

# 2023 Poverty Matters Conference

## SUCCESS STORIES



FILED PROVEN CASE STUDIES TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF LOW-INCOME PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES

*Innovation and Disruption*



WHAT'S NEW IN RESEARCH, DATA & POLICY

## STRONG ORGANIZATION

STAFF RETENTION, TEAM BUILDING & TECHNOLOGY



WISCONSIN'S ONLY CONFERENCE ON POVERTY  
39 YEARS OF PROGRES | SEPTEMBER, 2023

## TOOLS & APPROACHES

TO IMPLEMENT IMPACTFUL PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES



L A C R O S S E , W I S C O N S I N

**WISCAP**

WISCONSIN POVERTY FIGHTING NETWORK

WWW.WISCAP.ORG

La Crosse "A Choice Town"

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Calling For Communities Across The State To Come Together To Take Root!



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Wisconsin's Poverty  
Fighting Network

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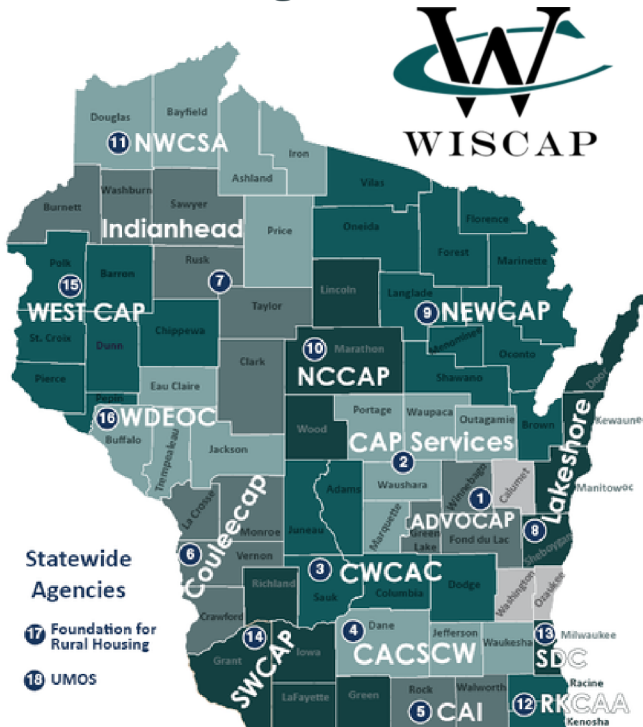
## About WISCAP

WISCAP's statewide network of sixteen local Community Action Agencies and two single purpose agencies is uniquely positioned to address the grinding poverty that exists in our rural, urban, and suburban communities alike. The people of our state who struggle in these circumstances deserve our respect — and our boldest, most innovative efforts to find solutions.

## Board of Directors

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# 2023 Poverty Matters Conference

## Agenda

### Wednesday September 27

- 7:30a* Registration & Breakfast
- 8:00a* Welcome!
- 8:15a* Plenary 1 w/**Marc Perry**
- 9:15a* Plenary 2 w/**Hetti Brown**
- 10:30a* Break
- 10:45a* Breakout Workshop 1
- 11:45a* Lunch Keynote  
w/**Sharmain Harris**
- 1:00p* Breakout Workshop 2
- 2:00p* Break
- 2:15p* Breakout Workshop 3
- 3:15p* Snack Break & Exhibit Walk
- 3:45p* Breakout Workshop 4
- 4:45p* Adjourn

\*All Breakout Workshops are 60 minutes

La Crosse Center  
300 Harborview Plaza  
La Crosse, WI

[povertymatters.events](http://povertymatters.events)

2023 Poverty  
Matters  
Conference

## Agenda

# Thursday September 28

- 7:30a* Registration & Breakfast
- 8:00a* Welcome!
- 8:10a* Plenary 3 w/*Lisa Subeck*
- 8:45a* Plenary 4 w/*Peter Kilde*
- 9:30a* Break
- 9:45a* Breakout Workshop 5
- 11:00a* Break
- 11:15a* Breakout Workshop 6
- 12:00p* Lunch Trivia &  
Award Ceremony
- 1:30p* Adjourn

\*All Breakout Workshops are 60 minutes

La Crosse Center  
300 Harborview Plaza  
La Crosse, WI

[povertymatters.events](http://povertymatters.events)

# Facilities Map

## Floor 4

All keynotes, plenaries & meals are held in Ballroom A/B



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Perspective changes everything.

