



# Piece of the PI: Newsletter

A monthly publication for the members of Prosperity Indiana

## January 2021

### Executive Director's Letter

Today is monumental. How you voted in November may have impacted it, but it's not the final word on what's different in this nation today or going forward.

On this January 20, 2021, the theme of newscasts has focused on the breaking of traditions and using phrases like "one of a kind" or "not in 150 years". A virtual inaugural parade, flags standing in the place of people, thousands and thousands of troops activated to ensure a peaceful transfer of power, and the beat going on in the absence of the outgoing president participating in the handoff will not be soon forgotten.



But I think 2021 calls us to push against business as usual, aside from the ways that the pandemic and election challenge efforts and recent capitol attack have required it.

On this week, when we've honored the life of Martin Luther King, Jr., and the work of unification and power shifting already accomplished, we are also called to live and love others differently than the ways we've gotten it wrong in the past. As we heard over and over again during our amazing and inspiring summit last week, the work of advancing racial equity and rebuilding our communities together must be done at both individual heart and systems levels to see real and complete change in this regard. We also must create space to forgive, if we are to fully heal.

So, as we go about this work, in this new year, let us be inspired and mindful again and again of these words from MLK:

"We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies."

This is the stuff that relationships and communities are built upon – not sameness or perfection. So, please, will you embark with me on a path of perpetual forgiveness? To give each other, our leaders, and those we serve a chance to change, to remake themselves, and to contribute more fully to the future we all seek to share?

I pray we will all see this as the "must" MLK called us to. And please know that I'm rooting you on in your individual, organizational, and community/systems level journeys and continuing work towards prosperity. Thank you for the ways you press us to do more and better as well. The pursuit of resilience; new, expanded, and more impactful opportunities;

and real transformation beyond ourselves can only be realized in unison. Please hold us to those words, and we'll do the same for you.

And, as always, thank you for being a Piece of the PI Network!



Jessica Love  
Executive Director

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## This month's Piece of the PI: ENGAGEMENT



**As we heard over and over again during our amazing and inspiring summit last week, the work of advancing racial equity and rebuilding our communities together must be done at both individual heart and systems levels to see real and complete change in this regard.**

We **REAP** prosperity by providing **R**esources, **E**ngagement, **A**dvocacy, and **P**rograms that support our members' work!

## **R**ESOURCES

### **Technical Assistance**

We offer an array of services, and our staff consultants provide expert guidance for organizations and communities to build resilient, quality places. In addition to deploying our technical knowledge, we focus on strengthening linkages between sectors, quantifying and communicating impact, and mobilizing community players for organizational and community change.

In partnership with the National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders (NALCAB), we also offer technical assistance to any rural nonprofit member engaged in creating community and economic development opportunities and affordable housing for low-income communities in rural areas. This TA is HUD-funded and generally provided at no cost to our members. For more information, please [contact us](#).

### **COVID-19 Hub**

Share the wealth! Have a resource or tool you could share with your peers? We'll add it to the

hub! If you're willing to share COVID-19 or other policies, plans, best practices, or funding opportunities with peers, [please share it here.](#)

Access the COVID-19 Hub



## Prosperity Indiana's 2021 Summit Recap

Thank you to our Summit attendees! We hope that you were able to leave with new ideas and perspectives on advancing racial equity and inclusion to rebuild communities together.

On January 13, we announced the winners of our annual leadership and program awards at our 2021 Summit. The 2021 winners came from a pool of committed community leaders and innovative programs across Indiana. Winners were nominated by their peers and chosen by a judging committee, based on criteria established for each award.

