

May 2018

Dear **Park Board Commissioners**,

We are Dr. Cheri Olson and Dr. Mengyi Zha – local family medicine providers who are part of the La Crosse-Mayo Family Medicine Residency program. We are currently leading a research study to better understand the medical needs of those who are high risk of homelessness in the local La Crosse area. Our ultimate hope is to improve on the ways we can meet those needs and better serve this population.

This letter is to let you know that we will be performing on-site in-person surveys with willing participants that would identify as high risk of homelessness. We have identified some of the local city parks as a potential place where we can find such participants and would like to utilize it for this research. Specifically, we would like to survey participants at Cameron Park and Riverside Park in La Crosse. We are also open to suggestions based on your feedback.

This will be an IRB approved study out of Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota. We will be asking participants questions about health, preferences regarding health care setting, knowledge about local resources. The survey will take approximately 15 minutes. Participation in the study is voluntary. Those who will be surveying participants have gone through IRB approved training processes to be able to conduct surveys in an appropriate manner.

Our plan is to begin surveys in the upcoming months (i.e. Summer 2018). We hope to develop a homeless medical outreach for the La Crosse community as fruition from this work.

If the board agrees to this, there is an attached draft letter of support for you to consider and sign to be able to proceed with this research. If you would like to write us your own unique letter of support, that is acceptable as well.

Please contact us if you would like to specifically coordinate dates/times, otherwise our surveyors will work within their schedules for these site visits.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Dr. Mengyi Zha (Zha.Mengyi@mayo.edu) or Dr. Cheri Olson (Olson.Cheri@mayo.edu)

With kind regards,

Cheri Olson, M.D.

Mengyi Zha, M.D.

May 2018

Dear Mayo Clinic,

We, **Park Board Commissioners**, as a representative of _____
(name of local site) have read the above letter informing me of the research study on
homelessness in the La Crosse area by investigators Dr. Cheri Olson and Dr. Mengyi Zha. I have
had an opportunity to discuss any questions or concerns about this study. I give my support for
the research work that will be ongoing as part of their efforts. I understand that my affiliated
organization/site will be a site for information gathering and for the conducting of surveys.

Sincerely,

Date: _____

(Please sign and print your name above)

Contact information for our records (We will not be sending regular emails, solicitations, etc...):
