



A LETTER FROM JEREMY



Jeremy Stutsman
President/CEO

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time working for this community as an elected official. However, I came to realize it was time to transition away from politics. As I began contemplating my next steps, I recognized the importance of finding a space where I could continue my work through servant leadership and collaborate with the communities of Elkhart County. I am thrilled that Lacasa is the perfect place for me to embark on this exciting new chapter of my life.

Throughout my life, I have always felt a deep sense of fulfillment when helping others. Whether it was volunteering for local non-profits or the Goshen community, assisting a neighbor or someone in need, or receiving help from others, I have personally witnessed the transformative power of empathy, compassion, and community.

Joining Lacasa feels like the perfect way to elevate my commitment to helping others. Lacasa's mission aligns perfectly with my values, and I am eager to work alongside a team of intelligent and dedicated individuals who share the same passion for making a difference in our county.

I am particularly excited about the diverse range of programs and initiatives that Lacasa offers. From education to housing and social services, our organization strives to address the multifaceted needs of individuals and families. By actively engaging the community and developing innovative solutions, we foster an environment where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

I would be remiss if I didn't express my gratitude for the support and encouragement I have received from friends, family, the Lacasa Board and staff, as well as Lacasa supporters like yourself. Your belief in Lacasa's mission and its ability to make a difference has been a driving force for positive change, both for the organization and now for me. I am truly thankful for your commitment and support to making a difference in the lives of others.

Lacasa would not be where we are today without the invaluable contributions of Heidi Stoltzfus McHugh, who stepped up as interim CEO. Her leadership and dedication played a pivotal role in guiding Lacasa through this transitional period. On behalf of the Lacasa family, Thank you!

In the coming months I look forward to connecting to share stories of hope, resilience, opportunities, and successes as I embark on this new journey with a proven organization. Together we can create a brighter future for those who need it most.

Thank you once again for being a source of inspiration and for standing beside Lacasa as we enter the next chapter of our story. The opportunities that lie ahead of us are significant. With your help, we will continue to make a meaningful impact.

With great respect,
Jeremy Stutsman



HELP A HOUSE - DEVELOPING HOUSING AND UNITING COMMUNITY

Help-A-House harnesses Lacasa's expertise in home rehab, construction, and volunteer coordination to improve homes and neighborhoods. The work completing repairs on homes for households with limited income and improving and developing housing in our community is going strong. Already this year through June, Lacasa has welcomed over 200 individuals who have given 900 hours of their valuable time. These gifts of time and the financial support of our generous sponsors not only improve individual lives but also strengthens the fabric of the community.





Ashley Bowen
Director of Client
Empowerment

NEIGHBORWORKS AMERICA SELECTS ASHLEY BOWEN FOR NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Lacasa is pleased to announce the appointment of two esteemed local team members to national committees. Rocío Arévalo-Espinosa, Director of Operational Excellence, has been a valued member of the NeighborWorks Homeownership Managers Advisory Committee for years. Ashley Bowen, Director of Client Empowerment, is a newly appointed member of the Financial Capability Advisory Committee.

These national committees, comprised of industry leaders, foster collaboration and innovation to enhance nationwide homeownership and financial capability services.

Rocío's longstanding membership is a testament to her expertise. She actively participates in meetings, assists in event planning, and facilitates peer-to-peer learning sessions.

Ashley's appointment is a testament to her outstanding skills and unwavering commitment to empowering individuals and communities.

We commend Rocío and Ashley for their achievements and their commitment to representing Lacasa on national committees. They exemplify our dedication to empowering individuals and communities.



GRAND OPENING OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The grand opening of seven newly renovated affordable rental housing units in Goshen was marked by an open house and a Goshen Chamber ribbon cutting. The event drew notable speakers and enthusiastic attendees including community partners, sponsors, and some volunteers who had previously worked on the home. This year, Lacasa plans to complete 17 rental and for-sale homes in Elkhart County. Nine of those 17 are within blocks of each other including: the four completed rental units on Jefferson Street, three rental units 8th Street, and two single-family homes for sale around the corner on 7th Street. Another 43 are at some stage of development for completion over the next two years.

Jeremy Stutsman, Lacasa's new CEO, expressed his gratitude to the community partners, sponsors, Lacasa staff, and many volunteers who played an integral role in making this project a reality. Rudy Yakym, US Congressman, highlighted the importance of affordable housing and the positive effects it has on individuals and communities. Gina Leichty, Goshen Mayor, and Nick Kieffer, Goshen Chamber President, also praised the collaborative efforts and recognized the significance of affordable housing in fostering a vibrant community.

As Lacasa continues to move forward, this accomplishment serves as a beacon of hope, inspiring future initiatives and collaborations aimed at ensuring affordable housing opportunities for all.

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All Lacasa activities and services are provided without regard to race, age, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin, ancestry, or status as a veteran.