



# THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT 2022

# IndyStar. | THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

## An original Hoosier storyteller.

The Indianapolis Star serves the greater good of Central Indiana by highlighting Hoosiers' shared humanity, connecting neighbors, elevating diverse voices, encouraging an informed, engaged community and holding truth to power.

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INDYSTAR'S WORK RECEIVED AN AVERAGE OF  
**18.5 MILLION** PAGEVIEWS EACH MONTH



## We're committed to Central Indiana

A piece of paper is attached to my desk under Scotch tape. Keys to our newsroom's success are written out. One of the four principles: "continuously re-evaluate."

So, the questions that sit with me daily shouldn't surprise: Did we do enough? Have we served Indianapolis' interests, told our collective story and been true to serving the greater good?

In 2022, I think so. As I look through the work done – highlighted here in our inaugural community impact report – I am pleased.

We see our newsroom mission as a service. Some days, living up to that expectation is hard with a haze of seemingly endless breaking news. We also know there are beautiful stories that we simply ran out of bandwidth to tell.

The work featured in this report is a reminder of the difference good journalism can make and the great heights achieved at IndyStar, day in and day out. Like accountability reporting on underutilized red flag laws, in-depth examinations of the special legislative session where Indiana lawmakers addressed abortion access, a narrative on a Vietnam War veteran who never had his heroism recognized until we told his story.

IndyStar always has Indianapolis' best interests front of mind. But there is more to do. More stories to tell, more accountability to be sought and more service journalism needed across Central Indiana.

We continue to adapt and build on the great work our organization has done for nearly 120 years. Our newsroom leadership presses to find a path to sustainability in a challenging industry. This includes more grant- and community-funded reporting positions.

Your support has helped make us one of the country's best newsrooms. We will continue that tradition in 2023.

**Bro Krift**  
Executive editor, The Indianapolis Star





## These IndyStar stories made a difference for Hoosiers in 2022

Holly V. Hays INDYSTAR | USA TODAY NETWORK

**A**t IndyStar, we don't shy away from difficult topics. We know the responsibility afforded us by the platform we've built over the last century, and we're here to serve the greater good of Central Indiana.

In the past year, our journalists dove deep into issues like gun control, abortion access and the eviction crisis. We also highlighted the ways residents of a historic neighborhood pushed to honor that legacy amid the city's plans for redevelopment, told the story of a wartime hero who never got his due and shared snapshots of life across the city by reporting from barbershops, locally owned restaurants and houses of worship.

While often serious in nature, our work has inspired kindness — readers have reached out to pay for hotel rooms, offered to build accessible ramps, donated tens of thousands of dollars to help youth-serving nonprofits amid the fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic.

That's the kind of impact we work for. IndyStar has compiled its first Community Impact Report not as a pat on the back, but as a reminder to us all that strong, local journalism is essential to our community because of its potential to change lives.

IndyStar, as part of the USA TODAY Network, defines impact as real-world change inspired by our journalism. We track 12 types of impact, including direct benefits to our sources — think readers donating to pay rent for someone on the brink of homelessness — policy changes, new legislation or government investigations.

We believe in this work because we want to make our city a better, more equitable place for everyone to call home.

The following are just a few examples of how IndyStar journalism made a meaningful difference for Hoosiers in 2022.

### Contact us

#### Mailing address

130 S. Meridian St.,  
Indianapolis, IN 46225

#### Customer Service

1-888-357-7827

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Follow us on Facebook,  
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The most secure way to  
send us information is via  
U.S. Mail.

#### OPPOSITE PAGE

Isaias Monegro-Lewis  
plays at Westminster  
Neighborhood Services,  
Nov. 18, 2021. The agency  
was featured in the 2021  
Season for Sharing  
campaign, which raised  
\$120,000 to support  
nonprofits in 2022.

**CHRISTINE TANNOUS/  
INDYSTAR**



## Marion County changes Red Flag practices after IndyStar investigation

Star journalists honored as Pulitzer finalists



**Tony Cook**  
Investigative reporter



**Johnny Magdaleno**  
Courts reporter



**Michelle Pemberton**  
Visual journalist

In the wake of an April 2021 shooting at an Indianapolis FedEx facility, IndyStar found that as gun violence increased, police and prosecutors failed to file over 100 red flag cases, some of which may have prevented at least 14 deaths and eight injuries.

