



Neighbor Power! A Gathering to Inspire Greater Indy Neighborhoods
Questions and Answers

Who is putting on the Neighbor Power! gathering?

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), the Great Indy Neighborhoods Initiatives (GINI), and several volunteer committees made up of community leaders, residents, and civic representatives.

Why are GINI and LISC putting on Neighbor Power!

By taking the GINI model of comprehensive community development to the next level through the gathering, we'll be able to connect more organizations and individuals to its successful methods. Now is the time—and this is the place. Through its work over the past three years, GINI has already become a model for comprehensive community development for other cities across America. The gathering will inspire even more Indianapolis neighborhoods to become better places to live, work, visit, and raise families—and make a great city even greater.

Why do Neighbor Power! now?

We see the gathering as an excellent way to spread the word about the power of comprehensive community development. Especially in today's economic climate, it is crucial for neighbors to see that they have the ability to work together to transform their neighborhoods and make their vision for the city become a reality.

When and where will it take place?

8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, October 17, 2009 at the University of Indianapolis. An awards program is also taking place on Friday, October 16, 2009 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the University of Indianapolis.

What are the Neighbor Power! awards all about?

These new awards will recognize the accomplishments of people improving Indianapolis neighborhoods through leadership, vision, and collaboration. The awards have three categories: Connecting Community, Building Local Economy, and Inspiring Places. Those eligible are groups of individuals, associations, or nonprofit organizations with projects completed in Marion County between January 2008 and June 2009.

How much does Neighbor Power! cost?

The cost of attendance is free to all participants!

Who will be attending?

More than 300 neighborhood residents, community group leaders, business owners, representatives of local nonprofits, corporate and philanthropic partners, and government officials are expected to be there.

What should I expect from Neighbor Power!?

Discussions and workshops focused on great ways we can team up to make our city an even better place to live, work, and play. These workshops will be neighbor-to-neighbor in nature, with local residents leading the way. In addition to these conversations on neighborhood issues, Neighbor Power! will also feature an awards program to recognize activities that are already working to improve our city.

What are the goals of the gathering?

- To foster a renewed understanding among neighborhood stakeholders of comprehensive community development, including an emphasis on resident engagement, collaboration, accountability, and quality-of-life planning.
- To recognize and reward people in community development and attract more who want to do this work.
- To expand the comprehensive community development approach into additional neighborhoods beyond the six initial demonstration neighborhoods.

- To showcase the quality-of-life plans in the current six GINI demonstration neighborhoods.

Is Neighbor Power! seeking sponsorship support?

Yes. We are offering sponsorship packages at multiple levels from \$100 to \$10,000. Contact Sara Vanslambrook at svanslambrook@lisc.org for more information.

If I wanted to volunteer to help with the gathering, whom would I contact?

Contact Shawn Thomas at sthomas@lisc.org.

Where can I get more information about Neighbor Power?

www.greatindyneighborhoods.org or call (317) 396-0588.

Are the organizers of Neighbor Power! concerned with using environmentally friendly approaches to putting on the gathering?

Yes, the committee is dedicated to making Neighbor Power! a green event, with as much attention as possible paid to the impact the conference has on our environment. We are also excited about the gathering as a vehicle for offering information about green approaches and helping neighbors make connections to further the green efforts in the city.

How will we know if Neighbor Power! was a success?

- When we see that our marketing efforts drew 300 participants from neighborhoods across the city to attend the gathering.
- Our workshop proposals will be high in quality and reflect diverse geography and comprehensive topics.
- Our awards will reflect high quality neighborhood work, represent diverse geography, and cover comprehensive topics.
- What we're doing will live on after the gathering, including a listing of best practices on the revamped www.greatindyneighborhoods.org Web site.

Will Neighbor Power! continue after this year?

We hope that the conference will become an annual event helping people across Indianapolis focus on the great things that happen when we work together to revitalize our Indianapolis neighborhoods.