



Piece of the PI: Newsletter

A monthly publication for the members of Prosperity Indiana

June 2019

Executive Director's Letter

One of the things we've done over the past five years is add programs – several of them – beyond our traditional advocacy, training, consulting, convening and communications efforts. Why you ask? (Ok – I know you didn't ask. But you're still reading, so I'll tell you.)

Whenever we decide to do or partner on something that no one else is doing – or no one else is doing in quite the same way – we've been intentional about branding it, to force ourselves to stick our neck out there and do it, committing to it. Our longest running signature program is the Indiana Assets & Opportunity Network, which we staff and lead in partnership with the Indiana Institute for Working Families. Formed in 2014, A&O underwent new branding and a redesign of the structure this year, so that we can provide greater benefits through this program. (We now ask individuals and organizations to join and pay a small fee to increase benefits and engagement, rather than simply signing up to be on yet another newsletter list.)

So, what is A&O? It is a network designed to increase asset acquisition for low-wealth Hoosiers and strengthen local economies through policy advocacy and capacity building, in partnership with local organizations and coalitions. A&O members receive discounts on A&O-specific trainings; an invitation to join the 2020 A&O Statehouse Day; all A&O updates, alerts, and newsletters; access to networking opportunities with other A&O members; a chance to partner with A&O for events around the state; and more!

A&O is the lead voice and organizer for the state payday coalition that is seeking reform for existing predatory lending and fights backs the expansion of similar products in the state. A&O believes in financial education – and starting that early – and is looking for champions who want to see all children, regardless of zip code or school system, have consistent financial capability training. A&O also knows that saving for retirement is something that more of us need to do, but recognizes access is often limited by employer offerings; and broader solutions are needed in this state. A&O leadership also spends time in DC focused on consumer protections and works to defend and expand asset building programs, like IDAs. And



Upcoming Events

[June 21: Coburn Place Blue & Gold Breakfast \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[June 25: Housing Choice Voucher Discussion \(Edinburgh\)](#)

[June 26: Lunch & Learn with Office of Minority and Women Business Development \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[July 8: IHCD Regional Meeting \(Franklin\)](#)

[July 10: IHCD Regional Meeting \(New Castle\)](#)

[July 12: IHCD Regional Meeting \(Kokomo\)](#)

[July 15: IHCD Regional Meeting \(Elkhart\)](#)

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

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

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

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

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

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

[October 8-10: Navigating Difference - Cultural](#)

currently, A&O is looking for other places that make sense for it to engage around financial capability and asset building, and would love to have more Prosperity Indiana members informing A&O's upcoming policy agenda.

So, if those are things you work on, or champion, or care about, or want to learn more about, we invite you to join A&O. For Prosperity Indiana members, it's only \$20/year. Contact [Logan Charlesworth](#), Network Manager, to see if you're a current A&O member. If you know you need to join, please go [here](#). Also, check out the following trainings coming up (free to A&O members, \$15 for non-A&O PI members):

[Preparing to Retire Before 100](#)

[Advocacy 101](#)

[Maintaining Your Assets as You Age: How to Avoid Exploitation as an Older Adult](#)

[The Cliff Effect](#)

[Exploring Alternatives to Payday Lending](#)

For more information on our other programs, follow these links:

[Indiana Assets & Opportunity Corps \(IAOC\) AmeriCorps Fellowship](#) (10-month capacity building services)

[Community Loan Center](#) (affordable small-dollar loan program)

[Empower Indiana Grant Challenge](#) (funding innovations in social determinants of health)

[Envision Collaborative](#) (workshop on comprehensive community development strategies)

[Opportunity Investment Consortium](#) (serving as a convener of this LISC-led initiative)

[Outcomes Platform](#) (cloud-based data collection and performance management system)

Let us know if you have questions about any of these programs. We hope to soon see your name added to the list of powerful partners focused on bolstering asset building across the state through A&O!

