

2018 Annual Report: Celebrating 40 Years of Empowering Hoosiers

Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority

Communications: Annual Reports

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Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority



Entry Name: 2018 Annual Report: Celebrating 40 Years of Empowering Hoosiers *Category: Communications – Subcategory: Annual Report*

Background

The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority's 2018 Annual Report had three primary objectives:

- 1.) To acknowledge and celebrate our 40th Anniversary,
- 2.) To successfully tie the work of our more than 30 programs to the three areas of our mission: **providing housing opportunities**, **promoting self-sufficiency** and **strengthening communities**, and
- 3.) To effectively reach our primary and secondary audiences.

Annual Report Work Group

A key strategy that we implemented this year was an Annual Report Work Group. Prior to this, the Marketing and Communications team at IHCDA developed the report and requested only data and a light review from program staff. However, we felt that process to be very ineffective. Not only did it exclude program staff from the creative process, but it ultimately limited the effectiveness of the report. It was important that the Annual Report Work Group include individuals representing each of the major program areas and divisions within our agency.

In addition to this work group helping to identify and meet the objectives outlined above, we began to look at how our programs work together. As a result, this process allowed us to remove silos that existed within program areas and divisions and take a more holistic view of our agency that can be seen in the report.

Meeting the Objectives

To acknowledge and celebrate our 40th Anniversary

To acknowledge our 40th Anniversary, we carefully selected historic photos to display on both the front and back covers of the report (Appendix B) along with our 40th Anniversary logo. The photos were used as a part of our yearlong social media campaign that highlighted key agency milestones over the past 40 years (#TBT). Further, our agency Executive Director Jacob Sipe focused his note on page 2 of the report on the theme of *Celebrating 40 Years of Empowering Hoosiers*.

To successfully tie the work of our more than 30 programs to the three areas of our mission

In his note, Jacob also focused on aligning the work of our agency around the three areas of our mission. We as a team felt it very important for us to demonstrate that while we administer a number of state and federal programs that all the work we do is closely tied to the mission of our agency. To do this, we developed a color coding system and arranged the report to highlight each of those areas of our mission. This decisions allowed us to provide a logical progression through the report and a seamlessly transition between programs.

Providing Housing Opportunities → **Promoting Self-Sufficiency** → **Strengthening Communities**

To effectively reach our primary and secondary audiences

Another advantage of the Annual Report Work Group was with clearly defining our primary and secondary audiences (outlined below). It was a suggestion from a member of this group that led to us soliciting feedback from our primary audience on how they wish to receive our report. While we did not issue a formal poll, we talked to key partners, legislators and their assistants, as well as state agencies in Indiana to see what the preferred method was. While Adobe Spark and other programs exist to create more interactive experiences, our audiences almost universally appreciated the traditional report layout – either printed or sent electronically.

Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority



Entry Name: 2018 Annual Report: Celebrating 40 Years of Empowering Hoosiers *Category: Communications – Subcategory: Annual Report*

Are replicable

Overall, we are very impressed each year with the Annual Reports released by Housing Finance Agencies across the country. We, too, are proud of our report each year. With that said, two things we did different for our 2018 Report that we feel are important for HFAs to consider, and can be replicated, is:

- 1.) To create an internal Annual Report Work Group
- 2.) Talk to and survey your primary audience to see how they wish to receive their Annual Report

Reach targeted audiences

As referenced above, we solicited feedback from both our primary and secondary audiences to determine the most effective ways to distribute this report to them. Ultimately, we released an electronic version of our Annual Report and distributed hard copies to key individuals as well as those that requested copies. We were pleased to see significant increases in both the number of visitors (42%) and page views (26%) from the digital version of the report.

- Primary Audiences: State legislators as well as current and future partner organizations
- Secondary Audiences: State agencies, HFAs and others interested in learning more about IHCDA

Effective use of resources

The digital version of the report is cost effective in terms of both time and money. We saved in both printing and the time and money spent to ship reports. However, unlike some HFAs, we did not abandon the printed report altogether based on the feedback we received. While certainly we want to be concerned with cost, ulimtatley, are main goal is that our primary and secondary audiences read the report. Another area where we were able to save money is through photography. Other HFAs hire photographers or purchase stock images for their report. However, each of the photos in our report our photos of our real clients and partners. Not only does this provide a cost savings, but a genuine glimpse at the individuals and families we help to serve in Indiana.

