

VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO

RESOLUTION 2025-67

CONDEMNING THE PRACTICE OF CONVERSION THERAPY

WHEREAS, the Village of Yellow Springs has a long history of advancing social justice, diversity, equity and inclusion, including commitments to anti-racism and LGBTQ+ community safety; and

WHEREAS, conversion therapy – defined as practices or treatments by licensed mental health professionals that seek to change an individual’s sexual orientation or gender identity – has been widely discredited by every major medical and psychological organization in the U.S., including the American Psychological Association, the Academy of Pediatrics and the American Medical Association; and

WHEREAS, studies show that LGBTQ+ youth subjected to conversion therapy face significantly higher rates of depression, anxiety, substance abuse and suicide attempts, with nearly half of youth undergoing such practices reporting a suicide attempt within the past year; and

WHEREAS, over twenty states and numerous Ohio municipalities have already taken action to prohibit conversion therapy on minors by licensed providers; and

WHEREAS, our Village Values underscore that local government will “create a welcoming community of opportunity for all persons regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, economic status, mental/physical ability or religious affiliation” and will “intentionally promote anti-racism, inclusion, equity and accessibility through all policies, procedures and processes”; and

WHEREAS, Village Council has a long-standing legacy of courageously pursuing local human rights protections – even when such efforts precede or challenge broader legal consensus,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by Council for the Village of Yellow Springs that:

Section 1. Village Council formally opposes the practice of conversion therapy on minors and acknowledges its harmful, discredited, discriminatory, appalling and unethical nature.

Section 2. Village Council affirms its commitment to our LGBTQ+ community, equity and inclusion, recognizing that no one should be subjected to practices attempting to change or suppress their identity.

Section 3. The Village of Yellow Springs supports ongoing efforts to consider future legislation regulating conversion therapy by licensed professionals within municipal limits.

Section 4. Village Council calls upon all Villagers to stand with our LGBTQ+ youth in sustaining a culture grounded in safety, belonging, respect and dignity for all and urges community members to continue fostering inclusion, evidence-based mental health care and support for policies that protect all Yellow Springs residents, especially the most vulnerable, from harm.

Signed: _____

Kevin Stokes, President of Council

Passed: 12-15-2025

Attest: _____

Judy Kirtner, Clerk of Council

Roll Call:

Stokes_Y__

DeVore Leonard_Y__

Housh_Y__

Brown_Y__

Gustafson_Y__