



# Piece of the PI: Newsletter

A monthly publication for the members of Prosperity Indiana

## May 2020

### Executive Director's Letter

The kids have taken over. They're in charge, in many ways. For anyone with kiddos in the house right now, I feel pretty confident that you get me when I say this.

And while we may still build our days in isolation and our childcare arrangements around our work, it feels different these days. That if we have full coverage to allow us to do our work, we feel lucky. In fact, as I write this, I'm also participating in a Zoom and thankful I have the video off, since my 5-year-old just ran in here with only his undies on. And he's not leaving at my request. It will either take a quick text and my husband coming in here to get him, or me leaving my meeting and taking him to his dad. Just being real.



In many ways, my son has more control over my day than I do. That's different. Previously, I sent him to preschool each day – deciding where he goes, when he goes, when he's picked up, and often what he wears and what he eats in the morning, etc. In the old norm, I was doing all of the things I needed to do to properly care for him, but I (with my husband) was largely the decider regarding what was best for him. But now, if he evades his father's watch (we also have a 6 month old!), the 5 yo decides how focused I can remain on any given task on any given day or hour. Plus, he's always more top of mind during my work day now, since we're all here together. In many ways, it's only right that that's the case.

And honestly, I think that's a very fitting comparison to what those we seek to ultimately serve, particularly low income individuals and families who are most impacted by COVID-19 right now, deserve to increasingly experience. A power shift.

Part of the reason I work is to support my family, and I'm far more mindful of my family members throughout the day these days. Another reason I work is to strengthen our communities by supporting our members, and especially serve those who are disadvantaged in some way, including amplifying their voice in the advocacy and public policy space.

Now, more than ever, we are earnestly seeking to engage the voices of those for whom we're working. We will welcome any shifts, as the case may be, to our campaign and coalition building processes of inviting and highlighting organizational voices. We know that the individuals for whom the policies we seek to benefit could be a larger part of our combined voice. And we want to invite that.

So, if you have suggestions on how to inform our work – and improve our focus on equity – through more and increasingly authentic engagements and insights derived from those we're ultimately here to serve, please share what's worked for you or what you've seen work for others! While it may not make our work easier, it will make it more purposeful. And that's what we want.

We want to see the brokenness in systems – and gaps in connections between those who create and implement policies and those who are most impacted by them – mended in coordination with empowered and impacted individuals across the Hoosier state. So, if you have thoughts on who we need as new partners, or suggestions for inviting those voices, we're all ears! (At least until the 5-year-old interrupts us again, anyway.)

You can [reach me here](#). And to get my attention and help me organize my inbox, I invite you

You can [reach me here](#). And to get my attention and help me organize my inbox, I invite you to make your subject line "Power shift".

Thanks for all of the power shifting work you do every day to strengthen our communities! And, as always, thank you for being a Piece of the PI Network.

With my greatest respect,



Jessica Love  
Executive Director

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



**We amplify your voices through  
togetherness, innovation, and teamwork.**

We want to see the brokenness in systems – and gaps in connections between those who create and implement policies and those who are most impacted by them – mended in coordination with empowered and impacted individuals across the Hoosier state.

---

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

## R**ESOURCES**

### COVID-19 Hub & Webinars

We have collaborated with organizations across Indiana to create the [Community Recovery Workbook](#). This workbook is a starting tool and is intended to provide guidance for stakeholders in assessing organizational capacity, prioritizing needs, and creating a plan for recovery. Webinars are being conducted to assist community stakeholders, individuals or teams, in accessing and understanding how to utilize the workbook and the planning process. The first two webinars are scheduled for [Thursday, May 21st, 3:30pm \(EST\)](#) and [Friday, May 22nd, 10:00am \(EST\)](#). If these webinar dates and times are not available for you, other times will be scheduled and these two sessions will be recorded.

We have also created a [Federal Eviction Moratorium flier](#) to help streamline the understanding of the CARES Act's temporary moratorium on evictions.

Join us next Tuesday, May 26, for "Keeping Your Workforce Healthy and in Service." As recovery from the COVID-19 begins to emerge, the health and safety of team members remain a high priority. We will delve into the world of emotional support for teams and the role of supervisors. Our guest presenter is Kimble Richardson, M.S., LMHC, LCSW, LMFT, LCAC, of Community Health Network (Behavioral Health). [Register here](#).

