



**For Immediate Release**

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## **La Crosse Community Foundation and Couleecap Employee Receive Awards for role in Community Action**

The Wisconsin Community Action Program (WISCAP) recognized the La Crosse Community Foundation and Couleecap Housing and Community Services Manager, Dana Casberg, for their roles in advancing programs that fight poverty in the region. The awardees were selected from a list of nominees collected statewide to be recognized at the WISCAP Annual Conference. Lieutenant Governor Sara Rodriguez and Secretary-designee Kathy Blumenfeld of the WI Department of Administration were speakers at the event.

The La Crosse Community Foundation was honored with the Outstanding Friend of Community Action Award. The statewide award recognizes an organization whose actions have promoted or enhanced efforts and services to fight poverty in the state. Hetti Brown, Executive Director of Couleecap, presented the award. "The La Crosse Community Foundation is an organization that works to understand needs through community-integrated work and by investing in innovative solutions that forever change a community," says Brown. "Director Jamie Schloegel and her team are more than grant makers. They are our strategic partners."

"La Crosse Community Foundation is honored to receive this recognition," said Schloegel. "We share WISCAP's commitment to alleviating poverty and fostering self-sufficiency in our communities, and the award serves as a reminder of our mission to build a more inclusive and thriving Wisconsin. Our thanks goes to the Wisconsin Community Action Program, and especially our CAP partner in La Crosse Couleecap, for this honor and for the transformative work they do every day."

Dana Casberg, Couleecap Housing and Community Services Manager was honored with the Exceptional Community Action Staff Member Award, which recognizes an individual who has demonstrated leadership embodying the spirit of community action in the state. Becky Koske, Housing and Community Services Director, presented the award. "Dana's leadership is not only highly regarded throughout our agency, but throughout the state. She and her team never stop



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evolving, assessing, and flexing processes to remove barriers for clients and Dana always looks for new opportunities to serve the community through partnerships,” says Koske.

“I am very honored for this recognition,” said Casberg. “Couleecap is truly People Helping People – consistently adapting to face the needs of our communities. I am grateful that I have been able to work with such dedicated people and an amazing agency who is committed to helping its neighbors.”

May is Community Action Month and WISCAP hosts the annual award ceremony to recognize the work of Wisconsin’s poverty-fighting network. In addition to award presentations, Secretary Blumenfeld presented a Proclamation on behalf of Governor Tony Evers declaring May ‘Community Action Month’.

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### **About Couleecap**

Couleecap, Inc. is a private non-profit 501c3 charitable organization. Couleecap helps people in need with housing food, transportation, and more. Created in 1966, we are a community action program that fights poverty and promotes self-sufficiency in Crawford, La Crosse, Monroe, and Vernon counties. Couleecap is a member of the Community Action Network, originally created in 1964. Learn more at [couleecap.org](http://couleecap.org).