



# **Piece of the PI: Newsletter**

A monthly publication for the members of Prosperity Indiana

## **July 2019**

## Executive Director's Letter

As I'm writing this, I'm on the way to the beach. (Thank goodness for dictation apps!) And as I get away from the office and drive through the beautiful state of Alabama, my home state, I'm just more in tune with our country's natural resources. Heading to the beach, I'm looking forward to communing with nature a bit - though I am certainly aware that flesh eating bacteria will not be our friend and will likely keep us away from the water while we're there. Calling this invisible yet lurking assailant a challenge to our full appreciation of this natural asset is certainly an understatement! I've never headed to the beach with so much fear of the unknown.



But life is kind of like that, isn't it? We all have our assets - personally, in our organizations and in our communities. We also all have our challenges - those that are seen and unseen - and thankfully, many times those challenges are temporary. But usually, they are only temporary if we have an intervention of some sort.

And that's why the work that we do at Prosperity Indiana related to resources can be so critical to members. Through our consulting contracts with members, we are driven by a focus on the positive, on the natural resources and assets that make your organization unique. But that does not mean that we are blind to the challenges. In fact, the challenges are usually why our members bring us in. Because you know we can look at your organization with fresh eyes, or that we can augment your current capacity through short term project work.

And again, in doing this work, we recognize some of the greatest resources available to the communities and organizations that we serve are the people who work there. So we work with you - the people who are dedicated to this work - by coming alongside you. We are not just doing this work instead of you, even the project-based work. From an outside perspective, we can often see new things and even call into the light issues you actually knew were there. And in doing that, we can address them head on, so you can refocus your work, no longer distracted by the challenges. That means you can once again focus on the assets and natural beauty of the great work you are doing!

So, please, let us know how we can help. We slash our consulting fees for our members, and even have resources available to provide consulting at no cost, in some circumstances. Whether you have a short term project that you

## Upcoming Events

[July 18: Building Women's Wealth Through Business Ownership \(Webinar\)](#)

[July 18: IEDC Rural Placemaking Webinar](#)

[July 22: IHCD Regional Meeting \(Huntingburg\)](#)

[July 23: Camp Prosperity 2019 - Advocacy Summer Camp \(Webinar Series\)](#)

[July 23-25: Facilitative Leadership Workshop \(Nashville\)](#)

[July 24: Historically Underutilized Business Zones Lunch & Learn \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[August 21-23: Navigating Difference - Cultural Competency Training \(Spencer\)](#)

[August 28: Health Equity Summit \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[September 17-19: Certified Aging in Place Specialist Program \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[October 8-10: Navigating Difference - Cultural Competency Training \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[October 13-16: IEDC 2019 Annual Conference \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[October 16-18: 2019 Alliance for Strong Families and Communities National Conference \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[October 24: Indiana Arts Homecoming \(Indianapolis\)](#)

need one of our team members/consultants to assist with, or if you're looking for an organizational assessment and capacity building guidance, we want to be that resource for you. So, [shoot us an email](#), and we'll connect you with the correct person from our team or someone from our consultant pool. We're sure to have someone who can help, or can direct you accordingly.

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



Jessica Love

Executive Director

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



**We provide the expertise, training, and resources  
you need to strengthen your community.**

From trainings and conferences to the latest reports, this month's newsletter is full of opportunities for learning and capacity building!



## Save the Date: Real Estate Development Academy

Prosperity Indiana's first ever Real Estate Development Academy will take place **Monday, October 28 through Friday, November 1, 2019!** This five-day, intensive training will provide the necessary knowledge and tools to community economic developers to support their ongoing efforts expand affordable rental and homeownership units in Indiana. [Click here for more information.](#)

## Upcoming Webinars

[November 6-8: Navigating Difference - Cultural Competency Training \(Syracuse\)](#)

[November 13-14: Midwest Asset Building Conference \(Detroit, MI\)](#)

[November 18-20: 2019 I'M HOME Conference \(Portland, OR\)](#)

[December 10-12: Navigating Difference - Cultural Competency Training \(Mitchell\)](#)

## *Social Media Recap*

[Proud of the good work that's been done by our team member Rita Kirtley O'Donohue and Rising Sun Ohio County Tourism to chart next steps for bringing more people to visit this great place!](#)

[Read this fantastic piece from the Indianapolis Business Journal outlining the financial burdens facing the lowest income families in our community, featuring comments from Policy Director Kathleen Lara and A&O Network Manager Logan Charlesworth.](#)

[FHLBI is requesting input to their Community Lending Plan from Prosperity Indiana members! Take the survey here](#)

[@INCommDev urges @HUDgov to withdraw its "mixed-status" families rule that places thousands, incl. 55,000 children who are US](#)

## [Persuasively Speaking: The Fastest Way to Get to "Yes"](#)

July 26, 2019

Are you challenged to present information in a way that leads more quickly and directly to good business decisions? This program will share how you can avoid "the curse of knowledge" while explaining your points in simple steps that build agreement. Whether you are presenting one-on-one or to a packed conference room, you will learn how to craft a presentation that builds agreement as you move your listeners toward greater understanding.

