



PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE

ANNUAL REPORT 2018–2019

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

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MISSION STATEMENT

To produce unbiased, high-quality research, analyses, and policy guidance to promote positive change and improve the quality of life in communities across Indiana and the nation.

VALUE PROPOSITION

With no agenda other than helping leaders, citizens, businesses, and organizations solve problems, seize opportunities, and effect positive change, our expert team can address a wide range of issues and deliver data and insights needed to make informed decisions.

WORK WITH US

PPI offers policy analysis, program evaluation, dialogue facilitation, and long-term planning to clients from the public, private, civic, academic, and nonprofit sectors. We combine academic resources and marketplace experience to identify challenges and opportunities, gather data, and uncover best practices to walk our clients through the decision-making process—all without bias or agenda.

A Message from the Director



I am pleased to present this second annual report of the Indiana University Public Policy Institute, covering notable activities, accomplishments, and organizational improvements for the 2018–2019 fiscal year (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019).

It is our great honor to announce a new chapter in our school's 47-year history. SPEA has become the Paul H. O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, or the O'Neill School, in honor of former

Secretary of the U.S. Treasury and alumnus Paul H. O'Neill. Also, on August 1 we welcomed our fifth dean of the O'Neill School, Dr. Siân Mooney.

It was a very successful year, marked by several important accomplishments.

First, grant and contract revenue increased more than 24 percent from last year, resulting in PPI's grant and contract revenue more than doubling since the end of FY 2017.

Second, PPI established the Center for Research on Inclusion and Social Policy, led by Dr. Breanca Merritt. CRISP examines systemic issues at the intersection of social policy and equity, and helps leaders and residents make informed decisions about those issues.

Third, our Center for Criminal Justice Research changed its name to the Center for Health and Justice Research to reflect its research focus on the intersection of health and social needs and the criminal justice system.

Finally, we employed 17 students, both undergraduate and graduate, with six finding full-time employment immediately after graduation.

We are pleased to welcome several new Advisory Board members, including Claudia Cummings, Joanna Taft, and John Fernandez.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at tguevara@iu.edu or by phone at 812-855-2627.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Guevara". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Tom Guevara
Director, IU Public Policy Institute

History of the Institute

The Indiana University Public Policy Institute provides data-driven applied research, analysis, and guidance that is objective, insightful, and nonpartisan. PPI was established in 1992 as the Center for Urban Policy and the Environment with the mission of leading applied research through IU's O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. In 2008, the administration and researchers of CUPE became the staff of the IU Public Policy Institute, established by Indiana University as an umbrella organization for research centers affiliated with the school.

The Center for Criminal Justice Research, also created in 2008, was established to reflect PPI's growing expertise in public safety issues. CCJR was renamed the Center for Health and Justice Research in 2018 and continues to work with public safety agencies and social services organizations to conduct impartial applied research on criminal justice and public health and safety issues.

In early 2019, the Center for Research on Inclusion and Social Policy was created to examine systemic issues at the intersection of social policy and equity, and help leaders and residents make informed decisions about those issues. The mission of CRISP is to analyze and disseminate community-relevant research about social disparities and complex policy issues.

PPI also houses the Center for Civic Literacy, which examines the causes and effects of Americans' low levels of civic knowledge. It promotes tools to help educators and others improve civic understanding. Additionally, the Indiana Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations facilitates communication and cooperation between federal, state, and local units of government to improve services for Indiana citizens.

PPI Team

Center Directors

- Brad Ray, Director, Center for Health and Justice Research, Associate Professor, O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs at IUPUI
- Breanca Merritt, Director, Center for Research on Inclusion and Social Policy, Clinical Assistant Professor, O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs at IUPUI

Staff

- Madison Alton, Research Coordinator, CHJR
- Katie Bailey, Project Manager, CHJR
- Sri Frazee, Business Manager
- Phil Huynh, Program Analyst, CHJR
- Drew Klacik, Senior Policy Analyst
- Joti Martin, Policy Analyst
- Carlie Turner, Project Coordinator
- Jamie Palmer, Senior Policy Analyst
- Staci Rising, Program Analyst
- Dona Sapp, Senior Policy Analyst
- Kelsie Stringham-Marquis, Research Coordinator, CRISP
- Rachel Thelin, Senior Policy Analyst
- Elle Yang, Program Analyst, CRISP

Board of Advisors

The Board of Advisors provides advice to the director on strategic direction, including initiatives and focus areas. Board members serve as advocates and ambassadors for PPI and utilize their community connections to enhance and promote PPI's public image. The Board also identifies opportunities to secure financial resources and partnerships necessary for PPI to advance its mission.

