

NORTHSIDE NEWS

Connecting Residents with their City Government.



A Note from Natalie

Your Mayor's Neighborhood Advocate

Hello Northside!

After a short hiatus, monthly MNA newsletters are back! Thank you for your patience.

Whether you have been traveling, exploring everything Indianapolis has to offer this season, or something in between, I hope you have had a wonderful Summer! This month's newsletter focuses on an exciting new public art project, rental assistance, COVID-19 vaccination information, litter abatement, and more.

As always, If you know of anyone who would like to receive these monthly newsletters, please feel free to send them this sign up link: <https://forms.gle/8PiAQJ1gEZiXThLr7>.

Your Neighborhood Advocate,
Natalie van Dongen

RESOURCES

Report potholes, abandoned vehicles, stray animals, & more through the Mayor's Action Center [317.327.4622](tel:317.327.4622) or Request Indy Online at maps.Indy.gov/RequestIndy

MNA Contact Info:

Email -

Natalie.vanDongen@indy.gov

Community Office Hours:

[Updated dates, times, and locations coming soon.](#)



ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

TIME SENSITIVE: #INDYKEEPSCREATING PROJECT

In March 2021, in conjunction with the NCAA Men's Basketball finals, the Arts Council of Indianapolis managed a public art program that resulted in an infusion of artwork by local artists in vacant downtown Indianapolis storefronts. The artwork was either printed large-scale on vinyl and installed on windows, or new artworks were commissioned and displayed just inside the windows.

A new but similar project, supported by the City of Indianapolis and funded by the American Rescue Plan Act, is taking place in the fall of 2021. This new program will expand the display of artworks into neighborhoods within Marion County. With this in mind, the Arts Council of Indianapolis is seeking suggestions for locations for hosting artwork. Ideal locations can be within neighborhoods, and should be in areas where the public can easily and safely access and enjoy the artwork.

If you know of a location that might be a good fit for the program, please fill out or share the form linked below. By submitting this form you acknowledge that there is no guarantee your suggested location will be selected. The information provided will not be shared publicly.

FORM LINK:

https://indyarts.formstack.com/forms/artwork_location_suggestion_form

Please respond no later than Monday, September 6th.



ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

"A LITTLE LOVE STOPS LITTER"

The City of Indianapolis's Office of Sustainability and Keep Indianapolis Beautiful (KIB) have collaborated with behavior science researchers at Behavior Insights Team (BIT) to study littering in Indianapolis, collect data, and implement multiple "interventions" to change human behavior around littering. Trials on two interventions began earlier this spring and the "A Little Love Stops Litter" awareness campaign launched in July.

This is the first dedicated research being conducted on littering in Indianapolis in the city's history, and one of the first studies of its kind in the world.

Here are 8 steps residents can take RIGHT NOW to make a big impact:

- Bag all loose trash in 10- to 15- gallon bags before placing in your trash cart
- Pick up one piece of trash
- Utilize heavy trash pickup days in your neighborhood
- Properly dispose of cigarette butts - the #1 most littered item in the country
- Utilize the City's [ToxDrop](#) locations for household hazardous waste disposal and electronics recycling
- Re-use items whenever possible
- Keep a bag in your car to collect trash so it doesn't blow out the windows or doors
- Carry trash with you until you locate a trash can

For more information, visit: <https://www.kibi.org/little-love>



ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

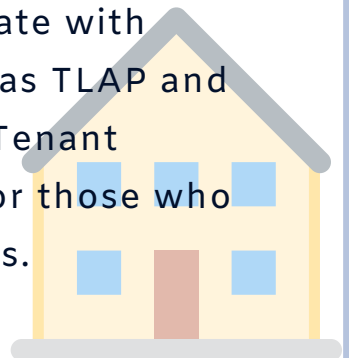
RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Tenant Legal Assistance Project and Eviction Avoidance Project:

In 2020, the City launched the Tenant Legal Assistance Project (TLAP) with Indiana Legal Services. TLAP connects tenants who believe their right to safe, secure, livable rental units have been violated with pro bono legal advice and representation. The City also provides ongoing financial support to Indiana Legal Services' Eviction Avoidance Project (EAP), which began in 2018 and offers legal representation to tenants who are facing eviction. Any Marion County tenant who believes their legal rights may have been violated or who is facing eviction can access the Tenant Information Hotline at 317-327-2228 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on business days.

Tenant Advocate Project:

The City is launching a new partnership with Indiana Legal Services (ILS), Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic, and the Indianapolis Legal Aid Society to create the Tenant Advocate Project (TAP). Through TAP, these legal aid organizations will place a tenant advocate in participating Marion County township small claims courts. Tenant advocates, along with additional staff and volunteers, will consult with tenants who are facing eviction in small claims court and who come to court lacking legal representation. The advocates will ensure that tenants are connected to IndyRent program, provide them with legal advice and/or representation, and offer to negotiate with landlords on the tenants' behalf. While programs such as TLAP and EAP aim to intervene prior to an eviction hearing, the Tenant Advocate Project serves as final, last minute support for those who may not have already taken advantage of City programs.

