

Polk County Neighbors
www.polkcountyneighbors.com

April 9, 2024

Dear Homeless Alliance Board,

We are concerned citizens of rural Polk County writing to express our support and commitment to partner with Church @ the Park as they bring transition-focused emergency sheltering to rural Polk County.

We see the need in our community. We are aware that there are students in our schools sleeping in cars. We see individuals trying to stay warm and safe while sleeping in our parks and paths. Some of us have lived experience ourselves and some of us have worked in fields that help us understand. We want to help our neighbors experiencing homelessness to be treated with dignity and have a safe and stable place to connect with services and get back on their feet. We believe that the Church @ the Park's plan will help meet this need.

In addition to being concerned citizens, we are also informed citizens and connected citizens. We have attended coffee chats and/or webinars to learn about Church @ the Park and this proposal. We are writing to voice our support and also to assure you that there are local citizens committed to volunteering and serving once the emergency sheltering is up and running. We will be liaisons to our church groups and book clubs and neighborhoods to help gather donations of food and supplies as needed. We will partner with Church @ the Park to help our neighbors.

Sincerely,

Ed Brandt, Dallas

Paulette Headley-Belleque, Dallas

Sherry Bullard, Dallas

Diane McBurnett, Monmouth

Robert Davies, Dallas

Jodi Russell, Monmouth

Nancy Hamalian, Dallas

Angel Swanson, Monmouth

Paul Hamalian, Dallas

Mike Weber, Dallas/Falls City