- John Fernandez, Global Chief Innovation Officer, Dentons
- Greg Lindsay, Professor, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota
- Marisa Manlove, Former President and CEO, Indiana Philanthropy Alliance
- Joana Taft, Executive Director, Harrison Center for the Arts

Ex-Officio Members

- John Graham, Dean, O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University
- Michael McGuire, Executive Associate Dean – Bloomington, O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University
- Tom Stucky, Executive Associate Dean – IUPUI, O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University

2018–2019 Faculty Fellows

- Fredrik Andersson, Assistant Professor, O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs IUPUI
- Claudia Avellaneda, Associate Professor, O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs Bloomington
- Christian Buerger, Assistant Professor, O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs IUPUI
- Sean Nicholson-Crotty, Professor, O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs Bloomington
- Victoria Perez, Assistant Professor, O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs Bloomington



Clockwise from top left: Fredrik Andersson, Claudia Avellaneda, Christian Buerger, Sean Nicholson-Crotty, Victoria Perez.



Members of the research team for the newly created Center for Research on Inclusion and Social Policy.

Milestones

Creation of the Center for Research on Inclusion and Social Policy (CRISP)

In early 2019, PPI announced the creation of a new resource in the quest for equality and inclusion. Under the direction of Dr. Breanca Merritt, then-senior policy analyst at PPI, CRISP was created to serve as a centralized resource for reliable, nonpartisan data and research on the interrelated issues that make up the elements of social policy, such as education, poverty, and housing.

While most university research centers traditionally

focus on a research agenda and producing peer-reviewed publications, CRISP’s mission is to inform and educate the public about the many factors that contribute to the social policy conversation. CRISP’s analysts will provide on-going research and evaluation on a variety of inclusion-based topics through issues that are timely and relevant to Hoosiers. The goal of CRISP is to open eyes to the complexity of multifaceted issues like poverty and racial equity, and the role policies can play in both hurting and helping those affected. When legislators, community leaders, and neighbors have a better understanding of social issues, it provides an opportunity for our communities to move forward collectively.



Moira Carlstedt, President and CEO of the Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership, with (from left to right) John Krauss, PPI Director Tom Guevara, and Central Indiana Community Foundation President and CEO Brian Payne.

John L. Krauss Award for Public Policy Innovation

In the spring of 2019, the Krauss Award was presented to Moira Carlstedt, President and CEO of the Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership. The biennial award is given to an individual or entity for applied research or activity that helps the state of Indiana and/or Indiana communities with real-world solutions.

INHP provides access to affordable, sustainable home purchase loans through its successful public-private partnerships. Yet a key element in providing access to affordable loans is first providing clients with homebuyer education, and mortgage and credit advising. The support INHP provides clients is driven by data that focuses on the reality of homeownership and home retention, allowing the group to truly understand what happens throughout the buying process and beyond.

The Public Policy Institute works with INHP to gather data, put it into easy-to-understand terms, and help INHP make the decisions that will best serve their clients. Through the PPI partnership, INHP has improved the way it measures its program impact, has improved housing stock, and has shaped local policy to increase homeownership. Carlstedt says the partnership with PPI has helped families throughout the Indianapolis area realize their dreams.

Center for Criminal Justice Research is renamed

In late 2018, the Center for Criminal Justice Research was renamed the Center for Health and Justice Research while remaining committed to conducting rigorous community-engaged research. CHJR continues to conduct research within the criminal justice system and with numerous partners throughout this system. However, much of their current research portfolio has a distinctly non-criminal justice focus and Director Brad Ray sought an appropriate name for the center's name to reflect this work.

In many cases CHJR research is at the intersection of criminal justice and behavioral health systems. For example, CHJR researchers worked with faculty and staff across Indiana University and with community partners at the Indiana State Department of Health to examine toxicology data from accidental drug overdose deaths, track the distribution of naloxone to laypersons, and study the integration of peer recovery coaches into emergency departments.

