



2019
ANNUAL REPORT

2019

letter from the **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Celebrating 30 Years of Impact, Looking Ahead to New Endeavors

In 2019, IRC celebrated many milestones and achieved several successes! In January, we celebrated the adoption of the Thrive Indianapolis Plan - the City's first actionable plan of its kind in the city's history. It brings together city agencies, community partners and residents to chart a course for an Indianapolis that is equitable, healthier and prepared for the challenges of the 21st century. The plan is a major step forward for the City when it comes to waste and recycling goals. IRC had a major role in shaping the goals outlined in the plan and in garnering public support for the plan.

Speaking of celebrations, we launched our year-long 30th Anniversary Celebration Campaign at the Annual Conference by reflecting on how far we've come and highlighting the people around the state making a difference for recycling and the circular economy. There's more celebration to come in 2020, so stay tuned!

In April, we finalized our 2019 Strategic Plan and shared it with our partners, members, and stakeholders. The plan was informed by digital surveys, site visits and many one-on-one conversations, a board and staff retreat, best practice guidance from our consultant, and a task force of board members. We simultaneously developed a Development Plan to help us elevate our fundraising efforts and achieve more financial resilience. While the process of doing both simultaneously was challenging at times, we have already realized the benefits of thinking holistically. We feel more confident in our understanding of what the world needs from us and what we can uniquely deliver to our constituencies.

2019 was also a year of a lot of new things for the organization - from programs to grants, to

events and travel around the state. We formed the Indianapolis Circular Economy Initiative (ICEI) to kick off the effort to deliver on our new strategic priority: work with the City of Indianapolis and key stakeholders to reimagine waste and recycling in the Circle City for the 21st century. We can't be certain, but we may have set a record in 2019 for the number of road trips to visit members, take facility tours, and listen to partner feedback. This, and so much more, is covered in detail in this year's annual report. I hope you take the time to read on and follow our path over the past year. I think it's both a great overview of where we've been and a preview into where we're going - in 2020 and beyond!

Thanks for joining us in the journey,



Allyson Mitchell
Executive Director
Indiana Recycling Coalition



ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The IRC kicked off our 30th Anniversary Campaign at our 30th Annual Conference and Trade Show held on June 10-12, 2019 at the Marriott East Hotel in Indianapolis. The Conference was attended by over 280 recycling stakeholders representing a variety of fields and expertise in the sustainability and waste management industries. Over the course of two jam-packed days, conference attendees learned about the latest developments, market conditions, model programs and best practices, and local success stories in the waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting industries. Waste professionals, local and state government representatives, community leaders, educators, students, and business owners from all backgrounds formed new connections through the Conference's many networking opportunities. Our exhibit hall was bustling with 30 exhibitors and, new this year, our attendees included 10 student scholars.

The Conference kicked off on June 10 with a workshop on Community Recycling: Making Smart Investments For Your System which was co-hosted by The Recycling Partnership and IDEM's Recycling

Market Development Board. That evening, the Opening Night Reception was held at Public Greens in Broad Ripple. After partaking in delicious food provided by Public Greens and local beer provided by Monarch Beverage, attendees walked up the Monon Trail for a hand-dipped ice cream provided by BRICS, Broad Ripple Ice Cream Station.

Tuesday's sessions included the Conference Keynote which was given by Dr. Ken Miller, Ph.D., who spoke on Beyond Recycling: The Case for Embracing the Circular Economy in Indiana. The Plenary Session topic was Back to Fundamentals: Making Recycling Make "Cents Again" and featured Stephen Klemann and Craig Lutz of Republic Services. The breakout sessions featured expert speakers on a variety of topics: Water and Waste; Too Hot to Handle: Biochar, Vape Pens & Li-ion Batteries; MRF and Processor Panel Q & A, Green Manufacturing and the Circular Economy, and a follow-up to the keynote going into more depth on the topic of the circular economy. Wednesday's breakout sessions featured two tracks, one for recycling and one for food waste.

