

# District 7 News

WINTER 2025



**Yvonne M. Conwell**  
Councilmember, District 7

**Contact:**

216.698.2010

216.698.2017

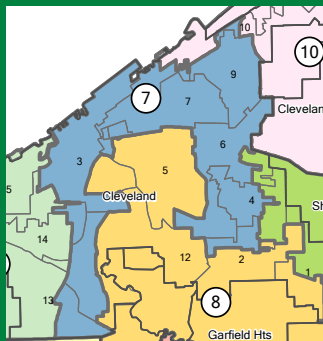
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[council@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:council@cuyahogacounty.us)

**Visit Council's Website:**

[cuyahogacounty.gov/council](http://cuyahogacounty.gov/council)



2079 East Ninth Street  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115  
216.698.2010

## A Message from...

### Council Vice President Yvonne M. Conwell

Dear Neighbors,

While winter seems to have hit us in full force since the start of the new year, that has not stopped your County Council from working hard for its residents!

I am so pleased to announce that I was unanimously appointed by my colleagues to serve as the next Vice President of Council, for the 2025-2026 legislative term. I will serve alongside our new Council President, Dale Miller, as we work to provide services and resources that give residents their best opportunity at success.

We also welcomed three new Councilmembers: District 4 Councilman Mark Casselberry, District 6 Councilman Robert E. Schleper, Jr., and District 10 Councilman Michael J. Houser, Sr. I'm looking forward to learning about their priorities and working with them to move our county forward.

As always, I encourage you to reach out to my office with any questions or ideas—we are here to serve.

Wishing you a productive and healthy start to the new year!

Sincerely,

Yvonne M. Conwell

# Property Tax and Board of Revision Appeal Process Informational Meeting

The Cuyahoga County Board of Revision and Fiscal Office is hosting an informational session for District 7 residents to learn about contesting their new property valuations. Last year, the County's Fiscal Office conducted a state mandated sexennial reappraisal to determine the value of all properties within the county. The reappraisal resulted in an average increase of 32% in home values across Cuyahoga County, resulting in many property owners seeing higher tax bills.

Attend the event on March 26 from 6-8 p.m. at Second Missionary Baptist Church (1881 E. 71st St., Cleveland, 44103). If you feel your new valuation is too high, this informational meeting can help you learn about ways to contest your property values, which can ultimately result in a lower tax rate.

Property owners who want to contest their valuation may file a formal tax complaint with the Board of Revision. The deadline to file is March 31, 2025.



**Property Tax & Board of Revision Appeal Process Informational Session**

Residents can learn about how to file a complaint with the County's Board of Revision. The deadline to file is March 31, 2025.

**Wednesday, March 26 from 6-8 p.m.**  
Second Missionary Baptist Church  
1881 E. 71st Street, Cleveland

Learn more at [cuyahogacounty.gov/bor](https://cuyahogacounty.gov/bor) or call 216-443-8282

## Property Tax Assistance Program

As property taxes have increased, this has become an added burden on many homeowners in Cuyahoga County. The County's new Taxpayer Assistance Program can provide up to \$10,000 in one-time direct assistance to qualified County taxpayers aged 70 or older with an active delinquency. In addition to direct assistance, the program will fund housing counseling services to help ensure residents are given tools they need to catch up on their taxes and make informed housing choices going forward.

To qualify for the direct assistance, the resident must:

- Maintain a primary residence in Cuyahoga County for at least 3 years
- Have an active certified tax delinquency on that residence
- Be aged 70 years or older
- Have a household income of less than \$70,000 per year
- Participate in housing counseling services with CHN Housing Partners, including a counseling session, completion of a budget, and demonstration of ongoing ability to pay
- Participate in the Easy Pay installment payment program for future taxes
- Establish a delinquent tax payment contract for any remaining delinquency

To apply, residents can fill out the application on CHN Housing Partners' website or contact the Treasurer's Office by calling 216-443-7400 (Option 1).



# Battling the Cold Winter Months

This winter has been a brutal one. County Medical Examiner Dr. Thomas Gilson recently issued a public health advisory regarding the dangers of extreme cold weather. This winter, Cuyahoga County has reported at least five deaths due to hypothermia.

