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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 Fifth Annual Citizen Diplomacy Celebration, an international evening. Scheduled for Tuesday, April 19, 2016, at the Cargill Room at Riverside Center South in La Crosse, the event will celebrate the efforts and progress of local people reaching out in the world.

This year's honorees include

- Jay Lokken as World Services Citizen Ambassador of the Year;
- Sara Sullivan as World Services Citizen Diplomat of the Year; and
- Samantha Helgeson 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 April 8.

The event is possible through the generosity of event sponsors Don and Roxanne Weber, media sponsor Mid-West Family Broadcasting and major sponsors Mayo Clinic Health System – Franciscan Healthcare and the Sandra and Richard McCormick Citizen Diplomacy Fund of the La Crosse Community Foundation. Table and event sponsorships are still available.

For more information or to register, visit World Services online at www.wslax.us or call 608-781-4194.

World Services of La Crosse, Inc., is a La Crosse-based nonprofit organization that develops and implements international partnerships designed to advance health, civil society, public administration and the environment and to promote peace and mutual understanding in countries throughout the world. ###