JULY - SEPT 2025 VOL 2 | ISN 3

PROMISE IN ACTION

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE EVANSVILLE PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD

FAIR SHOT PROGRAM

At **HOPE of Evansville**, families are finding a fair shot at financial confidence. Every other month, neighbors learn how to stretch a budget, build credit, and take steps toward homeownership.

Wednesday covers **money management**, while Thursday dives into **credit and buying a home**—both led by housing counselors and local experts. Those who complete both sessions are paired with a one-on-one coach, making Fair Shot more than just a class—it's a **pathway to financial stability.**

For more information, scan the QR code on the back or call at (812) 423-3169

DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Buying a home is one of the biggest steps a family can take—and **HOPE of Evansville** is here to make that dream possible..

Through its **Homebuyer Assistance Program**, qualifying families can receive up to **$15,000** toward a down payment on a home within Evansville city limits.

Along with financial literacy education and housing counseling, the program ensures families not only buy a home but are **prepared to succeed as homeowners**

For more information, scan the QR code on the back or call at (812) 423-3169

CHANGEMAKERS IN THE MAKING

This fall, students across the Evansville Promise Neighborhood (EPN) focus schools are dreaming big through their **ChangeLab Projects**—turning classroom ideas into real plans for school improvement.

At **Evans Elementary**, more than 300 students shared ideas through journals, pitched them in a schoolwide assembly, and voted for their top choice: a playground revamp! Now, classes are working during SEL time to design priorities, with plans for a field trip to explore playground equipment and a workshop with **UE's Center for Innovation and Change (CIC).**

Delaware Elementary followed a similar process, collecting over 300 ideas and forming a student "working group" of ambassadors and class reps. Their winning project is also a playground renovation, and students will soon consult with UE's Center for Innovation and Change (CIC).

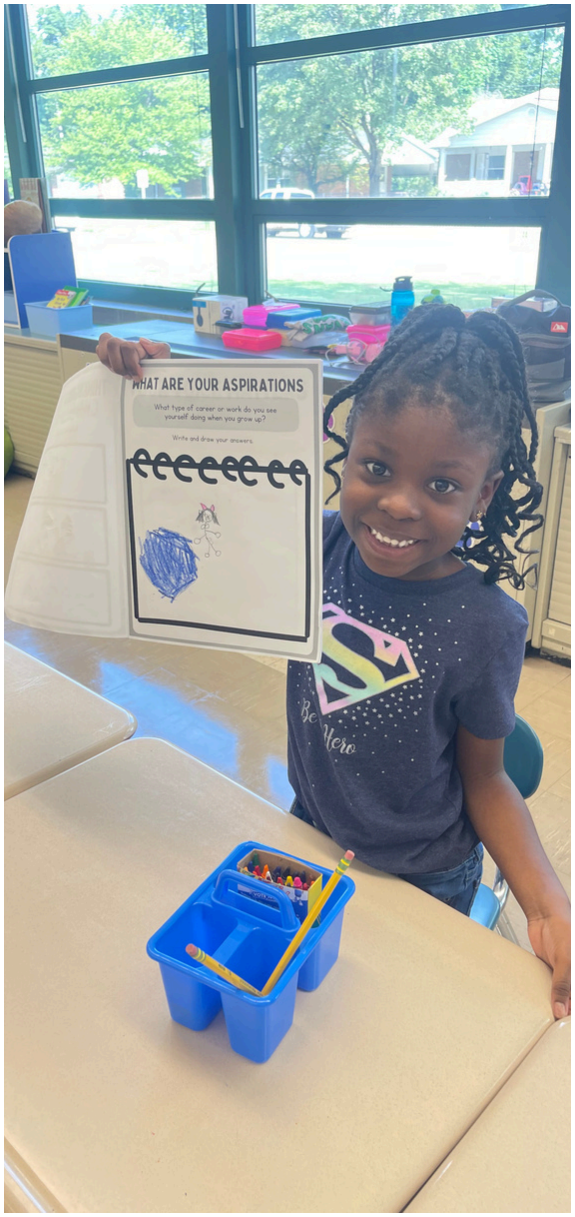
At **Lodge Community School**, families recently joined students for a Parent/Student Night to brainstorm ideas, with voting scheduled in the coming weeks. **Lincoln** and **Glenwood** have already gathered ideas through student notecards and will move to a vote soon.

