

EAST ALLEN'S RURAL REVIVAL

Seven Unique Communities, One Bold Vision

GRABILL

HARLAN

HOAGLAND

LEO-CEDARVILLE

MONROEVILLE

NEW HAVEN

WOODBURN

Indiana Regional Stellar Communities Designation

Progress Report

August 17 – November 15, 2021





November 15, 2021

Dear Indiana Regional Stellar Communities and East Allen Community Partners:

As we enter into the holiday season, we find much to be thankful for in East Allen County. Each of our projects are either wrapping up, in construction, or getting ready to break ground. And we are excited to say that while some have been altered from original presentation in the East Allen Rural Revival Regional Development Plan, all of our Stellar projects have been approved for funding! Our communities are beginning to realize the tangible impact of this important work.

A couple of weeks ago, we had the chance to gather at the NewAllen Mural Initiative Celebration. This event was a meaningful touchpoint for the region after a year and a half hiatus from coming together in a big way due to COVID-19. It was a way to stop and think about all that has been accomplished thus far, connect with peers and friends in person, and appreciate the amazing public art that has been installed throughout East Allen County.

We look forward to moving into our final year of designation and are working with our member communities to plan for what is next. Happy holidays!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kent Castleman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Kent" and "Castleman" being capitalized and prominent.

Kent Castleman
Chair
NewAllen Alliance Board of Directors

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Community Engagement Summary

Stellar Partner Meetings/Conference Calls (2021)

January 7, 2021	NewAllen Stellar CDBG Project Status
February 18, 2021	HEALing Seeds Call w/ Andrea Kern
February 25, 2021	Stellar Quarterly Meeting
May 27, 2021	Stellar Quarterly Meeting
August 26, 2021	Stellar Quarterly Meeting

Regional Steering Committee Meetings (2021)

January 12, 2021	NewAllen Board Meeting
February 9, 2021	NewAllen Board Meeting
April 13, 2021	NewAllen Board Meeting
June 8, 2021	NewAllen Board Meeting
August 10, 2021	NewAllen Board Meeting
September 14, 2021	NewAllen Board Meeting
October 12, 2021	NewAllen Board Meeting
November 9, 2021	NewAllen Board Meeting

Collaborative Community Meetings (To Date)

March 25, 2019	NewAllen Collaborative Meeting in Monroeville
July 18, 2019	NewAllen Collaborative Meeting in Hoagland
October 17, 2019	NewAllen Collaborative Meeting in Woodburn
November 10, 2020	NewAllen Collaborative Meeting in New Haven
November 3, 2021	NewAllen Mural Celebration

General Community Awareness Presentations (To Date)

Feb. 15, 2019	Input Fort Wayne Interview with the Commissioners
Feb.21, 2019	Hoagland Annual Chamber Meeting
Feb. 26, 2019	Grabill Annual Chamber Meeting
March 21, 2019	Home Builders Association of Fort Wayne
May 1, 2019	Fort Wayne Real Estate Investors Association
Sept. 12, 2019	NIPSCO Luminary Awards
Set. 27, 2019	Indiana Association of Regional Councils Presentation
October 17, 2019	Allen County Council Update
October 23, 2019	Input Fort Wayne Interview Update
October 30, 2019	Young Leaders of Northeast Indiana Panel Participation
February 19, 2020	All In Allen Comprehensive Plan Kick-Off Panel Participation
February 20, 2020	Hoagland Government Night
March 3, 2020	Grabill Chamber Presentation
April 30, 2020	New Haven City Council Meeting Re: NH Community Center Park
June 15, 2020	Woodburn City Council Update
June 16, 2020	New Haven Board of Works Update
July 1, 2020	Monroeville Town Council Update Meeting
July 7, 2020	New Haven City Council Update

July 15, 2020	Grabill Town Council Update
July 16, 2020	Allen County Council Update
July 21, 2020	Leo-Cedarville Town Council Update
June 10, 2021	GFW Annual Meeting
Sept. 17, 2021	2021 Indiana Housing Conference – Kady Gene Cove Award

Project Specific Community Engagement (To Date)

March 14, 2019	Leo-Cedarville Streetscape Business Owner Input Meeting
March 21, 2019	Woodburn Streetscape Public Input Meeting
April 18, 2019	Grabill Streetscape Public Input Workshop
May 9, 2019	Meadowbrook Neighborhood Meeting for Kady Gene Cove Project
June 5, 2019	Leo-Cedarville Cedar Creek Parks Trail Public Input Meeting
June 19, 2019	East Allen Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program Public Hearing
August 15, 2019	Leo-Cedarville Streetscape Public Hearing #1
August 19, 2019	Woodburn Streetscape Public Hearing #1
Sept. 11, 2019	New Haven Stellar Projects Public Input Meeting
October 29, 2019	Leo Streetscape Public Hearing #2
November 19, 2019	New Haven Community Center Park Public Input Meeting
July 16, 2020	New Haven Trail Plan Public Input Meeting
August 5, 2020	Leo-Cedarville Streetscape Groundbreaking
October 20, 2020	New Haven Community Center Park Public Hearing #1
November 10, 2020	Grabill Streetscape Public Hearing #1
December 7, 2020	Woodburn Streetscape Project Public Hearing #2
December 10, 2020	Grabill Streetscape Project Public Hearing #2
February 17, 2021	Monroeville Wastewater Public Hearing #2
April 16, 2021	New Haven Community Center Park #2
April 20, 2021	New Haven Meadowbrook Trail Public Hearing #1
April 20, 2021	New Haven Community Center Park Public Hearing #2
April 26, 2021	Cedar Creek Parks Trail Meeting
June 17, 2021	Kady Gene Cove Ribbon Cutting
September 10, 2021	New Haven Meadowbrook Trail Public Hearing

Project Specific Team/Stakeholder Meetings (Recent)

September 9, 2021	CCP Trail Meeting
September 14, 2021	CCP Trail Meeting
September 16, 2021	Quarterly Commissioner Update Meeting
September 29, 2021	Woodburn Preconstruction Meeting
September 29, 2021	Monroeville Wastewater Pre Construction Meeting
September 30, 2021	Grabill Streetscape Project Update Meeting
October 7, 2021	Harlan and Hoagland Park Playground Meetings
October 20, 2021	Harlan Park Preconstruction Meeting
November 4, 2021	Grabill Streetscape Preconstruction Meeting
November 4, 2021	Harlan and Hoagland Park Playground Meetings



Grabill



Hoagland



Leo-Cedarville



Monroeville



Woodburn

NewAllen Mural Celebration

Nov. 3, 2021

Overview of Projects

Stellar Project Listing					
<i>Project</i>	<i>Fiscal Agent</i>	<i>Project Administrator</i>	<i>Engineer</i>	<i>Current Estimated Total Project Cost</i>	<i>Projected Stellar Funding</i>
East Allen Owner Occupied Rehabilitation	Allen County	Brightpoint	N/A	\$373,000	\$250,000 IHCDA
Kady Gene Cove Senior LIHTC Housing	Keller Development	Keller Development	MLS Engineering	\$8,000,000	\$800,000 IHCDA LIHTC
HEALing Seeds Classes	St. Joseph Community Health Foundation (SJCHF)	St. Joseph Community Foundation (SJCHF)	N/A	\$75,000	\$75,000 IORH
Woodburn Sidewalks	City of Woodburn	NIRCC	A&Z Engineering	\$994,472	\$631,284 INDOT
Monroeville Trail Project	Town of Monroeville	NIRCC	A&Z Engineering	\$1,407,011	\$898,930 INDOT
Grabill Downtown Streetscape Enhancement	Town of Grabill	NIRCC	DLZ Engineering	\$1,296,232	\$750,000 OCRA
Leo-Cedarville Downtown Streetscape Enhancement	Town of Leo-Cedarville	NIRCC	Engineering Resources	\$1,247,985	\$750,000 OCRA
Monroeville Wastewater Improvement Project	Town of Monroeville	NIRCC	Engineering Resources	\$649,956	\$368,898 OCRA
New Haven Meadowbrook Trail	City of New Haven	SturtzPMG	A&Z Engineering	\$703,134	\$410,214 OCRA
New Haven-Adams Twp. Community Center Park	City of New Haven	SturtzPMG	JPR	\$2,086,032	\$1,718,935 OCRA
Woodburn Downtown Streetscape Enhancement	City of Woodburn	SturtzPMG	JPR	\$731,739	\$500,000 OCRA

Individual Stellar Project Updates

1. Project Name: East Allen Owner Occupied Rehabilitation (OOR)

Previous Activity:

Brightpoint & Allen County met and initiated project development.