BY THE NUMBERS

Over 280 Attendees
56 Speakers & Moderators
39 Exhibitors
13 Sessions

10 Student Scholarship Recipients
6 States (Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin, Illinois, Tennessee, North Carolina)
3 Days
1 Goal: *to strengthen Indiana's circular economy*

PROGRAMS

MASTER RECYCLER PROGRAM

The IRC began developing plans for a new, fully online education program called the Master Recycler Program (MRP). The program will educate Hoosiers on waste reduction, reuse, recycling, composting, sustainable waste management, the circular economy and more through a series of virtual learning modules. Each module will utilize a variety of media to dynamically educate participants about each topic in 5-15 minutes. The content format will be info-tainment: information presented in an entertaining way.

In November of 2019, the IRC received a \$50,000 grant from the Efrogmson Family Fund to begin MRP development. Content creation for the first module is slated to begin in 2020.

IFSI

The Indiana Food Scrap Initiative (IFSI) organizes engaged stakeholders into three different strategy groups tackling different sources of food waste. The strategy groups include source reduction, food rescue, and composting. Each group consists of a diverse team of stakeholders representing state agencies, universities, business owners and operators, waste haulers, nonprofits, educators, technical experts, and more. For 2019, the strategy groups focused on gathering and analyzing data to develop a baseline of the food waste landscape in Indiana, identify gaps and opportunities, and build strategies to combat food waste. Within the composting strategy group, stakeholders gathered and analyzed data on the economics of composting and performed a comparative analysis of Indiana's food waste landscape among other Midwest states. Final versions of both reports will be released in 2020.

LEND-A-BIN

The IRC continued its Lend-a-Bin program, which rents out recycling and composting bins, signage and supplies to local event organizers. The program encourages sustainable events by supporting recycling and composting at a variety of venues. Throughout 2019, the IRC supplied recycling and composting bins for 35 events serving over 250,000 Hoosiers. In total, the program successfully diverted almost 18,000 pounds of food waste and recycling from the landfill.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Sponsor: Berry Global

Previously, the IRC partnered with the Indiana Sustainability Development Program to allow student participants to attend the 2018 IRC Conference and Trade Show. Due to the success of that partnership, the IRC created a new and ongoing Student Scholarship Program in 2019 which provides free admission to the Annual IRC Conference for Indiana students. By attending the Conference, Student Scholarship Recipients gain access to critical education about the waste and recycling industries as well as the opportunity to network with professionals in these industries. The program aims to develop a diverse pipeline of talent in the fields of sustainability, waste and recycling, and the circular economy which will ultimately lead to a more sustainable Indiana.

Students & Schools Represented:

Miranda Frausto	IUPUI
Amber Greaney	IUPUI
Madison Hodges	Purdue University
Sophia Lahey	IU Bloomington
Grace Minkis	IUPUI
Landon New	IU Bloomington
Dylan Patterson	IUPUI
Savannah Rodriguez	IU Bloomington
Gehrig Simon	Purdue University
Madison Young	University of Saint Francis

GRANTS

WHIN

In 2019, the Indiana Recycling Coalition partnered with Purdue University Environmental and Ecological Engineering Program to produce an in-depth study of the recycling infrastructure of a 10-county region in Northwest Indiana. This work is funded by a grant from the Wabash Heartland Innovation Network Regional Cultivation Fund. The study zeros in on residential recycling activities via remote recycling drop offs, curbside collection programs, and public and private recycling centers in the region. The results of the study will be available in 2020.



EFROYMSON FAMILY FUND

The Indiana Recycling Coalition received a new grant from the Efroymson Family Foundation in the amount of \$50,000 to support the startup phase of the Master Recycler Program. The program is a free, fully online program that will serve the entire state of Indiana and provide critical education around the topics of recycling, waste reduction, sustainable materials management, and the circular economy. This grant will provide startup support to enable the IRC to move the program from the concept stage to the development stage, and will cover expenses for the creation of the model module. The first module will allow the IRC to demonstrate the program to potential program sponsors, develop a sponsorship inventory scheme, and actively fundraise to continue program development and content creation.

