

Crawfordsville | 2015 IACT Local Government Cooperation Award

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jdYu0Bvieuo&index=1&list=PLaPJVYLrqwdKlw3RUur8iHn1YtDJCYyuW>

Crawfordsville's Health and Wellness Center opened its doors on January 8, 2014 in a medical office complex located near the Franciscan Saint Elizabeth Hospital in Crawfordsville. While the concept of an employer-operated wellness clinic is becoming more and more commonplace today, this particular clinic represented an unprecedented collaborative effort between units of local government. The five largest taxing units in Montgomery County have all joined forces in a collaborative effort to control the ever-rising cost of providing healthcare for their employees while improving their overall health, quality of life and productivity.

Evansville | 2015 IACT Community Achievement Award

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p93_W81sEyY&index=2&list=PLaPJVYLrqwdKlw3RUur8iHn1YtDJCYyuW

The City of Evansville's VOICE Initiative launched in 2012 by the Mayor's Office and servant leadership organization Leadership Evansville. The ongoing, multi-year initiative began as a community-wide visioning process that engaged more than 4,000 area citizens in envisioning and creating their preferred future for Evansville. By 2014-2015, VOICE was having a far-reaching, transformational impact on Evansville and the region by inspiring hundreds of people to lead new projects, programs and activities that enabled them to "Bee the Change" in the community and impact more than 30,000 others. Further, the rich picture of preferences for Evansville's future from thousands of citizen's visions has been applied in multiple community and regional long-term planning efforts, from the Sustainable Evansville Area Coalition's Millennial Plan for 2040 and Metropolitan Evansville Transit System's strategic plan to Evansville's IU Medical School initiative and Downtown Master Planning process. The estimated collective impact of VOICE regionally through these and other planning initiatives is more than 250,000 people.

Michigan City | 2015 IACT Community Achievement Award

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-QdXx0-EnDY&list=PLaPJVYLrqwdKlw3RUur8iHn1YtDJCYyuW&index=3>

Michigan City is capitalizing on the potential of the community's assets to transform into a memorable and economically vibrant destination. The Lake Michigan Gateway Implementation Strategy is a market supported vision, a flexible development framework, and a series of incremental actions and investments that will be initiated by both public and private sector leaders to reach the community's common goal of repositioning Michigan City as Indiana's Great Lakefront Destination Community. The Strategy was unanimously adopted by the City Council in the fall of 2014 and calls for a public investment of approximately \$22 million over the next five years. When the Strategy is fully realized, Michigan City will be a regional visitor destination that boasts a package of year-round attractions in a well-connect, environmentally sensitive, resort-like setting, which will yield \$15 million in new property tax revenue and support nearly 3,500 jobs.

Whiting | 2015 IACT Community Achievement Award

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9jFOYmxNtt4&list=PLaPJVYLrqwdKlw3RUur8iHn1YtDJCYuW&index=4>

Whiting's Mayor Joseph Stahura realized the City's underutilized and underdeveloped lakefront could be a major asset to the community and set out to transform the 26-acre park. Whiting hired American Structurepoint to guide them through a capital improvements planning process. The Whiting Lakefront Redevelopment Plan was adopted in October 2009 and most of the construction was completed by 2015. The infrastructure includes a new, interconnected two-tiered promenade, new nature area and gazebo event center, new parking areas and renovation of all existing facilities, including Whihala Beach pathways and the boat harbor. Whiting recognizes this plan as one of their greatest achievements having enhanced the quality of life in their community, brought the community closer together, revitalized its appeal and reputation and set the stage for economic development opportunities for generations to come.

Burns Harbor | 2015 IACT Community Achievement Award

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45yPHMHYfs&index=5&list=PLaPJVYLrqwdKlw3RUur8iHn1YtDJCYuW>

The Town of Burns Harbor was born out of the growth of Bethlehem Steel in the mid-1960s. The Town's largest taxpayer and once America's second largest steel producer filed bankruptcy in 2001. The filing relieved the corporation from all the current financial obligations, including the property taxes to be paid to the town. As a result, the town lost 80% of the annual tax revenue. Burns Harbor decided failure was not an option and began to recover from the loss in the mid-2000s. In 2014, the Town searched for a firm to help assess the town and give strategic guidance for the development of land and programs. LiveWorkLearnPlay, a real-estate development and advisory firm, was named to lead the long-term development and implementation towards a sustainable economic environment and town identity. Burns Harbor is a community determined to carry on after a devastating loss. The citizens have managed to survive during the difficult times and are active participants in creating a vision for the town's future.

Monticello | 2014 IACT Community Achievement Award

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ldo04G7QI5Y&list=PLaPJVYLrqwdIUJwGlrFe-l8EbodKxaSqe&index=1>

While updating the City's transition Plan, the ADA Coordinator, Cathy Gross realized that there was not an emergency notification system for people with disabilities or any community member in Monticello. This revelation brought together a diverse group of people and organizations dedicated to fixing the problem. The collaboration became the Emergency Notification Committee. The newly formed committee began working on a three phase plan to implement and notify people of the new Emergency Notification system. An art contest was held to find the promotion design of the logo and other promotional marketing materials. The winner was The Alzheimer's Unit at Monticello Healthcare Center. A grassroots effort than took off to help people with disabilities learn and sign-up for the program. The city received funding from the Indiana Homeland Security for the notification system and the White County Commissioners will help fund the system into the future.

