

MISSION

Prosperity Indiana builds a better future for our communities by providing advocacy, leveraging resources, and engaging an empowered network of members to create inclusive opportunities that build assets and improve lives.

VISION

Prosperity Indiana believes in a society where all persons can live and work in an environment that provides equitable access to economic and social opportunity.

VALUES

Collaboration, Empowerment, Impact, Integrity, and Social Justice

Piece of the PI: Newsletter

A monthly publication for the members of Prosperity Indiana

June 2022

Policy Director's Letter

You read that right – while our fearless leader Jessica Love is on a much-deserved vacation this week, I was asked to use this space usually reserved for the Executive Director's Letter to provide an update on 'advocacy in the interim'.

While you likely hear the most about PI's advocacy for community economic development when the Indiana General Assembly is in session, the work goes on year-round. And while we had some [key legislative victories](#) this session, it's actually during the interim, or time between sessions, that we have some of our best opportunities to connect with members about new challenges and opportunities and learn from best practices in the field. This is also a time when we have a chance to dig in on data and research that grounds our advocacy alongside member engagement. For example, earlier this month PI worked with our partners in the Hoosier Housing Needs Coalition to release a [policy brief](#) whose findings about the need for housing relief that continues to outpace aid to Hoosier households helped inform a new [Bloomberg News article](#) on emergency rental assistance. We'll also be weighing in on [interim legislative studies](#) on housing and medical costs and providing programming for our policy-related coalitions during this season.



Over the summer PI will also be rolling out new opportunities for members to participate in advocacy efforts and help inform our 2023 agenda development. One opportunity comes with the current open comment period for the Community Reinvestment Act: keep your eyes out for more info and check out the [#TreasureCRA](#) resources from our partners at NCRC ahead of the deadline on August 5. The interim season also provides opportunities to focus on federal advocacy and efforts to increase resources for [community development](#) and [affordable housing](#) that we'll continue to bring to you

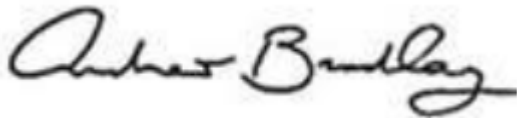
[affordable housing](#) that we'll continue to bring to you.

This summer we're also especially thankful to be able to connect again in person. There's still time to [register](#) to join the PI team at the Midwest Asset Building Conference from June 29-30. Most importantly, be sure to [save the dates and register for our upcoming Prosperity Indiana regional meetings](#) where we'll be discussing 'Wealth Builders and Wealth Strippers' and what impacts financial resiliency for Hoosiers in your communities. The results of these conversations, and your responses to the PI Policy Survey we send later this summer, will directly shape our 2023 policy agenda. Here are the dates and locations:

- Southeast - July 19, Columbus
- Northwest - July 21, Gary
- East Central - July 26, Indianapolis
- Southwest - July 29, Evansville
- Northeast - August 1, Fort Wayne
- West Central - August 4, Terre Haute

Last but not least, we're very happy to have two new additions to the [PI team](#): Program Evaluation Manager Erica Boswell and Coalition Coordinator Hale Crumley. Both Hale and Erica will be working directly with members and partners in their roles related to policy and program management. **And we want to hear from you, too!** Please reach out any time you have an idea or issue related to community economic development policy and advocacy needs - and we'll see you in the interim.

Thank you, as always, for being a Piece of the PI Network!



Andrew Bradley
Policy Director

This month's Piece of the PI: ADVOCACY



While you likely hear the most about PI's advocacy for community economic development when the Indiana General Assembly is in session, the work goes on year-round. And while we had some key legislative victories this session, it's actually during the interim, or time between sessions, that we have some of our best opportunities to connect with members about new challenges and opportunities and learn from best practices in the field.

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

R**ESOURCES**

Upcoming Trainings, Tools, & Funding Opportunities

Spotlight on Coming Attractions

Health IS Wealth!

