

Wayne Township Tribune



Labor Day: More Than Summer's End | Trustee Knox



Labor Day has meaning beyond the long weekend and the unofficial end of summer. For more than a century, it has been a day to recognize the contributions of working women and men. In that spirit, we want to highlight how the Wayne Township Trustee Office helps some residents build a path toward employment – while giving back to their community – through our Workfare program.

Through Workfare, Township Assistance clients who are able to work but are unemployed complete assigned “workdays” at nonprofit organizations or government agencies. The program benefits everyone involved: Community organizations receive additional help at no cost, while participants gain practical experience, develop job skills, and learn workplace expectations. In some cases, Workfare has even led directly to full-time employment with the organizations where participants completed their assignments.

As we enjoy the cookouts and long weekend this Labor Day, let’s also take a moment to appreciate the people behind the work – employees, tradespeople, caregivers, business owners, volunteers, and countless others who keep our community moving forward. Happy Labor Day, everyone!

“Committed to the Challenge, Dedicated to the Cause”

Wayne Township Trustee Office

Austin Knox, Trustee

320 East Superior Street

Monday – Thursday
7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Friday
8 a.m. – 12 noon

Saturday – Sunday
Closed

Phone: (260) 449-7000

Website:
waynetownship.org

Visit us on social media:



Want to receive our newsletter by email? Just scan this QR code or visit our “[Contact Us](https://waynetownship.org/contact-us/)” page (<https://waynetownship.org/contact-us/>) and provide your email address. Type “Newsletter” into the message field, and we will add you to the list!



The WTTO July Employee of the Month is Ms. Dorothy Tinker, our Director of Support Services! Dorothy has been with us for 30 years. During that time, she has worked in essentially every department, so she has the ability to capably step into almost any role here. Most recently, Dorothy filled in and assisted another department for an extended period of time, while never skipping a beat with her regular responsibilities. We appreciate her knowledge, insight, and enthusiasm every day. Congratulations, Ms. Dorothy! Your dedication to the people of Wayne Township is a positive example for us all.



Job Application Assistance

Need help filling out job applications? Our Director of Workfare and Employment, Shatayah Connor, has you covered! Times are available on Tuesdays from 9 to 11 a.m. Call 260-449-7000 x317 to schedule your appointment!

WTTO INFORMATION

Upcoming Events with the Wayne Township Trustee Office

2026 Organized Labor Day Picnic

When: Monday, September 7, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Where: Headwaters Park

FREE: Join us at the Organized Labor Day Picnic, sponsored by Northeast Indiana Building & Construction Trades Council. This picnic is open to the public, and will include food, beverages, and events for the kids.

Harvesting Memories

When: Wednesday, October 28, 5 – 7 p.m.

Where: Wayne Township Trustee Office, 320 East Superior Street

FREE: Safe and free trick-or-treating for kids 0-18 at the Wayne Township Trustee Office! We will have a costume contest, photo stations, a maze, and more! Thank you to our generous donors for making this event possible!

Drive-Thru Ham & Turkey Giveaway at WTTO

When: Thursday, December 17, starting at noon

Where: Wayne Township Trustee Office, 320 East Superior Street

FREE: Holiday gifts for the community at our office! We will be giving away one free ham or turkey per household while supplies last. Thank you to our generous donors for making this event possible! More details to come in this newsletter, on our website, and on social media.



COMMUNITY INFORMATION

FREE September Family Events

Be a Tourist in Your Own Hometown

When: September 13

Where: All Around Fort Wayne

FREE: The "Be a Tourist" passport gets you free admission to any participating attraction. One passport is good for an entire party. Pick up Passports at select Kroger and Old National Bank locations around Fort Wayne, or download and print from this [link](#).

West Central ArtsFest

When: September 12 – 13

Where: West Central Neighborhood

FREE: Regional arts and crafts exhibitors and free live music during the West Central Home & Garden Tour. Food trucks will serve lunch and dinner. (The Home & Garden Tour itself incurs a fee for tickets. You can find more information about that at this [link](#).)

Johnny Appleseed Festival

When: September 19 – 20

Where: Johnny Appleseed Park

FREE: Set back in time to around 1842, visitors can see, smell, and enjoy all the sights and sounds that might have been around during Johnny Appleseed's lifetime. No entrance fee.



≡ Different Roles. One Goal. ≡

Supporting our community in different ways. ♥



WAYNE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE OFFICE

Dedicated to providing temporary emergency assistance to those whose personal efforts have not enabled them to meet life's challenges on their own.

- Emergency financial assistance
- Provide food
- Provide clothing
- Help with money management
- Assist with job training and job seeking
- Connect residents with the right help at the right time
- Identify needs and remove barriers



PAWSITIVE SUPPORT SERVICES

Dedicated to making our lives better just by being there for and with us.