Congratulations to the 2021 Prosperity Indiana Award Winners:

- Michael Carroll Community Economic Development Leadership Award, sponsored by First Financial Bank and co-presented with IHCD - Joe Bowling, Englewood Community Development Corporation
- John Niederman Rural Development Leadership Award, sponsored by Fifth Third Bank - Charyl Luth, Affordable Housing Association of Indiana
- Robert O. Zdenek Staff Member of the Year Award, sponsored by Brightpoint - Serita Cabell, Memorial Community Development Corporation
- Key Award for Supportive Services Program of the Year, sponsored by Merchants Bank of Indiana - Satellite Kitchen Program, Second Helpings



### Annual Member Meeting Recap

On Friday, January 15, PI hosted its Annual Member Meeting. Attendees welcomed new board members and thanked exiting board members. PI provided financial and program updates for attendees as well. [View the current Prosperity Indiana Board here.](#)

### Welcome to Our New Board Members

- Amandula Anderson, Director, Real Estate Solutions, IFF
- Justin Barker, Director, Neighborworks HomeOwnership Center, Pathfinder Services
- Mark Lindenlaub, Executive Director, Thrive Alliance
- Anna Schoon, Vice President of Planning and Business Development, Northwest Indiana Community Action

## Thank You to Exiting Board Members

- Jean Ishmon, Northwest Indiana Reinvestment Alliance, Board Service 2011-2020, Past Secretary
- Rob Evans, Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership, Board Service 2011-2020, Past Treasurer
- Rocio Arevalo, Lacasa, Board Service 2018-2021



## HHNC Press Conference & Bill Tracking

### HHNC Press Conference

On January 5, PI and partners from the Hoosier Housing Needs Coalition held a [virtual press conference](#) urging legislators not to override Gov. Holcomb's veto of the eviction bill SEA 148. Please use our [action alert](#) to have a proactive conversation with your lawmakers and stay tuned for updates on legislation to improve housing stability in Indiana.

### Bill Tracking

PI has three sponsored bills that have been introduced and [can be found here](#). We will be tracking a wider set of housing, community development, and asset-building focused bills. Make sure you're signed up for [Advocacy Action Alerts here!](#)

### Eviction Moratorium

The CDC Eviction Moratorium has been extended to January 31, 2021. Residents who previously submitted a declaration to their landlord should not be asked to resubmit and should have continued protection until January 31. President Biden is expected to sign an executive order on January 20 asking the CDC to extend the eviction moratorium through March and to work with Congress to further extend it through September. After the CDC Director extends it, she will seek input on needed improvements to the moratorium. [View the NLIHC's moratorium updates here.](#)

### COVID-19 Housing Resources

- The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) announced the [Emergency Rental Assistance](#) (ERA) program. Indiana will be receiving over \$440 million in emergency rental assistance funding through the new federal COVID-19 Relief Bill. Anyone that needs rental assistance, and is not currently receiving it from another source, should consider applying to this new program if they meet the eligibility requirements, [found here](#). [Subscribe to program updates from IHCDA here](#) to find out when the ERA program opens to applicants.
- To ensure equal access and transparency, IHCDA is now providing bi-weekly updates regarding the rental assistance funding. This includes information on the state's COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program as well as the Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV) rental assistance program. [View IHCDA's latest report.](#)

- The [IndyRent Assistance Portal](#), for Marion County residents, is not accepting applications, but renters are encouraged to sign up for their waiting list.
- The [Indy Mortgage Relief Program](#) stopped accepting applications on November 30, 2020. They do not currently have a waitlist to sign up for.
- For [Mortgage Assistance](#), Indiana's Hardest Hit Fund (HHF) is available to help Indiana homeowners who have fallen behind on their mortgage payments or who are unable to make future payments.
- Applications are being accepted for the [Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program \(LIHEAP\)](#). LIHEAP provides a one-time annual benefit to help with the high cost of home energy. An additional \$350 CARES Act benefit is also available to qualifying households experiencing a reduction in income due to COVID-19. The last day to apply is May 14, 2021.

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## P ROGRAMS

### Outcomes Platform

The Outcomes Platform is a cloud-based data collection and reporting platform. It utilizes a system called InsightVision to address two critical areas of outcome analysis for Prosperity Indiana and its members: 1) organization performance and outcomes and 2) collective impact strategy outcomes.

As the state's only reseller of the InsightVision system, Prosperity Indiana offers licenses to the system at a low cost to members, as well as related training and technical assistance. This Outcomes Platform provides a means for members to focus on outcomes development, data collection, tracking, reporting, and storytelling.