Additionally, many CHJR projects are related to drug use and drug use-related policy implications, particularly in the face of the current opioid crisis. As such, CHJR leadership became troubled by the possibility they might inadvertently contribute to the stigmatization of people with substance use disorder by unnecessarily affiliating them with the criminal justice system through our research. Indeed, words matter, and the words we use to describe this population also matter. CHJR hopes that the center's new name helps avoid the possible stigmatization of these populations they study and continue to aim to improve health outcomes and promote justice in all settings.

New Dean at the O'Neill School

Siân Mooney (right) became the fifth dean of the Indiana University Paul H. O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs on August 1, 2019. Dr. Mooney came to Indiana University from Arizona State University, where she served as associate dean for interdisciplinary programs and initiatives for the College of Public Service and Community Solutions and as a professor in the School of Public Affairs.





In addition to researching mobile crisis teams, researchers also study toxicology data in Marion County to determine overdose death trends.

Studying the Indiana Opioid Epidemic

The 21st Century Cures Act funded states' efforts to fight the opioid epidemic. CHJR evaluated projects that have been implemented in Indiana using Cures funding. These projects include Project ECHO (a virtual mentoring program for health care workers learning to provide treatment for opioid use disorder), mobile crisis teams, peers in the emergency department, and expanded residential treatment. Our study examines the ability of these interventions to expand evidence-based treatment and services to people with an opioid use disorder in Indiana. A report was submitted to the Division of Mental Health and Addiction in April 2019, and CHJR was awarded funds to continue its evaluations for a third year.

Indiana Civil Legal Needs Study and Legal Aid System Scan

PPI senior researcher Rachel Thelin assembled a cross-campus research team to conduct a statewide legal needs study and legal aid system scan. The comprehensive study provided a relevant, reliable source of information with which the Indiana Coalition for Court Access, policymakers, and legal aid providers can make strategic decisions about where, when, and how to allocate

resources for the effective, efficient delivery of civil legal services. The team designed the project to generate data and information that organizations can use in their efforts to increase the visibility of legal aid, develop support for legal aid work, and encourage resource development.



Financial Needs for Stormwater Infrastructure and Programming

This analysis of county-level stormwater infrastructure and programming needs across the state updated several previous water infrastructure needs efforts. These findings and other water infrastructure research were presented before the Indiana Water Infrastructure Task Force in September 2018.

Assessment and Facilitation of Community Conversations

Community Conversations on Police and Community Relations was a concept developed and implemented by the bipartisan Indianapolis-Marion County City-County Council. Discussion with residents of Marion County helped identify law enforcement-related issues and solutions in order to inform policy and empower community leaders and stakeholders to create new initiatives.

The objective of the project was to hear from Indianapolis residents about their experiences with law enforcement and to gather Indianapolis residents' perspectives about the possibilities for improving the relationship between local law enforcement and the communities they serve.

Through attending and analyzing three listening sessions, collecting survey data from participants, and assessing national guiding principles for building community trust, the team found that:

- City and community leadership should continue to engage residents in feedback on solutions and strategies and communicate related efforts to build trust with residents.
- Many residents reported a lack of trust and misunderstanding of their communities by law enforcement, while acknowledging efforts by both law enforcement and residents that may improve those relationships.
- IMPD and the city of Indianapolis have already implemented related strategies and guiding

principles, though some remain unaddressed.

- The city-county council is continuing to implement these strategies and engage public response to the report.

Homelessness Prevention and Housing Instability Study

PPI engaged in research with support from the Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention to assess trends and factors associated with housing instability and to understand the network of organizations that could address the prevention of homelessness from a systems perspective.

We identified evidence-based programs and practices that prevent homelessness; spatially and statistically analyzed trends in housing affordability and evictions; captured perspectives of local residents' experiences with housing instability; and identified which populations would benefit most from efforts to prevent housing instability.

The work identified a complex issue, especially with regard to race, neighborhood crime, and Indiana's rental policy environment. The research also showed that related efforts require actors from multiple sources (e.g., criminal justice system, schools, health care providers) to effectively address housing instability in Indianapolis. The report has started an initial community conversation with local stakeholders and homeless serving organizations about evictions and the first of multiple policy briefs about the issue.



