

## Craig, Sondra

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**From:** Elsen, Nikki  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 13, 2023 1:53 PM  
**To:** Craig, Sondra  
**Subject:** FW: Bill of rights for the unhoused citizens of America.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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**From:** Jana Boland <janaboland14@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 13, 2023 1:52 PM  
**To:** ZZ Council Members <zzcouncilmembers@cityoflacrosse.org>  
**Subject:**

I apologize for the last email I sent. I should've proof read it first. This is the final letter.

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-117hres568ih/html/BILLS-117hres568ih.htm>

Hello council members,

My name is Jana Boland and I'm writing to you today in regards to the unhoused citizens of Lacrosse Wisconsin. I feel that as a collaborative the council has created a frenzy amongst the citizens of lacrosse due to your procrastination on this issue due to you basically putting a Band-Aid over a gunshot wound has created the citizens of Lacrosse to be on opposing sides and has allowed them to feel they are able to take photos of the unhoused in the Parks and post them all over public media and making fun of them ridiculing them putting them down degrading them. Those who think that they are the good citizens of lacrosse feel it's okay to go on public media and comment about what they think that our house should do or shouldn't do without ever knowing what they actually really go through on a day-to-day basis. Homelessness can happen to anyone and with all due respect it can happen to anyone of you because it happened to me. I worked at Logistics Health working for the Department of Defense. I was then let go because the position I had there was no longer needed. My long term boyfriend got a brain tumor, the medical bills were outstanding, his medication was more than our mortgage and we lost everything in turn we split apart and I became homeless living in my truck. I couldn't afford the maintenance of the truck because I couldn't find a job because the tumor my husband had had made him violent and put me in the hospital. I couldn't get a job with a broken arm and he nearly broke my neck. My recovery time was quite extensive and I wasn't able to work. My son and I ended up living in my truck and again I couldn't afford to maintain the truck so I lost the truck and ended up living on the streets and sleeping in the city parks as well so I know exactly what these unhoused neighbors of ours are going through. I'm ashamed to live in this city I'm ashamed of my city and I am one who is raised in the military family I was raised to be proud of my country to be proud of my hometown but because of no help being given to our own unhoused. They're going to continue to be angry at the city of La Crosse because you just dropped the ball you haven't helped them and I'm living proof that housing will prove to be a foundation for a homeless person to begin repairing their life to begin rebuilding their life and to begin repairing relationships with family. When I was homeless I became addicted to drugs but I'm now sober for 2 years I'm housed and I've lived in my house now for 3 years so housing does change people it does help people and by you not building a structure that can house them is increasing the number of homeless that is out there every day there's a new homeless person in America and every day that person has been forgotten about. more so I feel in our town what if it was your your sister your brother your cousin do you shame them like the others shame them I say shame on you we need a solution and we need it now I feel like I can talk on behalf of the homeless and Lacrosse because I have a very good rapport and I told them I was going to help them I told him I had their back and I intend to continue to fight for them. I know you don't know me but I am a tiny woman with a very large voice and I intend to be their voice until a solution is made I've written the mayor with a proposal of information for a housing project about 2 years ago never to hear back but I have a new idea what if you build a 3 story structure at Houska Park or wherever you have land and the lower half would be for daytime shelter so our unhoused can shower and feel a little bit of dignity and self-respect for themselves. Maybe to wash their clothes to go on the internet to apply for jobs because there's nowhere for them to shower right now and that first floor would be also an evening year-round shelter to keep all the unhoused out of our city parks and keep the other citizens of Lacrosse happy and satisfied that this issue has been taken care of. The next 2 floors of this building would be for those who have income whether it be Social Security disability or a job. I believe there should be a rental cap or a 30% income guideline for the rentals but if you keep them all in one building like I said again they will not be spread out all over lacrosse in your city parks. I don't think that I know the answers but I do have ideas and these ideas come from my experience I thank you for your time and listening to me this afternoon and have a good day

