

RESOLUTION NO. 83-2019 (RCER)

By Council Member Dunbar

A Resolution proclaiming September 13 – 22, 2019, *Welcoming Week*; and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, the week of September 13 – 22, 2019 will be a special week with a series of events hosted by Global Cleveland that will bring communities together to celebrate their unity and strong connection with each other, and applaud the benefits of welcoming newcomers to our community; and

WHEREAS, Global Cleveland will begin the week with their “Welcoming the World” campaign, an exciting and fun way to showcase Cleveland and the surrounding area as Global Friendly cities; and

WHEREAS, the “Welcoming the World” campaign will debut September 13 and last for one month; and

WHEREAS, through Welcoming the World, Global Friendly corporations and organizations share their global story through decals on their windows, floors, elevators, etc., showcasing the company or organization to the world as a diverse, inclusive, and global friendly employer; and

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the efforts of newcomers in Ohio because it is part of our present and an important part of our past; and

WHEREAS, Ohio has thrived because of international newcomers, and the population decline of Northeast Ohio from 1970-2013 has been mitigated by the continuous influx of foreign-born persons who have helped Ohio to grow and develop; and

WHEREAS, most international newcomers have a bachelor’s degree or higher, and the Migration Policy Institute found that in 2017 49.5% of foreign-born workers have a higher education degree as compared with 33.1% of the native-born population; and

WHEREAS, the spending power of refugees and immigrants is in the billions, which significantly outweighs the cost of public services they incur; and

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WHEREAS, according to the New American Economy, immigrant households in Cleveland have \$3.1 billion in spending power and refugee households have \$819 million in spending power, which contribute to our federal, state, and local tax bases each year; and

WHEREAS, international students have financially contributed over \$1.1 billion in 2018 to the state's economy, making Ohio the 8th most benefited state by foreign students; and

WHEREAS, international students are required to pay full tuition which is three times as much, on average, as a local student, and they are not eligible for financial aid; and

WHEREAS, the economic benefit of international students is very clear and these students also help support jobs which require their unique skills and higher education degrees; and

WHEREAS, according to National Association of Foreign Student Advisors, in 2018 international students in Ohio helped support over 14,000 jobs and the state was able to retain about one-third of international students post-graduation; and

WHEREAS, the greater Cleveland area has a plethora of institutions, organizations, and companies that work together to integrate newcomers; and

WHEREAS, with ample support from the City of Cleveland and other institutions, Cleveland now has more than 31 cultural gardens – designed and cultivated by distinct cultural or nationality groups; and

WHEREAS, Cleveland Cultural Gardens represent the diversity and multiculturalism in Cleveland and the greater Cleveland area and holds mission of “peace through mutual understanding,” which has helped people living in Cleveland and the greater Cleveland area become interculturally competent, unprejudiced and more welcoming towards international newcomers and in turn benefits the city and the state through the impact these newcomers have socially, economically and culturally; and

WHEREAS, as we continue with these efforts, we can continue to transform the greater Cleveland area into an international hub of innovation, we can embrace and cultivate a culture of inclusion and shared prosperity, and we can create a platform for internationalization and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, Global Cleveland's “Welcoming the World” Campaign plays a huge part in continuing the momentum built around shared prosperity in our society, community, city and state; and

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WHEREAS, through these efforts Global Cleveland proceeds with its mission to attract, welcome, and connect international newcomers to economic and social opportunities in the greater Cleveland area and Cuyahoga County; and

WHEREAS, Global Cleveland is ‘Strengthening Our Communities – By Welcoming Our World.’

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. This Council hereby proclaims September 13, 2019 through September 22, 2019 as *Welcoming Week* in the City of Cleveland Heights and encourages all residents to attend *Welcoming Week* programs and events.

SECTION 2. Notice of the passage of this Resolution shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of its contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 3. This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need to recognize *Welcoming Week* on a timely basis. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more members elected or appointed to this Council, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.

CAROL ANN ROE, Mayor
President of the Council

SUSANNA NIERMANN O’NEIL
Acting Clerk of Council

PASSED: September 3, 2019