**Awards Descriptions and Judging Criteria**

1. **Michael Carroll Leadership Award**

This award recognizes a person in the state who has exhibited exceptional advocacy to further support the community economic development industry. Advocacy activities must be above the normal employment expectations and can include activities over the course of several years or a significant activity that resulted in a positive outcome. Nominees may be nonprofit staff, board members, local/state government, funders, or others in the field. This "centerpiece" award carries with it a $2,500 contribution to the nonprofit organization of the winner's choice.

**Judging Criteria:**

* Contributions to housing & community economic development field, over and above normal employment expectations
* Contributions to general public service
* Exceptional advocacy/leadership on behalf of the affordable housing & CED industry
  + Raising awareness and/or educating others about affordable housing and CED
  + Advocacy may be on the federal, state, or local levels
* Impact of leadership/advocacy efforts

1. **Robert O. Zdenek Staff Member of the Year Award**

Recognizes outstanding professional leadership and commitment of a staff person working for a housing or community economic development organization. Nominees may include Executive Directors, housing staff, administrative staff, or any other staff member who embodies the dedication and principles of community economic development as well as innovation and leadership within their own organization. A cash prize of $1,000 is provided in honor of the winner.

**Judging Criteria:**

* Contributions to organization & community economic development field
* Contributions to general public service
* Leadership & personal initiative
* Continuity of participation

1. **Key Award for Supportive Services Program of the Year**

The Key Award for Supportive Services Program of the Year honors excellence and innovation in a service-oriented (non-construction) community development initiative. To be considered for the Key Award, the program should be a leader in the area of service provision and/or volunteerism and provide a unique program model for other organizations within Indiana. A cash prize of $1,000 is provided in honor of the winner.

**Judging criteria:**

* Leader in the area of service provision and/or volunteerism
* Provide a unique program model
* Impact on community and/or constituents
* Creativity and imagination beyond what typically is expected
* Evidence of cooperative efforts among variety of stakeholders

1. **John Niederman Rural Development Leadership Award**

This new Prosperity Indiana Rural Development Leadership Award is designed to recognize outstanding leaders in the field of rural community economic development. This honor will be bestowed on individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in improving the quality of life, influencing policies, and fostering opportunities for growth and development for the betterment of rural Indiana. A cash prize of $1,000 is provided in honor of the winner.

**Judging Criteria:**

* Embody social entrepreneurship as demonstrated by a mission to create and sustain social value.
* Operate in a collaboration first approach to rural community economic development building relationships to leverage impact.
* Believe that community economic development is a human enterprise and put assets and talents of people at the center of their work.
* Be committed to innovation, constantly searching for community economic development strategies that are spun from creativity, fast learning, and fast failure to scale successful endeavors.
* Deliver results through outcome measure and delivering success.

