

# COMMUNITY MATTERS

ECHO Housing Monthly Newsletter



FROM VAN'S VIEW A Message from Savannah Wood, CEO

Welcome to our first monthly newsletter. We are thrilled to be able to share the important work we do in the community and how our mission is achieved through strong individuals, agencies, and partners who want to make an impact. As our agency expands to support those we serve, so too does our need for office space. We are excited to announce that beginning in January, our administrative offices will be moving to 528 Main St. in downtown Evansville. Our historic main office space located at 414 Baker Ave. will continue to be a primary service delivery site for staff and families experiencing homelessness. As we head into 2024, we invite you to join us in our journey and recognize our work to end homelessness, our development of affordable housing, and partnerships and initiatives that impact all of those in our community. From our agency, we wish you a Happy New Year!

### 66 CLIENT QUOTE

"It makes me feel more like myself. I am beginning to understand what my mother was trying to teach me when I was younger."

"J.N." was housed with ECHO Housing & Community Development and assigned to the Renaissance 16 program. When asked how it feels to have a home, this was his reply.

## Mission

The Mission of ECHO Housing Corporation is to create and sustain safe and affordable housing, provide supportive services, and promote community development.

### Vision

ECHO Housing Corporation envisions communities where everyone has a place to call home and the opportunity to thrive.

## Core Values

Compassion Integrity Accountability Innovation Advocacy

# Board of Directors

Dane Chandler - President Banterra Bank

Lu Porter, Vice President Community Volunteer

Jason Fisher, Treasurer Old National Bank

Lucy Himstedt, Secretary Community Volunteer

Rev. Gerald Arnold *NAACP* 

Sheryl Hoosier Community Volunteer

Darla Olberding Community Volunteer

Kendra Nance EMI Plating

Beau Dial Partner, Dentons Bingham Greenebaum, LLC

### THE FRONT LINES: SERVICES FOR VETERANS

Our Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP) and Lucas Place II programs are dedicated to serving homeless Veterans. Through the receipt of employment and housing, our team works to effectively end Veteran homelessness in our community. HVRP is one of the leading grantees across the country, with



more than a decade of experience finding suitable, meaning employment for Veterans. Lucas Place II is permanent supportive housing for Veterans, the first of its kind in the State of Indiana. We are fortunate to have both programs within our organization, dedicating to serving those who have served our country.



### COMMUNITY PARTNER HIGH FIVE

This month we want to highlight our partnership with the Evansville Police Department's Homeless Liaison and Mental Health Team! Sergeant Josh Brewer and Office Mario Reid work collaboratively with ECHO Housing to keep individuals housed,

avoid incarceration, and reduce the use of emergency services. This partnership helps prevent individuals from returning to homelessness and increases their quality of life.





How to help

\$135,000

\$90.288

SCAN to

DONATE

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We are now over 66% toward

our goal to install a new, age-

appropriate, and safe play

formerly homeless children

can help by donating to this

"playground" in the memo

What We D

that reside at Lucas Place. You

space for more than 50

project! Just type

space.

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

As a community development corporation and the lead agency of the Promise Zone federal designation, we are committed to partnerships and initiatives that make a lasting impact. In addition to housing, the Promise Zone has workgroups focused on education, healthcare access, job and economic development and crime reduction in some of the most underserved areas of our community. Past community development collaborations include Broadband Access for low-income residents, the installation of the Dollar General Market in the Forge on N. Main Street, Grocery Transport for those residing in food deserts, Promise Neighborhood Grant Advisory Council, Youth Mentor programming, the Regional Workforce Neighborhood Navigator employment initiative, and partnering with the Evansville Police Department and Southwestern Behavioral Health to implement the E3 Initiative to address crisis that leads to homelessness.



# SERVICE SPOTLIGHT

During the 2023 holiday season, our team delivered more than 240 food boxes to support our formerly homeless tenants, across 6 homeless service programs, dozens of locations across the community, feeding hundreds of formerly homeless men, women, children, and Veterans. The delivery required time, motivation, and collaboration between our entire frontline team and community partners to ensure no one went without during the holidays. For these reasons, we want to give a special thank you to our ECHO Housing frontline team members. Your unwavering dedication to our mission in support of those we serve is unparalleled. Thank you!

# WHAT'S IN PROGRESS

The Promise Home is under construction! Located at 313 Read Street, the project consists of 27, 1-bedroom units dedicated to prioritizing housing for the chronically homeless in our community. Anticipated completion date is June 2024. Thanks to ARC Construction!



ECHO Housing is getting a new look! Keep an eye out in February for a new logo design & branding roll out that will pull together and showcase all the vital programs that we offer in the Evansville community. Our leadership, staff, and board are excited to share how we are growing!



### THANK YOU, Road Knights,



for your continued annual support during the holiday season. The Road Knights provides funding so that every family served by ECHO Housing can receive gifts and a meal. Your ongoing support ensures every child gets to experience the warmth and cheer of the holidays. Thank you!

### **ECIO BRINGING HOPE HOUSING** *BRINGING HOPE* **HOME CAMPAIGN** *January 1 - May 1, 2024*

Supporting ECHO Housing's new Promise Home. Set to be completed in 2024, this home will provide 27 one-bedroom apartments to individuals who have been chronically homeless in the Evansville area. The funds received through this campaign will go toward necessities for those housed once the project is complete and placed into service. Please see below for sponsorship levels and how that funding will be used.

#### BUILDING SPONSOR

\$10,000

Supports the purchase of the building's security system including cameras, lighting, door access, as well as the laundry facilities

#### benefits include:

Invitation to a dinner & tour the space prior to ribbon cutting celebration

Plaque w/ name and logo (if applicable) affixed to the entry way of the building

Participation in cutting the ribbon during the celebration

Name & Logo advertised in newsletter, website, all marketing material & media releases

### COMMUNITY SPONSOR

\$5,000

Supports the purchase of furniture for the Community Space, the Social Service Office, and the Technology/Meeting Center

> benefits include:

Invitation to a dinner & tour the space prior to ribbon cutting celebration

Plaque w/ name affixed to the assigned sponsored space

Photo opportunity at the ribbon cutting celebration

Name & Logo advertised in newsletter & social media marketing

#### HOME SPONSOR

\$2,500

Two sponsors per room. Supports the purchase of basic household items for every apartment including a bed, dresser, couch, chairs, and household items.

> benefits include:

Invitation to a dinner & tour the space prior to ribbon cutting celebration

Plaque w/ name affixed above the door of an apartment

Opportunity to meet the individual moving into the sponsored apartment

Name & Logo advertised in social media marketing

\*Secure early sponsorship to maximize your visibility as a partner on this project! Contact Pat Bateman at pat.bateman@echohousing.org or Kim Armstrong at kim.armstrong@echohousing.com 528 MAIN ST. SUITE 202, EVANSVILLE, IN 47708 | WWW.ECHOHOUSING.ORG | 812.423.8422