More than 30 organizations are currently using this system in Indiana. For more information on the system, pricing, and training opportunities, contact [Jessica Love](#), Executive Director.



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#### *Upcoming Events*

**Please check with the organizer(s) of events for updated cancellations and changes due to COVID-19.**

[Weekly on Friday: Inside the](#)

[Statehouse 2021 - Indiana  
Institute for Working  
Families](#)

[January 16 - March 26 -  
Third House Meetings -  
American Civil Liberties  
Union of Indiana](#)

[January 21: Remaking the  
Economy: Health, Racial  
Disparities, and Economic  
Justice - Nonprofit Quarterly](#)

[January 28 - April 29:  
Nonprofit Capacity Building  
Series - Indiana  
Philanthropy Alliance](#)

[January 29: Fair Housing  
Laws & Gender - Fair  
Housing Center of Central  
Indiana](#)

[February 2 -  
16: Shelter Series on the  
Housing Crisis in  
Indianapolis for Civic  
Leaders - Leadership  
Indianapolis](#)

[February 4: Fair Housing  
Basics - Fair Housing  
Center of Central Indiana](#)

[February 9: Federal  
Resources for Creative  
Community Development -  
National Alliance of  
Community Economic  
Development Associations](#)

[February 12: Fair Housing  
Laws & Senior Housing -  
Fair Housing Center of  
Central Indiana](#)

[February 24: Fair Housing  
Laws & Disability - Fair  
Housing Center of Central  
Indiana](#)

[February 27: Elevate -](#)

[United Way of Central  
Indiana](#)

[March 30 - 31: Housing  
Policy Forum 2021 -  
National Low Income  
Housing Coalition](#)

[April 8: Fair Housing  
Conference 2021 - Fair  
Housing Center of Central  
Indiana](#)

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### ***Job Opportunities***

[Director of Development  
and Gift Planning - Central  
Indiana Community  
Foundation](#)

[Online Communications  
Associate - Central Indiana  
Community Foundation](#)

[Strategic Communications  
Associate - Hamilton County  
Community Foundation](#)

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### ***ICYMI: Media Spots***

[2021 legislative session:  
What to know, bills to watch](#)

[Coalition Urges No Veto  
Override On Tenant  
Landlord Law](#)

[Indiana groups oppose  
potential veto override](#)

[Housing coalition urges  
lawmakers not to override  
Gov. Holcomb's veto](#)

[The eviction crisis: Indiana  
lawmakers looking at their  
options](#)

[Potential for veto override of housing bill stirs call to action](#)

[Housing advocates worry about veto override of controversial landlord-tenant legislation](#)

[More stimulus on the way, but will it be enough?](#)

[What difference will federal stimulus package make to Hoosiers?](#)

[Housing advocates hope federal rent relief will help Hoosiers facing eviction](#)

[Federal rent relief could help Hoosiers facing eviction](#)

[Indiana eviction moratorium could be extended with passing of COVID-19 relief package](#)



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## Tools & Resources



## **NLIHC Releases Best Practices Report**

The National Low Income Housing Coalition's (NLIHC) newest report, "[Best Practices for State and Local Emergency Rental Assistance Programs](#)," outlines key considerations for implementing an emergency rental assistance (ERA) program using the \$25 billion for ERA included in the recent COVID-19 relief package. The report provides best practices and examples from state and local programs around the country. The guidance is informed by NLIHC's ongoing research on ERA programs and the insights and experiences of state and local housing advocates.

[View the report here.](#)

## **Taking Care of Main Street Grants Open**

The Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs has launched the second round of [Taking Care of Main Street](#), a grant program providing funding for operational support and recovery strategies to Indiana Main Street programs.

Grants between \$5,000 to \$25,000 will be awarded to organizations based on their Indiana Main Street [program level](#) with each level needing to provide respective documentation with their application. Round one grantees are welcome to apply again this round.

Applications are now open, and only [online applications](#) will be accepted. Applications will be accepted until Feb. 12, 2021, and awards will be announced on Feb. 25, 2021. [View more program information here.](#)

## **Request for Consultants**

The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) released a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Nonprofit Capacity Building Consultants: Governance, Finance, and Data. The RFQ can be found on the IHCDA Public Notices' page [here](#).

