



PLACE MATTERS



THE POLIS CENTER

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2023



The Polis Center

We bring things into perspective.™



LUDDY SCHOOL OF
INFORMATICS, COMPUTING,
AND ENGINEERING

INDIANA UNIVERSITY INDIANAPOLIS

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I am excited to present our annual report summarizing our accomplishments, partnerships, and impact from July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023. We celebrate many successes and milestones in our

quest to make data and research actionable for improving community health, equity, and resilience. This is all possible because of an amazing team and the commitments of our community and university partners.

The Polis Center supports all three pillars of the university – student success, research, and service to the state and beyond. Thanks to our new home in Luddy, we have grown our engagement with students from 11 per year before joining the school in 2020 to 105 this year, providing each with experiential learning opportunities that prepare them for the workforce. We have grown our research partnerships with national institutes such as New America, Urban Institute, and Vera Institute, and we are a leading resource for health researchers who are exploring the social determinants of health. We grew our service to the state (and beyond) by expanding our SAVI Community Information System to the Evansville Region, supporting community disaster and resiliency efforts around the state, and equipping emergency management professionals around the nation with skills to apply geospatial resources to crisis management.

We are at a pivotal time in our center's history with unprecedented opportunities to amplify our work and its impact on society. Polis is recognized as a dynamic urban-centered, learning environment with highly professional staff who excel in partnerships, real-world application, and winning solutions for the communities. Going forward, we aim to become a national model for research and analysis of societal issues using geographically precise data.

We are wrapping up a well-timed program review as part of the university's institutional performance review process. The top-notch review committee of seven local and national experts met with community and university stakeholders, confirmed the center's strengths, and provided recommendations about tackling our challenges and pursuing the opportunities before us.

I am very optimistic about the future growth of Polis. In FY24, I look forward to defining a bold vision for the center that preserves our mission and core values while exploring opportunities for growth and innovation to maximize our impact on the community.

Yours in partnership,

Sharon Kandris
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**POLIS CENTER
MISSION**

The Polis Center works with community and academic partners to define, measure, and actively improve community health, well-being, and resilience.

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OVERVIEW

The Polis Center is an applied research center at IUPUI in the IU Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering. Polis makes data and research actionable for improving community health, equity, and resilience. We build and use information systems and geographically precise data across a variety of domains and sectors to identify and address our community's most pressing challenges. We are a convener and connector, collaborating with community and academic partners to translate data and research into action. We build capacity in nonprofits, community-based organizations, government, and researchers to use these resources effectively for community good.

We collaborate with community and academic partners to use those resources to inform policy, programming, funding decisions, and research. For example, we have worked with 78 counties in Indiana to plan for and mitigate the impacts of natural and other disasters. We partner with the City of Indianapolis to build an equitable funding allocation model to distribute violence prevention funding in areas where it is most needed. And we partner with healthcare systems to support their community health needs assessments and community health improvement planning.

Everything we do is founded on the notion that geography and place matter. Where we are born, live, work, and play has an impact on many aspects of our lives. Since our founding, geospatial technology, particularly Geographic Information Systems (GIS), has been a crucial tool for our work in assessing and understanding societal concerns and their impacts on communities and residents.

We create and share knowledge about place using spatial technologies and informatics through a variety of projects and initiatives in four primary areas:

Crisis Informatics: We support disaster preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery activities. We design and develop open source and Esri technology-driven information systems to track the interconnectedness of people, place, community, information, and technology and assess the physical, social, and economic impacts of hazards.

Community Health Informatics: Polis collaborates with the public health, healthcare, social service, government, and academic sectors to enhance the use of place-based information for community health improvement planning, population health management, public health intervention, and patient-centered decision-support. We link community-level social and environmental data with clinical data, and we use spatial analysis, modeling, and data visualization techniques to explore the association between social and environmental factors and health outcomes.

Community Informatics: We develop and analyze community data to understand and communicate how social issues affect communities. We build solutions that are grounded in data, research, and community process. We create community information systems, online dashboards, and decision-support tools to make data accessible and actionable. We convene community conversations and foster data literacy to inform policy, programming, and funding decisions.

Geospatial Education: Our education program delivers courses and workshops that explain how to apply GIS and other spatial technologies and concepts to map, manage, and analyze information to reduce the physical, social, environmental, and economic impacts of human made and natural hazards. Applications include disaster risk assessment, mitigation planning, nonprofit management, and more. Many of Polis' educational offerings are customized to address the unique needs and processes of our partners.

Our Partners

Our primary partner communities share with us a common interest in improving community health, well-being, and resilience. They include researchers, community-based organizations, human service providers, healthcare providers, public health organizations, multiple levels of government (local, state, tribal, regional, and federal), private technology firms, technology providers, and professional organizations.



KEY PARTNERSHIPS THIS YEAR INCLUDED:

Campus Partners

- Regenstrief Institute
- Center for Research on Inclusion and Social Policy, IU Public Policy Institute
- Center for Religious Studies, IU School of Liberal Arts
- Clinical Translational Sciences Institute
- Environmental Resilience Institute
- IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy
- IUPUI Office of Community Engagement
- IU Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health
- IU School of Medicine
- IU School of Social Work
- IU School of Nursing
- O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs

Community Partners

- City of Indianapolis, Department of Metropolitan Development
- City of Indianapolis, Office of the Mayor
- City of Indianapolis, Office of Education Innovation
- Englewood Community Development Corp.

- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Florida Department of Emergency Management
- Georgia Department of Natural Resources
- Georgia Emergency Management Agency
- Central Indiana Community Foundation (CICF)
- Central Indiana Senior Fund, a fund of CICF
- Domestic Violence Network
- Faith in Indiana
- Indiana Department of Homeland Security
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources
- Indiana Family Social Services Administration
- Indiana Geographic Information Council
- Indiana Geographic Information Office
- Indiana Management Performance Hub
- Indianapolis City-County Council
- Indianapolis Public Library
- IU Health
- John Boner Community Center
- Keep Indianapolis Beautiful
- Kheprw Institute

- National Neighborhoods Indicators Partnership
- New America, Washington, D.C.
- Marion County Public Health Department
- United Way of Central Indiana
- Urban Institute, Washington, D.C.
- Vera Institute, Brooklyn, NY
- Welborn Baptist Foundation, Evansville, IN
- WFYI Public Media

Inter-Institutional Partners

- Boston College, City Connects
- Marian University
- Purdue University, Lyles School of Civil Engineering, Geomatics Engineering
- University of Wisconsin, Madison Space Science and Engineering Center
- Valparaiso University, Department of Geography and Meteorology



Our Impact

Polis Center projects and initiatives specifically use place-based data, analysis, and collaboration to address community and societal needs, trends, and gaps in service; support innovative solutions to critical problems related to health outcomes, education, disaster mitigation, and economic development, growth, and stability; and improve diversity, equity and inclusion practices and programming. Housed within an academic environment, these efforts impact academic success and opportunity. Our practical application of community-engaged research produces new knowledge that impacts the quality of life and resiliency of our communities, state, and beyond.

BECAUSE OF OUR WORK WITH OUR PARTNERS...



STUDENTS ARE MORE PREPARED FOR THE WORKFORCE

105 STUDENTS

received experiential learning opportunities, increasing their preparation for the workforce.

SENIORS HAVE BETTER PROGRAMMING

Funders and providers of services for the aging population have a **go-to resource for data identifying needs** and challenges of the aging population.

CHILDREN WITH HEARING LOSS ARE SUPPORTED

Hear Indiana can advocate for more coordination and better data about children with hearing loss.



EVANSVILLE IS MAKING DATA-INFORMED DECISIONS ABOUT ITS ECONOMY AND EDUCATION

The Evansville region has **new access to critical data** through SAVI to inform funding, planning, and program delivery.

OUR IMPACT



HEALTH RESEARCHERS ARE CLOSER TO UNDERSTANDING THE SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF MANY DISEASES

**21
RESEARCHERS**

collaborate with Polis to
incorporate social determinants
of health data into their research.



COMMUNITIES ARE ENGAGED IN ADDRESSING EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Over **1,200** community partners
participated in community
conversations and input sessions.

ORGANIZATIONS ARE SUPPORTED IN THEIR USE OF PLACE-BASED DATA

74 People from **57**
organizations received
support using data to inform
decisions and measure impact.



COMMUNITIES ARE SAFER

150 professionals in the Pacific
Northwest learned how to use geospatial
tools to address natural disasters;
5 Indiana communities have updated
multi-hazard mitigations plans and are
able to submit funding requests to FEMA;
and Indiana counties have more accurate flood maps.



PRACTITIONERS AND FUNDERS ARE MORE DATA LITERATE

160 community members
and professionals from **80** organizations
participated in data literacy training.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT, NONPROFITS, AND FUNDERS ARE USING DATA AND RESEARCH TO INFORM PRIORITIES AND PROGRAMMING

140,858
users visited
our websites

20,192
uses of our
data tools

MEDIA HAS ACCESS TO IMPORTANT RESEARCH TO SUPPORT JOURNALISM

Polis research was mentioned
43 times in the media. Our partnership with
WFYI Public Media enriched the understanding
of pressing social issues.

