



# Piece of the PI: Newsletter

A monthly publication for the members of Prosperity Indiana

## June 2020

### Executive Director's Letter

How does racial equity fit neatly into our work and conversations around resources, engagement and advocacy? In truth, it doesn't. Fit neatly, that is. That's not because it's not part of our work. It is and has been, and increasingly has become central to our work as the racial wealth gap has grown. But if we want to do it more authentically and better, and in a less compartmentalized way, it will be messy. Messier. Messiest. Before we can make REAL progress around racial justice. And that's part of what we've seen as people have been crying out from the streets about reforming policing policies and eliminating related brutality and the larger conversations we're having as a nation around systemic racism.



We're now forced – in a good way – to re-think our role in leading this work. Part of that is making sure racial equity is where we start our work, instead of regularly considering how it fits into it.

Last month, I highlighted in my advocacy-focused message to members the importance of a power shift – meaning becoming even more intentionally inclusive of impacted people as we're working alongside them to elevate their voices, instead of just on their behalf, and handing over the power we hold in leading this work. I could not have imagined when I wrote that on May 20 how the world would change on May 25 with the death of George Floyd to truly underscore the importance of this sentiment. As a result, we probably still have more questions than answers regarding how we do this better.

What we do know is: This matters. Black Lives Matter. And we will be looking for ways to provide more resources to members to do this messy work that REALLY matters. In the meantime, we will be taking advantage of an opportunity to engage ourselves in the messy work of going through a diversity, inclusion and equity assessment, both to understand where we have room for improvement as individuals and an organization and to inform the development of a similar resource for our own members. In the meantime, please let us know how we might be a resource to you and your organization as you think through reorienting your work, centered on equity, or other [consulting work](#) or [training](#) we might provide in this increasingly challenging time that REALLY MATTERS in charting our collective new norms.

And, 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.**

**Black Lives Matter.  
We will be looking for ways to provide more  
resources to members to work towards racial equity  
and do the messy work that REALLY matters.**

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

## **R**ESOURCES

### **Capacity Development & Webinars**

Mark your calendar for our next webinar, "Returning to Work," on June 22 at 10 a.m. More information will soon be released on our [events page](#).

#### **Capacity Development Available to Rural Nonprofits**

Prosperity Indiana, in partnership with the National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders (NALCAB), is offering technical assistance to rural nonprofits engaged in creating community and economic development opportunities and affordable housing for low-income communities in rural areas.

Together with NALCAB, Prosperity Indiana provides free technical assistance to members, ranging from topics including program design and implementation, organizational strategic planning, resource development and financing planning, and affordable housing development.

To pitch your consulting project idea to Prosperity Indiana, please [e-mail Carey W Craig](#), Prosperity Indiana's Capacity Development Manager.

This initiative is underwritten by a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Projects that are large in scope may require some financial contribution from the benefitting organization.

#### **July Webinars**

Tuesday, July 7, 2020 (10.00 AM - 11.00 AM ET)  
Indiana's Looming Housing Crisis

Monday, July 13, 2020 (10.00 AM - 11.00 AM ET)  
Introduction to Community Development

Monday, July 20, 2020 (10.00 AM - 11.00 AM ET)  
Introduction to Economic Development

Monday, July 27, 2020 (10.00 AM - 11.00 AM ET)  
Race Equity in Community Economic Development

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 emergency response policies with peers, [please share it here](#).

## Staying Connected

Join our new master Facebook group for Prosperity Indiana staff and members only! We'll moderate a single general forum to pose questions, get to know other members, and share best practices across community development topics. [Click here to join!](#)

In case you missed it, member packets are now available electronically. Access [the member packet](#) here.

As you know, we are unable to conduct our in-person regional meetings this year due to COVID-19. Creative alternatives to our regional gatherings are in the works. More details coming soon!

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The logo features a large, light blue letter 'A' on the left, followed by the word 'ADVOCACY' in a smaller, light blue, sans-serif font to its right.

### PI and Coalition Hold Press Conference, Continue Advocating for Hoosier Housing Needs

Prosperity Indiana continues to advocate for a coordinated statewide COVID-19 policy response. Most recently, PI joined the Hoosier Housing Needs Coalition in a [virtual press conference](#) on June 10 to call attention to concerns about Indiana's lack of readiness for the planned end of the eviction moratorium on June 30, including how it would disproportionately impact Black Hoosiers and households of color.

