

RESOLUTION NO. 2125
COMMENDING CEDARS ON THEIR 100th YEAR ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, Cedars was founded by Cora Myers and Gabrielle Renshaw with the opening of a private school in Ross in October 1919 and celebrates its 100th anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, Cedars serves individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and offers growth, acceptance, and a safe environment for them; and

WHEREAS, Cedars was one of the first residential schools in the western United States to offer individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities the opportunity to build a life in a community-based home; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 1940, two dormitories were built on the original Ross site at 115 Upper Road now known as the Generoso Pope, Jr. Ross Residences; and

WHEREAS, their facilities expanded to different locations in Marin County, with services that consist of 10 residential group homes, Cedars Textile Arts Collaborative, Cedars Fine Art Studios, Cedars Community Connections, Artist Within, and the Generoso Pope, Jr. Campus; and

WHEREAS, Cedars family and staff have always been dedicated advocates for legislative change for a formal system to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, guided by the principle that people with disabilities should have equal access to and participation in community activities, Cedars staff engaged residents with local organizations and activities, including visiting museums and parks, attending plays, and participating in the local Boy Scouts chapter; and

WHEREAS, Cedars’ support model has adapted to provide the tools for individuals to shape their own interpretation of a well-rounded life for themselves – a safe, comfortable home, access to income opportunities, outlets for creative expression, healthy lifestyle support, and engagement in social and community activities.

WHEREAS, over the past century, the organization has continued to grow and thrive. Today, Cedars is stronger than ever – with an unwavering dedication to inspiring creative productive, and joyous lives for the next 100 years and beyond.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Council of the Town of Ross, does hereby recognize **CEDARS** for supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in order to foster independence, defend dignity, and realize each person’s full potential, and urge all those present to join us in expressing our sincere appreciation to all of the Cedars residents and program participants, past, present and future and the Cedars staff for their continuing efforts to improve the quality of life for all in our community.

Dated this 12th day of September 2019.

Elizabeth Brekhus, Mayor

ATTEST:

Linda Lopez, Town Clerk