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Dear Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong support for the rezoning petition of the REACH Center from Residential to a Traditional Neighborhood Development designation. This zoning recognizes and defines the vital services offered at the REACH Center while maintaining appropriate restrictions for the neighborhood.

The REACH Center is a model for collaboration between nonprofits and local government that I am proud to support. The County and City of La Crosse launched Pathways Home, a five-year plan to address homelessness in our community. The REACH Center is an important component of that plan to find collaborative and cost-effective solutions that benefit all people in our county.

Rezoning the REACH Center will also allow for the addition of solar panels, a proven technology to increase sustainability and lower costs. The most important service dependent on the rezoning will allow for the addition of dental suites to be operated by Scenic Bluffs Community Health Centers. Adding dental care to the REACH Center's already impressively long list of services would be a huge win for our county, which has long faced a shortage of dental services for those most in need.

The REACH Center is a model for a community that lifts everyone up and leaves no one behind. By supporting this rezoning petition, the council can show its support for that model, which I and many of my colleagues at La Crosse County wholeheartedly support.

Sincerely,

Monica Kruse, La Crosse County Board Chair