EVENTS

AMERICA RECYCLES DAY AT CITY MARKET

The IRC attended two events on America Recycles Day (ARD), which is celebrated on November 15. Allyson Mitchell, IRC Executive Director, spoke at an Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) event in the morning. In the afternoon, the IRC attended a joint ARD event with the City of Indianapolis Department of Sustainability and Keep Indianapolis Beautiful at City Market. Other participants included Berry Global, Earth Mama Compost, RecycleForce, and Republic Services. In addition to providing tips on how to recycle right and reduce waste, IRC staff conducted a pledge challenge to encourage attendees to adopt new waste reduction and recycling practices. Attendees filled out pledge cards with the action(s) they committed to taking to reduce and/or recycle waste.

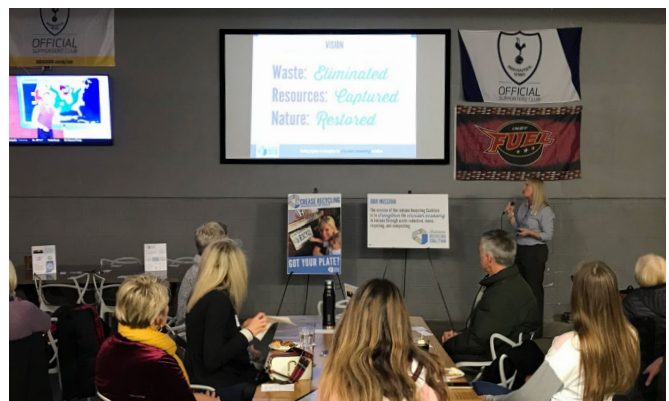


SEIRD MEDIA DAY

IRC Executive Director Allyson Mitchell spoke at the Southeastern Indiana Recycling District's (SEIRD) Media Day. IRC staff also toured the recycling facilities and learned about the District's programs.

FRIENDRAISERS

The IRC introduced a new type of fundraising and outreach event called "friendraisers." These events provided an opportunity for new engagement with IRC current and potential members as well as a way to drive individual donations. In 2019, the IRC held two friendraisers, one at the Sol Center for coffee and breakfast and one at Centerpoint Brewing Co. during happy hour. Almost 60 individuals attended the two events.



EVENTS

SITE VISITS & TOURS

The IRC was busy visiting organizations and businesses working on recycling across the entire state of Indiana! In 2019, IRC staff visited/toured 19 sites in 16 counties, including Solid Waste Management Districts, businesses, waste management and recycling facilities, and more. See below for the full list.

List of Facilities Visited

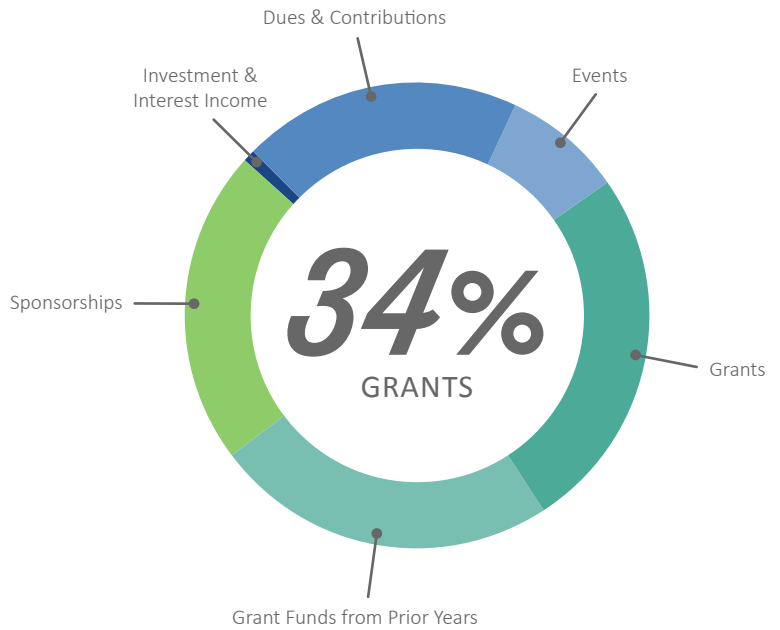
- West Central Indiana SWMD (Feb)
- Goodwill Industries Community Tour (Feb)
- Quincy Recycle (Feb)
- IUPUI Surplus (Mar)
- NuCor Steel (Mar)
- Republic Services MRF in Indy (May)
- Berry Global (May)
- ALCOA Warrick Operations (May)
- Covanta Indy (July)
- Northeast Indiana SWMD (July)
- Brightmark Energy (July)
- Ray's MRF in Indy (Oct)
- Dearborn County SWMD (Oct)
- Jackson County SWMD & Rumpke Medora landfill/MRF (Oct)
- Posey County SWMD (Nov)
- Berry Global (Nov)
- DuBois County SWMD (Nov)
- Gibson County SWMD (Nov)
- Kruse Carpet Recycling (Dec)