Applicant's qualifications must be submitted electronically via e-mail and received by IHCDA no later than January 25, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. ET.

For questions, contact [Emily Krauser, Director of Community Programs](#).

## The Health Sector and Communities

[A recent article from Marc Shi for Shelterforce](#) discusses the "growing commitment from health care institutions to the development of affordable housing."

Shi stresses the importance of considering how the health sector influences and shapes the communities that they are located in and how to engage in development and commit to affordable housing.

According to Shi, "A true commitment to stable affordable housing thus means not only a proactive engagement in developing new housing, but also revisiting ongoing practices to ensure that that housing and those neighborhoods remain viable and healthy."

[View the article here.](#)

## SBA and Treasury Announce PPP Re-Opening

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) [re-opened the Paycheck Protection Program \(PPP\)](#) for new borrowers and certain existing PPP borrowers. Only community financial institutions were able to make First Draw PPP Loans on Monday, January 11, and Second Draw PPP Loans on Wednesday, January 13. The PPP will open to all participating lenders shortly after January 13.

This round of the PPP continues to prioritize millions of Americans employed by small businesses by authorizing up to \$284 billion toward job retention and certain other expenses through March 31, 2021, and by allowing certain existing PPP borrowers to apply for a Second Draw PPP Loan.

[For more information, view the SBA's press release here.](#)

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## How to Stay Healthy



## Resources

[Be Well Indiana](#)

[Indiana Press Releases](#)

[Indiana State Department of Health](#)

[Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

[HUD COVID-19 Guidance](#)

[Prevention Steps for Close Contacts](#)

## General Information & Precautions

- Wash your hands for 20 seconds.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Encourage teleworking when feasible.
- Practice social distancing when possible and avoid close contact with others. This may include staggering work schedules and decreasing social contact in the workplace.

Decisions about the implementation of community measures will be made by local and state officials, in consultation with federal officials as appropriate, and based on the scope of the outbreak and the severity of illness. Implementation will require extensive community engagement with ongoing and transparent public health communications (CDC).

## Prosperity Indiana's Response

Since July 15, Prosperity Indiana team members have been able to return to the office to work. Staff will be rotating days that they are present in the office. While most team members continue to work remotely at this time, we have compiled the following information about our return to work plan.

Our re-opening plan includes:

- Limiting staff in the office to no more than three at a time and fewer than 10 short-term, staggered visitors daily to allow for physical distancing
- Providing adequate PPE for staff and visitors, along with extra hand sanitizing supplies, tissues, and wipes for high touch surfaces.
- Implementing a return-to-work plan that complies with the Back on Track Roadmap, CDC, Indiana Department of Health, and OSHA guidelines.

The best way to reach us during this time is via email. Here is a [link](#) to contact information for full-time staff. You can also reach out to [Teresa Reimschisel](#) with admin/operations questions.

Prosperity Indiana is here to support you through this difficult time. If you have specific suggestions for webinars, FB live chats, or other resources for us to share related to COVID-19 or other topics, please reach out to our [team](#).

Please stay healthy and take the necessary measures to protect yourself and those around you. We will be sure to inform you of any further updates as needed in the coming weeks.

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## Support Prosperity Indiana while you shop with AmazonSmile!

Shopping on Amazon.com? Switch to our Amazon Smile page, and Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchase to Prosperity Indiana!

Shop, Smile, & Donate



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If you have a success story, an upcoming event, or a job opening, please let us know! Prosperity Indiana is seeking guest bloggers and success stories from our membership to broadcast across the network. We want to highlight our greatest asset, our members!

[Send your stories.](#)

Visit [our blog](#) for more of the latest community economic development news in Indiana.

A blue rectangular box with a white dotted line and a small white icon of a flower or leaf in the top right corner. The text inside is white and reads "WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!".

WE WANT  
TO HEAR  
FROM YOU!

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### Prosperity Indiana

1099 N. Meridian Street, Suite 170, Indianapolis, IN 46204  
(317) 222-1221

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