Conclusion

The response to our 2018 Annual Report has been extremely positive. Since the staff, through the Annual Report Work Group had much more involvement, they were proud to distribute individually to key partners. This has led to many hard copy requests of the report and of individual photos. The message of *Celebrating 40 Years of Empowering Hoosiers* is powerful to state legislators and other key partners. Not only does it demonstrate our long-term impact in Indiana, but in reinforces are focus of empowering – not serving – Hoosiers. Further, the focus on our mission only further solidifies our impact in Indiana – not just over the last 40 years – but in 2019 and beyond.





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Appendix A

Digital analytics of the 2018 IHCDA Annual Report

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| | Visitors | | Page Views | |
|-------|----------|------|------------|-------|
| | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 |
| March | 261 | 429 | 5,247 | 7,294 |
| April | 88 | 138 | 1,535 | 2,318 |
| Total | 397 | 567 | 7,613 | 9,612 |

Key Findings

- A 42.8% increase in visitors from 2017 to 2018.
- A 26.2% increase in the total number of pages views from 2017 to 2018.





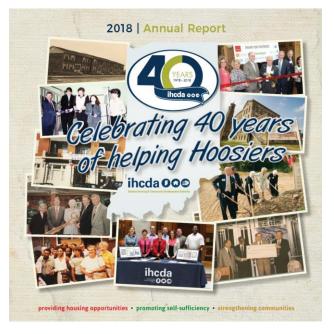
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Appendix B

2018 Annual Report: Celebrating 40 Years of Empowering Hoosiers

Click here to access the digital version of the IHCDA 2018 Annual Report.

Front Cover

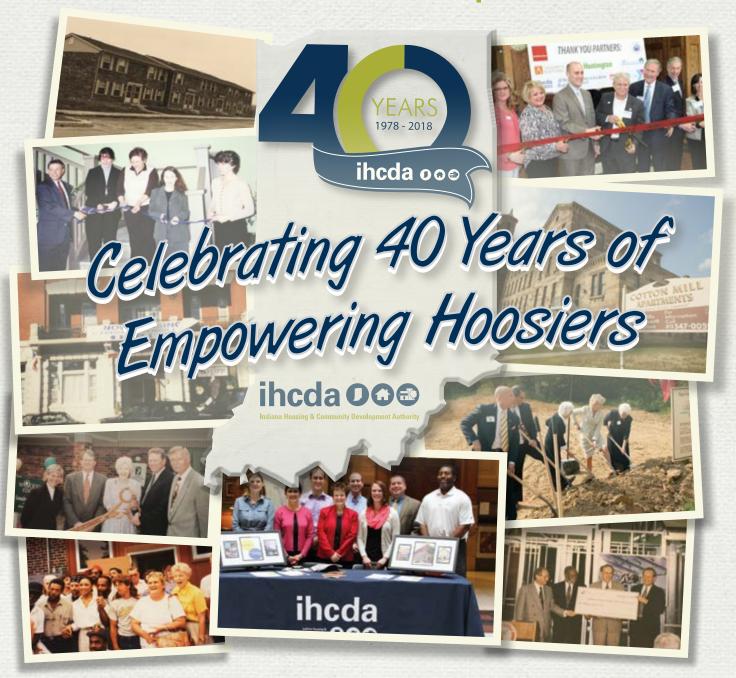


Back Cover



Note: The complete report can be found beginning on the next page.

2018 | Annual Report



Celebrating 40 Years





Artwork by Gracie Sipe

Celebrating 40 Years of Empowering Hoosiers

To provide housing opportunities, promote self-sufficiency and strengthen communities, the mission at IHCDA has stood the test of time. And under the leadership of Lieutenant Governor Suzanne Crouch, the agency continues to closely align all of our work with these three key functions.