Vincennes | 2014 IACT Community Achievement Award

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ugxm9NxvrJo&index=2&list=PLaPJVYLrqwdIUJwGlrFe-l8EbodKxaSqe>

The very first Rainbow Beach, built in the 1930's, boasted a round pool with a sand beach for the citizens of Vincennes. Decades and few renovations later Rainbow Beach was in need of dire repairs. The pool liner was ripping and the diving had to be removed. The city was faced with making a decision to build a new pool or try and make repairs. After many discussions and research into the costs of both options, it was decided a new aquatic facility was needed for the community. With tight budgets, the city held a referendum to reduce impact on other taxing units. A special election to vote on the pool was held to avoid the pool being closed for another season. The community support was undeniable, the citizens wanted a new pool. The new design consists of 3 separate pools, a zero entry children's area, dive well and a slide pool with a 25 yard lap lanes. Community members of all ages can find something they love at the new Rainbow Beach Aquatic Center.

Jeffersonville | 2014 IACT Community Achievement Award Winner

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wH4MTxETagc&index=3&list=PLaPJVYLrqwdIUJwGlrFe-l8EbodKxaSqe>

Jeffersonville's Big Four Bridge connects the City of Louisville across the Ohio River. Originally built to serve the railway, the bridge was closed in the 1960's and later deemed "The Bridge to nowhere." The past may the revitalized bridge was opened to allow pedestrians and bicyclists access to trails and that both Jefferson and Louisville have to offer. Revitalization of the bridge has also revitalized downtown Jeffersonville by drawing new businesses and people into the downtown area. The Big Four Bridge is not the only feature getting a makeover, the Big Four Station, a park located at the bridge landing is also being revitalized. The new park will feature a cascading water pool designed to mimic the Falls of the Ohio, a pavilion to hold the city's farmer's market, a playground, parking. It will host festivals, concerts and will be the future home of a fall festival, Steamboat Days. The Big Four Bridge and Big Four Station are drawing a lot of economic development for downtown Jeffersonville, including new breweries, restaurants, and frozen yogurt. The project is a community achievement.

Lafayette | 2014 IACT Community Achievement Award Winner

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GutxaX4Njkl&list=PLaPJVYLrqwdIUJwGlrFe-l8EbodKxaSqe&index=4>

In a plan to reduce raw sewage overflows and improve the water quality of the Wabash River, the City of Lafayette created the Durkees Run Stormwater Park. The beautiful park combines functionality, beauty and education all the while diverting 100 million gallons for stormwater annually from the Lafayette wastewater treatment plant and preventing sewer overflows. The park includes an outdoor classroom amphitheater, stormwater wetlands, cascades and planters that will improve stormwater quality as it flows through the site. The Durkees Run project is part of a long term control plan. The park is located directly across from the Lafayette Jefferson High School and can be used by students to study biology, explore urban ecosystems native to the region, hydrology and physics. Durkees Run Stormwater Park is a visual and interactive setting for education and recreation. The Durkees Run Stormwater Park is a great asset for the Lafayette community and will eventually be connected to trails.

Shelbyville | 2014 IACT Local Government Cooperation Award

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Apa36nxL3TY&index=5&list=PLaPJVYLrqwdIUJwGlrFe-l8EbodKxaSqe>

The City of Shelbyville spearheaded two excellent initiatives that exemplify how collaboration and cooperation can achieve success in economic development and community improvement. The City of Shelbyville partnered with Shelby County and Rose Hulman Institute that increases STEM curriculum for students and provides a benefit to local industry. The four part program, Project IMPaCT encourages students to get involved in STEM related curriculum and offers opportunities for Rose Hulman undergraduates to interact and inspire high school students. Project IMPaCT also benefits undergraduates by placing them in internships with local businesses to solve problems and encourage them to seek employment in Indiana after graduation. The second project honored is The Shelby County Fair Grandstands. Members of the Shelby County Fair Board, City of Shelbyville, and Shelby County came together to find a solution to replace the historic Grandstands. A design team and contractors built a new Grandstands that the community can take pride in using.

