

# Neighbor to Neighbor

## United Neighborhoods of Evansville



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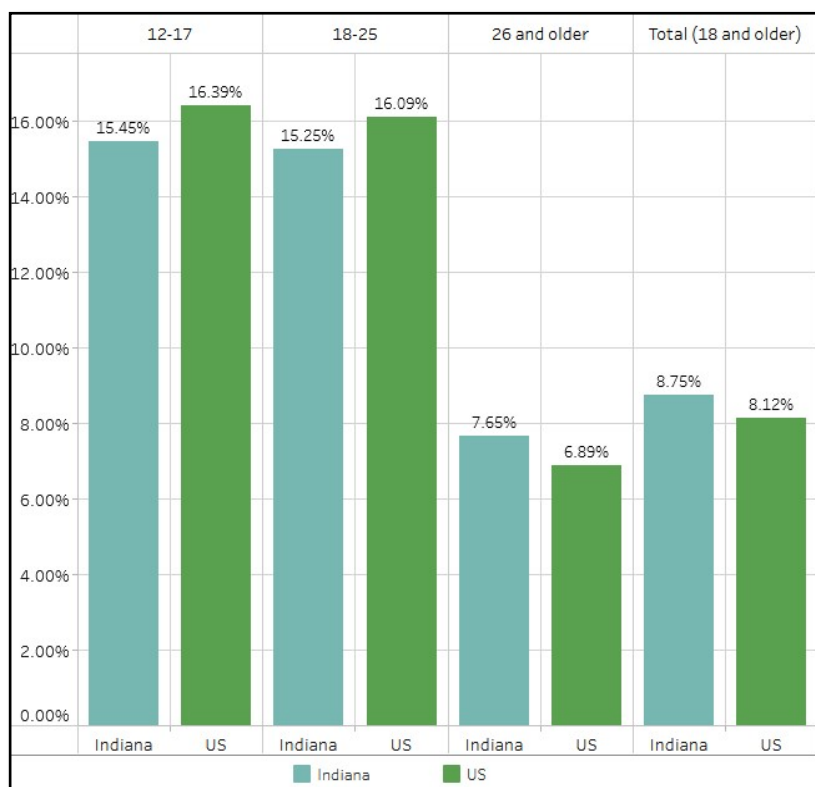
*Neighborhood Associations  
Working Together  
to Preserve,  
Enhance  
and Promote  
the Evansville and  
Area Neighborhoods*

## Family and Social Services Administration

### Division of Mental Health and Addiction

Within the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration there is the Division of Mental Health and Addiction (DMHA). The DMHA sets care standards for the provision of mental health and addiction services to Hoosiers. DMHA is committed to ensuring that clients have access to quality services that promote individual, family and community resiliency and recovery.

The division also certifies all community mental health centers and addiction treatment services providers. DMHA operates six psychiatric hospitals (NeuroDiagnostic Institute, Evansville Psychiatric Children's Center, Evansville State Hospital, Logansport State Hospital, Madison State Hospital, and Richmond State Hospital). DMHA provides funding support for mental health and addiction services to target populations with financial need and administers federal funds earmarked for substance abuse prevention projects.



Percentage of Indiana and U.S. Population Reporting at Least One Major Depressive Episode in the Past Year, by Age Group (National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2020)

The mission of DMHA is to champion mental health promotion and substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery systems that are high quality, seamlessly integrated and accessible to the people and communities of Indiana.

The DMHA has recently released an online dashboard which tracks mental health illness and substance use within Indiana and compares it to the United States average. The dashboard can be viewed by the public by searching [“FSSA: DMHA: Dashboards”](#)



You can also learn more about DMHA at:  
[www.in.gov/fssa/dmha/](http://www.in.gov/fssa/dmha/)

# Vanderburgh County Solid Waste District

## Additional Recycling Events

Civic Center Parking Lot

### Electronics Recycling:

Fall: September 24th from 8:00 - 12:00pm

### Tox-Away Day:

Fall: October 8th from 9:00 - 1:00pm



# Vanderburgh County Health Department

## Blood Lead Testing

The Vanderburgh County Health Department offers testing to children at no cost. To schedule a test, call the Vanderburgh County Health Department at 812-435-5568. The Health Department is located on the 2nd floor at 420 Mulberry St.

