

# Ordinance No. 411-2024

By Council Member Griffin  
(by departmental request)

## AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE

Authorizing the Director of Finance to enter into one or more contracts with The Near West Side Multi-Service Corporation dba the May Dugan Center to provide services to refugees in Cleveland.

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WHEREAS, The Near West Side Multi-Service Corporation dba the May Dugan Center (MDC) is a leading multi-service agency in Cleveland that serves as a lifeline for tens of thousands of individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, HIAS, formerly the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, defines itself as “the Jewish humanitarian organization that provides critical services to refugees, asylum seekers, and other forcibly displaced people in 23 countries around the world”; and

WHEREAS, HIAS works with refugees from all backgrounds who are specifically selected and supported by the State Department to come to this country, and these refugees enter the United States with full legal status; and

WHEREAS, HIAS had lost its local affiliate in Cleveland, but announced in July 2023 that MDC would be its new affiliate in Cleveland so that Cleveland would not reduce its share of resettled refugees; and

WHEREAS, MDC welcomed its first refugee families in September of 2023 and is expecting to resettle 200 people in 2024 before reaching full capacity and resettling 400-500 people each year; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance constitutes an emergency measure providing for the usual daily operation of a municipal department; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That the Director of Finance is authorized to enter into one or more contracts with The Near West Side Multi-Service Corporation dba the May Dugan Center to provide services to refugees in Cleveland, including but not limited to, reception and placement services that help new arrivals to Cleveland in their first months secure housing and household items, enroll in schools, and find employment.

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Section 2. That the agreement(s) authorized shall be prepared by the Director of Law and shall contain terms and conditions as the director deems necessary to protect and benefit the City of Cleveland.

Section 3. That the cost of the agreement(s) shall not exceed \$50,000 and shall be paid from Fund No. 01-001-9998, and/or other funds approved by the Director of Finance. (RQS 0117, RLA 2024-43)

Section 4. That this ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

AD:ad  
4-15-2024  
FOR: Director Abonamah