With [housing and rent assistance now at the top of Hoosiers' unmet COVID-19 needs](#), Coalition members warned that proceeding with lifting the moratorium without heeding [recommendations issued last month](#) for the state to enact a coordinated COVID-19 housing stability policy response – to ensure that adequate resources are distributed equitably to Indiana's hardest hit populations and communities – could result in delaying or reversing the state's pandemic recovery.

Speakers included:

- Derris Ross, CEO and Founder, The Ross Foundation and Indianapolis Tenants Rights Union
- Amy Nelson, Executive Director, Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana
- Jessica Love, Executive Director, Prosperity Indiana
- Andrew Bradley, Policy Director, Prosperity Indiana

Prior to the press conference, the Coalition [issued a press release](#) with new data spelling out racial disparities of housing insecurity since the COVID-19 public health emergency.

In addition, PI [released a summary](#) on June 17 of the analysis and recommendations issued to state and federal policymakers to date urging a coordinated COVID-19 housing security policy response. Also on June 17, we learned that the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) [announced](#) that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac will [extend their moratorium](#) on single-family foreclosures and evictions from June 30 until at least August 31, 2020. PI will monitor any announcements at the state level as well.

## 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.



## *Upcoming Events*

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

[June 10-July 15: 2020 Movers and Makers of Tomorrow Summer Summit \(Virtual\)](#)

[June 23-26: Corporation for Supportive Housing Summit 2020 \(Virtual\)](#)

[June 24: Advancing Workforce Recovery \(Virtual\)](#)

[August 13-14: Indiana Housing Conference \(Virtual\)](#)

[September 10: Love Thy Neighborhood Awards Gala \(Indianapolis\)](#)

[September 30-October 2: 2020 Prosperity Now Summit \(Virtual\)](#)

[October 27-29: NACEDA Summit 2020](#)

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## *Job Opportunities*

[Operations Manager - Renew Indianapolis, Inc.](#)

[Senior Program Officer – Family Income and Wealth Building - Local Initiatives Support Corp \(LISC Indianapolis\)](#)

[Deputy Director - Local Initiatives Support Corp \(LISC Indianapolis\)](#)

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## *ICYMI: Media Spots*

[Indiana’s eviction pause extended until July 1; organization calls for rent assistance program](#)

[Tenant advocates call for statewide rental assistance plan, longer moratorium on evictions](#)

[Indiana Extends Eviction Pause Through July 1](#)

[Groups try to ward off ‘tsunami’ of new evictions once moratorium ends](#)

[12 Hoosier Communities Take Action To Protect Renters From COVID-19 Evictions](#)

[More than 250,000 Hoosiers may need help paying rent](#)

[Rent Strike: State must act now to help prevent eviction crisis](#)

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# Tools & Resources

## **OCRA'S CDBG & COVID-19 Response Program**

The Office of Community and Rural Affairs announced that the second phase of the COVID-19 Response Program is now open.

Preliminary proposals are being accepted until 11:59 p.m. ET on Sunday, June 26, 2020. There will be no technical support available past 4 p.m ET on June 26. Final applications are due by Friday, July 31, with funding awards planned for the week of August 23, 2020.

View the [requirements and deadlines](#).

## **PPP Flexibility Act**

The [PPP Flexibility Act](#) was passed on May 28. It includes updates to the loan terms, including only needing to spend 60% on payroll for forgiveness. Loan recipients may also spend the money on mortgage and other pre-existing debt.

Businesses are required to restore their number of staff to pre-pandemic levels.

View the updated [loan forgiveness requirements](#).

View the [SBA's Coronavirus relief options](#) information here.

## **IHCDA CARES Act Emergency Solutions Grant**

The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) released two grant applications for the CARES Act Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV). The applications can be found on the [IHCDA Public Notices' page](#).

Applicant proposals must be submitted electronically via e-mail.

The deadlines for applications are:

- June 29, 2020, at 5:00 PM EDT
- July 27, 2020, at 5:00 PM EDT
- August 24, 2020, at 5:00 PM EDT

## **Back on Track Indiana Small Business Restart Fund**

Gov. Holcomb approved \$30 million in federal funding made available through the CARES Act for small business restart grants, helping accelerate the speed of economic recovery activity by providing working capital to cover certain expenses related to the global pandemic.