WIPFLI



Music by  
Christo Ruppenthal



### About:

Christo Ruppenthal is a multi award-winning professional musician and music entrepreneur since 2003. As a multi-instrumentalist, Christo plays Django Reinhardt style "Gypsy Jazz" guitar, Hawaiian lap steel guitar, and ukulele, and Western Swing. With thousands of gigs to his credit he is an avid performer.

# SHARMAIN HARRIS

▶ **Author & Trainer  
Keynote**

**27th September, 2023**  
**11:45a - 1:00p**



**Poverty Matters! Conference**

[www.wiscap.org](http://www.wiscap.org)

## Biography

Sharmain is a National Speaker, Author, and Trainer who shares his expertise in fatherhood and prison reentry. After serving time in prison, Sharmain overcame the challenges of a felony conviction and pursued a successful life after prison.

Sharmain's path to success after prison started in his role as a Father Involvement Specialist where he successfully recruited and completed over 100 fathers in one year. Sharmain's success with the WIC Fathers program propelled him into his current role as a speaker and trainer. His turnaround story has inspired many and led to several awards, including the NAACP Positive Impact and the 20 Under 40 award. Sharmain's work ultimately resulted in a full pardon from Governor Tony Evers in Wisconsin restoring all his rights.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Sharmain has a Bachelors' and Master's degree in Business from Carthage College. He is also a guest lecturer of Criminal Justice at the University of Wisconsin Parkside and the Author of **"Working with Dad - 7 Practical Steps to Engaging Fathers in Family Services."** As the owner of Sharmain Harris & Associates LLC, Sharmain provides powerful speeches, training, and workshops to prisons and restorative justice organizations seeking to help justice-impacted people achieve success in life after prison.

# 2023 Poverty Matters Conference

## TOPIC: INNOVATION AND DISRUPTION

KEYNOTES BY WISCONSIN'S COMMUNITY ACTION LEADERS



**MARC PERRY**

SEPTEMBER 27 @  
8:15 AM

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH



**HETTI BROWN**

SEPTEMBER 27 @  
9:15 AM

LEVERGING MULTI-AGENCY COLLABORATIVES TO REMOVE BARRIERS FOR CLIENTS



**PETER KILDE**

SEPTEMBER 28 @  
8:45 AM

GETTING REAL ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

## BROUGHT TO YOU BY



Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

**WIPFLI**



# the Collective

## on main

# SHOP LOCAL

**THE COLLECTIVE ON MAIN**  
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**Store Hours:**  
Monday - Saturday 11-8 pm  
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Poverty Matters!

## **DOWNTOWN LA CROSSE SMALL BUSINESS INCUBATOR**

The Couleecap small business incubator provides opportunities with reduced barriers for low-income, BIPGM (Black, Indigenous or People of the Global Majority)-owned, and women-owned entrepreneurs to successfully develop their businesses to become self-sustaining and growing enterprises in the region.

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WHILE SUPPLIES LAST



[COULEECAP.ORG/COLLECTIVE](http://COULEECAP.ORG/COLLECTIVE)

Complex problems need innovative solutions

## Wisconsin Opportunity Act



## More Opportunity *Less Poverty*



## REPRESENTATIVE LISA SUBECK

Wisconsin Opportunity Act lead sponsor  
to keynote morning plenary on September 28th

Representative Lisa Subeck has represented the 78th District in the Wisconsin State Assembly since January, 2015. She currently serves as Chair of the Assembly Democratic Caucus, and is the ranking member on the Assembly Committees on Energy & Utilities and Health, Aging & Long-Term Care. Additionally, she serves on the Assembly Committees on Campaigns & Elections and Insurance, Organization, and Rules. Rep. Subeck is also the chairwoman of the State Capitol and Executive Residence Board (SCERB).