Be vigilant and take precautionary steps to reduce risks associated with cold weather:

- Dress in layers. Wear a hat, gloves, and scarf to reduce heat loss.
- Check on neighbors, friends, and family. Check on vulnerable groups such as older adults, children, and pets.
- Stay indoors. Remain indoors and monitor weather forecasts for the latest information.
- Know the signs of hypothermia. Signs of hypothermia include numbness or weakness, apathy, shivering, and/or loss of consciousness. If you suspect someone has hypothermia, call 911.
- Find a Warming Center. For information on warming center availability, please visit [cuyahogacounty.gov/coldweather](http://cuyahogacounty.gov/coldweather) or call 2-1-1.



The Treasurer's Office is here to help!

## Taxpayer Assistance Program

Up to **\$10,000** one-time financial assist is available to qualifying residents who are struggling with property taxes.

### To qualify for direct assistance, you must:

- Maintain a primary residence in Cuyahoga County for at least 3 years
- Have an active certified tax delinquency on that residence
- Be aged 70 years or greater
- Have a household income of less than \$70,000 per year
- Participate in housing counseling services with CHN Housing Partners, including a counseling session, completion of a budget, and demonstration of on-going ability to pay
- Participate in the Easy Pay installment payment program for future taxes
- Establish a delinquent tax payment contract for any remaining delinquency



### The \$10,000 may be used for:

- Payment of certified delinquent property taxes
- Payment of late property taxes
- Payment of current property taxes
- Payment of foreclosure fees and court costs related to a pre-existing foreclosure
- Satisfaction of pre-existing tax lien certificates

✓ Payments will be made directly to Cuyahoga County.

- ✓ Assistance is available in all Cuyahoga County Council Districts.
- ✓ CHN Housing Partners will process applications on a first-come, first-served basis, prioritizing properties in active foreclosure.
- ✓ Additional assistance is available by lottery following initial distributions.
- ✓ Assistance is available one time per household.



### Questions? Contact Us

#### Cuyahoga County Treasurer's Office

- 📞 216-443-7400, Option 1
- @ [treascomment@cuyahogacounty.gov](mailto:treascomment@cuyahogacounty.gov)
- 🌐 [cuyahogacounty.gov](http://cuyahogacounty.gov)

#### How to Apply



Scan this QR code or visit  
<https://chnhousingpartners.org/taxpayer-assistance>



Cuyahoga County  
Treasurer's Office



CHN  
Housing Partners

*The Power of a Permanent Address.™*

CUY\_906\_cohs10/2024

# Community of Hope—The Hope Program

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Youth who either lack a strong family support system or who are aging out of the County's foster care system might feel unsure about what lies ahead for them. If you or someone you know is in this situation, I encourage participating in the Community of Hope's Hope Program.

Community of Hope matches youth aging out of foster care (or young adults ages 18-30) with adult volunteers. Volunteers commit to engaging in a relationship with the youth once a week for at least one year.

This has proven to be extremely meaningful to both the youth and volunteers, with 95% of participants remaining in stable housing and 91% employed or in education/training.

Volunteer mentors become "your community"—people who are a part of your life and who stick with you. It's a safe place to share life, overcome challenges, and begin to think about the future with input and support from your mentors.

If you or someone you know might benefit from this program, reach out to Community of Hope by calling 216-392-0629, or email Program Director Bev Johnson at [bevjohnson@hopecle.org](mailto:bevjohnson@hopecle.org).



## Genesis Healthcare Services

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Genesis Healthcare Services is a local, non-medical home care agency that can help assist older adults with everyday tasks such as eating, bathing, or light housework. Their companionship services include comprehensive, around-the-clock support for those in need, including help with laundry, light housekeeping, meal planning and cooking. Care professionals can also provide outside support, like helping with errands, adult and senior transportation to and from doctor appointments, social events and more.

Genesis also provides training for family caregivers who live in the home, and pays them for their services. To learn more about their offerings, visit [gencares.com](http://gencares.com) or call 440-627-2600.





# Cleveland Angels

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There are approximately 400,000 children and youth experiencing foster care across the United States. Locally, the Cleveland Angels is building a community of people who are changing the way children, youth, and families experience foster care.



The ripple effects of spending time in foster care can look like academic instability, homelessness, incarceration, and mental health challenges. The ripple effects of investing just a few minutes in the powerful potential of this community can result in cycles broken.

If you would like to refer a foster or kinship family or youth to Cleveland Angel's programs, volunteer, serve as a mentor, or invest in sustainable change, visit [cleangels.org](http://cleangels.org) or call 216-206-7172.

# A Place 4 Me

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A Place 4 Me is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing and ending youth homelessness in Cuyahoga County. They accomplish this through direct services, authentic youth engagement, and systems change.