Beginning next month, PI will renew our virtual conversations relevant to member needs. Join your colleagues for the Health IS Wealth series, outlining how health and wealth are inescapably linked. This series will highlight best practices at the critical intersection between health and family financial stability, empowering communities to develop what Robert Wood Johnson Foundation calls, “a culture of health.” A culture of health goes well beyond health access and affordability by aligning programs, policies, and public/private investments to help Hoosiers be healthy, wealthy, and wise!

July Programs

- July 11: Public/Private Partnerships for Building Food Systems
- July 25: A Playbook for Rural Health Partnerships

The Room Where it Happened

Many thanks to Regions Bank for sponsoring our June 9th Access to Finance Workshop. The one-day in-person workshop was educational and enlightening as experts **Keith Broadnax**, **Anne Mannix**, **Matt Stoops**, and **Keith Veal** shared their insights on how to prepare a compelling case for financing. Participant reviews included wonderful comments such as “*This was exactly what I needed*” and “*This program was so much fun!*”



Tools You Can Use

Storytelling with Data, Cole Nussbaumer Knaflic’s indispensable book is a “must-have” for

any nonprofit professional wanting to improve their ability to show the impact of their work.
[Check it out!](#)

Capacity Matters

The term “capacity” is used frequently but can mean many different things. To help simplify the myriad uses and understandings of the term, PI is embracing a definition of capacity as, “the skills, networks, tools, and talent for organizations and individuals to deliver high-performance results over an extended period of time.” What do you think? Reach out to [Marie Beason](#) with your thoughts!

Fun Fact

The Indiana Arts Commission reports that 18,525 creative jobs are in the zip codes surrounding Indiana Cultural Districts (2019). Is your community leveraging the power of the arts to drive economic success? [Learn more](#) about the power of Cultural Districts.

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Upcoming Regional Meetings

[Regional Meetings](#) will be held in six regions of the state this summer. If you are interested in serving as a meeting liaison with Prosperity Indiana and local community leaders in your area, please contact [Rita O'Donohue](#).

[Save the dates and register for our upcoming regional meetings:](#)

- **Southeast** - July 19, Columbus
- **Northwest** - July 21, Gary
- **East Central** - July 26, Indianapolis
- **Southwest** - July 29, Evansville
- **Northeast** - August 1, Fort Wayne
- **West Central** - August 4, Terre Haute

Send Your Events, Career Opportunities, & Other Highlights

We want to share our members' events and career opportunities. Both are highlighted in the monthly newsletter and career opportunities are posted [on our website](#). Send your event or job posting information to [Michaela Wischmeier](#).

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DVOCACY

New Policy Brief, CRA Comments, and IGA Interim Studies

Coalition Releases Policy Brief

Coalition Releases Policy Brief

The Hoosier Housing Needs Coalition announces the release of 'Policy Brief: Housing stability strategy needed to overcome Indiana's disproportionate outcomes in COVID's second year.' Two years after the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the need for housing stability relief continues to far outpace the aid reaching Hoosier households who have been disproportionately affected by evictions and housing instability. To overcome emergency rental assistance (ERA) outcomes that place Indiana behind most neighbors and disproportionately disadvantage Black and brown Hoosiers and low-income families with children, Indiana policymakers must be all-in on an "all of the above" housing stability strategy. [Read the brief here.](#)

CRRA Commenting Period

The commenting period on the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPR) for the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) is open now through August 5. This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to strengthen the impact CRA has on redlining, fair and affordable housing, and community reinvestment. Please see the analysis action toolkit on NCRC's [#TreasureCRA](#) page, and keep an eye out for additional commenting resources from PI next month.

Indiana General Assembly Interim Studies Announced

The Legislative Council released the [topics](#) for interim legislative study committees on May 24. And while the Council did not choose the topics of retirement savings as [recommended](#) by the Indiana Assets & Opportunities Network, it did approve the study of medical costs, the topic of a forthcoming report by Hoosiers for Responsible Lending (HRL). And while the Council likewise did not select the study of habitability standards enforcement as [recommended](#) by the Hoosier Housing Needs Coalition (HHNC), they did include appraisal discrimination, redlining, and gentrification as issues that will be covered by the Housing Task Force that HHNC was named to. PI staffs the Indiana A&O Network, HRL, and HHNC and will weigh in on all of these interim study topics.



