

PROGRAM OVERVIEW: The FORT-ify Neighborhood Accelerator was designed by the City of Fort Wayne’s Neighborhood Planning & Activation Workgroup (NPAW) for neighborhood leaders who want to take their efforts to the next level by 1) building their knowledge and skillsets in key areas, 2) obtaining access to mentoring and support from City staff, and 3) working alongside other neighborhood associations. Accelerator participants will take part in monthly in-person workshops, work with city staff to develop a Quick Action Plan (QAP), and complete hands-on activities between workshop sessions to put what they’re learning into practice in their neighborhoods.

The key areas include:

- Community Listening & Asset Based Approaches
- Governance and Succession
- Civic Engagement
- Fundraising & Grant Writing

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 11:59 pm, Wednesday, January 31st

Applications can be submitted by using the online form or by completing the PDF application form and emailing it to rena.bradley@cityoffortwayne.org. Both the online and PDF forms can be found on our website at www.fortwayneneighborhoods.org.

ELIGIBILITY: Fort-ify is open to resident-led Neighborhood Associations registered on the City of Fort Wayne’s Neighborhood Association Page.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE & TIMELINE: Fortify is organized into workshops, hands-on learning activities and coaching sessions. Workshops will last about 4 hours and take place once a month in April, May, June, and July. Coaching sessions/ hands on activities will take place in between workshops each month.

- **November**– Applications open
- **January**- Applications close – January 31st
- **February**- Participants notified if they were accepted
- **April- August**– Workshops and Activities are held...
 - April 13th (8:30 am – 1:00 pm)
 - May 11th (8:30 am – 1:00 pm)
 - June 8th (8:30 am – 1:00 pm)
 - July 13th (8:30 am – 1:00 pm)
- **July/ August** – Associations Host Block Parties
- **September** – Graduation/ Celebration
- **October**- Funding Applications due