

November 22nd, 2023

TO: Media Outlets

FROM: Susan Wolgram, Chair of the Community Haven House Advisory Committee

RE: Eau Claire Community Haven House Building Sold

CONTACT: wolgram.susanm@gmail.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Eau Claire Community Haven House is announcing that we will need to vacate our current location at 502 S. Farwell by December 8th. We are tentatively scheduled to terminate Community Haven House services **at this location** as of December 5th. We are urgently looking for temporary, alternative sites downtown or at a location with a bus line. Ideally, we would have an open space with approximately 4500-5000 square feet with restroom facilities; we are willing to lease the space. We are reaching out to anyone in the community who has knowledge of a space or is willing to offer up a space; please reach out.

The mission of the Eau Claire Community Haven House is to work with the greater Eau Claire community to fill in gaps in sheltering on a year-round basis by providing a safe, dignified, and respectful space for adults 18 years and older who are experiencing homelessness.

We have been able to fulfill this mission through community members and organizations committed to those in our community experiencing homelessness. We appreciate the partnership with Christ Church Cathedral who allowed us to lease their space for the past 2 ½ years, the County and the City, particularly Billie Hufford. We have a committed Advisory Committee with dedicated housing advocates who keep moving forward in spite of sobering challenges. There are many more individuals and agencies who partner with us to make this operation possible. No one does this work alone.

"Making progress on our homeless situation in Eau Claire is going to take new approaches. That is really hard and really messy. It will take commitment and real, sustained effort."

~Lieske Giese Eau Claire City/County Health Department Director

Yes, it has been really hard and really messy; however, we continue to put one foot in front of the other with commitment and real, sustained effort. A community achieves what it is committed to and this community is committed to safe and dignified sheltering for those experiencing homelessness. No human being should be expected to survive on our unforgiving streets.

The Eau Claire Community Haven House is always seeking donors to continue this much needed operation to serve our most vulnerable neighbors experiencing homelessness.

<https://cclse.org/donatecc/>

(Go to "Make a Gift"/ click on "Designate to General Greatest Need"/designate "Eau Claire Community Haven House")