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SUMMER ISSUE
CAP SERVICES
JUNE 2022

CAPtion

HIGHLIGHTS FROM CAP SERVICES, INC.



*Transforming People
and Communities*



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CAP Services is Hiring!

Are you or someone you know looking for a career change? CAP Services is headquartered in Stevens Point, Wisconsin with offices in each of the five counties we serve – Marquette, Outagamie, Portage, Waupaca, and Waushara. With positions available in each of our counties at some time, there may be a perfect opportunity for you or someone you know.

You can find a listing of our job opportunities and how to apply at capservices.org/jobs.

CAP Services is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. Our goal is to be the employer of choice for mission-driven persons seeking employment in central Wisconsin.



Wisconsin Help for Homeowners

Families that have experienced financial hardship as a result of the pandemic and are behind on their home bills can now apply for help from a new statewide program called Wisconsin Help for Homeowners (WHH) program. Residents can fill out an application at homeownerhelp.wi.gov. Call 1-855-2-HOME-WI (1-855-246-6394) for additional information in English, Spanish, or Hmong.

The pandemic has financially impacted thousands of Wisconsin families. WHH can help with overdue bills like mortgage payments, property taxes, heat and utilities, and internet and broadband. The program began accepting applications on a first-come, first-served basis on March 7, 2022. CAP Services is helping administer the program in Marquette, Outagamie, Portage, Waupaca, and Waushara counties.

The \$92 million federally funded program will provide a maximum of \$40,000 in assistance for eligible households. As noted in the state's press release, "The program will help Wisconsin homeowners who live in single-family homes, condominiums, duplexes, or factory-built homes as a primary residence, have experienced a qualified financial hardship after Jan. 21, 2020, and earn a household income at or below 100 percent of the area median income."

Application portal: HomeownerHelp.WI.Gov

Dedicated call center: 1-855-2-HOME-WI



WISCONSIN
**Help for
Homeowners**

Thank you to our sponsors for supporting our events!



CAP Services' Events Recap

May is recognized as Community Action Month, Mental Health Awareness Month, and Asian American and Pacific Islander Month. Not only are we celebrating these recognition months, but we are also holding our first in-person events in two years!

Hmong Week: The week of May 9-14 we celebrated Hmong Week. Hmong Week was a mix of in-person and virtual events to celebrate the layers of Hmong culture and how it has been a part of Central Wisconsin's community. These events were hosted in Portage and Wood counties this year. Daily events included a proclamation delivered by Stevens Point Mayor Mike Wiza to local Hmong veterans, Hmong folklore and dance performances, Pho making, a silent auction, and a Milestone Celebration. The Milestone Celebration was to recognize the exceptionally hardworking Hmong students and their support systems as they graduated high school, technical school, and university. You can find photos and videos [here](#).

Hmong Week also raises funds for scholarships for people of Hmong descent in Portage County through the Sib Pab Sib Qhia fund. They offer three funding opportunities for

- Scholarship for non-traditional students, 25+ years old, attending a technical college or a university
- Scholarship for traditional students attending a technical college or a university
- Dream Development grant for students between the ages of 14-35 to pursue their dream.

If you know someone eligible for these funds, they can apply [here](#).

If you're interested in donating to the scholarship fund, you can do so [here](#).

Take a Ride: Over 70 riders participated in Take a Ride on May 14 for a beautiful sunny day! Cyclists had the option of 10, 30, or 50-mile loops starting from [Central Waters Brewing Company](#) and riding throughout the Wisconsin countryside. During the ride, our riders were able to visit some of the local treasures along the bike routes such as Sunset Lake Park, ScandiHus, and Ruby Coffee Roasters, previous CAP Small Business Assistance Program client. After the ride, our participants were able to enjoy a meal from another former CAP Small Business Assistance Program client, [Smokehound BBQ](#), and get a beverage from Central Waters Brewing Company.

We're thankful for all of the businesses that helped us out with our event such as our host Central Waters Brewing Company, our food truck vendor Smokehound BBQ, our comfort stops - [Ruby Coffee Roasters](#), and [ScandiHus](#), and [Crystal River Bicycle Repair](#) for providing sag support and repairs.

You can view photos from the event [here](#).

Community Celebration: CAP held our Community Celebration on May 25 at Par 4 Bistro in Waupaca to honor our clients, community partners, donors, volunteers, and staff that make our work possible. During this event, CAP Services' President & CEO Nicole Harrison awarded two scholarships for Skills Enhancement Program participants, two Arlene Stahmer Volunteer Appreciation Awards, and the Pnazeck's Box Award.

The two scholarships that were awarded were The Clarence and Ruth Ruhland Scholarship which was awarded to Katie Enriquez and The Sherman Scholarship which was awarded to Jodi Illetschko.