In addition to CRISP research on housing instability in Marion County, PPI analysts and student researchers work with the Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention on the annual Point-in-Time Count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals.

Evaluation of Centers for Working Families

United Way of Central Indiana pursued a local evaluation of the Centers for Working Families, a national service delivery model aimed at improving economic stability for low-income individuals through personalized coaching. The goals of the evaluation were to understand the effect of bundled services and overall effectiveness of the CWF model, and to provide coaching on CWF's four key outcomes: net income, net worth, credit score, and employment. Throughout 2018, the team analyzed client-level data from 2012 to 2017 and held focus groups with key stakeholders, staff, and clients.



Researchers found that when clients participated in all offered services there was a link to significant improvements in monthly income and number of hours worked, and that the longer a participant stays in the program, the better their outcomes. UWCI has been sharing those findings with participating agencies and local stakeholders.

State of Panhandling in Downtown Indianapolis

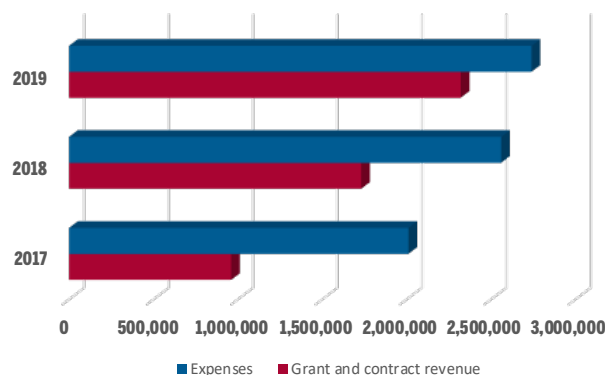
The Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention, in coordination with Downtown Indy, Inc., commissioned a survey of panhandlers in the Downtown Indianapolis Square Mile. CHIP worked with researchers at PPI to design a research plan that aimed to better understand the demographics, issues, and habits of those who panhandle in downtown Indianapolis. The study found that most panhandlers report being homeless and being so for multiple years. Results also showed the panhandlers surveyed make less than \$20 per day, on average, and experience a number of issues that keep them from engaging in other forms of work. The research has been cited in a number of local news stories since its completion.

