



# COMMUNITY MATTERS

*Building Community. Enriching Lives.*



## SAVANNAH WOOD *Top 20 Women Leaders in the Tri-State*



This month we are celebrating our CEO of ECHO Housing and Community Development, Savannah Wood. Savannah has been named one of the Junior League's (JL) Top 20 Women Leaders in the Tri-State Area. According to the Junior League's Facebook invitation, "These awards will recognize innovative servant leaders in the Tri-State area who make our community a better place to live and work." JL's bio on Savannah touches on all the ways she has had an impact on our organization, the community, the state, and our country:

*"Savannah joined ECHO Housing & Community Development in 2018, becoming the CEO in August 2022. Savannah oversees the strategy and direction of eight homeless service programs and more than 40 community development initiatives across Southwest Indiana. She serves on the Evansville-Vanderburgh Mayor's Commission on Homelessness and supports federal grantees nationwide on solutions to reduce Veteran homelessness. Savannah is one of the founding team members of the "E3 Initiative: Education, Encouragement, and Enforcement" - a partnership with the Evansville Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit and Southwestern Behavioral Healthcare, to support individuals experiencing homelessness and mental health crises in our community.*

*Savannah is an honorably discharged U.S. Army Veteran, deployed several times to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and to Louisiana for humanitarian relief in the wake of Hurricane Katrina assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division. After her military service, Savannah worked for General Dynamics and the Department of the Army in Arizona. After returning to Evansville, Savannah worked for the State of Indiana in workforce development. Her passion for service in impoverished communities is what led to her current position.*

*Savannah received her undergraduate degree from the American Military University in Intelligence Analysis and is currently pursuing her graduate degree from Indiana University in Public Management.*

*Savannah volunteers her time as the Board President for Veterans Overwatch, Vice President of the Germania Maennerchor Foundation, is a member of VFW Post 2953, and as a Mentor on the Vanderburgh County Veteran Treatment Court."*

*Congratulations, Savannah! Well deserved. Your ECHO Family is proud of you!*

## 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*

## FROM THE FRONT LINES

The **Veterans Food-Bank of America** has a food-pantry located on Hwy 57, 2 miles South of the Junction of Hwy 168 & 57, or 2 1/2 miles North of the Junction of 68 & 57 at Bucksin, IN in Gibson County (approximately 20 min. from the Evansville VA Clinic. It is open **by appointment only**. The 1st time you come, you must provide: **proof of military service and proof of income. Call 812-795-2230 to make an appointment.**

## SERVICE SPOTLIGHT

Please help us welcome **Danette Romines** to our ECHO Housing & Community Development team! Danette joins us with an extensive background in homeless services, housing programs, and regional leadership. From meeting individuals under bridges to running a low-barrier shelter for families, she has worked within the walls of local agencies such as Aurora, Ozanam, YWCA, House of Bread and Peace, United Caring Services, and ECHO Health Care. Over the years, Danette has facilitated collaborative efforts with the regional Coordinated Entry System, the Homeless Service Council, and the annual Point-In-Time Count to name a few. We are excited to have Danette join the ECHO Family.





COMMUNITY PARTNER HIGH FIVES



We want to express our deepest gratitude for ARC Construction's generous sponsorship of our annual golf scramble. Your unwavering support, year after year, has made a profound impact on the success of our events and the work we do in the community. ARC's commitment to our mission helps us continue providing vital housing and services to those in need. We are incredibly fortunate to have a partner like ARC Construction, whose dedication to giving back truly makes a difference. Thank you once again for standing by us. We look forward to continuing our partnership and creating even more positive change together.

WAYS TO HELP

We are always appreciative when our supporters and advocates ask how they can help. Here are some ideas to consider:



Hold a toilet paper or cleaning supply drive with your church or work friends.



Go to one (or both) of our Amazon wish lists and pick out some items to send.

[ECHO Programs Link](#)

[House of Bread and Peace Link](#)



Participate in our Giving Tuesday Campaign coming on December 3rd.



Adopt Garvin Lofts or our Scattered Site housing for Christmas

**THANK YOU!**

THE PLAYGROUND AT LUCAS PLACE IS FINISHED!



Be on the lookout for a ribbon cutting date coming soon!



Methodist Temple has adopted House of Bread and Peace as their October Missional Partner! Look for their video interview with Sarah Wolf! Thank you, Methodist Temple!



Piece of cake DONOR SPOTLIGHT



Thanks to Piece of Cake for donating cookies to the House of Bread and Peace! They were gone in a heartbeat. We are so happy when our community gives us treats!

*Thank you!*



Let's Get Social

- @ECHOHousingCorp
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- ECHO Housing
- echohousing.org

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT Initiatives with Impact

ECHO has hired 5 VISTA's to work in our Community Development initiatives. This team will be focused on revitalizing neighborhoods and fostering grass-roots, sustainable development in the areas of physical, economic, and social development. They will play a crucial role in strengthening the fabric of Evansville neighborhoods where revitalization initiatives are already happening.