## Coffee With A Cop



## Vegetable Giveaway

Community  
**PRODUCE**  
Giveaway



**FREE** produce to our Neighbors  
the following Sundays *this Summer*

**SAVE THE DATE**

July 17 \* 3 pm St. Anthony Church  
August 21 \* 3 pm St. Anthony Church  
Sept. 25 \* 3 pm St. Anthony Church  
October 23 \* 3pm St. Anthony Church

**How Can You Help?**

Bring your extra produce to our  
Community Produce Giveaways  
and we will share the vegetables  
with the community.

## Family Food Truck Night

**St. John's East**  
**Family Food Truck Night**

**St. John's East**  
**7000 Lincoln Ave**  
(ACROSS FROM PLAZA PARK SCHOOL)

**Tuesday, August 9, 2022**

**5:30 PM – 8:00 PM**

Check out other upcoming community events on the UNOE website at the:

<https://www.unoevansville.org/events/>

# Commission on Homelessness

The City of Evansville Department of Metropolitan Development (DMD) and the Evansville-Vanderburgh Commission on Homelessness (COH) recently joined together to conduct a homeless needs and gaps assessment and to update our local plan to end homelessness.

A combination of surveys, interviews, a charrette, and a conference were conducted to gather input from agencies and the community. The conference and charrette were held the week of March 14 - 18, 2022, and included participation from UNOE. Topics included racial equity, landlord relations, vulnerable populations, homeless data, access to permanent housing, coordinated entry, prevention, healthcare, re-entry, and also, homeless children and youth.

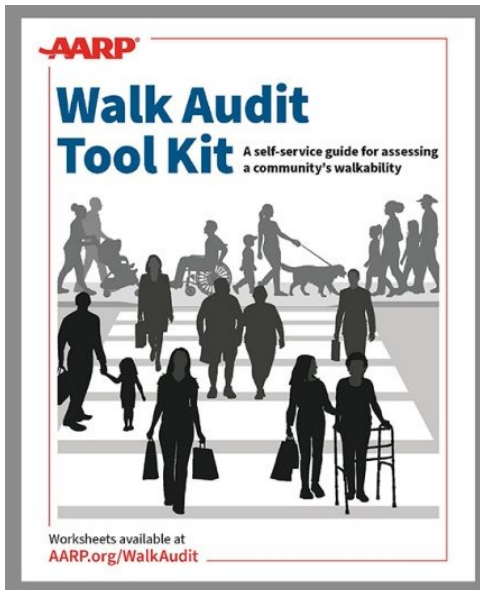
There were two independent goals. First goal was to meet U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirements to receive our HOME - American Rescue Plan allocation of \$2,739,593.00. DMD will administer these funds to help build housing for vulnerable populations.

Second goal was to receive recommendations to create our 2022-32 plan to end homelessness. COH has created task forces to review recommendations and propose a draft by COH's September meeting. Lessons learned from updating our plan to end homelessness has also been selected as a session at the upcoming Indiana Housing Conference in Indianapolis, September 22-23, 2022. Visit [indianahousingconference.org](https://indianahousingconference.org) to learn more.

Any neighborhoods or groups that would like a featured presentation on our plan to end homelessness, or just has questions, please contact Gayl Killough, DMD at 812-436-7823 or email [gkillough@evansville.in.gov](mailto:gkillough@evansville.in.gov).



## AARP Walk Audit Tool Kit



In too many communities, people can't safely walk to where they need or want to go due to a lack of sidewalks, crosswalks, or other safety features that make streets safe for pedestrians and drivers.

A walk audit is a simple activity in which an individual or a team observes and evaluates the walkability of a location to document how and if pedestrians can safely travel along a street, navigate an intersection and get from point A to B, C and so on.

### Who can conduct a walk audit? Anyone!

The AARP Walk Audit Tool Kit can be used by local leaders, advocates, community organizations and residents to define issues in their neighborhood.

The tool kit publication provides step-by-step instructions and checklists for examining intersections, sidewalks, driver behavior, public safety and more.

Since the walk audit survey is user-directed, it can take as little or as much time as desired by, say, spending 15 minutes at one busy corner or devoting several hours to documenting several roadways in a neighborhood. The documented results can be shared with elected officials and other local leaders when advocating for such safe streets features as sidewalks, crosswalks and properly timed traffic lights.