This investigation was named among finalists for the 2022 Pulitzer Prize in Local Reporting, the Star's second Pulitzer recognition in as many years.

In the year since the shooting, Marion County has shifted its policies and practices. In the past, police were sending red flag cases to the prosecutor's office for an initial review. Now police are skipping the prosecutor's office and submitting them directly to the courts.

Since IndyStar began reporting on problems with the red flag law:

- More than 90% of Indianapolis police gun seizures have resulted in red flag court filings, as opposed to just 36% previously.
- Cases are being filed in less than three days on average, as opposed to an average of 27 days previously, and they're being resolved in a matter of weeks as opposed to months or years.
- Dozens of people have been found dangerous, meaning they are prohibited from accessing firearms and their names have been reported to the FBI's national background check system. Not a single person had been reported to the background check system prior to IndyStar's reporting.

Additionally, victims of the FedEx shooting sent a



claim notice to the city seeking \$2.1 million because of the failure of police and prosecutors to pursue a red flag case against the gunman. The victims cited IndyStar's coverage in their claim letter.

The impact is likely to continue. Red flag failures reported by IndyStar played a significant role in the 2022 Marion County prosecutor election. Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett and Gov. Eric Holcomb have said they are looking into the failures with an eye toward possible improvements.

Revelations about the failures in the FedEx shooting have also played a role in the national dialogue about red flag laws, factoring heavily into a



U.S. Senate hearing in April 2021. The U.S. Department of Justice also issued model red flag legislation in June 2021 that addresses some of the flaws exposed in IndyStar's early reporting.

**LEFT:** The parents of Jill Phipps, Thomas and Brenda Lambach, hold a photo of their daughter taken on her wedding day. Phipps was killed by her husband after red flag gun laws failed to protect her.

**TOP:** Mary Weisert, the widow of John Weisert, 74, who was among eight killed in a shooting at the FedEx Ground facility, rocks on a swing at her Indiana home.

**BOTTOM:** Sheila Hole, mother of the FedEx shooter, is photographed in Indianapolis.

**MICHELLE PEMBERTON/INDYSTAR**







KEEP YOUR ROSARIES OFF HER OVARIES!

KEEP YOUR RELIGION OFF MY BODY

WHY ARE POLITICIANS MAKING DECISIONS

STOP THE BANS. ABORTION ACCESS FOR ALL

ABORTION IS HEALTHCARE

STOP THE BAN

IT'S A MAN'S WORLD UNLESS WE VOTE

ABORTION = HEALTHCARE

ABOLISH SCOTUS

Your representatives will ALWAYS have access to safe abortions







## Account of pregnant 10-year-old shapes state, national discussions of abortion access

In July, IndyStar published a story about people crossing state lines to come to Indiana to undergo abortions. Our reporting sparked a national discussion about access to the procedure and influenced state legislators' approach to the issue.

The lead anecdote of our story quoted Dr. Caitlin Bernard, a local obstetrician and gynecologist who shared that she had provided an abortion to a 10-year-old girl

from Ohio who had come to Indiana for the procedure.

The story sparked a furor on both sides of the abortion debate: Anti-abortion activists as well as Fox News personalities questioned its veracity while abortion-rights supporters — including President Joe Biden — used it as fodder to demonstrate the impact of tightening abortion restrictions. The account was accurate. In partnership with colleagues



**PREVIOUS PAGES:** Demonstrators protest outside Senate chambers before the start of the special session, July 30, at the Indiana Statehouse. **JENNA WATSON/INDYSTAR**

**OPPOSITE PAGE:** Luke Howard, of Avon, holds a cross over the Love them Both Rally hosted by Right to Life Indiana at the Statehouse, July 26. **KELLY WILKINSON/INDYSTAR**

**TOP:** Abortion-rights and anti-abortion supporters gathered at the Statehouse to protest during the special legislative session, July 25.

**MICHELLE PEMBERTON/INDYSTAR**

**BOTTOM:** Dr. Caitlin Bernard speaks during a June 25 abortion rights rally at the Statehouse.

**JENNA WATSON/INDYSTAR**

at the Columbus Dispatch, also part of the USA TODAY Network, follow-up stories verified the existence of the girl as well as the man charged with her rape.

In Indiana, the final abortion legislation

passed a few weeks later in a special session gave more leeway to pregnant patients younger than 16. Before the story ran, there had been no discussion among legislators as to whether younger patients should access to the procedure.