Providing Housing Opportunities

We know that our success as an agency would not be possible without a dedicated and talented staff working closely with our outstanding partners. Together, we were able to invest over \$350 million into affordable homeownership opportunities which allowed us to help more than 2,800 Hoosiers become homeowners—many of them first-time homeowners. We also launched the **Honor Our Vets homebuyer program** specifically designed to recruit to the State of Indiana.

On the multifamily side, we financed the creation or preservation of over 4,000 affordable rental units. Using a highly collaborative Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) process, these new units help to address the specific housing needs of veterans, seniors and persons experiencing homelessness. In addition to the Rental Housing Tax Credit (RHTC) program, programs like the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) allow us to assist communities in providing quality affordable housing to Hoosiers.

Promoting Self-Sufficiency

Our goal is to provide education and resources for each program recipient outside of just a monetary benefit. This includes working with developers and property managers of affordable housing developments on the **Interest in Education program** to create 529 accounts for children and grandchildren. We also provide Energy Education to individuals that use **Indiana's Energy Assistance Program (EAP)**.

Then there is the **Individual Development Account (IDA) program**, a matched-savings program that allows Hoosiers to work towards a major asset purchase; Hoosiers like LaQuandaDelaney used the program to save up for a down payment on a home.

Strengthening Communities

Working strategically with local, state and federal partners we have helped to transform a number of Indiana communities. While we are usually in the business of helping to finance the construction or preservation of housing, one thing we constantly hear is the need to remove vacant and blighted structures. Working alongside more than 60 Indiana communities, we developed Indiana's Blight Elimination Program (BEP). Through this program we have been able to demolish more than 2,500 vacant and blighted homes. This has led to increased property values, decreased foreclosure rates and improved quality of place in these targeted areas.

And then there are communities like Kokomo. From luxury and market-rate apartments across from the new \$16 million YMCA facility, to several new affordable housing developments, housing across all income levels is a priority in Kokomo. Instead of focusing on developing and expanding their footprint, they are focused on improving existing buildings, infill and

integrated housing and strategically investing along Wildcat Creek.

While we focus a lot on our multi-million dollar investments, which are extremely important, using placemaking we have found faster, guicker and cheaper ways to improve the quality of place in communities. Using a model that requires communities to raise the first half of the project funding through a community crowdfunding campaign, our CreatINg Places program has helped to support more than 60 placemaking projects in our state. From park enhancements, streetscape beautification and public plaza development, to bike and pedestrian paths and making communities more walkable, these campaigns have together raised more than \$2 million in public support that have been matched by more than \$1.6 million in IHCDA investment.

As we celebrate the agency's accomplishments in 2018, as well as our 40th anniversary, we are looking to 2019 and beyond. Under the direction of our 2017-2021 Strategic Plan, we will be focused on continuing our mission-driven efforts and close collaboration with key partners.

Jacob Sipe

Jake

Executive Director isipe@ihcda.in.gov



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Strategic Plan Year One Accomplishments

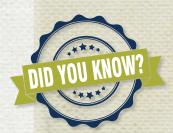
With a focus on pursuing innovation in all programs and services, providing thought leadership, emphasizing continued quality of service, continuous improvement in program management and partnership building, we are committed to our vision of an Indiana with a sustainable quality of life for all Hoosiers in the community of their choice. Click here for a complete listing of our accomplishments for year one of our 2017-2021 Strategic Plan.





Providing Housing Opportunities







\$350 Million Provided by IHCDA





2,800 Support Hoosiers for affordable homeownership



10,000th

Homeowner was assisted with mortgage payment assistance through Indiana's Hardest Hit Fund (HHF) program





Outstanding Resident Volunteer of the Year

Navy Veteran. Leader. Kokomo resident. These are just a few things that describe Lottie Shaffer. They also each contributed to her being named the Outstanding Resident Volunteer Award winner at the **2018 Indiana Housing Conference**.

