



*Center for Rural Engagement*

# **2019-2020 FACULTY AND PROJECTS**





CENTER FOR  
**RURAL ENGAGEMENT**

The Indiana University Center for Rural Engagement brings together people, research, cultural assets, and expertise to improve quality of life and address rural challenges from addiction to arts access.

Together with our partners, we have become a national model for how universities can support the needs and futures of rural residents and communities.

Working in full-spectrum community innovation through research, community-engaged teaching and student service, we build vision, harness assets, and cultivate sustainable leadership structures within communities to ensure long-term success.



## FACULTY CO-CHAIRS



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Professor of English, Associate Vice Provost for Arts and Humanities, Director of IU Bloomington Arts and Humanities Council  
*Quality of Place Co-Chair, Town Engagement Program*



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*Health Co-Chair, Navigator project*

## FACULTY LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT



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Associate Professor Biology and Director Undergraduate Internships  
*Health, Sustaining Hoosier Communities, Resilience, Quality of Place: Indiana Rural Community Health Collaborative*

# FACULTY AFFILIATES

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*Quality of Place: Thinking Outside the Book: Community Engagement with Rural Libraries*

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*Community Resilience: Building climate, soil, and water monitoring infrastructure to improve water-resource planning and STEM education in Daviess, Dubois, and Greene Counties*

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*Health: Complex Food Provisioning Strategies and Food Insecurity among Older Adults*

**Alain Barker**

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*Quality of Place: Classical Connections, Band Outreach, Kids Compose, Dance Outreach, Singing Hoosiers, Volante Winds, Crossroads Jazz Quintet, Bloomington Early Music Festival*

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*Health: Healthy Rural Indiana 2025: Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIPs) Project*

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*Health: A Continuum of Care: Leveraging Social Support in the Service of Improving Postnatal Outcomes*

**William Bianco**

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*Community Resilience: Helping Hoosier Communities Assess Climate Risks*

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*Quality of Place: Creative Writing*

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Indiana Geological and Water Survey  
*Community Resilience: Locating and Characterizing Important Springs of the Indiana Uplands*

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*Sustaining Hoosier Communities: Complex Food Provisioning Strategies and Food Insecurity among Low-income Older Americans; Community Resilience: Teen Food Insecurity in Southern Indiana*

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*Health: Feasibility of a Theory-Driven, Rurally-Tailored, Family-Based, Telehealth Intervention for Childhood Obesity: A Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial*



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*Community Resilience: Inventory of Park, Recreation, and Tourism Assets and Trails Projects*



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*Community Resilience: Teen Food Insecurity in Southern Indiana*



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*Health, Community Resilience, Quality of Place, and Sustaining Hoosier Communities*



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*Health: Closing the Gap: Increasing Mental Health Services in Martin County*



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*Community Resilience: Orange County Farm to Health*



**Deb Getz**

Associate Clinical Professor, School of Public Health/Applied Health Science  
*Health: Ongoing partnerships with youth leaders in Lawrence, Orange, and Greene County with Youth Development and Public Health Students*



**Alison Greene**

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*Health: Project UNITE (Uncovering New Initiatives for Teen Empowerment)*



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*Sustaining Hoosier Communities, Community Resilience: Hoosier National Forest Dark Sky Designation*



**Gretchen Horlacher**

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*Quality of Place*



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*Health: Increasing Mental Health Services in Martin County*



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*Health: Feasibility of a Theory-Driven, Rurally Tailored, Family-Based, Telehealth Intervention for Childhood Obesity: A Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial*



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*Community Resilience: Detailed topographic trail maps, promoting recreational opportunities along Indiana's Knobstone escarpment*



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Clinical Associate Professor, School of Public Health, Kinesiology  
*Health: What Moves You Mitchell*



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*Quality of Place: Rural Teachers Engaging Art*



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*Sustaining Hoosier Communities*



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*Quality of Place, Sustaining Hoosier Communities*

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*Quality of Place: Traditional Arts and Creative Aging Resource Guide*

**John Keesler**

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*Health: Online Trauma-Informed Care Training*

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*Health: Interprofessional Practice & Education: Health & Wellness Coaching Integration in Rural Communities*

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*Sustaining Hoosier Communities; Developing Activities for Youth*

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*Sustaining Hoosier Communities: Complex Food Provisioning Strategies and Food Insecurity among Low-Income Older Americans*

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Interim Director, Center for the Study of Global Change

*Health: Community Engagement to End Child Sexual Exploitation (CEECS)*

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*Sustaining Hoosier Communities: Project Sleepy - Huntingburg Hospitality Study*

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*Quality of Place: Revitalizing Downtown Linton*

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*Sustaining Hoosier Communities: Employee Policies*

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Associate Professor, School of Public Health

*Health: Implementing a Financial Incentive-based Intervention to Reduce Smoking during Pregnancy in the Uplands*

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*Community Resilience, Health: Family Battle Buddies Program*

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*Health: Implementing a Financial Incentive-based Intervention to Reduce Smoking during Pregnancy in the Uplands*

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*Sustaining Hoosier Communities: Bloomfield Pool and Greene County Hospital Foundation-Recreation Center*

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Professor of Practice, Media School  
*Health, Community Resilience, Quality of Place: Developing tools for deeper engagement with quality information in Indiana*

**Josephine Mwangi**

PhD Student, MA, MPH, Applied Health and Sciences  
*Health: Exploring Barriers and Facilitators in Adopting Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT): Perceptions of Health Providers in Seven Southern Indiana Rural Counties*

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Research Hydrogeologist, Indiana Geological and Water Survey  
*Community Resilience: Building climate, soil, and water monitoring infrastructure to improve water-resource planning and STEM education in Daviess, Dubois, and Greene Counties*

**Teresa Nichols**

Grant and Program Manager, Center for the Study of Global Change, Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies  
*Health: Community Engagement to End Child Sexual Exploitation (CEECS)*

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*Quality of Place: Engaging Students in Live Theatre*

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*Health: Trauma Informed Care*

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*Health: IU Water Safety Day*

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*Health: Teen Food Insecurity*

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*Quality of Place: The place of arts and culture in individuals' and communities' lives*

**Kristi Schultz**

Master of Social Work Graduate Student, School of Social Work  
*Health: Closing the gap: Increasing Mental Health Services in Martin County, IN*

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*Quality of Place: iSTEAM: Integrating Art into STEM*





**Catherine Sherwood-Laughlin**

Clinical Professor, Assistant Department Chair, Applied Health Science, School of Public Health-Bloomington

*Health: Project UNITE*



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*Quality of Place: Bringing Instrumental Music Education Expertise to Rural Communities*



**Betsy Stirratt**

Director, Grunwald Gallery of Art

*Quality of Place: Art Exhibitions and Professional Practices in Visual Art*



**W. Patrick Sullivan**

Interim Dean and MSW Director IUB, Director for Center for Social Health and Well-being, IU School of Social Work, Director Faculty Development Indiana University School of Social Work