**Past Award Recipients**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Michael Carroll Advocate of the Year Award** | | | | | | |
| Year | | | Name | | Organization (if known) | |
| 1988 | | | Tom Binford | |  | |
| 1989 | | | Sen. Greg Server and Rep. Bill Crawford | |  | |
| 1990 | | | Wayne Barnett | |
| 1991 | | | Willis Bright | |
| 1992 | | | Fred Hash | |
| 1993 | | | First Lady Judy O’Bannon | |
| 1994 | | | Matthew Rueff | |
| 1995 | | | Daniel F. Evans | |
| 1996 | | | Congressman Andy Jacobs, Jr. | |
| 1997 | | | Rep. John Day and Sen. Luke Kenley | |
| 1998 | | | Mark St. John | |
| 1999 | | | Patricia Wachtel | |
| 2000 | | | John Dorgan | | HUD | |
| 2001 | | | John Thompson | |  | |
| 2002 | | | Deborah McCarty | |  | |
| 2003 | | | Ed Glover | |  | |
| 2004 | | | Sue Leonard | | Muncie | |
| 2005 | | | Anne Mannix | | Neighborhood Development Services | |
| 2006 | | | Sharron Liggins | | Continuum of Care Network-NWI | |
| 2007 | | | Sister Barbar Ann Zeller | | Guerin Inc | |
| 2008 | | | Luzada Hayes | | Aurora, Inc. | |
| 2009 | | | Judge Donald C. Johnson | | Lafayette Reentry Problem Solving Court | |
| 2010 | | | Linda Klink | | Deputy Mayor of the City of Logansport | |
| 2011 | | | Jacob Sipe | | IHCDA | |
| 2012 | | | Mark Lindenlaub | | Housing Partnerships, Inc. and Aging and Community Services of South Central Indiana | |
| 2013 | | | Jack Brummett | | Great Lakes Capital Fund | |
| 2014 | | | Bill Taft | | LISC | |
| 2015  2016 | | | Maynard J. Scales  James Taylor | | Fort Wayne Housing Authority  John Boner Neighborhood Centers | |
| 2017 | | | n/a | | n/a | |
| 2018 | | | Pat Gamble-Moore | | PNC | |
| **Robert O. Zdenek Staff of the Year Award** | | | | | | |
| Year | | Name | | | Organization (if known) | |
| 1989 | | F. Eric Utz | | |  | |
| 1990 | | Frank Ryan | | |  | |
| 1991 | | Julia B. O’Connor | | |  | |
| 1992 | | Dennis West | | | ECI | |
| 1993 | | Greg Volz | | |  | |
| 1994 | | Melanie Green | | |  | |
| 1995 | | Chuck Heintzelman | | |  | |
| 1996 | | Steve Proctor | | | CAP of Western Indiana | |
| 1997 | | JoAnn Green | | |  | |
| 1998 | | Arden Shank | | |  | |
| 1999 | | Bill Taft & Jeff Pankrantz (tie) | | |  | |
| 2000 | | Janet Ditmire | | | Housing Assistance Office, South Bend | |
| 2001 | | John J. Niederman | | | Pathfinder Services | |
| 2002 | | Patricia Stephenson | | | Lafayette Neighborhood Housing Svcs | |
| 2003 | | Eileen Laughlin | | | Near North Development Corporation | |
| 2004 | | Kay Fleck | | | Whitley Crossings Neighborhood Corp | |
| 2005 | | Larry Kleeman | | | Lincoln Hills | |
| 2006 | | William Gray | | | Riley Area Development Corporation | |
| 2007 | | Larry Gautsche | | | LaCasa of Goshen | |
| 2008 | | Susan Rinne | | | Options for Better Living, Inc. | |
| 2009 | | Paula Craig | | | Blue River Services, Inc. | |
| 2010 | | Patricia Lewis | | | Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis | |
| 2011 | | Bruce Baird | | | Indianapolis Housing Agency | |
| 2012 | | M. Ann Helmke | | | Vincent Village | |
| 2013 | | David Miller | | | Hoosier Uplands Economic Development Corporation | |
| 2014 | | Chris Maples | | | Partners in Housing | |
| 2015 | | Rodney Stockment | | | IHCDA | |
| 2016 | | Gladys Muhammad | | | South Bend Heritage Foundation | |
| 2017 | | n/a | | | n/a | |
| 2018 | | Mark Gould | | | 1st Source Bank | |
| **Key Award for Supportive Services Program** | | | | | |
| Year | Program | | | Organization (if known) | |
| 2005 | Quality Cleaning Solutions LLC | | | Lincoln Hills Development Corporation | |
| 2006 | Action Coalition to Ensure Stability | | | Choices, Inc. | |
| 2007 | No Award Given | | |  | |
| 2008 | Health Recovery Program | | | Gennessaret Free Clinics | |
| 2009 | Build a Better Blackford | | |  | |
| 2010 | Robinson Community Learning Center – Youth Entrepreneur Program | | |  | |
| 2011 | Harvestland Farm | | | Aspire Indiana | |
| 2012 | East 10th Street United Methodist Children and Youth Center | | |  | |
| 2013 | Public Allies | | | Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center | |
| 2014 | Neighborhood Spotlight | | | Legacy Foundation of Lake County | |
| 2015 | Robert Miller Veterans Program (Miller’s Vets) | | | Center for the Homeless | |
| 2016 | Back Home in Indiana Alliance | | |  | |
| 2017 | n/a | | | n/a | |
| 2018 | Building Better Neighborhoods | | | Ball State University | |

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| **John Niederman Rural Development Leadership Award** | | |
| Year | Program | Organization (if known) |
| 2014 | Dr. Janet Ayres | Department of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University |
| 2015 | Abby Hoy | Economic Development Group of Wabash County, Inc. |
| 2016 | Chuck Heintzelman | Milestone Ventures, Inc. |
| 2017 | n/a | n/a |
| 2018 | Larry Gautsche | La Casa, Inc |