Lottie lives at Jackson Street Commons (JSC), a 27-unit permanent supportive housing development for homeless veterans in Kokomo. There she has emerged as a leader in developing the Resident Council and has served as President for the past two years. She has coordinated many activities to promote resident bonding

and works with the council to improve the quality of life at JSC. But, for those who know her best, helping people is something she has done her whole life.

Lottie dreamed of becoming a meteorologist and delivering the weather on TV. This is what led her to joining the United States Navy. However, the meteorology course was closed after she was close to completing boot camp. While her military service did not go as originally planned, Lottie went on to Airman Apprenticeship training and at one point was stationed in

Keflavík, Iceland. Throughout her service she was focused on helping people—something she continues to do today.

While in Iceland, she met her husband and got married. Unfortunately, marriage with her husband did not last as he was very abusive. This led her to a series of events that led her to become homeless. Despite these challenges, Lottie continues to have a positive attitude and does all she can to serve those not only living at Jackson Street Commons, but anyone in need in the Kokomo community.



Mark Nicholson served as the luncheon keynote speaker on the first day of the conference. Mark, a formerly homeless veteran and board member of Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation (HVAF), accepted a check from the conference on behalf of HVAF for \$40,000. HVAF was the beneficiary for the 2018 Indiana Housing Conference.





Leaders are gathered in Lafayette for the groundbreaking ceremony for the Solutions Beyond Shelter Engagement Center. In addition to providing permanent supportive housing, the center will serve as the primary entry point for people experiencing a housing crisis by providing case management, meals, limited medical services, job placement and other services.

Rental Housing

The availability of affordable housing remains a necessity for economic development in the state. During 2018, the agency made commitments to provide financing for the creation or preservation of 4,000 affordable rental units. Financing was obtained by housing developers to support various affordable housing projects

across Indiana. Generally, these projects are required to guarantee 10-30 years of affordability in exchange for public financing at favorable terms. Rental units were funded through a number of funding sources, including the Indiana Affordable Housing and Community Development Fund, the Federal HOME Investment

Partnership Program (HOME), the federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program, and other federal housing programs. In addition to financing the development of affordable housing, IHCDA oversees tenant-based (5,200 vouchers) and project-based (almost 30,000 units) Section 8 programs.





Rental units developed or preserved in 2018



30,000

Project and tenant-based Section 8 Vouchers





The Mercantile

Since the closing of Cox Supermarket in August 2014, residents living in Alexandria had to rely on convenience stores to purchase groceries in town. Or, they had to travel many miles to go to Wal-Mart in Anderson or Elwood. However, Milestone Ventures had a vision to create something new-the first affordable housing development featuring a grocery store in Indiana.

The new supermarket was developed as part of a multi-use property by Milestone Ventures, who was awarded tax credits under IHCDA's innovation round. Horner's, which opened the grocery store in February 2018, signed a 10-year lease and employs 30 employees. The project is part of the Town of Alexandria's Mercantile project which includes a business incubator at the glove factory site across the street.





Above are pictures of Cox Supermarkets in 2014 just prior to closing and a picture of the current site taken in March of 2018.





Above are pictures from the Horner's Midtown Market Grand Opening on February 28, 2018. Horner's gave gift cards away at the ceremonial ribbon cutting ceremony. Hundreds of partners and Alexandria residents were in attendance.





Partners are gathered at the Grand Opening celebration for Meridian Park.

№ Faces of HOME **№**

The HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) also known as HOME provides quality and affordable housing to Hoosiers through funding supplied by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Over the past 25 years, IHCDA has disbursed over \$260 million in HOME funds to complete affordable housing projects across Indiana, and funded over 24,000 units, through rental and homebuyer

construction, down payment assistance and tenant-based rental assistance. As a recent recipient of HOME funding, **Bona Vista**, has utilized support in establishing three affordable local housing projects: The Vistas, Laguna Commons, and Meridian Park located in Kokomo, Indiana.

The most recent project, Meridian Park, involved a high level of collaboration between Bona Vista and the City of Kokomo. The City of Kokomo donated the property

to Bona Vista, and assisted in the façade design of the building.