Share the wealth! Have a resource or tool you could share with your peers? We'll add it to the

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](#).

Access the COVID-19 Hub

---

## E NGAGEMENT

### Survey Winner & Staying Connected

Congratulations to Family Services Association of Howard County! They were selected as the winner of a \$100 donation for completing our COVID-19 impact survey. We have closed the survey to respondents and plan to share the results next week.

Please join us in welcoming the following brand new 2020 members to our network!

- Community Action of Southern Indiana, Inc.
- Anthem
- US Census Bureau
- Anderson Housing Authority
- Jackson County Visitor Center
- Indiana University Center for Rural Engagement
- United Northeast Community Development Corporation
- The Gifted Word
- George and Frances Ball Foundation
- Ivy Tech Community College Central Indiana
- A Better Way Services, Inc.
- Northern Indiana Community Foundation
- Hendricks County Bank & Trust Company
- Indigo Investments, Inc.

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!

---

## A DVOCACY

### New Housing Coalition Formed

Having [received](#) a \$50,000 grant from the National Low Income Housing Coalition to conduct research and education for an equitable COVID-19 housing policy response, PI is now convening a set of key advocates from this session's successful SEA 148 [veto campaign](#) to advocate for housing stability policies. The new Hoosier Housing Needs Coalition issued a [set of recommendations](#) in early May calling on Indiana's policymakers to commit to the goal that no Hoosier would be evicted or made homeless as a result of the pandemic. The Coalition urged Governor Holcomb to extend the pause on evictions for 60 days after the end of the public health emergency and use the time to appoint a Housing Security Lead to ensure an equitable response and to implement a statewide emergency rental assistance program. [Update: on May 20, Governor Holcomb [announced](#) that he is again extending the pause on evictions, foreclosures, and utility shutoffs, this time through July 1, 2020.]

PI has continued conversations with state policymakers to that end, including providing testimony and comments on proposed amendments to the state's proposed [action plans](#) for CARES Act ESG and CDBG funds. PI encourages Indiana's Congressional delegation to [champion #RentReliefNow](#) in the next coronavirus relief package. PI has already had one conversation with Senator Todd Young [asking him](#) to support emergency rental assistance, and is planning additional outreach. PI members and partners can get additional information and updates by contacting [hoosierhousingneeds@prosperityindiana.org](mailto:hoosierhousingneeds@prosperityindiana.org).

PI also participated in regional listening sessions with the Indiana Coalition for Human Services and contributed to recommendations for [Indiana COVID-19 Response](#): Federal and State Policies Needed to Support Hoosiers' Ability to Recover.

---

## **P** PROGRAMS

### **Indiana Assets & Opportunity Network**

PI is working with our Indiana A&O Network partners to think ahead for policies that will allow Hoosiers to 'rebuild better' assets and opportunities following the pandemic.

The Indiana Assets & Opportunity Network creates learning opportunities for community leaders, advocates on policies that affect low-to-moderate income families, and builds capacity for organizations aimed to increase financial stability. It is co-led by Prosperity Indiana and the [Indiana Institute for Working Families \(IIWF\)](#), which is a program of the Indiana Community Action Association skilled in research, policy analysis, and advocacy.

[Click here to join the A&O Network.](#)



## *Upcoming Events*

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

[June 2-4: Philanthropy Leads - IPA Conference & 30th Anniversary Celebration \(Virtual\)](#)

[June 2-6: 57th International Making Cities Livable Conference \(Carmel\)](#)

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

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

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

---

## *Job Opportunities*

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

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

[Housing Policy Analyst/Senior Housing Policy Analyst - National Low Income Housing Coalition \(NLIHC\)](#)

---

## *Public Hearing*

### **Amendment to 2019 Action Plan**

The Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) will amend its 2019 Action Plan in response to community needs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The amendment establishes spending priorities for approximately \$18 million in community development funds related to the CARES Act. It also impacts the Community Development Block Grant program.

A virtual public hearing will be held on May 28, 2020, at 2 p.m. ET that can be [accessed by computer](#).

Event number: 612 925 576

Event password: COVID

By phone: 1-844-621-3956

Access code: 612 925 576

---



Connect with and  
follow us on Facebook,  
Twitter, and LinkedIn!

