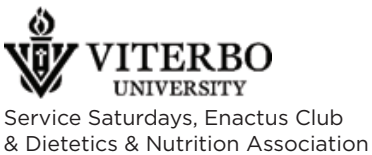




The organizing committee of the La Crosse Mayor's Neighborhood Conference wishes to express our gratitude to the many volunteers who have made this conference possible. Below is a partial listing.

Neighborhood Association Leaders and Residents



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.

Additional Sponsors

Cameron Park Farmers Market
Community Food Forest at the Y
Coulee Region Escapes, 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

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:





Creating Urban Farming and Sustainable Food
 Farland Casey is the Founder of Lifestart Gardens, a non-profit organization that focuses on providing fresh, local produce to underserved communities. She is also a chef at the Lifestart Cafe, a community-based eatery that serves healthy, affordable meals. Casey believes in the power of food to bring people together and create a sense of community.



Food Insecurity Impacts & Nonprofit Resources
 Pam Hartwell is the Executive Director of Hillview Urban Agriculture Center, a nonprofit organization that provides fresh produce and gardening resources to low-income residents. She is also a chef and a community organizer. Pam believes in the power of food to improve the lives of our most vulnerable neighbors.

SPEAKERS-KEEPING IT LOCAL

K-12 students are invited to age-appropriate conferences to learn about nutrition and sustainable agriculture systems through hands-on activities, crafts, and games.

12:00-1:00 Lunch break

YOUTH TRACK ACTIVITIES AND FUN
 Adults need to register school age youth 9:00 am-12:00 pm and 1:00 pm-2:30 pm
 Adults are responsible for youth during the



Connecting Children to Food
 Ana Skemp, M.S., Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, is a full-time farmer at Deep Roots Community Farm, and one of the founders of the non-profit Grow La Crosse. Ana and her husband farm 170 acres in La Crosse, focusing on grass-fed beef, fruits and vegetables, and educational programming. She envisions a future where every yard has a garden and every neighborhood has chickens, and she believes local farmers can help make that happen by sharing their knowledge and



Building Restaurants with Local Sourcing
 Dane Gonzales was born and raised in Racine, WI. Following several years of inspiration while living in Madison, Dane planted roots and settled in La Crosse in 2006. Pursuing the dream of owning a small business, he realized there was a disconnect between the amazing organic food surrounding the Driftless Region and the urban environs within La Crosse. He is the co-owner of the Root Note Organic Vegetarian Cafe & Music Venue and opened The Mint, La Crosse's first farm-to-table restaurant, in 2014. Dane, along with amazing partners and supporters, is fighting for La Crosse's food future by reconnecting La Crosse to its surroundings.

SCHEDULE OF THE DAY	
8:30 am - 9:30 am	Registration & Vendor Tables open
9:20 am - 9:30 am	Introduction of Neighborhood Leaders
9:30 am	Welcome address by La Crosse Mayor Tim Kabat
9:45 am - 10:45 am	Keeping It Local: A panel presentation by local food system innovators
10:45 am - 11:00 am	Break
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Growing, Sourcing, Cooking: Breakfast Presentations
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm - 2:15 pm	Presentation Neighborhood Engagement and Collaboration
1:15 pm - 2:15 pm	Future Iron Chef Demonstration
2:30 pm	Neighborhood Award Presentations and Closing Address

are limited only by the imagination. There are niches to be filled everywhere and local food production yields positive outcomes for the community, the environment, and the economy.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- 1. Growing in Your Yard: Farm & Food**
 Forest Casey Peterson, founder of Lifestart Gardens, and Jared Barklem, Todd Huffman of Hunger Task Force's of Hillview Urban Agriculture Center's year-round opportunities to grow in your community.
- 2. Growing in Community-Ways to Get Your Hands Dirty and Help it**
 Learn how to prepare delicious, healthy, and fresh recipes using the first shoots, and fresh recipes using the first shoots, brought to you by: Mayo Clinic Health System—Franciscan Healthcare Executive Chef Mike Tangen and the Clinical Dietetics Team
- 3. Cooking Demo: Foraging Freshness—Spring Recipes for Health and Wellness**
 People's Linda Riddle from the People's Food Co-op, "We source local so you can too!" I will tell the story of PFC's genuine, long-standing relationships with local farmers and vendors. *Nell Saunders*, Cameron Park Market Manager, "Get the most out of your farmer's market experience"
- 4. Sourcing Local and Sustainable Food**
 The esteemed Mayor Tim Kabat, whose favorite show is Master Chef Junior with Gordon Ramsey and who recognizes the positive impact that food can have on and healthy, local food can have on neighborhood revitalization.

Join neighborhood leaders to get your questions answered... What is a neighborhood association? What are the benefits of engaging with or creating a neighborhood association? What do we partner with and why? What do neighborhood association members do? Get answers to these questions and more through photos, music and small group conversations. Learn about the history and vision behind La Crosse neighborhood associations.

NEIGHBORHOOD PRESENTATIONS

Thank you to these local restaurants for cash service lunch offerings:

FUTURE IRON CHEF DEMO

Trained Iron Chef from the Boys and Girls Club of Greater La Crosse and Ho-Chunk Nation of Shawnee (The Chairman) of Savory Creations in the launch of Hillview Urban Agriculture Center's Future Iron Chef Program. Our panel of tasters includes:

- **Mayor Tim Kabat**, whose favorite show is Master Chef Junior with Gordon Ramsey and who recognizes the positive impact that food can have on neighborhood revitalization.
- **Chief Monique Hooker**, a culinary pioneer, cookbook author, former Chicago restaurant owner, and culinary instructor who has trained at least 800 school districts as part of the Farm2School program.
- **Thippi Luangpraseth**, a chef at the Culina Mariana Cafe, board member of Grow La Crosse, and an Ambassador for Jamie Oliver Food Revolution, working with people around the world that are fighting for better food education and promoting cooking skills.

Thank you to these local restaurants for cash service lunch offerings:

TASTY
THE MINT
BIG BOAR BARBECUE

- TUESDAY, APRIL 19TH AT 6:30 PM**
 Meeting at the Black River Beach Neighborhood Center; Birchwood Rm.
- APRIL 14, 21, & 28, 6:30-7:15 PM**
 Neighborhood Nature Walks in the Lower Northside & Depot. For details, call Joyce: 608.785.6236
- SATURDAY, MAY 21ST, 8 AM-2 PM**
 First Annual GENA-Wide Spring Rummage Sale
- 3RD TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH**
 Monthly meeting: Emerson LMC @ 6:30 p.m.-social at 6 p.m.
- SATURDAY, MAY 21ST, 8 AM-1 PM**
 Neighborhood Rummage Sale
- SUNDAY, JULY 24TH**
 Neighborhood Picnic at Bluffside Park on 28th street.
- 4TH MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH**
 Monthly meeting: Congregational Church @ 6 p.m.
- SUNDAY, MAY 22, 12-3 PM Spring into Summer!**
 Held at Weigent Park, there will be snacks, family games and loads of fun. Driftless Region Bicycle Coalition and Beer by Bike Brigade members will be available to help with free bike tune-ups and licensing. More details will be posted on Weigent-Hogan Facebook page.
- 2ND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH, 6:30 PM**
 Monthly meeting. Watch facebook for location.
- SATURDAYS, MAY 14-JUNE 18**
 Join the neighbors of Powell-Poage-Hamilton & Washburn in a month-long event of revitalization and beautification of two of La Crosse's oldest neighborhoods. [Go to renewlacrosse.org](http://renewlacrosse.org) for more info.
- SATURDAY, JUNE 11TH**
 Annual Neighborhood Yard Sale
- 4TH TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH**
 Monthly meeting: Lincoln Middle School Library @ 6 p.m.
- lacrosegoosetown@gmail.com
 Facebook: Goosetown-Campus Neighborhood La Crosse
- FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MAY 13 & MAY 14**
 Rummage Sale
- 3RD MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH**
 Monthly meeting: South Branch Library @ 6 p.m.
- 4TH TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH**
 Monthly meeting: Northside Elementary @ 6 p.m.
- 3RD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH**
 Monthly meeting: Southside Neighborhood Center @ 6:45 p.m.
- 3RD OR 4TH WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH**
 Monthly meeting: Hintgen Elementary School @ 6:30 p.m.

LA CROSSE MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD CONFERENCE

FOOD IN THE CITY

April 9th, 2016

Celebrate growing, sourcing, and cooking of local, sustainable, healthy food in the La Crosse region.