Residents boast that living at Bona Vista creates an environment to be involved in the community. With a park across the street, residents of Meridian Park are able to socialize with one another and cultivate an inclusive and welcoming community. A Meridian Park resident stated they enjoyed the newness of the housing, and how residents enjoy the nearby park.



2013-2018 HOME Awards

| YEAR | PROJECTS | # OF UNITS | AMOUNT AWARDED |
|-------|----------|------------|----------------|
| 2013 | 16 | 325 | \$6,511,687 |
| 2014 | 15 | 317 | \$8,145,737 |
| 2015 | 11 | 276 | \$6,676,765 |
| 2016 | 19 | 251 | \$14,574,639 |
| 2017 | 11 | 248 | \$7,154,000 |
| 2018 | 4 | 123 | \$3,155,000 |
| TOTAL | 76 | 1,540 | \$46,217,828 |



Development teams selected to participate in Moving Forward RD took part in an intensive two-day workshop led by Energy Systems Network (ESN).

Moving Forward RD

Throughout rural Indiana there are 472 properties that are reaching the end of their USDA Rural Development (RD) affordability periods. This means more than 12,000 units of much-needed affordable housing is at risk of being lost. Using the Moving Forward Initiative model, IHCDA is using the 10% set-aside in Indiana's Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) to award 9% Tax Credits to Developers with the goal of preserving a total of 30 of these properties at risk of losing their USDA RD affordability by 2020.

To do this, we are using an innovative financing strategy for the three developers selected that couples the competitive 9% tax credits with the underutilized 4% multifamily bond credits. Additionally, IHCDA will start three rural housing trust funds with \$1 million each that will be loaned into these developments and once repaid will be recycled back into the local rural community to create or preserve additional affordable housing.











BEFORE AFTER

IHCDA awarded Rental Housing Tax Credits and a Development Fund loan to Neighborhood Development Associates for the acquisition and rehabilitation of Oak Ridge Place Apartments in Huntingburg, Indiana. The USDA RD property managed by Valenti Real Estate Services has 62 units.



Winchester House Offers a New Beginning For Women Recovering from Drug Addiction

This summer Volunteers of America (VoA) Ohio and Indiana opened a 23-bed center called Winchester House for women in East Central Indiana living with substance use disorders. The VoA, who runs a similar facility in Indianapolis, has announced plans for other Fresh Start Recovery Centers in Evansville and Columbus.

The Fresh Start Recovery program is different from others around the state in that it allows women to have their children younger than 5 years live at the facility with them; the program allows for up to two children from each family. While the Winchester House does not allow men to stay in the facility, it does open its doors for family counseling and other group gatherings for women who are in need of the services.

According to the VOA president, John Von Arx, the program has a completion rate around 61 percent, which he said is high for programs of this intensity. Women who do not complete the program on the first attempt, or need to return

to go through the program again, are permitted to do so, he said.

Von Arx said he is hopeful those around the state will be able to look at the Winchester House, as well as VOA's Theodora House in Indianapolis (the organization's first Fresh Start center), and see them as models of how they could go about trying to address opioids and other addictive substances, while supplementing them with other programs.





Indiana Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch visits with local partners in Evansville at a homeless encampment.



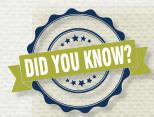
Coordinated Entry truly changes the Indiana Balance of State Continuum of Care from a project-focused system to a people-focused system," said Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch who serves as the board chair for the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA).



Point-in-Time Homeless Count

The Indiana Balance of State Continuum of Care conducted the 2018 Point-in-Time Count on January 24, 2018. Among the findings was a two percent decrease in the overall homeless population.

Agency officials attribute the continued reduction to the state's BoS homeless population to coordination both regionally and at the local level on implementing strategies to reduce homelessness. This includes the collaboration and partnership on a statewide Coordinated Entry system.





People identified as homeless*

*2% decrease from 2017.

for Coordinated Entry expansion and rapid rehousing for victims of domestic violence. 2018 BoS PIT Key Findings



Decrease in individuals identified as chronically homeless



In January 2019, HUD announced \$18 million in funding to aid Indiana homeless programs. The award included new funding

> Increase in homeless adults identifying themselves as having a substance abuse

> > disorder



Increase in available rapid rehousing units



Pat Burke, Weatherization Auditor for Brightpoint is pictured with Sabah Hakim outside of his home in Fort Wayne.

