

Rebuilding Indiana Monthly

A publication for the members of Prosperity Indiana

March 2018

Executive Director's Letter

Greetings {Contact_First_Name},

Many moons ago, at the turn of the century in fact, I launched my career in the fast-paced world of journalism. My first position was as LifeStyle Editor for the six-day daily newspaper in Selma, Alabama. In that role, I largely wrote positive and inspirational pieces. We ran engagement photos and told wedding stories. And while the individuals I interviewed might have had a struggle in life, by the time I was writing about it, their feature stories were generally uplifting.



BUT, regardless of title, every writer in the newsroom also covered a beat. In that role, I covered the hard stuff. Stories that hadn't softened over time. They were real, raw, current: the ones that came out of the sheriff's department, DA's office, court system, and police. And I'll never forget the day I was leaving the police department, and someone mentioned that there had been people there looking for me, which was pretty jarring. Next thing I knew, a girl I remembered from elementary school days and a male family member of hers approached me in the stairwell of the police department, told me that her brother was the man (who I was covering) who had been murdered, and said her mother wanted to talk to me. It was all very surreal.

I was then escorted by these two individuals I barely knew to a part of town that I had spent hardly any time in to talk to the mother of a young man who'd just been killed in gang

Upcoming Events

[Mar. 29: Policy Update: Session Recap and Legislation to Watch \(Webinar\)](#)

Partners' Events

[Mar. 20-22: INARF 2018 Annual Conference \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[Mar. 23: Coburn Place Blue & Gold Breakfast \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[Mar. 28: 2018 Indianapolis Sustainability Summit \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[Apr. 4: FHCCI Annual Fair Housing Conference \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[Apr. 8: Spirit & Place: Conversations on Race \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[Apr. 10-13: NALCAB 2018 National Conference \(Orlando, FL\)](#)

[Apr. 11: 2018 Advantage MPP User Conference \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[Apr. 17: Indiana Public](#)

violence. Not wise. But potentially a great story. And as scared as I was, I must have been even more curious.

*But what happened next made me **part** of their story.* The strong patriarch called a family meeting. A ton of folks had gathered at the house that day, and they were all summoned to the backyard. I was instructed to join, and I didn't dare resist. While he was reaming out the women in the family for their role in inciting additional rage in an already volatile situation, the next thing I knew, someone said something about a gun that made every single one of us hit the ground as a potential drive-by shooter passed.

It was one of the scariest moments of my life. But you know what it made me? Invested. Invested in the story, invested in the family, invested in understanding a way of life that I had only heard of before.

And while I never want to dodge another bullet like that again, I do want to be that invested in the work of our members. I want to know what bullets you're dodging, what challenges you're facing, and come alongside you in a time of need. Yes, I want to understand and tell your story. I want to talk about challenges and best practices and solutions. That's always going to be in me. I believe we learn from the stories. But mostly, I want to get in the trenches with you. I want to take cover with you. I want to come out of a tough situation stronger with you. I want your story to become our story and vice versa. And I hope you'll give me – and our organization under my new leadership – that chance.

Here's a place to start:

- 1) [Join/renew](#) if you haven't already. Yes, it'll cost you. But if you come along for the ride this year, you'll help inform who we become as an organization. This is the first best way to get included in the next steps. Our newsletter that you're currently reading is normally only sent to members. This one's a freebie.
- 2) Complete the [member survey](#). Tell us what we do well, don't do well, could do better, shouldn't do, or should. We're all ears and ready to adapt or keep on trucking, depending on your point of view.
- 3) Attend a member meeting. I'm in the process of figuring out the when and where. But there will be several of them, and they should be close enough, that we're hoping you can join us. PLEASE DO. I want to hear the good, the bad, the ugly. Watch our [event page](#) for details.
- 4) Engage. Get to know each other. Bond. BE THE NETWORK you want from Prosperity Indiana. Utilize our

[Health Month Conference \(Bloomington\)](#)

[Apr. 17-20: Indiana Landmarks Statewide Preservation Conference \(Columbus\)](#)

[Apr. 25: IPA 2018 Spring Boot Camp \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[Apr. 26: LISC Love Thy Neighborhood Awards \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[June 7-8: IPA 2018 Conference \(Indianapolis\)](#)

Social Media Recap

[Participating in the listening session for @InEconDevAssoc, an initial step in its strategic planning process. What we heard: partnerships are critical!](#)

[Send off lunch for Executive Director Andy Fraizer and Sustainability Director Allyson Mitchell. You two will be missed. But we know you'll continue to do great things!](#)

[Congratulations to our own Allyson Mitchell taking the reins from @CareyHamilton1 to help build vital communities in a new way](#)

[Our own Kathleen Lara outlines the problems with HB 1319 at the #INLegis. Hoosiers deserve better than 391%. #StopTheDebtTrap #36isthefix](#)

expansive [contact list](#) and [new app](#) to find ways to connect.

5) And lastly, please [reach out to me](#). I'm in week 3 of my new job. So, it may take a minute for me to respond to everyone. But I absolutely want our organization to be about you. To do that, I need to know what that means. Help inform that, please.

I look forward to seeing you and hearing from you soon!



Jessica Love

Executive Director

AmeriCorps Week Recap

March 12-16 was AmeriCorps Week, a week dedicated to showing how AmeriCorps members [#GetThingsDone](#).

The Indiana Financial Capability Corps (IFCC) is Prosperity Indiana's cohort of AmeriCorps Members. IFCC members are placed at member Service Sites across the state to help integrate financial capability into existing programs. Visit our [blog](#) to learn about how the IFCC are getting things done at organizations across Indiana, and how your organization can benefit from an IFCC member!

