

# Inspire

Neighborhoods Conference | 2024

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The 2024 Inspire Neighborhoods Conference is being brought to you by the City of Fort Wayne's Neighborhood Planning & Activation Workgroup with generous support from our sponsors:



**PREVIEW OF 2024 CONFERENCE  
WORKGROUPS & BREAKOUT SESSIONS**



*Fort Wayne Neighborhoods can!*

Electric Works Campus | Fort Wayne, IN  
September 13, 2024 | 7:30 am—7:00 pm



# PROGRAM FLOW

2024 INSPIRE CONFERENCE

**ARRIVAL &  
BREAKFAST**

**7:30- 8:15 am**

In the Forum at Electric Works

**OPENING  
REMARKS**

**8:15 am** - Director Jonathan Leist

NPAW Staff & Program Participants

**MORNING  
BREAKOUT  
SESSIONS**

**9:10 am, 10:10 am, 11:10 am**

*See website and  
registration form for details*

**LUNCH &  
PLENARY  
ADDRESS**

**12 pm** - Mayor Sharon Tucker

Plenary by Janelle Lane

***“Mental Health: Energizing You  
While Energizing Others”***

**AFTERNOON  
WORKSHOPS**

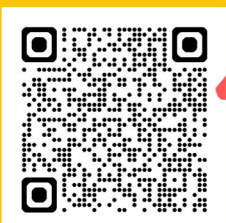
**3 pm**, *See website and*

*registration form for details*

**AWARDS  
DINNER,  
KEYNOTE &  
LIVE MUSIC**

**5 pm** - Keynote by DeAmon Harges

***“Sawubona: Identifying Value &  
Celebrating Possibilities in  
Neighborhoods”***



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

VISIT: [WWW.INSPIREFORTWAYNE.COM](http://WWW.INSPIREFORTWAYNE.COM)

EMAIL: [INSPIRECONFERENCE@CITYOFFORTWAYNE.ORG](mailto:INSPIRECONFERENCE@CITYOFFORTWAYNE.ORG)

CALL: 311 (260-427-8311)



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# BREAKOUT SESSIONS | 9:10

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## PLANNING SESSION 1

### COMPARING HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATIONS (HOAs) AND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS: DISTINCTIONS, CITY REOURCES, AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Speakers: Dan Baisden (City of Fort Wayne, Neighborhood Planning & Activation)  
Joshua Burkhardt, Partner (Hunt Suedhoff Kalamaros LLP)

*Description:* In this session, facilitators will compare Homeowners Associations (HOAs) and Neighborhood Associations, focusing on their distinctions, the resources available from city government, and the legal implications of each. They will gain insights into the structure, governance, and purpose of each type of association, and learn what types of municipal support each can leverage to improve their community.

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## PLANNING SESSION 2

### HISTORIC HOMES, DISTRICTS, AND RESTORATION

Speakers: Creager Smith (City of Fort Wayne, Historic Preservation & Culture)  
Nate Lefever (City of Fort Wayne, Historic Preservation & Culture)  
Karen Richards (ARCH, Inc.)

*Description:* Join us for a session on Historic Homes, Districts, and Restoration. Learn about restoring old homes, preserving historic neighborhoods, and the importance of keeping these treasures alive. We'll share practical tips and insights into the benefits of historic preservation.

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## ACTIVATION SESSION

### FUNDRAISING 101: SEEKING GRANTS & SPONSORSHIPS

Speaker: Monica Chamberlain (Stillwater Hospice, Association of Fundraising Professionals)

*Description:* In Fundraising 101: Seeking Grants & Sponsorships, participants will learn the basics of finding and applying for grants and getting sponsorships. Facilitators will share simple tips and strategies to help you write successful proposals and build strong relationships with funders. This session is perfect for anyone looking to learn the basics of the fundraising process.

