



May 6, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

We are requesting an extension to complete construction of our single-family home located at 1121 Avon Street, La Crosse, WI. The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly impacted our construction schedules. In 2020, based on the "Safer at Home" order issued by Wisconsin Governor Evers as well as guidance from Habitat for Humanity International, we shut down our construction sites for 3.5 months. Since reopening and following guidance issued by Habitat for Humanity International, we have limited volunteers on our construction sites to no more than six individuals to protect the safety of our staff and volunteers. We have also suspended our Team Build programs. Total construction volunteer hours for 2020 were at about 40% of our previous year numbers. For the first quarter of 2021, we are at about 55% of our pre-pandemic averages. Loss of revenue due to the pandemic means that we do not have the funding to hire subcontractors to complete the work to get our schedules back on track. Therefore, the majority of construction work is being completed by our two full-time staff and two full-time Americorps volunteers.

We are currently focusing all of our efforts on the completion of our "Habitat for Heroes" Veteran Home in La Crosse, which is well past the original completion date due to COVID. Unfortunately, we have recently hit huge set-backs. First, our Construction Manager, Jeremy Reed, has had to take eight weeks off to heal from back surgery. This was a sudden leave. Second, we have repeatedly run into long backorders on materials to complete this home. This has halted the progress of many of the final few projects needed to complete this home and has resulted in a delay for all subsequent home construction projects.

Material cost increases and delays have been a huge concern for our construction projects. Typically, Habitat completes six homes per year. In 2020, we were able to complete four. After a full year of pandemic impacts, we anticipate completing three homes in 2021. Because of all of these factors, we are requesting an extension to complete construction of the home by December 31, 2021 (amended from June 1, 2021).

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kahya Fox".

Kahya Fox
Executive Director