Rep. Subeck has been active in state and local politics, both personally and professionally, for nearly 20 years. Prior to her election to the State Assembly, Rep. Subeck served two terms on the City of Madison Common Council. As a City Council member, she successfully worked to bring much needed services to vulnerable neighborhoods, expanded access to public transit, improved public safety, and protected vital community services. In the State Legislature, Rep. Subeck remains a staunch advocate for social and economic justice, as well as access to affordable, quality early childhood education, protecting our environment, women's equality, and access to health care.

She is a graduate of University of Wisconsin – Madison, and her past work includes serving as the Executive Director of United Wisconsin and as the Executive Director of NARAL Pro-Choice Wisconsin. Before that, Rep. Subeck worked to improve the lives of women and families through her work in the social services field focusing on issues of poverty, homelessness, economic empowerment, and affordable housing at YWCA Madison.

Rep. Subeck currently serves as Wisconsin State Director for Women in Government and the National Foundation of Women Legislators (NFWL). She is also a member of the National Association of Jewish Legislators (board), the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators, and the Great Lakes Legislative Council. She is a graduate of the Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership (BILLD) program of the Council on State Governments and has been recognized for her legislative work as a Woman of Excellence by NFWL, a Conservation Champion by the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters, and a Breastfeeding Advocate Award Winner by the Breastfeeding Council of South Central Wisconsin.

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WISCONSIN OPPORTUNITY ACT**

You can register your support of WOA by calling the  
Wisconsin Legislative Hotline, Toll-Free (800) 362-9472.



South of the Border Lunch Buffet



# POVERTY MATTERS! TRIVIA & AWARD CEREMONY

Celebrate Awesome People,  
Tease Your Brain  
& Win Cool Prizes



Thursday  
Sept. 28

WISCAP to present our  
2023 award winners  
during Lunch

Winning 8  
person team  
receives gift  
cards & a  
cow trophy



Outstanding Community Partner Award | Courage  
Award | Herb Kohl Helping Hand Award



### Team Trivia Info

- 1.) Gather your team of 8
- 2.) Sit together at Lunch
- 3.) Follow instructions as presented
- 4.) Answer questions & have fun!



# Breakout Workshops

*Find a workshop the fits your interests & learning style*

## What will be presented?



Tools & Approaches



Ideas to Build Strong Organization



Research, Data & Policy



Success Stories & Case Studies

## How will it be presented?



Interactive



Lecture



Panel Discussion

## What is the topic of the presentation?

**A**

Advocacy

**RE**

Racial Equity

**E**

Education

**H&H**

Housing & Homelessness

**T**

Transportation





**SCR**

Strengthening Community Resilience

Breakout Workshops	What session are you going to?
Day 1: Workshop 1   10:45–11:45 am	
Day 1: Workshop 2   1:00 – 2:00 pm	
Day 1: Workshop 3   2:15– 3:15 pm	
Day 1: Workshop 4   3:45 – 4:45 pm	
Day 2: Workshop 5   9:45 – 11:00 am	
Day 2: Workshop 6   11:15 – 12:15 pm	

# Workshop 1

10:45-11:45 am

Room	Description
Meeting Room A	<p><b>Beloit Fresh Start</b>  <b>Elena Henry &amp; Kaelyb Lokrantz, Community Action, Inc.</b>                      Beloit Fresh Start is an education and job-training program for low-income youth from challenged backgrounds between the ages of 16-21. This session will overview the history, program design, barriers to service and outcomes of the Fresh Start program.</p> <p><b>I H&amp;H E W SCR RE</b></p> 
Meeting Room B	<p><b>Veteran Homelessness-Prevention and Intervention</b>  <b>Kelsey Thompson &amp; Desiree Parker, Tomah VAMC</b>                      Providing Veteran-centered innovative solutions to educate and mitigate the disruption of basic human needs and rights; while honoring the integrity and dignity of our Nation's Heroes. This workshop will explore Veteran specific resources and services to aid in the prevention and intervention of homelessness.</p> <p><b>P H&amp;H E W SCR A</b></p> 
Meeting Room C	<p><b>Build your future tech team</b>  <b>Ryan Peasley, Wipfli</b>                      Every organization has hiring and technology challenges. This session will explore innovative approaches to use technology and staffing models to make business operations more sustainable.</p> <p><b>I W SCR</b></p> 
Meeting Room E	<p><b>Workers Rights and the Power of Concerted Activity</b>  <b>Robert Christl and Daniela Jaime, Worker Justice Wisconsin</b>                      While it can seem scary to organize for better working conditions, particularly if people are undocumented, it is in fact the most effective and safest approach to ensuring economically sustainable working conditions for all. This training will lay out the most important employment and labor laws, discuss their strengths and limitations, and illustrate the power of collective worker organizing.</p> <p><b>I E W SCR A RE</b></p> 

