

## Lehrke, Teri

---

**From:** Jay M Lokken <jay@ed3solutiongroup.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 30, 2020 3:26 PM  
**To:** Chris Kahlow; Olson, Jessica; Kabat, Tim; Acklin, Tim; Courtney Lokken; Lucas Schwaller; Jay Hoeschler Hoeschler; Trane, Andrea; KEN RILEY; Dick Record; Lehrke, Teri; Kathleen Rowan-Koenen; Terry Peterslie; Debra Lash; Marvin Wanders; Mike Keil  
**Subject:** Fwd: Opposed to zoning for new homeless center

\*\*\* CAUTION: This email originated from an external sender. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. \*\*\*

**Subject: Opposed to zoning for new homeless center**

La Crosse Planning Commission and City Council Member's

We are writing to state our opposition to the rezoning of the building on 5th Ave to be utilized as center for Catholic Charities. We feel that the City of La Crosse is already playing a major role in addressing the homeless issue . We need to have additional support for centers in Onalaska and Holmen; they need to do their part to be part of the solution . Our neighborhood is already provides almost 100% of the support for those who are homeless in the region. We are willing to continue being a part of the solution but we no longer can be the solution. It is time for other communities to step forward and take at least some responsibility and accountability. The downtown business and neighborhoods, more over the entire city of La Crosse has show outstanding leadership in addressing homelessness and a willingness to find solutions. We are asking at this time that this burden start being shared throughout the county.

It is always an easy solution to put in the neighborhoods which are struggling. That only worsens the situation for the people living there and puts homeless individuals who are already at struggling in a less than idealistic location to turn their lives around.

I often hear the excuses that these centers need to be close to resources. I think this is an easy out for those who don't want the centers in their community . There are good medical facilities in Onalaska and Holmen, creating a center there in this municipalities would greatly assist with sharing the burden as a whole community . I would encourage consideration of the former Gander Mountain Building at Crossing Meadows. This could be an especially good location to create housing for families, great access to both Mayo and Gundersen's Onalaska locations, grocery stores etc... as well as MTU service.

In short, it is critical that as a community, we provide support for homeless and those struggling. However , it is also critical is that this be done including all players and local communities; the answer can't be just focusing all these services on one neighborhood or one municipality.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Jay Lokken and Ken Riley