

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON

Morris County, New Jersey

No. R-59-14

Date of Adoption: March 17, 2014

Title or Subject: RESOLUTION TO WELCOME THE 2014 SPECIAL OLYMPICS U.S.A. GAMES AND ALL SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETES AND VOLUNTEERS TO NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, Special Olympics is an international organization that unleashes the human spirit through the transformative power and joy of sports every day around the world; and

WHEREAS, through work in sports, health education and community building, Special Olympics is addressing inactivity, injustice, intolerance and social isolation by encouraging and empowering people with intellectual disabilities, which leads to a more welcoming and inclusive society; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1968 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver, the Special Olympics movement has grown from a few hundred to nearly 4.2 million athletes in over 170 countries; and

WHEREAS, with the support of more than one million coaches and volunteers, Special Olympics is able to deliver 32 Olympic-type sports and more than 70,000 competitions throughout the year, and in national and international competitions; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has been selected to host the 2014 Special Olympics USA Games, which will take place June 14 – 21, 2014, with venues throughout Mercer County including Princeton University, Rider University, The College of New Jersey, the Lawrenceville School, the Hun School of Princeton, the Peddie School, the Sun National Bank Center and Mercer County Park, and Brunswick Zone-Carolier in Middlesex County, following the Opening Ceremony at Prudential Center in Newark; and

WHEREAS, the 2014 USA Games will feature nearly 3,500 athletes competing in 16 Olympic-style sports, with the support of 1,000 coaches, 10,000 volunteers and an estimated 70,000 family, friends and spectators; and

WHEREAS, the 2014 USA Games will showcase 270 Special Olympics athletes from New Jersey competing in this national event.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Washington Township whole-heartedly supports the work of Special Olympics to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of their gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the entire community and to promote greater understanding, appreciation and acceptance among all; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Washington Township welcomes to New Jersey all the athletes, families, coaches, officials and volunteers, who will make these 2014 USA Games a tremendous success, and that we salute the corporate partners and volunteers and that we congratulate all who live by the motto of Special Olympics: "Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON

Nina DiGregorio, Township Clerk

Kenneth W. Short, Mayor

I, Nina DiGregorio, Township Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Township Committee held on March 17, 2014.

Nina DiGregorio, Township Clerk

Date