Room	Description
Meeting Room F	<p><b>Thinking through Alternative Approaches to Poverty Reduction</b></p> <p><b>Ryan Erickson, Social Finance</b></p> <p>The MA Pathways to Economic Advancement Pay for Success Project was a collaboration between the public, private, and non-profit sectors which used private capital to scale up vocational English classes, job search assistance, and career coaching to serve English Language Learners- primarily immigrants and refugees.</p> <p><b>L E W</b></p> 
Meeting Room G	<p><b>Collaboration and Innovative Partnerships</b></p> <p><b>Ryan Graham, WI BOSCO</b></p> <p>This session will explore how agencies can leverage partnerships and collaborations between homeless programs and partners (including healthcare, housing, government, for profit &amp; more) to better served unhoused clients.</p> <p><b>I H&amp;H</b></p> 
Ballroom C	<p><b>Inside-Outside Relationships: Bridging Facilities and Communities</b></p> <p><b>Dillon Mader &amp; Colin Walsh, Western Technical College</b></p> <p>Project Proven, hosted and supported by Western Technical College in La Crosse, serves individuals involved in justice and legal systems. This innovative, people-first, meet-them-where-they-are model has empowered justice-involved individuals who, with the right supports, have attained educational, employment, basic needs, family, recovery, and other goals. In this way, Proven has helped people break cycles of poverty and oppression, which show up disproportionately in prisons and jails.</p> <p><b>L H&amp;H E W SCR A RE</b></p> 




# Workshop 2

1:00 - 2:00 pm

Room	Description
Meeting Room A	<p><b>Disrupting Poverty: Literacy Finds A Way</b>  <b>Shannon Mason Young &amp; Stephanie Sautter Stark, Wisconsin Literacy Inc</b>            Participants will gain a better understanding of what literacy encompasses and how learners and communities' benefit by improving literacy. Learn how to connect with your local Literacy agency and create partnerships to increase services to clients on their path to self-sufficiency.</p> <p><b>I E W</b></p> 
Meeting Room B	<p><b>Innovative Partnerships to Serve the Uninsured</b>  <b>Dani Wetter &amp; Mana Kleiser, ABC for Health, Inc.</b>            In this interactive presentation, nonprofit, public interest law firm ABC for Health will feature an innovative, new partnership with Free and Charitable Clinics in Wisconsin to serve the uninsured. Called "The SafetyWeb Network Project," it's an innovative legal services and education system that closely links free clinics across Wisconsin to direct legal services, patient advocacy, training support, and new and innovative.</p> <p><b>I A RE</b></p> 
Meeting Room C	<p><b>Integrating digital strategy into your planning</b>  <b>Ryan Peasley and Anirudh Nadkarni, Wipfli</b>            Team building can be used to solve a challenge or build a solution, it can also help leaders identify behavioral areas of concern within the team dynamics. Together, we will "test drive" a few of these team building exercises, explore the purpose behind each exercise and identify how team building can be used to meet your desired outcomes.</p> <p><b>I W SCR</b></p> 
Meeting Room E	<p><b>Emerging Adults -- Paths from childhood poverty to self-sufficiency</b>  <b>Gregory Markle, Operation Fresh Start</b>            Over the last ten years, Operation Fresh Start in Madison Wisconsin has created a multifaceted approach to help emerging adults overcome barriers and successfully transition into adulthood. In this session, learn how to develop a program focusing on the greatest needs of emerging adults.</p> <p><b>L E W RE</b></p> 

