

# PROMISE IN ACTION

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE EVANSVILLE PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD



## BABY EXPLORER BUNDLES

EVPL's Baby Bundles are free for infants up to 12 months old and available at all library locations—even before birth.

Each bundle includes a flip book, baby bib, one-time-use library card, and enrollment in 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten and Storytime To Go. No residency requirements—just provide a name, age, and address. These bundles help families build early literacy habits, which are foundational for success in school and introduce little ones to the joy of reading.

Stop by any EVPL location to pick one up today! Learn more at [evpl.org](http://evpl.org).



## 300 BOOKS BY 3RD GRADE

Reading 300 books before third grade helps build essential literacy skills, as children transition from "learning to read" to "reading to learn, and EVPL is here to support families on this journey.

300 Books by 3rd Grade is a free program that encourages children to read with their families, fostering a love for books from throughout early elementary school. Participants track their progress, celebrate milestones, and earn rewards along the way. Families can sign up at any EVPL location and start anytime—no residency requirements.

Visit your nearest branch to join or learn more at [evpl.org](http://evpl.org).

## EPN BRINGS 130+ PEOPLE TOGETHER FOR FIRST ESSENTIAL STAFF TRAINING



On March 12, 2025, the Evansville Promise Neighborhood (EPN) team brought together over 120 staff members from our community partner organizations for an inaugural training and networking event.

This milestone gathering fostered a deeper understanding of EPN's mission and goals, with remarkable results—pre- and post-survey data revealed a significant increase in participants' knowledge, with 99% leaving the session feeling confident in their understanding of EPN.

Attendees shared that they now feel better equipped to connect families with essential resources, and many left inspired and reinvigorated in their work supporting children and families. As we look ahead, the EPN team is already gathering feedback and planning for next year's event, ensuring continued growth and collaboration within our network.

## BRINGING DISNEY MAGIC TO STUDENTS

Cops Connecting with Kids continues to make dreams come true for local students across the Tri-State area, including four EPN Focus Schools. This January, 32 students from Evans, Glenwood, Lincoln, and Lodge experienced the magic of Walt Disney World, selected for their leadership, character, and dedication.

This life-changing adventure wouldn't be possible without the law enforcement officers and school officials who serve as chaperones. Their dedication—leaving behind their own families and responsibilities—ensures these students have an unforgettable journey.

See more from the trip at **Cops Connecting with Kids Disney Adventure** on Facebook







## PREPARING YOUTH FOR BRIGHT FUTURES WITH SOUTHWEST INDIANA WORKFORCE BOARD

Through the Evansville Promise Neighborhood (EPN) grant, Southwest Indiana Workforce Board's Neighborhood Navigator helps youth explore careers and develop employability skills.

Starting in August 2024, 15 youth engage in after-school activities focused on teamwork, communication, problem-solving, and career exploration. With a goal of 10 participants annually, the program exceeded expectations. In partnership with The Dream Center, this initiative will continue to provide hands-on learning experiences that prepare young people for future success for the remainder of the school year and into the summer.

## A HOME JUST IN TIME: A PROMISE FAMILY'S JOURNEY

One of Potter's Wheel Promised families—a dad, a mom, and their two children, ages 12 and 6—recently secured housing with the help of the Evansville Housing Authority (EHA), just in time!

The family had been "couch surfing" for most of 2024, staying with relatives but longing for a place of their own. After months of searching for Section 8 housing without success, they attended a Housing Resource Night hosted by Potter's Wheel—just three days before their voucher expired. As they shared their story, EPN housing partners worked quickly to find them a home. Thanks to EHA, the family will soon move in! Their kindergartener excitedly told her Wrap-Around Care Specialist how happy she is to have her own bedroom.



## FLAVOR LAB

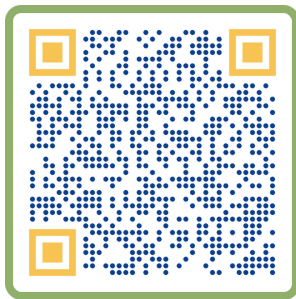
Flavor Lab is a twice-weekly after-school cooking club at Bosse High School, led by Chef Tori from Vegan Eats and Treats. Through hands-on instruction, Chef Tori introduces students to a diverse range of foods while incorporating vegan options for them to explore. Made possible through a partnership between Evansville Promise Neighborhood, ECHO Housing and Community Development, Bosse High School, Bedford Collab, and Chef Tori, Flavor Lab provides students with firsthand experience in the culinary arts, fostering creativity, skill-building, and a deeper appreciation for food.

# TO LEARN MORE

about any programs featured in this newsletter, scan the QR code beneath the program you're interested in. Follow us on social media for more updates, by scanning the QR code on the right!



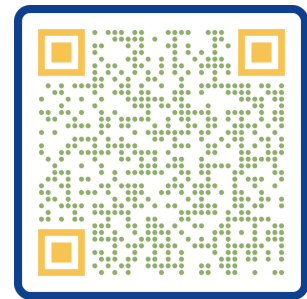
## BABY EXPLORER BUNDLES



## COPS CONNECTING WITH KIDS DISNEY ADVENTURE



## 300 BOOKS BY 3RD GRADE



# THANK YOU

to all our community partners and supporters

