



RESOLUTION to call for the Ohio General Assembly to pass the Expansion of Medicaid to 138% of poverty as allowable by the Affordable Care Act. The passage of Medicaid expansion will ensure additional access for Ohioans in need of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services.

WHEREAS, the members of the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Wayne and Holmes Counties are committed to assuring that residents of Wayne and Holmes Counties live healthier lives through access to quality mental health, alcohol and other drug prevention, treatment and support services; and

WHEREAS, Ohio must address the fact that an increasing number of individuals across the state are in need of alcohol, drug addiction and/or mental health services; and

WHEREAS, the expansion of Medicaid to 138% of poverty is an opportunity to start to rebuild the behavioral health system, to restore Ohio's status as a state of workforce growth and development, and to further address the impact of addiction and mental illness on our communities.

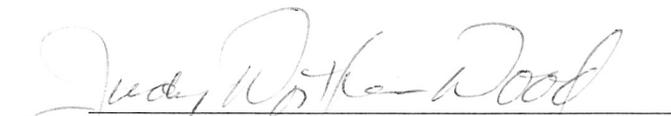
WHEREAS, fewer and fewer severely mentally ill and addicted clients are being provided services due to the past decade of erosion of the behavioral health safety net; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid expansion will provide treatment and services to many of Ohio's uninsured population. The infusion of Medicaid dollars will allow up to \$70 million dollars to be redirected for Non-Medicaid services once the expansion is fully implemented.

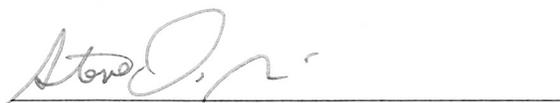
WHEREAS, if no action is taken, the crisis facing the individuals in need of alcohol, drug addiction and mental health services threatens to become so pervasive and acute that vulnerable Ohioans will continue to suffer needlessly.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, because treatment works and people recover, recovering people work, and working people pay taxes, by majority agreement, the members of the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Wayne and Holmes Counties, respectfully request the Ohio General Assembly to pass the expansion of Medicaid to 138% of poverty, in order to better serve Ohioans in need of behavioral health services.

The resolution was passed on 21st day of February, Two Thousand and Thirteen.



Judy Wortham Wood, Executive Director



Steve Glick, Chairperson