# Workshop 2 continued

1:00 - 2:00 pm

Room	Description
<p>Meeting Room F</p>	<p><b>CreditSmart®: How to Support Clients and Drive Business Through Education</b></p> <p><b>Letania Gonzales &amp; Johanna Jimenez, Freddie Mac &amp; WISCAP</b></p> <p>This workshop will highlight an innovative way for housing agencies and professionals to deliver financial empowerment and education through coaching. This is an added benefit for Take Root Wisconsin's members.</p> <p><b>L H&amp;H SCR</b> </p>
<p>Meeting Room G</p>	<p><b>Disruption Through Innovation</b></p> <p><b>Vangpao (Vang) Lee &amp; Sasha Jones, America Works of Wisconsin</b></p> <p>This session will explore four capitals of innovation within the TANF (W-2) program that we use to innovate with our clients. Psychological, Opportunity, Social/ Informational and Technological.</p> <p><b>I W SCR</b> </p>
<p>Ballroom C</p>	<p><b>Collaborating to REACH People: A new approach to providing barrier-free services.</b></p> <p><b>Rosanne Northwood, Hetti Brown &amp; Panel, Couleecap &amp; REACH center</b></p> <p>The REACH Center is a unique, multi-agency service center providing walk-in, just-in-time services to people experiencing housing, health, and economic insecurity in the Coulee Region. REACH partners will discuss the project and provide examples of how this new approach has transformed how agencies work together to remove barriers and provide more comprehensive services to the public.</p> <p><b>P H&amp;H</b> </p>



# Workshop 3

2:15- 3:15 pm



Room	Description
Meeting Room A	<p><b>Poverty Informed Practice</b> <b>Chad Dull, Poverty Informed Practice LLC</b> Poverty Informed Practice helps build awareness that poverty is a circumstance, not a character flaw. The session addresses some of the historical roots which created our current attitudes toward poverty and approaches for mitigating it.</p> <p><b>L W A</b></p> 
Meeting Room B	<p><b>Skillful Transitions: Learning New Skills While Earning</b> <b>Julie Cayo &amp; Romell Greer, Employ Milwaukee, Inc.</b> Skillful Transition's innovative work-based learning design of paying participants while learning in-demand skills allows low-income individuals and those coming from non-traditional pathways a chance to succeed while maintaining livelihood for themselves and their families. This workshop will discuss the evidence behind these strategies, how to develop partnerships and training, showcase specific examples of successful collaborations with community partners and industry sectors.</p> <p><b>L W RE</b></p> 
Meeting Room C	<p><b>Solving your top cybersecurity risks</b> <b>Ryan Peasley, Wipfli</b> With cyber threats evolving rapidly, nonprofit leaders must stay vigilant and proactive in safeguarding their data, reputation, and the trust of their stakeholders. The session will delve into the most pressing cybersecurity and overview of best practices for mitigating cybersecurity risks and safeguarding their organization's assets.</p> <p><b>I SCR</b></p> 

# Workshop 3 continued 2:15- 3:15 pm

Room	Description
Meeting Room E	<p><b>Understanding Financial Trauma</b>  <b>Majel Hein, Marine Credit Union Foundation</b>            Managing money is so much more than "financial literacy" and having a "budget." This session will discuss what Financial Trauma is and what it looks like, signs and symptoms to recognize it, and the type of language and approach that should be taken when communicating with financially vulnerable populations.</p> <p><b>I SCR</b></p> 
Meeting Room F	<p><b>Careers Begin Here</b>  <b>Katie Stunkel &amp; Sarita Sanders, Chicago Forestry Service Center OA/CTS</b>            The Job Corps program has helped countless youth begin their careers and become independent. By using a holistic approach in our residential centers and post-graduate support our students acquire resources and secure meaningful employment.</p> <p><b>P H&amp;H W SCR A RE</b></p> 
Meeting Room G	<p><b>Trauma Informed Family Engagement Practices</b>  <b>Briana M Kurlinkus, Community Coordinated Child Care (4-C)</b>            In this session, participants will increase their understanding of trauma and how creating trauma-informed spaces and practices will enhance our work with families and school wide systems. Participants will be introduced to the essential elements to trauma-informed practices, and specific strategies for improving family engagement and effective collaboration.</p> <p><b>L RE</b></p> 
Ballroom C	<p><b>La Crosse Eviction Defense Project and Tenant's Rights</b>  <b>Amanda Schamens, Legal Action of Wisconsin</b>            Having a stable home environment is the basis of stability and security for an individual or family. The La Crosse County Eviction Defense Program will explore Tenants Rights and Local Resources to reduce evictions and limit the impact of poverty on low-income renters.</p> <p><b>L H&amp;H A</b></p> 