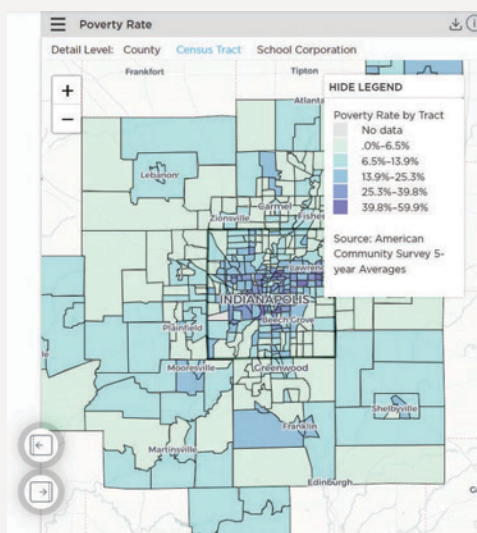
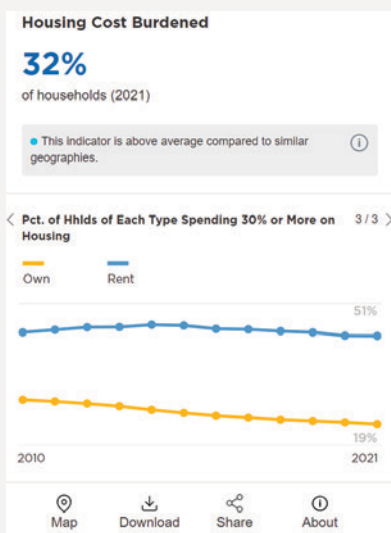
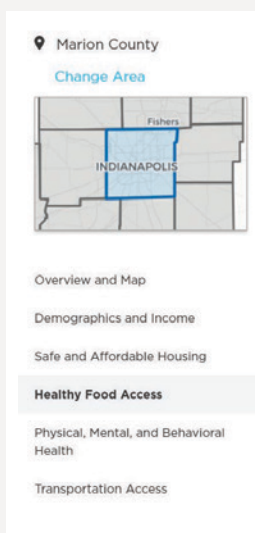


Featured Programs

SAVI Community Information System

SAVI (savi.org) provides open access to data and research to support place-based, data-informed decisions. For the past 29 years, Polis has created and managed SAVI, which stand for Social Assets and Vulnerabilities Indicators and is one of the nation's premier community information systems. SAVI collects protected administrative data from government and nonprofit sources and converts them into sharable and useful formats to describe and visualize neighborhood-specific information about the population, infrastructure, access

to resources, and challenges of communities. Polis also facilitates the use of these resources in the decision-making process for crisis management, planning, community development, and community health. SAVI has become an important research and information infrastructure for Central Indiana, with over 140,000 visitors to the website alone. SAVI resources have focused primarily on Central Indiana, but the geographic footprint is growing. In Spring 2023, we launched a light version of SAVI for the Evansville region covering counties in Indiana and Kentucky.

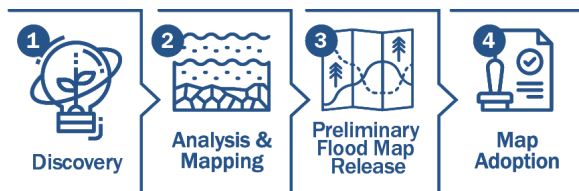


State of Aging in Central Indiana

This study assesses and reports the needs, disparities, and emerging issues related to the growing older adult population in Central Indiana. As a research partner for the Central Indiana Senior Fund (CISF), Polis supports the foundation's goal to be the go-to source of place-based information about the older adult population, providing community leaders, decision-makers, older adult-serving entities, and philanthropic organizations with critical information. During FY2023, we published the [2022 State of Aging in Central Indiana Report](#) and multiple [research briefs](#), held multiple community forums, and updated the [online information portal](#). CISF is a fund of the Central Indiana Community Foundation.

FEMA Risk Map Program

Polis works closely with most Indiana counties, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to analyze risk and impacts of climate change and natural disasters. Polis and IDNR are the only two FEMA Cooperating Technical Partners in Indiana, supporting high quality flood risk assessment and protection. We work with local, state, and federal policymakers to apply best practices to the mitigation of social and economic impacts of flood, earthquakes, and other natural disasters.



Source: FEMA.gov

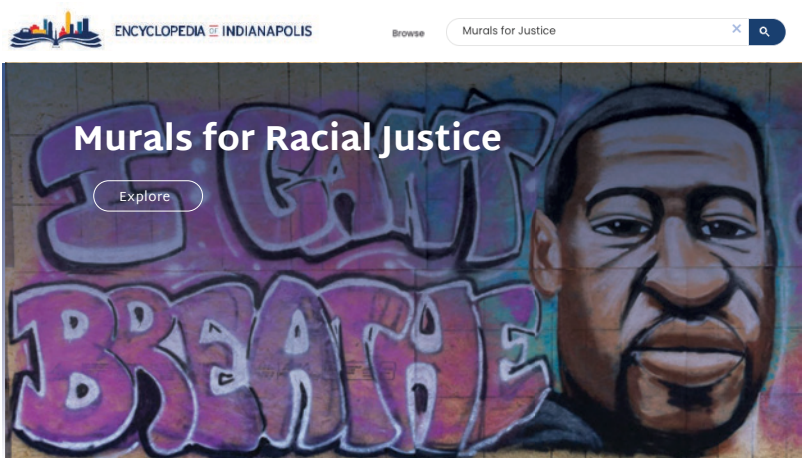


Indiana State Hazard Mitigation Plan

Polis currently is working on the 2024 State Plan. This includes a risk assessment, which quantifies the potential losses resulting from a disaster by assessing the vulnerability of buildings, infrastructure, and people. The plan outlines over fifteen different disasters and their impact across all 92 Indiana counties. The state uses the plan to encourage local jurisdictions to adopt sound mitigation principles and activities. The plan allows the state to provide technical assistance and funding opportunities that help communities become more disaster resilient. Since 2008, Indiana has received nearly \$50,000,000 in mitigation grant funding.

Digital Encyclopedia of Indianapolis

The Encyclopedia (<https://indyencyclopedia.org/>) is a home for knowledge about the Circle City's past and present. Its content includes information about people, places, events, and organizations in Indianapolis. It was created by Polis in collaboration with the Indianapolis Public Library and several civic institutions. In FY2023, Polis transitioned the Encyclopedia to the library to steward going forward, with David Bodenhamer as editor-in-chief. In collaboration with editors, Polis continues to build new capabilities and features for the encyclopedia, which this year included an interactive [feature on Redlining](#), a [Religion Timeline](#), and a virtual exhibit called [Murals for Racial Justice](#).



SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Polis partners with organizations and government agencies around the state to generate data and research that informs policy, programming, and funding decisions. We make data open and accessible to the community; we build capacity in professionals to use these resources; and we convene people from multiple sectors to discuss findings and build solutions.

141K

VISITORS
ACCESSING
OUR DATA AND
RESEARCH

120

ORGANIZATIONS
WITH NEW
SKILLS IN SPATIAL
DATA USE

150

PROFESSIONALS
TRAINED
IN RESILIENCY
AND HAZARD
MODELING

Provided reliable data and research through publicly accessible websites

This year, we created several community dashboards, interactive data reports, and websites; and we updated and maintained several products developed in previous years. Examples with links include:

- SAVI for the Evansville Region ([link](#))
- SAVI Equity Data & Information Hub ([link](#))
- Digital Encyclopedia of Indianapolis ([link](#))
- SAVI COVID-19 Data & Information Hub ([link](#))
- How is Indianapolis Doing? (recovering from COVID-19 pandemic) ([link](#))
- The State of Aging in Central Indiana ([link](#))
- Diabetes Impact Project Community Profiles ([link](#))
- Domestic Violence Network Dashboard ([link](#))
- SAVI Community Profiles, SAVI Topic Profiles, SAVI Population Profiles ([link](#))
- School Insights ([link](#))
- IUPUI Community Engagement Map ([link](#))
- Generosity for Life (Data Tools) ([link](#))
- IndyVitals (neighborhood health and sustainability) ([link](#))
- Indiana Data Harvest ([link](#))

“Collaborating with The Polis Center is bringing essential data resources, training, and tools, like the SAVI platform, to Southwest Indiana to build critical data literacy, especially among non-profits, donors, and funders, as part of a broader capacity-building effort called “Grow.” These data resources empower users to understand the issues and people they serve and to use data effectively in grant applications and other advocacy efforts. We look forward to continuing this collaboration and further strengthening our region’s capacity to drive positive change.”

