WHO WE ARE

Serves as a **mentor** and **resource center** to ensure nonprofits can effectively provide services to Lake County residents.

Offers **scholarships** to Lake County students as motivation to graduate high school and attend college.

Helps donors better **invest and manage** their charitable assets.

Collaborates with local leaders to **solve problems** and **enhance** residents’ quality of life.

Provides **grants** to organizations servicing the Lake County community.
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION RESPONSIBILITIES

Community Foundations have a broad mandate to serve communities; usually among multiple fields of interest with a defined geographic focus.
WHERE WE SERVE

Lake County, Indiana

Over 600 square miles of urban, suburban and rural land that includes 7 cities and 12 towns. Lake County is bordered by the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. It is Indiana’s second most populous county.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- Total Population: 485,846
- Racial Makeup: 64.4% White; 25.0% African American; 18.3% Hispanic/Latino; 1.8% two or more races; 1.6% Asian
- Median Home Value: $136,100
- Median Household Income: $50,135
- High School Graduation Rate: 87.2%
- Bachelor’s Degree or Higher: 20.4%
- In Civilian Labor Force: 61.8%
- Persons in Poverty: 16.6%

(Source: US Census Bureau)
GARY, INDIANA

DEMOGRAPHICS

- Total Population: 76,424
- Racial Makeup: 84.8% African American; 10.7% White; 5.1% Hispanic Latino; 2.1% two or more races
- Median Home Value: $67,000
- Median Household Income: $28,020
- High School Graduation Rate: 83.9%
- Bachelor’s Degree or Higher: 13.0%
- In Civilian Labor Force: 52.2%
- Persons in Poverty: 37.1%

(Source: US Census Bureau)

INVESTMENT & NEW DEVELOPMENT

- Blight Elimination Program
- University Park Plan & Gary’s Northside Redevelopment Project
- Public art projects
- Transit oriented development/ Livable Broadway Plan
- Gary Preservation Tours

MAJOR INDUSTRY: US Steel and Methodist Hospital
EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA

DEMOGRAPHICS
• Total Population: 28,418
• 50.9% Hispanic/Latino; 42.9% African American; 7.2% White; 2.8% two or more races
• Median Home Value: $77,600
• Median Household Income: $26,486
• High School Graduation Rate: 69.8%
• Bachelor’s Degree or Higher: 8%
• In Civilian Labor Force: 54.3%
• Persons in Poverty: 35.9%
(Source: US Census Bureau)

INVESTMENT & NEW DEVELOPMENT
• Declaration of Disaster Emergency/USS Lead SuperFund Site
• Street and park improvements and new townhomes in North Harbor
• Increased public recreational access to lakefront at East Chicago Marina
• $2.8 million investment in Block Baseball Stadium

MAJOR INDUSTRY: ArcelorMittal and Ameristar Casino
HAMMOND, INDIANA

DEMOGRAPHICS
- Total Population: 77,134
- Racial Makeup: 59.4% White; 34.1% Hispanic/Latino; 22.5% African American; 3.3% two or more races; 1.0% Asian
- Median Home Value: $88,100
- Median Household Income: $39,576
- High School Graduation Rate: 79.5%
- Bachelor’s Degree or Higher: 13.6%
- In Civilian Labor Force: 60.9%
- Persons in Poverty: 24.9%
(Source: US Census Bureau)

INVESTMENT & NEW DEVELOPMENT
- Create new and affordable housing and improve conditions of current housing
- Hammond College Bound
  - scholarship program for Hammond high school students of owner-occupied homes
- Lakefront development

Major Industry: Franciscan Health, Horseshoe Casino, and BP Refinery
WHITING, INDIANA

DEMOGRAPHICS

- Total Population: 5,137
- Racial Makeup: 54.2% White; 40.6% Hispanic /Latino; 3.9% African American; 2.1% two or more races
- Median Home Value: $113,488
- Median Household Income: $34,972
- High School Graduation Rate: 79.2%
- Bachelor’s Degree or Higher: 15.8%
- In Civilian Labor Force: 54.4%
- Persons in Poverty: 10.1%

(Source: US Census Bureau)

INVESTMENT & NEW DEVELOPMENT

- Whiting Lakefront bike trail and beach improvements
- Pierogi Fest: attracting over 250,000 visitors each year
- Lake Michigan’s first floating waterpark
- Mascot Hall of Fame

MAJOR INDUSTRY: BP Refinery
Rural Communities

Cities and Towns (population)

• Cedar Lake (11,560)
  – Major asset: 794 acre lake with public recreational access

• Lowell (9,276)
  – $25 million investment and 117 new jobs from Aunt Millie’s Bakery

• Schneider (277)
  – Smallest incorporated town in Lake County

• Winfield (4,383)
  – Fastest growing community in Lake County and second fastest growing in the state
2016 marked year three of Neighborhood Spotlight – a place based initiative for reinvesting in Lake County communities.

**Spotlight Communities**

- **In third year: implementation**
  - Gary-Miller
  - North West Hobart

- **In second year: planning**
  - Gary-Emerson
  - Griffith

**Action Projects**

- **Gary-Miller**
  - Installed an accessible canoe/kayak launch for persons with and without disabilities
  - Leveraged an $18,000 grant from the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority to implement a bike sharing program

- **Northwest Hobart**
  - Re-opened a closed fire station, with increased community use
  - Partnered with local environmental organizations and installed decorative signage to promote its nature district