*Health: Extending our Reach*



**Esi Thompson**

Assistant Professor, The Media School

*Quality of Place: Creating Public Relations Campaigns for the Linton Farmers' Market*



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Lecturer in Law - Faculty Director Judicial Externship and Clerkship Programs, Indiana University Maurer School of Law - Bloomington

*Sustaining Hoosier Communities: Rural Justice Initiative*



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Founding Director, IU Cinema

*Quality of Place: CINEMA FOR ALL: Community 'Pop-Up' Cinema Project & Filmmaking Workshops*



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*Health, Community Resilience, Quality of Place, Sustaining Hoosier Communities: Indiana Uplands Park, Recreation, and Protected Land Inventory and Opportunity Mapping*

AW

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*Quality of Place: Reimagining Opera for Kids*



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*Health: Project UNITE (Uncovering New Initiatives for Teen Empowerment)*



**Shuhan Yuan**

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*Quality of Place: Brown County Tutoring Collaboration*



**Chen Zhu**

Professor and Haydn Murray Chair, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences

*Health: Arsenic Speciation*

# ACTIVE PROJECTS



## HEALTH

### **A Continuum of Care: Leveraging Social Support in the Service of Improving Postnatal Outcomes**

*Allison Howland (Ph.D.) and Meagan Benetti (M.S.) Indiana Institute on Disability & Community*

In partnership with community organization, Maternal Advocates Resource Alliance (MARA), researchers at the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community's Center will implement a social support model that strengthens access to quality postnatal care in Monroe County, with potential for replication throughout the Uplands region in Brown, Greene, Lawrence, and Owen counties. This community impact project and its evaluation will develop and implement community support to address specific leverage points that have direct bearing on women's health outcomes and those of their children. This pilot project will use collaborative evaluation research to inform the design and implementation of a community-based, postnatal intervention. Community and faith-based organizations will participate in trainings that equip community volunteers with tools, education, and training to provide non-clinical social support to parents during the postnatal period.

### **Aging in Place**

*Katherine Connelly, Ph.D. (Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering)*

As part of a larger aging in place initiative within the Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering, this project is investigating different ways for older adults to provide peer caregiving activities, such as daily check-ins. Peer caregiving empowers older adults to care for one another, and it can not only reduce healthcare costs, but it can also encourage healthy behaviors and facilitate older adults' physical, cognitive, and emotional well-being by fostering social support. In essence, peer care is a way to transform responsibilities traditionally placed on caregivers as opportunities for older adults to help each other age in place. Counties involved are Daviess, Lawrence, Monroe, Orange, and Owen.

### **CareBand**

*Katherine Connelly, Ph.D. (Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering)*

The Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering is testing the feasibility of deploying CareBand and the LoRa technology in rural areas of Southern Indiana. The CareBand is a wearable device fitting on the wrist that senses motor movement, specifically designed to provide continuous 24-hour movement and geospatial data for individuals living with dementia. The CareBand system has been uniquely developed to perform without the use of Wi-Fi or cellular technology, instead it relies on LoRa, a Long Range, Low Power, Wide Area Network technology that extend to a 3-mile radius around a home or facility. Researchers believe this technology could be equally useful to assist families monitoring their older adult parents who have not yet been moved to assisted living. Counties involved are to be determined.

### **Closing the Gap: Increasing Mental Health Service Provision in Martin County**

*Sara Farmer, M.S.W. Graduate Student and Kristi Schultz, M.S.W. Graduate Student, and Carol Hostetter, Ph.D. (Faculty Advisor, School of Social Work)*

This project developed a feasible alternative model for mental health and substance use treatment in

Martin County, Indiana. The model is designed to reduce the effects that mental illness and substance abuse have in this community through improved treatment systems. It uses a community-based, participatory framework, and builds capacity based on existing infrastructure and resources, while also surveying attitudes on new health care implementation ideas informed by supplementary research.

### **Community Engagement to End Child Sexual Exploitation (CEECS)**

*Deb Getz (Re.D., M.S.) School of Public Health, Elizabeth Konwest (Ph.D.) Hamilton Lugar School, and Teresa Nichols (Ph.D.) Hamilton Lugar School*

The number of identified youth across Indiana who are exploited has increased significantly over the last few years. In order to prevent and respond to this exploitation, the proposed Community Engagement to End Child Sexual Exploitation (CEECS) project will work with communities to build multidisciplinary alliances, assess current resources, develop action plans, and engage intentionally to address their specific community needs. This project addresses two challenges: 1) matching the variety of educational materials or trainings needed by different stakeholders with existing resources as well as 2) identifying needs that will require additional resources or future development (more specialized training for service providers, etc.). This project will work with healthcare providers, law enforcement, local and state officials, educators, and community and faith-based organizations in order to convene local, state, regional, and national resources to build coordinated, well-informed and equipped local teams in these rural communities. Counties involved are Brown, Greene, and Putnam counties.

### **Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIPs)**

*Priscilla Barnes, Ph.D. (School of Public Health)*

The School of Public Health will oversee the planning and implementation of community health improvement processes for multiple counties. Communities use community health improvement plans to garner active participation from public/private institutions and community members, develop measurable indicators, and monitor increases and declines in health status over time. Although the process is typically coordinated by local health departments, the plan is owned by the community and allows residents and organizations to consider factors that influence health conditions. Counties involved are Crawford, Daviess, Greene, Martin, Orange, and Owen.

### **Exploring Barriers and Facilitators in Adopting Medication-Assisted Treatment**

*Priscilla Barnes, Ph.D. and Josephine Mwangi, Graduate Student (School of Public Health)*

Medication-assisted treatment (MAT), a combined use of approved medications, counseling, and behavioral therapies, is being adopted by states with high rates of opioid use in rural communities. Unfortunately, the availability of MAT in rural southern Indiana communities is practically non-existent. Guided by the input from community key informants, semi-structured interviews will be conducted with 50 medical, public health, social service, and mental health care providers practicing in Orange, Lawrence, Washington, Jennings, Scott, Harrison, and Gibson counties. Findings will be presented to System of Care coalitions, thus leading to the development of county specific policies, system change, and environmental strategies of MAT to mitigate opioid addiction.

### **Family Battle Buddies**

*Jordan McIntire, Graduate Student (School of Public Health) and Assistant Director (Therapeutic Outdoor Programs at Bradford Woods)*

The Family Battle Buddies Program (FBBP) centers on the concept of Battle Buddies, in which, military personnel are connected with one another to work together as a team and to look out for each other during combat. The FBBP extends this concept to the military family units of each soldier in the civilian environment post deployment. In this, we see the family members as buddies, helping each other in the aftermath of deployment as well as military families assisting other military families during the weekend and, potentially, afterward. The FBBP aims to enhance military family resiliency through family to family support during shared recreational therapy experiences in a weekend retreat hosted at Bradford Woods, Indiana University's Outdoor Center (Monroe County) and with a 12-session online follow-up.

### **Increasing Mental Health Services in Martin County**

*Carol Hostetter, Ph.D., L.C.S.W. and Serretta Gordon, M.S.W. (School of Social Work)*

This project in Martin County consists of emplacing five master of social work interns in community

# ACTIVE PROJECTS

agencies (Martin County Community Corrections and the Memorial Hospital and Healthcare Center). The purpose is to address the lack of mental health providers in Martin County by providing mental health and addictions treatment services (with a service focus on four areas: substance use, childhood trauma, suicidal ideation, and depression/anxiety) and to build community relationships for sustained growth in such services.

## **Mental Health Survey**

*John Keesler, Ph.D. (School of Social Work)*

In collaboration with the Center for Rural Engagement, Dr. John Keesler and School of Social Work master's students launched the development and administration of a survey to understand citizens' attitudes toward mental health and addictions. The results of the survey data was used to develop and deliver a comprehensive report and presentation to the community of Lawrence County, thereby informing the local community about issues, trends, and potential gaps to address.

## **Professional Development Certificate in Trauma-informed Care**

*John Keesler, Ph.D. (School of Social Work) and Alex Purcell, M.P.H. (School of Public Health)*

The goal of this project is to increase understanding, consistency in terminology, and utilization of trauma-informed care through an accessible (free and online) training that provides foundational and population-specific knowledge, as well as continuing education units, for providers across communities and disciplines by the end of 2020. The training will use the School of Public Health's platform, Public Health & YOU, which will allow for ongoing training development and advancement.

## **Project UNITE (Uncovering New Initiatives for Teen Empowerment)**

*Allison Greene, Ph.D. and Catherine Sherwood-Laughlin, H.S.D. (Department of Applied Health Science, School of Public Health)*

Across two years, Project UNITE will engage Lawrence County, Indiana in developing (Year 1) and pilot testing (Year 2) a multi-level teen pregnancy intervention targeting youth, parents and caregivers, and the community in order to reduce Indiana's rates of teen pregnancy and teen birth which are higher than the national average. Additionally, rural communities, like Lawrence County, are disproportionately impacted with higher teen pregnancy and birthrates as compared to non-rural areas.

## **Project UNITE (Uncovering New Initiatives for Teen Empowerment)-expansion**

*Alison Greene, Ph.D. and Catherine Sherwood Laughlin, H.S.D. (School of Public Health)*

Project UNITE, using a coalition-driven systematic approach to address rural teen pregnancy, began in Lawrence County in June 2019. The current proposal expands Project UNITE to Orange County by engaging the rural community in a process (1) to better understand the local context and factors that contribute to high teen pregnancy and birth rates, and (2) to provide the tools and plans necessary to successfully implement a multi-level intervention. Rural counties are particularly important to target for teen pregnancy prevention as the teen birth rate in rural counties is nearly one-third higher as compared to rates in the rest of the United States. Orange County is among the highest of the Indiana counties in teen pregnancy and teen birth rates with 43.5 births per 1,000 females, ages 15-19 years old as compared to 22.8 in Indiana, and 18.8 in the U.S. (Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center, 2019).

## **Smoking Cessation During Pregnancy**

*Jon Macy, Ph.D. and Susan Middlestadt, Ph.D. (Department of Applied Health Science, School of Public Health)*

Across two years, this project is a partnership between the School of Public Health and Southern Indiana Community Health Care that seeks to reduce prenatal smoking in Orange and Crawford counties by testing the effects of providing financial incentives for 60 pregnant smoking women who stop smoking during their pregnancy. In year two of the project, another study group will be created that includes not only the pregnant women who smoke but also a family member or partner who smokes. Overall, the goal is for 60 percent of those 60 women to demonstrate a reduction in smoking levels compared to baseline and 20 percent will demonstrate biochemically verified abstinence from smoking during the prenatal period.

### **The Rural Justice Initiative**

*Inge Van der Cruyssen, J.D. (Maurer School of Law)*

The goal of this student-service program is to support rural communities (Lawrence, Orange, Owen, and Washington counties) by having students work with understaffed trial court judges. The Rural Justice Initiative furthers efforts of the Indiana Supreme Court, including the critical work done through the Coalition for Court Access. The program is part of the law school's commitment as one of the largest providers of pro bono legal services to low-income individuals in South Central Indiana. The program is also designed to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan for Economic and Community Prosperity in Southwest Central Indiana by inspiring more young people to remain in the region and by providing critical legal services in counties where that assistance is needed most.

### **Theory-Driven, Rurally-Tailored, Family-Based, Telehealth Intervention for Childhood Obesity**

*Wasantha Jayawardene, M.D., Ph.D. (School of Public Health) and Mary Lynn Davis-Ajami, Ph.D. (School of Nursing)*

This is a single-blind, cluster randomized controlled feasibility trial of a theory-driven, family-based, rurally-tailored, four-month-long, telehealth intervention, aimed at sustainable behavioral changes that reduce overweight and obesity among 5 to 11-year-old children in Orange County. Body mass index reduction, nutrition education, and increases in physical activity, sleep, and social functioning are outcomes for children. Theory of planned behavior is utilized to assess parent outcomes. Neighborhoods are assigned to telehealth intervention or active attention wait-list control. When the control group receives the intervention, the group which completed the intervention is followed up for sustainability of outcomes.

### **Social Work Outreach**

*Patrick Sullivan, Ph.D., (School of Social Work)*

This project looks to increase access to professional social work services in rural Indiana particularly given that rural areas are traditionally underserved when it comes to healthcare and other social services broadly defined. Additionally this project looks to build durable and robust partnerships with regional communities as well as to support and complement efforts of other regional organizations. The social work student practicum experience is the most vital aspect of the education of a professional social worker, and it embraces the opportunity to extend the School of Social Work's reach into rural settings. This endeavor will engage with key stakeholders (such as public defender's offices, nursing homes, hospice, IU Health Hospitals, Centerstone Research Institute, and Becky's place) in order to map assets, and begin the process of social development from the ground up. Counties involved are Brown, Owen, Lawrence, Jackson, Monroe, and Greene.

### **Stigma Reduction Education**

*John Keesler, Ph.D., LMSW, (School of Social Work)*

In partnership with the Indiana Rural Health Association and Indiana Rural Opioid Consortium, the Center for Rural Engagement has identified the importance of reducing stigma toward behavioral health issues in rural communities, because it is often a barrier to individuals seeking and accessing behavioral health treatment when needed. Students in the graduate social work program will facilitate community education regarding stigma reduction, with an emphasis on opioid-use disorders. Students will gather pre-/post-session data from community members who attend the education session, and the faculty mentor will provide students with training and oversight, help to coordinate community session, analyze/interpret data, and provide the CRE with a final report. Counties included are Lawrence, Orange, Washington, Harrison, Scott, Martin, and Jennings.



