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**For Immediate Release**

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**Citizen Diplomacy Celebration recognizes local efforts**

(LA CROSSE, Wis.) — Many people are surprised to learn just how many global exchanges and partnerships occur in the La Crosse, Wis., region. Many are equally surprised to learn the power of the individual friendships that result—personal ties that collectively can be as powerful as any government efforts in achieving world peace.

Building awareness of that work and honoring local people who are making it happen will be the focus of World Services of La Crosse's Third Annual Citizen Diplomacy Celebration, an international evening. Scheduled for Thursday, March 20, 2014, at the Cargill Ballroom at the Waterfront Restaurant and Tavern, the event will celebrate the efforts and progress of local people reaching out in the world.

This year's honorees include

- Charles Hanson as World Services Citizen Ambassador of the Year;
- Lee Rasch as World Services Citizen Diplomat of the Year; and
- Chad Seitz as World Services Student Ambassador of the Year.

The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. and features an international dinner with complimentary, beer, wine and soda. Tickets are \$50 each, with all proceeds going to further the citizen diplomacy mission of World Services of La Crosse, a nonprofit organization. Reservations are requested by March 10.

The event is possible through the generosity of event sponsors Don and Roxanne Weber, media sponsor Mid-West Family Broadcasting and major sponsor Mayo Clinic Health System, Franciscan Healthcare. Table and event sponsorships are still available.

For more information or to register, visit World Services online at [www.wslax.us](http://www.wslax.us) or call 608-781-4194.

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