



MUNCIE ACTION PLAN

May 2018 Newsletter

Inside This Issue:

- ❑ Upcoming MAP3 Open Houses and Update
- ❑ How Muncie Collaborates
- ❑ How to Find Things To Do In Muncie
- ❑ MAP Board Member Spotlight

"I love Muncie because of the community of people who are working together to reinvigorate, re-energize, and reimagine our home."
 - Mitch Isaacs, Community Member

MAP Needs Your Feedback: Upcoming Open Houses and Update on MAP3

The MAP3 process continues!

The original Action Plan was created in 2010, the second Action Plan in

2013, and now the third Action Plan (MAP3) will be completed in 2018. Thanks to everyone who attended MAP3's Input Sessions in February and submitted online surveys. Your feedback, concerns, and hopes for our community are the building blocks that make Muncie a vibrant place to live and work.

The data from the Input Sessions and surveys have been compiled. Two Open Houses will occur on **Wednesday, June 13th, 2018 from 7 pm - 9 pm at Kennedy Library** and **Thursday, June 14th, 2018 from 7 pm to 9 pm at Maring-Hunt Library**. Now it's time for you to help prioritize results, select solutions, and give any final input before the final draft of MAP3 is created.

The MAP3 Open Houses will be your last chance to help create the updated Muncie Action Plan

MAP3 OPEN HOUSES
WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR IDEAS!
 PLEASE JOIN US FOR ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
 WED. JUNE 13TH: 7-9PM @ KENNEDY LIBRARY
 THU. JUNE 14TH: 7-9PM @ MARING-HUNT LIBRARY
 REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED
 CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!
 PLEASE SEE MUNCIEACTIONPLAN.NET FOR MORE INFO
¡SE HABLA ESPAÑOL!

document. Once the Open Houses are completed, the finalized version of MAP3 will be available in August.

MAP wants your input to help us create a Plan that reflects the aspirations of as many citizens as possible and prioritize issues that can guide actions all over Muncie. Refreshments will be provided at the MAP3 Open Houses. Children are welcome. We hope to see you at one of these MAP3 Open Houses. Bring a friend, or go to MAP's Facebook page to let others know that you'll be attending.

Collaboration In Our Community

Muncie Action Plan believes in the power of collaboration.

In 2010, the Muncie community reported in the first Action Plan (MAP1) that poor health, poverty, unemployment, crime, and low educational achievement were formidable barriers against the development of our community. MAP collaborated with organizations including the Muncie-Delaware County Economic Development Alliance and the Ball Brothers Foundation to launch the **BY5** initiative. Research shows that 90% of brain development happens by age 5. As described on their website, a



vital way to combat the obstacles facing our community is through early childhood development programs that are both accessible and of high-quality. Providing our children the best opportunities within the first 5 years of life propels them forward in school and eventually in the workforce. BY5 is now its own registered 501(c)(3) and is transforming our community.

Collaboration is an especially important part of MAP's Task Force 2, "Fostering Collaboration." The annual **IDEA Conference** is a collaboration between MAP,

Building Better Neighborhoods, and Shafer Leadership Academy. This free conference brings together over a hundred community leaders to discuss ideas and translate them into actions and skills that strengthen the Muncie community.

MAP initiated the **Neighborhood Leadership Council** (NLC), a group that equips neighborhood residents to change their communities through leadership. The NLC meets on the third Tuesday of each month, generally at Maring-Hunt Library. Visit MAP's Facebook Page for more information on each month's meeting.

MAP encourages collaboration in facing Muncie's health challenges, too. MAP board members Carrie Bale, Donna Browne, John Craddock, and Jenni Marsh are participating in a broad-based coalition of Muncie organizations that are discussing current initiatives surrounding the presence of lead in the community and ways to collaborate in further research, education, mitigation, and project funding. BY5 received funding through the City of Muncie's Community Development Block Grant to pilot remediation attempts for one owner-occupied house in a specific geographic location whose young child had high blood lead level results. Multiple partners are collaborating on this pilot project in an attempt to understand the remediation process of possible home hazards.

The responsibility to collaborate rests with every member of our Muncie community. MAP collaborates with community members and organizations that line up with MAP's strategic vision. In this way, Muncie Action Plan continues to help Muncie achieve its aspirations for the future.



Board Member Spotlight

Mitch Isaacs

Executive Director of Shafer Leadership Academy



When did you join the MAP board? January 2017

Why are you on the MAP board? I believe in MAP's grassroots' vision to involve diverse community members in forging a strategic, and inclusive, plan for the future.

Favorite Football Team: The Indianapolis Colts

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How To Find Things To Do In Muncie

Do you ever find yourself asking, *"What is there to do in Muncie?"*

The people of Muncie actively create a beautiful culture and a beautiful community. Opportunities both in and around Muncie are plentiful. MAP strives to celebrate Muncie's many neighborhood identities and support events and activities that bring us together as a unified community.

In MAP3's Community Input Sessions conducted in early 2018, community residents strongly expressed the desire for a centralized community events calendar to increase event awareness in the community. MAP will continue to collaborate with community organizations like the Visitors Bureau, the City of Muncie, Delaware County, the Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Alliance, and the Downtown Development Partnership to find solutions.

A great way you can find out about the many events in Muncie is simply to talk with people. Ask them what they like to do. Looking outside your usual circles is a great way to connect with new people and

new activities. You can also check out Facebook pages that actively promote things to do in Muncie, like Downtown Muncie's Facebook Page (@munciedowntown).

Here are a few current calendars to guide you:

- **Munciecalendar.com** is the calendar run by the Muncie Visitors Bureau (Visitmuncie.org). The Muncie Visitors Bureau office is located at 3700 South Madison Street. You can visit Munciecalendar.com for upcoming events.
- **Muncieevents.com** Muncie Events is provided by the Center for Business and Economic Research at Ball State University and the Full Circle Arts Co-op.
- **Ball State's calendar** provides the Muncie community with incredible opportunities. It is available at cms.bsu.edu/calendar and includes art exhibits, theater shows at Emens Auditorium, presentations by academic thought leaders, and athletic events.

There are a lot of unique, fun, and interesting activities going on year-round in Muncie. Find a new favorite and help spread the word around!

Thanks for reading! #LOVELyMuncie