



RESOLUTION # 42-12/22

**TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE
COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AS AMENDED**

ITEM # 12-32

BOARD ACTION

Adopted:
For: 22
Against: 4
Abstain: 0
Abs/Excd: 4
Vote Req: —
Other Action: —

**EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE
ACTION**

Adopted:
For: 4
Against: 3
Abstain: 0
Abs/Excd: 2

RE: APPROVE USE OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDING FOR FAMILY BRIDGE HOUSING

WHEREAS, La Crosse County was allocated \$22,923,224 through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which must be obligated by the end of 2024 and spent by the end of 2026; and,

WHEREAS, the County Board has reserved funding for eight project priority areas as outlined in Resolution #55-1/22 including \$3 million for Family Bridge Housing; and,

WHEREAS, as of November 11, 2022, there are 23 families with dependent children on the coordinated entry list, which is a list identifying those with the highest needs, along with dozens of additional families utilizing hotels, doubled up, or in unsafe environments; and,

WHEREAS, due to the number of families experiencing homelessness, community partners have collaborated to design a sustainable housing program that will more efficiently utilize available funding while providing safe and stable housing for families with dependent children, allowing the children to stay in school and minimize the trauma of unstable housing; and,

WHEREAS, as La Crosse County does not have the capability to develop and maintain bridge housing for families, La Crosse County released a request for proposal on October 5, 2022, asking for community partners to propose a model for bridge housing that helps provide stable housing for families with children; and,

WHEREAS, Catholic Charities and Couleecap presented a joint proposal to purchase, remodel, and sustain scattered site housing throughout La Crosse County as family bridge housing; and,

WHEREAS, Community partners, including the City of La Crosse, New Horizons, the YWCA and Independent Living Resources have indicated support for this model through letters of support; and,

WHEREAS, La Crosse County will continue to collaborate with community partners to establish the process by which families are referred to family bridge housing.

WHEREAS, Catholic Charities and Coulee Cap may find it necessary to dispose of properties that utilized funds designated as Family Bridge Housing, those funds shall be reinvested per the intent of the original program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the La Crosse County Board approves \$3 million of American Rescue Plan Act funding for the purchase, rehabilitation, and maintenance of scattered site housing for families with children experiencing homelessness, in accordance with the October 31, 2022, Response for Proposal submitted jointly by Couleecap, Inc. and Catholic Charities of La Crosse; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that prior to release of any funding, a binding agreement will be approved and legally executed by the Executive Committee and Couleecap and Catholic Charities that clearly outlines the roles and responsibilities between Catholic Charities, Couleecap and La Crosse

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County regarding use of the property, property management, and case management to best serve families in need; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that funds for this program will be released as needed to facilitate the implementation of this program as properties become targeted for purchase; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that title to all properties purchased under this resolution will be held by Couleecap, Inc. and/or Catholic Charities of La Crosse, or their legal affiliates, and that this resolution does not obligate La Crosse County to provide any additional funding for a damage liquidation fund or any other operational expenses not specified in the proposal.

FISCAL NOTE:

Costs totaling \$3,000,000 will be tracked in division 295.770.3744 within the County financial system, Account 64100.02.

Date: 12/19/22
[Signature]
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Date: 12-7-22
[Signature]
RECORDING CLERK

| | Reviewed Only | Recommended | Not Recommended | |
|---------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|--|
| Co. Admin. | _____ | _____ | _____ | Requested By: Jane Klekamp Date Requested: November 28, 2022 Drafted By: Corporation Counsel |
| Fin. Director | _____ | _____ | _____ | |
| Corp. Counsel | _____ | _____ | _____ | |
| Board Chair | _____ | _____ | _____ | |

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 15 Day of December, 2022

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE

I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 15th day of December 2022.

[Signature]
Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk