



Housing First Ensures Stable Housing and the Ability To Focus on Health and Income

Ed, an elderly veteran, was having trouble finding housing due to his complicated background. Living on a fixed income, he stayed in transitional housing and later, a motel. Because of his background he was excluded from certain forms of housing generally available to veterans, and the motel was eating up most of his fixed income. [Read more.](#)



“..Now that I have stable housing, I have been able to focus on getting extra income and improving my health..”
- Ed

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Total Navigation Team: A Resource in Monroe County

We are excited to be part of the Total Navigation Team (TNT) in Monroe County! This collaborative effort brings together multiple community organizations dedicated to helping individuals navigate challenges related to employment, affordable housing, and essential resources.

TNT serves as a one-stop hub where community members can meet with multiple agencies, address various concerns, and connect with vital resources such as food, housing, and healthcare.

“We’re just trying to come together, see clients, make sure we have resources for them when they come in the door, and that we can offer them something before they leave,” says Casberg.

Monroe County’s initiative was inspired by the success of La Crosse County’s Total Navigation Team. The key to TNT’s success lies in collaboration—bringing together passionate organizations committed to meeting individuals where they are.

Together, we are working to ensure that no one in our community faces these challenges alone. If you or someone you know could benefit from TNT’s resources, we encourage you to reach out.



The Total Navigation Team will meet on the first and third Wednesday of every month from 10 a.m. to noon for future meetings.

If you or someone you know is in need of assistance from the team, you should reach out to Dana Casberg at Couleecap by phone 608-424-2278 or email

dana.casberg@couleecap.org

Celebrating the Excellence of our Staff

Dalia Servi receives a Black Excellence Award



We are thrilled to celebrate Dalia Servi, a deserving recipient of the Black Excellence Award in the category of Ally! Dalia has dedicated her career as a HUD Housing Counselor to advocating for underrepresented communities, tirelessly working to ensure that everyone has access to safe, affordable homeownership. Through her leadership and unwavering commitment, she has been a powerful force in the fight for housing justice and equity. Dalia’s work has not only uplifted marginalized voices but also inspired meaningful change in the lives of countless individuals and families. Her passion, advocacy, and relentless pursuit of justice make her an extraordinary example of excellence and a true champion for equality.

Couleecap staff were thrilled to accept a Black Excellence Award on behalf of our agency. The REACH Services and Resource Center also received a Black Excellence Award. What an honor!



One Million Cups Launches in La Crosse

A Resource for Entrepreneurs and Small Businesses

In 2023, the journey to bring 1 Million Cups to La Crosse began when Kim Wagner of the La Crosse Chamber of Commerce approached Couleecap with an exciting opportunity. The idea was simple but powerful: create a space where entrepreneurs could connect, share their challenges, and gain valuable insights from the local business community.

To make this vision a reality, we formed a strong organizing team, including Deb Stangel (The Wedding Tree), Beth Franklin (Executive Director, La Crosse Chamber), Sarah Fecht (Best Self Leadership), Nicole Van Ert (Director of Professional Learning, Viterbo University), and Brad Morescki and Alex Rodriguez from Couleecap's Business Development Department.

What is 1 Million Cups?

Founded in 2012 by the Kauffman Foundation, 1 Million Cups (1MC) is a national program that fosters entrepreneurial learning and collaboration. Every Wednesday morning, more than 100 chapters across the country hold events where local entrepreneurs present—not pitch—their businesses. Instead of seeking funding or sales, presenters share their stories and challenges, inviting the audience to offer insights, advice, and connections to help them grow.

How It's Making an Impact

Since launching in La Crosse, 1MC has provided a welcoming and supportive platform for local business owners, including many of Couleecap's incubator vendors and business development clients. These entrepreneurs have benefited not only from public speaking experience but also from the collective wisdom of seasoned business leaders and community members who attend each week.

Each Wednesday, attendees can expect to hear from one or two entrepreneurs, engaging in thoughtful discussions about the real-world challenges they face. The open, interactive format creates an environment of collaboration where local business owners gain new perspectives and practical solutions to move their ventures forward.

