CENTER *for* CIVIC INNOVATION
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CCI Internship Program
Annual Report 2020

Note from CCI Director

This has been another exciting year for the Center for Civic Innovation summer internship program. We welcomed our two new internship program managers, Lauren Lounsbury in South Bend and José Chiquito in Elkhart, and we wished a relaxing retirement to Gary Gilot, a founding member of our program and assistant director of CCI. We also send congratulations to Zavion Herron of South Bend Riley High School as the Indiana Chamber of Commerce INTERNnet High School Intern of the Year. With COVID-19 having such a profound impact in our local community, nation, and around the world, we are grateful for the 53 interns who agreed to work virtually on 15 different projects this past summer, some in direct response to issues raised by the pandemic. Projects focused on improving access to healthy food, affordable housing, and WiFi service for low-income members of our community.

We also received our first funding through iNDustry Labs, a program under the Labs for Industry Futures and Transformation (LIFT) Network sponsored by the Lilly Foundation, aimed at enhancing the economic vitality of our region. With funding from the National Science Foundation, we are working with partners in Youngstown, OH and Erie, PA to begin exploring how our "community-engaged educational ecosystem model" could be replicated for the benefit of those communities as well. As always, we are very thankful for the support of our community partners, mentors, and sponsors who provide so much in so many ways to our talented interns.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jay Brockman, Director

This summer, interns in the South Bend and Elkhart programs worked virtually, some in direct response to issues raised by the pandemic.

The Center for Civic Innovation's (CCI) Internship Program connects local college and high school students and faculty with local stakeholders, including schools, businesses, nonprofits, and governments, to address issues ranging from safe and affordable housing to stormwater management. CCI brings together students from various disciplines, cities, and schools. They partner with local professionals, faculty, and community members to find innovative solutions to a variety of community identified issues in the South Bend-Elkhart area. In its sixth summer, the CCI Internship Program tackled a total of 15 projects in a remote learning environment.

53 Interns

32 college and 21 high school students were hired to work on community identified projects in the Elkhart – South Bend Region. Students worked for 7 weeks for 30 hours a week, totaling 11,130 hours of community engagement work.

15 Community Engaged Projects

32 female interns

One of our goals is to engage more women in STEM related disciplines.
This summer, women represented 60% of the Center for Civic Innovation intern team.

21 Under-represented Minorities (in STEM fields)

CCI INTERNSHIP PROGRAM
KEY STATISTICS 2020

The Food Information Network team is ready for work at a local pantry.

CCI Honors & Awards

For the third year, CCI presented the Bud Ahearn Leadership Award at the 2020 Final Presentations for both the Elkhart and South Bend locations. This annual award is named in honor of the late Joseph "Bud" Ahearn, distinguished Notre Dame alumnus and supporter of the CCI Internship Proram. Awardees exemplify Bud's principles of leadership, selflessness, service to others, and commitment to fostering meaningful relationships.

The inaugural Gary Gilot Award for Civil Service is named in honor of CCI Internship co-founder and current volunteer project mentor Gary Gilot. Awardees exemplify Gary's priniples of a heart for civil service, servant-leadership mindset, and doing things "with" and not "for" or "to" the community.

Bud Ahearn Leadership Award

Madison Ward — Elkhart Winner
- Hometown — Elkhart, Ind.
- Rising senior public relations major at Indiana University-South Bend
- Part of the Elkhart County Food Project team and Elkhart County River River Dam Sign sub-team

Emma Kirner — South Bend Winner
- Hometown —South Bend, Ind.
- Rising freshman studying neuroscience and behavior at the University of Notre Dame
- Part of the South Bend Safe and Healthy Housing Project team

Gary Gilot Civil Service Award

Elizabeth Nalliah — Elkhart Winner
- Hometown — Huntington, Ind.
- Rising sophomore at Goshen College majoring in environmental science
- Part of the Elkhart Recycling Analysis team and the Tolson Center Rain Garden Design Project design team

Sydney Granlund — South Bend Winner
- Hometown — South Bend, Ind.
- Rising senior majoring in environmental management at Indiana University
- Part of the dataMichiana Project team

Academic Year Courses and Capstone Projects

Complex Problem Solving in the Public Sphere
Dr. Jay Brockman and Dr. Danielle Wood

Community Based Leadership
Dr. Kara Boyles and Alicia Czarnecki

Elkhart Recap

In 2018, the CCI Internship Program piloted our community-engaged educational ecosystem model in Elkhart County as a part-time program. Now in its third year, the Elkhart program has expanded into a full-time 7-week program, tackling 6 projects.

