



*Transforming People
and Communities*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAP Services adopts national Homeownership Counseling Standards

CAP Services has adopted the National Industry Standards for Homeownership Education and Counseling's Homeownership Counseling Standards. These national standards hold local nonprofit agencies to a high standard of excellence, ensuring that consumers are provided the consistent and critical information, advice and guidance.

"Homeownership counseling is crucial to successful long-term homeownership," said Beth Baar, CAP's Director of Real Estate Services. "At CAP Services, we have three highly trained nonprofit housing counselors who work one-on-one with aspiring homeowners to help them determine whether they are ready for homeownership, how much home they can afford, and which mortgage loans are right for them."

CAP's Home Buyers Assistance program is an income eligible program that provides down payment assistance and rehab assistance. Buyers must contribute \$1,000 of their own money to the home buying process and complete home buyer education. The down payment assistance can also be used for closing costs.

For more information about homeownership education and counseling available at CAP Services, residents of Marquette, Waupaca and Waushara county should contact Sue Murphy at (608) 297-2801 or smurphy@capmail.org; residents of Portage, Wood, Lincoln and Marathon county, should contact Nancy Thiede at (715) 340-9391 or nthiede@capmail.org; or visit capservice.org/hba.

The Homeownership Counseling Standards were developed by the Advisory Council for the National Industry Standards for Homeownership Education and Counseling. The Advisory Council is comprised of leading housing industry representatives including the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), working together to provide a way for counseling organizations to demonstrate accountability and commitment; an approach known as "Homeownership Done Right."

To learn more about the National Industry Standards for Homeownership Education and Counseling, visit homeownershipstandards.org.

CAP Services is a private, nonprofit community action agency that has been advancing social and economic justice for people and communities in Marquette, Outagamie, Portage, Waupaca and Waushara counties since 1966.

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