

MISSION

Prosperity Indiana builds a better future for our communities by providing advocacy, leveraging resources, and engaging an empowered network of members to create inclusive opportunities that build assets and improve lives.

VISION

Prosperity Indiana believes in a society where all persons can live and work in an environment that provides equitable access to economic and social opportunity.

VALUES

Collaboration, Empowerment, Impact, Integrity, and Social Justice

Piece of the PI: Newsletter

A monthly publication for the members of Prosperity Indiana

January 2022

Executive Director's Letter

If I read another article with a title something like “Parents of kids under 5 are not ok”, I just may scream.

Or maybe the right word is “yell”? – in affirmation. Like “YES!” or “AMEN!” or “I FEEL YOU!”

In fact, I eat up EVERY SINGLE ARTICLE describing this phenomenon – desperate to feel like I’m part of a larger tribe that’s taking the 2022-version of COVID-19 especially harshly. And I *just wish* I just could scream and get COVID and all of its 10-day quarantines out of my system and move on with my life.



Unfortunately, it’s not that simple. COVID’s still in the driver’s seat in many ways, and we have to figure out how to make the best of a less-than-ideal situation.

But you know what?

If you think about it: There really are long-term positives that will outweigh the short-term challenges that we’re facing. To be clear: I don’t want to diminish the loss and pain felt by so many – related to health and financial instability, etc., over the past two years. But there are highpoints to be found in the lows. For instance, I never got the “luxury” (doesn’t seem like the right word in the midst of quarantine #2, but I’ll go with it) of spending this much time with my seven-year-old when he was two. Plus, this mess of juggling being thrust in and out of normalcy, and feeling somewhat stuck and isolated – while the rest of the world has moved on – is requiring us, parents of small children, to lean on others in the same boat in new ways, which will be a WIN in the long-run.

And that basically describes our 2022 summit in a nutshell. Both the location – virtual – and the theme: Not only making the best of a less-than-ideal situation, but truly pursuing ways that will make us all stronger and more ready for the next challenge, by shoring up our village, while navigating the current one.

We'll explore the interconnected ways we do our work – through cross-sector collaboration – and highlight the interdependent roles of *policies, programs, and public, private and philanthropic investment* in creating change in our communities. Plus, to throw in a fourth “P” that’s on-brand for PI, we’ll also address ways to improve organizational *performance* to foster this type of growth.

All of this is driven by an understanding that there are shared and varying challenges facing our communities, organizations, and the people we serve – and we need to connect our complementary visions of how to spark solutions and build an equitable economy for all Hoosiers – together.

Last year during summit, we dug deep into personal, organizational, and broader systems level inequities that have shaped our world and our work. In doing that, I think we probably all felt a little like we beat ourselves up, we tore ourselves down, and then hopefully pursued how to build ourselves back better for the road ahead.

And now that the blur of 2021 is somehow behind us, we’re on that road ahead. And while historical context and systemic issues continue to drive elements of our collective work, it’s important to not get stuck there. We need to continue connecting those inequities of the past and present to what we do going forward – while moving ourselves and our field to a mindset of abundance to shape better future outcomes.

And for us to really create this effect, we must connect: recognizing the important balance and critical interconnectedness amongst those leading through policy change, program delivery, and public, private and philanthropic investments.

So, make sure you [register ASAP](#) for the summit – it’s only three weeks away!! And remember: every member that [renews for 2022](#) receives at least one free ticket, plus we have member discounts for additional tickets. And if you register by February 7, you’ll receive a care package that supports businesses owned by women and people of color. To learn more about the line-up of sessions and speakers, see a [Summit](#) sneak-peak below. Also, don’t forget we’ll present our [2022 awards](#) to four winners! Nominees are listed [here](#).

Can’t wait to see you on February 17! If you didn’t participate in our virtual summit last year, or even if you did, here’s a reminder: you’ll want to block the day for this event to fully engage and not miss out. Also, just so you know, we’re using a networking-driven platform again this year – so please be ready to turn those cameras and mics on when you join each table throughout the day to truly **Connect to Effect!!**

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



Jessica Love

This month's Piece of the PI: ENGAGEMENT



All of this is driven by an understanding that there are shared and varying challenges facing our communities, organizations, and the people we serve – and we need to connect our complementary visions of how to spark solutions and build an equitable economy for all Hoosiers – together.

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

RESOURCES

Technical Assistance

Strategic Planning and TA

If your agency would like to increase performance through strategic planning or technical assistance, please contact [Marie Beason](#). PI is eager to meet your organization's needs.