A Place 4 Me includes multiple beneficial programs. Their Youth Navigators use their personal experiences to walk alongside young adults experiencing homelessness, housing instability, or foster care.

Opportunity Passport is a matched savings and financial capabilities program for youth ages 14-25 who have spent at least one day in foster care after their 14th birthday. The court helps youth open a bank account in their own name and matches youth savings for the purchase of assets.

If you are someone or know someone who needs support, you can visit their website at [APlace4Me.org](http://APlace4Me.org). If you're interested in getting involved, reach out to Zachary Milini, Advancement Manager by calling 216-367-1058.

# Chair-ity

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Chair-ity is a nonprofit organization that provides new beds, donated furniture and home goods at no cost to those who age out of foster care and embark on independent living.

The average cost of furnishing a 1-bed apartment is \$3,400. By supplying aged-out foster youth with furnishings, Chair-ity is eliminating that burden and helping them take the next step toward being a successful adult.



Each young adult is referred by a social worker or community partner. Chair-ity then reaches out to the client for delivery coordination. Meanwhile, a design volunteer works with the client, ensuring the space is expressive of themselves. Post delivery, Chair-ity is always there to refer them to other resources.

For more information on this fantastic program, visit [chair-ity.org](http://chair-ity.org).

# Q4 2024 Accomplishments

Cuyahoga County received \$239 million from the federal government through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Cuyahoga County calculated 100% of the ARPA dollars as loss of revenue under the U.S. Department of Treasury's Final Rule and deposited it into the County's General Fund. The County Executive and County Council authorized \$86 million of the ARPA dollars for community grants to benefit the residents of Cuyahoga County, known as the ARPA Community Grant Fund. \$66 million was evenly distributed to the 11 Council Districts. Since funds were allocated, District 7 has approved more than \$5.7 million in American Rescue Plan Act dollars to benefit the District and other County projects that are beneficial to our Cuyahoga County community. In Q4 of 2024, these included:

- Parma Commission on Aging-\$10,000 (Hearing Loop Installation Project)
- Friendly Inn Settlement, Inc.-\$5,000 (HVAC Capital Upgrade Project)
- St. Clair Superior Development Corporation-\$100,000 (50/50 Matching Grant Home Repair Program)
- Harvard Community Services Center-\$5,000 (Grandparents Family Day and Resource Fair)
- Building & Leveraging Opportunities Foundation-\$10,000 (Property Rehabilitations)
- Wallstreet Nottingham Development Inc.-\$20,000 (New Headquarters and Residential Development Project)
- Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry-\$5,000 ("Welcome Home!" Anniversary Celebration)



## ZERO INTEREST SMALL DOLLAR LOANS

Are you like many others facing a hardship and need a small dollar loan to prevent or resolve a financial or housing crisis? Do you need help making a mortgage or rent payment? Are you at risk of utilities being shut off? Do you need medications that you cannot afford? Call ESOP today to find out if we can help!

### LOAN SPECIFICATIONS:

- LOAN AMOUNTS: \$300 TO \$1,000
- LOAN TERMS 24 TO 48 MONTHS
- 0 INTEREST OR ORIGINATION FEES
- LOW MONTHLY PAYMENTS

### LOAN QUALIFICATIONS:

- CUYAHOGA COUNTY RESIDENT
- INCOME ELIGIBILITY
- FINANCIAL COACHING

*Financial assessment is required to determine loan eligibility. Additional qualifications may apply.*

This loan program is made possible by the generous funding from

**ThirdFederal**  
SAVINGS & LOAN

in partnership with



\*Neither Third Federal Savings and Loan, Chemical Bank, nor Faith Community Credit Union administer this loan program.



ESOP is a HUD-approved housing and financial counseling agency  
ESOP is a subsidiary of the Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging

Call 216.361.0718 for more information  
or to schedule a financial assessment  
[Telephone financial assessments available due to COVID-19]

## SENIOR PROPERTY TAX LOAN PROGRAM



**Are you an older adult living in Cuyahoga County who has fallen behind on their property taxes?**

**ESOP has a loan option to help bring your taxes current and avoid foreclosure!**

**Schedule an appointment today to see if you qualify!**

### Basic Loan Guidelines:

- ⇒ Maximum loan amount \$7,500
- ⇒ Cuyahoga County properties only
- ⇒ Property must be owner occupied
- ⇒ Owner must be 55 or older
- ⇒ Must be Income Eligible
- ⇒ Must participate in ESOP's Financial Coaching, and Financial Education Workshops
- ⇒ Must enroll in Cuyahoga County Easy Pay program  
(Other loan qualifications may apply)



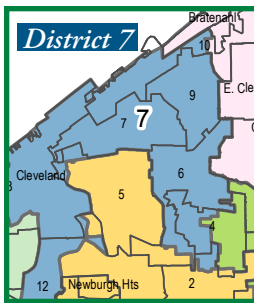
Special thank you to **ThirdFederal**  
SAVINGS & LOAN

for their generous support of the Senior Property Tax Loan Program.

