



## Executive Summary – Coulee Region 2016 Needs Assessment (By Race / Ethnicity: American Indian)

In 2016, Couleecap Inc. conducted a needs assessment to gather information regarding the needs of low-income individuals and families in a four-county service area (Crawford, La Crosse, Monroe, and Vernon counties). Information was gathered via surveys designed for low-income households. Surveys were distributed in the Couleecap service area and a total of 901 responses were used in the analysis of the survey data.

The responses reported here are from low-income households that reported their race / ethnicity as American Indian. The data represents at least 79 people (adults and children) that live in the Coulee Region. Demographic information about these low-income households includes:

- 70% had annual incomes less than \$20,000; an additional 26% had incomes between \$20,000 and \$29,999
- 15% had income from wages; 7% from self-employment; 7% from unemployment.
- Other sources of cash income / support:
  - 48% from Food Pantry
  - 41% from FoodShare
  - 33% from Medicaid / Medicare
  - 30% from Social Security
  - 22% from SSI
  - 22% from Social Security Disability
  - 11% from Pension
- Of the respondents with housing:
  - 38% were renters
  - 31% owned their own home
- 22% could be considered homeless.
- 37% had children:
  - 22% with children were single-parent households
  - 15% with children were married-parent households
- 78% had at least one person limited by a physical, mental or emotional problem.

Information from the 2016 Couleecap Needs Assessment along with information from other recent, local reports, surveys, and/or assessments will be used to help plan for and implement services to address the needs of low-income households across the Couleecap, Inc. service area.

## **Outcomes**

*Low-Income Households.* Households that responded to the needs assessment were asked to rate issues that were a need for their household. The table below reports the eight areas of need (rank ordered from most to least important) and the top two concerns within each area:

<b>Areas of Need</b>	<b>Significant Concerns</b>
<b>Employment</b>	Getting training for a better job Learning money management skills
<b>Child and Family Development</b>	Available, affordable, quality child care Dealing with teenagers
<b>Health</b>	Having adequate health insurance Getting treatment for a disability
<b>Emergency Assistance</b>	Need for clothing Need for shelter
<b>Transportation</b>	Buying a car Finding a ride / public transportation
<b>Education</b>	Getting training for a better job Learning money management skills
<b>Housing</b>	Paying for rent / security deposit Getting insulation / weatherization
<b>Business Development</b>	Developing a business plan Getting business start-up loans