

December 4, 2018

Tom Markus  
City Manager  
City of Lawrence, Kansas  
6 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
P.O. Box 708  
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Dear Tom,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with some of our staff and board members. We appreciate your recommendations and continued support of the Lawrence Community Shelter. We are grateful for the inclusion of a presentation by the LCS in the September 19<sup>th</sup> City, County and School District meeting and the upcoming work session on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Our organization looks forward to updating the community on the current work at the LCS as well as share the challenges and opportunities that are presented to us as we look to the future.

The following is an outline of what will be discussed at the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, which may include a power point presentation. A final version of that presentation will be forwarded to your office before December 11<sup>th</sup> and we appreciate patience on the part of you, your staff and the City Commission in the interim.

- Introduction of key staff and board members
- 2017/2018 accomplishments
  - Transparency
  - Relationship building - workgroup with partnering agencies in November
  - Energy audit - steps we have taken
  - Data collection – My Resource Connection - sharing information between agencies
    - What the census data tells us about who the LCS serves
- Transition of the ED
- 2019 serious budget shortfall
  - Fixed facility costs
  - Utility costs
  - Staffing costs
  - Share the budget (handout/possible PPT)
- Future opportunities
  - Address what has been recommended in the past
    - 2015 Audit
  - What we learned from the November partner workgroup
    - Sharing of resources, particularly in form of case management
    - Survey by partnering agencies on recommendations for the LCS - address the “solutions” given
    - In-kind support, other shared resources
  - New model - what is being studied

- Empowered management
- Studying the emergency-only shelter model - promote safety, shelter and trauma reduction
- Board governance plan
  - Incorporating strong committees to include diverse community members who are not on the board to support fundraising, communications/public relations, and facility improvements
- Strong communication plan - ideas we are considering
  - Myth-busting articles/media opportunities - educating the community and partner agencies on how the organization functions and who it serves
  - Q and A with the community
  - Finding a way to be more in the public eye - in a positive way
- Continue the agency study sessions to enhance partnerships in transparent and collaborative ways

Thank you for your time and consideration. We welcome any questions or feedback on your part and look forward to a conversation with the City Commission on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,

Thea Perry

LCS Board President