Meet Prosperity Indiana's new AmeriCorps Program Manager!

Carey Craig joined the Prosperity Indiana team last month to manage the IFCC. Carey has spent much of his career in the public and nonprofit spheres, and in particular, the national and community service movement. We are excited to welcome Carey to the Prosperity Indiana team!



Join us for a Free Webinar!



[Submit News or Events](#)



Join Policy Director Kathleen Lara on Tuesday, March 29 from 1:00-2:00 for a recap of the Indiana Statehouse Legislative Session. Kathleen will highlight major wins and losses among our policy priorities and share how those are likely to affect members across the state. Although the Indiana session will be over, advocacy never ends. Kathleen will point out legislation to watch at the federal level as

we continue to work toward advancing prosperity in Indiana communities.

Do you have questions on policy or legislation that you'd like Kathleen to address in this webinar? [Email us](#), and don't forget to [register](#) to hear your questions answered!



Outcomes Measurement Training from Prosperity Indiana and Charitable Allies

Through this training, Charitable Allies and Prosperity Indiana will help you understand how to measure and demonstrate your effectiveness through outcome measurement. By the end of this training, you'll understand what outcomes are, their importance for improving and growing programs, and which outcomes are most important to your organization. We'll also address some of the challenges associated with outcomes measurement and tools or strategies for overcoming these in a small organization.

[May 7 - Indianapolis](#)

[May 8 - Evansville](#)

This training is funded by the Old National Bank Foundation.



New Training Opportunities for

Housing Counselors

Looking for professional development training opportunities? Training opportunities for Housing Counselors are available on a wide range of topics, including both on site classes and online webinars, from NeighborWorks, Rural Community Assistance Corp, the National Community Reinvestment Coalition Training Academy, and many more! [Check out our blog](#) for topics, links, and descriptions.

Technical Assistance Opportunity: NALCAB Rural Capacity Building Program



The National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders (NALCAB) delivers free customized technical assistance (TA) that is tailored to the needs of rural-serving organizations working in the areas of affordable housing and community and economic development. A wide range of free Rural Capacity Building TA services is available, including program design and implementation, organizational strategic planning, resource development and financing planning, and partnership development. Financing from the [NALCAB Rural Revolving Loan Fund](#) is also available.

Consulting Opportunity with the Legacy Foundation

The Legacy Foundation is seeking letters of interest from consultants who have experience developing a 3-5 year strategic plan for a community development corporation. The Lake County Community Development Corporation (LCCDC) is a new initiative incubated by Legacy Foundation. Legacy is establishing the LCCDC to provide an innovative, neighborhood-based approach to community development, engagement, planning, and place-making.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Letters of interest must be submitted by April 6, 2018.

Request for Proposals - Opioid Addiction Recovery Pilot Program

The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) is seeking to select Eligible Respondents to participate in the Opioid Addiction Recovery Program for Pregnant Women and Women With Newborns, which involves the acquisition and/or rehabilitation of a building that will be used as a residential treatment facility that will assist pregnant women and women with newborns by providing substance abuse and addiction treatment in Southern Indiana.

[Click here to access the RFP.](#)

The response deadline is March 23, 2018. Please contact Jerri Bain, Director of Real Estate Lending at jbain@ihcda.in.gov.

Join Prosperity Indiana as an AmeriCorps VISTA!

Prosperity Indiana is recruiting four AmeriCorps VISTA members. Two to replace current VISTA members Allegra Maldonado, Assets and Opportunity Network VISTA, and Kaytlin Eastes, Member Capacity Builder VISTA, and two other VISTAs focused on Communications & Events and Resource Development. Follow the links below for detailed position descriptions.

[Assets & Opportunity Network VISTA](#)

[Capacity Builder & Impact VISTA](#)

[Communications and Events VISTA](#)

[Resource Development VISTA](#)

[Click here](#) to read about our current VISTAs' work and experiences at Prosperity Indiana.

If you or someone you know would be a good fit for AmeriCorps VISTA service, apply today! Interested applicants can contact [Jessica Love](#) for more information.



VISTA

Volunteers In Service To America

Download the New Mobile App!

You can now access Prosperity Indiana member contacts and events on your smartphone through the new WildApricot App! Simply download **WildApricot for Members** from the App Store and log in with your Prosperity Indiana account information. The app allows you to view and register for upcoming events, access your event registrations, and search the entire Prosperity Indiana network contact list. Log into the [member portal](#) on our website and make sure your profile information is up-to-date so that you can connect and engage with other Prosperity Indiana members!

Support Prosperity Indiana while you shop with AmazonSmile!

3x your impact! From March 12-31, Amazon is **tripling the donation rate** on your first smile.amazon.com purchase! Shop at smile.amazon.com/ch/35-1695379 and Amazon will donate to Prosperity Indiana.



Need more hands on deck for an upcoming project?

Did you know that Prosperity Indiana members can access FREE short-term technical assistance from our Member Capacity Builder AmeriCorps VISTA? We can help with research, event planning, social media and marketing, survey tools, outcomes measurement support, and a variety of other short-term projects.



If you are interested in this free, short-term technical assistance, fill out a [request for assistance](#) or contact Kaytlin Eastes, Member Capacity Builder AmeriCorps VISTA, at keastes@prosperityindiana.org.

We Want to Hear from You!

Prosperity Indiana needs your feedback! Please take a few minutes to complete our 2018 member survey to help us learn what member benefits are most important to you.

[Take the Survey](#)

Let us help you share your success stories!

If you have a success story, an upcoming event, or a job opening let us know! Prosperity Indiana is seeking guest bloggers and success stories from our membership to broadcast across the network. Send your stories to info@prosperityindiana.org.

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

Connect with us



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