



Creating resiliency through support and education.
Our vision is to end suicide.

August 11, 2022

Manitowoc Common Council
Manitowoc Planning Commission
900 Quay Street
Manitowoc, WI 54220

Dear Common Council and Planning Commission:

It is with great anticipation that Prevent Suicide Manitowoc County supports the development of a warming shelter in our city.

Homelessness, poverty, and the hopelessness it brings are factors in suicide deaths. Yet we know that when people are extended the life-giving force of **hopefulness** they can rise above their dire circumstances and find resiliency and a way to go on and improve their lives. We believe that a warming shelter is one important way to extend that hopefulness.

Prevent Suicide Manitowoc County will contribute to the shelter by training volunteers in QPR, (Question, Persuade, Refer) an evidence-based suicide prevention protocol already taught to well over 1,000 Manitowoc County residents. We will also train volunteers in the use of the new national crisis hotline, 988 and share resources volunteers can refer guests to. Further, we will look for other opportunities to be supportive.

Please give this plan your thoughtful consideration and approve it. Winter will be here shortly and the most vulnerable among us will have little support without the shelter.

Sincerely,

Donna Firman
Board President

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