Whether you're an aspiring entrepreneur, a seasoned business owner, or simply passionate about supporting local startups, 1 Million Cups La Crosse is the perfect place to learn, connect, and contribute to our growing entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Join us for a cup of coffee and an inspiring conversation because when entrepreneurs thrive, our entire community benefits!



Date: Every Wednesday
Time: 8:45 AM-10:00 AM
Place: Viterbo Performing Arts Building
in the Hospitality Suite

[Follow 1MillionCups on Facebook](#)

Philanthropy is a Community Event in La Farge



Each year, the La Farge Lions Club Giving Back from the Heart Program partners with the La Farge School District. Each grade chooses a charity or cause, and the Lions donate \$250. Each class works together to make the decision, and this year, the Kickapoo Valley Forest School third grade chose to donate theirs to Couleecap!

We are thrilled to be selected and were happy to participate in the event this February. The La Farge Lions donated a total of \$3,800 with students from 4K - 12th grade participating. What a wonderful way to teach philanthropy to the next generation!

Join us for the 6th Annual



Wednesday, June 25th 2025

The Golf Club at Cedar Creek

8:00 AM Event Registration

9:00 AM Shotgun Start

3:00 PM Lunch

4:00 PM Awards

Scramble Format Rain or Shine

4-Person Team

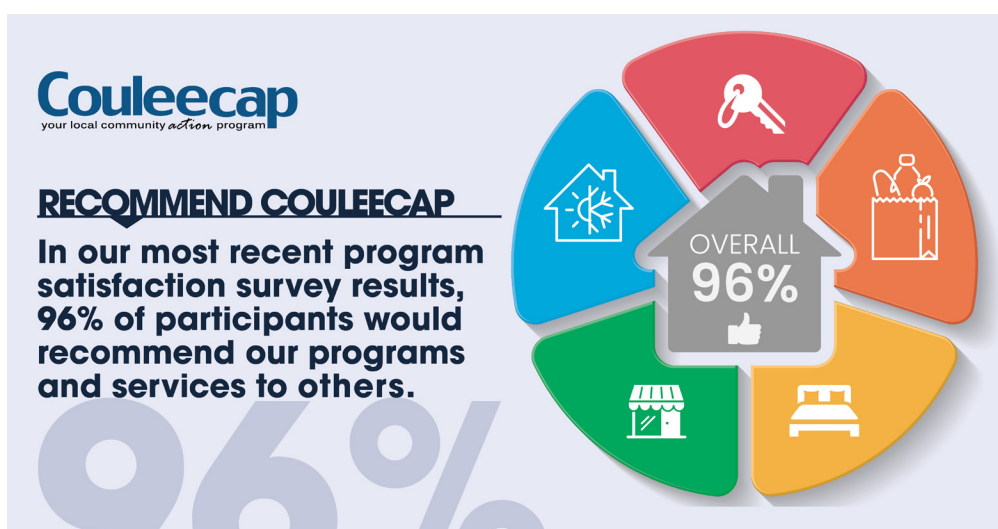
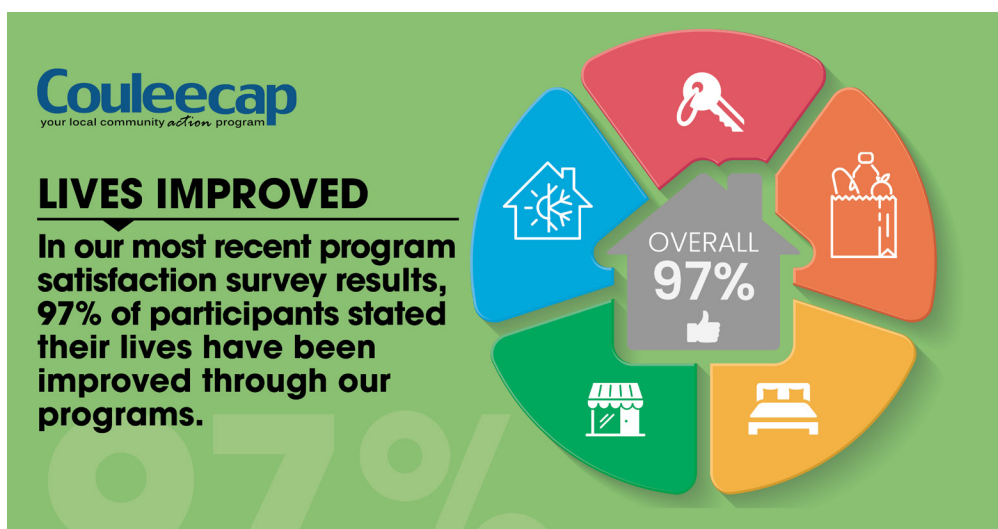
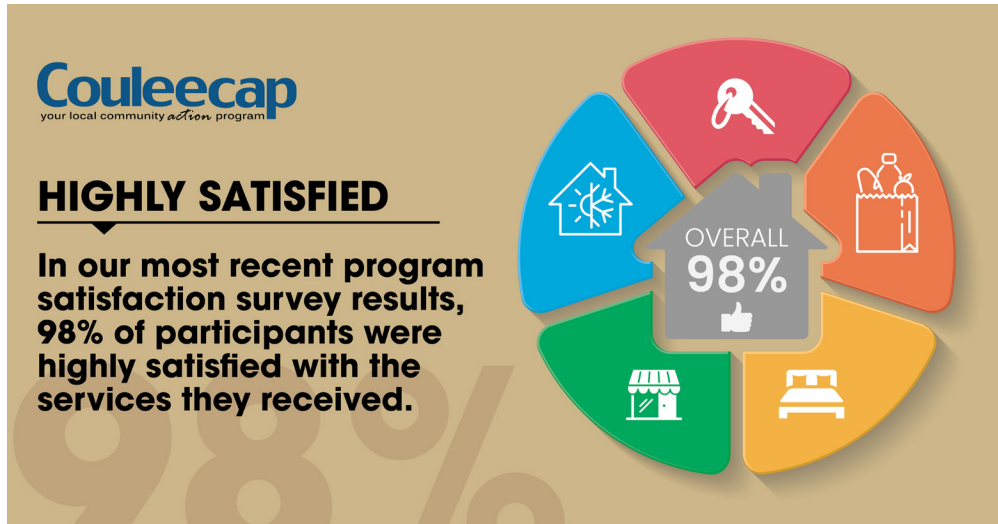
Sponsorship Opportunities Available!



