



## Couleecap's Weatherization Program Provides A Warm Solution for a Growing Family

When Tina and her fiancé Thomi thought about moving back to Wisconsin from Michigan's Upper Peninsula, seclusion and quiet were high on their list. They knew they had found their forever home when they found a small cabin near the Mississippi River.

One unexpected twist to their dream home was a distinct lack of insulation where it was needed most. "We realized once it had started to get cold, the home was built to be more of a seasonal home than a permanent residence," Tina recalled. Not long after moving into the home, the couple welcomed their child Delilah into the mix. With this new addition, the need for increased insulation became more apparent. "It was easy to double up on socks, wear slippers and all of that when it was just Thomi and I. But once our daughter began scooting around on the floor and learning to crawl, we realized that she needed warmer floors to do that on."

Initially, the couple worried that the process and cost to properly insulate their home seemed beyond their reach. "We were worried about it and how we would get it done," Tina mused. "It just seemed so difficult." However, through word-of-mouth Tina and Thomi were reminded of the weatherization program offered by Couleecap and decided to reach out to see if Couleecap would be able to help.

"It was really quick and easy," Thomi noted of the process meeting with Couleecap. "They came over and investigated the situation and did a comprehensive airflow test and they were able to work with the more unique aspects of our home to find a solution that would work."

The Couleecap weatherization crews were able to identify drafty spaces in the home and fill them with insulation as well as installing vapor sealing and fans to help with circulation. The team also worked to weatherize what was previously a four seasons porch to make it a comfortable working space for Tina, who works from home as a transcriptionist. "Previously I had to move my whole set up into the living room in the winter, but after the weatherization work, I was able to stay in my space through the whole year, and it has been a huge added bonus for all of us!" And as for Delilah? "It safe to say she enjoyed having the floors done too," Tina said with a laugh. "She did a lot of crawling, moving, and chasing the cats and dogs after the floors were warmer. And we were happy too because we noticed significant savings in our electricity and propane bills as well as no longer needing three pairs of socks to walk across the house."

The couple noted that thanks to the Couleecap weatherization team, the work was able to get done with ease. "We were both really surprised at how quickly they were able to get it done," Shared Thomi. "They did a really great job."

Couleecap programs, such as our Home Weatherization program, serve thousands of people in the Coulee Region each year. These programs are possible because of the generous financial support we receive.

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**-Tina**

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### 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.