What Keeps You Up at Night?

All resources PI provides for our members are built upon member input. If you would like to share your thoughts on how PI can improve your work, please contact [Marie Beason](#) to join our Programs and Resources Committee, so you can reduce stress and get a good night's sleep!

ENGAGEMENT

2022 Summit and Leader Member Highlight

Renew Membership NOW and get a FREE Summit Ticket!

Renew now and get a free summit ticket! Hosted virtually on February 17, 2022, this year's theme is "[Connect to Effect: Building an Equitable Economy for All Hoosiers](#)," featuring keynote speaker Rev. Dr. Stanley Wilson, President & CEO of the Children's Defense Fund

keynote speaker Rev. Dr. Starsky Wilson, President & CEO of the Children's Defense Fund. Don't delay, **those [registered by February 7](#) will receive a box of treats** prior to the event!

Session Sneak Peek: Drivers of Indiana's Racial Wealth Gap

This session will enable participants to understand the root causes of Indiana's Racial Wealth Gap and pursue policies, at the grassroots and grass-top levels, to close the gap. Data and best practices will be combined to help structure a policy, programs, and public/private investment approach to creating an economy that works for all Hoosiers.

Visit the [Summit webpage](#) to see descriptions of all planned Summit sessions.



Leader Member Highlight:

1st Source Bank, Mark Gould, Vice President, Community-Development Manager

Tell us about your organization, its mission, and services.

- 1st Source Bank started in South Bend, Indiana in 1863. It now has 79 Banking centers throughout northern Indiana and southwest Michigan, more than 1100 employees, and \$8 billion in assets. From the very beginning, the bank has been committed to giving back to the communities it serves. In fact, we often say that we are simply a reflection of those communities we serve. The 1st Source mission is to help people achieve security, build wealth, and realize their dreams.

What is your role, and what aspect of your work makes you the proudest?

- As Community Development Manager for 1st Source Bank, I'm most proud of my colleagues throughout the bank for their commitment to serving clients and communities through our products, services, and giving back with our talent and resources. One recent example of a success story is our commitment to assisting The Rescue Mission in downtown Fort Wayne.
- To learn more about The Rescue Mission and 1st Source's commitment to community development, [see their Community Involvement page](#).

Describe a success story that resulted from your organization's community development efforts.

- The 1st Source Bank and Foundation provided significant resources to assist The Rescue Mission with their new \$20.1 million building in downtown Fort Wayne. The new building is nearly triple the size of the old facility, allowing the Rescue Mission to help many more people who need food, shelter, and medical attention. We also recently invested in the Bashor Children's Home in Goshen, the YWCA of Northeast Indiana, the Valpo Parks effort to build a new community skatepark in Valparaiso, and many more organizations that provide valuable service to their communities throughout the 1st Source footprint.

What are some challenges your organization is facing?

What are some challenges your organization is facing?

- 1st Source is just like many other organizations, struggling to hire people for our banking centers. We are doing everything we can to keep our clients and colleagues safe and healthy while also providing the quality service our clients have come to expect.

How has COVID-19 forever impacted your organization?

- COVID-19 has forced us to be more strategic in the ways we serve our clients while also considering their health and safety, including improvements in our drive-up banking and increased safety measures in our banking centers. The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) proved the Bank and our bankers can be nimble and work together to serve small businesses through challenging economic times.

What changes are coming to your organization over the next year?

- 1st Source is committed to evolving with the situations we face in the world to provide our clients with convenient quality service. COVID-19 has forced us to be innovative in our approach and we will strive to find more innovative ways to provide quality service in safe and healthy environments.

On what efforts would you like to collaborate with PI members?

- I would like to collaborate more with PI members on developing affordable housing opportunities and providing banking products to the unbanked and underbanked.

Which of Prosperity Indiana's values resonate most with you and why?

- All of Prosperity Indiana's values resonate with 1st Source. We collaborate often with the communities we serve to help empower people, provide them with opportunity, and make an impact in their lives. We are an organization based on integrity, and we believe strongly in social justice.



Send Your Events, Career Opportunities, & Other Highlights

We want to share our members' events and career opportunities. Both are highlighted in the monthly newsletter and career opportunities are additionally posted [on our website](#). Send your event or job posting information to [Michaela Wischmeier](#).

Join Private Facebook Group for Members Only

This discussion forum is yours to collaborate and connect with other members, ask questions of PI staff, and share your events and happenings. To join the group, [click here](#).

