



# COMMUNITY MATTERS

*Building Community. Enriching Lives.*

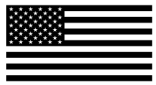
**“There is always light, if only we’re brave enough to see it. If only we’re brave enough to be it.”**  
 -Amanda Gorman- **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**



## FROM VAN’S VIEW

*A Message from Savannah Wood, CEO*

**Happy February, and Happy Black History Month!** We have a lot of exciting things happening at ECHO Housing & Community Development that we are thrilled to share with you. **As you can see in this newsletter, we have included our new logo, expanded name, tagline, and updated Mission & Vision statements!** We are excited to rollout our new brand, communicating the critical work we do in both housing and community development initiatives across the community. Our agency has been historically recognized as providing services to individuals experiencing homelessness. We also work with countless partners and organizations across the community to provide opportunities to underserved & marginalized individuals in areas including, but not limited to, education and healthcare access, crime reduction, access to nutritious foods, and economic and job development. For these reasons, we felt it was equally important to refine our brand to represent all the ways we work to make an impact. We hope you continue to join us each month as we share upcoming projects, initiatives, partnerships, and the results of how we serve our community. **Thank you, for your support and advocacy. You help make our mission stronger!**



## THE FRONT LINES: SERVICES FOR VETERANS



ECHO Housing & Community Development is a proud partner employer of INVETS!

INVETS is a nonprofit organization founded by veterans that helps former service members transition to civilian life by connecting them with Indiana employers and providing career-building resources. When we have job openings in our agency, we connect with INVETS to hire transitioning service-members.



## COMMUNITY PARTNER HIGH FIVE

This month we are highlighting our 10+ years of partnership with the Southwest Indiana Regional Workforce Board and WorkOne Southwest. Our current collaboration incorporates their Neighborhood Navigator initiative on-site with our staff to provide employment services to low-income and homeless individuals. The goal is to truly make it a “one-stop” experience for jobseekers.



## Mission **NEW**

Improving lives by reducing barriers to housing, social wellbeing, and economic opportunity

## Vision **NEW**

Our vision is a community where housing, social wellbeing and economic opportunities are accessible to all, fostering a thriving and compassionate society where every person can reach their full potential.

## 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*

Darla Olberding  
*Community Volunteer*

Kendra Nance  
*Community Volunteer*

Beau Dial  
*Partner, Dentons Bingham Greenebaum, LLC*

Stephen Feistel  
*Schultheis Insurance*

Chris Brinson  
*Community Volunteer*

# Let's Get Social

-  @ECHOHousingCorp
-  @echo\_housing\_corp
-  @ECHO\_Housing\_
-  @echo\_housing



## How to help

\$135,000

\$93,051

 ECHO HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



We are now over 68% toward our goal to install a new, age-appropriate, and safe play space for more than 50 formerly homeless children that reside at Lucas Place. You can help by donating to this project! Just scan the QR Code above ^^ using the camera on your phone.

## What we do



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES WITH IMPACT

Lilly Endowment's \$250 million grant (the largest single award given in the endowment's 86-year history) to the Indiana Economic Development Corporation could be a boon to Evansville! \$185 million of those funds are earmarked to support the redevelopment or rehabilitation of deteriorated properties in communities across the state. Blight is a critical concern in Evansville, impacting public safety, quality of place, surrounding property values, and the ability to attract investment in neighborhoods that need it the most. ECHO Housing & Community Development is rallying our Promise Zone partners, including the Evansville Regional Economic Partnership (E-REP), to craft what we hope to be a successful proposal that ensures our region receives its fair share of this important funding.



## SERVICE SPOTLIGHT HOMELESS SERVICES

We are excited to announce the promotion of Sarah Wolf to the position of **Social Services Director** at ECHO Housing & Community Development. Since Sarah joined our ECHO team in 2021, she has been a constant source of support, mentorship, guidance, and advocacy for clients across all programs and to frontline staff. Her ability to deescalate and resolve difficult situations has been a valued asset. For these reasons, we have decided to leverage her strengths in a way that supports agency-wide work, while simultaneously doing what she loves. Congratulations, Sarah!



## WHAT'S IN PROGRESS



Stay tuned for an exciting announcement about new ways ECHO Housing and the House of Bread and Peace will be working together! The House of Bread and Peace is an emergency shelter for women and children in Evansville. We are thrilled to partner with and support such a vital service in our community!



### SAVE THE DATE

ECHO Housing will host an **Open House!** Please pencil the date in your calendar:

**March 8, 2024**  
**@4:30 PM**

It will be at our new administrative offices at 528 Main Street. Keep an eye out for more information to come soon!



**THANK YOU, Gayla,** for your continued support of ECHO Housing & the Jacobsville Neighborhood. We are especially grateful for your dedication to the Lucas Place Playground. Your donations will give many children a safe, age-appropriate place to play outside. Gayla, you rock!!



# 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](mailto:pat.bateman@echohousing.org) or Kim Armstrong at [kim.armstrong@echohousing.com](mailto:kim.armstrong@echohousing.com)

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