Walkerton | 2013 IACT Community Achievement Award

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=44MJ6B_HUMU&list=PLaPJVYLrqwdLj8uijXrOZDOb87nOXdl9d&index=1

From Blight to Bright, the Town of Walkerton transformed the once rundown West York Neighborhood into Dogwood Estates, a community of which to be proud. West York consisted of housing built by the federal government during WWII for people who worked at a nearby plant. The "Plywood Village" was to be torn down at the end of the war. Instead, the homes remained and over the years became severely rundown and a local embarrassment. Landlords in West York charged exorbitant rent, and crime was on the rise. The Town long had their eye on the problem, buying up the problem properties when able. Then, in 2009, they received a \$3 million grant through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program which paved the way for a new beginning. In less than three years, Walkerton's leadership built a coalition of public and private support that enabled them to: demolish 84 duplexes, build 40 new homes, with new roads, new utilities and high efficiency, and relocate the approximately 200 families who had lived in West York to better conditions. The leaders of Walkerton began with limited resources, but endured with an excess of tenacity and resolve. For all affected, it is indeed a brighter day. Thank you to Great Lakes Capital Fund and NewGroup Media for providing the video footage of Walkerton.

Munster | 2013 IACT Community Achievement Award

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mLh2QqAHxBI&list=PLaPJVYLrqwdLj8uijXrOZDOb87nOXdl9d&index=2>

The Town of Munster's Waste to Energy Project builds on the success of Centennial Park, which in 2007 underwent a transformation from a used-up Town landfill to a beautiful community place. What may be most impressive, however, is what lies underneath. A few years ago, the Town Council and management set out to do something productive with the methane gas being flared by the landfill -- they wanted to convert the greenhouse gas to energy. In 2011, the Town received a \$2.5 M grant from the U.S. Department of Energy. After committing additional funds from their TIF, the Town hired Energy Systems Group (ESG) to design the system and run the plant. Just one year later in November 2012, Munster's

plant opened, becoming the first municipally-owned landfill in Indiana to construct and operate this kind of system. The electricity generated from the plant is placed directly into the local utility grid. NIPSCO (the local utility) pays the Town 10.6 cents per kWh for the energy, resulting in added revenue for the Town of \$60,000 -70,000 per month. Munster leveraged a federal grant and TIF funds to decrease the Town's operational expenses for the next 20+ years at no cost to residential taxpayers, while reducing their ecological footprint for many more years to come.

Fishers | 2013 IACT Community Achievement Award

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YZBaBiV-9w&index=3&list=PLaPJVYLrqwdLj8uijXrOZDOb87nOXdl9d>

Launch Fishers gives a home to entrepreneurs working to start a company by providing members with workspace, printing facilities, lounge areas, a coffee shop, a mailing address and connection and collaboration with other like-minded people. This Idea Incubator began just one year ago when Fishers resident John Weschler approached the Town. The Town Council and town's management jumped at the opportunity to fill this need and advance a culture of work, live and play in their community. Launch Fishers opened in November 2012. Less than one year after opening, Launch Fishers boasts more than 200 members, who pay an annual fee to use the space. Members include: tech companies, medical device developers, marketers, educational consultants, non-profits, and the list keeps growing. The goal is to create an environment for organic economic growth so that companies can begin in Fishers and stay in Fishers as they mature. As the Town leaders say, "it's economic development of the 21st century." Learn more at www.LaunchFishers.com.

Evansville | 2013 IACT Community Achievement Award

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mJ9vMrVMd5E&list=PLaPJVYLrqwdLj8uijXrOZDOb87nOXdl9d&index=4>

Clean Evansville is a volunteer-driven initiative that began in January 2012 by Mayor Lloyd Winnecke just three days into office. Winnecke, who has long picked up litter as a habit on daily walks and errands, enlisted the citizens' help. Eighteen months into the Clean Evansville effort, 2,000+ volunteers have picked up nearly 40,000 pounds of trash. Clean Evansville meets on the first Saturday of the month in designated areas of the city. The campaign is not only productive -- it is fun. Schools have had contests for who can pick up the most trash; and it is common to hear passers-by cheer or honk in support. The day concludes with a ceremonial "dumping into the dumpster" when the trash bags are all gathered into one pile. The program, run by a committee of volunteers, uses zero tax dollars and is supported by Republic Services who hauls the trash away for free and other sponsors, such as State Farm, Youth Service America and Rural King. Beyond the tangible results, residents admit the program offers a good reminder to everyone in Evansville to pick up and keep the City clean.

Avon, Plainfield, Hendricks County | 2013 IACT Local Government Cooperation Award

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zl9Ys676a3Y&index=5&list=PLaPJVYLrqwdLj8uijXrOZDOb87nOXdl9d>

The Ronald Reagan Parkway provides a north-south corridor for the eastern portion of Hendricks County. Hendricks County Commissioners have overseen this project that began more than 20 years

ago. In 2010, however, the Towns of Avon and Plainfield realized that the construction schedule was going to leave a gap in the parkway, which would have led to traffic confusion and congestion. The problems were complex: more funding was needed; a right of way still needed to be secured; a bridge had to be built, and strict INDOT and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) timelines had to be met. The Towns and County came together to work it out! Together, they petitioned and met with their local Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), INDOT and FHWA to find solutions. The County and both Towns invested their own funds to ensure the project was done right. Their collaboration and hard work paid off. On December 4, 2012, the Reagan opened, now connecting I-70 to I-74, with plans for further expansion northward. What once looked like an accident waiting to happen is now a source of pride and testament to what local officials can accomplish when they work together.