# ACTIVE PROJECTS

## QUALITY OF PLACE

### **Artist and Writer Exchanges and Residencies**

*Cathy Bowman, M.F.A. (Department of English); Betsy Stirratt, M.F.A. (Grunwald Gallery)*

This project institutes artist exchanges and residencies (multi-week engagements by IU faculty and students in local communities as well as by local artists and writers on the IU campus) in the communities of Salem (Washington County), Huntingburg (Dubois County), and Nashville (Brown County). This project hopes to create a thriving art and culture infrastructure that supports local arts and cultural institutions, encourages community self-expression and self-reflection, exposes residents (especially young residents) to new ideas and experiences and expands their personal and professional horizons, and increases local capacity in creative placemaking knowledge, infrastructure, and staffing.

### **Arts Administration Projects**

*Michael Rushton, Ph.D. (O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs); Joanna Woronkovicz, Ph.D. (O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs); Jill Nicholson-Crotty, Ph.D. (O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs); and Sean Nicholson-Crotty, Ph.D. (O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs)*

This project is aligned with communities to help create robust art and culture community implementation. The Arts Administration Project, which is a strategic planning and creative placemaking effort—directed by faculty and students in IU's Arts Administration Program—provides IU students with relevant community issues that they will face in their careers. These students then work with communities to utilize creative solutions for a broad range of issues communities have identified. The projects will build on the strategic plans developed by the Arts Administration capstone course in 2018 and continue to develop action items to achieve the goals of Nashville, Salem, and Huntingburg. Counties involved are Dubois, Brown, and Washington.

### **Brown County Tutoring Collaboration**

*Shuhan Yuan, Graduate Student (School of Public Health), and Angela Chow, Ph.D. (School of Public Health)*

This project looks to not only sustain but to develop a robust IU student volunteer tutor program with the Brown County Literacy Coalition which runs a tutoring program for 3rd to 6th graders in Brown County. This project aims to increase IU student tutor enrollment, organize a series of events with speakers sharing about their careers with elementary school children, and to provide a collection of books about different jobs as reading materials of the program. Additionally, from a research perspective, this project will employ a person-environment fit model to examine the match/mismatch between the needs of the volunteer tutors and the structure of the tutoring program, so as to explore possible ways to increase the number of tutors of the program in the future.





### **iSTEAM Integrating Art into STEM**

*Adam Scribner, Ph.D. (Director of STEM Education Initiatives, Center for P-16 Research and Collaboration), Gabriele Abowd Damico, Ph.D. (School of Education), and Peter Miksza, Ph.D. (Jacobs School of Music)*

The Center for P-16 Research and Collaboration (P-16 Center) at Indiana University School of Education designed and implemented, and are researching a teacher professional development institute to integrate art, music, and STEM for middle school students in three Indiana rural schools: Salem Community Schools (Salem Middle School), Southwest Dubois County School Corporation (Southridge Middle School), and Brown County Schools (Brown County Junior High School) with a cohort of middle school teachers.

### **iSTEAM: Integrating Art into STEM-expansion**

*Adam Scribner, Ph.D. (Center for P-16, School of Education)*

This is an expansion of the current iSTEAM project in Brown, Dubois, and Washington counties and looks to build capacity for rural Indiana schools in Lawrence, Morgan, and Daviess counties by training and providing follow-up support to teachers to implement research-based STEAM lessons and activities that align with state standards. This project also helps rural Indiana schools meet the Indiana Department of Education's goals for STEM education include having 100 percent of Indiana K-12 teachers trained in problem, project, and/or inquiry-based approaches to learning and integrating, evidence-based STEM curriculum by 2025 which as of fall 2018, only 32 percent of their staff were prepared in these areas (STEM Innovations, 2018).

### **K-12 Educational Programs**

*Cathy Bowman, M.F.A. (Department of English); Alain Barker, D.M. (Jacobs School of Music); and Linda Pisano, M.F.A. (Department of Theatre, Drama, and Contemporary Dance)*

The team designed educational programs to utilize resources at IU to work with community educators to extend creative writing, music, and theatre educational opportunities into local schools across the Indiana Uplands. Through these programs, the team will build a network of resources to allow for maximum opportunities for students and teachers to learn about arts and culture. Counties involved are Dubois, Brown, and Washington.

### **Modest House Affordable Infill Housing for Veterans Aging in Place**

*Jon Racek, M.Arch. (Eskenazi School of Art, Architecture, and Design)*

Home ownership is culturally ingrained in the national dream of a "good life," defined by financial security, social prestige, and residential stability (Cullen, 2004). Indiana's rural populations who dream of home ownership face significant challenges in finding and securing suitable housing within median incomes. This project looks to build a housing prototype in Seymour, Indiana (Jackson County) to provide a replicable, energy efficient, modestly-priced (where carrying costs are at or below 30 percent monthly median income) housing for an aging in place (specifically Veteran) population.

### **Museum-based Art Therapy Outreach**

*Lauren Daugherty, L.M.H.C.A. (Eskenazi Museum of Art)*

In partnership with IU Health Bloomington Hospital and the Herron School of Art and Design (IUPUI), the Eskenazi Museum of Art will lead an art therapy program at the IU Health Bloomington Hospital (Monroe County) that will provide wellness for patients in psychiatric care, while also mentoring an IU art therapy intern. In addition to providing an outstanding program for the participants, this project will establish a strong partnership with IU Health Bloomington Hospital over the next year, with a goal of positioning the museum to begin a museum prescriptions program as early as summer 2021.

### **Placemaking Huntingburg and Salem**

*Jon Racek, M.Arch. and Jenny El-Shamy, M.F.A. (Eskenazi School of Art, Architecture, and Design)*

This project leverages established relationships from previous efforts in Huntingburg and Salem, Indiana (Dubois and Washington counties) in conjunction with IU's Serve Design which proposes to build and conduct brainstorming sessions to identify small to medium scale placemaking quality of place interventions (three projects per town). These projects will then be completed with the strength and diversity of the faculty of the Eskenazi School of Art, Architecture, and Design as well as OFS Brands Furniture.

# ACTIVE PROJECTS

## **Reimagining Opera for Kids**

*Amy Williams, Graduate Student and Kim Carballo, M.M. (Jacobs School of Music)*

In conjunction with the Jacobs School of Music, Reimagining Opera for Kids is a non-profit community arts and education organization based in Bloomington that provides art experiences for children. It has twin goals: to introduce children to opera through engaging first experiences, and to give developing professional musicians the opportunity to hone their performance skills. We provide free performances for schools in the Southern Indiana region as well as curriculum guides for teachers to use in the classroom. Counties involved Monroe, Lawrence, Brown, Spencer, Owen, Daviess, and Greene.

## **Rural Arts Series**

*Ed Comentale (Associate Vice Provost for Arts and Humanities) and members of the IU Arts & Humanities Council: Betsy Stirratt (Director, Grunwald Gallery), Jon Kay (Director, Traditional Arts Indiana), Cathy Bowman, (Provost Professor/Poet, Department of English), Michael Rushton (Director, Arts Administration Program), Alain Barker (Director, Entrepreneurship and Career Development, JSOM), Gretchen Horlacher (Professor of Music), Jon Vickers (IU Cinema), and Linda Pisano (Department of Theatre, Drama, and Contemporary Dance)*

The series originated in partnership with three regional communities (Huntingburg, Nashville, and Salem) around the arts, which includes performances by university groups (music, dance, and theatre); exhibits and screenings (from campus archives, museums, and cinema); humanities and intellectual programs (focusing on topics such as regional history, religion, and literature); as well as initiatives to assist local arts groups with arts administration; education and mentoring; and community development, placemaking, and capacity building. Counties involved include Dubois, Brown, and Washington, with additional programming in Orange and Ripley counties.

