



Leaders Partnering to End Poverty (LPEP)

## Community Success Stories

**LPEP** is a program that focuses on building leadership capacity in the community to increase opportunities for people to move out of poverty. Since 2013, we have served three communities and they have built and successfully continued their community initiative through the following efforts:

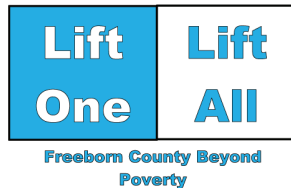


**Staples Motley  
Beyond Poverty**

**Staples Motley Beyond Poverty**  
LPEP Staples Motley 2013

Since completing the program:

- The steering committee continues to meet and convene a women's empowerment group on a monthly basis.
- In 2016 they hosted their third annual Community Connect Day. This event brings a wide range of community resources together for families to learn about and enroll in needed services.
- They have also continued to host community wide awareness activities like presenting an original dinner theater production, "Poverty: What's Your Baggage?" and hosting a public forum to discuss Meth Addiction.



**Lift One, Lift All: Freeborn  
County Beyond Poverty**  
LPEP Freeborn County 2015

After graduating LPEP:

- They started a mental health support group in collaboration with the National Alliance for Mental Illness.
- The steering committee meets regularly and determines an area in the community they will focus on for a year period. Currently they are researching how to develop a domestic violence shelter in Albert Lea.
- The Albert Lea community opened a resource center with the help of Lift One, Lift All. It offers all residents connections to community events and resources. The goal is to bring in more resources and become a "one stop shop".



**Beacons of Hope**  
LPEP Two Harbors 2016

This group decided to move the following issue teams forward:

- Access to Information
- Affordable Youth Activities
- Safe and Accessible Housing
- A Sense of Belonging in Two Harbors
- Increasing Job Opportunities