



CUYAHOGA COUNTY COUNCIL

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES & AGING COMMITTEE

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS

4th FLOOR

MEETING AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 2025—1:00 P.M.

Committee Members

Yvonne M. Conwell, Chair | Dist. 7
Martin J. Sweeney, Vice Chair | Dist. 3
Mark Casselberry | Dist. 4
Michael J. Houser, Sr. | Dist. 10
Robert E. Schleper, Jr. | District 6

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 4, 2025 MEETING

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2025-0216: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$80,000 to the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland for the Funding for Hunger Network's Hot Meal Sites Project from the Districts 2, 3, 4, 7, & 8 ARPA Community Grant Funds; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

6. PRESENTATIONS

- a) 2025 ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) Report – Ken Surratt, Chief Revenue Officer and Maryam Kiefer, Senior Director, Public Policy for the United Way of Greater Cleveland
- b) State and Federal Budget Proposals and their Impact on the SNAP and Medicaid Programs – David Merriman, Director, Department of Health and Human Services and Kevin Gowan, Director, Cuyahoga Job and Family Services

7. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

8. ADJOURNMENT

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MINUTES

CUYAHOGA COUNTY HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES & AGING COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2025

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS

C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4TH FLOOR

1:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Conwell called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Ms. Conwell asked Assistant Deputy Clerk Georgakopoulos to call the roll. Committee members Conwell, Sweeney, Casselberry, Schleper and Houser were in attendance and a quorum was determined.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments given.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY 21, 2025 MEETING

A motion was made by Ms. Conwell, seconded by Mr. Sweeney and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the May 21, 2025 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2025-0194: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$150,000, to the Famicos Foundation for the Ward 1 Ring Door Bell Program from the District 8 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. John Anoliefo, Executive Director of the Famicos Foundation and Mr. London Burnett, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Veterans Electrical Group, LLC, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0194. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Mr. Anoliefo and Mr. Burnett pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

Mr. Sweeney requested to add funds in the amount of \$10,000.00 from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund which will be incorporated into a proposed substitute for consideration at the next Council meeting for second reading.

On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Mr. Casselberry, Resolution No. R2025-0194 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

6. PRESENTATION

- a) Career Connect Internship Program Enhancement Project –
Black Professionals Association Charitable Foundation
Michele Scott Taylor, President, Board of Trustees
Laurie Murphy, Executive Director

Ms. Michele Scott Taylor, President, Board of Trustees and Ms. Laurie Murphy, Executive Director of the Black Professionals Association Charitable Foundation, addressed the Committee and provided an overview of their agency's history, mission, services and programs, specifically the Career Connect Internship Program Enhancement Project which detailed the project's goals, status and its' impact on the clients and host sites served.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Scott Taylor and Ms. Murphy pertaining to the presentation, which they answered accordingly.

7. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Conwell adjourned the meeting at 1:53 p.m., without objection.

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Resolution No. R2025-0216

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Miller, Sweeney, Casselberry, Conwell, Jones, & County Executive Ronayne	A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$80,000 to the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland for the Funding for Hunger Network’s Hot Meal Sites project from the Districts 2, 3, 4, 7, & 8 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 funding in the amount of \$29,993.87 from the District 2 ARPA Community Grant Fund, \$15,006.05 from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund, \$0.08 from the District 4 ARPA Community Grant Fund, \$20,000 from the District 7 ARPA Community Grant Fund, and \$15,000 from the District 8 ARPA Community Grant Fund for the total amount of \$80,000 to the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland for the Funding for Hunger Network’s Hot Meal Sites project; and

WHEREAS, the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland estimates approximately 555,000 people will be served annually through this award, all of whom are at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level; and

WHEREAS, the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland estimates the total cost of the project is \$100,000; and

WHEREAS, the remaining \$20,000 will be provided from the emergency food purchase assistance funds provided by the County to the United Way of Greater Cleveland for the hunger centers; and

WHEREAS, the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland requested \$100,000 from various ARPA Community Grant Funds to complete this project; and

WHEREAS, the Cuyahoga County Council desires to provide funding in the amount of \$80,000 to the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland 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 \$80,000 to the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland from the General Fund made available by the American Rescue Plan Act revenue replacement provision for the Funding for Hunger Network's Hot Meal Sites 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: June 30, 2025

Committee(s) Assigned: Health, Human Services & Aging

Journal _____
_____, 20____



Cuyahoga County Council

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

COUNTY AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION:	
Name of Requesting Entity (City, Business, Non-Profit, etc.): Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland (Non-Profit)	
Address of Requesting Entity: 4415 Euclid Avenue, Suite 110, Cleveland, Ohio 44103	
County Council District # of Requesting Entity: District 7	
Address or Location of Project if Different than Requesting Entity:	
County Council District # of Address or Location of Project if Different than Requesting Entity:	
Contact Name of Person Filling out This Request: Julie M. Johnson	
Contact Address if different than Requesting Entity:	
Email: jjohnson@hungernetwork.org	Phone: (216) 619-8155, ext. 111
Federal IRS Tax Exempt No.: 34-1810545	Date: June 17, 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):