---

---

## Tools & Resources

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

On April 30, an additional 49 rural Hoosier communities received more than \$8.8 million in federal grant funding through the Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA)'s new COVID-19 Response Program. This brought the total program award amount to \$10.7 million.

The program was created to address the immediate impacts of COVID-19 on Indiana's rural communities. Funds are derived from the State's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) allocation. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provided guidance on how the funds are to be used.

Additional CDBG funds have been allocated to the state. The first round application was available [here](#).

### **Paycheck Protection Program Re-Opened**

The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) re-opened April 27. Funds are still available. The [Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program webpage](#) provides comprehensive information. The [National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations \(NACEDA\)](#) has reported that those applying through smaller banks have had more success in receiving PPP funding from the first round.

In addition to member banks, community development financial institution (CDFI) member IFF is actively processing applications and does not require that you be an existing IFF borrower to apply. They welcome smaller loan [applications](#) because they understand the power of small nonprofits. So far, their approved SBA loans have ranged from \$1,500 to \$855,000.

NOTE: If you've already submitted an application with another financial institution, you cannot apply with another financial institution. If multiple applications are submitted, it might disqualify your application.

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

View a [comparison chart of loan options](#) available to nonprofits, created by the National Council of Nonprofits.

## **New PRIME Funding**

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has announced up to \$5.5 million in grant funding for the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs (PRIME) and invites proposals from private, nonprofit microenterprise development organizations; microenterprise development programs run by State/Local/Tribal Governments; or Indian tribes interested in providing or building their capacities to provide training and technical assistance to disadvantaged microentrepreneurs (e.g., economically disadvantaged entrepreneurs in rural areas or HUBZones).

See [Funding Opportunity PRIME-2020-01](#). The deadline to apply is May 31.

SBA Indiana Point of Contact: [Lindsay Maliqi](#) at (317) 995-1791

SBA Programmatic Point of Contact: [Office of Financial Assistance](#) at (202) 619-0628

## **Advocates' Guide 2020 Released**

The National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) has released its "Advocates' Guide 2020: A Primer on Federal Affordable Housing & Community Development Programs," a comprehensive resource for advocates and others involved in many aspects of affordable housing and community development. Written by NLIHC staff and other leading experts in the field, the guide contains summaries of housing and community development programs, as well as housing policy tools and other information.

[View the guide here.](#)

## **Women's Legacy Grants Deadline Extended**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the deadline for the Preserving Women's Legacy Grants has been extended to June 15, 2020. These grants will provide Indiana Main Street organizations with funds to discover, preserve and activate locations that tell stories about women's contributions in Indiana.

Main Street communities may apply for the grants at the Indiana Women's Suffrage Centennial website, [IndianaSuffrage100.org](#). Although inspired by the women's suffrage centennial, projects do not have to focus on suffrage specifically. Full grant guidelines are posted [on the website](#).

For questions about the grants, contact George Hanlin, director of grants at Indiana Humanities, at [ghanlin@indianahumanities.org](mailto:ghanlin@indianahumanities.org) or call 317-616-9784.

## **House Passes HEROES Act**

The House passed the "[Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions \(HEROES\) Act](#)." The "HEROES Act" is a \$3 trillion relief bill to aid the response of the U.S. to COVID-19. The bill proposes almost \$200 billion in additional funding for housing and homelessness programs to help communities address the needs of low-income renters, homeowners, and people experiencing homelessness.

[Read more here.](#)

---

# 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).

## Governor's Recent Executive Order

Governor Eric J. Holcomb issued a new 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 two. 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

Despite the Marion County stay-at-home order coming to an end, the Prosperity Indiana staff does not plan to return to the office before June. As our team prepares, we have compiled the following information about our return to work plan.

What we are already doing:

- 100% of staff working from home; returning to the office no sooner than June 15
- 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.

---

## Support Prosperity Indiana while you shop with AmazonSmile!

Shopping on Amazon.com? Switch to our Amazon Smile 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.](#)

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



**WE WANT  
TO HEAR  
FROM YOU!**

---

**Connect with us**

**Prosperity Indiana**

1099 N. Meridian Street, Suite 170, Indianapolis, IN 46204  
(317) 222-1221

This email was sent to {Contact\_Email}. If you no longer wish to receive email from Prosperity Indiana,  
[click here to unsubscribe.](#)