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## COLLABORATION SESSION: INNOVATIVE HOUSING

Speakers: Breck Crandall (Three Squared, Inc.; Houm)                      Joe LeMark (Volumod)  
Dwayne Borkholder (New Energy Homes)                      Scott Shall (Houm)  
JT King (Royal Developments)

*Description:* In this session, facilitators explore a range of attainable home structures tailored to diverse needs and budgets. They will delve into cost-effective building methods and materials, discussing strategies to optimize attainability without compromising quality. Build time will be a key focus, with insights on efficient construction techniques to expedite the process while maintaining standards. Energy efficiency will be emphasized, highlighting sustainable solutions and technologies to reduce environmental impact and lower utility costs. Additionally, attendees will learn about innovative approaches for infill lots, offering creative solutions to maximize space and enhance community development.

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# BREAKOUT SESSIONS | 10:10

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## PLANNING SESSION

### FAIR HOUSING IN ACTION: NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS' RESPONSIBILITIES AND BEST PRACTICES

Speakers: Nikki Quintana (City of Fort Wayne Metropolitan Human Relations Commission)  
Lakisha Woods (City of Fort Wayne Metropolitan Human Relations Commission)

*Description:* This training program is designed to empower neighborhood leaders with the knowledge and skills needed to create truly inclusive communities. By understanding and following both local and federal fair housing laws, neighborhood leaders can ensure that their communities are welcoming and accessible to everyone.

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## ACTIVATION SESSION

### SOLAR FOR ALL AND ENERGY REBATE PROGRAMS

Speakers: Sustaining Fort Wayne Team (Representing various organizations)

*Description:* Explore how solar energy and more sustainable homes can be made accessible through innovative programs and incentives. This session will delve into an energy rebate program designed to promote the adoption of solar power and strategies for maximizing benefits for local communities. Join us to learn how to leverage these initiatives to reduce energy costs and contribute to a sustainable future.

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## COLLABORATION SESSION:

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES - SHOWCASE OF GRANTS AND GRANT RESOURCES FOR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS & RESIDENTS

Speakers: Representatives of the following organizations- AARP Indiana, Allen County Public Library, Data Fort Wayne, Neighborhood Planning & Activation, Star Financial Bank

*Description:* Learn about funding opportunities for neighborhood associations and residents in this session. Speakers will showcase different grants and resources, explaining how to find and apply for them. Join this session for practical advice on securing money for community projects.

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## CONNECTION SESSION

### NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

Speaker: Olivia Torres (Content Creators of Color Project)

*Description:* The "Neighborhood Communications & Marketing" breakout session will focus on strategies for effectively reaching residents with important information and engaging the community. Participants will learn how to use marketing techniques for recruitment and develop compelling social media content to enhance neighborhood communications. This session is ideal for those looking to strengthen community ties and increase participation through effective outreach.

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## OFFICE HOURS

### NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNER & ATTORNEY

Speakers: Dan Baisden (City of Fort Wayne, Neighborhood Planning & Activation)  
Joshua Burkhardt, Partner (Hunt Suedhoff Kalamaros LLP)

*Description:* Conference office hours provide a dedicated time for attendees to ask questions, seek advice, and engage in one-on-one discussions with local experts.

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# BREAKOUT SESSIONS | 11:10

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## PLANNING SESSION

### HOME SAFETY: WHO TO CALL WHEN

Speakers: Chris Blauvelt & Mike Miller (City of Fort Wayne, Neighborhood Code)  
Mike Miller (NIPSCO), Reps of other City of Fort Wayne/ Allen County Divisions

*Description:* In the City of Fort Wayne lots of organizations– from neighborhood code to NIPSCO- help safeguard the health safety and welfare of our residents and their property. This breakout session will help you understand who to call when for home safety concerns in our City.  
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## ACTIVATION SESSION

### TREE PLANTING AS NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVATION/ WAYS TO ENGAGE RESIDENTS WHILE PROMOTING PUBLIC HEALTH AND BEAUTIFICATION

Speakers: Derek Veit (Tree Canopy Growth Fund) Kody Tinnel (Tree Canopy Growth Fund)

*Description:* Presenters will share why they love trees so much, what they are doing to promote a healthy urban canopy, and how neighborhood or community organizations can be a part of the effort. Attendees will receive detailed information and ideas about how to use tree planting initiatives to grow neighborhood capacity and inspire more neighbors to get involved. The content of this presentation will include a wealth of examples, ideas, and specific tools neighborhood associations or other community-oriented groups can use to plan and execute successful tree planting programs.  
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## COLLABORATION SESSION:

### BUILDING BRIDGES ACROSS GENERATIONS: FOSTERING UNITY AND RESILIENCE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Speaker: Dr. Sheri-Ann McLean (McLean Coaching & Consulting)

*Description:* This session will inspire conference attendees by highlighting the significance of intergenerational connections in community resilience and unity. Through interactive discussions and practical strategies, attendees will gain valuable insights into bridging generational divides and promoting collaboration within their communities. By fostering empathy and understanding among attendees, the session will equip them with the tools to implement positive change and create a more inclusive environment for people of all ages.  
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## CONNECTION SESSION

### RELATIONAL PEACE

Speaker: Eric Wood (Neighborlink Fort Wayne)

*Description:* Neighboring is part of the solution to the isolation that we can all feel. This session will equip participants to look for, listen to, and live alongside neighbors who lack belonging in order to build more relational communities.  
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## OFFICE HOURS

### FUNDING & FUNDING RESOURCE PROVIDERS

Speakers: Representatives of the following organizations- AARP Indiana, Allen County Public Library, Data Fort Wayne, Neighborhood Planning & Activation, Star Financial Bank

*Description:* Conference office hours provide a dedicated time for attendees to ask questions, seek advice, and engage in one-on-one discussions with local experts.

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# WORKSHOPS | 3:00

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## PLANNING BREAKOUT SESSION

### RIDE THE CHANGE: ENGAGING GREATER FORT WAYNE WITH CITILINK'S FUTURE

Speakers: Casey Claypool (Citilink)  
John Metzinger (Citilink)

*Description:* This is an interactive session focused on enhancing public engagement with Citilink, Fort Wayne's public transportation provider. Participants will explore innovative tools for gathering community feedback, discuss the importance of coalition building, and highlight the connection between neighborhood engagement and Citilink's success. Speakers and attendees will learn how to navigate the change process together, striving to improve accessibility and efficiency in Fort Wayne's public transportation system.

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## ACTIVATION BREAKOUT SESSION

### COMPLETE STREETS AND TRAFFIC CALMING

Speakers: Maddie Miller (Active Transportation Coalition)  
Betsy Kachmar (Active Transportation Coalition)

*Description:* Complete Streets is an approach to planning, designing, building, operating, and maintaining streets that enables safe access for all people who need to use them, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities. Attendees will learn the Complete Streets approach, gain strategies to evaluate street design and implement traffic calming, identify workshop opportunities to improve streets in their own neighborhood.

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## COLLABORATION BREAKOUT SESSION: CULTURAL COMPETENCY FRAMEWORK AND ENGAGING DIVERSE NEIGHBORS

Speakers: Melissa Grossman (Amani Family Services)

*Description:* This session equips residents with the knowledge and skills to effectively interact with neighbors from Burmese and Latino/a backgrounds. Workshop participant will 1) develop an understanding of cultural competence and its importance in fostering inclusive communities, 2) gain insights into the cultural values, practices, and communication styles of Burmese and Latino/a communities, and 3) learn strategies for engaging residents from diverse backgrounds to promote participation and accessibility.

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## CONNECTION SESSION

### YELLOW FRAME PROJECT: INSPIRATION EXPRESSION ACTIVITY

Speakers: Jane Altmeyer and Brian Crowl

*Description:* Discover the power of creativity and inspiration in this engaging workshop led by Janet Altmeyer and Brian Crowl of the Yellow Frame Project (YFP). Participants will learn about YFP's mission to empower individuals facing life-limiting challenges through artistic expression. Then, experience firsthand the impact of this work by taking part in an "Inspiration Expression Activity," where you'll explore what or who has inspired you and consider who you might inspire in turn. All materials will be provided—just bring your creative spark and an open mind as we celebrate the inspiration that lives within each of us.

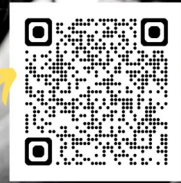




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Register today!



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**SEPTEMBER 13, 2024 • 8:00AM • ELECTRIC WORKS**  
1690 Broadway, Building 19 • Fort Wayne IN 46802  
[www.inspirefortwayne.com](http://www.inspirefortwayne.com) • Registration deadline: September 6, 2024