— LIZ THARP

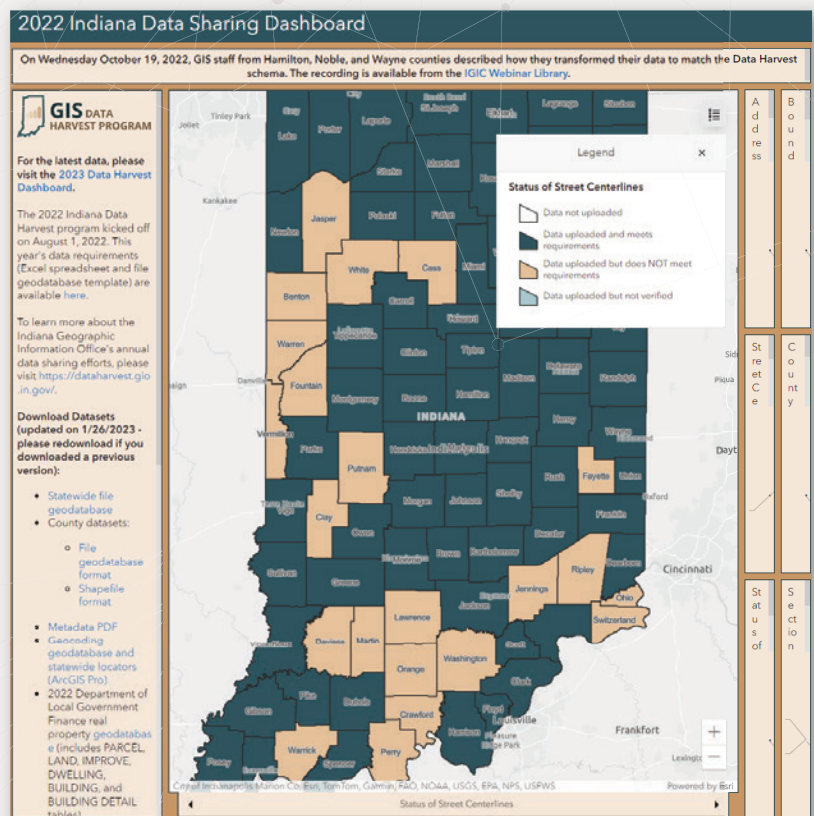
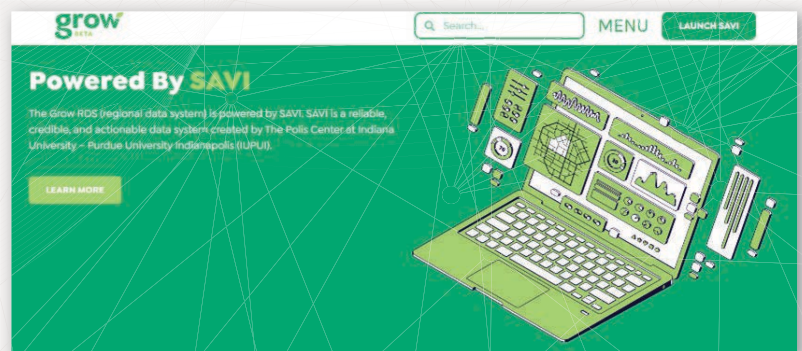
Learning & Impact Officer, Welborn Baptist Foundation;
Grow Team Lead, growcapacity.info



Welborn Baptist
Foundation

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Launched the Grow Regional Data System** powered by SAVI for the Evansville, Indiana region to grow the community's capacity to improve economic and education outcomes.
- **Completed the 2022 State of Indiana Data Harvest project**, delivering final statewide datasets, county-based datasets, metadata, and a statewide geocoder to the Indiana Geographic Information Office. This program supports transportation, broadband, tax distribution, environmental management, public health, and more. The datasets (address points, street centerlines, parcels, and boundaries) are available for [download](#).
- **Published a monthly “How Is Indianapolis Doing?”** which explores how the Indianapolis metro area is recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic in areas such as employment, housing, and office occupancy.
- **Launched a new “Map your own data” tool** in SAVI. The tool was developed for faith-based organizations as part of the Religion and Urban Culture 2.0 project but is available to all organizations. It allows users to map their membership and program participation data along with community demographics to support planning and outreach efforts.





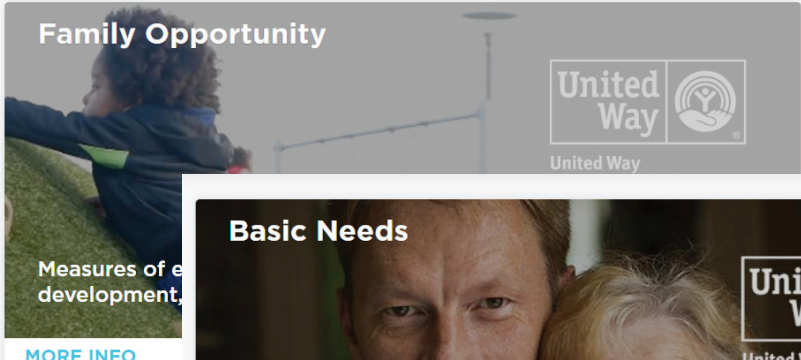
Supported the health and human service sectors

Polis collaborates with the healthcare, public health, nonprofit, philanthropic, government, and academic sectors to advance the generation and use of place-based information for improving health and well-being in Indiana and beyond.

- Collaborated with the Marion County Health & Hospital Corporation to use place-based visualizations to convey social determinants of health in Marion County.
- Partnered with Domestic Violence Network to publish the 2022 edition of the State of Domestic Violence in Marion County report.
- Supported the City of Indianapolis in its \$300 million COVID-19 recovery grants by developing methods for measuring the impact of the funded programs and by training grantees.
- Partnered with Hear Indiana and Indiana Management Performance Hub to analyze state administrative data to understand educational outcomes for deaf or hard of hearing (DHH) children in Indiana. Summarized findings in a report.
- Partnered with the City of Indianapolis and Boston College on the City Connects project, a student-based intervention program that places school coordinators to determine student needs and connect them with resources in the community.
- Continued to serve as a research and data partner for the Indy East Promise Neighborhood Initiative, a program to ensure children and families in the Near Eastside neighborhood are healthy and thriving. This is a program of John Boner Community Center funded by a \$30 million US Department of Education grant.
- Supported United Way of Central Indiana by updating data profiles summarizing community challenges and assets in United Way's priority areas of Family Opportunity and Basic Needs.




 SAVI Topic Profiles 



Family Opportunity

Measures of economic development.

[MORE INFO](#)


United Way 

United Way

Basic Needs

Measures of income, housing, and food access based on United Way of Central Indiana's Basic Needs Fund.

[MORE INFO](#) [VIEW PROFILE](#)

United Way 

United Way of Central Indiana



"DNR has been working with the Polis Center for many years on numerous projects related to identifying, mitigating, and communicating risk to the residents of Indiana. This partnership has been very successful and has been a benefit to both agencies. Polis has been a very valuable member of our team, and we look forward to our continued relationship."



— DAVID KNIPE
Director, Division of Water
Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Supported community disaster efforts in Indiana

Polis supports disaster preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery activities. We design and develop open source and Esri technology-driven information systems to assess the physical, social, and economic risk and impacts of hazards.

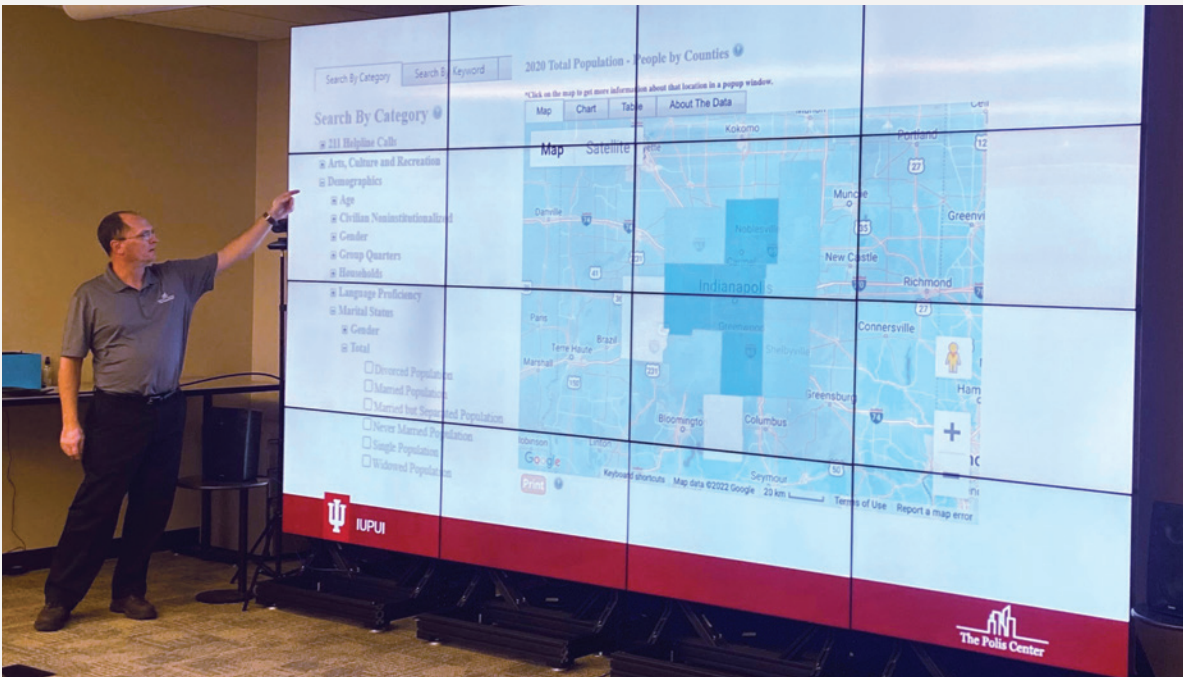
- Supported Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and communities around the state by providing flood mapping products and risk assessment tools.
- Updated flood data and maps for the Sugar Creek watershed that covers parts of Fountain, Parke, Clinton, Boone, Montgomery, Parke, and Clinton counties.
- Developed preliminary data for portions of the Lower East Fork White watershed in Pike, Dubois, Jackson, Greene, and Washington counties.
- Conducted post-preliminary processing (PPP) for Jay, Grant, and Wells counties. At the end of the PPP phase, the new flood maps become effective.
- Completed FEMA flood map drafts for Pike, Vermillion, and Vanderburgh counties.
- Worked with Indiana Department of Homeland Security to start the 2024 State Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan outlines over fifteen different disasters (e.g., flood/flash flood, tornado, extreme temperatures, hazardous material release, and viruses) and their impact across all 92 Indiana counties.
- Mapped hazard vulnerability assessment for Ivy Tech Community College campuses.
- Developed a building inventory for Sauk County, WI, which will be used for a more accurate analysis of flood impacts.
- Kari Leer, GIS Analyst, passed her Certified Floodplain Managers (CFM) exam.
- Updated five Indiana county multi-hazard mitigation plans. Ten other county plans were approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and adopted by most of the participating communities.
- As a result of Orange County's MHMP, a high school in the county applied for a federal grant to build a safe room, a structure specifically designed to provide protection from injury or death in extreme weather events such as tornadoes.



