RESOLUTION # 2019-3

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RE: APPROVING UP TO $150,000 FOR HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION SERVICES IN 2019 AND 2020

WHEREAS, preventing individuals and families from becoming homeless will save intervention dollars currently spent on shelter, incarceration, mental health, emergency room and related services, while averting loss of employment, insecurity for children, and mental health crises; and

WHEREAS, the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors released $225,000 from the $500,000 of General Fund reserves allocated in the 2018 budget, which funded direct aid to households and individuals for rent and other assistance, matched by staffing support through the Salvation Army, Catholic Charities and the La Crosse Area Family Collaborative; and

WHEREAS, the Collaborative to End Homelessness has requested the release of $150,000 from the County to fund direct aid in 2019 and 2020, which matches additional funding commitments for staffing support from Gunderson Health Care, Mayo Health Systems, the Salvation Army and Catholic Charities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors, approves up to $150,000 to provide short-term direct aid to individuals and families to prevent homelessness through the Salvation Army, Catholic Charities and the La Crosse Area Family Collaborative, which will be matched from other funding sources for staffing and support services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the county funding will reimburse these agencies for short-term direct aid provided to individuals and families, contingent upon assessment of household income at or below 80% of County Median Income, while verifying that the recipients are not receiving assistance from multiple agencies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that county funding for short-term direct aid may be used for rental assistance, utilities, security deposit, child-care and vehicle repairs in order to maintain housing, prevent eviction and/or continued employment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the La Crosse Collaborative to End Homelessness will continue to collect data and report to the County Board on the specific uses of the funding, the number of individuals and families assisted and any measurable effect on the use of local intervention and shelter resources, in order to consider the effectiveness of the expanded prevention services for accessing funding in future budgets.

FISCAL NOTE: The 2018 budget allocated $500,000 in Org 100. 155.1590 Non-Departmental Account 64300.01 for Operating Expenses from General Fund Balance – Excess Sales Tax, with County Board approval required for any use of the allocation, there will be $125,000 unallocated.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE

I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 17th day of October 2019.

Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk