



River Falls
Housing Authority

625 North Main Street, River Falls, Wisconsin 54022
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ARC
PO Box 223
River Falls WI 54022

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my strong support for ARC. ARC efficiently evaluates, coordinates and dispenses charitable contributions to needy households in the River Falls area. Please give me a moment of your time to explain how important ARC is to River Falls.

I see the good work done by ARC every day when low and moderate income people walk into the River Falls Housing Authority office looking for a place to live. While there's no immediate emergency housing available, a referral to ARC can help them. ARC carefully evaluates and discerns the most immediate need and provides just enough resources to get people beyond a crisis. ARC volunteers listen and coach, showing very real concern for their neighbors.

Before ARC was formed, individual organizations and churches provided emergency resources to people in our community. I know that some people supplemented their income by routinely accessing the various churches. ARC's coordination of resources ensures that donations are fairly and evenly distributed.

When tenants in a Housing Authority program are unable to pay their rent, ARC steps in. ARC investigates the tenant's need and ability to regain successful tenancy before assisting with a rent payment. With ARCs coaching and financial assistance, a tenant can pay rent and solve the financial emergency within the same month. ARC pays the emergency assistance directly to a landlord and will not provide housing assistance when the tenant's need is greater than the emergency assistance will resolve.

There is a shortage of affordable rental homes in River Falls. The Housing Needs Study conducted by the City of River Falls in 2018 shows that the median contract rent in River Falls was \$731 in 2016. Allocating 30% of household income to housing, a household would need an income of \$29,240 to afford the median contract rent in the City. The median gross rent in River Falls increased 7.0% to \$821 in 2016. A family's short term financial emergency, such as car trouble, a sick family member, or a down time at work could result in a loss of their housing. ARC provides exactly the right kind of assistance people need for these one-time emergencies.

For all of these reasons I encourage you to support ARC as a valuable community resource.

Sincerely,

Anne McAlpine
Executive Director



Providing Affordable Housing for Senior Citizens, Persons with Disabilities and Families.
Managers for Family Homes, Edgewater, Riverview Manor, Briarwood, Oakpark,
Windmill Place, Watertower, & St. Croix Manor Apts.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer

