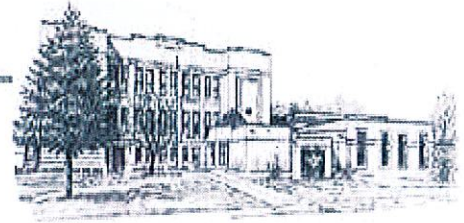




Sherman Central School

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October 11th, 2024

Ms. Karen Utz, Regional Director
Regional Economic Development Council
95 Perry St., Ste. 500
Buffalo, NY 14203

RE: NY FORWARD GRANT FOR VILLAGE OF SHERMAN

Dear Ms. Utz

As the Superintendent of Sherman Central School, I wish to express my support and gratitude for the Village of Sherman’s efforts in supporting community development with the application to the NY Forward Program. The award of \$4,500,000 will be used in a variety of ways, including increasing and improving outdoor and recreational activities, and several needed amenities, all bringing community pride and unity that supports the safe neighborhood for our kiddos.

Many identify themselves as a “Shermanite”; their sense of community and activities centralize around Sherman organizations, family, and friends. Sherman Central School District’s, “small school, BIG IMPACT”, spans 98 square miles in the eight surrounding towns. Even beyond that, more than 1 in 6 students enrolled at Sherman Central are from outside the district, geographically the 2nd largest district in Chautauqua County, indicating two factors: Sherman Central is providing a high-quality education, and there is serious demand for housing within the district, optimally within a safe, family-friendly walking distance of the school.

The front entrance to Sherman Central is on Park Street at the intersection of Willard Street, while We Rock the Spectrum – Sherman will mirror the school at the south end of Willard Street promoting a family-friendly neighborhood encouraging growth and learning in a safe and inclusive environment. It will offer an extension of services and expand experiences to all children within our rural communities.

The NY Forward award to the Village of Sherman will significantly transform the closeknit rural Sherman community and exponentially increase the opportunities for our children and families, bringing more families into the district with housing development, further supporting the vision of Sherman Central School District.

Sincerely,

Carrie Yohe
Superintendent