

Giving People a Chance is Everyone's RESPONSIBILITY

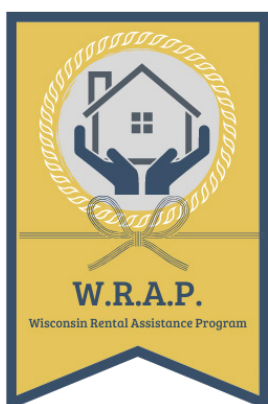
"They gave us a chance no one else gave us."

-Amanda



"Isn't it our responsibility to do what we can to help everyone have the basics of a home."

-Karen



Couleecap
your local community *action* program



A United Way member agency

A equal opportunity employer and service provider.

Auxiliary aids and services available upon request.

Amanda and her family found their fairy godmother when they met Karen. After being homeless for a year and then living out of a motel for 3 months with two young children, the family was struggling.

When Karen met Amanda's family at the apartment showing she had a great feeling about them. They were genuine and sincere. Karen and her husband have been in property management for over 25 years. She noticed the last few years, especially, have seemed to be the hardest for people to make it. The pandemic made a bad situation worse. "There are just a lot of obstacles for folks," Karen says. She knew the family's financial situation could make renting to them difficult, but something about the family made her want to give them a chance.

When the pandemic caused businesses to close Amanda's husband's hours became uncertain. They were never sure what his paycheck was going to be. "We felt so bad when his checks were starting to get smaller. We felt so guilty. These people took us in," Amanda says. "I had a past eviction on my record and it stopped us. We were homeless for over a year. They gave us an opportunity no one else did, and we feel very grateful for them and everything they have done."

Karen learned of the Wisconsin Rental Assistance Program (WRAP) and knew that if anyone qualified, it would be Amanda's family. Karen shared program information with Amanda but on the day of her appointment with the Couleecap case manager, Amanda's phone was disconnected. That was my lowest point. I remember thinking, "I can't even do the appointment I need to do to get the help I need," Amanda recalled. She called her older son to use his phone and was able to complete the call. It was frustrating to find barrier after barrier.

When word came that Couleecap and the WRAP program could help Amanda's family pay their rent, phone bill, and car repair bill, it was emotional. Amanda, Karen, the landlord, and the Couleecap case manager had tears in their eyes. "They helped with so many things. It was like the weight of the world was lifted. It changed our lives."

Couleecap programs, such as our WRAP program, serve thousands of people in the Coulee Region each year. These programs are possible because of the financial support we receive. Your support has given Amanda and her family the assistance they needed during a pandemic.

Our Mission

Couleecap fights poverty and promotes self-sufficiency, economic development, and social justice. We are **People Helping People**, and every day our actions make a difference in the lives of people and families throughout the Coulee Region.