



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND RURAL AFFAIRS
MAIN STREET
Main Street Monthly
A monthly publication from the Office of Community and Rural Affairs

Great Lakes Main Street Conference agenda announced



Have you reserved your spot for this year's inaugural Great Lakes Main Street Conference? We are excited to release [the agenda](#) for both days, August 19 and 20.

[Early bird registration](#) is still available through **May 1**. The cost is \$75 per person. Hurry and register at this reduced rate. After May 1, registration raises to \$100 per person. Registration includes attendance to the breakout and keynote sessions, as well as breakfast and refreshments.

A room block has been reserved at the Aloft Hotel in downtown South Bend for \$97 a night. Use [this link](#) to reserve your room at this price.

Through the generosity of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), registration to the Great Lakes Main Street Conference will be free for those organizations in a community in which IMPA serves. This is a \$100 per person value! Please contact [Mary Shaw](#) to learn more.



Golden Hoosier nominations are now being accepted

Nominations are now being accepted for this year's Golden Hoosier Awards. The award recognizes outstanding Indiana residents for their lifetime of service to their communities.

To be eligible for the Golden Hoosier Award, the nominee must currently be:

- An Indiana resident,
- Age 65 or older, and
- Have been a volunteer in the community for the past three years.

[Click here](#) to submit a nomination before May 17, 2019.

Competition added to the Great Lakes Main Street Conference

Important Dates

Friday, May 3 – CDBG Round 1 proposals are due

May 9 - 30 – [OCRA Regional Conferences](#) in six locations across Indiana

Friday, June 7 – Community Exchange in Brookville, more information to come

[View our full calendar.](#)

Download the Disaster Planning Presentation

Download a copy of Mary's Main Street Disaster Planning presentation from the Corydon Main Street Community Exchange below.



Where should you locate your business?

Five vital things to consider

You've heard it before: most startups fail.

Even with the most generous possible accounting, it's estimated that at least 70 percent of tech startups will eventually flame out.

Yet startups are raising more capital than ever before. When the dust settles, it's expected that venture capitalists will have pumped over \$100 billion into the U.S. market last year. With so much money available, why aren't startup success rates going up? Maybe because money isn't the problem.

Do you have an idea for a new Main Street revitalization project idea you would like to start? Are you positive it's something that will be a slam-dunk success? Then you won't want to miss Indiana Main Street's first annual **Main Street INspire Idea!** competition.

The goal of the *Main Street INspire Idea!* competition is to stimulate the Indiana Main Street network of communities and professionals to craft imaginative Main Street projects. The submitted projects should:

1. Connect to the community's vision to create vibrant, people-centered places to live, work and invest;
2. Support the four key areas Main Street programs have been using as a guiding framework for nearly 40 years: economic vitality, effective promotion, quality design and sustainable organization; and
3. Focus on highly visible changes, measuring progress and results that demonstrate the revitalization effort is implemented and succeeding.

Two \$5,000 minimum prizes to be distributed at judges' discretion and all finalist presenters will receive **free** registration to Great Lakes Main Street Conference.

More information is still to come on how to enter competition. Let the creativity flow and start forming an idea to enter.

Are you ready for Downtown Development Week?

We are already in the midst of planning for this year's [Downtown Development week](#), October 7-11. Throughout this week, we challenge all of our partners to celebrate their downtowns by sponsoring events, activities, festivals, parades, business promotions, restaurant deals or a combination of activities to highlight the best of their downtowns. We encourage you to begin planning now.



To help with your planning, details of this year's **Downtown Development Grants** will be announced soon. If you remember from last year, five activities were selected from 24 applications and each received \$1,000. All of the details will be announced on May 6, so be sure to stay tuned.

[READ MORE](#)



300+ reasons to hit the road for Visit Indiana Week

Travelers will be able to get discounts and/or free admission at more than 300 attractions and properties during Visit Indiana Week! The week features discounts every day from **May 5-11**. [State Parks Sunday](#), [Get Moving Monday](#), [Tasty Tuesday](#), [Wayback Wednesday](#), [Thirsty Thursday](#), [Family Fun Friday](#) and [Sweet Saturday](#) will see travelers enjoying discounted prices and free admission across the Hoosier State.

[READ MORE](#)



Be a part of a national network of Main Streets. Visit mainstreet.org or call (312) 619-5611 to join Main Street America.



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