[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 \(Indianapolis\)](#)

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

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

Social Media Recap

[Community leaders from Evansville, Jasper, Huntingburg, and more today at our Southwest Regional Meeting and Opportunity Zones Workshop!](#)

[#DidYouKnow that a renter working at the min. wage in Indiana must have 2.2 full-time jobs or work 88 hours per week to afford a 2-bedroom apartment? Read the Out of Reach Report released today #OOR19 @NLIHC](#)

[City leaders from Muncie, Anderson, Montpelier, Union City, Marion, New Castle, and Richmond are learning more about Opportunity Zones today at Prosperity](#)

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



Jessica Love
Executive Director

This month's Piece of the PI: PROGRAMS



We offer innovative programs that support our members' work.

Looking for ways to build your organization's capacity? From AmeriCorps to the Outcomes Platform, Prosperity Indiana's programs can help support your work.



Upcoming Webinars

Prosperity Indiana, in collaboration with JoAnna M. Brown & Associates and Sagamore Institute, is offering a new webinar series in 2019 designed to explore diverse strategies to build individual, organizational, and community wealth through capacity building, collective impact, communication and nonprofit management concepts.



[Building Backbone Support](#)

[Indiana's Eastern Indiana Regional Meeting!](#)

[The lack of safe, affordable housing is an impediment to prosperity for Hoosier families & communities of every size across IN. We commend @SenToddYoung for re-introducing S. 1772 to create a bipartisan Affordable Housing Task Force & urge Congress to pass this important bill!](#)

[We're at @horizonhousein with @CHIPIndy, @IUPublicPolicy, and @NLIHC discussing the housing crisis facing thousands of Hoosier families. #HousingWeekofAction #OurHomesOurVoices](#)

[For Indiana, the benefits are clear! We applaud @SenToddYoung for his leadership in co-authoring S. 1703, the Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act of 2019, introduced today. S. 1703 will help expand the supply of affordable housing for low-income Hoosiers! #OurHomesOurVoices](#)

[America is stronger and prosperous when we have safe, decent, accessible, and affordable homes & stable communities. #OurHomesOurVoices #HousingInfrastructure](#)

[When families living in poverty have access to affordable housing - especially in areas connected to good schools, well-paying jobs, healthcare, and transportation - they are](#)

June 28, 2019

Backbone support is an essential component of collective impact. Backbone organizations cover six key activities: supporting vision and strategy, supporting aligned activities, establishing shared measurements, building public will, advancing policy and mobilizing funding.

This webinar delivers an overview of the backbone in supporting collective impact efforts, how to build backing for it and its importance in keeping collective impact on track.

[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.



Last Chances to Attend!

There are two more chances to attend this year's Opportunity Zones Workshop & Regional Member Meeting. Both Prosperity Indiana members and non-members are invited to join us for an **Opportunity Zones Workshop**

- presented by attorneys from Ice Miller - about pairing opportunity zones with other funding opportunities to maximize impact, followed by lunch and our regional meeting.



[Southeast - Jeffersonville - June 20](#)

[better able to climb the economic ladder.](#)
[#HousingInfrastructure](#)
[#OurHomesOurVoices](#)

[No one should have to skimp on food and healthcare just to make rent. We are healthier when we have an affordable home.](#)
[#OurHomesOurVoices](#)

[Without access to affordable housing, investments in transportation and infrastructure will fall short of creating vibrant communities. Any infrastructure plan must include funds to build homes affordable to families living in poverty.](#)
[#HousingInfrastructure](#)
[#OurHomesOurVoices](#)

[What if EVERYONE had an affordable roof over their head? We're joining #OurHomesOurVoices to help make this a reality.](#)
[#HousingInfrastructure](#)

[The National Housing Week of Action kicks off today, giving voice to millions of Americans and thousands of Hoosiers struggling to keep a roof over their heads.](#)
[JOIN US NEXT WEDNESDAY AS WE TALK SOLUTIONS! @CHIPIndy @NLIHC](#)
[#OurHomesOurVoices](#)

[Jessica Love with Prosperity Indiana talks with WTHI-TV in Terre Haute during Western Indiana's Opportunity Zones Workshop and Regional Meeting. To register for a workshop in one of seven Indiana regions this](#)

Northwest - Hammond - June 26

Join the Conversation!

Prosperity Indiana is excited to announce that we are re-launching our Affinity Group online forums in the form of Facebook Groups! We have created groups exclusively for YOU, our members. Click on one (or more!) of the groups below to join and start sharing resources, asking questions, and connecting with others in the field!