6/19/19 Public Hearing

6/30/19 Application Submission

9/30/19 Receipt of Grant Award Letter

Coordination between Brightpoint and Allen County on pass-through logistics

Intake of Applicants (51 applicants – approximately 14 will receive award)

Received Notice to Proceed from IHCD

Hired OOR Construction Specialist

Qualified Three Program Participants (All in New Haven)

Scheduled Inspections for Two Homes

Initiated Environmental Review Process on Two Homes

Qualified a total of five program participants (4 in New Haven and 1 in Monroeville)

3/19/2020 Received concurrence letter for two properties

3/2020 Postponed home inspections, lead assessments and environmental review due to COVID-19

04/01/2020 OOR Construction Specialist resigned

05/21/2020 Received RED NOTICE: RED-20-20 from IHCD instructing grantees that rehabilitation work will remain suspended until Stage 5 of the Back on Track Indiana Plan.

05/26/2020 Submitted a Benchmark Amendment Request

Hired New OOR Construction Specialist

Covid-19 Stage 5 Re-opening: September 26, 2020

Two homes inspected

Two contractor bids returned pending review and award.

Two new homes assigned to the OOR Construction Specialist

Lead risk assessments ordered for first 14 qualified applicants.

IHCD Amendment - approved an extension through April 2022

11 Lead Assessments - complete

Two homes are under construction

One home is pending rehab to begin soon

Environmental Review form Exhibit G had been updated, and as a result, we have three projects that required re-submittal on 5/20/21.

Three additional projects to be sent for Environmental Review

Activity from 8/16/21 – 11/15/21:

IHCD Amendment - approved an extension through April 2022.

Three homes - rehabs are complete and pending lead clearance and or state Inspections. Currently working with IHCD to ensure regulations for lead abatement were followed.

Three homes - bids are in and pending processing for rehab



Three homes - Pending State approval then bid process

Three homes - site visits are complete
Two are no longer able to participate

Current Project Budget: \$373,000 (\$250,000 IHCD, \$123,000 Brightpoint Weatherization)

Current Project Timeline:

2019				2020				2021				2022			

 Development Phase
 Construction Phase

2. Project Name: Kady Gene Cove Senior Housing Project

Previous Activity:

- February 2019 Hired MLS Engineering
- February-May 2019 Application due diligence
- May 9, 2019 Neighborhood Meeting
- May-June 2019 Abatement request
- June 2019 Meadowbrook Area Neighborhood Meeting
- July 2019 10-Year Property Tax Phase-in Abatement approved
- Primary Development Plan approved
- LIHTC Application submitted
- Sept. 2019 Presentation at New Haven Meadowbrook Target Area Public Input Meeting
- November 2019 LIHTC Application Approved
- February 2020 New Haven Approved Secondary Plat
- April 8, 2020 Project financing closed
- April 8, 2020 Construction started
- January 2021 Financing secured for Phase 2
- February 2021 Began leasing Phase 1

Activity from 5/28/21 – 8/16/21:

- June 15, 2021 100% completion of Phase 1 e
- June 17, 2021 Phase 1 ribbon cutting
- July 2021 Full occupancy for phase 1
- August 2021 Phase 2 streets and curbs installed, building pads constructed, building footers and slabs completed

Next Steps:

- TBD Phase 2

Current Project Budget: Phase 1 - \$8,000,000, Phase 2 - \$7,000,000, Total - \$15,000,000

Current Project Timeline:

Kady Gene Cove Phase 1

2019				2020				2021				2022			

Development Phase
 Construction Phase

Kady Gene Cove Phase 2

2019				2020				2021				2022			

Development Phase
 Construction Phase

3. Project Name: Healthy Eating Active Living Classes/HEALing Seeds

Previous Activity: Refinement of project approach with the Indiana Department of Rural Health. Classes will be held at up to 12 locations throughout the region to foster healthy living with stronger and affordable nutrition. St. Joseph Community Health Foundation (SJCHF) with the help of NewAllen will continue to work to develop sustainability into the program through 2022.

- July 2019 Award Letter Received
- August 2019 Grant Agreement Signed
- August 2019 Voucher Signed
- Sept. 2019 Funds Received
- Sept.– Nov. 2019 Met with potential grantees including East Allen County Schools, New Haven TWP Parks and Recreation, Phoenix Manor, Powerhouse Youth Center, Gateway Woods, Harlan Christian Youth Center and reconnected with Cornerstone Youth Center.
Grant application loaded to SJCHF portal (11/5/19)
Grant applications received from EACS, New Haven TWP Parks and Recreation, Phoenix Manor, and Cornerstone Youth Center
- Dec. 2019 Healing Seeds Training Class conducted at the Parkview Greenhouse and Learning Kitchen (Kathy Wehrle and Laura Dwire)
- Jan. 2020 Signed grant agreements and training schedules received from EACS, New Haven TWP, Phoenix Manor, and Cornerstone Youth Center
- Feb. 2020 Started delivering participant manuals and visiting HEALing Seeds grantees

May 2020	Submitted revised budget - increased Stellar award from \$37,500 to \$75,000.
May 2020	Budget Revision Approved
6/1/20 – 10/31/20:	<p>Worked with Cornerstone Youth Center to distribute approximately 80 healthy food packages with food preparation instructions to low-income seniors during the 2020 Christmas season.</p> <p>Worked on curriculum delivery modifications so that grantees can move forward with training in a safe environment in 2021. This includes recording nutrition classes by Parkview Hospital and the development of a website to house resource information for grant recipient use.</p>
Nov. – Feb. 2021	<p>Worked with all grantees on COVID safe sessions and plans. Kathy Wehrle, Parkview Health began recording facilitator training and instructional videos for all sessions. Six of the eight sessions are completed.</p> <p>Mark Burkholder, SJCHF, completed the resource site development. Videos are loaded to the site as well as resource materials and recipes. https://healallencounty.org/healing-seeds/</p> <p>Shifted to Healing bag and nutritious food delivery/pickup to meet the needs of rural residents. New Haven Community Center distributed 100 Healing bags complete with recipes, resource guides, and ingredients. A YouTube video was created with instructions and education. Phoenix Manner had 17 participants. https://youtu.be/Wnksu5myQxk</p> <p>Developed and launched a “Special One-time Grant Agreement” that allows for creative educational and nutritious food delivery. The grant application was opened in February 2021, and four organizations submitted grant requests after working with the Program Manager and Grants Administrator on which option would work the best for their organization and serve the most residents. All four have been awarded grants. Please see updates below.</p>

Phoenix Manor (\$5,000): Ms. Beth Liechty submitted a request for \$5,000 to serve seniors at a low-income housing complex in Woodburn, IN. Beth will gather the residents once per quarter in the community room to watch the Seeds Learning Videos on nutrition information and cooking techniques. After the video and discussion, all residents receive a bag of all the ingredients for each recipe, the recipes, and other handouts and reference materials. The seniors prepare the recipes over the week and submit pictures of their creations to the Executive Director. The ED is available to answer questions or assist with cooking instructions if needed by the residents. Over 30 Seniors attend the quarterly sessions, and the feedback was extremely positive. They are excited to be together again.

