

EESW

## RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ - 2023

**EXPRESSING** the support of the Mayor and Council of the City of Cincinnati for employees who are recovering from substance use disorders, and further **REQUESTING** that the Administration take all steps necessary to formalize the City's designation as a Recovery Friendly Hamilton County Workplace.

WHEREAS, the drug addiction crisis in the United States continues to have a substantial and significant impact on the City; and

WHEREAS, in 2022 an estimated 433 people died of drug overdoses in Hamilton County, which is a 112 percent increase from the 204 overdose deaths experienced in 2012; and

WHEREAS, according to The National Drug Intelligence Center, drug abuse costs the nation more than \$120 billion per year in lost productivity; and

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Addiction Response Coalition (the "Coalition") consists of a group of community members, leaders, advocates, and experts dedicated to ending the opioid epidemic in Hamilton County; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 the Coalition created a Business Subcommittee that coordinates public- and private-sector efforts to help businesses be part of the solution to combat the opioid epidemic in the community; and

WHEREAS, in 2022 the Business Subcommittee launched the Recovery Friendly Hamilton County ("RFHC") initiative, which helps workplaces in Hamilton County treat substance use disorders among their personnel and designates those workplaces as RFHC Workplaces; and

WHEREAS, when businesses and organizations take action to combat substance use disorders, they are also addressing workplace challenges such as productivity, absenteeism, health care costs, workplace safety, and employee health and wellness; and

WHEREAS, on September 27, 2022, the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution endorsing the RFHC initiative and adopting recovery friendly workplace practices; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Council to join the RFHC initiative and to offer support for City employees who are struggling with and recovering from substance use disorders; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council express their support for employees who are recovering from substance use disorders.

Section 2. That the Mayor and this Council request that the Administration take all steps necessary to formalize the City's designation as a Recovery Friendly Hamilton County Workplace.

Section 3. That copies of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and provided to the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners, Todd B. Portune Center for County Government, 137 East Court Street, Room 603 – Cincinnati, OH 45202, and the Hamilton County Public Health Department, 250 William Howard Taft, 2nd Floor, Cincinnati, OH 45219.

Passed: \_\_\_\_\_, 2023

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Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

Submitted by Councilmember Meeka Owens