



**Executive Order No. EO2022-0007**

**DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY  
FOR CUYAHOGA COUNTY DUE TO THE  
CHILD PLACEMENT CRISIS**

WHEREAS, on this 31<sup>st</sup> day of August 2022, the life, health, safety and property of residents of Cuyahoga County are in jeopardy due to the child placement crisis facing the Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services ("CCDCFS"); and,

WHEREAS, placing children in the CCDCFS Jane Edna Hunter Building ("JEH") and permitting their residence therein, especially children whose medical, behavioral and/or mental health needs exceed the bounds of CCDCFS intervention at JEH, and whom other contracting facilities refuse to accept or maintain placement, is putting in jeopardy the health and safety of those children, as well as the health and safety of the workers located at JEH, law enforcement and the public who visit that location; and,

WHEREAS, the property of each of those named parties, as well as County property (namely, the JEH facility and the property therein contained), is also put in jeopardy; and,

WHEREAS, the frequency of such placements, the use of such placements as a diversion from juvenile corrections, and the behavioral and/or mental health needs of children the subject of such placements have increased over the last year, resulting in a child placement crisis in Cuyahoga County; and,

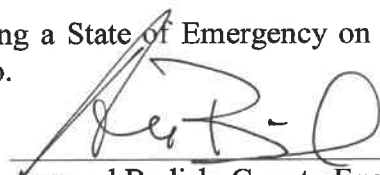
WHEREAS, this child placement crisis has put Cuyahoga County juveniles in need of safe and appropriate housing complete with services designed to address their underlying safety, health and welfare needs; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Armond Budish, County Executive of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, by virtue of the powers and vested in me by the Charter of Cuyahoga County, and the laws of the State of Ohio and Cuyahoga County, do hereby declare and determine that a State of Emergency now exists in the County of Cuyahoga, Ohio as result of the child placement crisis.

I further declare and determine that, pursuant to and in accordance with Section 501.08 of the Cuyahoga County Code, the Fiscal Officer is authorized to execute, on my behalf, contracts or agreements governing the placement of and services for those Cuyahoga County juveniles in need of immediate, safe and appropriate housing and services.

This Executive Order shall go into immediate effect upon my signature and shall continue in force until rescinded by me or any of my successors.

I have signed this Executive Order declaring a State of Emergency on this 31 day of August, 2022, in Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio.

  
Armond Budish, County Executive  
Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Acknowledged,

  
Gregory G. Huth, Director of Law