## [Presentation Skills for New Managers](#)

August 9, 2019

The ability to communicate with superiors, colleagues, and staff is essential, no matter what industry you work in. In this webinar, you will learn best practices for planning content and delivering confident and compelling presentations, including techniques for facilitating internal meetings and for confident and constructive conversations at networking events.

## [Not Just a Rubber Stamp - Designing Effective Board Meetings](#)

August 23, 2019

Great board meetings leave us focused and energized: the goal of the meeting is clear; our team is motivated; and the process is smooth, and there are well-defined outcomes. Not-so-great meetings, on the other hand, drain energy, and lower morale because of the perceived waste of time.

Participants will be challenged to reimagine traditional board meeting agendas. Incorporating meeting facilitation techniques such as personal reflection activities, small group round table discussions, dot voting, and more will foster an environment of dialogue and critical thinking.

This webinar is ideal for CEOs/Executive Directors, leadership staff, and executive board members.



[citizens or legal residents, at risk of homelessness, undermines efforts to increase Hoosier housing security. #KeepFamiliesTogether @NLIHC @NHLP](#)

[Great turnout in Hammond today at our Northwest Indiana Regional Member Meeting and Opportunity Zones Workshop... our seventh regional road trip this season! On the road again in July for our regional Policy & Pizza meetings!](#)

[RENT: "It's \\$628 a month," she said. "I make about \\$900 gross a month. It's very hard. I'm a single mother." This is a far too common struggle across Indiana and why the Out of Reach report matters. Time for action! #OOR19 @NLIHC](#)

[Our regional meetings adventure continues! Great visit with Southeast Indiana community leaders underway! And the river is high!](#)

## *Job Opportunities*

[Executive Director - Center for Neighborhoods](#)

[Director of Lending - IFF](#)

[Fair Housing Test Coordinator - FHCCI](#)

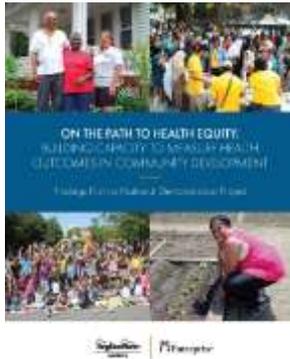
[Active Living Program Manager - Health by Design](#)

## From the Blog:

### [Prosperity Now Releases New Local Scorecard Data](#)

Prosperity Now has released all-new local data in the 2019 Prosperity Now Scorecard. Check out the [Prosperity Now Scorecard site](#) to find data around Financial Assets & Income, Businesses & Jobs, Homeownership & Housing, Health Care, and Education. The interactive map allows you to search data by state, county, city, and - new this year - Congressional District. Reports are also available for download which breakdown trends in specific measures by race and disability.

### [New Report: Building Capacity to Measure Health Outcomes in Community Development](#)



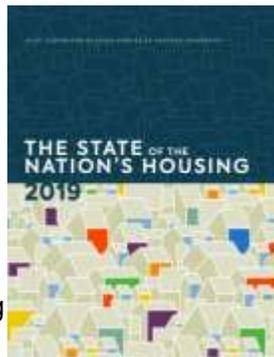
A new report by Enterprise Community Partners and NeighborWorks America outlines the results of an innovative pilot program - the Health Outcomes Demonstration Project. The Project was aimed at addressing the gap in standard measurement practices to evaluate shared outcomes between community development and health care providers/payers. [Read the full report](#) to see how the Project equipped twenty

affordable housing and community development organizations to evaluate health outcomes across a range of programs, including neighborhood improvement and community safety initiatives, youth education and services, housing improvement, service coordination for residents in crisis, as well as housing based-services that focus on nutrition, physical activity, financial literacy, social activities, mental health and employment.

### [New Report: The State of the Nation's Housing](#)

On June 25, the Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University released its 2019 report entitled "[The State of the Nation's Housing](#)."

Although the economy has rebounded from the 2008 recession and household growth has returned to a normal rate, the number of newly constructed homes has not kept pace with the demand for housing for the past eight years. The lack of new housing is exacerbating the affordable



[Walk & Bike Program](#)  
[Coordinator - Health by Design](#)

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housing prices by driving housing prices and rent higher and higher, leaving low-to-moderate income families in increasingly difficult housing situations.

To read the full report, [click here](#).



## Join the Conversation!

If you haven't already, make sure to join one (or more!) of our Facebook Affinity Groups. Join other Prosperity Members in these forums to ask questions, request resources, and share your organization's news and events!

[Affordable Housing & Real Estate Development](#)

[Community Health](#)

[Housing Counseling](#)

[Human Services](#)

[Individual Development Accounts](#)

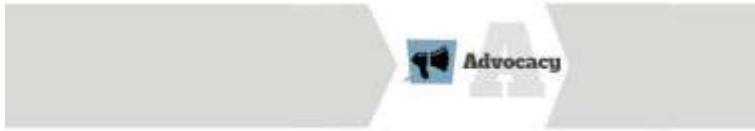
[Landbanking](#)

[Management & Leadership](#)

[Microenterprise](#)

## Board Member Application

Looking for a way to be more involved with Prosperity Indiana's work? Nominate yourself or someone you know for the Board of Directors! Here's the link: [Board of Directors Application](#)



## **Coming Soon! Pizza & Policy Meetings**

Please join us for a Pizza and Policy webinar on Wednesday, August 14 at noon (EDT). During this hour, we will provide an overview of our 2020 policy agenda, define what members can expect from these meetings, and outline how we plan to increase our advocacy impact through building stronger legislator-member relationships!

