



## **RESOLUTION 2024-1**

**AMENDED 4.8.2024**

### **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CREDENTIALING OF SHEPHERDS COLLEGE TO ALLOW ACCESS TO PELL GRANTS AND FEDERAL WORK STUDY OPPORTUNITIES.**

WHEREAS, the Village of North Bay is a member of the Racine County Intergovernmental Cooperation Council (RCICC);

WHEREAS, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are an underserved group with unrealized potential due to the lack of suitable and effective training programs and meaningful opportunities to contribute to society.

WHEREAS, established in 2008, Shepherds College provides accredited occupational training for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities in a specifically designed learning environment.

WHEREAS, Shepherds College serves students with intellectual and developmental disabilities from Racine County, the State of Wisconsin, and across the United States (students from 36 states to date).

WHEREAS, Shepherds College graduates are gainfully employed at a rate of over 80%, four times the national average for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

WHEREAS, the Shepherds College experience has empowered hundreds of graduates to live more fulfilling lives, which involve gainful employment, appropriate independent living, community involvement, participation in a faith community, and service to God and others.

WHEREAS, Shepherds College is becoming a more prominent member of Racine County, with partnerships and stakeholders throughout the county.

WHEREAS, as a specialized post-secondary school, Shepherds College cannot qualify as a Comprehensive Transition Program and thereby provide its students with intellectual and developmental disabilities access to Pell Grants and Federal Work Study opportunities.

WHEREAS, in 2011, Shepherds College was deemed eligible to participate in Federal Student Aid by meeting the requirements of securing state authorization and attaining accreditation through a U.S. Department of Education authorized accreditor.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Education has now reversed their decision of 2011 and determined that Shepherds College and its students are no longer eligible to participate in Federal Student Aid.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Village of North Bay Board of Trustees respectfully requests that US Representative Bryan Steill and his follow congressional representatives pursue the creation of a pathway for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities who attend Shepherds College and similarly credentialed post-secondary schools and programs across the nation access to federal grant opportunities as a means of financial assistance for their continued education and the personal pursuit of their hopes and dreams of a meaningful and fulfilling life.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Trustees of the Village of North Bay voted to amend Resolution 2024-1 and approve the Village of North Bay to support RCICC's request to pass said resolution related to Shepherds College.

Adopted by the Village of North Bay Board of Trustees County, Racine, Wisconsin, this **8th day of April, 2024.**

**VILLAGE OF NORTH BAY**

By: *Mark J. Schall*  
Mark J. Schall  
Village President

Attest: *Dori A. Panthofer*  
Dori A. Panthofer  
Village Clerk