## **Rural Homelessness in Greene County**

*Laura Littlepage, M.P.A. (Paul H. O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs)*

In partnership with IU Health Bloomington Hospital and the Herron School of Art and Design (IUPUI), the Eskenazi Museum of Art will lead an art therapy program at the IU Health Bloomington Hospital that will provide wellness for patients in psychiatric care, while also mentoring an IU art therapy intern. In addition to providing an outstanding program for the participants, this project will establish a strong partnership with IU Health Bloomington Hospital over the next year, with a goal of positioning the museum to begin a museum prescriptions program as early as summer 2021.

## **Rural Teachers Engaging Art**

*Heidi Davis-Soylu, Ph.D. (Eskenazi Museum of Art) and Kelly Jordan (M.F.A.) Eskenazi Museum of Art*

IU's Eskenazi Museum of Art partnered with the Center for Rural Engagement on a program to bring artwork and curriculum to P-12 schools. That partnership also supports a PreK-12 Experiences Manager who develops and oversees youth art month, youth studio programs, family programs, summer camps, homeschool programs, and teacher professional development. IU's Eskenazi Museum of Art also launched the Rural Teachers Engaging Art (RTEA) program, which shares and studies school-based techniques for engaging with museum collections. Counties involved are Brown, Dubois, Monroe, Shelby, and Washington.

## **Science Fest - hosted by the College of Arts and Science**

*Jo Anne Tracy, Ph.D., (College of Arts and Sciences)*

IU's Science Fest is a day-long event on campus to celebrate and inspire curiosity among middle school students by providing exciting hands-on experiences with science, by promoting meaningful and direct exchanges with scientists, and by highlighting scientific research and teaching at IU. With over twenty-five department and schools participating, Science Fest brings over 3,000 visitors to campus each year. Visitors can tour the historic Kirkwood Observatory, see a prehistoric tool-making demonstration, make slime, witness a volcanic explosion, use their mind to control a race car, explore rare gems, drive a mars rover, be challenged by three-dimensional puzzles, play with electricity and magnetism, see a chemistry magic show, try their hands at scientific illustration, learning about how their ears and eyes work, and much, much more. The CRE provides transportation and other funding for some middle schools to participate in this event. Counties involved are Crawford, Knox, Washington, and Monroe.



### **The Modest House Affordable Infill Housing for Veterans Aging in Place**

*Jon Racek (M.Arch.) School of Art, Architecture, and Design*

Home ownership is culturally ingrained in the National dream of a "good life," defined by financial security, social prestige, and residential stability (Cullen, 2004). Indiana's rural populations who dream of home ownership face significant challenges in finding and securing suitable housing within median incomes. This project looks to build a housing prototype in Seymour, Indiana (Jackson County) to provide a replicable, energy efficient, modestly-priced (where carrying costs are at or below 30% monthly median income) housing for an aging in place (specifically Veteran) population. The design of this housing prototype incorporates energy efficient strategies such as structurally insulated panels, passive heating and cooling techniques, appropriate siting, and energy efficient windows. The house is purposefully long and rectangular and designed to fit into a mobile home lot.

### **Thinking Outside the Book: Community Engagement with Rural Libraries**

*Emily Alford, M.S. (Herman B Wells Library)*

Across 16 months, a listening tour will be conducted with the staff and staff-selected stakeholders of each of the 20 public libraries in the 11-county Uplands region in order to learn about immediate and long-term goals these libraries have in the areas of public access, services provided, collection development, and community engagement. Additionally, a user survey will be distributed throughout the community to gather patron input. From the information gathered, the project looks to provide individual libraries with 1) tailored recommendations for user and library discovery of attainable resources and services, 2) comprehensive research resources and platforms, compiled with sustainably accessible avenues and tailored specifically to the community's needs and interests, and 3) sustainable facilitation of community programming. Counties involved are Brown, Crawford, Daviess, Dubois, Greene, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Orange, Owen, and Washington.

### **Traditional Arts and Creative Aging**

*Jon Kay, Ph.D. (Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology)*

After an inventory of traditional practices of seniors living in Southwest Central Indiana is complete, faculty from IU's Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology will produce a resource and activity guide aimed at improving the health and wellness of older adults in the region. The guide will include a list of resources, activity plans, and instructional materials based on local foodways, music, and crafts that individuals can use. The kit will also include audio recordings and videos about creative aging practices in the region. The guide and kit will be distributed to older adults and elder care professionals in each county through a series of workshops and events. Counties involved are Brown, Dubois, Washington, Orange, Martin, Daviess, and Owen.

### **Uplands Maker Mobile**

*Adam Maltese, Ph.D. (School of Education)*

This project is designed to support Indiana educators in engaging youth in technology-rich maker education. The Uplands Maker Mobile will consist of a cargo van and a trailer that can be delivered to public schools across the Uplands region to allow schools to engage their youth in limited making activities. This vehicle will be outfitted with a variety of high-tech and low-tech equipment and materials to provide an extensive range of capabilities and will be staffed by IU School of Education staff and students. The goal of this project is to create and pilot test a van that will provide maker education programming and project design for community schools, and provide digital manufacturing tools and support to artisans and entrepreneurs located in co-working spaces across the Uplands region. Counties involved are Brown, Crawford, Dubois, Daviess, Greene, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Orange, Owen, and Washington.



# ACTIVE PROJECTS

## COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

### **Building a Climate, Soil, and Water Monitoring Infrastructure**

*Shawn Naylor, M.S. (Indiana Geological and Water Survey)*

Diversified local agricultural systems and data-driven water-resource planning require an improved understanding of climate, soil, and water conditions. Monitoring data and techniques are also directly applicable to STEM curricula and can enhance K-12 education in the region. This project works with local officials, farmers, and other stakeholders to initiate three environmental monitoring sites (Daviness, Dubois, and Greene counties) to provide added community benefits in three Indiana Uplands counties. Data will be internet accessible to enhance agricultural productivity, improve local forecasts, support business, and provide teaching tools for K-12 education. This project will engage community members and educators and provide continued support via an immersive teachers' workshop.

### **County-Wide Signage and Wayfinding for Greene County**

*Jenny El-Shamy, M.F.A. (Eskenazi School of Art, Architecture, and Design)*

Through a collaboration between Indiana University and Greene County, this project seeks to address the long-standing community-identified need for a county-wide signage and wayfinding system by designing, manufacturing, and implementing 25-30 signs: guide (highway exit signs and street signs); community wayfinding (downtown, shops and dining, Goose Pond, Tulip Trestle, etc.); street name; and recreation (logos for activities such as hiking, scenic overlook, trails, etc.). This system will drive tourism, encourage residents to take advantage of local recreational and cultural resources, and showcase regional assets.