# Workshop 4

3:45 - 4:45 pm

Room	Description
Meeting Room A	<p><b>Improving Access to Mental Health Services through Peer Training</b></p> <p><b>Lindsey Karls &amp; Sydney Esse, Community Action Coalition (CACSCW)</b></p> <p>How to access and use Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) and Psychological First Aid (PFA) trainings to meet mental health needs of communities. In this session we will cover how service providers can help clients access the services they need, and help their communities cope with disasters and traumatic experiences.</p> <p><b>I E SCR</b></p> 
Meeting Room B	<p><b>Workers Power as a Way to End Poverty</b></p> <p><b>Ben Ratliffe, AFSCME Council 32</b></p> <p>A 2021 study from researchers at UC-Riverside and the University of Minnesota showed individual union affiliation and high union density on a state-level significantly reduce poverty rates. This presentation will share reasons why worker advocacy and collective bargaining raise working class living standards and encourages participants to consider how their work might overlap with that of local labor organizations.</p> <p><b>L W SCR A RE</b></p> 
Meeting Room C	<p><b>Revolutionizing Client Experience through Universal Intake Strategies</b></p> <p><b>Ryan Peasley, Wipfli</b></p> <p>A centralized intake strategy can help your organization better serve your clients, increase collaboration across programs and provide holistic, structured data to provide better reporting. We will address the primary challenges a centralized intake strategy aims to solve, as well as share our experiences on how to implement a strategy and cover technology tools that exist in this space.</p> <p><b>I W SCR</b></p> 




# Workshop 4 continued

3:45 - 4:45 pm

Room	Description
Meeting Room E	<p><b>HOME: High Opportunity Moves for Equity</b>  <b>Sarah Jenkins &amp; Kori Schneider Peragine, Metro. Mke Fair Housing Co.</b>            Join experts from one of the country's leading fair housing organizations, Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council, to learn about key civil rights protections that help ensure everyone has equal access to housing of their choice. This session will provide an overview of local, state, and federal protected classes, discuss current trends, and share real world examples to help housing advocates better identify discriminatory practices impacting the communities they serve.</p> <p>L H&amp;H A RE </p>
Meeting Room G	<p><b>Food Leaders Lab: Building a strong network of advocates</b>  <b>Maureen Fitzgerald &amp; Jennifer Estrada, Feeding America Eastern WI</b>            Food Leaders Lab is a leadership and advocacy institute created by Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin. This workshop will provide tools to pursue your own policy solutions and ideas on how to grow your own network.</p> <p>P SCR A RE </p>
Ballroom C	<p><b>Housing Advocacy: Making change that matters</b>  <b>Kahya Fox, Habitat for Humanity of the Greater La Crosse region</b>            The La Crosse Area Housing Advocacy Committee is a grassroots collaboration of over 20 organizations concerned about affordable housing. Learn ways to bring people together; educate and advocate for change at the local, state, and federal level; and keep members and the community engaged.</p> <p>L A </p>

