

449 High Avenue Oshkosh, WI 54901 920-203-4536 (office) 920-203-4865 (shelter) DayByDayShelter.org

March 22, 2022

To: Winnebago County Board

Dear Board Member,

On behalf of Day by Day, our board of directors wants to first thank the State of WI, Winnebago County, and the Winnebago County Board members for this remarkable opportunity you gave us to present our project to all of you last week.

The Day by Day Warming Shelter has been serving Oshkosh and Winnebago County for over 10 years. Our shelter is dedicated to serving the most vulnerable population in our community, successfully providing them shelter, basic needs, programs, and services with the goal of self-sustainability. We have been a critical provider of services, keeping our homeless off the streets, and moving them towards a better life. Each year over 200 people use our shelter and resources. Out of the 200 users of the shelter, over 80% are Winnebago County residents.

In the early years, the shelter's primary focus was simply providing shelter and a hot meal in the coldest months of the year. Today, in partnership with many local organizations, we provide daytime programs for our guests primarily focused on life skills, to help them achieve an independent lifestyle, with the ability to care for themselves. Including housing, employment, social connection, financial sustainability, and education, just to name a few.

Day by Day serves an adult population (18 and over). We turn away no one (other than due to capacity) offering services and support to those who are veterans, have been incarcerated, battling addiction, have been abused, or suffering mental illness.

While we continue to provide programs and services to an increasing homeless population, our current location is no longer meeting the needs of the increasing services we provide and the needs of our homeless population. During our most recent year through February, Day by Day has had to turn away a total of 338 guests.

Early on in our decision to go forth in search of a new permanent home for Day by Day there were some basic fundamentals that we determined needed to be met in our search. Safety and security for our guests, staff and volunteers, local resources for our guests, expanding programs

and in addition, ownership of a new building as we have been operating under a temporary permit for the last 10 years and are only able to offer overnight shelter from October 15<sup>th</sup> – April 15<sup>th</sup>.

In opening a new 13,000 sq ft, one level, ADA compliant, energy efficient location, we will be able to provide overnight shelter and services 365 days of the year with a 50-bed capacity, turning away fewer and fewer people. Further, the new shelter will increase the programs and services we offer, thereby reaching more people to achieve self-sufficiency and maintaining continuity in their lives through our daytime programs.

Our goal is to raise over 4.5 million dollars to secure this new location. With this grant to our capital campaign, Day by Day will be empowered to help more people out of homelessness.

We therefore ask that you accept the "Neighborhood Investment Fund Grant" for Winnebago County. Day by Day Warming Shelter will continue its' mission to serve the most vulnerable in our community and provide emergency services for those in need. Acceptance of this grant will enhance our mission to achieve a new facility sooner and reach those who have been turned away due to current constraints. In turn Day by Day will be able to serve as a larger partner in our housing continuum goals as a community.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Gretchen Withers Board President

Day by Day Warming Shelter

Gretchen Withers

Thank you for the opportunity for Oshkosh Kids Foundation to present to you about the Tiny House Village Project at the last County Board Meeting.

Since Covid has begun, Oshkosh Kids Foundation has provided 387 children and 127 families struggling with homelessness in the Oshkosh, Omro and Winneconne area rental assistance, motel stays, and security deposits. We have the opportunity to provide 32 families, stable temporary housing in the Tiny House Village. The grant will provide the funds necessary to build the community center that is the heart of the Tiny House Village. The community center is what makes this project unique and will offer required services in financial literacy, parenting, Rent Smart, mental health, nutrition, employability skills and more. The Tiny House Village is set to break ground on 4/25/22. The funding for the community center must be secured before we are allowed to break ground, so time is the of the utmost essence for this project. We are asking you to please accept the grant as soon as possible. If the funding is not secured the project will be taken off the 2022 construction schedule. If this occurs, it is highly unlikely that the project will continue.

To help the children of Winnebago County have a safe, stable place to call home each night we ask you to please accept the grant as soon as possible, so the Tiny House Village can proceed.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Julie Dumke

Julie Dumke Executive Director

Oshkosh Kids Foundation





March 22, 2022

To: Winnebago County Board of Supervisors

From: Pam Schutz, Covey CEO

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

I would like to thank you for providing us with the opportunity to present our Neighborhood Investment Fund project at your meeting on March 15, 2022. We are honored to be part of the partnership being awarded this grant which addresses housing needs throughout Winnebago County.

Covey is a sound organization with an almost 70-year history of providing innovative care and services to the citizens of Winnebago County. These funds will allow us to continue this history of providing for the needs of some of our most vulnerable citizens.

Local studies indicate gaps in safe, stable, and affordable housing within the Community and Special Needs sector. As service providers for individuals with disabilities continue to close their doors, often due to the ravages of COVID-19, the need for this type of housing will become even greater. Our project is a step in addressing this gap. The Neighborhood Investment Fund would provide monies to construct or remodel three homes in Winnebago County to become licensed Adult Family Homes serving individuals with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities, many of whom face physical challenges as well. One home will be opened in each of 2022, 2023 and 2024, providing stable housing for a minimum of 12 individuals and the creation of 15-20 full- and part-time jobs. The residents of these home will receive 24 hours support from staff. The homes will spread throughout Winnebago County, and open to Winnebago County residents who meet the criteria for residency in these homes.