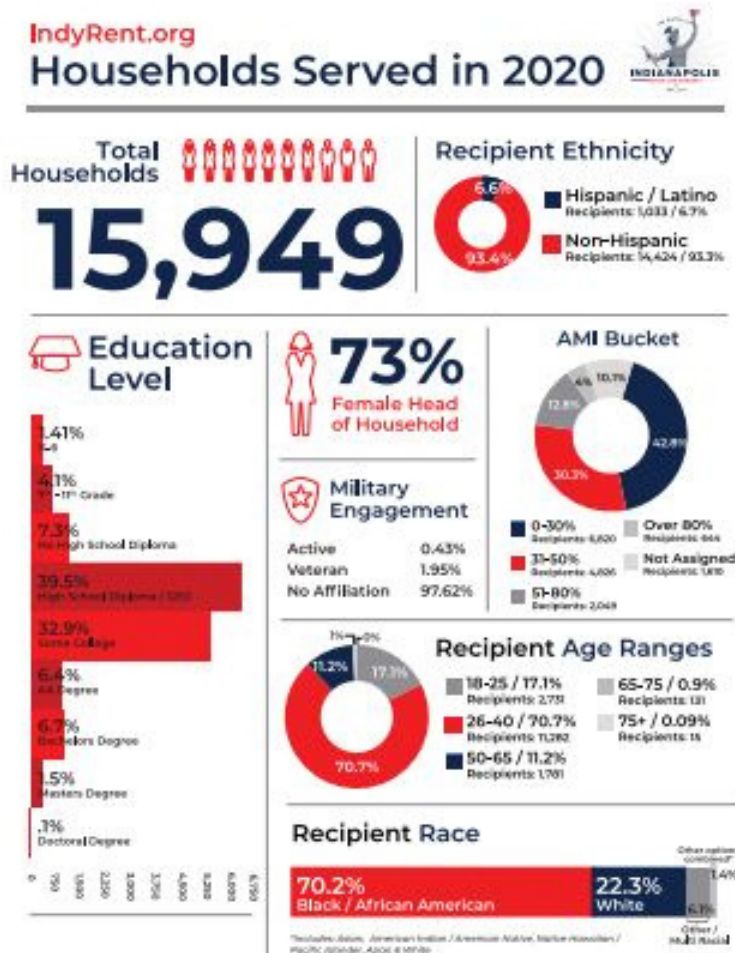


ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (CON.)

Rental Assistance Program:

Rental assistance made possible via federal relief dollars has also been instrumental in mitigating the impact of the pandemic on renters. Since its launch last year, the Rental Assistance Program has distributed over \$50 million to more than 22,000 Marion County families. Households at or below 80 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI) that have experienced a reduction in earned income and are at risk of housing instability are eligible to apply for rental assistance. Applications and additional information are available at IndyRent.org.



ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

MONUMENTAL VOICES CAMPAIGN

Public spaces belong to everyone. We believe downtown Indy should have vibrant and diverse gathering places, where all are welcomed. YOU are the key to bringing this vision to life in this community art project. The Mission? Capture Central Indiana residents' opinions, memories and suggestions of four spaces: Monument Circle, the Canal, Georgia Street & Lugar Plaza (at the City-County Building).

Monumental Voices is a portal for all residents of Indianapolis can submit their memories, thoughts, and ideas for our City's most iconic spaces. Submissions can be text posts, videos, and images. All thoughts are welcome, but please be respectful.

Visit www.monumentalvoices.org for more information and to submit your thoughts.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

I would to extend a big THANK YOU to the neighbors that participated in National Night Out. Your hospitality, dedication, and generosity did not go unnoticed. I had a wonderful time at the events I was able to attend and I know our IMPD officers felt very appreciated.



ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

Anyone age 12 and older may now schedule a COVID-19 vaccination appointment. Click [here](#) to register or call 211 (866-211-9966) if you do not have access to a computer or need assistance. Walk-in appointments are also accepted at most vaccination sites. To learn more about vaccinations, visit: www.coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine/.

When you enter a ZIP code to search for a vaccination site, you will find several vaccination locations near you. The site's information will include which vaccine is likely available at the site (excludes sites in the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program other than Walmart). You can click "Find Next Available Appointment" to get to the soonest date and time. Zoom out on the map to expand your search. If you don't see the vaccination site you're looking for, it's possible that all appointments are full.

Please note that anyone younger than 18 must receive the Pfizer vaccine. It is the only vaccine to receive Emergency Use Authorization from the FDA for that age group. Proof of age will be required at the time of vaccination.



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BROAD RIPPLE PUBLIC SAFETY SURVEY

City-County Councillor Keith Potts (District 2) has partnered with the Broad Ripple Village Association (BRVA) to release a community public safety survey, where Broad Ripple residents, business owners, business employees, and visitors can share their thoughts and ideas to keep Broad Ripple safe and welcoming for all.

“We appreciate Councillor Potts’ attention to the concerns of Broad Ripple’s business leaders and neighbors, said Summer Keown, BRVA executive director. “We talk regularly with Councillor Potts, representatives of the Mayor’s office, Commander Wolley and many IMPD officers who work in Broad Ripple, and other community leaders about the current challenges, and we explore new and innovative solutions to keep our village and its visitors safe. We are eager to hear from a broad swath of the Broad Ripple community through our new public safety survey.”

The Broad Ripple Public Safety Survey will be available throughout the month of September and can be found on social media and with the following link:

https://bit.ly/BroadRipplePublicSafetySurvey_