**Early Bird Deadline
May 1st!
Register at
Couleecap.org/Golf**

Participant Satisfaction Matters

Couleecap staff works to ensure that our participants are satisfied with the services and assistance that they receive. Once a year, or when the assistance provided is complete, program participants are asked (but not required) to complete a satisfaction survey. Below are our most recent results.





Toll Free: 1.866.904.4508
Website: www.couleecap.org
Email: contactus@couleecap.org

Crawford County
200 E. Blackhawk Avenue
Prairie du Chien, WI 53821
Phone: 608.326.2463

La Crosse County
700 N. 3rd Street, STE 202B
La Crosse, WI 54601
Phone: 608.782.4877

Monroe County
217 N. Black River Street
Sparta, WI 54656
Phone: 608.269.5021

Vernon County
201 Melby Street
Westby, WI 54667
Phone: 608.782.4877

A United Way member agency



What if Your Actions Could Last a Lifetime?

Did you know you don't need to be wealthy to leave a legacy? Making a charitable gift through your Will or trust is a simple and tax-friendly way to support your community for future generations.

Sample Language for Charitable Bequests

I hereby give, devise and bequeath \$___ (or a percentage of my estate) to Couleecap Inc., a non-profit organization located at 201 Melby St., Westby, WI 54667, Federal Tax ID #39-1077614, for Couleecap's general use (or to support the following area(s) of charitable interest).

These are important actions. Please take time to consult your financial advisor when considering a gift.

We encourage you to share your plans with us. Your plans remain confidential and we are able to ensure that when the time comes, Couleecap understands and can abide by your bequest intentions.

Donate Food & Supplies from our



Thanks for supporting Couleecap programs
like our food pantries