## An unsung Vietnam War veteran is finally recognized for heroic battlefield actions

Indianapolis resident Fred Norris proudly served his country during the Vietnam War. At 17, Norris joined the service and was one of the first Marines in Vietnam. He would save a downed helicopter pilot, running from his position through enemy fire, but his bravery was never recognized.

Norris shared with visual journalist Mykal McEldowney glimpses of his life — how he grew up terrified of his violent father, survived poverty, overcame a severe stutter and joined the Marines.

Norris told the story of the day he rescued the pilot, slogging through the mud to reach the man as bullets whizzed by his ears.

“The Marine Corps stresses ‘no man left behind,’” Norris said. “But the Bible also stresses that there is no greater gift than a man who is willing to give his life to save somebody else.”

IndyStar spent months digging, working to verify the facts surrounding Norris' incredible life. Shortly after the piece published, representatives from the city of Indianapolis and the state of Indiana reached out to ask how they could help Norris in receiving the medals he deserves. Local organizations reached out to offer their services as well, such as building a free



wheelchair ramp or offering rides to the Veterans Administration hospital.

Unfortunately, Norris died Aug. 24, before any medals could be awarded.

“Even though he didn't get recognized by man, God seen it,” his brother, the Rev. Louis Norris, told IndyStar. “And when God recognizes and sees things, he rewards you.”

**OPPOSITE PAGE:** Fred Norris, a Vietnam War veteran, sits in a wheelchair in his living room. At 17, Norris went into the service and was one of the first Marines in Vietnam.

**ABOVE:** A 17-year-old Norris is pictured inside a Vietnam War memorial book that sits on his coffee table inside his Indianapolis home.

**MYKAL MCELLOWNEY/INDYSTAR**



## Job offer rescinded after IndyStar exposes state official's crass behavior

After IndyStar learned of the sudden resignation of Indiana's Bureau of Motor Vehicles commissioner, Peter Lacy, reporters dove into an investigation that revealed the departure came one day after he attended a staff meeting apparently drunk.

They also uncovered a long history of sexually inappropriate comments and outbursts of anger that created a toxic environment for employees, especially women. Hours after the story published, Virginia rescinded an offer to hire him to head that state's Department of Motor Vehicles.

## State cites Indianapolis nursing home, family members file lawsuit

Inspectors with the Indiana Department of Health cited a troubled nursing home on the south side of Indianapolis after an IndyStar investigation used federal data to show the facility violated federal staffing requirements without consequence and had amassed over \$117,000 in state health department fines in one year.

The family of an 80-year-old resident who was raped and killed at Homestead

Healthcare Center also filed a lawsuit against the nursing home and its government owner, claiming the tragedy was the "inevitable result" of poor staffing and horrible conditions at the facility.

The lawsuit drew heavily on IndyStar's reporting, which found the nursing home ranked among the worst in the nation for staffing and had 30 police runs over 14 months for thefts, assaults, drug investigations and other problems.

## Denomination defrocks West Lafayette pastor after IndyStar probe

Our December 2021 investigation into allegations of child sex abuse being mishandled at a West Lafayette church resulted in the suspensions of Pastor Jared Olivetti and much of the church's elder board and, eventually, the loss of Olivetti's ordination.

Our investigation found that Olivetti was aware of allegations that his young relative had been sexually harassing or abusing young children in the congregation at Immanuel Reformed Presbyterian Church for months before the congregation was notified, and that the leadership at the church had abused the denominational structure to allow Olivetti to oversee the investigation into his own family member. Following our investigation, Olivetti and the three



remaining members of his elder board resigned. Following ecclesiastical trials in early 2022, the elders were suspended from service and Olivetti was defrocked.

## Man credits IndyStar reporting with saving his life

Three years after we published a story about 17-year-old who died from a little-known condition called cannabinoid hyperemesis syndrome, which causes recurrent, severe

nausea and vomiting, we received a Facebook message from a young man in Arkansas who said he read the story and, like the young man we featured, also struggled with the condition.

The man said that reading the story helped him move beyond denial and get the help he needed to save his life.