Activity from 5/28/21-8/16/21:

Ms. Liechty continues to facilitate the quarterly learning sessions. Since May, she has facilitated the sessions below:

1. Getting Started: The Cook’s Quick Reference Guide (5/20)
2. Seize the Day with Healthy Breakfast (7/15)

Twelve to fourteen people attend each time to view the videos and pick up ingredients. Each time, Beth picks the recipes and lesson, purchases the ingredients and items required, and packs the bags for the class. Additional funding was used to start a food pantry during COVID to assist residents with food access limitations.

Activity from 8/30/21-11/15/21:

Beth was unable to facilitate a September learning session due to a family illness. She will resume the sessions on November 16 and will incorporate healthy holiday ideas into the curriculum. She is planning on another session in December and will include a carry-in celebration of Seeds recipes. 12-14 people attend each time to view the videos and pick up ingredients. Each time, Beth picks the recipes and lesson, purchases the ingredients and items required, and packs the bags for the class. Additional funding is still used to support their food pantry to assist residents with food access limitations. Many of the residents express their gratitude for all of this. It has been extremely helpful.

Cornerstone Community Center (\$10,000): Cornerstone will reach over six hundred individuals living in the area in and around Monroeville, Indiana, in southeast Allen County. Levels of ALICE households in the area served by Cornerstone include Monroeville (43%); Adams Township (47%); Hoagland (29%); Marion (22%); Monroe (34%); and New Haven (37%). Household income impacts overall health, educational achievement, and vocational opportunities. Approximately 50% of the youth served by Cornerstone qualify for the Federal Free/Reduced Price Lunch program. Cornerstone will use their kitchen with commercial-grade appliances and staff with skills to prepare meals, and prepare and deliver meals to seniors, feed youth and families that attend programs, and support food relief for families as needed.

Cornerstone will also use its facilities to teach how to prepare and store healthy foods once safe on-site programming can resume. Every other week, four prepared healthy meals, fresh fruit for snacks, pantry staples, home essentials, healthy recipes, and educational handouts will be delivered to the homes of seniors and individuals with disabilities. Youth attending on-site programs will receive healthy meals and snacks. One week during summer youth programming will be devoted to nutrition with hands-on cooking classes to teach them to prepare simple, healthy meals using fresh ingredients from Cornerstone's community garden. In the summer, seniors who are physically able and youth will be invited to participate in the garden, to learn more about healthy eating in a multigenerational setting. With the last round of SJCHF and United Way funding, they were able to provide: • 5,581 meals fixed, 2,759 kits distributed, 5,027 pantry items distributed, 20 cycles, served 105 unduplicated individuals, 77 households Survey results indicated: • 100% said their health had improved from food and education • 100% increased accessibility thru food program • 100% feel less isolated due to the food program • 87% had increased energy from eating healthy food overnight oats, tools apple slicer, healthy snacks are included in all bags. In the fall they will distribute three rounds of back-to-school food boxes (August, Thanksgiving, and Christmas break).

Activity from 5/31/21-8/13/21:

Cornerstone used a portion of the funding to plant and harvest a community garden next to the center. From June through August 15, they have distributed over 1200 pounds of fresh produce. Some of the offerings include spinach, lettuce, herbs, peppers, squash, cucumbers, green beans, tomatoes, rhubarb, and zucchini. The Seeds curriculum incorporates all vegetables and herbs grown in the garden. Tables were set up by the garden for free access to the produce.

No classes were facilitated over the summer as they continued with Senior meal deliveries. They prepare healthy meals and distribute produce and other ingredients to one hundred households every 2 weeks. The program is supported by many community volunteers.

Activity from 8/30/21-11/15/21

Cornerstone started a program called CYC Cares on September 20, 2021. It is an after-school program that is strictly voluntary. The students who are participating are regulars in the drop-in program but know that on Mondays and Wednesdays each week they are volunteers working with the senior food program, in the garden or with other projects around CYC. The students arrive in the afternoon and have a snack, homework time and then volunteer in whatever area it is for that day. Most of the projects take an hour to an hour and a half to complete. The students then have free time until it is time to go home.



CYC facilitated approximately 13 sessions with 8 different students participating in the program. All participants must complete a HEALing Seeds orientation, kitchen orientation, knife skills training, basics of measuring, and how to read/convert a recipe, how to use a 3-compartment sink, and safety training all prior to helping with the food program. They use several of the HEALing Seeds recipes in the Senior Food Program and the kids are learning food skills and other skills along with PFW interns who volunteer at CYC. With the food program the kids help prepare food items for the seniors and help to pack the dry goods prior to delivery and pick up.

CYC also has a community garden, the kids help harvest several items from the garden and now are in the process of helping to clean the beds for winter and get them ready for next spring.

The youth also assist with special events and recently helped with the Fall Festival as kids went Trick or Treating around the Monroeville Park. They also helped with setting up and tearing down the festivities.

New Haven-Adams Township Parks & Recreation (\$5,500) Carryout Camp: Healthy Chef Edition will be a week long camp for seniors/or children. There will be four Seniors Camps, and two full weeks for youth in the summer. The first Senior week was held last week. Every day they met from 9-11 at rec center, watched videos, reviewed lessons, demoed recipes, and left with a bag of food and resources. All Seniors are to report back after making food with comments and observations. On Thursday of the first week, breakfast and whole grain, slushies and whole grains were demoed. Each Senior got a mystery bag with recipe description to take home and create. They returned the next day with samples and talked about it on Friday. All participants left on Friday with snack ingredients and easy recipes for the weekend. They are anticipating over eighty participants by the Fall.

Activity from 5/31/21-8/13/21:

New Haven-Adams Township Parks and Recreation has hosted two weeklong camps so far this summer with one more planned. Other camps are scheduled in the fall. The organization is planning on food bag distribution again this winter. Good news to share is that they have coordinated with an afterschool program to instruct/demo a few different lessons/recipes to their youth (hoping to have about 10-15 kids each one).

Completed Camps:

Seniors May 17-21 attendance nine
Student July 12-16 13 signed up: nine attended

Activity from 8/30/21-10/29/21

Parks and Rec facilitated an after-school program called **LEARN**. Attached are some pictures of the most recent class. Angela stated that this was one of her favorite classes. "It was informative, fun, healthy food and extra information copied from the books that were sent home with 21 students!"

Details are below.

Seniors, August 23-27 signed up: eleven actual attendees: 9
Student October 6-27 1x per week signed up: nine actual attendees: 7
Student November 9-30 1x per week current signed up: seven

Senior October 4-8 weeklong camp: Signed up:four actual attendees 3
Senior November 15-19 weeklong camp, current signed ups: four

LEARN after school program food bag distribution with condensed snack lesson and demo
Nov 3rd: twenty-one in attendance
Nov17th signups: twenty-five
Dec 1st signups: thirty
Dec 15th signups: ten

Food bag distribution dates: November 23 and December 2 (seniors)
December 16th (students)



Power House Youth Center (\$3,200): Power House will hold five cohorts over the next year for twenty-five families. Each cohort will include six sessions from the Healing Seeds manual. They will appoint a program coordinator who will use the Healing Seeds 20-minute video to teach the lesson. The coordinator will lead the group through the classes in-person, in a setting that can safely accommodate social distancing. They are planning to hold 4 cohorts in the manner listed during the 2021-2022 school year, and one cohort during the 2021 Power House summer programming. The meal prepared by the participants will be served to the program participants. In addition, all youth will be given the food ingredients and recipes to take home with them to prepare for their own families. As part of the process, they will have the students do the prep work at Power House as a group and then provide them with containers and cooler bags to transport the food safely to complete the meal process at home with their families. Each participant will receive the Healing Seeds training manual.