Opportunity Investment Consortium

The purpose of the Opportunity Investment Consortium is to encourage the transformation of Opportunity Zone (OZ) neighborhoods into vibrant places that are profoundly attractive and sustainable for both residents and businesses. This is accomplished through a web-based portal that connects investment opportunities with investor member sponsors. [View more information and share your OZ prospectus here.](#) [Access additional OZ resources here.](#)



Community Loan Centers (CLCs) are Expanding to Central and Southern Indiana

Contact [Teresa Reimschisel](#) if your organization would like to offer this benefit to your employee.

- No cost or risk to employer
- Attractive and innovative employee benefit
- Increases productivity, workplace morale, and employee retention
- Reduces costs and productivity lost from employee financial stress and absenteeism
- Easy to administer
- Access to employer portal at anytime
- Employees may apply for loan after working hours



Sponsor

Piece of the PI is sponsored by the Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis (FHLBI).



Upcoming Events

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

[June 16-17: Leadership Conference - Indiana Economic Development Association](#)

[June 23-24: 2022 Health Equity Summit - Health Equity Action Team](#)

[June 24: Co-All IN Day](#)

[June 24: GO ALL IN Day -
United Way of Central
Indiana](#)

[June 29-30: 2022 Midwest
Asset Building Conference](#)

[July 13: The "Benefits Cliff" -
United Way of Central
Indiana](#)

[July 14: Virtual Summit
Series - National Alliance of
Community Economic
Development Associations](#)

[July 20: Data to Action Deep
Dive - Indiana Philanthropy
Alliance](#)

[August 24: Maid for this
Moment with Stephanie
Land - United Way of
Central Indiana](#)

[September 15: Virtual
Summit Series - National
Alliance of Community
Economic Development
Associations](#)

[September 19-21: 2022
Prosperity Conference -
Prosperity Now](#)

[September 22-23: Indiana
Housing Conference -
Indiana Affordable Housing
Council and Indiana
Housing and Community
Economic Development
Authority](#)

[September 27-29:
Philanthropy Leads
Conference - Indiana
Philanthropy Alliance](#)

[October 11-12: Reimagine
Conference 2022 -
Northwest Indiana
Community Action](#)

[Community Action](#)

[November 17: Virtual Summit Series - National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations](#)

Job Opportunities

[Active Transportation Safety Coordinator/Manager - Health By Design](#)

[Children's Specialist for Circles - Bridges Alliance of Johnson County](#)

[Data and Evaluation Coordinator - John Boner Neighborhood Centers](#)

[Director of Real Estate Development - Bloomington Housing Authority](#)

[Economic Development Coordinator - John Boner Neighborhood Centers](#)

[Office Manager - Hamilton County Community Foundation](#)

[Research and Evaluation Coordinator - John Boner Neighborhood Centers](#)

[Residential Loan Processor - Renew Indianapolis](#)

[Systemic Investigations Coordinator - Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana](#)

ICYMI: Media Spots

[Rental assistance report](#)

[Rental assistance report
urges Indiana to distribute
money faster](#)

[Ripple effect of evictions
impacts more than tenants](#)



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Tools & Resources

Expiration of LIHTC-Funded Housing Affordability

According to a recent article from Shelterforce, the LIHTC program was created in 1986 and made permanent in 1993, meaning that many of those first LIHTC units are beginning to see those 30-year affordability restrictions expire.

It's estimated that by the end of the decade, nearly half a LIHTC-funded million housing units will reach the end of their affordability period. "When these affordability restrictions go away, a lot of people lose the dignity of being able to afford living on their own," says Marcos Segura, a staff attorney at the National Housing Law Project.