Name: Funding for Hunger Network's Hot Meal Sites

Hunger Network provides centralized support, networking, and funding to a collaborative of 71 hunger relief sites (17 hot meal sites and 54 pantries) with the goal of addressing food insecurity. Our approach bridges the most important link in the food logistics chain: the last mile by neighbors feeding neighbors. Those served are living with a household income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. In 2024 we provided 7.0 million meals to more than 550,000 individuals, of which over 50% were children and seniors.

As the backbone of this collective of community-based partners, churches, volunteers, nonprofits, and businesses that are rooted in Cuyahoga Counties, we empower each hunger relief site – pantries and hot meal sites - to address their unique challenges and provide solutions with their residents. Pantry sites typically distribute 3-5 days of food per person based on which style of food distribution works best. Hunger Network hot meal sites provide congregate settings for intergenerational social interactions to make sure people have access to hot, healthy, nutritious meals while reducing social isolation and loneliness.

Our consortium of hunger relief sites has lost 20% of USDA-funded emergency food across Greater Cleveland due to cuts from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). Member pantries receive monthly funds from Hunger Network, enabling them to purchase food and cover transportation costs, ensuring their shelves remain stocked for neighbors who cannot afford to buy food.

Earlier this year, anticipated funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) was frozen, delivering a significant blow to Hunger Network's member sites. In 2024, The FEMA-funded Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP), established by Congress in 1983 to help meet the needs of people who are hungry and homeless, awarded Hunger Network \$109,000 last year to provide food for the Cleveland Kosher Food Pantry and 17 hot meal sites.

Unfortunately, we do not know if and/or when funding will be restored by FEMA. However, we do know that Clevelanders are experiencing higher levels of food insecurity than during the COVID-19 pandemic, and our neighbors are struggling harder in this economy to put food on their tables. Hunger Network's Board of Trustees voted to release \$52,850 from our general operating income to fill the funding gaps for the FEMA funded sites, but this is not a sustainable model for our organization at this time. Last year, 103,328 first-time shoppers visited one of Hunger Network's hunger relief sites—an 8% increase over 2023. Despite the growing demand for food, EFSP funding has been steadily on the decline from funding levels as high as \$365,000 during COVID and \$220,000 pre-COVID.

We respectfully request one-time bridge funding of \$100,000 to sustain these programs to continue to respond to the needs of our community until we can raise additional funds to retain these services. Guided by our four values – dignity, dedication, collaboration, and innovation – we strive for our vision of a future where no one goes hungry, and no food goes to waste. ARPA funding from the County will contribute to our capacity to temporarily fulfill our work with neighbors in need to provide them with nutrition to improve their health, strength, determination, and judgement.

Project Start Date: Ongoing

Project End Date: Ongoing

IMPACT OF PROJECT:

Who will be served:

Residents of the County living at or below 200% of poverty. The demographics of the people served included: African American - 52 %, Asian - 1 %, Caucasian - 26 %, Hispanic/Latino - 6 %, Native American – 1%; other – 14%. Gender: Female – 54%/ Male – 46%. Age: Youth and seniors – 54%; Adults – 46%.

How many people will be served annually:

Annually, we serve approximately 550,000 people.

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

All people who we serve are at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.

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

Access to nutritious food on a consistent basis is essential to the health and well-being of the community. It's essential for children as they grow and learn to be healthy and productive adults. The general community needs a healthy diet to be able to concentrate and focus on work, and to manage chronic health conditions. We exist to feed our communities' future, so no one goes hungry, and no food goes to waste.

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

We do not create jobs as part of our programs, but we do address the health of those at work to enhance retention and productivity. People who are well-fed make significant contributions to the work.

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

Hunger Network's Food Rescue Program is designed to reduce waste, mitigate toxic carbon dioxide emissions, and offer an alternative to traditional food sources. The program has saved millions of pounds of food destined for landfills and significantly reduced noxious gases from impacting our environment.

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

Creativity in food access is critical to reducing food insecurity. We are working on ways to supplement and replace some food sources with unconventional sources of healthy and appealing meals.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**Total Budget of Project:**

\$100,000

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

None.

Total amount requested of County Council American Resource Act Dollars:

\$100,000

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

We are building capacity to increase our ability to identify and access new funding sources including foundations, corporations, and individuals.

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:

Julie M. Johnson

Signature:



Date:

June 17, 2025

Additional Documents

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

Hunger Network Strategic Plan 2025-2027