[Affordable Housing & Real Estate Development](#)

[Community Health](#)

[Housing Counseling](#)

[Human Services](#)

[Individual Development Accounts](#)

[Landbanking](#)

[Management & Leadership](#)

[Microenterprise](#)

Exclusive Membership Badge

As an active member of Prosperity Indiana, we are proud to officially endorse your organization with this accredited membership badge to be placed on your website's home page. This marketing tool will help build relationships with community leaders, establish credibility with funding entities, gain exposure for your events, and help drive more people to your website. [Click here for instructions.](#)

[summer, go to ProsperityIndiana.org/Events!](#)

[It's here - Leg Council's resolution for interim study topics. Tax credits for affordable housing, revisions to the Uniform Consumer Credit Code, & incentive review for NAP, IDA & low income housing exemption particularly critical for @INCommDev members!](#)

[Prosperity Indiana is at the Statehouse for Legislative Council Day. We're here in support of HR 16, a resolution that would study how the State of Indiana may reduce the regulatory and operational burden on small businesses to promote payroll deduction as a retirement savings option for employees; the preparedness of Hoosiers to retire in a financially secure manner; and the need for a statewide financial literacy strategy.](#)

Welcome New & Returning Members

Citizens Energy

Economic Development Corporation Michigan City

Indianapolis Housing Agency

Ohio County Convention, Tourism and Visitors Commission

[Submit News or Events](#)



Piece of the PI
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Affordable Housing Further Out of Reach for Average & Low-Income Hoosier Renters

The cost of remaining stably housed continues to rise for average Hoosier renters in most Indiana counties and is out of reach for low-wage workers in every county of the state, according to a national report released this week. The report, [*Out of Reach: The High Cost of Housing*](#), is jointly released by Prosperity Indiana and the



National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC), a research and advocacy organization dedicated solely to achieving affordable and decent homes for the lowest income people.

OUT *of* REACH

In 2019, the State Housing Wage for
INDIANA

Is

\$16.03 PER HOUR

To afford a 2-bedroom home without paying more than 30% of income on housing, the average renter must work **88** hours per week or **2.2** full time jobs at minimum wage. Can you afford a modest home in **Indiana**?

To learn more visit <http://nlihc.org/oor>

©2019 National Low Income Housing Coalition

www.nlihc.org/oor



In order to afford a modest, two-bedroom apartment at fair market rent in Indiana, renters need to earn \$16.03 per hour. That figure is up from \$15.56 in 2018, further exacerbating gaps in housing affordability in communities across the state. Working at the minimum wage of \$7.25 in Indiana, a worker must have 1.8 full-time jobs or work 71 hours per week to afford a modest one-bedroom apartment; or have 2.2 full-time jobs or work 88 hours per week to afford a two-bedroom apartment. [Click here to read more.](#)

General Assembly Interim Study Committee Topics Announced

The Legislative Council for the Indiana General Assembly [released a resolution](#) on May 21, outlining the study topics assigned to state legislators in interim study committees. There are several critical topics to Prosperity Indiana's member network and we will keep you updated as to when these meetings are scheduled and how to get engaged in advocacy related to these topics!

- Revisions to the Uniform Consumer Credit Code (including payday lending).

- State tax credits and other issues related to workforce housing and affordable housing. (Source: HB 1234-2019 (as introduced); Letter Lt. Gov. Crouch.
- The recurring tax incentive review for the Neighborhood Assistance Tax Credit Program, Individual Development Assistance Tax Credit Program and the low income housing exemption

Senator Young Introduces Key Affordable Housing Bills

Prosperity Indiana is pleased to lend our support to key initiatives introduced/re-introduced by Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.) this month. [Read this blog post](#) for more information on the Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act and the Task Force on the Impact of the Affordable Housing Crisis Act.

Statewide Media Coverage Highlights Recent Prosperity Indiana Advocacy Efforts

On the heels of the release of the 2019 Out of Reach report on Tuesday and our press conference and community conversation around evictions and affordable housing challenges on June 5, numerous media outlets ran stories detailing challenges local communities are facing across the state. Their coverage of this new data, context from our member network, and individual stories of hardship help underline why advocacy work to drastically expand the supply of affordable housing is so critical. To review the coverage, click on the links below.

