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December 20, 2017

Waukesha Planning Commission

Re: Lutheran Social Services

Expansion of the Genesis House – 2000 W. Bluemound Rd., Waukesha, WI

Dear Planning Commission Members:

Our organization and its clients have had a long and helpful relationship with Lutheran Social Services and its Genesis House over many years. It's our understanding they are intending to expand their treatment services at the above location, providing both medically monitored addiction treatment and transitional living addiction treatment for both men and women. We are writing to offer our strong support of the LSS/Genesis House expansion. We encourage you to vote 'yes' in support of Lutheran Social Service's intended expansion and to change the zoning for the above property to 'Institutional.' Our community must continue to address this critical public health concern. I have every confidence that LSS, Genesis management and staff will provide appropriate stewardship of this property.

As a local non-profit and state licensed substance abuse prevention, outreach, information and referral agency, we here at ARC, Inc. understand the community need for such services, as well as the value in providing these important treatment services at such a critical time to both men and women in our area. There simply aren't enough providers of these unique services in our community. We desperately need them now more than ever, given the prescription drug and heroin epidemic facing Waukesha County. Lutheran Social Services and Genesis House have been trusted and valued partners as well as providers of these services for many years.

We here at the Addiction Resource Council, Inc. urge the Planning Commission to allow Lutheran Social Services and Genesis House develop this property as intended. By doing so, the Planning Commission will be helping our community provide needed services for both men, women and their families struggling to recover from substance abuse.

Thank you for your consideration of their request.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Muchka, LPC, NCC, CSAC, IDP-AT, PS-IT  
Executive Director  
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