



COMMUNITY MATTERS

Building Community. Enriching Lives.



FROM VAN'S VIEW

A Message from Savannah Wood, CEO

Hello! As we welcome the month of June, I am excited to share updates and reflections on our journey together over the past months. Our community's strength, resilience, and unity continue to inspire and drive our collective efforts toward positive change and growth. The first half of the year has been filled with meaningful progress and successes.

Key accomplishments:

- Relocated our management offices to Downtown Evansville to accommodate our growing team.
- Expanded our staff to include a Social Service Director and Grants Manager to meet the growing needs of our agency and community.
- Announced a new mission, vision, and agency logo, adding orange as a secondary agency color to inspire and promote optimism.
- Began managing the House of Bread and Peace – an emergency shelter for women and children.
- Held the first Casual for a Cause awareness day across the community! This year's theme was "Ending Homelessness".
- Established the first Agency Tenant Council with representatives from each homeless service program to ensure their thoughts, voices, and experiences are integrated into our services.
- Awarded funding from IHCD (State of Indiana) for additional case management providers to better serve some of the most vulnerable individuals in the community.
- Developed a 5-year strategic plan for the agency.
- Initiated a collaborative forum with key leaders and stakeholders of the community to increase engagement and avoid duplicating efforts – awarded funding from CenterPoint Energy to support this effort.
- Awarded funding from the Indiana Dept. of Veteran Affairs to strengthen services to Veterans experiencing homelessness.
- Awarded Key Supportive Services Program of the Year during the Prosperity Indiana Summit.
- Collaborated with the Immigrant Welcome Center to build a Cultural Competency pilot program.
- Developed several agency-based work culture initiatives to strengthen our internal connectedness and rapport and to reinforce the importance of a positive, supportive work environment.

Looking forward we have several exciting things I want to share:

- Promise Home construction complete – we will begin housing individuals this summer!
- House of Bread and Peace formally recognized as a program of our agency.
- Selected to present at the National Co-Responders Conference in Omaha, Nebraska.
- Pay It Forward Initiative – encouraging & celebrating kindness towards one another.
- Further development of the collaborative forum incorporating grassroots efforts and individual voice – stay tuned!
- Selected to present at the CIT International Conference in Indianapolis.
- Golf Outing – October 9, 2024

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you for your continued support, participation, and dedication to our community. Your efforts and engagement are what make our community special. Thank you!

JUNE 2024 VOLUME 6

Mission

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

Vision

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

BRINGING HOPE HOME CAMPAIGN



BE A
SPONSOR

We are over half way to our goal! ECHO Housing & Community Development's **Promise Home** is set to be completed this year! This home will provide 27 one-bedroom apartments to individuals who have been chronically homeless in the Evansville area. The funds received through the **"Bringing Hope Home" campaign** will go toward security installation & equipment to provide services and stable housing. (See sponsorship flyer by scanning the QR Code above.

Thank you to our Sponsors:

Building &
Community Sponsors



Home Sponsor:



COMMUNITY PARTNER HIGH FIVE



Thank you, CenterPoint Energy, for your generous donation to ECHO Housing and Community Development! This funding will support a new collaborative initiative that impacts all of Evansville. Twenty-plus key community development stakeholders including community-based organizations, local government, funders, and economic development entities met on 5/20 to develop the form and function of the Collaborative. Once established, the Collaborative will be open to all community development stakeholders, including residents. Stay tuned for more information coming out about the collaborative!

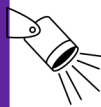


COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Initiatives with Impact

Merrick Korach has been hired as the new Community Development Director at ECHO Housing & Community Development! Merrick, a proud native of Evansville, is committed to positive change and is dedicated to entrepreneurship, advocacy, and fostering inclusive community growth. Guided by his faith, Merrick champions the empowerment of underrepresented and marginalized voices.

Over the past decade, he has navigated across sectors, leveraging resources and talent to enact meaningful change in our community. Merrick's commitment to fostering collaboration and innovation is exemplified through his ongoing success story with Bedford Collab. ECHO Housing & Community Development is excited to add Merrick to our team and we look forward to gaining his experience in driving tangible impact for the betterment of our community. Please help us in welcoming Merrick to the ECHO Housing Team!



SERVICE SPOTLIGHT

Homeless Services



We are celebrating the promotions of Lamont Phillips & Mindy Youngs!

Lamont was previously the Case Manager at Garvin Lofts. He has now been promoted to Program Manager of Garvin Lofts! Lamont's leadership skills and ability to work through challenging situations has led

him to this opportunity to grow & develop a new position within the program.

Mindy was previously the Case Manager at Lucas Place II and has been promoted to Program Manager of that same program. Mindy's ability to authentically build rapport with her clients, volunteers, and donors has opened up many wonderful opportunities for the residents at LP2. In her time working with our Veterans, Mindy has shown strong leadership abilities, making her a perfect person to advance the program.

Let's Get Social



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@ECHO_Housing_



@echo_housing



ECHO Housing



echohousing.org

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BRINGING HOPE HOME CAMPAIGN

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



Contact Pat Bateman at pat.bateman@echohousing.org or Kim Armstrong at kim.armstrong@echohousing.com

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