[Evictions event coverage](#)

[Out of Reach 2019 coverage](#)



AmeriCorps Position Available with Prosperity Indiana

Prosperity Indiana is seeking a reduced full-time (1,200 hours, eight month term) AmeriCorps member who wants to help Indiana nonprofits fill capacity gaps and has a talent for using data to tell stories of impact.

[Click here to read the full position description](#), or contact National Service Program Manager Carey Craig at ccraig@prosperityindiana.org for more info.

Four Prosperity Indiana Members to Receive Empower Indiana Grants

Prosperity Indiana will award a total of \$95,000 to the following organizations through the Empower Indiana Grant Challenge funded by the CareSource Foundation:

- [Merchants Affordable Housing Corporation](#) - providing health services through an integrated permanent supportive housing model for homeless families in Indianapolis through a partnership with Raphael Health Center.
- [Paramount Schools of Excellence](#) - improving academic achievement and health outcomes by using health data to trigger earlier interventions for students with repeated health incidents in Marion and Rush counties.
- [South Central Indiana Housing Opportunities](#) - engaging a volunteer network to provide resources to tenants to help them solve housing problems, thereby reducing evictions and improving housing stability in Monroe County.
- [United Way of Madison County](#) - developing a network of certified Community Health Workers trained to more holistically address conditions affecting the physical, emotional and financial health of families in Madison County.

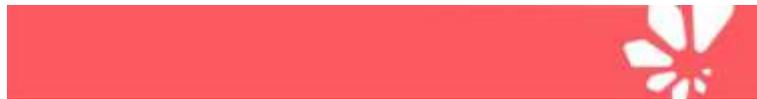
Training: Preparing to Retire Before 100

Join the Indiana Assets & Opportunity Network on July 17 for a training featuring A&O Steering Committee Member Ben Joergens, Director of Financial Empowerment, VP, at Old

National Bank, as he discusses the ins-and-outs of retirement savings.

[Click here to register.](#)

Learn more about the Network [here](#) or contact Logan Charlesworth at lcharlesworth@prosperityindiana.org.



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.](#)



IHCDA Announces Anchor Employer Workforce Housing Program

The [Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority's](#) (IHCDA) new Anchor Employer Workforce Housing Program will create public-private partnerships to invest in workforce housing. IHCDA is seeking up to four qualified anchor employers to establish a plan to encourage workforce housing opportunities in their communities. Employers can request up to \$1 million each and must match or exceed the investment made by IHCDA.

[Click here to view the RFP.](#) Responses are due by July 29, 2019.

National Endowment for the Arts Announces 2019 Citizens' Institute on Rural Design

The National Endowment for the Arts has announced the opening of the 2019 Citizens' Institute on Rural Design with a call for applications to the program. The National Endowment for the Arts program offers funding and technical assistance to communities with populations of 50,000 or less to address local

challenges related to economic vitality and quality of life through design solutions.

[Click here to learn more and apply.](#) The deadline for application is July 22, 2019.

Request for Qualifications: Lead Hazard Demonstration Grant Program

The [Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority's](#) (IHCDA) is seeking to select nonprofit organizations and local units of government to participate in the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Program to promote lead-safe and healthy homes, provide lead hazard control activities, healthy homes intervention measures, lead paint poisoning and health hazards in households with children diagnosed with an Elevated Blood Lead Level and/or children under six years of age living in target housing. [Click here for more information about the RFQ.](#)

Deadline to submit is July 24, 2019.

Download the Mobile App!



The advertisement features three overlapping mobile app screens. The leftmost screen shows the WildApricot logo and a 'Log In' button. The middle screen displays a user profile for 'Jessica Love' with contact information for Prosperity Indiana. The rightmost screen shows a registration card for an event titled 'Understanding and Using Outcome Measures -- Indianapolis' with dates from May 2018 to March 2019 and a location in Indianapolis, IN. Below the screens is a green banner with the text 'Never miss an opportunity to connect! Download the WildApricot app'. At the bottom, a dark blue banner contains the text 'Mobile App Available Now' and a paragraph: '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.'

Never miss an opportunity to connect!
Download the WildApricot app

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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Shopping on Amazon.com? Switch to smile.amazon.com/ch/35-1695379 and Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchase to Prosperity Indiana!



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.

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

Connect with us

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