[Read the article here.](#)

Medical Debt Webinar

Community Catalyst and the National Consumer Law Center will be hosting a webinar, "Medical Debt Crisis - Impact on Black American Families," on July 13th, 2022, from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. ET.

Despite the aims of the Affordable Care Act, medical debt remains a looming crisis, disproportionately affecting Black households and communities. Race contributes to whether households have medical debt, with 28% of Black households carrying medical debt compared to 17% of white non-Hispanic households. Households in the South, the region with the highest concentration of Black people, carry more medical debt than households in other areas of the country. Structural and systemic racism underlies these disparities in medical debt.

[Register for the webinar here.](#)

Housing First Program

IHCDA has released an updated [Administration Manual](#) for the Housing First Program and a [Request for Qualifications \(RFQ\)](#) for organizations interested in receiving funding under the 2022 Housing First Program. Eligible applicants are nonprofit corporations recognized as tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, public housing agencies, or local units of government. Responses to the RFQ are due by 5:00 p.m. ET on Monday, July 25, 2022.

IHCDA will host an [informational webinar](#) to explain the policies and RFQ on June 20, 2022, at 2 p.m. ET.

Questions about the Indiana Housing First Program Manual and RFQ should be directed to [Victoria Jennings](#), Supportive Housing Analyst.

Plans to Return State Reserves

Governor Eric Holcomb announced a plan to return \$1 billion of state reserves to Hoosier taxpayers, following higher-than-expected revenue performance this fiscal year.

Each taxpayer would collect about \$225 in addition to the \$125 Hoosiers are currently receiving from the state's automatic taxpayer refund (ATR). All told, each eligible Hoosier would receive about \$350; a married couple filing jointly would receive about \$700.

[Read more here.](#)

Call for Nominations

Each year, the Indiana Civil Rights Commission teams up with [Indiana Black Expo, Inc.](#) to host the Governor's Reception to acknowledge the outstanding achievement of African Americans throughout the State of Indiana. These awards recognize some of the community's unsung heroes enhancing the need for collaboration and understanding by all Hoosiers.

To nominate a deserving individual, [click here.](#)

COVID-19 Housing Resources

- For a complete list of the state's various emergency rental assistance programs, visit the Housing4Hoosiers [COVID-19 Assistance & Resources](#) page.
 - The [Indy Affordable Modification Program \(IndyAMP\)](#) allows Marion County homeowners negatively affected by COVID-19 to refinance mortgage debt at a below-market interest rate for up to 30 years. IndyAMP allows owners to remain in their homes, become current with their mortgages, and lower their monthly payments.
 - [COVID-19 Resources for Homeowners](#) provides information for FHA-insured mortgages on the foreclosure moratorium and how to apply for mortgage forbearance.
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Member News & Publications

- [2020 Statewide Community Needs Assessment - Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute](#)
 - [2021 Annual Report - Brightpoint](#)
 - [FHCCI Announces Grants and Funding Availability Through Fair Housing Settlement - Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana](#)
 - [Kasey Davis, New Chief Development Officer for Pathfinder Services - Pathfinder Services](#)
 - [May News - Renew Indianapolis](#)
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COVID-19 & How to Stay Healthy

Prosperity Indiana's Response

[Prosperity Indiana team members](#) are transitioning back to a hybrid work arrangement. We are hosting in-person meetings and events and traveling to member sites for in-person gatherings. Watch for more upcoming events [here](#). We will continue to:

- Provide adequate PPE for staff and visitors, along with extra hand sanitizing supplies, tissues, and wipes for high touch surfaces.
- Adapt our return-to-work plan as needed to comply with the [Back on Track Roadmap](#), [Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#), [Indiana Department of Health](#), and [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#) guidelines.

The best way to reach us is always via email. Here is a [link](#) to contact information for full-time staff. Prosperity Indiana is here to support you.

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](#).

We will be sure to inform you of any further updates as needed.

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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 to Michaela Wischmeier here.](#)

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



Prosperity Indiana

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