an opportunity to attend an overnight camp (Camp Carl) for a week as well as provide one of our youth Counselors an opportunity to attend Leadership camp for a week. After reviewing the surveys from the parents, staff and youth as well as visual and documented data from Professor Gina Weisblat, Associate CWRU Professor with a focus on the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and its impact on youth and family we will offer IGNITE 360. This program will focus on social justice, mental health, culinary, social media, entrepreneurship, and sports programs. We will also have the opportunity for youth to attend Camp Carl again this year. Our interactive activities will focus on social media awareness, interactive techniques for teaching youth about politics, financial literacy and wealth building as well as entrepreneurship. Our relationship with afterschool youth, parents, and community partners and organizations we feel the need to engage our youth with fresh, innovative strategies to help today’s youth understand the complexities and nuances of our political landscape.

**Project Start Date:** April 1, 2025

**Project End Date:** August 31, 2025

## **IMPACT OF PROJECT:**

**Who will be served:**

**Community Youth and their families within the Fairfax, Buckeye, Central and Hough Communities**

**How many people will be served annually:**

**We serve approximately 50 youth within the ages of 6 to 18 within the above communities**

**Will low/moderate income people be served; if so how:**

**Our primary focus is low- and moderate-income families. The youth from the school districts are 100% eligible for food and social services.**

**How does the project fit with the community and with other ongoing projects:**

**SOS programs have been a resource within the community for over 15 years. SOS started as a Saturday youth program with a focus on helping individuals complete their GED. It expanded to providing math, reading, oratory and history programs. SOS then expanded to offering youth cooking classes, summer day and overnight week camp, afterschool tutoring programs. Through grants and fundraising SOS assumed 95% of the cost for these programs and services. In addition, we provide**

**If applicable, how many jobs will be created or retained (specify the number for each) and will the jobs be permanent or temporary: SOS provides at least 7 part-time jobs for our summer programs, as well as 3-4 part-time jobs for our afterschool programs, and 2 for special projects within in our organizations. We would like to build capacity within our organization to hire 1 full time and 1 part-time individual to work within our organization. At present the majority of our fundings goes toward**

**If applicable, what environmental issues or benefits will there be: The SOS organization strongly believes in environmental sustainability. We have worked with NEORSO annually to provide programs that focus on Explore Careers in Clean Water and 2) Understand and manage the Cost of Clean Water; as well as aim to 3) Promote and teach behaviors that Conserve and Care for Clean Water. In addition we have one week where our campers visit various park and trails to identify plants and wildlife. We also visit the local urban farm so that the youth can note the importance of produce from our urban farms**

**If applicable, how does this project serve as a catalyst for future initiatives: Our programs provide a foundation for youth to build upon. We make a strategic effort to focus on activities and programs that examine the social determinants of health and its impact upon our community. We have the ability to collaborate with other community organization to expand our knowledge and experience so that we can better educate and prepare our youth for the future. We adapt to explore issues that are impactful within our community such as mental health, violence, health and educational disparities.**

## **FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

**Total Budget of Project: \$ 35,000**

**Other Funding Sources of Project (list each source and dollar amount separately):**

<b>NEORSD Sewer District:</b>	<b>\$ 7,000</b>
<b>Cuyahoga Arts &amp; Culture:</b>	<b>3,000</b>
<b>Fundraiser:</b>	<b><u>15,000</u></b>
	<b>\$ 25,000</b>

**Total amount requested of County Council American Resource Act Dollars:**  
**\$ 10,000**

**Since these are one-time dollars, how will the Project be sustained moving forward:**

**The project will be sustained because we will use the dollars to further demonstrate the importance and longevity of our programs for the past 12-15 years. These funds will allow us to approach foundations and demonstrate the value of SOS and its programs. It will continue to position our organization to ask foundations to support us not only for programs but organizational development for staffing and professional development.**

## DISCLAIMER INFORMATION AND SIGNATURE:

### Disclaimer:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have the authority to apply for financial assistance on behalf of the entity described herein, and that the information contained herein and attached hereto is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

I acknowledge and agree that all County contracts and programs are subject to Federal Guidelines and Regulations, the Ohio Revised Code, the Cuyahoga County Charter, and all County Ordinances including all information submitted as part of this application is a public record.

I understand that any willful misrepresentation on this application or on any of the attachments thereto could result in a fine and/or imprisonment under relevant local, state, and/or federal laws or guidelines.

I agree that at any time, any local, state, or federal governmental agency, or a private entity on behalf of any of these governmental agencies, can audit these dollars and projects.

### Printed Name:

**Dyeatra Williams**

**Signature:**

**Date:**

## Additional Documents

**Are there additional documents or files as part of this application? Please list each documents name:**