The Arlene Stahmer Volunteer Appreciation Award was presented to two individuals, Gail Skelton and Nate Wetzel. Gail, who was honored posthumously, received the award after being nominated by Family Crisis Center staff and volunteers for her volunteerism at the Family Crisis Center for over 15 years.

Nate was honored for his work with the Portage County Volunteer Income Tax Program (VITA).

Brett Jarman, Stevens Point, received the Pnazeck's Box Award, which recognizes individuals who, through innovation, initiative, insight, and integrity, create 'outside-of-the-box' ideas and programs that have a positive impact on the people served by CAP and similar organizations. Brett's work to assist staff in spearheading CAP's information technology transition was essential to making this change easily.

You can view photos from the event [here](#).



New Hmong Mental Health Group

CAP Services' Mental Health Navigation is beginning a new support group for Hmong community members in the Stevens Point area called Hmoob Kaj Siab!

The group is for people to learn what mental health is and how to take care of their mental health by doing self-care activities. Hmoob Kaj Siab is open to those who are age 18 and older that are interested in learning about mental health. They meet in Stevens Point once a month on the third Friday at 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm.

For more information, please contact Mai at mai.thao@capmail.org.

To see close ups of the photo, please click on the photo.



CAP Services Is Looking for a Vehicle

Do you have a mid-size or full-size pickup with four doors that you can donate to CAP Services? Contact Andrea Gomez at agomez@capmail.org to discuss. The vehicle should be no more than 10 years old and have less than 100,000 miles. Manual or automatic accepted. Air conditioning and 4WD preferred.

CAP's Housing Rehab Program provides income-eligible homeowners with loans and grants to make necessary repairs to maintain the integrity, stability and safety of their home. Households with less income have a harder time paying for repairs without CAP's help. The longer repairs are deferred, the more costly the repairs become. Common issues include leaking roofs, non-working furnaces, inefficient windows, damaged siding or flooring, electrical and plumbing, and/or paint stabilization and lead hazard reduction.

Staff must drive to clients' homes in Wood, Portage, Waushara, Marquette, and Waupaca counties to inspect properties and repairs. They are currently driving a 2WD truck without air conditioning that is 18 years old and has over 217,000 miles on it! Current funding cannot be used for capital purchases like a new truck, so CAP needs your help. Donate a vehicle so that CAP can continue to provide families with services that help them maintain their home, which is often their greatest asset.

CAP Services' Board of Directors Opening - Outagamie County

CAP Services currently has an opening on its Board of Directors for a Low-Income Representative in Outagamie County. CAP Services, Inc. has been on the front-line of the war on poverty since 1966. CAP, a private, nonprofit corporation, offers programs in Portage, Outagamie, Marquette, Waupaca, and Waushara counties. CAP Services is headquartered in Stevens Point, Wisconsin; with offices in each of the five counties it serves.

If you or someone you know is interested in serving on our Board of Directors, please contact [Pam Schmidt](#).

When President Lyndon Johnson began the "War on Poverty" in 1964 his goal was to provide the opportunity for every American to enjoy the benefits of the nation's "Great Society." As part of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, a network of local organizations, known as Community Action Agencies, have pioneered programs that have lifted millions out of the shadow of poverty by "giving a hand, not a handout." Each of these organizations has policy-making boards, at least one-third of which must be democratically elected representatives of the low-income community.





PORTAGE COUNTY

Administrative Office

2900 Hoover Road
Stevens Point, WI 54481
(715) 343-7500

Program Office

1608 West River Drive
Stevens Point, WI 54481
(715) 343-7100

MARQUETTE COUNTY

Early Learning Center

222 South Franklin Street
Oxford, WI 53952
(608) 296-2141

OUTAGAMIE COUNTY

Program Office

821 East 1st Avenue, Suite 3
Appleton, WI 54911
(920) 968-6365

WAUPACA COUNTY

Program Office

101 Tower Road
Waupaca, WI 54981
(715) 258-9575

WAUSHARA COUNTY

CAPsell Center

205 East Main Street
Wautoma, WI 54982
(920) 787-3949

capservices.org

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CAP Staff Participate in Community Health Fair

On Saturday, May 14, CAP Services' Community Resource staff attended the Hip Hop Health Fair in Appleton. The host of the event was the Fox Cities community volunteer organization, People of Progression, a local organization that works to build support around marginalized African-Americans in the Fox Cities. By focusing on a holistic approach to healing, skill-building, and targeting the root causes of systemic oppression, they actively empower families and the next generation.

People of Progression hosted this health fair to provide welcoming, accessible health care resources to the Black community. This event was designed to bring "barrier-free access to mental health, physical health and different resources" says People of Progression co-founder and project coordinator/director Kristen Gondek. CAP staff were happy to participate in the Hip Hop Health fair, sharing information about CAP's work and promoting a community of inclusion.



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