JJ and Maggy Nance, former members of Immanuel Reformed Presbyterian Church, told IndyStar in January that they still struggle with the fallout of the abuse scandal in their congregation. The Nances, who did not have victims in their family, left the church after confronting leaders about the treatment of those affected. **NIKOS FRAZIER/FOR INDYSTAR**





## State bans negligent landlord after IndyStar reports of mismanagement

In late 2021, IndyStar reporting found that apartment giant JPC Affordable Housing and its affiliate Berkley Commons LLC were part of a web of companies responsible for more than 8,300 housing violations from 2015–21. Their housing complexes, which at one point included Lakeside Pointe, in Nora, were allowed to fall into severe disrepair. By summer 2022, the landlord had failed to

pay \$1.7 million in utility bills, putting residents at 1,400 apartments across the city in jeopardy of losing their water service.

This spring, the city of Indianapolis, the Indiana Attorney General's Office and utility provider Citizens Energy Group sued the housing company. Eventually, the landlord was banned from operating in the state for seven years.

Joe Rinah looks at a crack in a window of her parents' apartment at Lakeside Pointe. The property management company, Aloft Management, and the owners of the apartment complex, Fox Lake AHF, have since been banned from operating in the state.

**KELLY WILKINSON/INDYSTAR**

## Purdue's Back a Boiler program suspended after legality questioned

Following IndyStar's reporting on Back a Boiler, Purdue University's income share agreement program, the controversial program was put on pause.

IndyStar wrote that, in the agreements, students pledged a share of their future income for a set length of time. But, because of extraordinarily high interest rates and astronomical pre-payment penalties, many borrowers paid back over two and a half times what they originally borrowed.

IndyStar spoke to multiple current and former students who said they felt misled by their university, showing the human impact of a financial program that is seemingly making it more affordable for students to go to school, but doing the opposite.

The program, championed by outgoing University President Mitch Daniels, came under fire for practices that an advocacy group alleged were illegal. About a month after our first story was published, a message was posted quietly to the university's website said the program is unavailable for the 2022–23 academic year.

It's unclear what this means for the students that had already tied their salaries to these agreements. Purdue did not respond

to a request for comment but has denied any allegations of wrongdoing.

## NBA agrees to pensions after IndyStar's work

The IndyStar has been covering the struggles of former American Basketball Association players for years as they fought for financial support from the NBA through the help of the Dropping Dimes Foundation.

Wonderful storytelling and dogged reporting highlighted the hardships of these players. In June, IndyStar shared a chilling photo taken of Sam Smith, a former ABA champion with the Utah Stars, just before his May 18 death. He'd spent decades of his life fighting for pensions owed to himself and other former ABA players, all now in their 60s, 70s and 80s. While some, like Smith, have been able to afford their basic needs, others have fallen into homelessness and poverty. Previous IndyStar reporting revealed a majority of those former players who were struggling are Black.

Because many ABA players didn't make it to the NBA after the leagues merged, they were ineligible for NBA pensions.

The depth and impact of our reporting was clear when the NBA voted to give players pensions and gave IndyStar the chance to break the news. The vote will be life-changing for players and their families.







## Advocates call on city to address Indianapolis Housing Agency issues

IndyStar spoke to a dozen Indianapolis Housing Agency and Section 8 tenants as well as Marcia Lewis, the interim executive director tasked with turning the agency around, and found a clear pattern of neglect, driven by deep-rooted financial and structural problems.

For example, an IndyStar analysis of agency-provided data found:

- On April 23, there were 242 open emergency work orders at Lugar Tower despite the agency receiving more than 100% of rent dollars owed for the month at the property.
- At the nine public housing sites managed by the agency, there were 4,731 open emergency work orders as of the same date, according to agency data.
- There were also 11,871 open work orders as of the same date.

IndyStar's investigation led to 25 community advocates writing a June 13 letter to the mayor and executive director of the agency calling for them to address the problems. Our story was also quoted in the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana's 2022 State of Fair Housing in Indiana report on Marion County renters.

## IndyStar readers rally in donating to homeless family amid eviction crisis

During the second wave of the eviction crisis, IndyStar shared the story of Akiela Atkinson, Johnny Rivers and their toddler, who were facing homelessness after being evicted. Atkinson, who held multiple jobs prior to giving birth to their daughter, had to quit working after being unable to find affordable child care. The family fell behind on rent and soon were scraping together money to rent a motel room for the night. When they couldn't, the family slept in their 2008 Ford Fusion.

They were among thousands of Hoosier renters in free fall, facing eviction and on the brink of homelessness, as rental assistance dollars dried up, renters were being hit by record high rent hikes, and the eviction moratorium was no more. An IUPUI report found there were 6.7 eviction filings for every 100 rental households in the first six months of this year.

Dozens of IndyStar readers rallied in support of Atkinson and her family and donated several hundred dollars to help them as they navigated the continued unknown. Additionally, the nonprofit Mary Rigg Neighborhood Center reached out to pay for the family's hotel room for a week.



## Honoring the legacies of John Hardrick and the Norwood neighborhood

Artist and historian Kaila Austin told IndyStar about a lost Crispus Attucks mural painted by John Hardrick, an artist whose legacy she wanted honored in Norwood, the former Freetown on the city's southeast side where he grew up.

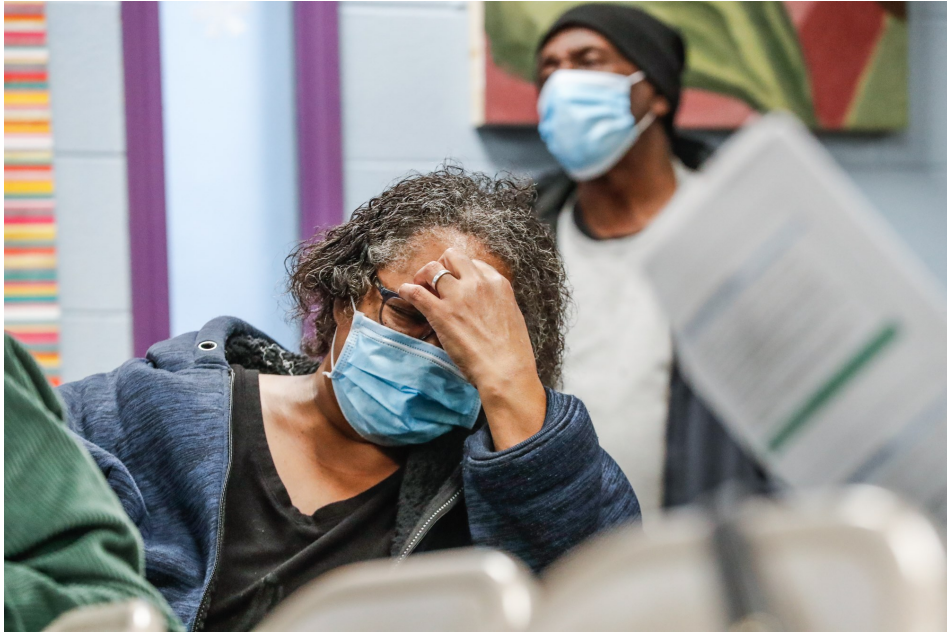
Norwood has dealt with a number of issues, including fighting the development of

a morgue and more from the nearby justice complex. Following our reporting this year on the city's plans for the land and the community's outrage, city officials said they would no longer seek to locate a morgue there and would instead look into ways to help residents seek official recognition as a historical area.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 22**

Most of the belongings of Akiela Atkinson and Johnny Rivers sit stacked on the sides of their west-side hotel room. The two, alongside their 1-year-old daughter, Ajhonaiste Rivers, were paying \$80 per night to stay at the hotel. Following our reporting, IndyStar readers rallied and helped pay for at least a week's stay at the hotel. **MYKAL MCELLOWNEY/INDYSTAR**





**OPPOSITE PAGE:** A self-portrait painted by world-renowned artist John Hardrick.  
**MICHELLE PEMBERTON/INDYSTAR**

**TOP LEFT:** Flinora Frazier, granddaughter of Penick Chapel AME Zion Church founder, the Rev. Sidney Penick, is photographed at the Norwood church, founded in 1889.  
**MICHELLE PEMBERTON/INDYSTAR**

**TOP RIGHT:** Kaila Austin has been working with Norwood residents to compile their history, preserve it and celebrate it.  
**BRANDON DRENON/INDYSTAR**

**BOTTOM:** Norwood resident Margo Holiman reacts to a proposed morgue and forensics lab in the historic neighborhood during a March meeting with city officials.  
**MICHELLE PEMBERTON/INDYSTAR**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20**

Residents told IndyStar they'd like to have a community center and a place that honors Hardrick and imagines what his lost mural might have looked like. At the same time, the Hardrick family had been looking for ways to honor his legacy.