*\*Third Federal Savings and Loan does not administer the loan program nor have any role in granting or servicing loans.*

**ESOP is a HUD-approved housing and financial counseling agency**

**For more information or to schedule an appointment call 216.361.0718**



**County Councilwoman**  
**Yvonne M. Conwell, District 7**  
 Office: 216.698.2017  
 Cellphone: 216.640.6245  
 Email: [Yconwell@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:Yconwell@cuyahogacounty.us)

## County Executive Chris Ronayne Administration

### Executive Office

Erik Janas ..... Chief of Staff  
 David Razum ..... Deputy Chief of Staff, Communications & Strategy  
 Katie Gallagher ..... Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations & Community Innovation  
 Debbie Berry ..... Deputy Chief of Staff, Integrated Development  
 Jenita McGowan ..... Deputy Chief of Staff, Climate & Sustainability

### Safety & Protection

Brandy Carney ..... Director of Public Safety and Justice  
 Harold Pretel ..... Sheriff  
 Nailah Byrd ..... Clerk of Courts  
 Dr. Thomas Gilson ..... Medical Examiner  
 Sheryl Harris ..... Director of Consumer Affairs  
 Laurel Domanski Diaz ..... Justice and Health Equity Officer

### Economic Opportunity & Growth

Paul Herdeg ..... Director of Economic Development  
 Sara Parks Jackson ..... Director of Housing and Community Development  
 Vaughn Johnson ..... Deputy Director of Workforce Development  
 Michael Dever ..... Director of Public Works  
 Valerie Katz ..... Interim Director of Sustainability  
 Michael Foley ..... Administrator, Cuyahoga Green Energy

### Health, Human Services & Aging

David Merriman ..... Director of Health & Human Services  
 Christopher Murray ..... Deputy Director, Health & Human Services  
 Jacqueline Fletcher ..... Administrator of the Division of Children & Family Services  
 Kevin Gowen ..... Administrator of Cuyahoga Job & Family Services  
 Natasha Pietrocola ..... Administrator of the Division of Senior and Adult Services  
 Simeon Best ..... Administrator of the Office of Reentry  
 Shawna Rohman ..... Administrator of Invest In Children  
 Melissa Sirak ..... Administrator of the Office of Homeless Services  
 Robin Martin ..... Administrator of Family & Children First Council  
 Tiffany Dobbins-Brazelton ..... Administrator of the Office of Child Support Services

### Talent Management

Sarah Nemastil ..... Chief of Human Resources  
 Patrick Smock ..... Director of Operations  
 Gloria Langford ..... Director of Benefits & Compensation  
 Julie McNulty ..... Talent Acquisition & Employment  
 Alida Moonen ..... Director of Organizational and Employee Development

### Finance & Operations

Mike Chambers ..... Chief Fiscal Officer  
 Walter Parfejewiec ..... Director of the Office of Budget Management  
 Brad Cromes ..... Treasurer  
 Paul Porter ..... Director of the Office of Procurement

### Technology, Innovation & Performance

Andy Johnson ..... Deputy Chief Technology Officer

### Legal & External Affairs

Rick Manoloff ..... Chief Law Director

### Communications

David Razum ..... Chief  
 Kelly Woodard ..... Director of Communications & Media Relations  
 Jennifer Caccia ..... Press Secretary

