



921 West Avenue S

La Crosse, WI 54601

Phone: 608-784-4177

Fax: 608-784-6302

Email: [couleecouncil@charter.net](mailto:couleecouncil@charter.net)

[www.couleecouncil.org](http://www.couleecouncil.org)

To: Members of the Judiciary and Administrative Committee  
Members of the City Of La Crosse Planning Commission

From: Cheryl Hancock, Executive Director  
Coulee Council on Addictions

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cheryl Hancock".

Re: Potential Sober Living Facility

Date: May 2, 2016

I am pleased to write this letter of support for Driftless Recovery and their efforts to bring a 16 Bed Sober Supported facility to La Crosse.

Coulee Council on Addictions works hard to fill many of the re-entry needs that people early in recovery have by providing a number of clean and sober social activities as well as a drop in center. This along with a safe and clean place to live are critical to the success of those just completing a residential or in-patient treatment program. Sober supported facilities are also helpful for individuals who may struggle to stay clean in their home environment and need time and guidance in order to find long term recovery.

Individuals in recovery come from all walks of life, both blue collar and white collar – just look around your meeting room and you will see people that either need this sort of facility for themselves or their loved ones.

One of the biggest barriers to people getting help is the stigma associated with addiction and alcoholism. Too many people buy into the notion that it is a moral failing or lack of will power that leads to their use. Consider the science and the fact that addiction and substance mis-use is a disease and these are people who deserve a place to go to help them in their recovery journey. I respectfully ask that you not let that stigma cloud your judgement and support the proposal before you.

Thank you for your consideration.