

### Building Our Future: Community Visioning and Planning

Growth and economic changes present ongoing challenges for communities in Northwest Indiana. Policymakers face many difficult decisions, including responding to requests for rezoning, demands for more affordable housing, or the loss of a major employer. Too many of these decisions, which can have significant long-term effects on the community, are made without meaningful community involvement.

Purdue Extension can work with you and your organization to design visioning and planning processes that help community members actively participate in planning their community's future. Issue areas might include: workforce development, public works, transportation, natural resources, land use, housing, economic development, and downtown revitalization.

### Community Study Circles

Study Circles are at the heart of a process for public dialogue and community change. This process begins with community organizing, and is followed by facilitated, small-group dialogue that leads to a range of outcomes. Study circles don't advocate a particular solution. Instead, they welcome many points of view around a shared concern. Issues can include the following: education, neighborhood & families, poverty, growth & sprawl, diversity, and immigration.

### MISSION STATEMENT

Purdue Extension's Economic & Community Development program provides citizens with programs and information they can use to:

- *Increase community vitality*
- *Build leadership capacity*
- *Enhance public decision-making*
- *Resolve public issues*



*Brad Clinehens, ECD Extension Educator*

*Please notify us of any special accommodations you require in order to participate in these programs. If you have special needs, please notify us at least one week before the workshop. Reasonable effort will be made to accommodate any special needs.*

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# ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS



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**Purdue Extension**  
**Knowledge to Go**  
**Lake County**

### **Diversity Essentials for the Workplace: Effective Intercultural Communication**

Being a successful employer or employee in today's world requires a more advanced understanding of organizational behavior and internal power dynamics. This session goes beyond learning about cultural differences. Participants will learn skills to help communicate across cultural barriers.

### **Intro to Conflict Management: TKI Conflict Mode Assessment**

How do you respond to conflict? Leadership is the art of aligning common needs to solve common problems. This is easy to say but hard to do, when it's your issue on the line. This session examines different styles of handling conflict and how to play to your strengths. Cost is \$15 per participant.

### **How I Work Best With Others: Real Colors Personality Assessment and Applications in the Workplace**

Understanding the needs of different personality types will help you communicate and manage professional relationships more effectively. During this session participants will take the Real Colors personality assessment, and learn how to deal with your co-workers, employees, and supervisors based on their personality assessment results. Cost is \$10 per participant.

### **Group Facilitation: Developing Skills for More Successful Leadership**

Have you ever been "in charge" but not in control? This session is for you. Learn strategies and techniques every facilitator should know such as: understanding the goals of the group, keeping the agenda and participants moving forward, encouraging everyone in the group to participate, and fostering productive group deliberation.

### **NxLevel: Business Start-Ups**

In cooperation with the Northwest Indiana Small Business Development Center, join other entrepreneurs from our region in this 11-week program designed for people who want to start a business and need the skills to test the feasibility of their business concept. Participants develop a business plan which acts as a blueprint for their start-up venture.



### **The Beginner's Guide to Grant Writing Workshops (IP Video)**

In the Fall and Spring, Purdue Extension provides an intensive two-part series on grant writing for beginners. There will be two, full day sessions to complete the course. The course will be offered via video conference at your local Extension office. Please call for more information about the program cost.

### **Board Development Training: Essential Skills for Community Organizations**

It's a wonderful service to the community to volunteer on a board, yet many of the people who can most help our organizations may not have had formal board member training. This training session gives board members the tools they need to understand their role and contribute effectively to the organization.

### **On Local Government Series**

This series helps local governments make sound financial decisions based on comparative research and data. Program modules will address issues such as taxation, finance, and interlocal agreements.

*All programs are available free of charge or for a modest fee. Please call for details.*