### **Complex Food Provisioning Strategies and Food Insecurity among Low-Income Older Americans**

*Dan Knudsen, Ph.D. (Department of Geography); Angela Babb, Ph.D. (Ostrom Workshop); Mecca Burris, M.A. (Department of Anthropology); Stacey Giroux, Ph.D. (Ostrom Workshop); Phil Stafford, Ph.D. (Department of Anthropology); Julia Valliant, Ph.D. (Ostrom Workshop); and Kurt Waldman, Ph.D. (Department of Geography)*

This project will develop a food strategy for low-income, older Americans that face food scarcity. First, the project will provide an analysis of the predictors, the prevalence, and the experiences of food insecurity among seniors in rural Indiana. This contributes directly to the literature on food insecurity, which has primarily attended to younger and more urban populations. Second, this project will provide a critical analysis of SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) and particularly the TFP (Thrifty Food Plane) with respect to the dietary needs, behaviors and perspectives of low-income, food-insecure seniors. This will enable the project to better understand SNAP participation and evaluate the program's efficacy. Third, this project will produce a novel study of the constellation of provisioning strategies of older, low-income Americans, including informal strategies that may range from food sharing to foregoing other needs in favor of food purchases. Counties involved are Lawrence, Orange, Greene, and Clay.

### **Detailed topographic trail maps, promoting recreational opportunities along Indiana's Knobstone escarpment**

*Matthew Johnson, Cartographic Specialist and Digital Collections Manager (Indiana Geological and Water Survey)*

This project will create four detailed topographic maps highlighting trail systems, recreational facilities, and public versus private lands along the rugged eastern edge of the Indiana Uplands region (connecting communities from Borden to Martinsville, Indiana, along the length of the Knobstone and Tecumseh Trails). These maps will be printed on a tear-resistant waterproof paper for durability and use while exploring in a variety of weather conditions. Additionally there will be a digitally downloadable version. These printed and downloaded map will support increased tourism awareness of the Indiana Upland region's recreational assets. Counties involved are Brown, Clark, Jackson, Lawrence, Monroe, Scott, and Washington.

### **Farm to Health**

*Jodee Ellett (M.S.) (M.S.) and Claire Frohman (B.A.) Indiana University Sustainable Food Systems Science, Ostrom Workshop*

In conjunction with Lost River Market and Deli in Paoli (Orange County) will work with local partners to address public health issues using locally grown fruits and vegetables. Lost River will coordinate

with community partners to bring a Food Education Program (Cooking Matters) and a Produce Prescription Program to consumers across the socioeconomic spectrum in the community. The Orange County Health Coalition will co-lead efforts to implement Cooking Matters with community partners to increase knowledge and use of healthy foods in home cooking for consumers. Coordinating with the Southern Indiana Community Health Clinic physicians, Cooking Matters will support a Produce Prescription Program to provide healthy cooking lessons and food to patients who are prescribed a healthier diet by their physicians. Engaging families that are in Head Start, Women, Infant and Children (WIC) program and schools, Lost River will host Cooking Matters classes for families seeking food education in the kitchen. To address increased demand and the addition of wholesale purchasing partners, like school corporations, Lost River will work with grower suppliers to ensure best practices for food safety on the farm and coordinate planning, planting, and harvest among growers in the supply chain.



### **Food System Networking: Creating a Community Food Network**

*James Farmer, Ph.D. and Jodee Ellett, M.S. (O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs)*

The Indiana University Sustainable Food Systems Science (SFSS) initiative is working with the Center for Rural Engagement on food systems change from farm to institutional plate. This includes the development of a plan for aggregation and distribution points that allow multiple producers to aggregate products in order to meet the purchasing demands of institutional buyers (i.e. schools, hospitals, universities, restaurants, etc.). The SFSS group, in conjunction with Purdue University, recently received a USDA Local Food Promotion Program grant that will work with three partners in the regional footprint to hire and support three value chain coordinators who will work with institutional buyers to build the knowledge, communication, and market channels to support the production, aggregation, processing, and storage of food stuffs from small to mid-sized growers. Community-oriented food forum events will ensure that organizations in the foodshed are participating in the process and can bring their assets and resources to the table. Counties involved are Brown, Crawford, Dubois, Jackson, Martin, Owen, Lawrence, Orange, Washington, Daviess, Greene, and Monroe.

### **Hoosier National Forest Light Pollution Monitoring**

*Bryce Himebaugh, Clinical Assistant Professor of Engineering (Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering)*

The team will construct 100 light sensors to be used to measure light pollution levels in the Hoosier National Forest. The light sensors will be produced in two batches of 50. Thirty-five sensors out of each batch will be deployed in the Hoosier National Forest at locations selected by Forest personnel. This system, sensors, and data will support the Hoosier National Forest's effort to obtain International Dark Sky designation, and also attract people from the Uplands region to visit these sites and gain an understanding of the impact of dark skies with minimal light pollution on the ecology of the forest. This project is a continuation of an initiative launched in the inaugural Sustaining Hoosier Communities year in Lawrence County and the second SHC year in Orange County.

# ACTIVE PROJECTS

## Hoosier Resilience Index

*William Bianco, Ph.D., (Department of Political Science)*

This project's faculty-student team will help local officials in Southwest Central Indiana complete ERI's Hoosier Resilience Index Readiness Assessment. The assessment helps local governments evaluate their preparedness for climate risks and identify and prioritize ways to increase readiness. Collecting and disseminating this data will inform communities about emerging threats and identify priorities for coordinated regional or state-level policy solutions. It will also deepen ties between IU and local communities, and serve as a concrete example of a policy-relevant partnership consistent with the CRE's and ERI's (Environmental Resilience Institute) core mission. In addition to these near-term benefits, the project is designed as a proof-of-concept for a larger regional or national data collection effort. Counties involved are Brown, Crawford, Dubois, Daviess, Greene, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Orange, Owen, and Washington.

## Indiana Uplands Parks, Recreation, and Protected Lands Inventory and Opportunity Map

*Steve Wolter, CPRP and Gina Depper, Ph.D. (Eppley Institute for Parks and Public Lands)*

The Eppley Institute for Parks and Public Lands, housed in the School of Public Health, worked with Indiana communities on a regional assessment of trails, and public, non-profit, and private land to identify and collect baseline data (comprehensive inventory) on parks, recreation, protected areas, and public land resources. The project analyzed capability for Brown, Crawford, Daviess, Dubois, Greene, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Orange, Owen, and Washington counties in order to identify gaps and make recommendations for improvement that would assist communities with economic sustainability, health, and quality of life.

## IU Statewide Safety Day

*William Ramos, Ph.D., (School of Public Health)*

In conjunction with the American Red Cross and 4-H, this project consists of developing a sustainable program utilizing the IU campus water safety resources to reach out to surrounding communities in order to increase awareness and access to water safety training in elementary aged children in order to reduce statewide deaths by drowning. IU Aquatics assists with classroom training and school programming regarding water safety classroom training in local schools and community centers, offers free lessons to local elementary children, and promotes water safety discussions with an IU Water Safety Poster Contest. Counties involved are Lawrence, Greene, and Monroe.

