



Web of Support Everybody Succeeds

Web of Support Releases Free Videos and Shareable Postcards To Spread Messages of Gratitude and Encouragement

Written by: Andrea McDermott

Web of Support: Everybody Succeeds, a mentoring initiative of the Muncie Action Plan, uses a relational approach to help youth and adults identify, expand, and strengthen their support systems. This spring, Web of Support Ambassadors participated in a four-week virtual “Deep Dive” series to explore how the Web of Support model can help build resiliency in families and communities during the COVID quarantine.

The groups have created shareable postcards and informational videos to spread messages of gratitude and encouragement. “We were thrilled to be able to co-create this deep dive curriculum in collaboration with the Institute for Community and Adolescent Resiliency,” said Kyra Zylstra, coordinator of the Web of Support initiative. “The students, teachers and community leaders who participated were able to form deep connections and create very timely messages of hopeful inspiration. This is our first step in offering resources to help the Delaware County community strengthen and expand their webs of support.”

“Our group was inspired by the outpouring of kindness and encouragement from the people in our webs, especially during these challenging times,” said Jacqui Hanoman, executive director of the Ross Community Center and leader of one of the groups. “Part of the initiative is to strengthen support systems, and to do that, we wanted to show appreciation for the people who make up our webs.” The video features participants sharing messages of thanks and appreciation for the various people in their webs whether that be a friend, family member, teacher or neighbor.

The second project aimed to share messages of affirmation to help build one another up. “Feeling supported and affirmed is a major part of having a strong web of support, so our group decided to focus on sharing encouraging messages to one another and our community,” said Chandra Parks, president of the Southside Neighborhood Association and leader of the second group.

The Web of Support initiative will continue to be promoted through the local schools and community organizations. To view the completed projects and learn more about the Web of Support visit our [Facebook Page](#), [Instagram Page](#) or [Youtube Channel](#). To get involved with the Web of Support, please contact the MAP coordinator at coordinator@muncieactionplan.net

Web of Support: Everybody Succeeds is an initiative of the Muncie Action Plan Taskforce 1 and is coordinated by the Future of Work Muncie. The goal of Web of Support: Everybody Succeeds is to build a local culture of connected, thriving and resilient lives and communities.



Muncie, Indiana Named 2020 All-American City Winner

Muncie, Indiana has been recognized as one of 10 All-America City award winners. The National Civic League presented this honor to recognize Muncie’s work in inclusive civic engagement to

address health and well-being and create stronger connections among residents, businesses and nonprofit and government leaders.

Since 1949, the National Civic League has recognized and celebrated the best in American civic innovation with the prestigious All-America City Award. This year, Muncie showed us how a determined community can tackle tough issues and create real change.

“We are happy to designate Muncie as an All-America City. They showed us through their application and presentation that they do a great job of engaging the whole city in enhancing health and well-being,” said Doug Linkhart, President of the National Civic League.

All applicants submitted their community-wide work on enhancing health and well-being through inclusive civic engagement and three projects for consideration, and the field was narrowed to 22. This week, finalist communities made presentations virtually to a jury of eleven national thought-leaders, showing how their community leverages civic engagement, collaboration, inclusiveness, and innovation to successfully address local issues.

A decade ago, a diverse group of citizens came together to chart a course toward a common future that reflected Muncie Indiana’s shared values and aspirations. Over 2,000 residents participated in facilitated conversations designed to answer the question, “What is needed for Muncie to be the best it can be in the coming years?” This initiated a time of collaboration between key stakeholders resulting in the Muncie Action Plan (MAP) report which created a compelling agenda for the future. Muncie continues to work toward becoming a community that respects diversity, manages resources effectively, and efficiently, and works together to provide an attractive, desirable place for individuals, families, and businesses. The three projects highlighted in its All-America City application were launched under the MAP umbrella.

Muncie is now weaving a “Web of Support” with cross-generational mentorships, undertaking an immersive student teaching program “Schools within the Context of Community within the Whitley Neighborhood, and revitalizing once declining neighborhoods with the 8twelve Coalition.

“This award is an incredible honor. The people of Muncie’s can-do spirit, collaborative nature, and tenacity to make our community the place in which people want to live, work and play made this award possible,” said Muncie Action Plan President Jenni Marsh.

Long-time Muncie resident and champion Jane Ellery worked very hard on this nomination. Ellery is the Assistant Professor of Wellness Management at Ball State University and a Senior Fellow at Project for Public Spaces. Thanks to the WIPB production team led by Dottie Kreps the presentation to the National Civic League was smoothly done.

Videos of all 22 presentations will eventually be available on the National Civic League website. (<https://www.nationalcivicleague.org/america-city-award/participant-presentations/>).

Details on Muncie’s featured programs can be found [here](#). (<https://www.nationalcivicleague.org/2020-all-america-city-finalist-muncie-in/>)

Neighborhood Spotlight

Muncie South Central Neighborhood celebrated with "All That and a Bag of Chips" Pizza Party. This was a wonderful alternative to a full neighborhood party...pizzas were delivered to homes!



**MAP Board Member Spotlight:
Allison Robbins
Owner, Aspect 6 Creative**



When did you join the MAP board? I started serving on the board at MAP in February of 2020.