Find and download the AARP Walk Audit Tool Kit at [AARP.org/WalkAudit](https://AARP.org/WalkAudit).

# Landlord and Tenant - Rights and Responsibilities

## Who We Are

Housing Organization United Serving Evansville (H.O.U.S.E.) is a collaborative group of housing advocates in Evansville, Indiana. Since 2016, H.O.U.S.E. has served as the housing work group of the Evansville Promise Zone.

## Your Landlord's Rights and Responsibilities

Landlords have certain responsibilities, too. The landlord must:

- Deliver the rental premises to a tenant in compliance with the rental agreement, and in a safe, clean, and habitable condition
- Comply with all health and housing codes applicable to the premises
- Provide and maintain in good and safe working condition:
  - Electrical systems
  - Plumbing systems to supply a reasonable supply of hot and cold running water at all times
  - Sanitary systems
  - Heating and ventilating systems at all times and air conditioning if offered at the time of rental
  - Elevators, if provided
  - Any appliances supplied as an inducement to the rental agreement



### HOUSE MEMBERS:

Aurora, Inc.

Community Action Program of Evansville

CenterPoint Energy

Congregations Acting for Justice and Empowerment

Community One

ECHO Community Housing

ERS Management, LLC

Evansville Dept. of Metropolitan Development

Habitat for Humanity

HOPE of Evansville

Memorial Community Development Corporation

Old National Bank

Tru-Vest



If you are in need of legal advice and your income is at or below 125% of the federal poverty line, you may contact:

- Legal Aid Society of Evansville, 812-435-5173
- Indiana Legal Services, 844-243-8570

# Landlord and Tenant - Rights and Responsibilities

## Your Rights as a Tenant

If you lease a rental unit, you have the following rights as a tenant under the law. You have the right to a safe and livable home.

This means a rental unit that:

- Is secure, with doors and windows that can be locked
- Has working plumbing, hot water, heating, and at least one working smoke detector
- Is free from unhealthy conditions such as infestations or lead paint
- Has functioning electricity without unsafe wiring or outlets
- Common areas and elevators in clean, usable condition



*You may have additional rights if you or someone in your household has been the victim of domestic violence, sexual violence or stalking, and a civil protection order or criminal no-contact order has been entered.*

You have the right to basic privacy in your home. This generally means:

- Your landlord cannot lock you out without a court order
- Your landlord cannot enter your unit without notice, except in emergencies
- You have the right to be free from discrimination on the basis of race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, national origin, age, color, disability, ancestry, familial status, veteran status, or an expunged criminal conviction
- Your landlord must return your security deposit within 45 days of you moving out if you leave the unit in good order and give a forwarding address. Your landlord must make an itemized list of any deductions from the full amount. You may dispute those deductions.

## Your Responsibilities as a Tenant

As a tenant, you have certain responsibilities:

- Pay your rent. Do not stop paying rent to force your landlord to make repairs or provide upkeep, as this gives the landlord the right to evict you
- You must keep your unit reasonably clean, and you may not deface, damage, or destroy your rental unit or a fixture in it
- You must use the systems, appliances, and features of your rental unit and common areas of your building in a reasonable manner
- You must comply with your rental agreement and other landlord rules and regulations
- You must ensure that the smoke detector in your rental unit remains in working order
- When you move out, you must leave the unit in good condition other than normal wear and tear.



*The information provided in this article does not, and is not intended to, constitute legal advice; instead, all information is for general informational purpose only. Please consult with an attorney or civil legal aid organization for individual advice*

# Get to Know Your Neighborhood CPO



*“Get to Know Your Neighborhood CPO”, is a segment which provides an opportunity for you to learn about the Crime Prevention Officer covering your neighborhood. More information about the Crime Prevention Unit and neighborhood CPOs can be found at :*

*[evansvillepolice.com/crime-prevention-unit](http://evansvillepolice.com/crime-prevention-unit).*