Statehouse Day and Indiana General Assembly

Statehouse Day

PI hosted its 2022 Statehouse Day on January 19. With 17 attendees, despite the Omicron surge, PI members were able to attend four individual legislator meetings, three key committee hearings, and have visibility and contact with other advocacy groups and staffers.



Exclusively for Prosperity Indiana members, see our bill-tracking lists for legislation directly related to PI's 2022 Policy Agenda; as well as watch lists for bills that fall into Affordable Housing Policy, Community Development Resources, and Asset-Building & Consumer Protection issues; plus a general list for other tracked bills. We will continue to add to and modify these lists as the session progresses.

- [Prosperity Indiana 2022 Priority Agenda bills](#)
- [Affordable Housing Policy bills](#) policies related to housing stability, eviction prevention, etc.
- [Community Development Resources bills](#) including tax credits, land banks, and other community development tools and resources
- [Asset-Building & Consumer Protection bills](#) related to ensuring economic opportunity for Hoosiers and communities
- [Other tracked bills](#) relevant to PI's community economic development sector members

By clicking these links, you'll get **real-time updated information** on each bill tracked, including: the number, title, authors, and co-sponsors; the three latest bill actions; committee hearing times and locations; a summary of bill provisions; links to the state bill page; and a 'week in review' of legislative news coverage.

COVID-19 Housing Resources

- The CDC's Eviction Moratorium has been [overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court](#) and is no longer valid as of August 26, 2021. Tenants are NOT protected from eviction due to nonpayment of rent at this time.
- For a complete list of and links to the state's various emergency rental assistance programs, visit the Housing4Hoosiers [COVID-19 Assistance & Resources](#) page.
- The [Indy Affordable Modification Program \(IndyAMP\)](#) allows Marion County homeowners negatively affected by COVID-19 to refinance mortgage debt at a below-market interest rate for up to 30 years. IndyAMP allows owners to remain in their homes, become current with their mortgages, and lower their monthly payments.
- [COVID-19 Resources for Homeowners](#) provides information for FHA-insured mortgages on the foreclosure moratorium and how to apply for mortgage forbearance.



Hoosiers for Responsible Lending

Hoosiers for Responsible Lending (HRL) was created by a network of advocates working to empower Hoosiers who have been affected by any form of predatory lending. We raise awareness of predatory practices across Indiana in order to hold lenders accountable and create attainable pathways to wealth building for all Hoosiers.

Our alliance includes veterans organizations, faith communities, consumer groups, and social service providers who recognize both the benefits of equitable, responsible lending and the damages of predatory lending.

[Learn more about HRL here.](#)

Urgent Legislative Advocacy & SB 352

Hoosiers for Responsible Lending (HRL) is urging the Indiana General Assembly to cap loan rates and vote no on Senate Bill 352, Supervised Consumer Loans, as it is currently written. SB 352, authored by Senator Andy Zay (R-Huntington) and coauthored by Sen. Mike Bohacek (R-Michiana Shores), will drastically change subprime, high-cost installment lending across Indiana by increasing the finance charges and fees, compared to current law. This problematic legislation will allow lenders to aggressively push borrowers to refinance these installment loans as often as possible and ultimately does not provide guardrails to protect consumers. [View the entire press release here.](#)

SB 352 could come up for another vote as soon as the next Senate session, which is tomorrow, Thursday, January 27. Time is of the essence in contacting these Senators, and HRL needs everyone to reach out to all of the Senators who cover your service area despite how they voted earlier this week. Urge the No's to remain No's and the Yes' to change their vote to No. If you're [unsure who your Senator is, look them up here.](#)

VOTING ON SB 352 Zay		STATUS 3rd Reading	
YEAS - 24	NAYS - 22	N / V - 1	EXC - 2
Alting	Charbonneau	Koch	Randolph
Baldwin	Crane	Kruse	Rogers
Bassler	Crider	Lanane	Sandlin
Becker	Donato	Leising	Taylor
Boehnlein	Doriot	Melton	Tomes
Bohacek	Ford J.D.	Messmer	Walker G
Boots	Ford Jon	Mishler	Walker K
Bray	Freeman	Niemeyer	Yoder
Breaux	E Garten	Niezgodski	Young
Brown	Gaskill	Perfect	Zay
Buchanan	Glick	Pol	
Buck	Holdman	Qaddoura	
Busch	E Houchin	Raatz	



HOOSIERS FOR RESPONSIBLE LENDING

Sponsor

Piece of the PI is sponsored by the Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis (FHLBI).



