

# Evansville Promise Zone

Third Round



## Lead Organization:

ECHO Housing Corporation

## Population:

22,257

## Poverty Rate:

39.03%

## Unemployment Rate:

12.86%

## Key Partners:

ECHO Community Health Care,  
City of Evansville  
Department of Metropolitan Development,  
Evansville Police Department,  
Housing Organizations  
United Serving Evansville,  
Vanderburgh County Health Department,  
Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation,  
4C of Southern Indiana,  
Ivy Technical Community College SW,  
School Community Council After School Coalition,  
Welborn Baptist Foundation,  
St. Mary's Health,  
Youth First Inc.

The Evansville Promise Zone encompasses a population of 22,245 residents in the city of Evansville, IN. The area's boundary spans across Veteran's Memorial Parkway and Waterworks Road (south and west) to Diamond Avenue (north) and Green River Road (east). The poverty rate is more than 39 percent, and up to 30 percent of the population has less than a high school diploma. Criminal activity in the area is a mounting concern, with the majority of the city's crimes taking place in Promise Zone neighborhoods.



Among the greatest needs are higher-wage employment, workforce development and housing, improved transit, physical/mental health and wellness and crime prevention. The community has strong assets, including housing supports, a nationally recognized community school partnership model, neighborhood associations, emerging economic development and social innovation.

The Promise Zone has a robust team of community partners, with ECHO Housing Corporation leading the collaborative effort as the head organization and the Department of Metropolitan Development as the lead partner. These organizations have aligned priority initiatives with six strategic goals:

- Increase Jobs
- Expand Economic Development
- Improve Educational Opportunities
- Reduce Violent Crime
- Promote Health and Access to Health Care
- Provide Access to Quality Affordable Housing

**“Federal partners in the Promise Zone initiative will find Evansville a strong partner in layering and leveraging strategic investments. We are seeking to create jobs and to generate significant new economic vitality—retooling our inner city neighborhoods and our downtown business district, which lies at the center of the Promise Zone area.”**

*Lloyd Winnecke, Evansville Mayor*