### Inspector General

Alexa Beeler ..... Inspector General

### Internal Audit

Monica Houston ..... Director of Internal Audit

## Quick Reference Directory

Agencies, Boards & Commissions	Phone
Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services	216.241.3400
Animal Shelter	216.525.7877
Auto Title	216.443.7010
Board of Developmental Disabilities	216.241.8230
Board of Elections	216.443.8683
Board of Health	216.201.2000
Children and Family Services	216.431.4500
Child Abuse Hotline	216.696.KIDS
Child Care Assistance	216.416.4440
Child Care Information Line	216.987.6929
Child Support Services	216.443.5100
<i>Fatherhood Initiative</i>	216.348.3967
Clerk of Courts	
<i>Civil Division</i>	216.443.7951
<i>Criminal Division</i>	216.443.7999
County Council	216.698.2010
County Executive	216.443.7178
County Metropolitan Housing Authority	216.348.5000
Department of Development	216.443.7260
Department of Sustainability	216.443.7178
Fiscal Office	
<i>Appraisal, Board of Revision, Property Valuation,</i>	
<i>Real Estate Services, Tax Assessment,</i>	216.443.7010
<i>Treasury and Collections, &amp; Unclaimed Funds.</i>	
Food Assistance/Medicaid	216.987.7000
Healthy Start	216.987.7346
Home Repair Loan Program	216.348.4066
Homestead Exemption	216.443.7010
Employment Opportunities	216.443.7190
Inspector General	216.348.3941
<i>Whistleblower Hotline</i>	216.698.2999
Jury Duty	216.443.8625
Medical Examiner	216.721.5610
MetroHealth System	216.778.7800
Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District	216.881.6600
Office of Emergency Management	216.443.5700
Office of Homeless Services	216.420.6844
Office of Mediation	216.698.4996
Office of Procurement & Diversity (OPD)	216.443.7200
Office of Re.entry	216.698.3437
Ohio Means Jobs	
Main Location Downtown	216.777.8200
Old Brooklyn NFSC	216.635.2931
Quincy Place NFSC	216.561.5503
Prosecutor's Office	216.443.7800
Public Safety & Justice Services	216.443.7265
Public Works Department	
<i>Sanitary &amp; Sewer Maintenance.</i>	216.348.3800
Recycling Programs	216.443.3749
Regional Transit Authority (RTA)	216.621.9500
Senior and Adult Services	
<i>Elder abuse hotline, Community Office on Aging,</i>	
<i>Home Support Programs, Options for Elders.</i>	216.420.6750
Sheriff's Office	216.443.6000
United Way, Essential Community Services	2-1-1
Veterans Service Commission	216.698.2600
Witness/Victim Service Center	216.443.7345





**Cuyahoga County Council**  
**2079 East Ninth Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Cleveland, Ohio 44115**



**Yvonne M. Conwell**  
Councilmember,  
District 7

## County Council Meetings and Committees Open to the Public with Complimentary Parking

All regular Council meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month and are free and open to the public.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend in person in the County Administrative Headquarters, 2079 East 9th Street in the C. Ellen Connally Council Chambers located on the 4th floor.

You can also watch meetings via Council's live stream at [cuyahogacounty.gov/council](http://cuyahogacounty.gov/council)



## County Council's Committee times are as follows:

- Community Development & Housing: Michael J. Houser, Sr., Chair, Mondays at 9:30 a.m.
- Council Operations, Information Technology, & Public Transportation: Robert E. Schleper, Jr., Chair, Tuesdays at 3 p.m.
- Economic Development & Planning: Patrick Kelly, Chair, Mondays at 3 p.m.
- Education, Environment & Sustainability: Sunny Simon, Chair, Wednesdays at 3 p.m.
- Finance & Budgeting: Meredith Turner, Chair, Mondays at 1 p.m.
- Health, Human Services & Aging: Yvonne M. Conwell, Chair, Wednesdays at 1 p.m.
- Human Resources, Appointments & Equity: Martin J. Sweeney, Chair, Tuesdays at 10 a.m.
- Public Safety & Justice Affairs: Michael J. Gallagher, Chair, Tuesdays at 1 p.m.
- Public Works, Procurement & Contracting: Pernel Jones, Jr., Chair, Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

Dates and times are subject to change; please go to Cuyahoga County Council's Website at [cuyahogacounty.gov/council](http://cuyahogacounty.gov/council) or you may call (216) 698-2010, to access the schedule of upcoming meetings. Complimentary parking is available to the public in the attached garage at 900 Prospect. A skywalk extends from the garage to provide additional entry to the C. Ellen Connally Council Chambers from the 5th-floor parking level of the garage.

**2079 East Ninth Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Cleveland, Ohio 44115 / Phone: 216.698.2010 / Fax: 216.698.2040**  
**Email: [council@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:council@cuyahogacounty.us) / Website: [cuyahogacounty.gov/council](http://cuyahogacounty.gov/council)**