FINANCIALS

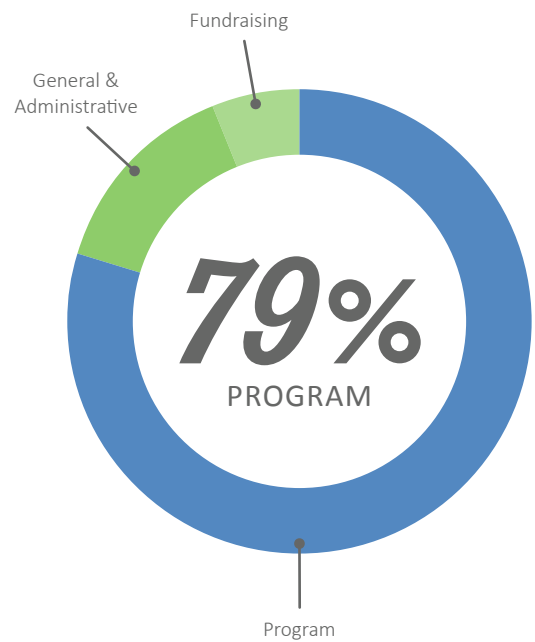
INCOME

Dues & Contributions	\$89,471.00
Events	\$36,448.00
Grants	\$116,450.00
Grant Funds from Prior Years	
Sponsorships	\$99,000.00
Investment & Interest Income	\$1,499.00
Total Revenue	\$342,868.00



EXPENSES

Program	\$260,575.00
General & Administrative	\$47,365.00
Fundraising	\$20,392.00
Total Expenses	\$328,332.00



STAFF AND BOARD

STAFF

Allyson Mitchell, Executive Director
Jean Miller, Director of Administration
Emily Jackson, Program and Events Coordinator
Rachel Morris, Marketing and Events Coordinator
Marla Cherney, Programs Contractor
Nanette Johnson, Accountant



BOARD OFFICERS

Greg Spratt, IRC President (AL)
Morgan Bennett, Green Broad Ripple, IRC Vice President (PI)
David Vonnegut-Gabovitch, Browning Investments, IRC Treasurer (P)
Stacey Boggs, Pratt Industries, IRC Secretary (until 4/19) (P)
Pamela Francis, Schott Design, IRC Secretary (P)(beginning 4/19) (P)

PI – Public Interest
P – Private
G – Government
AL – At Large

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jessie Biggerman, Johnson County SWMD (G)
Stacey Boggs, Pratt Industries (P)
Nick Brothers, Indianapolis Demolition Company (P)
Bob Bryant, 500 Festival (PI)
Ryan Franz, Just Packaging (P)
Thomas Gray, RecycleForce (PI)
Rachael Hoover Lekic (AL)
David Jose (AL)
Scott Lutocka, US Zero Waste Business Council (PI)
Craig Lutz, Republic Services of Indiana (P)
Joe Merchant, Strategic Materials (P)
Kelvin Okamoto (AL)
Jared Rains, Goodwill Industries (PI)
Lindsay McGuire (AL)