- Welcome us with unconditional love
- Reduce stress with tail wags and purrs
- Trusty friend who's always there
- Specialized support: comfort, companionship and joy
- Make life a little better every day



WE BOTH

- Lend an ear
- Welcome all with a smile
- Reduce stress
- Provide support in times of need
- Build a stronger community through stronger personal foundation



Different roles. Same mission: making life a little better. ♥



MORE THAN A MOMENT

When a client comes to the Wayne Township Trustee Office for assistance, they clearly are facing a difficult moment — and often there is an immediate need. But that moment and immediate need do not have to dictate what comes next.

Our goal is to provide more than help with an immediate need. Whether it's assistance with rent or utilities, food, household essentials, employment, or connecting with other resources, we work alongside residents to address the barriers standing between them and greater stability.

For some, that support can be the difference between housing and homelessness. For others, it can provide the breathing room needed to find a job, pursue education, or develop skills for a new career. We've seen residents who once needed help go on to earn college degrees, build careers, support their families, and even help others facing challenges of their own. We've also seen people return years later simply to share how a difficult season — and the assistance they received during it — became a turning point in their lives.

Employment is an important part of that journey. In 2025, our employment training and placement efforts helped 159 people secure permanent, full-time jobs. And the work continues: Last month, we helped place seven clients into jobs.

But those numbers represent much more than jobs. They represent paychecks, independence, confidence, and the ability to move forward.

We may meet people on what is one of the hardest days of their lives. We may not always get to see where their journey leads. But when we can help remove a barrier, connect someone with an opportunity, or provide stability long enough for them to regain their footing, we are helping make that next chapter possible.

That is the heart of what we do: Meeting people where they are and helping them move toward where they want to be.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Healthcare Resources

Neighborhood Health

(260) 458-2641

<https://mynhfw.org/>



Downtown Location

1717 South Calhoun Street, Fort Wayne

Citilink bus route includes a stop at this office.

Broadway Location

750 Broadway Street, Fort Wayne

Oxford Location

3501 Warsaw Street, Fort Wayne

Citilink bus route includes a stop at this office.

Southeast Location

3350 East Paulding Road, Fort Wayne

Matthew 25

413 E. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne

(260) 426-3250

<https://www.matthew25online.org/>

Bowen Health

1315 W Washington Center Rd, Fort Wayne

(260) 443-7481

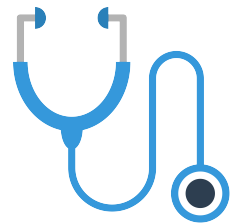
201 E Rudisill Blvd, Fort Wayne

(574) 385-3139

2100 Goshen Rd, Fort Wayne

(574) 385-3138

www.bowenhealth.org



For Veterans:

Fort Wayne VA Medical Center

2121 Lake Avenue, Fort Wayne

(260) 426-5431

Fort Wayne VA Clinic

2500 East State Blvd., Fort Wayne

(260) 426-5431

<https://www.va.gov/northern-indiana-health-care/locations/>



COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Wayne Township Food Pantry

Wayne Township emergency food pantry is open by request every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Limit is two visits per year.

Please bring the following:

1. A bag or box to carry your food distribution
2. A picture ID and proof of residence in Wayne Township

Additional Food Resources

Miss Virginia's Food Pantry

1312 S. Hanna Street, Fort Wayne
Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
<https://www.missvirginiafoodpantry.com/>

Community Harvest Food Bank (CHFB)

(260) 447-3696
<https://www.communityharvest.org/get-help/>

CHFB Saturday Helping Hands Distribution

999 East Tillman Road, Fort Wayne
Every Saturday, 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

CHFB Farm Wagon Mobile Pantry University of Saint Francis

2701 Spring Street, Fort Wayne
1st and 3rd Mondays, 9 a.m.



CHFB Farm Wagon Mobile Pantry St. Peter's Catholic Church

518 East Dewald Street, Fort Wayne
Every Friday, 1 p.m.

FoodPantries.org

Source for finding local food pantries
https://foodpantries.org/ci/in-fort_wayne

Financial Resources

Inasmuch Ministry (Broadway Christian Church)
930 Broadway Street, Fort Wayne (Door #11)
(260) 422-3498
<https://inasmuchfw.org/>

Brightpoint

227 E Washington Blvd, Fort Wayne
(260) 423-3546
<https://www.mybrightpoint.org/>

Salvation Army

2901 N. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne
(260) 744-2311
<https://www.salvationarmyusa.org>



Mental Health Resources

YWCA of Northeast Indiana

1313 W Washington Center Rd, Fort Wayne
(260) 424-4908
<https://ywcanein.org/>

Iris Family Support Center (formerly SCAN)

500 W. Main Street, Fort Wayne
(260) 421-5000
<https://www.irisfamily.org/>

Bowen Health

1315 W Washington Center Rd, Fort Wayne
(260) 443-7481

201 E Rudisill Blvd, Fort Wayne
(574) 385-3139

2100 Goshen Rd, Fort Wayne
(574) 385-3138
www.bowenhealth.org



CONTACT US

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Fort Wayne, IN 46802

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