Strengthened the workforce

Polis develops education programs designed to empower practitioners with the knowledge and skills necessary to use geospatial data for decisions. This year, we provided workshops on topics such as data literacy, mitigating the impacts of natural hazards, using social indices, and more.

- **Trained over 150 professionals** in resiliency and hazard modeling through our professional geospatial education program.
- **Partnered with the University of Wisconsin Madison Space Science and Engineering Center** to provide workshops for practitioners in Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and Alaska on using geospatial methods and technologies to model social, physical, economic, and environmental impacts of earthquakes, floods, tsunamis, and other hazards.
- **Built capacity in the community** to use data operationally and strategically. Increased data literacy through 32 workshops attended by 163 participants representing 79 nonprofit, government, and community-based organizations. Supported 57 organizations in their use of place-based data.
- **Trained over 40 City of Indianapolis agencies** to track progress and measure impact of programs funded through COVID-19 recovery funding.
- **Organized a new ArcGIS Online support group** and led an ArcGIS Pro support group for the Indiana Geographic Information Council (IGIC).
- **Taught professionals at an Urban & Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) workshop** how to use social indices for improving community resilience to disasters. Partners included Polis, the University of Wisconsin, Oakridge National Labs, the College of Charleston, and the National Alliance for Public Safety GIS Foundation.



Jay Colbert, data manager, demonstrating Polis geospatial data tools.



Served the community through volunteer and leadership roles

Several Polis staff members serve on community boards and committees:

- American Geophysical Union, Member, Matt Dietrich
- Association of American Geographers, Member, Asger Ali
- Association of State Floodplain Managers, Kari Leer
- City of Indianapolis Government Alliance on Race and Equity, Sharon Kandris, Matt Nowlin
- Congress for the New Urbanism, Member, Wanja Waweru
- Geological Society of America, Member, Matt Dietrich
- Indiana Afterschool Network Board, Member, Marc McAleavey
- Indiana Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management, Kari Leer
- Indiana Geographic Information Council – President, Critical Infrastructure member, ArcPro Support Group Lead, Non-Profit Board member, ArcOnline Support Group lead, Marianne Cardwell; member Kari Leer, Kevin Mickey, Wanja Waweru, Danielle Lafever, Sharon Kandris
- Indiana Silver Jackets, a state coordinating body to mitigation of flooding in Indiana
- Indiana United Ways Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) Research Advisory Committee, Member Sharon Kandris
- Indianapolis Foundation Racial Equity Advisory Council
- Indy Women in Tech, Member, Kim Sarver
- Public Allies National Organization, Board member, Marc McAleavey
- National Geospatial Technology Center of Excellence (GeoTech Center), Member National Visiting Committee, Kevin Mickey
- National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership (Urban Institute, Washington, DC), Institutional member
- National Society of Black Engineers, Member, Wanja Waweru
- National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC)
- North American Alliance of Hazards and Disaster Research Institutes, Institutional member
- Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA), Institutional member; Immediate Past President, Leadership Development Committee Chair, Leadership Development Committee, Past Presidents Council Chair, Community Resilience Committee Member, Kevin Mickey.
- Women & Hi Tech, Kim Sarver



COLLABORATING ON RESEARCH

The Polis Center's research infrastructure with geographically precise data, its expertise on community data, and its community and university partnerships are helping IU Indianapolis become the premier urban research campus it seeks to become. The Polis Center contributes to the research missions of its academic, community, and government partners in several ways:

- Collaborative study design and execution of clinical translational and community-based participatory research
- Curation of administrative, census, and survey data to support community-level research & analysis
- Spatially enabling and integrating clinical, social, and environmental datasets for research use to support analysis and modeling of the community determinants of health, well-being, and resiliency
- Research, development, and validation of social indicators and indices
- Active dissemination of research and analysis
- Consultation on all the above

15
URBAN
RESEARCH
ARTICLES
PUBLISHED

26
ACTIVE
RESEARCH
COLLABORATIONS

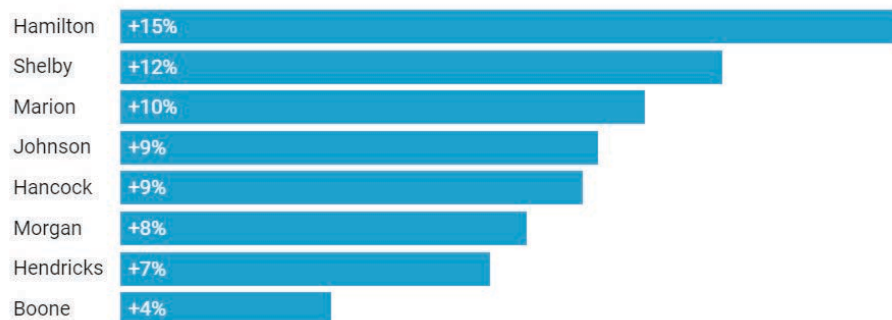


Provide insights on key community issues through our urban research

- Assessed greenspace in Marion County ([link](#))
- Analyzed educational outcomes for deaf or hard of hearing children ([link](#))
- Identified disparities in the Marion County criminal justice system ([link](#))
- Assessed the state of domestic violence in the criminal justice system in Marion County ([link](#))
- Developed a draft Indianapolis Racial Equity Report Card ([link](#)) to track disparities overtime to see areas for improvement and where progress has been made
- Published the 2022 State of Aging in Central Indiana Report ([link](#)) describing the trends and needs of the aging population
- Identified gender disparities in the aging population ([link](#))
- Considered transportation issues of the older adult population ([link](#))
- Assessed community readiness to Help Older Adults Age in Place? ([link](#))
- Analyzed SNAP Policy and Usage by Older Adults During the COVID-19 Pandemic ([link](#))
- Assessed how Indianapolis is recovering economically from the COVID-19 pandemic ([link](#))
- Analyzed voter turnout in the 2022 Midterm Election in Marion County ([link](#))
- Identified gaps in “good” jobs ([link](#))
- Analyzed the decline in college-going rates in Central Indiana ([link](#))
- Identified trends in evictions ([link](#)), including landlords responsible for these evictions, how many people face multiple evictions, and how evictions relate to health department violations

CHANGE IN OLDER ADULT SNAP HOUSEHOLDS BY COUNTY

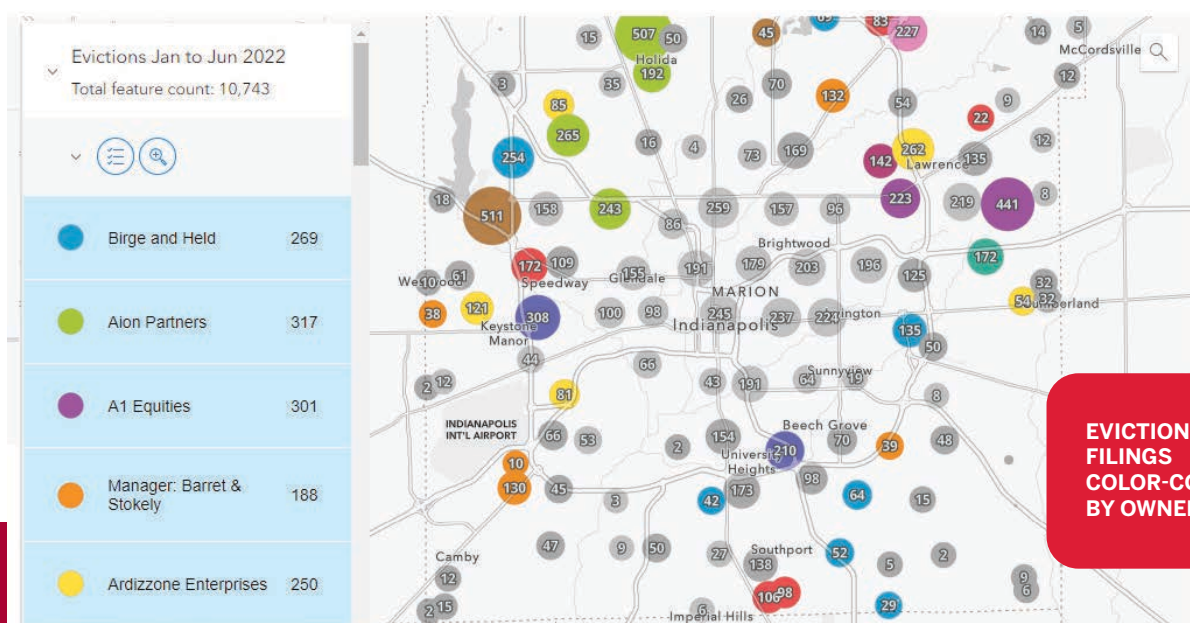
(Jan-May 2019, Jan-May 2021)



