

## Regional Study Highlights Strengths, Opportunities

Community leaders from 10 counties came together, named themselves the Wabash Heartland Innovation Network (WHIN), took notes at 15 listening sessions throughout the region, and collected and analyzed data.

They visited Ames, Iowa; Greenville, South Carolina; and Columbus, Indiana, in best-practice exchanges. They discussed what it will take for this region to grow in opportunity and prosperity.

After 18 months, they unveiled their report, "Strategic Plan for Economic and Community Prosperity in the Wabash Heartland Region," covering Benton, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Fountain, Montgomery, Pulaski, Tippecanoe, Warren, and White counties.

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*Pictured at a recent Wabash Heartland Innovation Network update meeting are (seated, from left) David Luhman, Hoffman Luhman Masson PC; JoAnn Brouillette, Demeter LP; Steve Schultz, Purdue University; Marianne Rose, Community Foundation; Ron Dickerson, retired, Nucor Steel; Todd Miller, Myers Spring; and Gary Henriott, Henriott Group. Standing (from left) are consultants Melinda Grissmer, Purdue Center for Regional Development; and Nate Klinck, Thomas P. Miller and Associates. WHIN members not pictured: David Bathe, Ivy Tech; Dick Giromini, Wabash National; Gary Lehman, Purdue University trustee; Stephanie Long, North Central Health Services; and Paul Mitchell, Energy Systems Network/Central Indiana Corporate Partnership.*

## Tax Savings Possible with IRA Rollover

Donors' hearts warm with the satisfaction that comes from philanthropic giving. While that's rewarding, other perks, too, can come into play.

That's true with the IRA Charitable Rollover, which allows individuals age 70-1/2 and older to transfer up to \$100,000 from an IRA to a qualified public charity.

The added benefits: the rollover is free of federal income tax, and it can satisfy an individual's required minimum distribution.

Sue Carr is one who made a contribution to The Community Foundation from her IRA.

"My tax advisor told me an IRA Charitable Rollover was a good option. I had heard about it from The Community Foundation, too, and I thought it was a good idea, a timely idea," she says. "Because of the tax savings, those who give this way may be able to give a little more."

"This giving avenue is easily accomplished," says Candy Silver, director of philanthropy. For more information, contact her at 765/742-9078, [candy@cfglaf.org](mailto:candy@cfglaf.org).



*Sue Carr is pictured volunteering for the Art League's endowment fundraiser.*



*Gary Henriott, Henriott Group (left), and Todd Miller, Myers Spring, are members of the Wabash Heartland Innovation Network.*

### Regional Study, continued

They were guided by this statement—“The Wabash Heartland Innovation Network exists to cultivate initiatives that empower globally competitive companies to plant and grow in the Wabash Heartland.”

Their guiding values were: be industry-led, regionally focused, and sustainable; seek inclusive input and ownership; and increase global competitiveness.

### A PLAN FOR PROSPERITY

“Most powerful about the process and the planning is that it encompasses the full region,” says steering committee member Dick Giromini. “Gathering information, analyzing what we learned, identifying existing connections and opportunities—all that came together in this comprehensive, focused plan for our region.

“Extensive effort was made to assure that this was inclusive,” he says. “We collected insights and input from interested parties throughout the region, with a special look toward tomorrow.”

### FOUR STRATEGIES OUTLINED

The plan identifies these action areas:

- Growing existing industry clusters
- Preparing our workforce
- Tapping research to diversify our economy
- Fostering a high-value quality of place.

Eight existing industry clusters offer potential for growth—ag-biosciences;

food processing/manufacturing; biomedical sciences; automotive/heavy equipment; metals production; precision metalworking; engineering, technical, and design services; and packaging.

The plan also calls for enhancing the region’s quality-of-life.

“The steering committee is truly a working group,” says Marianne Rose, president and CEO of The Community Foundation, the organization that convened the

network. “Each member is deeply engaged and committed to the process.”

### COMPREHENSIVE VIEW

While there is more work to be done, she says, “The plan itself is a great gift to the region, because it brings together key information that can be used in multiple ways, including formulating what is next as we take action on our strategies.”

Work is beginning on separate papers on each initiative, Rose says. “These will be our roadmaps as we implement the plan.”

Giromini predicts, “An exciting future awaits this region as we continue our work and move on to our next steps.”

The plan was funded by a \$575,000 grant in December 2014 from Lilly Endowment. A full copy is available at [www.cfglaf.org](http://www.cfglaf.org).



## NCHS Funds Leadership Scholarships

Hoping to help nonprofit leaders gain skills and strengthen their organizations, North Central Health Services, Inc. established a scholarship fund at The Community Foundation to cover tuition for up to four area nonprofit executive directors, supervisors, and emerging leaders interested in earning a Certificate in Nonprofit Executive Leadership.

“We believe strengthening the leadership capacity of our current and rising nonprofit executives is key to developing nonprofits’ health, sustainability, and impact,” says Stephanie Long, NCHS chief executive officer. The program is offered by the IUPUI School of Public and Environmental Affairs and Lilly Family School of Philanthropy in Indianapolis.

### ONLINE GIVING

Gifts to The Community Foundation may be made online at [www.cfglaf.org](http://www.cfglaf.org).