Activity from 5/31/21-8/13/21:

The first classes for Healing Seeds were held the two weeks leading up to school starting. Due to scheduling, three students participated in the first session. Per Bonnie Roth, “This actually worked out really well for the first series of classes, it allowed the facilitator to get familiar with the videos and the recipes.”

The recipes that the students made were: Speedy Greek Salad, Savory Bean and Veggie Soup, Broccoli with Creamy Lemon Sauce, Health Mexican Corn on the Cob, Looks like Mashed Potatoes, Turkey Black Bean Burgers with Salsa, High Voltage Energy Bars, Laura’s Flourless Banana Muffins, Baked French Toast with Peaches.

“It was awesome to see the students learning so much through these classes. They were very open to trying new foods and learning healthy ways to eat. Some of the dishes they made one full meal while they were here so that they could try it, and then they also did all the prep work here to take the same dish home to finish preparing to share with their family. They each had their own set of measuring spoons and cups, as well as take home containers and cooler bags. They did a great job of bringing the empty containers back all washed and ready to refill.” A new cohort will start this month once school is fully in session.

Activity from 8/30/21-11/15/21

Bonnie is recovering from COVID and was not able to submit a report.

Website Data Recap:1,101 Pageviews from Indiana Users

- a. November 4, 2020 – November 4, 2021
2. Seeds Packet & Meal Kit Video viewed sixty times
 - a. December 14, 2020 – August 9, 2021
 - b. Average of more than one view every 4 days
3. Averaged an increase of 21.2 page views per month by Indiana users
 - a. December 2020 – September 2021

Each Seeds page was viewed at least five times, up to as many as 198 page views for the most viewed page (the Lesson overview page) from November 4, 2020 – November 4, 2021

The Foundation is excited about the website utilization data and hopes grantees and partners continue to access the site for resources and videos.

Next Steps: Monitor grantee progress and success.

Current Project Budget: \$75,000

Current Project Timeline: SJCHF will support classes in 2021. NewAllen will continue to work to develop sustainability into the program through 2022 which will be made easier through the new virtual format.

4. Project Name: Woodburn Sidewalks

Previous Activity:

March 4, 2019	Initial design/need discussion with Woodburn Mayor and NIRCC
March-May 2019	NIRCC gathered info related to sidewalk needs
June 26, 2019	Developed initial project list of sidewalks and to discuss project elements and funding
July – Sept. 2019	Evaluation of initial project list, prep. of cost estimates, and prioritization of projects
Oct. 2019 – Jan. 2020	Finalized list of projects to pursue, along with scope and cost estimates
February 2020	Woodburn submitted INDOT eligibility application
March 2020	Woodburn received INDOT eligibility approval
April/May 2020	List of projects to pursue was revised, along with scope and cost estimates
May 2020	Woodburn entered into project design contract with A&Z Engineering
May 2020	NIRCC prepared revised INDOT eligibility application
July 2020	Woodburn submitted revised INDOT eligibility application and it was accepted
August 2020	INDOT Early Coordination meeting was held, virtually
Nov 2020 – Feb 2021	Design, Right-of-way, ER Underway
February 9, 2021	NIRCC/INDOT LPA Quarterly Progress meeting
March – June 2021	Finished design; initiated acquisition – legals/plats initiated – RR acquisition under review; ER is under review by INDOT; and utility coordination under way
May 19, 2021	NIRCC/INDOT LPA Quarterly Progress meeting
June-Aug 2021	Continue acquisition – appraisals and purchase; prepared draft RFP for inspection; coordinated with RR; and finalize utility coordination.

Activity from 8/17/2021 – 11/15/2021:

Aug - Nov 2021	Continued acquisition – appraisals and purchase; finalized RR coordination; finalized utility coordination; and received ER approval.
Sept 24, 2021	RFP for inspection posts on INDOT site – October 29 2021 deadline

Next Steps:

Nov / December 2021	Select firm for inspection
April 6, 2022	Lettings for both sidewalks and trail
May/ June 2022	Construction

Current Project Budget: \$990,400 total cost = \$632,400 INDOT and \$358,000 Woodburn (Pending Update)

Current Project Timeline:

2019				2020				2021				2022			

- Development Phase
- Construction Phase

5. Project Name: Monroeville Trail Project (Near Conservation Club and CME)

Previous Activity:

April 10, 2019	A&Z Engineering initiating preliminary design and cost estimates
July – Sept. 2019	Redefined scope, preparation of cost estimates, and identification of right of way needs
August 9, 2019	Monroeville and NIRCC met with INDOT to discuss preliminary plans of project
Oct. – Feb. 2020	Refined project scope and cost estimates
March - April 2020	Continued to refine project scope and cost estimates
May 2020	Finalized project scope, cost estimates, and right of way needs
May 2020	NIRCC prepared draft INDOT eligibility application
July 2020	Monroeville submitted INDOT eligibility application and it was accepted
August 2020	Monroeville entered design contract with A&Z engineering
August 2020	Surveying commenced and URA brochures were distributed
September 2020	INDOT Early Coordination meeting was held, virtually
Oct. 2020 – Feb 2021	Design underway, stage 1 plans submitted to INDOT; utility coordination underway; working on right-of-way needs, ER is underway.
February 9, 2021	NIRCC/INDOT LPA Quarterly Progress meeting
March – June 2021	Finished design; initiated acquisition; ER is under review by INDOT; utility coordination underway; eliminated RR crossing from scope.
May 19, 2021	NIRCC/INDOT LPA Quarterly Progress meeting
June -August 2021	Continue acquisition – appraisals/purchase; ER approval; finalize utility coordination.
August 2, 2021	RFP for construction inspection posted on INDOT site – 9/3/21 deadline

Activity from 8/17/2021 – 11/15/2021:

August - Nov 2021	Continued acquisition – appraisals/purchase; ER approval; finalize utility coordination.
September 2021	Selected A&Z Engineering for construction inspection
November 3, 2021	Signed construction inspection contract

Next Steps:

Nov 2021- Jan 2022	Finalize acquisition – appraisals/purchase; ER approval; finalize utility coordination.
March 3, 2022	Lettings for both sidewalks and trail
May/ June 2022	Construction

Current Project Budget: \$1,407,011 total cost = \$898,930 INDOT and \$508,081 Monroeville

Current Project Timeline:

2019				2020				2021				2022			
Development Phase												Construction Phase			

 Development Phase
 Construction Phase

6. Project Name: Grabill Downtown Streetscape Enhancement

Previous Activity:

