

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

MARGARET MEAD



Are **YOU** committed to individual growth?

Are **YOU** a mover and a shaker?

Do **YOU** have a skill to share?

Do **YOU** have a sense of community?

WE NEED YOU

I would rather live in a place that chooses to invest in people than a place that doesn't.

—DAYLE S.

Being involved with CA has taught me to be truly aware of what I say or don't say and what I do or don't do in even the most ordinary situations. Our every action, indeed, has the ripple effect of a pebble thrown into the pond—positive or negative. We are the pebbles and it is here within ourselves that the task of making our community a better place to live must start.

—KIM J.

Citizen Advocacy has been a program that reminds me daily of the power of caring and how each of us is better off by simply helping others.

—STU R.

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Visit us on the web:

www.citizenadvocacylacrosse.org



Mission Statement

La Crosse Citizen Advocacy is dedicated to protecting the rights, promoting the interests, and supporting the lives of individuals with developmental and related disabilities.

What Is Citizen Advocacy?

- Citizen Advocacy is a nonprofit organization that helps create and support one-on-one relationships between community members and individuals with developmental and related disabilities.
- These relationships protect the rights, promote the interests, and support the lives of individuals with disabilities.
- Established in 1979 and funded only by donations, La Crosse Citizen Advocacy has supported hundreds of relationships, some for well over 25 years.

Citizen Advocates...

- Are citizens willing to share their time and create long-term relationships. *(Pat and John have been paired since 1981 and value their friendship highly.)*
- Encourage community friendships and personal relationships. *(Mike took Steve to his church, where Steve met some new friends.)*
- Act in the best interest of their partners. *(Amy helped Nicole with a job application.)*
- Are mentors who aid in making life decisions. *(Carlene helped Andy change his housing situation.)*



Who Can Be an Advocate?

La Crosse Citizen Advocacy invites the involvement of ordinary members of our community into the lives of people with developmental and related disabilities.

Ways to Help

- Become an advocate
- Recommend a person in need of a citizen advocate
- Volunteer to work on a Citizen Advocacy project or event
- Volunteer as a Council or Committee Member for Citizen Advocacy
- Have someone speak to a group of which you are a part

Did You Know?

- Developmental disabilities include cerebral palsy, autism spectrum disorders, multiple sclerosis (MS), and Down syndrome.
- As many as 7 out of 10 individuals with developmental disabilities are sexually abused.
- The majority of individuals with developmental disabilities over the age of 45 are not able to read.