## Karst Aquifer Investigations in Southwest Central Indiana

*Lee Florea, Ph.D. (Indiana Geological and Water Survey)*

The Indiana Geological and Water Survey (IGWS) has designed an investigation to gather existing data, develop collaborative relationships, install monitoring systems, and collect new data within the karst aquifers of southwest central Indiana, a region where access to water (or lack thereof) is a distinct socio-economic factor for development. The implementation of this program includes private-public partnerships to leverage unique environmental data useful along all parts of the landowner-regulatory spectrum. The team is engaging the community and students throughout the project. The return on investment is unique educational opportunities, natural resource inventories, and scholarly research designed to increase awareness of water resources in the region. Counties involved are Crawford, Harrison, Lawrence, Monroe, Orange, Owen, and Washington.

## Locating and Characterizing Important Springs of the Indiana Uplands

*Tracy Branam, Research Scientist (Indiana Geological and Water Survey); Lee Florea, Ph.D. (Indiana Geological and Water Survey); and Matthew Johnson, Cartographic Specialist and Digital Collections Manager (Indiana Geological and Water Survey)*

IGWS will communicate with several agencies at the federal, state, county, and municipal level to compile a list of 100 springs



to analyze in a two-year period. This project will then collect field data and perform lab analyses that will characterize the groundwater at each spring at base flow. When springs do have historical data available, they will be compared to these results to delineate long-term changes in groundwater quality. For previously undocumented springs, the analyses will provide a first-time evaluation of groundwater quality. Site-specific data will be made available to stakeholders and residents of the Indiana Uplands region through targeted outreach. Project results will magnify IGWS's effort to disseminate water resource data for the state of Indiana via a spring database that will ultimately be crowdsourced and available to the public through the IndianaMap geospatial portal. Counties involved are Lawrence, Orange, Washington, Brown, Crawford, Dubois, Martin, Owen, Monroe, Daviess, and Greene.

### **Locating and Characterizing Important Springs of the Indiana Uplands-Expansion**

*Chen Zhu, Ph.D. (Geological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences) and Tracy Branam, M.S. (Indiana Geological and Water Survey)*

This project expands on the already funded project of analyzing 100 springs across the 11-county Uplands region by analyzing arsenic in those springs as well as other groundwater samples from wells in rural areas during the course of the project. The analysis will look at arsenic speciation (the chemical forms of arsenic in water) in these water samples as well as related water quality parameters pertinent to arsenic levels. The results of these analyses will inform the communities of the quality of water in their regions, the possible technological treatments for elevated arsenic concentrations, and the potential future deterioration of water quality due to climate change. Accurate analysis of a trace amount of arsenic in water samples requires a research-grade analytical facility. Our facility will provide a critical resource for addressing this ongoing public health issue and study the mechanisms and, therefore, possible mitigation of arsenic contamination. Counties involved are Lawrence, Orange, Washington, Brown, Crawford, Dubois, Martin, Owen, Monroe, Daviess, and Greene.

### **Teen Food Insecurity in Southern Indiana**

*Mecca Burreis and MacKenzie DiMarco, M.A. candidates (Department of Anthropology)*

Through working with communities and collaborating with schools, this project seeks to measure the prevalence of food insecurity among teens in Monroe, Lawrence, and Washington counties. This study is uniquely situated to understand what food insecurity is like for teens and their families. With surveys, observations and focus group interviews, this project will compare food insecurity experiences across surrounding rural communities. This project attempts to improve food situations for teens by working with them, their communities, and their schools to design or improve programs to meet teens' needs.

## **SUSTAINING HOOSIER COMMUNITIES—GREENE COUNTY**

### **Benchmarking a Recreation Center**

Greene County is seeking a facility where residents can participate in recreation activities year-round. To initiate the planning process for a recreation center, Alison Miller's students in Living Well are identifying benchmark recreation centers in similar communities and creating reports on key aspects of operations, such as budget models and available services.

### **Chronic Illness: Promoting Healthy Lifestyles**

To increase the accessibility of health care for those with chronic illness, Ronda Hendricks and Erin Wyatt's nursing students in Transitional Care for Families and Populations will conduct home health visits and home safety assessments for patients with diabetes.

### **Creating a Greene County Tourism Public Relations Strategy**

With a local innkeeper's tax implemented quite recently, the Greene County Tourism Advisory Board is better positioned to utilize resources and promote the county's many tourism resources. Dr. Minjeong Kang's students in Public Relations Planning and Research are conducting a situational analysis through primary and secondary research and creating a comprehensive public relations campaign book.

### **Creating Programming for the Bloomfield Pool**

Following the pool's renovations in 2018, there is a need to continue attracting residents to enjoy the pool. Alison Miller's students in Recreational Sports Programming are drafting programming proposals that will creatively use the pool facilities during and after swim season.

# ACTIVE PROJECTS

## **Creating Public Relations Campaigns for the Linton Farmers' Market**

To better engage key audiences for the Linton Farmers' Market, such as SNAP recipients and potential volunteers and sponsors, Dr. Esi Thompson's students in Public Relations Campaigns are creating comprehensive public relations campaigns through a situational analysis including primary and secondary research and offering practical recommendations for advancing the goals of the Linton Farmers' Market.

## **Creating Public Relations Campaigns for the Shawnee Theatre**

To better engage key audiences for Shawnee Theatre, such as youth and families, Dr. Minjeong Kang's students in Public Relations Campaigns are conducting a situational analysis through primary and secondary research and creating comprehensive campaigns.

## **Designing a Business Model for Artist Co-Operative**

To support art activities, build community, and attract tourism, the Greene County Tourism Advisory Board worked with 180 Degrees Consulting in the Kelley School of Business to design a business plan for an artist cooperative at The Cabin.

## **Designing a Tulip Trestle Visitor Center**

The Tulip Trestle Restoration Inc. with a three-fold mission of community, preservation, and conservation, plans to build a multi-functional visitor center in the future. Dorian Bybee's interior design students will create two sets of plans for the visitor center: a short-term plan with basic features like gathering space and restrooms, and a long-term plan with supplemental features like a conservationist residency space.

## **Developing Activities for Youth**

To increase the supply of recreation activities for the youth in Bloomfield, Dr. Julie Knapp's students in Foundations of Public, Nonprofit and Community Recreation are creating a needs assessment, a variety of activity plans, and a database of relevant grants.

## **Developing a Community Engagement Plan for Shawnee Theatre**

The Shawnee Theatre has a history to be proud of in Greene County. Arts administration students will be helping the theatre identify community engagement strategies to capture the interest of families and youth, positioning the theatre on a path toward sustainability.

## **Educating 4-H Youth on Mental Health**

To spread awareness and reduce stigma, students in Introduction to Lifespan Development are designing short educational interventions about mental health and other health topics for youth and deliver them to a newly formed youth council.