Feb. 26, 2019:	Grabill Annual Chamber Meeting Stellar Presentation
Feb. 27, 2019:	Grabill Streetscape Kick-off Meeting
April 18, 2019:	Grabill Streetscape Public Input Workshop
April 30, 2019:	Grabill Streetscape Project Development Meeting
May 22, 2019:	Meeting with Owner of the Grabill Bank Block Hiring of DLZ Engineering
Feb. 12, 2020:	Project Re-Coordination Meeting
March 13, 2020:	Execute DLZ Preliminary Engineering Contract
June 11, 2020:	Downtown property owner meeting
June 17, 2020:	Signed Env. Review Contract (SturtzPMG)
June 19, 2020:	Signed Application Prep Contract (NIRCC)
July–Oct 2020:	Sent URA Initial Letters/Brochures to property owners and conducted Title Searches
July 29, 2020:	Engineers prepared Cost Estimates and preliminary site plans (DLZ)
August 6, 2020:	Sent Env. Review Early Coordination Pkts to ER Agencies (SturtzPMG)
Aug.-Sep. 2020:	Initiate Section 106 Coordination w/Indiana SHPO (SturtzPMG)
Sept. 24, 2020:	Print and distribute Business Owner Surveys & take application photographs (NIRCC)
Sept. 29, 2020:	Complete Four Factor Analysis & Town update Fair Housing Ordinance
Nov. 10, 2020:	Conduct # 1 Public Hearing (NIRCC/Town)
Dec. 10, 2020:	Conduct #2 Public Hearing (NIRCC/Town)
Dec. 28, 2020:	Submit MSRP Grabill Streetscape Application (NIRCC)
Jan. 4, 2021:	Received Notice of Award (IOCRA)
Jan. 27, 2021:	Town Received Grant Agreement (IOCRA)
Feb. 9, 2021:	Published Environmental Review Combined Notice/RROF (Start of Public Comment)
Feb. 10, 2021:	Execute Grant Administration Contract (NIRCC/Town)
Feb. 25, 2021:	Request Release of Funds Certification and initiate State Comment Period
March 13, 2021:	End of State Review Period
March 16, 2021:	Received Environmental Release from OCRA
April 12, 2021:	Conduct Kick-Off Meeting and discuss project timelines
April 14, 2021:	Town signs Engineering Contract for bidding and construction phase
May 5, 2021:	GA provided OCRA bidding instructions and guidelines to town & engineer
May 19, 2021:	Council meeting to approve bidding schedule and timelines
June 7, 2021:	Working Group Meeting to review next steps
June 10-18, 2021:	Publish Invitation for Bids (IFB) & send Certified letters to MBEs/WBEs
June 21, 2021:	Conduct Pre-Bid Meeting
June 30, 2021:	Conduct Open Bid Meeting
July 1, 2021:	Engineer Certifies Bid
July 7, 2021:	Engineer Recommendation of Low Bid
July 7-20, 2021:	Town works with financial advisor for additional local match due to inflationary bids

July 20, 2021: Submit Semi-Annual Report
 July 21, 2021: CFO updates Local Match Certification Letter

Activity from 8/17/21/2021 -11/15/21:

Aug. 30, 2021: Submit Final Release of Funds (ROF) documents to OCRA
 Sept. 9, 2021: Receive ROF notice
 Sept. 10, 2021: Sign Construction Contract
 Nov. 4, 2021: Conduct Pre-Con Meeting/Business Working Group Meeting to discuss construction schedule
 Nov. 8, 2021: Create Construction Release Rept. on eGMS
 Wk of Nov. 15, 21: Receive Labor Standards Compliance Docs from prime to initiate Construction/Labor Release

Next Steps:

Feb-Mar 2022: Conduct Ground-Breaking Ceremony & Start of Construction (per weather conditions)
 Feb-June 2022: Conduct Construction Activities and Inspections (per weather conditions)
 Mid-Late June 2022: Construction (Substantially Complete)
 Late June 2022: Final inspection & punch list items
 June 2022: Submit final draw to state and initiate project closeout
 July-Sept: 2022: Conduct Closeout Activities & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Project Budget (Application): \$932,400 (\$750,000 OCRA, \$182,400 Grabill)

***Project Budget (Post Bid Update):** \$1,296,231.71 (\$750,000 OCRA, \$546,231.71 Grabill)

Current Project Timeline:

2019				2020				2021				2022			

 Development Phase
 Construction Phase

7. Project Name: Leo-Cedarville Downtown Streetscape Enhancement Project**Previous Activity:**

Feb. 18, 2019	Kick-Off Meeting
March 14, 2019	Business Owner Input Meeting
March 26, 2019	Project Development Meeting
April 16, 2019	Town Council Meeting (Streetscape Update)
April 30, 2019	Project Development Meeting
May 9, 2019	Project Development Meeting
June 18, 2019	Leo-Cedarville Conference Call
July 25, 2019	Project Development Team Meeting
August 2019	Language Access Plan, Disclosure Report, Fair Housing Ordinance Update Completed
August 14, 2019	Leo-Cedarville Conference Call (Discuss Acquisition / Public Hearing)
August 15, 2019	1 st Public Hearing
August 2019	Initiated acquisition of downtown property needed for the project
Sept. 30, 2019	Project Development Team Meeting
Sept. 30, 2019	NEPA Format II Environmental Review Complete
October 1, 2019	Council meeting to discuss project status
Wk. of October 14 th	Submit Purchase Offer Letter to Property Owners
October 29 th , 2019	2 nd Public Hearing
Nov-Dec 2019	Submit MSRP Application and additional National Objective documentation per OCRA
January 20, 2020	OCRA Initial Award Notice
January 24, 2019	FEEPS Meeting/INDY
February 1, 2020	Published FONSI/RROF for Environmental Clearance
February 11, 2020	Town Received Grant Agreement
March 4, 2020	Received Environmental Clearance from OCRA
April 14, 2020	Closed on Property for Gathering Area
March 13, 2020	Town Authorized Design Specification
March 20 & 28, 2020	IFB Publications
April 9, 2020	Virtual Pre-bid Meeting
April 16, 2020	Virtual Open Bid Meeting
April 21, 2020	Council Approves Amended Local Match Resolution (Post bid)
April 22, 2020	Submit Pre-ROF Status Report to OCRA (eGMS)
May 5, 2020	Pre-ROF Approval and create final ROF Status Report
June 19, 2020:	Submit Final ROF Status Report to OCRA
June 25, 2020	Receive ROF
July 7, 2020:	Sign Construction Contracts
July 15, 2020:	Conduct Preconstruction Meeting
July 27, 2020:	Achieved Construction Release from OCRA
July 27, 2020:	Submit Semi-Annual Report
Aug. 3, 2020:	Start of Construction
Aug. 5, 2020:	Conduct Groundbreaking Ceremony
Aug. 5, 2020:	Conduct Mobilization-Demolition Construction

- Aug 10-Nov 9, 2020: Phase 1 (Complete East Side Streetscape Improvements)
- Oct. 21, 2020: Submit 1st Pay Claim to OCRA
- Dec 31, 2020: East side streetscape improvements completed and submitted #2 pay application to town: (Note: work on planters, brick pavers, and lighting will be conducted over winter months).
- Jan. 25, 2021 Submit 2nd Pay Claim to OCRA (construction payment to date: \$438,029.12 (44% of construction invoiced)
- Jan 25, 2021 Submitted Semi-Annual Report to OCRA
- March 24 to May 21, 2021: **Phase 2** - Complete West side sidewalk improvements & gathering area
- March 17 & 31, 2021: Conduct bi-monthly Progress Meeting conference calls with working group
- April 14 & 28, 2021: Conduct bi-monthly Progress Meeting conference calls with working group
- May 12 & 26, 2021: Conduct bi-monthly Progress Meeting conference calls with working group
- June 1, 2021 Completed Surface Restoration
- June 7-14, 2021 Completed Pavement Markings, Punch list & signage
- June 21, 2021: Scheduled Final Completion – Engineer Inspection Walkthrough (98% complete)
- July 6, 2021: Town requested a 60-day extension to complete outstanding punch-list items
- July 19, 2021: Submit Final Claim to OCRA (per OCRA pre-Approval)
- July 20-31, 2021: Incidental punch-list corrections

