

News Release

For Immediate Release

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Otto Bremer Foundation Supports Couleecap's Basic Needs and Self-Sufficiency Initiative

(Westby, WI) Couleecap, Inc. is honored to announce that it has been awarded a grant for \$100,000 from the Otto Bremer Foundation. This is a very exciting opportunity for Couleecap to help address the needs of La Crosse County and the City of La Crosse through our Basic Needs and Self-Sufficiency Initiative. "We are honored to receive this support," said Grace Jones, Couleecap Executive Director. "But it is the recognition of our partnership with the Otto Bremer Foundation and our shared vision of improving our community that we celebrate."

Couleecap is targeting La Crosse County and the City of La Crosse because of the need in this area. According to U.S. Census data from the 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, the City of La Crosse has the 2nd highest poverty rate among the 12 largest cities in Wisconsin, and almost 41% of the city's population is considered to be low-income (living below 200% of the poverty level).

The funds from the Bremer Foundation will support Couleecap's Skills Enhancement Program and Couleecap's Supportive Housing Programs. The overall goal of Couleecap's Basic Needs and Self-Sufficiency Initiative is dual faceted: to help meet the basic needs of low-income households, including homeless individuals and families; and help them build an economic foundation for themselves and their families. This initiative will help meet the needs of at least 200 individuals who are low-income or homeless in La Crosse County in 2014.



Helping to Support the Community
Couleecap received a \$100,000 grant in support of our Basic Needs and Self-Sufficiency Initiative. Pictured above left to right: Dale Walter, Bremer Bank Market President; Kim Cable, Couleecap Housing & Community Services Director; Grace Jones, Couleecap Executive Director; and Ann Abraham, Bremer Bank Treasury Management Officer.

“Support from the Otto Bremer Foundation is critical to providing homeless families with basic needs such as access to oral health care or job training to help low-income students access programs and certifications that will help them increase their earning potential,” said Kim Cable, Couleecap’s Housing & Community Services Director. “We appreciate the chance to partner with the Otto Bremer Foundation and help make a positive impact in the lives of so many in our community.”

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.

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