Setting Roots in the United States

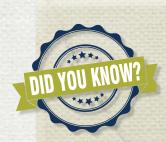
Sabah Hakim came to the United States as a refugee from Iraq in 2002. With much of his family still in the country, Sabah was thankful for help in finding a job. Strongly skilled, Sabah worked in the automotive industry for several years in Fort Wayne. However, layoffs forced him to lose his job. Falling on hard times, he contacted **Brightpoint** to see if they could assist him.

After signing up for the **Energy Assistance Program (EAP)**, he expressed interest in the **Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)**. After an audit was conducted, it was determined that although his house was pink it

wasn't pretty. There was a lot of work that needed to be done to the home for Sabah to continue living there.

The WAP work provided Sabah with a new water heater, sump pump, duct work and insulation both in the attic and basement. This has helped to significantly reduce Sabah's monthly water and utility bills.

"I'm very thankful to Brightpoint and all they have done for me," said Hakim. "My bills have gone down so much."





103,000

Households served during 2017-18 Winter Assistance period



\$600

Average benefit provided



25%

Average energy savings for home weatherized





Promoting Self-Sufficiency

10508

Living the American Dream

LaQuanda is a single mother raising one son in Fort Wayne. Before enrolling in the **Individual Development Account (IDA) program**, they lived in a not so safe part of the city, and LaQuanda was working a day job at Walmart. After fast tracking through the IDA program in two years, she was able to purchase her first home. LaQuanda and her son now live in a safer neighborhood, and LaQuanda has a new job working at St. Joseph Hospital. She would recommend the program to anyone who wants to change their life for the better. She says she feels like it is an American dream to own a home, and she now gets to experience this first hand because of the IDA program.

About the Program

The IDA program assists low-moderate income Hoosiers attain their goals through matched-savings incentives and financial education. Operating behind the rationale that income alone, is not enough for individuals to break trends of generational poverty, the IDA program focuses on asset building as a key component towards family and self-sufficiency. Qualified participants set savings goals and make regular savings deposits. Every dollar a participant saves is matched to help them make their major asset purchase.



The Real Grille, which is run and operated by Real Services, made its debut in 2018.



We were doing catering already...So, we took their idea seriously and we ran with it.

"

George Hawthorne, Real Services Director of Food and Transportation

Real Grille Food Truck Gives Back to The Community

About three years ago, Real Services president Becky Zaseck and director of food and transportation George Hawthorne presented a proposal to a business class at the University of Notre Dame. The agency, which provides independent living assistance, needed fundraising ideas to provide the services it offers on a daily basis. Students suggested a food truck.

Three years and \$160,000 of fundraising later, including the **Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program**, the Real Grille Food Truck is open for business. The 20-foot food truck has no deep fryer, but comes with state-of-the-art kitchen equipment that allow food truck chef Paul Como to be versatile in what and how he cooks.

In addition to operating during the daily lunch rush in and around South Bend, the truck is also available for private events. When customers find the food truck they can expect to purchase items for about \$10. All proceeds go to the Meals on Wheels program Real Services provides.



Chef Paul Como is the man behind the new Real Grille Food Truck. He gives a tour of the kitchen inside the 20-foot truck and plans on incorporating a familiar menu.



The 20-foot Real Grille Food Truck features menu items such as grilled cheese, tomato soup and potato bites. All of the proceeds from the truck will go to fund Meals on Wheels in St. Joseph County.

www.in.gov/myihcda





Response to Flooding

In February and March, a rash of storms led to widespread flooding in parts of Northern and Southern Indiana. This led the State of Indiana to open Local Disaster Assistance Centers—or one-stop shops—in several locations.

The centers, which collectively served hundreds of Indiana families, helped flood victims with anything from short-term hotel rentals to replacing lost or destroyed documents. In addition to IHCDA, agencies represented at the centers included the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, Family and Social Services Administration, Department of Workforce Development, Indiana State Department of Health, Department of Insurance, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Indiana State Board of Animal Health and the Indiana State Department of Agriculture. The Indiana Office of Technology and the Indiana State Police provided additional support.

