

A home is more than simply a shelter; it's a foundation that allows one to focus on the future. If a permanent place to call home is not available, it is difficult, if not impossible to focus on any other aspect of life. The House of Mercy allows families and individuals to fully experience the joy and comfort of having a home of their own. Many communities we serve are lacking safe, affordable housing. The House of Mercy will offer this type of housing to women/women and children in need in Clark County.

For more information on the House of Mercy, please call Judy Morrow at 715-503-1005.

Visit us on the web at [www.cclse.org](http://www.cclse.org)  
[1-888-212-HELP \(4357\)](tel:1-888-212-HELP)

## Office Locations

Eau Claire  
448 N. Dewey Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54703  
(715) 832-6644

La Crosse  
3710 East Ave. South  
La Crosse, WI 54601  
(608) 782-0710

Loyal  
141 Main Street  
Loyal, WI 54446  
(715) 503-1005

Wausau  
540 South 3rd Avenue  
Wausau, WI 54401  
(715) 849-3311

# House of Mercy

*Working Beyond Shelter because everyone needs a place to call HoM*



*Providing Help...Creating Hope*

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The House of Mercy (HoM) is a Beyond Shelter Program developed by Catholic Charities that utilizes the Housing First approach which involves moving homeless individuals and/or families directly into housing and then aligning them to support services, either on-site or in the community. HoM combines safe, affordable housing with services that help people who face the most complex challenges to live with stability, autonomy and dignity. The program's key concepts are:

- A focus on helping individuals and families access and sustain permanent rental housing as quickly as possible.
- A variety of services delivered to promote housing stability and individual well-being on an as-needed and entirely voluntary basis.

House of Mercy began as a community initiative born from the compassionate hearts of local community members, businesses, churches and other local organizations. They felt the call and understood the benefits of helping their neighbors in need. HoM opened its doors in the Fall of 2016 and serves single women and women with children from Clark County.

HoM clients have access to services designed to address their individual needs and preferences. These services include the help of a case manager and provide the following:

- Support and education in building independent living and tenancy skills
- Assistance with integrating into the community
- Connections to community-based health care and treatment
- Connections to employment services and/or Social Security
- It links safe, affordable housing with flexible, voluntary support services designed to help the individual stay housed and live a more productive life in the community



HoM consists of three apartments available for housing. Each family/individual will be screened with the nationally recognized Vulnerability Index Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT). This tool helps identify who should be recommended for housing and support intervention programs that are available in the area.

The length of a family's stay in an apartment is determined by their need. The goal is to remove worry about housing so they can address other issues. Most importantly, a Catholic Charities Beyond Shelter program coordinator will work with each resident to help them build housing and budgeting skills and connect them with other Clark County Community resources as needed.

House of Mercy also contains a small office and rooms available for emergency housing. These rooms will offer shared cooking, laundry, washrooms and dining space. Emergency housing is available for women and women with children for a short term stay.

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