

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MARCH 30, 2023**

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**Housing Opportunities and Northwest Indiana Community Action  
Explore Possible Merger**

Local nonprofits evaluate benefits of joining forces

VALPARAISO—Northwest Indiana Community Action (NWICA) and Housing Opportunities, Inc. have entered an exploratory phase to consider the benefits of a merger. As of this release, neither organizations' board of directors has voted on final details for a merger.

According to NWICA and Housing Opportunities leadership, both organizations are financially stable and healthy, with no financial concerns for either entity. The impetus for investigating a union lies in leveraging the resources, funding, and network of each organization to better serve the community through a more holistic perspective. "Through the support of our donors and the community Housing Opportunities is stronger than ever," said Housing Opportunities CEO Jordan Stanfill. "We are carefully evaluating a new, integrated approach to provide additional services and resources to our clients." NWICA offers a variety of services that could seamlessly integrate with Housing Opportunities core services, including utility assistance, a housing choice voucher program, asset building and financial literacy, family self-sufficiency program, individual development accounts, weatherization, information and referral services, and more.

"Combining our efforts improves the effectiveness of both organizations as we pursue a shared vision for flourishing communities. This union, which is supported by our funders and industry leaders, enables deeper and wider impact across Northwest Indiana," said NWICA CEO Jennifer Trowbridge.

"The potential of deepening our collaboration with NWICA would empower and position us to do so much more," said Stanfill. "We are grateful for the support of our donors and the community. We invite you to join us as we double down on our missions to resolve and prevent homelessness and ensure that people experiencing housing and financial hardship will find opportunities, resources, and respect."