



# GRAND RIVER • GREAT CITY

## La Crosse • Wisconsin

### 2016-2017 Consolidated Annual Performance & Evaluation Report Summary

#### Overview

This year, the City of La Crosse invested \$3.2 million in La Crosse through CDBG and HOME. Through careful investment of these dollars in loans to businesses and homeowners, the City earned over \$691,000 in program income. Additionally, CDBG/HOME funds leveraged an additional \$9 million in funding from philanthropists, federal, local and state funds. This meant that for every \$1 spent, another \$2.87 was leveraged. Over 55% of the City's resources were spent in targeted areas for revitalization (NRSA). La Crosse's CDBG projects were also featured 23 different times in print, television, and radio this year.

#### Program Highlights

##### Neighborhood Revitalization.

- ◆ This year, the City, LCHDO, and Habitat collectively sold 6 new affordable homes for working families and retiring baby boomers. The families were employed by Gunderson Lutheran Health System, Ashley Furniture, Festival Foods, Mayo Clinic. Two (2) additional homes were cleared for blight. Additionally the City facilitated 10 additional single family market rate homes through its TIF and CIP funds. Once they are completed, collectively these 16 homes will add **\$1.6 million in new assessed value** to the City's most distressed neighborhoods.
- ◆ **Code Enforcement.** CDBG also funded a code enforcement officer focused on targeted areas in the City and as a result, improvements were made to the exterior of 874 homes.
- ◆ **Housing Repairs.** Eighteen (18) homeowners made \$313,000 in improvements to their homes such as plumbing, electrical, insulation, siding, and other critical repairs. These loans allowed for families to make their homes safer for children and allowed elderly individuals to age in place. In addition, two landlords invested \$52,000 in 16 rental units through the Couleecap Rental Rehab Program.

##### Affordable Housing

The City's significant investment in workforce housing is paying off. Three major affordable housing projects are underway or completed. **2219 Lofts** is now entirely leased up with 24 affordable housing units, including 6 which were leased to homeless families. One man who was housed was homeless for 8 years. **Roosevelt School Apartments**, which includes 32 units of affordable housing are now accepting applications and a grand opening is planned in July. The **Kane Street Garden Terrace Apartments** received their tax credit allocation- construction begins next year.

##### Economic Development

The **Coulee Co.Starters programs** helped launch 8 businesses which created 17 jobs- this included Evergreen Child Care Center, Uptown Café, Tanzania Nights, Zachar Legal Services, Wisconsin Parent Magazine, Sigurd Canoe Company, Humble Mountain Press, and Coulee Parenting Connection Magazine.

##### Alleviate Poverty and Prevent Homelessness.

Through its partner agencies, the City assisted 1420 people in access emergency shelter or find housing. The City became the first City in Wisconsin to end Veteran's homelessness. Couleecap helped one individual who had been living on the streets for 5 years find stable income and housing. The Family Collaborative was able to stabilize a mother and her children— 6 years old and two 8-month olds find permanent housing after becoming homeless. An additional 10,765 youth, families, and the elderly were provided food, health, transportation, and youth services through the City's support of , the Kane Street Garden, MTU, the Boy's and Girls Club, Stepping Stones.

# CAPER Highlights



La Crosse Area Family Collaborative Social Worker hosting game at Neighborhood Family Fun Night



Formerly Homeless Individual Housed at 2219 Lofts



Wester Technical College Wood Tech students work on homes



Kane Street Community Garden Hosting Spring Planting



Before Code Enforcement



Before Code Enforcement



Promise Family the Johnsons move to the Washburn Neighborhood



After



After