Upcoming Events

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

[February 1-2: 18th Annual High Cost Lending Summit - Consumer Federation of America](#)

[February 17: 2022 Prosperity Indiana Summit](#)

[February 26: Elevate 2022 - United Way of Central Indiana](#)

[March 21-23: 2022 Foundations on the Hill - Indiana Philanthropy Alliance](#)

[March 22-23: NLIHC Virtual Housing Policy Forum 2022 - National Low Income Housing Coalition](#)

[April 12: 10th Annual Fair Housing Conference - Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana](#)

Job Opportunities

[Afterschool Site Coordinator \(EDGE\) - John Boner Neighborhood Centers](#)

[Assistant Program Officer - LISC Indianapolis](#)

[Associate State Director - Advocacy & Outreach - AARP Indiana](#)

[Children's Specialist for Circles - Bridges Alliance of Johnson County](#)

[Johnson County.](#)

[Circles Community
Coordinator - Bridges
Alliance of Johnson County](#)

[Collaboration Hub Associate
- Hamilton County
Community Foundation](#)

[Community Programs Fiscal
Monitor - Indiana Housing &
Community Development
Authority/ Division of
Community Programs](#)

[Construction Superintendent
- Greater Indy Habitat for
Humanity](#)

[Corporate Engagement
Associate - United Way of
Central Indiana](#)

[Director of Community
Foundation Programs -
Indiana Philanthropy
Alliance](#)

[Fair Housing Specialist -
Fair Housing Center of
Central Indiana](#)

[Homeownership Education
& Resource Coordinator -
Greater Indy Habitat for
Humanity](#)

[Investigations Specialist -
Fair Housing Center of
Central Indiana](#)

[Office Manager - Hamilton
County Community
Foundation](#)

[Program Officer, QOL/Great
Places - LISC Indianapolis](#)

[REACH Active Living
Coordinator/Manager -
Health by Design/ IPHA](#)

[Youth Services Project
Coordinator \(Indy East
Achievement Zone Initiative\)
- John Boner Neighborhood
Centers](#)

ICYMI: Media Spots

[House passes vaccine
mandate bill, Indiana
eclipses 1.5 million COVID-
19 cases](#)

[House advances bill aimed
at sealing eviction filings
from tenant records in some
instances](#)

[Hoosiers demand
protections for renters
during Tenants Day of
Action at the Statehouse](#)

[House committee discusses
forming task force to
examine housing shortage](#)

[Advocates are again
pushing for legislation that
caps payday loan rates](#)

[Editorial: A lack of legal
protections, and basic
fairness, for tenants in
Indiana](#)

[Renters in other states have
laws to protect them ... that's
not the case in Indiana.](#)

[State sees limited
participation in eviction
diversion, one month in](#)





Connect with us on
[Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and
[LinkedIn](#)!

Tools & Resources

Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) 1st Draft

The 1st draft of the 2023-2024 QAP has been released and is available on IHCD's Rental Housing Tax Credit webpage along with a summary of proposed changes.

IHCD will hold a virtual public hearing regarding the first draft of the 2023-2024 QAP on Friday, January 28, 2022 at 1:00 PM Eastern Time. Registration is not required.

Log-in information is below:

Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer or mobile app
Click [here](#) to join the meeting

Join with a video conferencing device
indiana@m.webex.com
Video Conference ID: 113 878 110 5
[Alternate VTC instructions](#)

Or call in (audio only)
+1 317-552-1674,
346861802#

Central Indiana COVID Vaccine Acceptance Coalition Non-Profit Human Services Partner Kit

Indiana Red Cross is pleased to release a new video entitled "Keep Having the Talk" which features evidence-based approaches to vaccine dialogue. They have also launched a public-facing campaign promoting vaccination that will include paid advertisements in Central Indiana news outlets, billboards, PSAs and a new array of social messages and images that can be adapted and shared. The Red Cross has included translations of each message into the seven most prominent languages used in Indiana: Spanish, Arabic, French, Burmese, Hakha Chin, Chinese, and Polish.

[Access the materials here.](#)

Statewide Housing Dashboard Released

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCD) and partners from the Housing Working Group, which represents stakeholders from around the state, released a housing dashboard that includes a statewide inventory of housing in Indiana.

This new dashboard serves as a tool for identifying the greatest housing needs and opportunities for economic development and investment. Information can be compared county by county, including housing stock in Indiana by age, by price, by number of units in a structure, by number of bedrooms in a unit, and more. A complete report can be generated for each county and for the state.

The dashboard also includes economic trends, such as top employers, top industries,

Phone Conference ID:
346 861 802#

IHCDA will also accept written public comments sent to the attention of Alan Rakowski, Director of Real Estate Allocation, via ARakowski@ihcda.in.gov. IHCDA will accept written comments until Wednesday, February 9, 2022.

Full details of the above-referenced notices can be found on IHCDA's [RED Notices](#) page.

workforce and unemployment statistics, median income, and costs of material inputs for construction. Population statistics by age, race, ethnicity, income, and education are also available.

[Access the housing dashboard here.](#)

[View the entire press release here.](#)

IHCDA announces new partnerships for statewide renter services

The Board of Directors for the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) announced partnerships with two organizations to provide housing stability services to Indiana renters under the Emergency Rental Assistance 2 (ERA2) program. IHCDA will allocate funds to Indiana Community Action Association, Inc. (and Co-Lead Prosperity Indiana) for housing counseling and case management services and to the Indiana Bar Foundation, Inc. for legal services.

IndyBar: Non-profit Toolkit Now Available

The Indianapolis Bar Association Business Law Section has released a non-profit toolkit designed to help non-profit leaders alleviate burdens and obstacles faced by their organizations. The toolkit includes seasoned guidance, resources, sample documents, and more.

[Access the toolkit here.](#)

2022 LISC Small Business Façade and Property Improvement Program

The [LISC Indianapolis Small Business Façade and Property Improvement Program](#) provides grants to property and small business owners that are interested in renovating the front exterior. Commercial improvements could include new signage, building entrances, lighting, doors, windows, awning, brick, art murals, stone, tuck-pointing, or other building surfaces material.

This is a rebate program where business and property owners receive reimbursement for up to

Indiana Community Action Association, Inc. and PI responded to an RFP and secured an award of \$15M to provide housing counseling and case management services. This includes housing navigation services to assist individuals who have already been evicted, are in process of being evicted, or are experiencing homelessness to find new rental housing options and to apply for IERA rental assistance. IN-CAA and PI will establish a statewide network of nonprofit providers to deliver these services.

To be considered for the network, [please complete this survey](#). Services are set to launch this spring.

90% of the cost of the project in amounts ranging from \$1,000 to \$20,000 for completed work.

Any commercial property in Indianapolis/Marion County is eligible; however, priority will be given to applicants located in LISC neighborhoods, with a focus on minority-owned businesses or properties. The application will open in February 2022.

[Sign up for email notifications regarding important program updates here.](#)

2022 Fulcrum Fellowship Applications Now Open

Are you a leader working to support the development of more resilient communities and solutions to address social inequities? Do you want to explore how community investment can strengthen your efforts? The Fulcrum Fellowship is an intensive, hands-on program designed to equip leaders with the community investment, racial equity, and adaptive leadership knowledge and skills to ignite lasting change in communities. The 15-month program includes six multi-day seminars (some in person, some virtual), monthly coaching calls, ongoing staff support, and resource sessions in response to Fellows' needs and interests. During that time, Fellows also use learning to tackle challenges related to racial inequities and economic marginalization in their communities.

[Learn more and apply here.](#)

Seeking National Equity Atlas Fellows

The National Equity Atlas research partnership, a collaboration between PolicyLink and the USC Equity Research Institute, is seeking applicants for its 2022-2023 class of National Equity Atlas Fellows. The fellowship provides an exciting opportunity for advocates working to dismantle structural racism and advance equitable policy change to deepen their data knowledge and skills. Fellows will have the opportunity to learn from other community-based leaders from across the country, share their experiences, and potentially collaborate on original data projects.

[Complete an application and learn more here.](#)

Member News & Publications

- [2021 November/December Newsletter - Brightpoint](#)
- [COVID-19 Small Business Relief Grant Program: 2021 in Review - LISC Indianapolis](#)
- [December News - Renew Indianapolis](#)
- [December Newsletter - Bridges Alliance of Johnson County](#)
- [FHCCI Releases Report on Mortgage Lending in Marion County - Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana](#)
- [January News - Renew Indianapolis](#)
- [Old National Bank and FHCCI Announce Major Effort to Expand Lending Opportunities for Majority-Black Neighborhoods in Marion County - Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana](#)

COVID-19 & How to Stay Healthy

Prosperity Indiana's Response

While most [Prosperity Indiana 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:

- 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](#), [Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#), [Indiana Department of Health](#), and [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#) guidelines.

The best way to reach us during this time is via email. Here is a [link](#) to contact information for full-time staff.

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.

Support Prosperity Indiana while you shop with AmazonSmile!

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

Shop, Smile, & Donate



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 to Michaela Wischmeier here.](#)

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



Prosperity Indiana

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