

Dear La Crosse Park Board,

The Oktoberfest Festmaster's meetings happen at the River Place Apartments. The Festmaster's wives also meet at the same time. We have noticed the influx of the homeless population downtown and feel bad seeing them outside on the cold nights, trying to find places to charge their devices (and wheelchairs), and looking for food and somewhere to sleep. Some of them have significant needs and would benefit from some medical help and council. The group of Festmaster's wives (Fraus), talked about what we could do to help. We decided we wanted to help in a way that would help to move them off the street into a positive situation. The Karuna House, a supportive housing program for people with housing insecurity, seeks to find permanent solutions for shelter while partnering with Gundersen Health's Behavioral Health Department to support the mental health needs that residents may have. Supporting Karuna House seemed to us like the perfect way to help the homeless situation.

We would like to raise money to help some residents in Karuna House meet their rent requirements. To raise some funds we would like to have a Rummage Sale at Copeland Park on May 4th from 8:00-2:00, with setup at 7:00am and take down from 2-5:30pm.

We would need a Park Permit for this event and we would be especially grateful if the restroom could be open!

Thank you for your consideration!!

Denise Ring and The Oktoberfest Fraus  
608-792-4511