### Recent Gifts

Received from July 1 through September 30, 2016:

#### IN MEMORY

**Jeanne Compton**  
Tom and Mary Jo Sparrow  
**Charles E. Kerber**  
Alta Davis

#### Thomas M. Price

Sue Holder Price

#### Barbara Schilling

Bruce and Mary Ann Junius  
Greg and Barb Kapp

#### Sharon Stavnheim

Douglas Allen  
James and Coleen Austin  
Mark and Nancy Boriack  
Trygve and Karen Hegelstad  
Gary and Michelle Henriott  
Mark and Susan Hermodson



*The late Phyllis Boehning's passion for service will continue through the Phyllis Boehning Endowment, established by her husband, Richard Boehning.*



## Endowment Honors Legacy of Phyllis Boehning

Anyone looking for a pillar of strength to model in life would do well to consider Phyllis Boehning. The long-time Lafayette resident, who passed away in January 2015 at age 77, well understood the words “commitment” and “service,” family members say.

Commitment came through in her marriage to local attorney Richard Boehning. They knew each other in high school in Francesville, began dating soon after and married at 19.

Their five children—and later, 18 grandchildren—gave her an opportunity to further demonstrate commitment and the art of serving

others. “She had an immense love for her children and grandchildren,” Richard Boehning says.

### A LIFE OF SERVICE

She took service outside their home, too, with membership in PEO, Tri Kappa and her church, and to her elected post on the Lafayette City Council from 1984 to 1999. “She was very dedicated to the council,” her husband says. With Railroad Relocation, city hall renovation and other activities, her council years were busy.

“Mom modeled serving others, and doing it with humility,” says their son Stuart Boehning. He’d like his own children to emulate Nana’s determination, to “give it your all, give 100 percent, and sometimes go outside of your comfort zone,” her son says.

“She demonstrated that when she decided to run for public office. It was like, ‘Whoa!’ And that was pretty cool.” For Stuart, her greatest lesson was about relationships. “Mom was able to instill in me how important relationships are—with family, work, and community.”

For her contributions, Phyllis received a YWCA Salute to Women Award and the Sagamore of the Wabash Award.

In her leisure time, she enjoyed tennis, bridge, books, and nature. She also liked preparing her mother’s and grandmother’s heritage recipes.

“Her contributions were to God, family, and community,” Richard Boehning says.

### A WAY TO CONTINUE HER LEGACY

In her memory, he set up the Phyllis Boehning Endowment with The Community Foundation, a donor-advised endowment.

“It’s about Phyllis, but it’s more about a contribution to the community, how she gave and an example of how others can support the community,” he says.

Confidence drew him to the organization, he says. “The Community Foundation has a local board, local staff. They know the community and where the needs are. They have the grant system to wisely handle funds, and they invest them wisely.”

John and Lauren Hintzsche  
Christian and Jo Johannsen  
John and Mary Johnson  
Roger and Eloise Keast  
Roger and Eileen Kimber  
Andreas and Synnøve Løge  
Inger Kristine Løge  
Lars and Rønnaug Løge  
Mark and Sonya Lund  
Lee and Martha Schrader  
Gregory and Coralie Shaner  
Meddie and Candy Silver  
Andreas Haarr Stavnheim

Andreas and Møyfrid Stokka  
Audun and Kari Stokka  
Sigurd and Anne Marie Stokka  
Richard and Janice Vetter  
**Katie Traynor RN**  
Carol Du Clos and Megan Brown  
Jerome Marra and Barb Schuster  
Sara Miedema  
Doug and Susannah Schreiber  
Margaret Schreiber  
Danielle Sharp  
Sheila Smoot

Kelly Stein  
Gary and Cindy Traynor  
**Ball Eggleston PC**  
**In Memory of:**  
Christian Burns  
Richard O’Bryan  
Blair Stockdale  
**Lafayette Hearing Center**  
**In Memory of:**  
Gordon Bennett  
Jeannette Bower  
Mary Margaret Coote

Kim Dimmick  
Rita Easterwood  
William Fife  
Ed Rohler  
Barbara Schilling

### IN HONOR

**Betty Rowe**  
Joan Banning  
**Pattie Wollenburg**  
National Alliance on Mental  
Illness—West Central Indiana  
(NAMI-WCI)



## Grants Benefit Many in Community

The Community Foundation recently awarded grants to several local nonprofits.

### TIER 2 GRANTS

#### Lafayette Urban Enterprise Association

for MatchBOX Coworking Studio  
\$15,000, 3D printers, laser cutter, other equipment

#### Matrix Lifecare Center

\$10,423, iPads and accessories

#### Right Steps Child Development Centers

\$9,814, industrial dishwasher; cots for three centers

#### West Lafayette Parks and Recreation Foundation

\$13,100, audio equipment, projector for Lilly Nature Center classroom

\$15,000, relocate one-room schoolhouse to planned park area

#### Willowstone Family Services

\$15,000, electronic medical records system

### GROUP GIVING

#### 100+ Women Who Care

\$16,300, YWCA Domestic Violence and Prevention Program

#### Men Who Give

\$8,300, Royal Family KIDS' Camp



Visitors like these to the Lilly Nature Center at the Celery Bog will now benefit from audio equipment and a projector for its classroom, funded by a grant from The Community Foundation.

## Application Deadline

Now accepting Tier 3 (up to \$7,500) grant applications, through noon, December 1, 2016.



## Open House Draws Friends, Supporters

Friends, government leaders, and board and committee members were among many attending the August 16 ribbon cutting and open house of Community Foundation offices on the first floor of the Life Building downtown.

For more information  
[www.cfglaf.org](http://www.cfglaf.org)



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