



The organizing committee of the La Crosse Mayor's Neighborhood Conference wishes to express our gratitude to the many volunteers who have made this conference possible. Below is a partial listing.

Neighborhood Association Leaders and Residents



SAVORY CREATIONS
Shawn McManus, Savory Creations



Retired Seniors Volunteer Program



Service Saturdays, Enactus Club & Dietetics & Nutrition Association



The many volunteers assisting with youth track activities



Third Annual NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION AWARDS

2016 GOOD DEED DOER

"Back where I come from there are men who do nothing all day but good deeds. They are called... GOOD DEED DOERS."

*L. Frank Baum
The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*

VICKI MILLER

After retiring from a 26-year career as an administrative assistant at Trane Company, Vicki Miller began her "second career" as a "full-time" volunteer in pursuing her two passions—healthy food and sustainability because she believes individual health and the health of the planet go hand-in-hand. In July 2010 she became involved with the "Save Hillview Greenhouse Life Center" efforts. Along with other community members and financial support from the La Crosse Community Foundation and other donors, she was a founding member of Hillview Urban Agriculture Center. Vicki served as Vice President of Hillview from 2010 to 2014, and as President from 2014 to 2016. Her positive "can-do" attitude has helped guide Hillview in its mission of creating a healthy community through a local, sustainable and accessible food system.

Last October, as part of an exciting and unique partnership called "Get Growing" between Hillview, Mayo Clinic Health System-Franciscan Healthcare and Western Technical College and with support from the La Crosse Community Foundation, Hillview moved into a state-of-the-art greenhouse in Western's newly built Horticulture Education Center. This "Get Growing" collaboration perfectly sums up what has been Vicki's objective: Good food. Good health. Good Community. Vicki's other "good deed doing" include serving on boards of the Sustainability Institute and Coulee Partners for Sustainability, serving as co-chair of the Earth Fair committee and the Living Green Expo committee.

According to Vicki, when these famous quotes are combined, absolutely anything can be accomplished:

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has"

—Margaret Meade

"Never underestimate the power of collaboration."

—Mayo

The La Crosse community and Hillview are a shining example.

2016 BRIDGE BUILDER AWARD

Organization

HUNGER TASK FORCE FOR THE KANE STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Kane Street Community Garden has provided food for the La Crosse community since 1998. Currently the garden occupies more than two city blocks of land owned by the City of La Crosse. Every year, hundreds of volunteers work with the garden staff—planting, weeding, watering, harvesting—in order to distribute free produce to community members. This collaborative effort typically produces about 30,000 pounds of organically-grown vegetables each year.

Individual

JILL MILLER, YMCA

"You rock" "Stay the course" "When this visionary group of believers come together, sparks fly" These are just a few of the things one hears when collaborating with Jill M. Miller. She is working to make the healthy choice the easy choice as the Coordinator, Pioneering Healthier Communities at the YMCA. This initiative is charged with finding new ways for the local community to move more and eat well. The mission is to be the spark that creates change to support healthy living. Success occurs from convening stakeholders who acknowledge the possibilities of a healthier community; in addition, to the Y's reach in three areas of focus: youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. This formula creates a sustainable bridge building model.

The Community Food Forest at the Y is a recent success story. The effort is designed with a vision to grow food together, rehabilitate our local ecosystem and provide educational opportunities for healthier residents and families. Bridge building occurs because partners approach the effort in a servant leadership style—making sure the needs of other people are being served. The reality is to not only grow good food, but to grow good people in the process. According to fellow collaborator, Jarad Barkheim, "Jill did a great job staying positive and true to the process. Without her 'stick-to-it-ness' the food forest project may have not gone forward."

She has been bridge building for many years while sticking to her core values: integrity, trust and respect. Currently, she is enrolled in the Master of Servant Leadership at Viterbo University. Her greatest accomplishment is raising her two children (Caleb, 20, and Libby, 15), by "bridging them" to be faithful and compassionate citizens. Throughout her life, Jill has led and followed. For sixteen years, Jill was at the helm of a neighbor helping neighbor organization that matched volunteers with people in need. She has followed by helping many community organizations advance their cause.

SARA SULLIVAN AWARD

Recognizes outstanding accomplishments and exceptional contributions made by a City of La Crosse resident. Created by the Neighborhood Association Leaders in 2015.

JACOB SCIAMMAS

To say that Jacob Sciammas hit the ground running as a neighborhood leader is an understatement. He was elected co-chair of GENA at the first meeting he attended. In the two years since, he has yet to slow down. Jacob is a collaborator, facilitator, motivator and mover & shaker. He challenges many to think outside the box and beyond their comfort zone. Results of his extraordinary efforts include significant growth of GENA active members; focus on property conditions & single family home conversions; GENA Neighborhood Plan; GENA capital improvement priority list; Oktoberfest survey in conjunction with Goosetown and Memorial Pool discussion. He initiated the monthly All Neighborhood Leader meetings, collaboration with UW-L students & administration, first Community Food Forest meetings with the Y and connections among leaders and other community groups. He was instrumental in founding La Crosse Neighborhood Inc. and serves as President. Jacob has the unique ability to continually match-up residents with projects they become passionate about. Then he moves on to the next "match." He has created a "RIPPLE EFFECT" for neighborhood revitalization and community activism!

The La Crosse Mayor's Neighborhood Conference is brought to you by:



Thanks to these generous sponsors for supporting the 2016 Mayor's Conference:



Additional Sponsors

Cameron Park Farmers Market
Community Food Forest at the Y
Coulee Region Ecoscapes, LLC
Deborah Eve-Lombard—Youth Track & Neighborhood Flags
Grandma's Favorite Recipes
Friends of the Marsh
Foodshare Outreach-Coulee CAP
Inch by Inch Organic Farm

Kane Street Community Garden/
Hunger Task Force of La Crosse
Kroner True Value Hardware
La Crosse Neighborhoods Inc. (LCNI)
La Crosse Promise
Livable Neighborhoods LLC
Madison Area Permaculture Guild
Meringue
Namichips

Norwex-Kraig Brownell & Barb Janssen, Independent Sales Consultants
Not Your Mother's Apron & Natural Skincare, LLC
Pearl Street Books
Rick Staff—Gerrard Hoeschler Realty
7 Rivers High School
Small Family Farm, CSA