## **Prosperity Indiana Urges HUD to Withdraw Mixed-Status Rule Proposal**

HUD claims the proposed to prohibit "mixed-status" families from living in public housing and Section 8 units is necessary to prevent undocumented immigrants from benefiting from federal housing assistance. However, existing law already does this. Right now, a family's rent subsidy is decreased (or prorated) to account for household members who are ineligible for the assistance based on immigration status. [Click here to read Prosperity Indiana's comments to the rule.](#)



## House Passes Funding Bill with Substantial Increases for Housing & Community Development Programs

Thanks in part to your advocacy and [response to our Action Alert](#), the U.S. House passed a package of FY20 funding bills on June 25 that includes critically needed increased funding for housing and community development programs within the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) by a vote of 227-194.

It is important for Prosperity Indiana members to note, however, that before any spending bill can go into effect, Congress must agree to lift spending caps put in place under the Budget Control Act of 2011. If that does not occur, these programs could face 10 percent cuts across-the-board. We urge members to continue speaking to your Representative and our Senators about the need to reach agreement on such a measure.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

# Comment on the Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to Implement the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)'s Fair Debt Collection Practices Act is critical to protecting consumers across the nation from abusive collection practices. However, Prosperity Indiana believes the newly proposed rule would protect debt collectors more than everyday American consumers.

Given the fact that Indiana's current laws do not provide sufficient protections against predatory debt collection practices, we must unite and implore the CFPB to protect consumers by shielding them from abusive practices.

Join us in urging the CFPB to protect consumers by promoting fair debt collection practices. [Click here](#) to sign your name to our letter to the CFPB.



**INDIANA ASSETS & OPPORTUNITY NETWORK**

Don't miss these upcoming learning opportunities from the A&O Network! Learn more about the Network [here](#) or contact Logan Charlesworth at [lcharlesworth@prosperityindiana.org](mailto:lcharlesworth@prosperityindiana.org).

## Training: Advocacy 101

Join the Indiana Assets & Opportunity Network on August 7 for a webinar featuring A&O Steering Committee Members Kathleen Lara, Policy Director at Prosperity Indiana, and Erin Macey, Senior Policy Analyst at the Indiana Institute for Working

Families, for an interactive webinar on advocating for causes important to you and your organization.

[Click here to register](#)

## Training: Growing Assets Through Employment

This webinar on August 13 facilitated by A&O Steering Committee members Tom Orr, Senior Program Officer at LISC Indianapolis, and David Dalton, Director of Workforce Development at the Indiana Department of Transportation, will feature a discussion on workforce development, understanding the barriers facing low-income workers, and more.

[Click here to register](#)



## Opportunity Zone Summit

The [Opportunity Investment Consortium of Indiana](#) invites local elected officials and economic development leaders to attend an [Opportunity Zone Summit](#) on July 23. The full day experience will provide an overview of Opportunity Zones, a discussion on the impact Qualified Opportunity Funds will have on communities, a platform to converse on the integral role of local government, and networking with Opportunity Zone funders.



## FHLBI Community Lending Plan Survey

Tell Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis what you think are the most pressing affordable housing needs and economic development issues facing Indiana and Michigan today. Survey results will be incorporated into the 2019 Community Lending Plan and impact future communication and training. Responses are due by August 16.

[Take the survey](#)



## FHCCI to Host FREE Fair Housing Trainings

The Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana, in partnership with the Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority (IHCDA), the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA), and the Cities of Elkhart, Fort Wayne, and Indianapolis, will host a series of FREE fair housing trainings across Indiana. Topics to be addressed include: Overview of fair housing laws, Major fair housing regulations and guidance, Advertising requirements, and Disability specific regulations.

[Multiple dates and locations.](#) Advance registration required.

## Early Bird Registration Open: IEDC 2019 Conference

The International Economic Development Council's (IEDC) Annual Conference is the largest yearly gathering of economic development professionals from across the country and around the world. The conference features distinguished keynote speakers, dozens of interactive sessions led by industry

experts, networking events, and educational tours. [Early bird registration ends August 9.](#)



## OCRA's 2020 Grant Calendar Now Available

The Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) has released their competitive grant and state program calendar for 2020. [Click here to view the calendar.](#)

## Download the Mobile App!



**Never miss an opportunity to connect!**  
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**Mobile App Available Now**

Download the WildApricot app and log in with your Prosperity Indiana account to view upcoming events, register for trainings, and search our directory of member contacts.

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.

Log into the [member portal](#) on our website and make sure your profile information is up-to-date so that you can easily connect and engage with other Prosperity Indiana members!

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## We'll share your stories!

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. Send your stories to [info@prosperityindiana.org](mailto:info@prosperityindiana.org).

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

## Connect with us

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