Local Disaster Assistance Center

Residents impacted by flooding get assistance at a Local Disaster Assistance Center at the DeMotte Town Hall.



4

Local Disaster Response Centers supported in Utica, Lake Station, Elkhart and Demotte.

100+

Families provided with housing assistance (rental assistance and/or hotel youchers







Members of the Opportunity Investment Consortium of Indiana are pictured at a launch event on November 16, 2018. The group was presented with a \$100,000 check from Fifth Third Bank.

Opportunity Zones

In April, Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb submitted nominations to the U.S. Secretary of Treasury for 156 census tracts for a newly-created Opportunity Zone designation. All of the census tracts nominated by Governor Holcomb were certified and designated Opportunity Zones by Treasury.

The federal program, created with the passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, provides tax incentives to attract private investment to low-income communities. To help more intentionally encourage the transformation of the Opportunity Zone neighborhoods, the **Opportunity Investment Consortium of Indiana** was developed.

The consortium is comprised of a public/private collection of investors and community partners poised to support and invest in Opportunity Zones through the facilitation of this online pairing tool. In addition, stakeholder roundtables meet regularly to discuss support for advancing projects, and the training and professional resource partners further assist the effort by providing access to critical legal and financial services, training and information.



Promise Zone Investment

In October, Joseph P. Galvan, HUD Midwest Regional Administrator, awarded a Comprehensive Counseling Grant Program award to IHCDA. This grant will directly support the housing counseling services Indiana residents living in the Indy East and Evansville Promise Zones need in order to attain or retain their home.



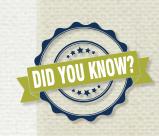
Placemaking = Fair Housing?

In most instances placemaking and ensuring Fair Housing are separate projects. However, the **King Park Kennedy King Memorial Initiative Project** helped to change that thought process. On April 6, 1968 on the corner of 17th and Broadway in Indianapolis, Robert F. Kennedy delivered an improvised statement informing a gathered crowd of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Within the powerful speech, Kennedy reminded listeners of what Dr. King stood for, and urged racial reconciliation, forgiveness and speech.

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of that night, when the legacies of Dr. King and Robert F. Kennedy became forever entwined, the **Kennedy King Memorial Initiative** (KKMI) had visions of public art. Using IHCDA's CreatINg Places program, KKMI raised over \$60,000 that was matched by \$50,000 from IHCDA.

Thanks to this campaign, Martin Luther King Park and the Kennedy King Memorial, "Landmark for Peace" will continue to hold a special place of honor in Indianapolis. They bring a vision of a unified community and signifies the legacy that began with Kennedy's speech.





Since the **CreatINg Places' program** started in 2016, more than **60 projects** have been successfully completed. Together they have raised more than **\$2 million** in public funding that have been matched by **more than \$1.6 million** from IHCDA.





After listening to the members in their community, **Growth Alliance for Greater Evansville** developed a collaborative effort between several civic organizations to bring greater connectivity to Evansville. And thus the idea of **TED**: **Trolley of Evansville Districts** was born.

With a goal to raise \$25,000, Franklin Street Events Association, Haynie's Corner Art District Association and Growth for Greater Evansville set forth on their CreatINg Places' program campaign for TED. With more than 140 patrons donating, they raised just over \$30,000—surpassing their goal. These funds were matched by \$25,000 from IHCDA.

Launched in May of 2018, TED is open to everyone and currently provides yearly passes as well as same day ticket purchases.



Hoosiers 'Ramp Up' Their Independence

Imagine being trapped in your own home, unable to go anywhere unassisted and unable to escape in the event of an emergency. That is the unfortunate reality faced by individuals in need of an accessibility ramp to safely enter and exit their home.

Through IHCDA's Ramp Up Indiana program, the Interlocal Community Action Program (ICAP), with guidance from Working with Servants at Work (Saws), was able to install 11 ramps. This has allowed these Hoosiers to regain their independence.