After our story published, the Hardrick

family connected with Austin, the artist and historian, and plans are in the works to find a place and way to celebrate him, hopefully in Norwood.





## IndyStar awards \$120,000 to local nonprofits serving families in need

IndyStar readers and the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust gave over \$114,000 to support the 2021 Season for Sharing campaign, which harnesses the power of local journalism to serve Central Indiana youth in need. Through their donations and a gift of our own, we awarded \$120,000 in grants to organizations serving vulnerable families in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Awards were determined and distributed in spring 2022. Season for Sharing grants supported the following projects:

**Asante Art Institute of Indianapolis'** mission is to engage youth with art to encourage confidence and cultural awareness. This \$10,000 grant supported a social-emotional learning program for youth ages 12-18 to build self-esteem as they navigate the digital world.

**Brightwood Community Center** offers programming to youth ages 8-12. This \$15,000 grant helped buy a van to transport participants.

**Christel House Academy** seeks to provide equitable and holistic educational opportunities. This \$7,000 grant supported their partnership with Early Learning Indiana to create a care option for the parents with children as they take classes or participate in programs at the Manual campus.

**DREAM Alive** provides mentoring and career planning to IPS students in grades 7-12 with the goal of breaking the poverty cycle. This \$10,000 grant provided support for transportation costs for career exposure trips, programming, staff training and volunteer development.

**Dyslexia Institute of Indiana** serves Hoosiers with dyslexia. This \$11,000 grant supported the Ready, Set, READ program, which provided participating students with free tutoring, with an emphasis on reaching students of color and those from low-income families.

**Grassroot Projects** provides low-barrier access to essential items such as food, school supplies and clothing to immigrants, refugees and the undocumented. This \$15,000 grant helped them pay a coordinator to recruit and manage volunteers and grow outreach.

**Indy Hunger Network** is a collaborative of organizations working to increase nutritional food

access. This \$7,000 grant helped provide cooking and nutrition classes to kids, adults and families.

**Kids' Voice of Indiana** provides child advocacy and family services to children impacted by the child welfare and judicial systems. This \$5,000 grant supported programming to help older foster youth transition out of the welfare system and into independent adulthood.

**LifeSmart Youth** works to address substance use disorder among youth, particularly in Black and brown communities. This \$15,000 grant helped the organization expand offerings to Crispus Attucks High School and Outreach, a nonprofit working with youth experiencing homelessness.

**Murphy Mentoring Group** provides services and mentorship to youth and families. This \$5,000 grant supported the creation of The Respite House, which offers support to youth diagnosed with mental illnesses while their families rest.

**Brightlane Learning** provides tutoring and academic support to K-12 students who are or have recently experienced homelessness. This \$15,000 grant supported services and expansion in up to 11 locations.

**SHeroes Inc.** seeks to decrease the rate of drowning deaths by providing swim lessons to children ages 5-18, prioritizing youth from BIPOC communities. This \$5,000 grant supported the organization as it expanded the swim class from a summer camp to a year-round training workshop.

**OPPOSITE PAGE:** Crystal Norris and her son, Ivan, at Dayspring Center, Dec. 2, 2021. They'd been at the agency, which was featured in the 2021 Season for Sharing campaign, for seven months while awaiting permanent housing. **CHRISTINE TANNOUS/INDYSTAR**





### The 317 Project continues to tell Indianapolis' stories

Launched in 2021, IndyStar's 317 Project aims to tell slice-of-life stories from all of Indianapolis' 200+ unique neighborhoods, in 317 words or less. In 2022, we told 51 stories from across Marion County, meeting Hoosiers at barber shops, cemeteries, parks and cafés and sharing glimpses of their worlds. We also did a special series in May to celebrate Speedway ahead of the Indianapolis 500.

You can read all of our 317 Project stories at [bit.ly/3jrQAVn](https://bit.ly/3jrQAVn).



**TOP:** Antonio Patton (left), organizer of "Barbershop Talks," leads a discussion on gun violence and social media inside Mo's Barbershop on the city's east side. **BOTTOM:** Sareena Kheiri, 10, places a star on her family's Ramadan countdown calendar.

**MYKAL MCELLOWNEY/INDYSTAR**

## To our funders and subscribers: Thank you

**Holly V. Hays** INDYSTAR | USA TODAY NETWORK

Philanthropy has been supporting local news for years, and at IndyStar we've realized there's tremendous potential for us to partner with other public service organizations to achieve our shared goals — making sure our neighbors are safe, informed and have the tools they need to thrive.