Source: Polis Center analysis of data from Indiana FSSA

Collaborated with national institutes and experts

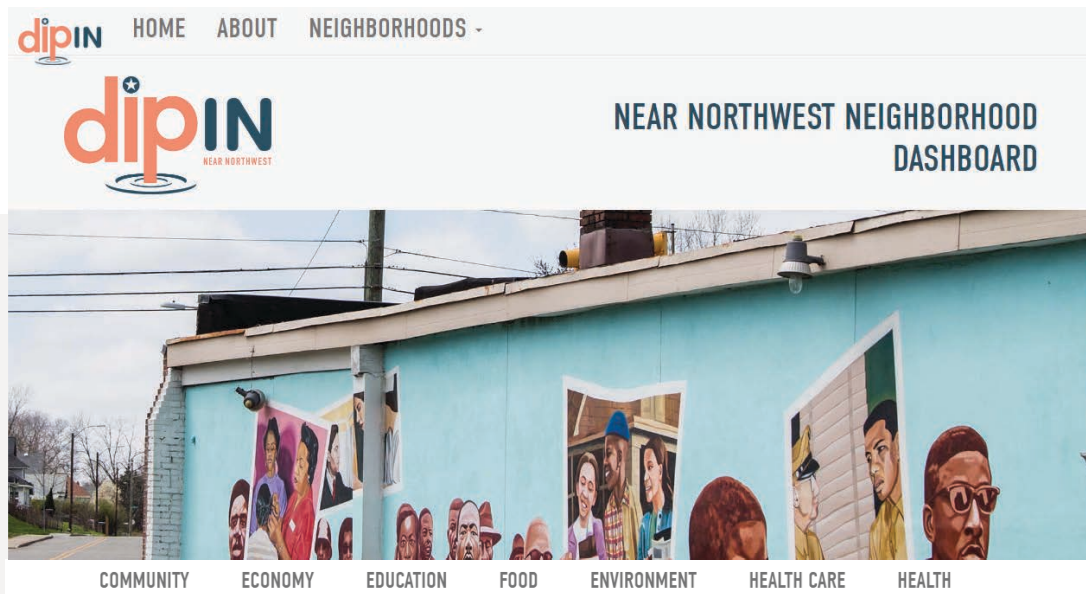
- Urban Institute and National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership (NNIP), with whom we have a long-term partnership and participated in several cross-sites studies.
- Vera Institute of Justice in New York, along with the Indianapolis Kheprw Institute and the Marion County Prosecutor's Office, to investigate equity in the criminal justice system in Indianapolis.
- Nexus for Equity + Opportunity Nationwide (NEON) project, a national initiative of the Community Foundation Opportunity Network. In partnership with the IU Public Policy Institute's Center for Research on Inclusion & Social Policy (CRISP) and the Office of Community Engagement (OCE), the team serves as the research and data collection partner to the Indianapolis Foundation (IF) to support Indianapolis' participation in the NEON project.
- New America, a DC-based nonprofit organization dedicated to public policy research. We collaborated on the use of court eviction data to understand eviction trends.^{1,2}
- Regenstrief Institute. Since 2009, we have collaborated on the development of processes and tools for securely geocoding clinical records in the Indiana Network for Patient Care, in support of integration of clinical and community data for the investigation of social determinants of health.
- Space Science and Engineering Center, University of Wisconsin on geospatial modeling of hazards vulnerability and resilience research.
- Environmental Resilience Institute: "Positive outcomes from U.S. lead regulations, continued challenges, and lessons learned for regulating emerging contaminants," Matthew Dietrich and Gabriel Filippelli. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*, 30, 57178–57187 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-023-26319-4>



Indianapolis ranks among the highest cities in the country in total number of evictions filings, trailing only New York and Detroit pre-pandemic. Indiana's affordable housing prices and landlord friendly policies have made it an attractive place for large multifamily investors, and these companies file evictions at a startlingly high rate. This map highlights the worst offenders who often are out-of-state investors. These data help advocates raise awareness and help legislators address housing policy.

¹<https://www.newamerica.org/future-land-housing/reports/us-eviction-court-data/>

²<https://www.savi.org/follow-the-money-indianapolis-evictions-in-2022/>



Supported community health research

Polis collaborates on academic research initiatives, providing data science and domain expertise, especially in public health, community-level measures, and hazard vulnerability & resilience research.

- Enhanced the ability of IU School of Medicine faculty to pursue research on the social and structural determinants of health through consultations and collaborations with faculty on pilot projects and federal grant proposals.
- Collaborated with the IU School of Medicine (IUSM) to identify social determinant of health data to support the five-year renewal of its National Institutes of Health P30 grant for musculoskeletal research.
- Completed a pilot project with the IU Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center to spatially-enable clinical health records of cancer patients and integrate data measuring potential social determinants of health data.
- Updated and enhanced the [DIP-IN community dashboard](#) in support of the community engaged Diabetes Impact Project. Completed our fifth year of collaboration with the IU Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health on this research initiative to reduce diabetes-related complications and the rate of diabetes in three underserved Indianapolis neighborhoods. Funded by Eli Lilly and Company.
- Continued partnership with IU Health, IU Fairbanks School of Public Health, and the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute as the community data engagement lead on the three-year Health Equity, Access, OutReach & Treatment (iHEART) collaborative to address health inequities that drive higher rates of cardiovascular disease in underserved areas. Funded by Novartis.
- Collaborated with Luddy Biohealth Informatics researchers on the NSF grant application, *ExLENT: Beginnings: Improving Workforce Development Outcomes through Experiential Learning in Artificial Intelligence and Sensor Technologies Applied to Social, Health and Crisis Informatics* (PI: Saptarshi Purkayastha).
- Led a collaboration with Luddy Human Computer Interaction faculty and a health economist from the School of Liberal Arts to develop an NSF Human Networks and Data Science (HNDS) Infrastructure program proposal to extend the SAVI database statewide, develop a tool for automated review of social indices literature, and provide a toolset for researchers to collaboratively design, generate, validate, and share area-level indices of social vulnerability and community resilience.



Served IUPUI and the academic community through volunteer and leadership roles

- IU Indianapolis 2030 Strategic Plan Research Subcommittee on Supporting the Translation of Research and Creativity, Co-chair, Sharon Kandris
- IUPUI Carnegie Community Engagement Classification Advisory Board, Member, Sharon Kandris
- IUPUI Luddy Library and Information Sciences Advisory Board, Member, Sharon Kandris
- IUPUI Diversity Enrichment & Achievement Program (DEAP), Member, Kim Sarver
- IUPUI Black Faculty and Staff Council, Member, Kim Sarver
- IUPUI Earth Science DEI Community Builders, Member, Jordan Zimmerman
- IUPUI School of Liberal Arts Alumni Association, Board President, Marc McAleavey
- Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (I-CTSI) review committee, Member, Karen Comer
- I-CTSI Concepts to Clinic Project Development Team (PDT), Guest reviewer, Karen Comer
- I-CTSI Social and Structural Determinants of Health PDT, Member, Karen Comer
- I-CTSI Pediatric Sciences PDT, Guest reviewer, Karen Comer
- I-CTSI-I standing review committee to support new review process for translational science, Invited member, Karen Comer
- Luddy Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, Member, Kim Sarver



Photo by Matt Nowlin

**THE POLIS CENTER
WORKS WITH ITS
PARTNERS TO DEFINE,
MEASURE, AND IMPROVE
COMMUNITY HEALTH,
WELL-BEING,
AND RESILIENCY.**



SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS

Polis is helping prepare students for the workforce by providing classroom and experiential learning opportunities to develop skills in the creation and use of geospatial data and technology for community good.

PROVIDED
EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
OPPORTUNITIES TO

**105
STUDENTS**

BUILT GEOSPATIAL SKILLS OF

**17
STUDENTS**

THROUGH CLASSROOM
INSTRUCTION

Provided experiential learning opportunities

Students work with Polis on community-based projects to build a range of technical and soft skills. Students help design, create, and test public-facing websites, data resources, and reports. They work in a team environment, building skills and utilizing various tools to make them successful during school and after graduation.

- Polis provided 105 students with experiential learning opportunities through hourly employment, internships, capstone projects, and practicums in FY2023. This increased from 69 students a year ago and from 11 since joining the school in 2020.
- 23% of the students are undergraduates, 74% are graduate students



Sr. Project Manager Kim Sarver coordinates with project management and technology students working on Polis projects. Ted Dietz, graduate student and research analysis intern, works on community-based research projects at Polis.

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE WORKFORCE

Partnered with three programs to make this possible:

- The IUPUI Community Engagement Associates program provided funding for two students per semester.
- The Department of BioHealth Informatics (BHI) placed eleven students in Polis in FY2023.
- The COMET Lab (Convergent Media and Exploratory Technologies) is a program within the Human-Centered Computing Department of Luddy. The director, Skip Comer, oversees and mentors the students, and Polis provides real projects for the students to work on. 33 COMET Lab students supported Polis projects.

“My experience with The Polis Center gave me the confidence and hands on experience on informatics-related projects, to understand the data handling in better perspective.”

— CHINMAYI SAILAJA NIMMARAJU



Built skills in the classroom

- Developed and taught a new Crisis Informatics specialization in the Luddy Master of Science in Applied Data Science program. In Spring 2023, we piloted the first course in this program, *Modeling Crisis*, in which students learn to apply geospatial technology and methods for disaster mitigation, preparedness, and response.
- Taught an undergraduate course in the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, *J426: Mapping and Analysis for Public Safety* in the Spring 2023. This course teaches foundational GIS skills that can be applied to public safety and emergency management.

Students gain valuable skills they can apply when they enter the workforce. They help design, create, and test public-facing websites, data resources, and reports.

EXAMPLES OF STUDENT POSITIONS:

- ETL data engineer intern
- Social media and data analytics intern
- Data analytics intern
- User experience intern
- Graphic design intern
- GIS intern
- Research assistant
- IT project management intern

Skills learned:

- Teamwork, collaboration
- Soft skills
- Community engagement
- Coding
- AI
- 3D media
- Data visualization
- Software engineering
- Data management
- Data analysis
- Data engineering
- Project management
- UI/UX design
- Geospatial analysis

Past student employees have been hired by major employers. Examples:

- Barclays
- BCforward
- Denken Solutions
- Independence Blue Cross
- IndyGo
- InnovateMap
- KForce
- Logic Loops LLC
- RADcube, Specialty Networks
- Indiana Management Performance Hub
- The Polis Center
- TruMinds Technologies

SUPPORTING EQUITY AND JUSTICE

Polis provides data and research to identify inequities across our community. We partner to host cross-sector conversations and inform policy and funding allocations to address the inequities.

The [SAVI Equity Data & Information Hub](#) provides access to data and research describing the state of equity in Central Indiana, an equity data profile, and measures of equity in our community.

The [Indianapolis Racial Equity Report Card draft](#) will support stakeholders working to address inequities in Indianapolis. It highlights inequities in health, access to resources, economy, housing, education, environment, and justice. Over 200 stakeholders provided input on a draft released in December.

SAVI population profiles describe the trends and challenges for Hispanics and Latinos, youth, working adults, older adults, and the working poor.

SAVI topic profiles highlight data describing social determinants of health, food access, crime and safety, poverty and income, equity, and more.

We published several articles and reports highlighting equity gaps in the aging population, affordable housing, and higher education, and we partnered on several research proposals to

Photo by Matt Nowlin



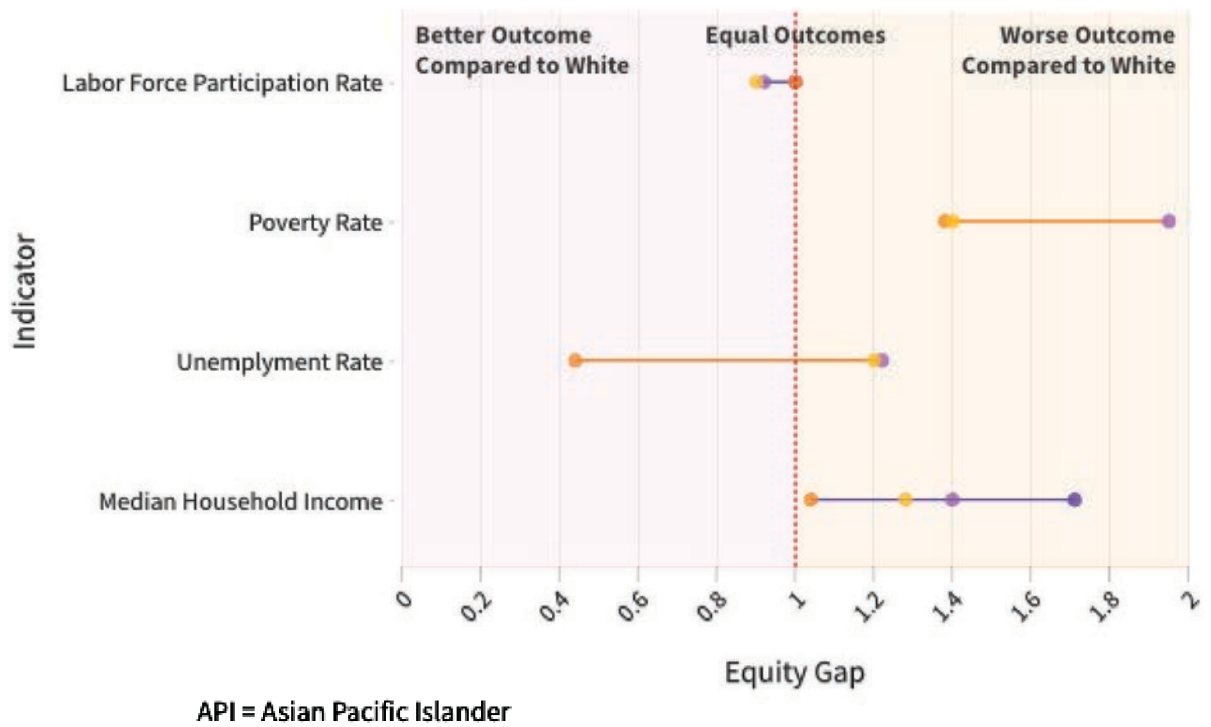
identify social determinants of health. We partnered with Faith in Indiana, Urban Institute, and Kheprw Institute to advance racial equity in the criminal legal system in prevention, policing, and prosecution.

In collaboration with IU Public Policy Institute's Center for Research on Inclusion & Social Policy (CRISP) and the Office of Community Engagement (OCE), we serve as the research and data collection partner to the Indianapolis Foundation (IF) as it works to achieve equity in social and economic mobility in Central Indiana communities.

MARION COUNTY

KEY INDICATOR EQUITY GAPS

Group ● Black-White ● Hispanic-White ● API - White ● Asian-White ● Multiracial-White ● Other-White



A draft Racial Equity Report Card for Marion County highlights gaps across races on several quality of life measures defined in collaboration with the community.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Polis engages with organizations around the state of Indiana and beyond as partners and stakeholders in the topics we tackle. We convene community stakeholders for data-informed conversations, community-engaged research, advice, guidance, and participation in the work produced by the Center.

1,250
PARTICIPANTS
OF COMMUNITY
CONVERSATIONS
AND EVENTS

200+
PEOPLE ENGAGED
IN SAVI EQUITY
REPORT
CARD INPUT

47
COMMUNITY
ADVISORS

Community Events

SAVI Talks, Data & Drafts, and State of Aging events are designed to engage a diverse community audience in data-informed conversations about major challenges in Central Indiana. Over 1,250 community members participated in these events. We engaged 233 people around the state of Indiana in input sessions for flood mapping and county multi-hazard mitigation planning.



SAVI is helping Indianapolis address inequities by measuring the change people want to see. Community stakeholders gathered at the SAVI Talks Equity Report Card event at WFYI to discuss what a racially equitable Indianapolis looks like. Over 200 people have provided input so far at various events.

SAVI Talks community conversations, held in collaboration with WFYI Public Media and several community partners:

- SAVI Talks: Indianapolis Racial Equity Report Card, October 2022.
- SAVI Talks: Greenways Assessment of Marion County, April 2023.

Data & Drafts, held in collaboration with WFYI, Indy Public Library, and Bier Brewery:

- Fewer High School Graduates Attend College, July 2022.
- Developing a Real-Time Eviction Tracker, August 2022.
- High-Need, High-Paying Jobs, September 2022.
- Indianapolis Racial Equity Report Card, November 2022.
- Equity in Criminal Prosecutions, March 2023.

State of Aging community events in collaboration with Central Indiana Senior Fund and WFYI Public Media:

- Are We Ready to Help Older Adults Age in Place? May 2023
- Transportation Equity and Older Adult Population, December 2022



“The partnership between Polis and WFYI Public Media brings together compelling data with compelling storytelling. Each matter, and together we help fuel changes in policy, programs and practices. This is especially important in areas of disparity and discomfort. We want our neighbors and our policymakers to be equipped with data, context, and important questions as they make decisions.”

— GAIL THOMAS STRONG

Vice President Community Engagement, WFYI Indianapolis



Matt Nowlin demonstrates SAVI's online tools at a technology open house.

Community Advisors

Polis engages community advisors to gather input and guidance on our projects, technology, and research. We enlist members with diversity in age, race, gender, geography, and expertise. This year, we enlisted experts from the Indiana technology community to advise our SAVI Technology Plan to redesign our data management and visualization system. A new Equity Research Advisory Committee guides our equity research and a Racial Equity Report Card, and the State of Aging Report is guided by community advisors.

2022 SAVI Technology Advisory Board

- Matt Selm (Chair), VP of Programs, SIM Indy and Program Director of Data Science, Anthem
- Louise Hughes, Vice President of Service Delivery, OneBridge
- Sequeira Leslie, Chief Information Officer, Patrick Industries, Inc.
- Aaron Neal, Associate Vice President, Enterprise Systems, IU University Information Technology Services
- Mathew Palakal, Sr. Exec. Assoc. Dean and Professor, IU School of Informatics and Computing at IUPUI
- Elliot Patrick, Chief Information Officer, Information Services Agency (ISA), City of Indianapolis, Marion County
- Bryan Zaczek, Principal Data Scientist, Indiana Management Performance Hub

SAVI Equity Advisory Committee

- Imhotep Adisa, Executive Director, Kheprw Institute
- Rachel Santos, Director of Education Policy, Indiana Latino Institute
- Gurinder Hohl, CEO Immigrant Welcome Center
- Allison Luthe, Executive Director, MLK Center Indy
- Robin Turner, Associate Professor of Political Science, Butler University
- Carly Weidman, Manager of Community Engagement, WFYI

