

**GREATER CLEVELAND PARTNERSHIP  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
RESOLUTION ON DIVERSITY & INCLUSION**

**December 9, 2008**

**WHEREAS**, a diverse and inclusive board fosters critical thinking and organizational integrity, by virtue of the distinctive opinions, life experiences, and points of view of its members; and

**WHEREAS**, the Greater Cleveland Partnership (GCP) Board of Directors embraces board diversity as a calculated strategy to enhance organizational creativity, promote competitiveness throughout its markets, and ensure responsible and responsive corporate governance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board will seek to engage its diverse members in key leadership positions in order to take advantage of the broad range of talents and perspectives they bring; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board seeks to be representative and reflective of the diversity of its membership; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board strives to be a civic model of inclusion in the region;

**WHEREAS**, the Board has approved and endorsed inclusive efforts in the GCP strategic plan including working closely with COSE, our small business partner, to support the region's small business owners and assist their efforts to pursue the growth and success that is critical to Northeast Ohio's economic future and through the Commission on Economic Inclusion, accelerating our efforts to ensure that minority individuals and minority-owned businesses more fully participate in, and benefit from, the region's economic development;

**WHEREAS**, the Board also recognizes the value of diversity within the GCP staff to better connect the organization to the members it serves;

**WHEREAS**, the Board further encourages and supports GCP purchasing inclusive of the diversity of vendors and suppliers in our region;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the GCP Board of Directors adopts this resolution supporting diversity and inclusion as one of the core operating principles of the GCP Board and the organization as a whole and affirms its commitment to efforts and initiatives inclusive of the wide diversity of businesses and individuals in the Northeast Ohio region.