Activity from 8/17/21 – 11/15/21:

- August 17, 2021: INDOT inspections & surveyor as-built review
- August 31, 2021: INDOT/Surveyor determination of slope non-compliance
- Sept. 23, 2021: OCRA Approval of 90-Day extension for ramp/walkway reconstruction
- Oct-Nov. 9, 2021: Ramp Reconstruction to correct ADA ramp/walkway issues
- Nov. 12, 2021: INDOT Final INSpection

Next Steps:

- Nov. 15-Dec. 2021 Project Completion Report, Release Retainage & Send Performance Report to OCRA to initiate Closeout monitoring.
- Dec. 2, 2021 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- Jan.-Feb., 2022 Closeout Monitoring and Receive Cert. of Completion from OCRA

Current Project Budget: \$1,247,985 (\$750,000 OCRA, \$497,985 Local)

Current Project Timeline:

2019				2020				2021				2022			

- Development Phase
- Construction Phase

Leo-Cedarville Finished Downtown Streetscape Photos



EAST ALLEN'S RURAL REVIVAL
Seven Unique Communities, One Bold Vision

8. Project Name: Monroeville Wastewater Treatment Project**Previous Activity:**

February 2019	Procured Engineering Resources Incorporated (ERI) to complete PER
March 2019	ERI initiated PER
May-Aug. 2019	Identified income survey area, developed survey list, and received approval to complete income survey
Oct. 2019	Initiated PER
January 25, 2020	Initiated Income survey
April 2020	Completed income survey – qualified at 67% LMI
May 2020	Complete study and analysis portion of PER, reviewed data, and initiated recommendations
August 2020	Project scope finalized
Sept 2020 – Oct 2020	Initiated Environmental Review and 106, underway, waiting for responses
November 2020	Completer 4 factor/ LAP
Nov – Dec 2020	HUD 8-Step Floodplain Process
December 9, 2020	Public Hearing #1
December 28, 2020	Submit 106 Finding on No Historic Properties Affected to SHPO – start public comment period – ended 1/29/21 – ready to publish FONSI – will wait to combine
Jan – Feb 2021	Prepare application
February 17, 2021	Public Hearing #2
March 1, 2021	Application submission
March 31, 2021	Notice of Award
April 7, 2021	Approved GA Contract with NIRCC
April 16, 2021	FEPS Approval
April 26, 2021	Fully executed Grant Agreement with State
April 26, 2021	FONSI/RROF Publication, ER Record available for public comment on www.nircc.com
May 12, 2021	RROF on or about date, submitted RROF Certification – start of State Comment Period – ends 5/28/21
April – June 2021	Initiate final design, permit coordination and bidding documents
June 1, 2021	Removal of Environmental Conditions
June 2021	Finish final design, permit coordination and bidding documents
July 7, 2021	Publish IFB, ran again on 7/16/21
July 22, 2021	Pre Bid Meeting
July 30, 2021	Final addendum issued
August 4, 2021	Bid Opening

Activity from 8/17/21 – 11/15/21:

August-Sept 2021	Submitted Pre-ROF and ROF documentation via eGMS
September 1, 2021	Signed Construction Engineering and Inspection Contract with ERI
September 9, 2021	Received Release of Funds (ROF) Letter
September 24, 2021	Signed Construction Contract for Contract A awarded to Culy Contracting LLC

- September 28, 2021 Signed Construction Contract for Contract B awarded to Fleming Excavating, Inc
- September 29, 2021 Pre Construction Meeting
- October-Nov 2021 Upload documentation for Construction Release to eGMS

Next Steps:

Feb 2022 - June 2022 Construction

Current Project Budget: \$649,956 (\$368,898 OCRA, \$281,058 Monroeville)

Current Project Timeline:

2019				2020				2021				2022			

- Development Phase
- Construction Phase

9. Project Name: New Haven Meadowbrook Trail Project

Previous Activity:

- January 2019 Hired SturtzPMG as grant administrator
- Feb.12, 2019 New Haven Stellar Projects Meeting
- February 2019 Hired A&Z Engineering as engineer – design, right-of-way and environmental
- May 2019 Initiated income survey
- May 2019 Sent out early coordination and Section 106 review packets
- May 2019 Identified properties where acquisition will be needed
- June 6, 2019 Project Development Meeting
- June 27, 2019 Project Development Meeting
- August 8, 2019 New Haven Projects Meeting
- August 13, 2019 New Haven Clerk Meeting
- August 21, 2019 New Haven Meadowbrook Trail Site Control Meeting
- Sept. 10, 2019 New Haven Council Meeting – OCRA Project Administration Items
- Sept. 11, 2019 New Haven Stellar Projects Public Input Meeting
- Sept. 24, 2019 New Haven Council Meeting – OCRA Project Administration Items
- Environmental Review Drafted
- Language Access Plan, Disclosure Report, Fair Housing Ordinance Update Completed
- January 17, 2020 New Haven Meadowbrook Trail Project Meeting
- January 30, 2020 New Haven Meadowbrook Trail Project Meeting
- Spring/Summer 2020: Initiated Site Control Process for Meadowbrook Easements (Title Searches, Owner Notification, Appraisals)
- Completed legal descriptions for acquisition
- Coordination with Army Corps Re: Wetland Determination and Permit

Engineering near complete
 Update City Trail Plan
 February 2021: City discussion/approval from OCRA for project limit change
 April 20, 2021: Public Hearing #1
 June – Aug., 2021 Worked on Obtaining Site Control
 August 4, 2021 Development Team Project Meeting
 August 16, 2021 Kady Gene Cove Donation Agreement Finalized
 August, 2021 Preparing Application for Submission

Activity from 8/17/21 – 11/15/21:

Sept. 7, 2021 Public Hearing #2, Resolution
 Mid Sept., 2021 Application Submitted
 Sept-Nov., 2021 Completed Site Control for Remaining Temporary Easements
 Oct., 2021 Initiated HUD 8-Step Process
 Nov. 8, 2021 Received Notice of Grant Award

Next Steps:

11/24/21 FEPS Deadline to Submit Post Award Documents
 Dec. 2021/Jan. 2022 Environmental Clearance
 Dec. 2021 Execute Grant Administration Agreement
 Dec. 2021/Jan. 2022 Prepare Bids/Specs
 Feb./March 2022 Receive Bids
 March 2022 Release of Funds
 April-Aug. 2022 Construction
 Sept.- Dec. 2022 Closeout

Budget: \$703,134 (\$410,214 OCRA, \$292,920 New Haven)

Current Project Timeline:

2019				2020				2021				2022			

 Development Phase
 Construction Phase

10. Project Name: New Haven Community Center Park Project

Previous Activity:

April 2019	Received approval to conduct income survey
May 2019	Initiated income survey
July 2019	Hired JPR for Engineering
July 2019	Hired SturtzPMG for Grant Administration
Aug. 8, 2019	Project Development Meeting
Sept. 11, 2019	Conducted Neighborhood Input Meeting
Fall 2019	Completed Income Survey (65%)
October 2019	Neighborhood Survey
November 2019	Neighborhood Charette
January 2020	Complete Preliminary Design
February 2020	Environmental Review Early Coordination Initiated
February 2020	Archaeological Reconnaissance Complete
February 2020	Section 106 Review Initiated
May 2020	Completed Draft Environmental
May 1, 2020	Submitted Application
August 2020	OCRA Approval of Application
August 2020	FEEPS Submission and Approval by OCRA
September 2020	New Haven Approved Bid & Specification Contract and Grant Administration Contract
Nov. 2020 – Feb. 2021	Updated Income Survey
December 2020	Complete Bids & Specifications
Jan.-Feb. 2021	Project Bidding
Feb. 3, 2021	Pre-Bid Meeting
Feb. 11, 2021	Bid Opening
March 2021:	Receive Permits
March 2021:	Finalized Income Survey Report
March 2021:	Release of Funds
April 8, 2021:	Preconstruction Conference
April 16, 2021:	Groundbreaking - Commence Construction
May – Aug. 2021	Construction/Labor Standards