One of the other homeowners receiving a ramp had the goal of being able to get around a nearby park on her own. With her new ramp, she now can leave her house and enjoy the park.

Another ramp recipient, a paraplegic gentleman, had no way to leave the back of his home. In the event of a fire, he could have been trapped. He now can safely go in and out of the back of his home.



It's a lot safer than the one I had before. For someone who is handicapped this is great. You don't have to worry about falling. Even if you did fall, you have a way to get yourself back up. I appreciate it.

99

Mary Bryant, disabled senior, ramp recipient





High school students participating in the My Community, My Vision (MCMV) Program presented their community vision plans during a luncheon in April.

Supporting the **Next Generation**

The MCMV program was developed with the belief that young people in Indiana should not have to leave their hometowns in order to achieve their dreams. For several months, students participating in the 2017-18 program from LaPorte, Cass County, Logansport and Indianapolis worked closely with IHCDA staff, graduate mentors and their city leaders to outline their ideas for enhancing the development and quality of life in their hometowns.

Now in its fifth year, previous MCMV participating groups have developed community vision plans that lay the groundwork for student entrepreneurship opportunities, community gardens, bike-share programs, farmer's markets and other programs students wanted to see brought to their hometown. Others have raised grant funding and in-kind donations to implement projects developed in the MCMV planning process.



These students identified opportunities for their communities to invest in their future, said IHCDA **Executive Director Jacob Sipe. We look forward to** supporting these students and municipalities as they implement all or portions of these plans.





The Interest in Education program was created to allow IHCDA Development Fund borrowers to defer existing annual interest payments to CollegeChoice 529 accounts for the children and grandchildren of eligible residents living in their affordable housing properties. To date, more than \$100,000 has been committed for this program.



Impact of Indiana's Blight Elimination Program (BEP)

IHCDA invested \$75 million of **Indiana's Hardest Hit Funds (HHF)** to demolish blighted and abandoned homes that are beyond repair. The goal of creating the country's first statewide **Blight Elimination Program (BEP)** was not simply to demolish abandoned homes, but to stabilize property values in Indiana communities. The partnership between IHCDA and Indiana municipalities has led to the demolition of more than 2,500 blighted properties. There is a variety of end uses for the newly cleared properties, including green space and redevelopment.

To better understand the economic impact of these statewide demolitions, IHCDA **commissioned an impact study** to evaluate the economic effect of the recent demolitions. In order to evaluate the impact, Sagamore researchers used property sales data and foreclosure data to develop an economic model to estimate the impact Indiana's efforts.

Key findings of the study include:



INCREASE IN PROPERTY VALUES

A single-family home sale occurring within BEP target areas and after a completed intervention sold with an increase in value in most communities.



DECREASE IN FORECLOSURES

Communities that received BEP funding showed a decreasing trend in their mortgage foreclosure rate.



IMPROVED QUALITY OF PLACE

Overall perceptions of quality of place improved after BEP intervention.



Click here for more information on the impact of Indiana's Blight Elimination program.



Strengthening Communities

Staff Investment



Our Front Desk Coordinator Zaneta Scott was named the 2018 IHCDA Employee of the Year.



Vinya Dunbar, Accounting Director and Controller, and John Ruiz, Manager of Financial Reporting, participated in the NCSHA Leadership Academy in November



Throughout 2018, IHCDA staff participated in a "Customer Service with a Purpose" training facilitated by the University of Indianapolis.



In 2018, we held five IHCDA board meetings at affordable housing developments throughout the state.



In August, we co-hosted a Statewide Housing & Homelessness Conference with CHIP.



Several staff members volunteered alongside Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter for their Habitat for Humanity build in Mishawaka.



Together, IHCDA staff conducted more than 150 trainings and workshops in 2018.



IHCDA staff participated in the Indiana Canstruction Competition. Together they donated and constructed using more than 1,000 canned goods that were later donated to the Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation (HVAF).



BKD identified no compliance findings or adjustments to the actuals financial statements. This is the second year in a row we have had a "clean audit".









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