State of Aging in Central Indiana Advisory Committee

- Julie Bednarski, Wellness programming for community dwelling adults, IU School of Health and Human Sciences
- Tauhric Brown, CEO, CICOA Aging & In-Home Solutions, Inc.
- Dawn Butler, Director, GRACE Training & Resource Center, Project Manager, WeCare Plus, and CoDirector, IN Geriatrics Education & Training Center, IU School of Medicine
- Duane Etienne, CEO Emeritus, CICOA
- Nicole Fowler, Associate Professor, IU School of Medicine
- NiCole Keith, Research Scientist, IU Center for Aging Research
- Kristen LaEace, Indiana Association of Area Agencies on Aging
- Aqueasha Martin-Hammond, Assistant Professor, IU Luddy School of Informatics and Computing at IUPUI
- Ellen Miller, Board member Central Indiana Senior Fund (CISF) and Executive Director, UIndy Center for Agency and Community
- Natalie Sutton, Alzheimer's Association, Greater Indiana Chapter
- Gail Strong, Vice President of Community Engagement, WFYI Public Media

Central Indiana Senior Fund (CISF) Advisory Board (Community advisors to the State of Aging Report)

- Andrew Class, M.D., St. Vincent Stress Center
- Keesha Dixon, Executive Director, Asante Art Institute of Indianapolis
- Robin Elmerick, Director of Effective Philanthropy, CISF
- Susan Guyett, Retired Heather Hershberger, Consultant/former Executive Director of Alzheimer's Association
- Dave Holder, Assisted Living Locators
- Julie Koegel, Grants Officer, CISF
- James Leich, Retired President, LeadingAge Indiana
- Ellen Miller, Executive Director, UIndy Center for Aging & Community
- Bud Myers, Retired, Indianapolis Housing Agency
- Jennifer Norton, Norton Estate Planning and Elder Law
- Candace Preston, Veterans Health Administration
- Annie Smith, Annie L. Smith Consulting LLC, Retired from United Way of Central Indiana



LOOKING AHEAD

Our Goals

- Polis will continue to improve and enhance our community research infrastructure—an innovative, sustainable, and scalable environment that bridges geospatial data, research, and practice—on behalf of our partner communities and use it to inform policy, action, and decisions.
- We will have a state-of-the-art data system that facilitates data sharing, transformation, and creative data reuse for community research and analysis.
- We will research and analyze pressing community issues and serve as a hub for actionable information that can be used to define, measure, and actively improve the health, well-being, and resiliency of communities in Central Indiana and beyond.
- We will build a knowledge base for the discovery and sharing of location-based data (in strategic priority areas) about people, organizations, and places in Central Indiana and beyond.
- We will build a workforce literate in the use of geospatial data and technology through professional training and curricular activities
- We will strengthen our expertise, relationships, and knowledge in priority areas to improve community resilience, health, and well-being in collaboration with our partners.



SUSTAINABILITY

This year, we began developing a long-term funding strategy for the Center and implemented a sustainability plan to diversify and grow funding for one of the Center's largest projects, SAVI. We identified new partners, engaged communities in other parts of the state, and expanded our university partnerships, particularly with faculty in Luddy, to apply for federal research grants.

In FY2023, Polis managed **54 community-focused projects and research initiatives worth \$9.88 million**, including multi-year budgets. We developed 18 new contracts & grants worth \$2.6 million.

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We are entering FY2024 with **35 active projects** and sufficient income to meet our obligations for two years.

POLIS TEAM



Polis team members have a range of technical and domain expertise in community health, earth and environmental sciences, community development, information systems technology, data science, geospatial technologies, and more.

Center Leadership

- Sharon Kandris, Executive Director and Director of Community Informatics
- Karen Comer, Associate Director and Director of Collaborative Research and Community Health Informatics
- Marianne Cardwell, Director of Geoinformatics
- Neil Devadasan, Director of Information Systems
- Kevin Mickey, Director of Professional Development and Geospatial Technology Education

Center Staff

- S M Asger Ali, GIS Analyst
- Tabitha Campbell, Project Management Specialist
- Jay Colbert, Data Manager
- Robert (Skip) Comer, Senior User Interface Designer
- Matt Dietrich, Senior Research Data Analyst
- James (Jim) Dowling, Information Systems Manager and Database Administrator
- Allegra East, Communications Manager
- Robert Ferrell, Senior Programmer (retired)
- Melissa Gona, Business Manager
- John Hayes, Data and Quality Assurance Coordinator (retired)
- Deb Hollon, ETL Data Engineer
- Danielle Lafever, GIS Project Coordinator
- Kari Leer, GIS Analyst
- Marc McAleavey, Community Analysis Program Manager
- Matt Nowlin, Interim Community Analysis Manager
- Aaron Olson, Research Data Analyst
- Kavya Urs Beerval Ravichandra, GIS Analyst
- Matthew Riggs, Geospatial Research Manager
- Sagar Varma Samanthapudi, ETL Data Engineer
- Kim Sarver, Senior Research Project Manager
- Allyson Scott, Research Data Analyst
- Wanja Waweru, GIS Analyst
- Jordan Zimmerman, GIS Analyst

Students

OVER 100 STUDENTS SUPPORTED OUR WORK THIS YEAR. This included three high school students, 30 undergraduates, and 72 graduate students.

- BHI = Biohealth Informatics
- HCI = Human Computer Interaction
- ADS = Applied Data Science
- CIGT = Computer Information & Graphics Technology

Undergraduate Students

- Aldossari, Saad, Luddy, BHI
- Attaway, Nick, School of Liberal Arts
- Bee, Helene, Valparaiso University
- Carlin, Sean, Liberal Arts
- Durrani, Varesha, Luddy, BHI
- Fleszewski, Grace Patrica, Valparaiso University
- Gollahan, Elizabeth, Purdue, CIGT
- Guzzo, Kylie Ann, IUPUI, School of Science
- Hinton, Skylar, Liberal Arts
- Holland, Missy, Luddy, BHI
- Johnson, Kole, Valparaiso University
- Khan, Fatima, Luddy, BHI
- Kraus, Allie Marie, Herron School of Art & Design
- Mark, Alicia, Luddy, BHI
- Moore, Andrew, Purdue, CIGT
- Moore, Lilian, Liberal Arts
- Parekh, Ishan Pareshkumar, Valparaiso University
- Pate, Nij, Purdue, CIGT
- Phelps, Josh, Luddy, BHI
- Reynolds, Jaymee, Luddy, BHI
- Rockwell, Gillian, Liberal Arts
- Rose, Logan, Purdue University, Engineering
- Shirley, Richard, Purdue, CIGT
- Smart, Ethan, Ball State University
- Sundling, Kaylarendha, IUB, School of Science
- Thompson, Jace, Luddy, BHI
- Trinh, Khanh, Luddy, BHI
- Urrutia-Barbosa, Amber, Luddy, BHI
- Winters, Clate, School of Liberal Arts
- Zimmerman, Jordan, School of Science, Geology

POLIS TEAM

Graduate Students

- Abhinaya, Krishnamoorthy, Abhinaya, Luddy, HCI
- Aditi Bhardwaj, Luddy, BHI
- Anekal, Achuta, Luddy, HCI
- Arora, Aditya, Purdue, Computer Information & Graphics Technology (CIGT)
- Awashi, Apoorv, Luddy, ADS
- Awasthi, Revathi, Luddy
- Baker, Mindy Luddy, Data Science
- Bathini, Krathi, Luddy, BHI
- Beesai, Harsha, Luddy
- Boligorla, Srinivasula, Luddy, BHI
- Chirag, Sai Shivani, Luddy, BHI
- Daleiden, Casey, Luddy, Data Science
- Dapke, Adinath, Luddy
- Dapke, C, Luddy
- Deitz, Ted, Fairbanks, Public Health
- Dick, Lisa, Luddy, Data Science
- Doddaka, Jaya Harika, Luddy, BHI
- Gadde, Harish, Luddy, ADS
- Gogineni, Reshma, Luddy, BHI,
- Gogineni, Lakshmi Revathi, Luddy, ADS
- Gopalakrishnan, Rathnapriya, Luddy, ADS
- Goranakonda, Pooja Rani, Luddy, BHI
- Grogan Jr, Jeffery A, Fairbanks, SPH
- Haag, Glenn, Luddy, Data Science
- Hou, Zhen, Purdue, CIGT
- Huddaraju, Sandhya, Luddy, ADS
- Hutchinson, Dallas, Luddy, Data Science
- Joseph, Akhil, Luddy, BHI
- Kancherla, Hindola, Luddy, BHI
- Karsala, Bhanu, Luddy, BHI
- Kedar, Rucha, Purdue, CIGT
- Khanuja, Vin, Luddy, BHI
- Konda, Sushritha, Luddy, BHI
- Lewis, Haren, Purdue, CIGT
- Makadam, Shruti, Luddy, ADS
- Malla, Anusha, Luddy, HCI
- Mallaram, Vindhyani, Luddy, BHI
- Mandapati, Naga, Luddy, ADS
- Mandapati, Prasanna Kuar, Luddy
- Mittal, Vijay, Luddy, Data Science
- Narayanasamy, Gokul, Luddy, ADS
- Navachandu, Nadella, Luddy, BHI
- Nimmaraju, Chinmayi Sailaja, Luddy, BHI
- Nwachakwu, Chiko, Luddy.
- O'Hara, Cathryn, Ball State University
- Pine, Joshua, Liberal Arts, Geography
- Prakash, Bhushan, Luddy, HCI
- Reddy Enugu, Hari Priya, Luddy, BHI
- Reddy, Gudarapu, Luddy, BHI
- Reddy, Ikshitha, Luddy, HCI
- Reddypelli, Neelesh, Luddy, ADS
- Saha, Noyonika, Luddy
- Samanthapudi, Sagar Varma, Luddy, ADS
- Sanghi, Nithika, Luddy, HCI
- Shinde, Nikkhl, Luddy
- Sirivuri, Sandeep, Luddy, HCI
- Sitaprao, Ashish, Luddy
- Smith, Je'Nobia, Purdue, CIGT
- Sowmya, Purna, Luddy
- Surapaneni, Priyanka, Luddy
- Taharat, Tanjin Luddy
- Tahkur, Medhavi, Luddy
- Tawde, Gauri Tawe, Luddy
- Thakur, Ami, Luddy
- Thang, Daniel, Luddy
- Thurpa, Sai Varshitha, Luddy, BHI
- Upalla, Sahith, Luddy
- Vattikunta, Murali, Luddy
- Vemuri, Geetaharichandana, Luddy, BHI
- Voya, Dhairya, Luddy
- Wilson, Basil, Luddy, BHI
- Zaveri, Raj, Luddy, ADS