Activity from 8/17/21 – 11/15/21:

Aug. – Nov. 2021	Construction/Labor Standards
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Next Steps:

Nov. 19, 2021	Ribbon Cutting
Nov./Dec. 2021	File for an extension for final closeout due to punch list items
Dec., 2021 – Feb. 2022	Punch List Items (Benches on backorder, final coating on court

Current Project Budget: \$2,086,032 (\$1,718,935 – OCRA, \$367,097 – New Haven)

Current Project Timeline:

2019				2020				2021				2022			

- Development Phase
- Construction Phase

New Haven Community Center Park Under Construction



11. Project Name: Woodburn Downtown Streetscape Enhancement

Previous Activity:

Feb. 20, 2019	Woodburn Streetscape Kick-Off Meeting
March 2019	Hired JPR to complete preliminary engineering & SturtzPMG as Grant Admin.
March 21, 2019	Woodburn Streetscape Public Input Meeting
April 2019	Preliminary Design finalized and environmental early coordination mailed out
August 5, 2019	Woodburn City Council (Disclosure Report, Language Access Plan)
August 19, 2019	Woodburn Streetscape Public Hearing
September 25, 2019	Woodburn Project Development Meeting
November 2019	Identified that property lines went to the centerline to more acquisition was needed
May 26, 2020	Project Development Meeting
June 15, 2020	Fair Housing Ordinance Update
June – July 2020	Site Control: Appraisals, Agreements
Nov. 2020 – Jan. 2021	Finalize site control
Dec. 7, 2020	Public Hearing #2
Dec. 18, 2020	Submitted Application
Jan. – Feb. 2021	Application Approval
Jan. – Feb. 2021	FEPS Submission
Jan. – Feb. 2021	Grant Agreement Signature, GA & Eng. Agreements, Environmental RROF and FONSI
March 11, 2021	Project Meeting
May, 2021	INDOT Permit Submittal, Utility Coordination, Project Meeting – 60% Design
July 7, 2021	Pre-Bid Meeting
July 15, 2021	Bid Opening
August, 2021	Pre-ROF Submitted and Approved
September 2021	Release of Funds
September 29, 2021	Pre-Construction Meeting
September 29, 2021	Signed Construction Contract with API

Next Steps

Late Feb./Early March, 2022	Groundbreaking
Late Feb./Early May, 2022	Construction

Current Project Budget: \$731,739.11 (\$500,000 OCRA, \$231,739.11 Woodburn)


Current Project Timeline:

2019				2020				2021				2022			

	Development Phase
	Construction Phase

Complementary Project Highlights


NewAllen Mural Initiative: This was a wonderful experience celebrated on Nov. 3rd in Monroeville.



NEWALLEN ALLIANCE
ALLEN COUNTY, INDIANA

NewAllen Mural Initiative 2021
Fostering Community Pride

The NewAllen Alliance is excited to announce the completion of five murals throughout East Allen County in the summer of 2021 as part of the East Allen Rural Revival Regional Development Plan! These murals add to the quality of place of our rural areas by bringing color into public spaces and celebrating the unique cultural heritage of each community. These murals can be used as a local economic draw for backyard tourism by inviting residents throughout Allen County and Northeast Indiana to visit the murals and the nearby downtown businesses where they are located.




THE SEED OF LIFE
13505 Main St, Grabill, IN 46741, USA
"Preserving our past. Focusing on our community. Sparking movement for our future." References listed in brief and incorporated into the design include: Amish Community, Farming/Crops, Craftsmanship, Horses, Plow, Draft Horse, Grabill Country Fair, Produce/Flowers, Street Market Feel.

Special Thanks to:

- Growing Grabill
- Indiana Arts Commission
- Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs
- Town of Grabill
- Property Owner: First Merchants Bank

About the Artist
Ricardo Diamante Guerrero was raised in Defiance, OH, and Fort Wayne, IN. Ricardo is known as Ricco Diamante. He is a graduate of the University of Saint Francis and CEO of Diamante Studios. He primarily creates art on skin, canvas, and paper. Ricco specializes in life-like detail in his art and tattoos. Being a great husband and father to two sons is a huge part of his life, and he is always excited to create mural art for a community.

Artist: Ricco Diamante




HOAGLAND HARDWARE
11117 English St, Hoagland, IN 46745, USA
This mural is a re-creation of the Hoagland Hardware and Implement Store and the Larabee Flour Mill historic mural advertising. The mural is a celebration of the days of old in Hoagland's downtown.

Special Thanks to:

- Hoagland Chamber of Commerce
- Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs
- Property Owner, Dan F. Saur

About the Artist
A lifelong artist, John enjoys the outdoors, painting and design. He uses his creative talent and project leadership skills to create both hand-painted and commercial signage. John is a Fort Wayne native and graduate of both Bishop Dwenger High School and the University of Evansville.

Artist: John Klein



THE PRIDE OF LEO

15004 IN-1, Leo, IN 46765, USA

Leo-Cedarville is known for its excellent school systems. The mascot for the local schools is a lion. There are numerous churches, and the city was named for Pope Leo; Leo is the Latin word for lion.

Special Thanks to:

- Indiana Arts Commission
- Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs
- Leo Cedarville Foundation
- Town of Leo-Cedarville
- Property Owner, Troy Wieland (Wieland Real Estate)

About the Artist

Tim Parsley is the Program Director for Studio Art and an Associate Professor of Studio Art, Painting & Drawing at the University of Saint Francis - Fort Wayne, IN, Creative Arts. "My work navigates American history and the complicated effect of its constructive ambition. With a focus on the originating stories of America, I appropriate and piece together scraps of historic imagery and collective memory, reconstructing the American narrative of progress to reveal and reinterpret nostalgic anxiety about the past. The construction of America was a dichotomous and implicating mixture of hope, pride, destruction, and dominance culminating in a conflicted national history. We live in the wake of this complicated history and continue to play out the same drama in our individual lives. My paintings, collages, and drawings explore the undocumented assumptions that cultivate this phenomenon."



Artist: Tim Parsley

GLORIFYING THE ORANGE WORKHORSE OF YESTERYEAR

Artist: Amy Buchs

100 Main St, Monroeville, IN 46773, USA

Allis-Chalmers was a tractor manufacturer with a history going back to 1847. There was an Allis-Chalmers dealership in Monroeville for decades. The tractor embodies Monroeville's agricultural heritage. The town's name announces to visitors that they are in Monroeville!

Special Thanks to:

- Indiana Arts Commission
- Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs
- Town of Monroeville
- Property Owner, Artists and Mason Kozel

About the Artist

Amy Buchs is a retired art teacher who has always specialized in painting. Her art classes have painted six murals throughout DeKalb county, entered several group Art On the Square projects for Downtown Auburn, and completed projects for the DeKalb County parks. Her students also worked with Shelter Ministries, created paintings for Waterloo's soup kitchen, participated in partnerships, and got involved in local art shows. Since retirement, Amy has painted eight wall murals for three DeKalb County Schools, a community mural in a new soup kitchen, and four outdoor murals in downtown Auburn. She also participated in the 2020 Make It Your Own Mural Fest, creating a mural in LaGrange, IN.