Thank you for their thoughtful consideration of this grant to the Neighborhood Investment Fund and encourage you to quickly vote yes to accept this grant award. Quick action is needed to complete the projects by the December 31, 2024 deadline. These monies will impact a wide variety of our most marginalized citizens, provide opportunities to improve the lives of many, and is an extraordinary opportunity for Winnebago County.

Respectfully,

Pam Schutz, CEO

Covey, Inc.

Solutions Recovery Inc 621 Evans Street Oshkosh, WI 54901 (920) 233-0888 www.sri-wi.org



March 22, 2022

Winnebago County Board 415 Jackson Street Oshkosh, WI 54901

Dear County Board Members,

I wanted to follow up and take some time to thank you for the opportunity to present at your board meeting last week. This grant opportunity facilitated by the health department is an amazing opportunity for our community to come together and meet the needs of many individuals that may otherwise not have access to these services. I was awestruck by the collaborative efforts and community minded focus of the County grant organizers as the entire housing continuum was represented in this opportunity for the county.

Through this grant opportunity, Solutions Recovery will be able to meet the needs of many individuals seeking long term recovery from substance use disorders. We will be able to add capacity, bed space, and long-term sustainability to our organization through the Neighborhood Investment Grant. Many of our current homes are leased and this opportunity would allow us to purchase outright and reduce operating costs substantially.

The Neighborhood Investment Grant will also allow us to increase our organizational capacity and increase ADA handicap accessibility options at Solutions Recovery Center. Currently, our center is not accessible or difficult to access for community members that have physical limitations. Solutions Recovery Center directly supports the sober living program in addition to other vital community programs.

Solutions Recovery has worked closely with Public Health to increase the access to much needed services identified by the pandemic. Solutions' services are available to all members of the community and ALL services at Solutions Recovery Center are provided at no-cost to participants.

Please consider our urgent request to accept this grant through so we can start to meet the needs of more individuals that need our help NOW. There is much to be done and together we can meet the needs of our most vulnerable community members.

Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

Trevor Fenrich

**Executive Director** 

Solutions Recovery, Inc.

Our Mission: To Serve the Fox Valley's recovery community with programs for individuals and their families, assisting addicts and alcoholics in relapse prevention and providing outreach services within our community.



March 22, 2022

Dear Winnebago Board of County Supervisors,

Please vote to formally accept the \$10.3 million Neighborhood Investment Fund grant for addressing the issue of housing in Winnebago County. Immediate approval of this grant is needed to complete work within the grant deadlines.

Thank you for allowing us to be one of the presenters on this grant at the last full county board meeting. Each of the agencies being helped will be addressing housing needs in our community. We are all excited to be working together.

Habitat for Humanity of Oshkosh will be building eight homes under this grant and making larger land purchases to build more homes in the future. We will be working with families making only 30%-60% of the county median income. These families are from Winnebago County and home ownership will make them stakeholders in our communities for years to come.

The grant, however, cannot begin without the formal acceptance by the county board. Without that acceptance now, we will be delayed in going through the approval process. For Habitat, that may mean delaying another building season or having to drain our finances to complete our present home in progress. This could put a hard brake on our building momentum and delay our restarting home building for months to years to come.

This grant allows us to keep everything on schedule. It covers the increased cost of building materials. It allows us to look at larger land purchases to develop several lots at once. The good that we can do with this grant will build momentum for years. We can't express enough the good we can do with funding. Please approve the grant to keep things moving.

This is a one-time request for a one-time grant that will help multiple agencies. Work under the grant must be completed by December 21, 2024. We can meet this deadline with quick Winnebago County Board approval. Please vote to approve the Neighborhood Investment Fund grant.

Best regards,

Tom Simon

**Executive Director** 



March 22, 2022

**Dear County Board Members:** 

Thank you again for the opportunity to speak with you at the last board meeting regarding the Neighborhood Investment Fund. The portion I address is the HELP (Homeless, Eviction and Loss Prevention) Program and this is a description of the concept.

The purpose of this program is to collaborate with community partners to provide resources and supports to people who are at risk of becoming homeless. The HELP Program will value the dignity of people who live in Winnebago County by supporting their choices and empowering them by providing information and resources so they can live with security and maximum independence and quality of life.

The program will be modeled after an Aging and Disability Resource Center, in terms of a single point of access to seek assistance. This program will, however serve all residents of the county who need of resources to maintain their housing. The program will be set up to function as a single, coordinated system for information and access to resources and services for those facing homelessness. Each customer will have the opportunity to work with a HELP Specialist to determine what they need and how to best meet those needs. There will be three Specialists, a Supervisor and an Assistant. This is based on statistics of over 100 calls per month received for housing assistance just through the ADRC.

When needed, the program specialist will provide short term case management to assure the customers are able to access what is needed. There will also be follow up with each person to assure outcomes were met and determine whether more assistance is needed. When needed, the program specialists will directly assist with the steps needed to access supports and resources

One of the other goals of the programs is to work collaboratively with other entities who provide help to this population to coordinate supports and work efficiently to develop additional resources needed. Information regarding available resources will also be consolidated and made available to the general public. Marketing of the program will be a critical for the success of the program. The coordination of the many agencies who can offer assistance can also creating sustainable system changes.

The sooner this is approved, the sooner we can establish this much needed resource. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Beth Roberts

Long Term Support Division Manager