# Workshop 5

9:45 - 11:00 am

Room	Description
Meeting Room A	<p><b>Coordinated Responses to Better Serve Victims of Financial Exploitation</b></p> <p><b>Sonia Komisar, Coalition of WI Aging and Health Groups</b></p> <p>Maximizing the use of multiple disciplines allows us to serve our community more effectively and efficiently. Unaffluent community members are least likely to seek professional assistance for many reasons. We can disrupt the predators financially exploiting our most vulnerable community members by working better together to leverage the expertise of each agency so that we can focus on what we each does best.</p> <p><b>I SCR A</b></p> 
Meeting Room B	<p><b>The Best of All Possible Futures: Getting Real About Climate Change</b></p> <p><b>Peter Kilde, West CAP</b></p> <p>West CAP Executive Director, Peter Kilde, presents on the NCAP Boards' decision to establish a funded, staffed initiative to assist CAPs around the US to help their local communities adapt to climate change. Not too technical and even fun at times, come see why this is such a compelling reality.</p> <p><b>L SCR</b></p> 
Meeting Room C	<p><b>Using client data analytics to impact your mission</b></p> <p><b>Ryan Peasley, Wipfli</b></p> <p>All of us understand the challenges and burden of cleansing, de-duping and analyzing program and client data to meet program requirements. This will include ways to help standardize and de-dupe data and how to leverage data that is collected to fulfill existing requirements more efficiently, identify areas of need and inform future growth potential.</p> <p><b>I W SCR</b></p> 
Meeting Room D	<p><b>Housing Counseling Certification for Individuals and Agencies</b></p> <p><b>Johanna Jimenez &amp; Andy Heidt, WISCAP (Take Root Wisconsin)</b></p> <p>Take Root WI is developing plans to help Community Action Agencies achieve HUD certification. A panel made up of housing counselors and agencies that are certified will facilitate a discussion on how more agencies can achieve certification.</p> <p><b>P H&amp;H SCR</b></p> 

# Workshop 5 continued

9:45 - 11:00 am

Room	Description
Meeting Room E	<p><b>HOME ARP Supportive Services for Affordable Housing</b>  <b>Madalyn Grau &amp; Robyn Thibado, State of WI- DEHCR</b></p> <p>This session will discuss the supportive services activities that can be offered to tenants through the HOME American Rescue Plan Program utilizing an expanded coordinated entry model. Participants will gain knowledge about the different activities and how to implement them in their programs.</p> <p>L H&amp;H </p>
Meeting Room F	<p><b>Using the lens of racial equity to improve any program experience</b>  <b>Migdalia Simpson &amp; Anna Sprague, Couleecap, Inc.</b></p> <p>This session examines how creative thinking around racial equity can improve assistance programs. Examples will be based on our newer programming offered around credit-building and homeownership within marginalized communities.</p> <p>L H&amp;H RE </p>
Meeting Room G	<p><b>Poverty as Public Policy: The History and Design of Poor Relief</b>  <b>Terry Glenn Lilley, UW La Crosse</b></p> <p>The history of the US response to need has been marked by the dual and successive emphases on personal responsibility and distinctions of worthiness. In this session, special attention will be paid to how race has often superseded economic considerations to determine who is worthy of help. We will also explore how race has consistently been used in the development of, and attacks on, poverty relief programs as a whole.</p> <p>L SCR A RE </p>
Ballroom C	<p><b>Addressing SDOH at the YMCA with CHWs</b>  <b>Nancy Parcher, La Crosse Area Family YMCA</b></p> <p>Hear about how the YMCA is partnering with local school district to help the whole child/whole family address SDOH.</p> <p>L H&amp;H T W SCR A RE </p>