PRESENTATIONS

- “Data Harvest,” Marianne Cardwell and Shaun Scholer, Indiana Geoinformatics Information Office. Webinar. July, 2022.
- “Data Harvest,” Danielle Lafever and Marianne Cardwell with Shaun Scholer, Indiana Geographic Information Office. Webinar, August 16, 2022.
- “Investigating Equity and Environmental Resilience in Urban Settings,” Karen Comer and Neil Devadasan. IU Fall Symposium on Artificial Intelligence. September 15, 2022.
- “SAVI online geocoding module,” Skip Comer and Matt Nowlin. Religion and Urban Culture 2.0 Conference, Congregations Responding to Change, Indianapolis, IN. September 26, 2022.
- “Understanding Social Indices,” Kevin Mickey. Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) GIS Pro Conference, Boise, ID. October 2-6, 2022.
- “Decrypting Risk, Resilience, Making Sense out of Social Indices” workshop. Kevin Mickey and Shane Hubbard, University of Wisconsin. Urban and Regional Information Systems Association GIS Pro Conference. Boise, Idaho. October 3, 2022.
- “Challenges and Opportunities for Indiana’s Geospatial Community,” Kevin Mickey and Marianne Cardwell. IGIC Geospatial Coordinators Forum, Indianapolis, IN. October 18, 2022.
- “Using Parcel Data to Identify and Analyze Urban Sprawl,” Marianne Cardwell. 2022 Indiana GIS Day, Indiana Geographic Information Office, Indianapolis, IN. November 15, 2022.
- “Transportation Equity and the Older Adult Population,” Mathew Dietrich and Matt Nowlin. State of Aging in Central Indiana public forum, Indianapolis IN. December 8, 2022.
- “Findings from the State of Aging Report,” Matt Dietrich. Occupational Therapy Practice for Older Adults Doctorate (OTD) class, Indianapolis Indiana. January 24, 2023.
- “Social Determinants of Health & Health Disparities,” Matt Dietrich, Aaron Olson, and Asger Ali with the Fairbanks School of Public Health. Easterseals Crossroads, Indianapolis. February 9, 2023.
- “Using GIS to Describe and Measure Risks and Vulnerabilities from Flood and Earthquake Hazards,” Kevin Mickey. FEMA Region X. February 21, 2023
- “Availability and Use of Social Indices to Support Risk Management,” Kevin Mickey and Shane Hubbard, University of Wisconsin. Northwest Hazus Users Group meeting. March 16, 2023.
- “State of Aging in Central Indiana,” Karen Comer and Matt Dietrich. Marian University faculty and students, Indianapolis, IN. April 10, 2023.
- “Data Harvest: 2022 and Beyond,” Danielle Lafever and Shaun Scholer, Indiana Geographic Information Office (IGIO). 2023 Indiana Geographic Information Council (IGIC) Conference, Evansville, IN. May 10-12, 2023.
- “Are We Ready to Help Older Adults Age in Place,” Matt Dietrich, State of Aging in Central Indiana Public Forum, May 11, 2023.
- “Are We Ready to Help Older Adults Age in Place,” Matt Dietrich, State of Aging in Central Indiana Public Forum, May 11, 2023.
- “Best Practices, Current Projects, and New Developments in Technology,” Kevin Mickey. Northwest Hazus Users Group meeting. June 15, 2023.

IN THE NEWS

Polis research was cited 43 times over the past year in public media, linked below.

JULY

July 26, 2022: *IndyStar*, “What are these old Indianapolis school buildings being used for today?” (link)

August 26 *IndyStar* (front page), Why 5 of Indianapolis’ biggest landlords filed for so many evictions this year (link)

AUGUST

August 4, 2022: WHYB radio, United Way Fox Cities and data released on LIFE study (link)

August 15: *IndyStar*, ‘It’s all money and greed.’ Tenants struggle as Indianapolis faces unprecedented rent hikes (link)

August 16: *IndyStar*, In Red-Hot Market, Affluent Renters Squeeze Supply for Lower-Income Renters (link)

August 16: *WFYI Public Media*, A small group of landlords is responsible for a majority of Indianapolis evictions (link)

August 18: *WFYI Public Media*, New report underscores Indiana’s lack of legal protections for tenants (link)

August 19: *IBJ*, \$188 Million Purple Line moving toward 2024 completion (link)

August 22 *WFYI Public Media*, Indiana housing organizations weigh in on changes to Community Reinvestment Act (link)

SEPTEMBER

September 1, 2022: *IndyStar*, ‘It hurts so much:’ Evicted family sleeps in car as housing crisis looms (link)

September 16: *Inside Indiana Business*, Property tax credit of up to \$150 set for homeowners in 2023 (link)

September 19: *Indianapolis Recorder*, Mayor Hogsett signs property tax relief proposal, relief coming to 90% of single-family households (link)

September 21: *Fort Wayne’s NBC*, Food insecure in Huntington now have more options (link)

September 30: *IndyStar*, Who’s behind Indianapolis’ most neglected apartments? *IndyStar* followed the paper trail. (link)

OCTOBER

October 14, 2022: *Indiana Public Radio*, Ball State University, Report: Indiana had one of the highest eviction rates in the country before and during pandemic (link)

October 14: *WFYI Public Media*, Indiana had one of the highest eviction rates in the country before and during the pandemic (link)

October 17: *Charitable Advisors Not-for-profit News*, Impact United: United Way of Central Indiana launches interactive data tool (link)

October 18: *Fox59*, Near north side Dollar General closing, creating more food desert issues (link)

October 20: *The U.S. Sun*, LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS Urgent food desert warning after second major retailer announces store closure following Kroger’s bombshell (link)

October 24: *Indianapolis Recorder*: Libraries reach across digital divide (link)

October 27: *Indianapolis Business Journal*, Approach to fighting crime divides candidates for prosecutor (link)

October 27: *News at IU*, Polis Center data hub tracks Indianapolis’ pandemic recovery (link)

October 28: *Hoosier Living*, Polis Center data hub tracks Indianapolis’ pandemic recovery

IN THE NEWS

NOVEMBER

November 3, 2022: *WFYI Public Media*, Indianapolis libraries lead the way across the digital divide ([link](#))

November 17: *WFYI Public Media*, New SAVI report card on racial equity in Indianapolis seeks input ([link](#))

November 17: *WRTV 6 (ABC)*, Racial Equity Report Card Shows disparities between white residents and residents of color in Indianapolis ([link](#))

November 18: *Yahoo Now*, Racial Equity Report Card Shows disparities between white residents and residents of color in Indianapolis ([link](#))

November 20: *Fox59*, Volunteers fight crime by handing out food ([link](#))

November 21: *Indianapolis Public Library newsletter*, Celebrating One Year at [indyencyclopedia.org!](#) ([link](#))

DECEMBER

December 2, 2022: *IBJ*, Black clergy say a candidate's position, not race, will determine faith community's support ([link](#))

JANUARY

January 1, 2023: *Princeton Daily Clarion*, Grow platform launched for empowerment ([link](#))

January 15: *IUPUI Today Newsletter*, State of Aging in Central report released ([link](#))

January 19: *IUPUI Office of Community Engagement Professional Development & Continuing Education*, "Limitations and opportunities with public transit for an aging population in Central Indiana"

FEBRUARY

February 16, 2023: *WISHTV 8*, Anderson church to celebrate first Latino-run food pantry ([link](#))

February 22: *WISHTV 8 Caregiver Crossing—A Joy's House Podcast*, Is Central Indiana a Good Place to Grow Old ([link](#))

February 25: *IndyStar*, Op/Ed: I learned why Indianapolis' eviction rate is so high and what we can do to fix it. ([link](#))

MARCH

March 1, 2023: *The Indiana Lawyer*, 'Veritable menu of options': IU McKinney student's report attracts housing advocates' attention ([link](#))

March 7: *The Indiana Lawyer*, Indianapolis company sees significant opportunity in modular housing ([link](#))

March 8: *IUPUI Office of Community Engagement Professional Development & Continuing Education newsletter*, Data & Drafts Equity in Criminal Prosecutions, and Who is in the Marion County Jail? Exploring Length of Stay through an Equity Lens, and SAVI Data Training. ([link](#))

March 27: *WFYI Public Media*, Fewer criminal charges are being filed in Marion County, but racial disparities persist ([link](#))

MAY

May 10, 2023: Minority Health Matters podcast, Food Deserts ([link](#))

JUNE

June 1, 2023: *IndyStar*, As Indy Parks reckons with past racial injustice, new report flags greenspace inequities ([link](#))

June 9, 2023: *The Princeton Clarion*, Grow platform launched for empowerment ([link](#))



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