HEARTLAND

Artist: Julie Wall

4409 Bull Rapids Road, Woodburn, IN 46797, USA

A large buffalo bull was slain by the rapids on the Maumee River north of Woodburn, thereafter the place has been known as Bull Rapids. At that time, there was a small settlement but now only a Church going by that name still stands. The Bull Rapids site is located near Blue Cast Springs, the original site of Blue Cast Sanitarium selling mineral water sold world-wide which is now an ACRES Land Trust site that offers walking trails. The mural is located on Bull Rapids Road. Along with agriculture, Woodburn residents have many flower gardens. The mural committee was very much in favor of including flowers in the mural.

Special Thanks to:

- City of Woodburn
- Indiana Arts Commission
- Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs
- Woodburn Main Street
- Property Owner: Berk Enterprises

About the Artist

Julie Wall was born and raised here in Northeast Indiana and continues to call it home to her studio and business, The HEDGE. With a background in printmaking and metals, she assembles pieces while layering imagery and textures. She is continually inspired by our environment, insects, women, and pattern.



Park and Trail Improvements: Allen County is continuing to show progress in their investment into parks and recreation throughout East Allen County. Both Harlan and Hoagland’s Park Improvement Projects are under contract and preconstruction meetings have been held. API is the contractor for Hoagland and Brooks Construction is the contractor for Harlan. Construction is anticipated to begin in February/March of 2022 with spring completion. In the meantime, both communities have met with vendors to determine the type of playground equipment they will be ordering. In regard to the Cedar Creek Parks Trail, progress meetings have been held and right-of-way acquisition is underway.

Planning Progress:

NEWALLEN ALLIANCE ORGANIZATIONAL PLAN: In September of 2021, NewAllen launched an update to their organizational plan. As the Stellar Designation is entering its final year, NewAllen Board members wanted to continue the momentum and thought it was a good time to re-evaluate their organizational structure, focus, and funding. A grant was received from the Fort Wayne Community Foundation to conduct the work and the Community Research Institute at Purdue Fort Wayne was hired to facilitate the process which will run through the spring of 2022.

NEWALLEN INDIVIDUAL STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PLAN UPDATES: NEWALLEN is facilitating updates to those communities that are interested in updating the action plan portion of their strategic investment plans. Planning sessions are being held in November and December with individual communities, and development advisors from NIRCC, Allen County Redevelopment, GFW, and their engineers.

NORTHEAST INDIANA READI PLAN: Northeast Indiana’s READI Plan was submitted to the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, NewAllen has submitted several proposals for potential inclusion. These projects are all in complement to the East Allen Rural Revival Plan and include the Allen County Façade Program, Grabbil Downtown Event Plaza, Monroeville Industrial Park, and the Monroeville Housing Project. The Allen County Façade Program was highlighted as a Visionary Program within the plan.

GROWING WITH VISION

ALLEN COUNTY RURAL FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

LOCATION Main Streets

FOCUS Workforce Growth, Downtown Vibrancy, Entrepreneurship & Innovation

REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

Over the last few years, significant effort has gone into increasing the downtown vibrancy of Allen County's rural communities. In particular, the New Allen Alliance has been leading the implementation of East Allen's Rural Revival Regional Development Plan through its Indiana Regional Stellar Community Designation. As part of East Allen's 50th quality of life portfolio into streetscapes, trails, sidewalks, parks, housing, and community health, a facade program is one of the plan elements that has not yet been funded. In 2019/20 the Allen County Redevelopment staff laid the groundwork on the establishment of such a program, but the COVID-19 pandemic put a halt to those plans. As the county is focusing on recovery from the pandemic, investment into areas where small, rural businesses are located is now an even more important imperative than ever.

DESCRIPTION

The Allen County Façade Improvement Program will provide incentive to property owners and businesses to improve the exterior appearance of their commercial buildings and storefronts. The program will be focused in central business districts (downtowns) within rural communities throughout Allen County. Allen County Redevelopment will staff the program. Over a three-year period, an annual application process will be made available. This application process will outline what can qualify as a facade improvement such as paint, new windows, doors, and awnings, signage, tuck-pointing, and possibly some level of roof repairs to seal the envelope of the structures. Design guidelines will also be provided. At a minimum, property owners must provide 60% of the funding toward the improvements, with an additional 20% (up to \$10,000) provided by Allen County funds, and 20% (up to \$10,000) from READI. A total of \$300,000 in funding will be committed by Allen County for this initiative (\$100,000 per year). A total of \$1,500,000+ in facade improvements to 30 properties is anticipated over the three-year period.

RELATIONSHIP TO FOCUS AREA

The following link provides some good information on how facade programs can improve downtown vibrancy: How Façade Improvement Programs Can Benefit Your Community - PlannersWeb (https://plannersweb.com/2013/10/how-façade-improvement-programs/)

GROWING WITH VISION

On the link, you will find the following statement and source information, "A report in the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Dollar & Sense series also found that: Commercial building improvements resulted in an increase in sales in the year after the improvements were made. Sales increases exceeded increases in local taxes. The improvements attracted new businesses and shoppers to the target area. Participants were often motivated to make additional improvements (such as to interior spaces or product lines), and Owners/tenants of properties and businesses in surrounding areas were motivated to make improvements."

ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

At a minimum, property owners must provide 60% of the funding toward the improvements, with an additional 20% (up to \$10,000) provided by Allen County funds, and 20% (up to \$10,000) from READI. A total of \$300,000 in funding will be committed by Allen County for this initiative (\$100,000 per year). The READI request is for \$200,000 and the anticipated private investment is \$900,000+. Therefore, a total of \$1,500,000+ in facade improvements to 30 properties is anticipated over the three-year period. A total of \$300,000 in READI funds will leverage an additional \$200,000 into the region for an 80% Return on Investment.

BUDGET

READI Funding Requested: \$300,000

PROJECT COSTS (ALL FISCAL YEARS)	
Total Construction Expenses	-
Total Program Expenses	\$1,500,000
Total Project Expenses	\$1,500,000

FUNDING SOURCES	
Total Project Income	\$1,500,000
Funding Source (as % of Total)	
READI	20%
Other Funds	20%
Private/Philanthropic Funds	60%
Local Government Funds	-

STAKEHOLDERS

- Allen County Commissioners
- Allen County Redevelopment
- Rural Communities throughout Allen County
- NewAllen Alliance

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Duration: Three Years

Timeline: The program would run as a three-year pilot from 2022 - 2024. Annual calls for proposed projects will be made in the first quarter of each year, scoring and award will be made the second quarter and construction will occur the third quarter.

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

This project is considered a pilot. If good participation is received, the results and return on investment of the program will justify continued support through Allen County funds.

Awards:

In September of 2021, NewAllen was honored to participate in the ceremony where Keller Development received the Lt. Governor's Award for Excellence in Senior Affordable Housing. Kady Gene Cove was an anchor project in NewAllen's East Allen Rural Revival Regional Development Plan. It provides affordable and maintenance-free living for seniors and keeps them close to loved ones across the East Allen Region. NewAllen was also honored to have late board member, Barb Smith, represent the board at this event.

**Upcoming Events:**

November 19, 2021	New Haven Community Center Park Ribbon Cutting
December 2, 2021	Leo-Cedarville Downtown Streetscape Ribbon Cutting
Late Feb./Early March, 2022	Grabill Downtown Streetscape Groundbreaking
Late Feb./Early March, 2022	Woodburn Downtown Streetscape Groundbreaking