# Workshop 6

11:15 - 12:15 pm

Room	Description
Meeting Room A	<p><b>Supporting Children &amp; Youth Experiencing Homelessness with School Partnership</b></p> <p><b>Kristine Nadolski, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction</b></p> <p>In this interactive session, participants will learn about how schools support children experiencing homelessness and how to connect with schools to support youth and families through the McKinney-Vento Act. The McKinney-Vento Act is a federal education requirement for school districts to provide services to children and youth experiencing homelessness.</p> <p><b>I H&amp;H E</b></p> 
Meeting Room B	<p><b>Housing Stability Services amid the Housing Crisis</b></p> <p><b>Mike Basford, Justin Parker &amp; Andy Heidt, WDEOC &amp; WISCAP</b></p> <p>Open discussion with CAA Housing Stability Workers on tools and techniques to engage consumers in need with minimal resources. And the Eviction Data Project and how it can inform our work and outreach.</p> <p><b>I H&amp;H SCR A</b></p> 
Meeting Room C	<p><b>Disaster Recovery Planning for nonprofits</b></p> <p><b>Ryan Peasley, Wipfli</b></p> <p>Disasters, whether natural or man-made, can strike at any time, posing significant threats to the stability and operations of nonprofits. This session is designed to equip attendees with the tools and knowledge necessary to develop comprehensive disaster recovery plans tailored to their organization's unique needs.</p> <p><b>I SCR</b></p> 
Meeting Room E	<p><b>Community Health Worker Workforce Training and Expansion</b></p> <p><b>Aron Newberry &amp; Barbara Schaefer, Great Rivers United Way</b></p> <p>Community Health Workers (CHW) address poverty by focusing on the individual upstream issues called social determinants of health. By addressing things such as housing, education, transportation, food, childcare, healthcare, health insurance, environmental health issues, and other social determinants of health CHW are able to help lift the overwhelming burdens folks experience, enabling them to take control over their life.</p> <p><b>L H&amp;H T W SCR A RE</b></p> 

# Workshop 6 continued

11:15 - 12:15 pm

Room	Description
<p>Meeting Room F</p>	<p><b>Embracing Discomfort + Transforming Conflict</b>  <b>Kirstie Yu &amp; Rachel Peller, WPHCA</b>                      Today's world allows individuals a significant level of choice over our media consumption, our purchases, and our virtual relationships. This interactive workshop will explore the meaning behind the "right to comfort" push, how to center others in difficult conversations and build capacity for navigating the early stages of conflict transformation.</p> <p>I    <b>SCR</b> </p>
<p>Meeting Room G</p>	<p><b>DIY Legal Tune Up – Leveling the Playing Field of Justice                      Access Through Innovative Technology and Collaboration</b>  <b>Erica Nelson &amp; Alberto Prado, LIFT Wisconsin</b>                      The Legal Tune Up Tool is a free web-based tool that searches online public records of Wisconsin agencies and identifies those records eligible for removal, modifies payments, and outlines next steps for reinstatement. This session will demonstrate the tool, discuss the partnerships that made it possible, how we collaborate with legal services providers, community-based organizations, and county and state agencies and advocate for systemic reform to level the playing field.</p> <p>L    T    W    <b>SCR</b>    A    RE </p>
<p>Ballroom C</p>	<p><b>Connecting Community, Sustainability, and Housing</b>  <b>Natalie Heneghan, Habitat for Humanity of the Greater La Crosse Region</b>                      Take a deep dive into Habitat for Humanity of the Greater La Crosse Region's creation of a stand-alone Sustainability Department and the efforts they have made towards internal practices, renewable energy, neighborhood revitalization, land-use practices, and storm water mitigation through various innovative programming and collaborations.</p> <p>L    <b>SCR</b> </p>



# CCAP Study Group

**Sign Up Today!**

Minnesota Community Action Partnership (MinnCAP) facilitates an optional Certified Community Action Professional (CCAP) Study Group to mentor and guide candidates throughout the CCAP process.

## What's included in the CCAP Study Group?

- In-depth review of CCAP requirements and materials, including the national Community Action Code of Ethics. Discussion on each CCAP Exam Study Guide source, organized by the Body of Knowledge:
- The History, Vision & Values of the Community Action Movement;
- Community Action Traditional Management Skills;
- Organizational Leadership;
- Theories about the Causes of Poverty and Strategies to Address those Causes; and
- In-depth reflection on the New Hope Case Study.
- Shared Dropbox with meeting agendas, discussion leader assignments, Study Guide sources and more.

9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. CST

**05**  
OCT

## FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

The Study Group convenes virtually from October to May and welcomes participants from across Region V and the national network.

**WANT TO SIGN UP OR  
NEED MORE  
INFORMATION?**

**Leah Pauletti, CCAP, NCRT  
Director of Operation  
[leahpauletti@minncap.org](mailto:leahpauletti@minncap.org)**



Visit the National Community Action Partnership's CCAP webpage for additional details about the program.