

RESOLUTION 2023-094

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA) CENTER IN NORTHWEST, NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, Veterans' Centers are critical community-based counseling centers that provide social and psychological services, including professional readjustment counseling, marriage counseling, and family counseling to eligible Veterans, active duty service members, Reservists, members of the National Guard, and their families, by offering services during non-traditional hours; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Administration (VA) operates five Vet Centers in New Jersey, located in Bloomfield Township, Egg Harbor Township, Ewing Township, Lakewood Township, and Secaucus Township"; and

WHEREAS, veterans residing in Morris, Sussex, Warren and Hunterdon Counties utilize the Vets Center located in either Bloomfield, Secaucus or Ewing, placing severe travel burden on individuals who need to travel, sometimes over an hour, to receive necessary mental health services.; and

WHEREAS, following the COVID-19 pandemic, many veterans are reporting increased rates of hypervigilance, isolation, anxiety and stress; and

WHEREAS, by establishing a sixth Vet Center in Northwest, New Jersey, the VA will be able to continue to provide quality counseling services to veterans, service members, Reservists, members of the national Guard and their families in an accessible location closer to their homes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham supports the efforts of Members of Congress Rep. Mikie Sherill and Rep. Tom Kean in asking for the establishment of a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Vet Center in Northwest, New Jersey and other underserved areas across the country.

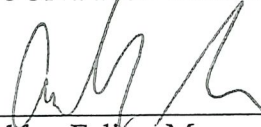
Adopted: April 25, 2023

Attest:



Gregory J. LaConte, Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM IN
THE COUNTY OF MORRIS

By 

Ashley Felice, Mayor