

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, February 1, 2021

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Forward Wayne County to Launch NICE! Program

Wayne County, Indiana– Forward Wayne County (FWC) is announcing the launch of its Neighborhood Involvement and Community Engagement (NICE!) virtual series. It is open to all cities, towns, neighborhoods, and community groups throughout Wayne County.

This program will provide residents and community organizations with the tools, resources, and steps for enacting community development through encouraging residents to become co-producers of their community’s well-being.

The six-part virtual series aims to bring together members of the Wayne County community to learn:

- why it's important to have a NICE! Group
- how to create a NICE group
- how to sustain the group's momentum
- how to improve neighborhoods and communities through the idea of social infrastructure and interaction

Upon successful completion of the series, groups will have the opportunity to apply for funding to bring a community project to life.

“This grant funding is made possible through Lilly Endowment Inc.’s GIFT VII Community Leadership Grant,” said Rebecca Gilliam, Executive Director of the Wayne County Foundation. “We were intentional in our application to include neighborhood development and community revitalization activities.”

“When we announced GIFT VII back in October 2020, it generated a lot of interest amongst our neighborhood groups,” said Acacia St. John, Program Manager for Forward Wayne County. “It will be exciting to see the end result of how these projects will enhance the quality of place and life in our neighborhoods around the county.”

Registration is now open. With limited space and only two workshop series scheduled for this spring, space will fill up quickly. For more information, FWC invites group so visit their NICE! Overview page for all the details [here](#) and complete the application to join today.

About Forward Wayne County

Forward Wayne County, an umbrella unit of the Wayne County Foundation, serves as a county-wide backbone organization to convened coalitions to foster a vibrant economy and promote prosperity in Wane County, Indiana.

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