Eligible Indiana small businesses can seek reimbursement for up to 80% of qualified expenses, such as rent/mortgage payments, utilities, lease payments for real or personal property, and safety investments, such as personal protective equipment (PPE) and infrastructure improvements.

View the [requirements and application](#).

## **Back on Track Indiana Rapid Recovery Plan**

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented Indiana with unprecedented challenges. To help get Hoosiers back on their feet, Governor Eric Holcomb's Workforce Cabinet worked alongside Indiana employers, policymakers, state and local partners to develop the Rapid Recovery for a Better Future Plan.

This people-focused initiative is aimed at providing resources and support for Hoosiers to secure education and training, skill and career coaching and access to quality jobs.

View [Indiana's Hub for Rapid Recovery](#).

## **SUN For All Solar Empowerment Grant**

SUN For All will deploy more solar in Indiana and reduce the energy burden on organizations serving low-income populations, allowing more funding to be directed towards services. The fiscal agent for this program is the Citizens Action Coalition Educational Fund (CACEF).

[Applications are due by 5 p.m. July 10, 2020.](#)

The grant may award up to 100% of the cost of the solar installation, although preferred applicants will provide some funds or in-kind donations to help pay for and support the proposed project.

Contact grant administrator, [Stan Rorick](#), with any questions.

## **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program**

Indiana was recently awarded nearly \$17 million in supplemental Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funding through the CARES Act.

Applications for the program year are due by July 31, 2020.

Due to the high demand, local service providers may take up to 60 days to determine eligibility and an additional 30 days for the utility company to process the payment.

If you are unable to make your payments, it is recommended to negotiate a payment arrangement with your utility provider and inform them of a pending application for the Energy Assistance Program.

[Details to apply are here.](#)

## **PPE Marketplace**

A new marketplace for personal protective equipment (PPE) that will serve as an added resource for Indiana small businesses returning to work is now available.

To be eligible to purchase from it, an organization must:

- Be a business or nonprofit organization registered to do business in Indiana with the Indiana Secretary of State;
- Employ less than 150 associates; and
- Be identified in the reopening plan as an entity that must use PPE as a condition of operating in order to comply with safe workplace requirements.

[View requirements and apply here.](#)

## **NLIHC's Tenant Talk: A Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic**

This issue of the National Low Income Housing Coalition's magazine delves into such issues as how people experiencing homelessness are especially at risk for COVID-19, health challenges in shelters, effects on low-income people, increase of domestic violence, education impacts, effects on immigrants, and more.

This edition also describes the housing and homelessness provisions and resources in the "CARES Act," how much more is needed, and how low-income advocates and their allies can take action to ensure the essential housing components of the House-passed "HEROES Act" are enacted.

[View the publication.](#)

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## **How to Stay Healthy**





## **Resources**

[Be Well Indiana](#)

[Indiana State Department of Health](#)

[Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

[HUD COVID-19 Guidance](#)

[Prevention Steps for Close Contacts](#)

[Interim Shelter Guidance](#)

[Homeless without Shelter Guidance](#)

## **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).

## **Back on Track Indiana**

Governor Eric J. Holcomb issued an executive order "Roadmap to Reopen Indiana for Hoosiers, Businesses, and State Government."

The Governor outlines a five stage plan to reopen Indiana. Most of the state is currently in stage four. Find more information on openings, restrictions, and guidelines at [Back on Track Indiana](#).

View [Executive Order 20-26](#) here.

View the [Press Release](#) here.

## Prosperity Indiana's Response

Prosperity Indiana staff does not plan to return to the office before July 6. We have compiled the following information about our return to work plan.

What we already doing:

- 100% of staff working from home; returning to the office no sooner than July 6
- Staggering essential visits to the office by 3 days between employees
- Employees on essential office business wear masks in the common areas of the building, wash/sanitize hands frequently and wipe/disinfect touched areas before leaving.

Our re-opening plan includes:

- Providing two weeks' notice to staff and building management of our return date
- Limiting staff in the office to no more than 3 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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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.



**WE WANT  
TO HEAR  
FROM YOU!**

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**Connect with us**

**Prosperity Indiana**

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