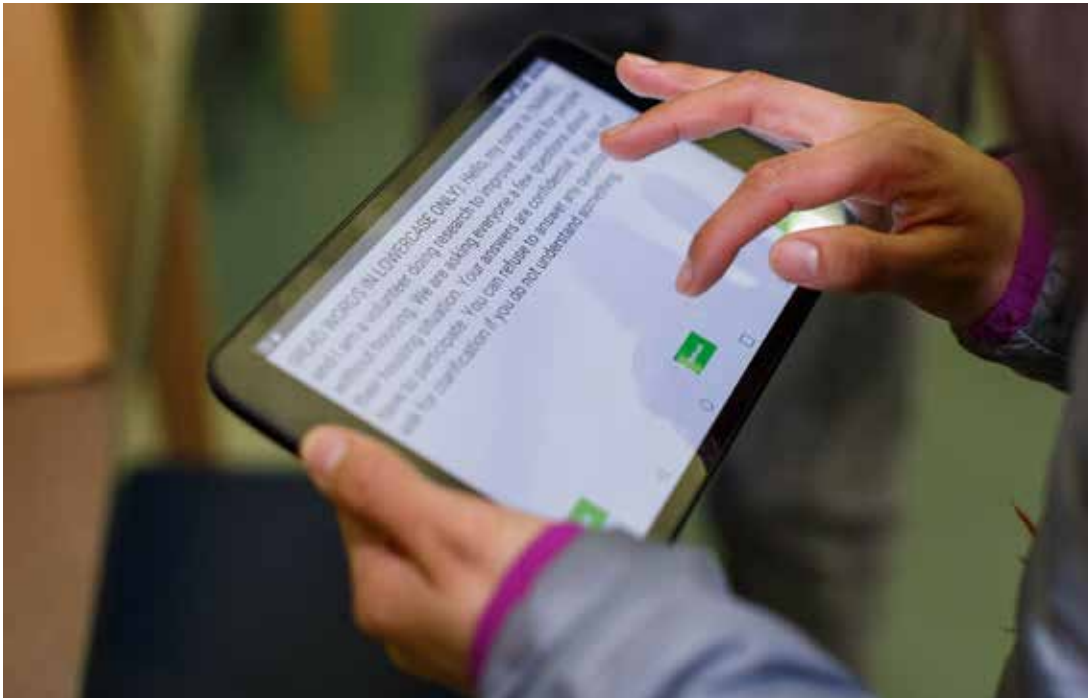
2018–19 PPI Project Sponsors

- Dickenson Juvenile Justice Center
- Indiana Division of Mental Health & Addiction
- United States Department of Justice
- Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County
- United Way of Central Indiana
- Lutheran Foundation of Allen County
- Central Indiana Community Foundation
- Indianapolis-Marion City-County Council
- Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
- Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership
- John H. Boner Neighborhood Centers
- Indiana Criminal Justice Institute
- City of Carmel
- Local Initiative Support Corporation
- Indiana Soybean Alliance
- The Nature Conservancy Indiana Chapter
- State of Indiana
- Indiana Finance Authority
- Indiana First Merchants Bank
- Community Education Coalition
- Drug Free Marion County
- Lilly Endowment
- Central Indiana Council of Elected Officials
- Advancing Indiana Municipalities

2018–19 Financial Information

Grant and contract revenue increased by 140 percent over the past two fiscal years. Compensation accounts for 68 percent of all expenses. Revenue from other sources, such as the Eli Lilly endowment and miscellaneous O'Neill School support, makes up the difference.





During the past academic year, PPI provided research experience to 17 students—10 graduate and seven undergraduate students. Sixteen of those students study on the IUPUI campus and one student attends school in Bloomington. Ten of our research assistants were enrolled in programs at the O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, while seven students were enrolled at other schools across IUPUI.

Each year PPI employs graduate and undergraduate students to assist with research. Through these assistantships, students gain valuable applied research skills to utilize alongside their classroom experience.

Nicole Ridge, Graduate Research Assistant

“My work at PPI prepared me for the professional world as a social worker striving to find a career in a macro line of work. After graduating in May with a master’s in social work, I was holding on to my last piece of IU: my position at the Public Policy Institute. My fellow coworkers and supervisor encouraged me to spread my wings and fly, inspiring me to throw myself into the search for employment.



“The job opening came through my email from a professor who was friends with a board member at Coburn Place. After my first few weeks as the evaluations and outcomes manager, I finally met the board member in person and the first thing she requested was to tell her all about my time at PPI. This excitement extended to the board meeting I attended when she introduced me, highlighting

this aspect of my resume and allowing me to further lay out my favorite parts of my experience at PPI.

“I will always be grateful for the valuable experiences and skills I gained while working at PPI and I am reminded of it every day as I fulfill my career goals.”

Sam Bryan, Undergraduate Research Assistant

“My time at the Public Policy Institute was an invaluable experience. It gave me the chance to utilize all the skills and knowledge I was acquiring in school in a professional setting which gave me a big advantage when it came to looking for jobs at the end of my senior year.



Because of my internship at PPI, I graduated not only with a great education from IUPUI, but also with almost a full year of experience working in an office with highly skilled and knowledgeable professionals on numerous projects whose focus spanned a number of different fields and topics. This gave me the confidence that I would be ready for anything upon graduation and lead to me landing a great job immediately after graduating.”



Part of the mission of any state university is to serve the very communities that surround it, and nowhere is that more evident than with our Public Policy Institute. PPI is actively engaged in addressing many of the complex, interdisciplinary challenges of our time, using cutting-edge research to solve important issues such as homelessness, the opioid epidemic, and the evolving needs of our criminal justice system, among many others.

As the new dean of the O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, I am particularly proud that PPI combines the stellar expertise of faculty with substantial research opportunities for students. These opportunities prepare skilled individuals for the workforce and our students to become successful professionals while they work on relevant real-world problems that are of interest to them.

As you have read in this report, PPI has continued its remarkable service to the people and institutions within the state of Indiana and beyond, and I look forward to seeing the results of their work in coming years.

We are grateful for the opportunity to share our work with you, and look forward to this annual tradition going forward. We are delighted to follow up with any questions or inquiries you may have.

Thank you for your interest in PPI.

Siân Mooney, Dean
Paul H. O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs



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