

Couleecap Provides People Housing and SO MUCH MORE



Vincent's story demonstrates why Couleecap believes in 'Housing First', a homeless assistance approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness. Once Vincent and others like him have housing, focus can be given to other needs.

During his time in Couleecap's Housing First program, where he was provided an apartment and supportive services, Vincent and his case manager focused on finding employment and meeting his personal goals. Vincent was incredibly dedicated to finding employment. With the help of his case manager, he applied for at least 40 jobs. Vincent came to meetings prepared, usually with 3-5 applications ready to be completed. Once Vincent moved to permanent housing with the City of La Crosse Housing Authority and was working part time at a local restaurant as a dishwasher, he was ready to exit our program.

Vincent maintained contact with his case manager for 3 years since exiting the Couleecap program. When his full-time employment closed because of COVID-19 and he struggled to apply for unemployment benefits to meet his basic needs, he reached to his case manager. His case manager made time to help him sign up for unemployment benefits, coordinated meal drop-offs, scheduled grocery drop-offs, worked with the housing authority to update rental agreements due to unemployment, and paid off his outstanding rental debt. To ensure he was on a solid foundation, she went even further and helped him sort out his paycheck, renew his FoodShare benefits, and connected with local jobs programs.

Vincent's story is a great example of the strong relationships that grow in our Housing Programs and how Couleecap's support does not end when our neighbors leave our programs. People need to have a support system and for some people, that support system is Couleecap. Vincent knows that he can contact his case manager when he has a question or a concern and he will always continue to get help, even years after he has left our program. Couleecap works to ensure people not only receive housing, but that they can thrive in it.

Couleecap programs, such as our Housing First Program, serve thousands of people in the Coulee Region each year. These programs are possible because of the financial support we receive from donors like you. Your support has given Vincent the support he needs to succeed.

**"I didn't think I would
live past my 20's."
-Vincent**

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.

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.