INTERNS

Jamie Flatter
Kelby Gaw
Grace Miller
Dylan Patterson

SPONSORS

DIAMOND

Pratt Industries

PLATINUM

DAK Americas

Monarch Beverage

Republic Services

GOLD

IDEM

Kroger

Re-TRAC Connect

Walmart

WestRock

SILVER

Berry Global

EcoPartners

Hoosier Beverage Association

Knauf Insulation

Purdue Extension

Quincy Recycle

Ray's Trash Service

Safety-Kleen

Strategic Materials

BRONZE

Eskenazi Health

Indiana American Water

MHS

NuGenesis

Rehig Pacific

Rumpke

GENERAL

Carton Council

Indiana HHW Task Force

DONORS

\$50 AND UNDER

Charlotte Brown
Hannah Fleck
Grace Minkis
Heather Conner
Stacey Corman
Holly Galligan
Maria Harper
Tina Jezierski
Christine Maloney
Ben McCormick
Kristen Smith
Waneta Sosbert
Amanda Castaneda
Rachael Hoover
Susan Schuller
Dan Boots
Liz Brouwer
Lauren Day
Lindsey Fella-Berry
Katie Haigh
Tracy Heaton de Martinez
Dean Hemmersbach
Nancy McCarthy
Tom McGlasson
Jenna York
Matthew Churchman
Michelle Cohen
Pat Daniel
Kelley Davies
Jessica Davis
Craig Flandermeyer
Kim Goodrich
James & Julia Tipton Hogan
Allyson Inglis
Emily Jackson
Angela Jones
Vicki McGuire
Jean Miller
Kelsey L Miller
Melissa Miller
Daniel Overbey
Katie Schlafer
Andy Skinner
Chris Van Gessel
Kathy Varie

Jessica Beck
Allison Bolser
Debbi Dodson
Deanna Garner
Mindy Gleason
Angie Heron
Randy Kinsley
Christy Kuziensky
Sophia Lahey
Jodi Leamon
Tom Leas
Aiste Manfredini
Savannah Rodrigue
Jenny Roell
Adam Rolf
Ron Rothgerber
Shanda Solomon
Nora Spitznogle
Dan VanKorn
Krisztina Inskeep
Cristina Padilla
Timothy Barton
Jessie Biggerman
Linda Broadfoot
Heather Brogden
Niki Burt
Marla Cherney
John Dane
Michael Davis
Shari Doane
Therese Dorau
Rosemary Duselis
Karen Eller
Ethan Evans
Kelly Geckler
Ronald Itnyre
David Johnson
Megan McLarty
Kelvin Okamoto
Alicia Reuter
Jennifer Roberts
Elizabeth Roe
Julanne Sausser
Gina Shockley
Vicky Smith

Catherine Snyder
Leslie Taljaard
Chris Taylor
Marla Taylor
Cathy Weinmann
Kim Williams

\$51-100

Jean Miller
Nicholas Brothers
Joel Meador
Allison Mihalich
Ryan Natzke
Michelle Smith
Katie Robinson
Tiffany Hanson
Allyson Mitchell
Christine Carlson
Elle Roberts
Stacey Boggs
Heidi Koselke
Jennifer Agramonte
Jennifer Androne
Matthew Feltrop
Kevin Hardie
Sue Jackson
Anne Laker
Elizabeth Marshall
Joe Purcell
Erin & Kevin Trisler

\$101-250

Ryan and Debora Franz
Deborah Bonte
Tracy Chandler
Caleb Kolby
Alice Schloss
Greg Spratt
Lindsay McGuire

Indra Frank
David and Mimi Jose
Ken Miller
Vince and Lori Wong
Morgan and Neal Bennett
Elizabeth Brandt
Devin Burns
Jennifer and James Kelley
Joan Sherman
Barbara Wilder

\$251-1000

Midwest Bale Ties
Jared Rains
Pamela Francis
David Gabovitch
Elizabeth Casselman
Scott Lutocka
Cody Marshall
RJ (John) Gibson

\$1001 AND UP

Ann M. Stack
Target Circle Guest-Directed
Giving Program
Browning Investments
Schott Design, Inc.

IN-KIND DONORS

BRICS
Monarch Beverage
Public Greens