Finally, **Bosse High School** is in the early stages of planning its project, with updates to come!

From brainstorming to voting to building partnerships, each EPN focus school is showing students that their voices matter—and that **big dreams can grow into real change.**

"Once students know the formula for changemaking, the sky's the limit."

- Lauren Hartmeyer,
Vice Principal of Evans School



EAGLETS TAKE FLIGHT TOWARD KINDERGARTEN

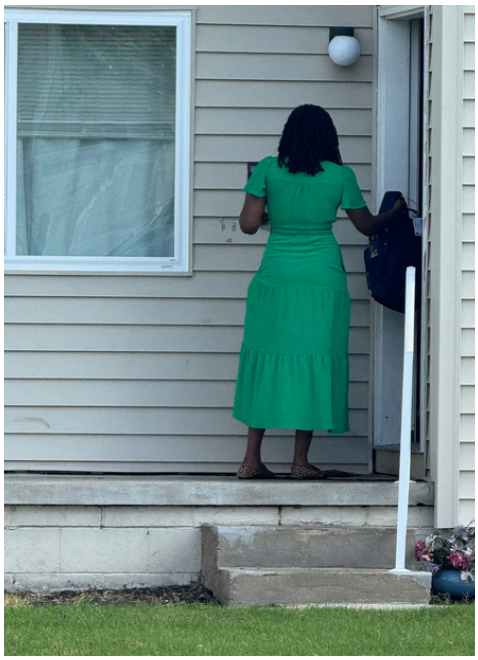
Dream Center Evansville is opening doors for Jacobsville's youngest learners by offering **free Pre-K.** Ten students are already enrolled for the 2025–2026 school year!

Through the **Eaglets** program, children learn letters, numbers, shapes, and colors—while also practicing listening, sharing, and retelling stories. These experiences prepare them academically, socially, and emotionally to enter school confident and ready to learn.

KINDERGARTEN BLITZ: GROWING STRONGER EVERY YEAR

In August, EVSC hosted its second **Kindergarten Blitz**, a tradition that brings backpacks and warm welcomes to incoming kindergarten students. Volunteers from **EVSC, EPN**, and **community partners** visited families across the neighborhood to deliver backpacks filled with school supplies and resources, making sure every child had what they needed to start school with confidence.

The effort continues to grow. Last year, **184** backpacks were delivered; this year, that number rose to **205**. Each backpack was personalized with the child's name and school, creating a **meaningful first connection** between families and the community that will support them throughout their educational journey.



BADGES, BIG DREAMS, AND JA IN A DAY

Evans Elementary hosted JA in a Day, where **Junior Achievement of Southwestern Indiana** invited local leaders to teach students about financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and careers. Instead of the usual weekly format, students completed all the sessions in one day, building momentum and excitement.

Mayor Stephanie Terry encouraged students to follow their dreams, while **Chief Phil Smith** visited Ms. Pflug's fourth-grade class, teaching lessons on natural resources and future careers. On his way out, he met five-year-old Creed, a kindergartner who dreams of becoming a police officer. Creed proudly flashed the Chief's badge—and made him promise to come back for lunch.

CONNECT WITH US

Scan the QR code to follow us on social media and join our mailing list. Be the first to hear about events, resources, and neighborhood news—don't miss out!

FAIR SHOT PROGRAM

DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

DREAM CENTER EAGLETS PRE-K

THANK YOU

to all our community partners and supporters

University of Evansville
EVSC Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation
Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library
Junior Achievement of Southwestern Indiana
YouthBuild Evansville
Urban Seeds
Community One Love Your Neighbor
United Way Southwestern Indiana
Vanderburgh County Health Department Prevent. Promote. Protect. Partner.
Ivy Tech Community College
HOPE of Evansville
Boys & Girls Club of Evansville
dream Center Evansville
Evansville Police Department
SWIN Workforce Board WorkOne
YouthFirst
Building Blocks
the YMCA
Potter's Wheel
The Excel Center goodwill
Promise Zone
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Memorial Community Development Corporation Restore • Strengthen • Empower
RMHC of the Ohio Valley