



March 25, 2024

Maria Redmond
Wisconsin Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy
101 E Wilson St
Madison, WI 53703

Subject: Letter of Support

Dear Ms. Redmond:

Habitat for Humanity of the Greater La Crosse Region supports the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program: Implementation Grants General application (EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07) submitted by State of Wisconsin Department of Administration through the Wisconsin Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy (OSCE). We are pleased to endorse the OSCE's efforts, as described in this application, to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through implementing measures in the Wisconsin Emissions Reduction Roadmap.

Given Wisconsin's proven success in implementing equitable climate policies, we have full confidence in the OSCE's ability to develop and achieve the objectives laid out in the application and believe they will lead to important emissions reduction while mobilizing collective power to address historic injustice, create new jobs, and spur transformative climate action. The State of Wisconsin, through the OSCE, has a commendable track record of effectively utilizing state and federal grants while actively engaging with low-income and disadvantaged communities. Under the leadership of Governor Tony Evers, and through the OSCE, Wisconsin has demonstrated a strong commitment to achieving economy-wide carbon neutrality.

Throughout the period of this grant, we will work closely with the WI OSCE to further develop and deliver programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, create high quality jobs, and address historic injustice. Our organization feels strongly about the need for collective action related to pollution reduction implementation. We recognize there are inherent environmental, health, financial, political, societal, and economic benefits to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in our communities. This funding will help WI rapidly transition to a clean energy economy that benefits all residents in the state.

Our vision at Habitat for Humanity is a Coulee Region with ample, quality housing options and healthy, sustainable communities for all. We believe healthy land and water are essential to a sense of home and belonging. Sustainable practices are embedded in our programs. Which is why we created a separate Sustainability Department in 2022, committed not only to climate action and energy efficiency in our home construction but for the broader community in which these homes are located. We understand how important it is to focus on the four walls that create a home, making sure the roofs over their heads are safe, secure, and affordable, but we also need to build communities that people want to live, work, and

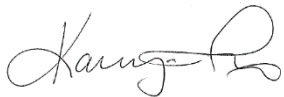
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Providing Families With a Place to Call Home

play. Which is why we are focusing on specific programming that addresses climate change and reduces greenhouse gas emissions, including:

1. Sustainable neighborhood revitalization programs that incorporate stormwater mitigation, sustainable home repairs, access to healthy foods, school-aged curriculum, and community education and engagement;
2. The creation of a Sustainable Community Collaborative that creates partnerships to measure the impacts of climate change programs in our communities;
3. Using training to bridge gaps and provide employment for sustainable installations on homes occupied by low-income families;
4. Participation on the City of La Crosse's Climate Action Team; and
5. Co-leading two multi-state and multi-jurisdictional collaborations that aim to impact stormwater mitigation and promote sustainable agricultural practices that reduce pollution.

We are enthusiastic about partnering with the State of Wisconsin to advance the goals of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through this pivotal program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kahya Fox', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kahya Fox
Executive Director
Habitat for Humanity of the Greater La Crosse Region
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kahya@habitatlacrosse.org