## **Increasing Access to the Linton Farmers' Market**

To increase access to the Linton Farmers' Market, Dr. Olga Kalentzidou's students in Edible Education are evaluating the market's position within the local food system, identifying stakeholders, needs, and access points for SNAP recipients.

## **Interpreting Native Plants at Shakamak State Park**

To educate visitors at Shakamak State Park about the importance of native plants, Dr. Brian Forist's students in Integrated Resource Management are designing native plant beds and creating accompanying interpretative signage.

## **Managing Volunteers with the Romans Warrior Foundation**

The Romans Warrior Foundation has a mission to provide cost-free, therapeutic weekend retreats for Greene County veterans, Gold Star families, and first responders. Students in Laura Littlepage's human resources class will develop plans for volunteer management to assist the growing nonprofit.

## **Managing Volunteers with the Sculpture Trails**

The Sculpture Trails Outdoor Museum funds its projects through donations and grants. Students in Laura Littlepage's human resources class will prepare materials to manage volunteer recruitment and coordination efforts required to staff and support the various activities of the nonprofit.



### **Modeling Finances for a Recreation Center**

Greene County is seeking a facility where residents can participate in recreation activities year-round. To initiate the planning process for a recreation center, Dr. Bree Josefy's graduate accounting Field Consulting students are modeling potential financial futures for a recreation center, helping the Greene County General Hospital determine how to organize and operate the recreation center.

### **Planning for Trails**

For the City of Linton and many other organizations and residents, connecting Greene County via a recreation trails system is a high priority and something the county currently lacks. Bill Brown's graduate students in Sustainable Communities are engaging consultants to identify how to start a trail development project, inventory potential funding sources, and launch a planning committee.

### **Promoting Tourism in Greene County**

To bring a new design style to tourism promotion efforts in Greene County, Jenny El-Shamy's graphic design students are creating new communications assets, including a logo for the county, a brochure, and kiosks.

### **Promoting the Sculpture Trails**

The Sculpture Trails Outdoor Museums is home to more than 150 iron sculptures made by artists from across the world. Despite the strong international network, there remains opportunity to engage community members in the region. Students in Esi Thompson's public relations campaigns class will create campaigns to engage residents of Bloomington and attract volunteers for the organization.

### **Promoting the Tulip Trestle**

The Tulip Trestle is a dearly held landmark outside of Solsberry. Although it attracts admirers from across the nation each year, more could be done to encourage community members to support the nonprofit that stewards the site. Students in Victoria Field's public relations campaigns class will create campaigns to gather volunteer and financial support for the Tulip Trestle.

### **Revitalizing Downtown Linton**

To foster more economic activity in downtown Linton, Mark Levin's students in Local Economic Development are identifying potential businesses to occupy a vacant downtown building that needs rehabilitation, and they are assisting the Linton-Stockton Chamber of Commerce and the Greene County Economic Development Corporation with applying for relevant grants.

### **Supporting the Greene County Youth Council**

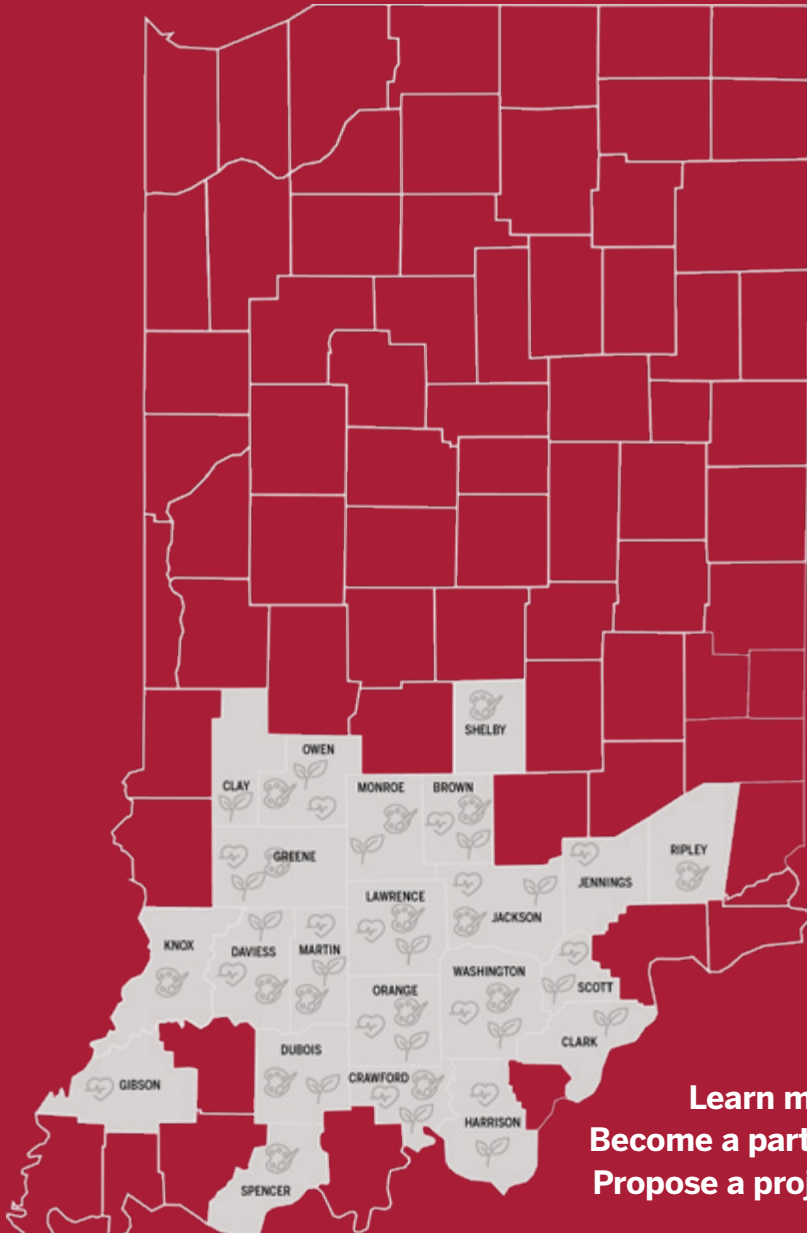
The Greene County Youth Council, formed in fall 2019, provides a platform for high school youth to address relevant health topics among their peers, including topics like substance misuse and sexual health. Students in Deb Getz's youth workers class will create educational materials for the Youth Council, to ensure they have access to accurate and appropriate information.

### **Writing Grants with the Romans Warrior Foundation**

The Romans Warrior Foundation has a mission to provide cost-free, therapeutic weekend retreats for Greene County veterans, Gold Star families, and first responders. Students in Laura Littlepage's grant writing class will prepare materials to apply for grants that will fund key projects for the nonprofit.

### **Writing Grants with the Sculpture Trails**

The Sculpture Trails Outdoor Museum is an active operation supported almost entirely by volunteer efforts. Students in Laura Littlepage's human resources class will develop plans for volunteer management to assist the nonprofit.



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