## Crime Prevention Officer Nick Sandullo

Sector: South      Beat: 1      Years of Service: 25

### What Neighborhoods do you cover?

*Old Erie, CCIA, Ballard, Downtown, Bellemeade/Bayard Park, Riverside*

### What inspired you to become a Police Officer?

*I was a rule follower growing up, I led a simple life. I felt I could be a good example to people. I wanted to help keep the city I worked in safe and comfortable for people to live and raise their families. I want people to feel safe being outside and interacting with each other and for kids to be able to play and feel safe in their surroundings.*

### What does being a Police Officer mean to you?

*Being a role model, leading by example in the way we live our lives safely, placing a high value on family and human life. Helping others that can't help themselves. Putting people in contact with the right government offices to provide them the services they need. Treat people the way I would like to be treated unless they dictate otherwise, but strive to do so whenever possible. Try to be empathetic to a person's situation when possible. Enforcing rules of conduct and driving.*

### What do you like about being a Crime Prevention Officer?

*I enjoy the interaction I get to have with the public and neighborhood associations. Our unit gets to deal with the public in a more positive aspect, we are not dispatched to runs like the typical motor patrol officer. We deal with the public at neighborhood association meetings or public outreach functions that promote more communication about their concerns in the area where they live or work. This type of communication is different from when someone is a victim of a crime where one could be upset or angry, which can affect the mood of the officer that is interacting with them. Dealing with the public in a more positive role and having the time to listen and “brainstorm” some solutions to their problems is more fulfilling to me. We may be able to offer some solutions to the public or give them the contact information for the person or office that can help them.*

### What is your biggest concern in the neighborhoods you serve?

*Their feelings of safety in their neighborhood. I want them to feel comfortable to sit outside, walk their dogs, play with kids, or meet their neighbors.*

### What can neighbors do to decrease crime in their neighborhood?

*Be aware of their surroundings. Be mindful in their habits of locking doors on vehicles and their homes, you can each watch out for each other.*

*Learn more about the Crime Prevention Officers at [evansvillepolice.com/crime-prevention-unit](http://evansvillepolice.com/crime-prevention-unit).*

# EWSU Bill Relief Program

Since the last UNOE newsletter, the Evansville Water and Sewer Utility has increased the amount of savings each month from \$3 to \$10 for qualifying customers.

The Evansville Water and Sewer Utility (EWSU) is launching the Bill Relief Program July 1, 2022, to help income-eligible individuals and families in the community lighten the cost of their utility bill. Customers with a total household income of \$50,000 or less may qualify for assistance.

Customers with active city water service who apply for the program and qualify will receive a \$10 monthly credit applied to their account each month for a year. The credit offsets the 2022 water rate increase, which will be \$2.27 per month effective July 1st (assuming an average monthly water use of 5,000 gallons).

After one year, customers may have the opportunity to reapply for the program for an additional 12 months. Dollars not used for the utility bill relief credit will be allocated to provide assistance to income-eligible customer in disconnect status.

Visit [ewsu.com/BillRelief](https://ewsu.com/BillRelief) to apply



## Bill Relief Program

### Lighten the cost of your utility bill



The Evansville Water and Sewer Utility Bill Relief Program could save you money on your bill each month.



Households with a combined income of \$50,000 or less may qualify for assistance.



If you qualify, a \$10 credit will be applied to your account each month for one year.

Visit [ewsu.com/BillRelief](https://ewsu.com/BillRelief) to apply.

## *Neighbor to Neighbor*

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Evansville, IN 47713  
812-428-4243

Non-Profit Org.  
POSTAGE  
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Evansville, IN  
PERMIT NO. 1087

Return Service  
Requested

Cheryl Musgrave  
County Commissioner  
1 NW MLK Blvd, Room 305  
Evansville, IN 47708

To those submitting articles or information to be printed in the newsletter, it must be received by the Office by the 25th of the month to be published for the next month's newsletter.



If you'd prefer to receive this newsletter via email to aid in saving paper and postage, please send us an email request to: | [admin1@unoevansville.org](mailto:admin1@unoevansville.org)

UNOE Office Hours are:

**Monday - Thursday**  
**9:00am - 3:00pm**



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[Instagram.com](https://www.instagram.com)



[Pinterest.com](https://www.pinterest.com)



[LinkedIn.com](https://www.linkedin.com)

## UNOE General Membership Meeting

C.K. Newsome Community Center

Thursday, August 25th, 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Speaker: Emily Baxter,

Customer Outreach Representative for CenterPoint

