

Responses cannot be edited

## Neighborhood Leadership Academy 2017

Thank you for your interest in the Neighborhood Leadership Academy. This application will help us understand more about you and how you would like to make a difference in your community.

Completion time: approximately 10 minutes – or maybe a little longer if you have a lot of ideas!

Note: for your responses to be saved, you must click "submit" at the end of the application. Incomplete applications cannot be saved for later completion.

To review the application questions before proceeding or learn more about the application process, visit the Neighborhood Leadership Academy page at <http://www.nrc4neighborhoods.org/>.

Name: \*

Macon A. Difrenz

Email address \*

nrcneighbors@gmail.com

Street address (residence): \*

123 Main St.

City, state, & zip: \*

South Bend, IN 46601

---

Preferred phone: \*

574-287-0425

---

Preferred phone (above) is:

Work ▼

How long have you lived in South Bend? \*

6-10 years ▼

How long have you lived in your current neighborhood? \*

3-5 years ▼

## Your Ideas

The Neighborhood Leadership Academy empowers South Bend residents to identify opportunities to improve their communities and to take action on them. In this section, please tell us about your ideas for making a difference, and how .

## Upon completion of the Academy, what impact(s) do you plan to make? \*

In 4-5 sentences, please describe: an issue in your community you would like to address, who is affected, how it affects them, and your desired approach for addressing the issue. Please be as detailed as you can. It's OK if you don't have a concrete plan yet (the Academy will help you with that), but the more compelling your response, the better!

I believe there is a lot of misunderstanding between South Bend residents regarding other neighborhoods they don't live in. For example, I live in the [neighborhood name] neighborhood, and I notice that people who live in other areas of South Bend have a very negative opinion of our neighborhood that isn't deserved. I also know that people who live in my neighborhood don't feel at home in other parts of town. This affects everyone in South Bend because it creates negativity and division among our diverse people. I would like to organize a neighborhood service project 'exchange' program - where the residents of one neighborhood join with the residents of another neighborhood to do a service project in that neighborhood (such as a cleanup, community garden or the like), in exchange for that neighborhood's residents doing the same in return. This would not only double the number of people helping out with the project, it would also show people throughout the city that we all have pride in where we live.

---

## What actions to address the issue(s) have you taken so far?

If none yet, what do you expect your first actions to be?

I organized a cleanup in our neighborhood and publicized it on Facebook for everyone in the community to attend, but it didn't generate much interest beyond our neighbors.

---

## Your Organizations & Civic Leadership

Please tell us about the groups you may participate in, and your leadership activities.

## Does your neighborhood have an active neighborhood association? \*

Yes ▼

## If yes, are you currently involved in it?

Please describe your role, and for how long.

I'm not very involved in it. It's hard to make the meetings.

## If your neighborhood does not have an active neighborhood association, are you interested in starting one?

Not sure ▼

## With what other organizations have you been involved in the past year?

Please briefly describe each organization and your role (including any leadership activities, and whether the role was paid or volunteer.)

I volunteer for the Bark Brigade making dog shelters. I also was a volunteer coordinator for a 5k race.

---

## Have you ever (check all that apply):

- Attended a South Bend Common Council meeting?
- Attended a St. Joseph County Council meeting?
- Attended a Committee meeting (for either a City or County Council committee)?
- Participated in a local government public comment process (such as speaking at a Council or Committee meeting)
- Contacted an elected official to request his/her action on an issue?
- Attended a crime watch meeting?
- Attended a neighborhood association meeting?
- Called 311?
- Planned a neighborhood event or project?
- Recruited others to help plan a neighborhood event or project?

## Do you have any other community leadership or organizing experience?

If yes, please tell us about it.

[I have encouraged local gardeners to do urban farming on South Bend vacant lots, and we now have a Urban Gardens Farmers Market.](#)

---

Once the Academy is over, how many hours per month would you expect to commit to neighborhood or civic activities?

15

---

## Your Skills

Please tell us about the assets you offer to your community.

### Education level completed:

Professional certificate or trade certification ▼

### Your occupation(s)

Restaurant server

---

### Please describe your skills in these areas: \*

Please select a response for each skill.

	Not at all	A little	Average	Proficient	Expert or professional
Computer use	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Internet research	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Email	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Creating social media posts or content	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Graphic design	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Video production	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Photography	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Event planning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public speaking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Your Availability

The Neighborhood Leadership Academy meets for eight Thursday evenings over a three month period. All sessions will be held from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. The Academy will also consist of a team project and a final presentation, so teams may need to collaborate between scheduled sessions. The scheduled sessions are: September 21 and 28, October 12 and 19, November 2, 16, and 30, and December 14. Please see the complete schedule at [goo.gl/Js4XZe](http://goo.gl/Js4XZe).

Once accepted, participants will have a chance to confirm their seat and their commitment to participation.

**As far as you know, will you be able to participate in the scheduled sessions (see link above)? \***

If you are aware of any conflicts, please let us know.

Yes

---

This form was created inside of M. Scott Palmer.

Google Forms