Caroline Glover is an excellent example of how someone at a low point in life, can turn things around with the caring support of friends and family. When her self-sufficiency journey progress was threatened, due to transportation issues, Couleecap was able to assist her with a car loan in the Work-N-Wheels Program.

Caroline moved to Western Wisconsin about four years ago. In that time, she was able to meet many milestones in her journey to self-sufficiency: removing herself from an abusive relationship and living situation; recovering from alcohol and drug addiction; losing over 100 lbs. in order to improve her health; secured employment and an apartment; setting healthy boundaries with friends and family; completing a diploma in Asian Bodywork and Therapeutic Massage and a Personal Trainer Certificate from the American Council on Exercise; supporting her family through the death of her father; and returning to work after the birth of her son.

Being a mom to her son, Caroline found that she enjoyed relieving stress through yoga. She became certified to teach Children’s Yoga so that she could help others see the benefits of yoga, as she had seen in herself and in her young son. Caroline found that she was financially able to enroll her son in daycare, when she had been previously relying on family. She also purchased an old, rundown vehicle to assist her in meeting her transportation needs.

She eventually discovered that her car had broken down beyond repair. She still had many aspirations for her and her son’s life, and safe & reliable personal transportation was a big piece of her plan. She worked hard to maintain living in Viroqua, working in La Crosse, maintaining her son’s daycare placement, and continuing her education.

Caroline displayed extreme resourcefulness in trying to maintain her lifestyle and still meet her transportation needs. In order to do this she: rearranged her work schedule to make sure that her son would be dropped off and picked up on time from daycare; memorized the SMRT bus (local regional limited transportation service) schedule and calculating how long she would have to wait before or after starting/ending her shift for bus service; and recruited co-workers, family and friends for rides when the SMRT bus did not work for her.

Caroline is a bubbly person, who can see the humor and positive outcomes of some of her challenges. She says that although very inconvenient, time-consuming, and extra daycare costs associated with her disjointed employment transportation plan, she was able to finish her Functional Training Certification while waiting for the bus after work. She definitely knows how to be efficient!

Caroline very relieved when she heard about the Work-N-Wheels Program from Couleecap, Inc. She applied and was approved for a vehicle purchase loan. She was able to continue on her personal self-sufficiency journey without the additional stressors of coordinating her work schedule, education schedule, bus schedule, co-workers’ work schedules, family & friends’ transportation availability schedules, and daycare schedules, now that she had her own safe and reliable transportation.

She says that her self-sufficiency journey could have slowed, or even stalled, had it not been for the Couleecap, Inc. Work-N-Wheels Program, but instead, she has thrived and been able to: accept an employment position paying 15-20% more, with paid vacation and health benefits, while utilizing her breadth and depth of health and wellness education; cut her commute time in
half; spend less money on daycare and more time with her son; weather the COVID-19 Pandemic in an “essential” position; teach Children’s Movement Classes; stop working extra hours from home to cover her bus fare or childcare during the extra commute time; gained financial knowledge from the additional finance classes offered to her from Couleecap, Inc. which has reduced her financial stress.

Caroline states, “All in all life is pretty good… I am so glad that I found out about WNW and am able to participate in it. I learned a lot from Individual Development Account class as well, and it helped take much of the burden off of the out-of-pocket costs. “

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