Advanced Manufacturing
To address the issue of safe and affordable housing, CCI and the Commodore Homes Corporation partnered to increase the efficiency in the local production process of modular homes in the company's Goshen factory.

Elkhart County Food Data
CCI and the Elkhart County Food Council compiled and verified food asset locations via Google Maps in Elkhart County as part of a long-term effort to strategically connect the local food system.

Elkhart River Dam Sign
CCI and the Department of Public Works and Utilities designed a bilingual and informational sign incorporating the history of the low-head dam, now removed, and the benefits of its removal.

Internet in South Central
CCI and the Elkhart Community Schools (ECS) Department of Information Technology Service (ITS) partnered to investigate the potential to deliver a free or reduced price rate home WiFi service to low-income ECS students in South Central Elkhart.

Recycling Analysis
CCI, the Elkhart Environmental Center, the City of Elkhart, and Borden Waste Away partnered to build an informative bilingual website to educate Elkhart residents on proper recycling and waste disposal practices.

Tolson Center Rain Garden
CCI and the City of Elkhart's Department of Public Works and Utilities designed a garden and interpretive signage for the current retention pond area at the Tolson Center to beautify the site and improve drainage with native plants.

South Bend Recap

This summer 37 interns worked on 9 projects with more than 50 community mentors in the South Bend Region.

Safe and Healthy Housing
CCI partnered with the Notre Dame Lead Innovation team in researching and reviewing evidence based do it yourself (DIY) lead mitigation solutions from across the country. Interns conducted website review for 50 state health departments and 10 metropolitan health departments, scheduled and conducted interviews with 30+ lead departments to discuss state remediation strategies and lead control, and began a systematic literature review on best practices for lead DIY remediation strategies of 522 separate articles/studies.

CARE Network
CCI and Notre Dame faculty members Ron Metoyer and Ann-Marie Conrado partnered with local service providers to identify barriers to updating information and to provide innovative solutions to those barriers. Interns created an official report and presentation that included recommendations for addressing identified barriers.

Big Data
CCI worked with the City of South Bend's Department of Public Works to analyze

Thomas Coates, a Notre Dame engineering student and Advanced Manufacturing Intern, assesses waste at Commodore Homes.

the effectiveness of 2017-18 interventions made to the combined sewer systems. In addition to the data analysis project, this team also continued a beautification project started in 2019 in partnership with the Community Foundation of Saint Joseph County. Interns organized and designed a beautification plan including an educational sign design.

Food Information Network
To address the issue of limited access to healthy food options amongst vulnerable populations, CCI partnered with Notre Dame faculty, Purdue Extension, and Saint Joseph County Health Department to develop a network of healthy recipes using local food pantry data, which allows for customizable user specifications.

Southeast Neighborhood Marketing Analysis
CCI partnered with local community development corporation, 466 Works to research and recommend possible affordable housing plans in the area.

Wearable Devices Configuration
The Center for Civic Innovation partnered with Notre Dame faculty member Chris Poellabauer to configure a wearable device (specifically the Fitbit Versa 2) by utilizing its many sensors to assess falls and near falls in patients with Parkinson's Disease.

Urban Sustainability and Resiliency Project
Working with the City Forrester, CCI created a Non-Profit Business Plan as well as a Business Canvas that outline the details of maintaining and running the Native Tree Nurseries for a new business to take over.

Neighborhood Traffic Calming
In partnership with the City of South Bend's Engineering Department, interns identified community traffic calming needs in the Near West Side Neighborhood and recommended a phased traffic calming plan.

dataMichiana
As part of a collaboration with the Neighborhood Indicators Partnership, CCI partnered with Notre Dame faculty and community members to create a GIS Map that included useful data layers highlighting disparities related to housing mobility, graduation rates, and suspensions in South Bend.

Thank you to our partners!

City of South Bend ▪ enFocus ▪ City of Elkhart ▪ Elkhart Community Schools ▪ SOAR ▪ 466 Works ▪ South Bend Venues Parks & Arts ▪ EmNet ▪ ETHOS Innovation Center ▪ Riley High School ▪ South Bend Regional Chamber ▪ Elkhart Environmental Center▪ MACOG ▪ Charles Black Center ▪ Commodore Homes ▪ La Casa De Amistad ▪ Lang Lab

Funding for 2020 CCI Internship Program generously provided by:

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CCI VISION

Be a national model of innovation and learning for the common good within a community

CCI MISSION

"To promote the common good by building partnerships between Notre Dame faculty, staff, and community organizations that foster innovative research and educational programs."