Why do you work with MAP? I have always admired the mission of MAP. It wants to move our city forward to the greater good. As a life-long resident of Muncie, I am proud of our town, and being a part of the Muncie Action Plan is a great way to give back. I love the way MAP pulls people together from all walks of life to create a strategic direction for our city.

Favorite Travel Destination: I love the water, so you will find me on a boat, a beach, or an island whenever I get a chance.

"I Love Muncie because of the giving spirit of the people. Muncie is a great place to run a business and raise your family. Our community comes together to support causes that make a difference, and I am happy to live and work here."

Coming Up In 2020

Muncie is starting to open back up! Check out the Muncie Visitors Bureau [calendar](#) for open venues as well as virtual exploring and entertainment. Or check out their Facebook page: [Muncie Visitors Bureau](#).

Be sure to check your neighborhoods Facebook page for updates about this months meeting.

MAP Neighborhood

Meetings:

Updated for 2020

MAP Neighborhood Presidents' Council:

6 pm, 3rd Tuesday, Ivy Tech, 345 S High Street, Room F261

Anthony-Northside: 6:30pm, 4th Thursday of odd-numbered months, Community Fellowship Church

Blaine/Southeast: 6pm, 2nd Tuesday, serenity Club, 1218 S Brotherton Street

Cowing Park: 6pm, 3rd Thursday, Garden of Gethsemane Methodist Church

2020 MAP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Donna Browne, Grant Writer, Center for Energy Research|Education|Service, Ball State University

Gretchen Cheesman, City of Muncie Community Development

Cornelius Dollison, Whitely Community Council

William Hughes, Attorney, Beasley & Gilkison (**Treasurer**)

Mitch Isaacs, Executive Director, Shafer Leadership Academy

Forest Park: 6:30pm, 3rd Friday, Delaware County Senior Center

Gilbert: 7pm, 2nd Monday, Inside Out, 300 N. Madison Street

Halteman Village (representing Halteman, Norwood, and Vienna Woods): 7pm, last Monday of every other month, Halteman Village Baptist Church

Industry: 6pm, 4th Thursday, Price Hall, 704 S. Madison Street

Ludingwood: 2pm, 3rd Saturday, Woodlands Nursing Home, 3820 W. Jackson St.

McKinley: 6pm, 4th Thursday, Muncie Central High School

Minnetrista/Central: 6pm, 2nd Thursday, Catina Room at the Minnetrista Cultural Center

Northview: 6pm, 3rd Monday, Northview Elementary, 807 W. Yale Avenue

Old West End: 6:30pm, 4th Tuesday, Friends Memorial Church, 418 W. Adams Street

Riverside/Normal City: 7pm, 4th Wednesday, Hazelwood Christian Church Fellowship House, 1400 W. University Ave.

South Central: 6pm, 4th Monday, Bridges Community Services, 318 W. 8th Street

Southside: 5:30pm, 4th Tuesday, Southside Middle School cafeteria

Thomas Park/Avondale: 6pm, 3rd Wednesday, Ross Community Center, 1110 W. 10th Street

University Heights: 6:30pm, 2nd Thursday

Roni Johnson, Community Foundation of Muncie and Delaware County, retired

Wayne Johnson, Ivy Tech Community College

Jenni Marsh, President/CEO, United Way of Muncie and Delaware County (**President**)

Missy Modesitt, Delaware County BY5 Early Childhood Initiative, Inc.

Marta Moody, Director, Muncie-Delaware County-Metropolitan Plan Commission

Steve Moore, First Merchants Bank

Chuck Reynolds, Muncie Community Schools

Alison Robbins, Aspect 6 Creative

Kelly Shrock, President, Community Foundation of Muncie and Delaware County (**Vice President**)

Susan Volbrecht, Coldwell Banker the Real Estate Group

Heather Williams, Program Manager, Building Better Neighborhoods (**Secretary**)

in March, June, September and December,
Riverside Baptist Church

Western Woods: 6pm, 1st Wednesday,
Westview Elementary

Whitely: 5:30pm, 2nd Monday, Muncie Area
Career Center, 2500 N. Elgin Street



Task Force 1: Linking Learning, Health, and Prosperity

MAP TF1/BY5 has increased resources and program to underserved families by over 60% and has increased access to high quality child care in Muncie/Delaware County by 22% since 2013.



Task Force 2: Fostering Collaboration

MAP TF2's efforts have created and sustained over 27 active neighborhood associations in the community of Muncie.



Task Force 3: Strengthening Pride and Image

MAP TF3 has worked together with communications partners to create Mymuncie.org, signage and delivering the good news of the opportunities Muncie has to offer.



Task Force 4: Creating Attractive and Desirable Places

MAP TF4 has strengthened Muncie's resiliency and code enforcement, helped to create the Muncie Cultural Train, Canan Commons and continues to work with Downtown Development to attract new business.



Task Force 5: Managing Community Resources

MAP TF5 has worked with Delaware County GIS department and helped to create Bike Muncie, Scout Muncie, has overseen Tuhey Pool Warterpark's transformation, reservoir projects, among other land resource improvements.



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