Thanks to our partnership with national programs like Report for America and local funders like the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust, our team is positioned to do even more of this essential work in 2023.

### Report for America

Caroline Beck joined IndyStar in June to cover K-12 education in Marion County township schools. A native of Indianapolis — she graduated from North Central High School — she's hit the ground



**Caroline Beck**

running and will continue covering the issues that most affect educators and families in these districts.

To support Caroline's work, visit [indystar.com/rfa](https://indystar.com/rfa). You can also donate by check, payable to "The GroundTruth Project." Send it to Report for America, IndyStar, c/o The GroundTruth Project, Lockbox Services, 9450 SW Gemini Drive, PMB 46837, Beaverton, OR, 97008. Please put IndyStar/Report for America in the memo line.

### Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust



**Karl Schneider and Sarah Bowman**

Karl Schneider joined IndyStar in the spring, completing our duo of reporters whose work is supported by the Pulliam Charitable Trust. Together, he and Sarah Bowman have covered Hoosier farming, endangered species, legislation impacting the state's wetlands and how the cost of fossil fuels impacts consumers across Indiana.

### To our subscribers

We wouldn't be IndyStar without you. We do this work because we care about you and our community. Thank you for believing in and supporting local news.

### A special thanks

We owe a tremendous amount of credit and gratitude to our colleagues at The Detroit Free Press and The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel for inspiring and encouraging the creation of this report.



## Newsroom directory

### Executive Leadership

**Bro Krift** | Executive editor  
**Cindi Andrews** | Senior news director

### Newsroom Leadership

**Oseye Boyd** | Public engagement editor  
**Tim Evans** | Investigations editor  
**Max Gersh** | Senior visuals editor  
**Matthew Glenesk** | Sports content editor

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**Isaiah Johnson** | Social media strategist  
**Joe Mutascio** | Digital strategy manager

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**Alexandria Burris** | Investigative reporter

### News

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**Caroline Beck** | Township education reporter  
**Ko Lyn Cheang** | City hall reporter  
**Kayla Dwyer** | Transportation reporter  
**Rachel Fradette** | Suburban education reporter  
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**Kristine Phillips** | Investigative reporter  
**Karl Schneider** | Environment reporter

**Cheryl Jackson** | Trending reporter  
**Johnny Magdaleno** | Courts reporter  
**Sarah Nelson** | Public safety reporter  
**Claire Rafford** | Business reporter  
**Shari Rudavsky** | Health and medicine reporter  
**John Tufts** | General assignment reporter

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**Domenica Bongiovanni** | Arts and creativity reporter

### Sports

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**Dana Hunsinger Benbow** | Sports enterprise reporter  
**Nathan Brown** | Motorsports Insider  
**Dustin Dopirak** | Pacers Insider  
**Gregg Doyel** | Columnist

**Joel A. Erickson** | Colts Insider  
**Akeem Glaspie** | Butler Insider  
**Brian Haenchen** | High School Sports Insider  
**Scott Horner** | Sports reporter and producer  
**Kyle Neddenriep** | High School Sports Insider  
**Zach Osterman** | IU Insider

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**Grace Hollars** | Visual journalist  
**Mykal McEldowney** | Visual journalist  
**Michelle Pemberton** | Visual journalist

**Robert Scheer** | Visual journalist  
**Jenna Watson** | Visual journalist  
**Kelly Wilkinson** | Visual journalist

### Administrative

**Kim Mitchell** | Administrative manager/news operations



**LEFT:** Investigative reporter Alexandria Burris interviews Diane Hart-Dawson, CEO of the Decatur County Family YMCA in Greensburg, for a story about the MakeMyMove initiative. **MIDDLE:** Health and medicine reporter Shari Rudavsky interviews Liz Linden, vice president and chief nursing officer for the IU Health Adult Academic Health Center Hospitals, inside IU Health Methodist during a COVID-19 surge early in 2022. **RIGHT:** City hall reporter Ko Lyn Cheang sits with Akiela Atkinson and her daughter, Ajhonaiste Rivers, outside a west-side hotel. **MYKAL MCELDOWNEY/INDYSTAR**



**IndyStar.**  
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

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since 1903.

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