

# 8twelve COALITION



**It's hard to believe where we have come since deciding to explore neighborhood revitalization as way of working at Muncie Habitat for Humanity back in 2012.** Could we have imagined the partnerships created, impact realized, friends gained, neighbors connected, ideas birthed, plans embarked? Simply stated, 'no'. Or rather, of course not, they were never really meant to be ours' anyway.

The core of the neighborhood revitalization work that has become the 8twelve Coalition, engaged in the Thomas Park/Avondale and South Central Neighborhoods, is always the residents. Their gifts, dreams, and concerns are the incubators through which all of the work highlighted in this annual report came to life. Spend some time reliving 2018 with us, it was fun, rewarding, and, not to mention, a bit tiring.

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8twelve Coalition Convener  
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[8twelvemuncie.com](https://8twelvemuncie.com)



## Learning Cohort

In 2018, the 8twelve Coalition was selected in a competitive process to join a learning cohort with Habitat for Humanity International. Habitat is working with 10 communities across the nation as part of a five-year neighborhood revitalization effort. These communities are part of a learning cohort that will test Habitat's quality of life framework, a tool developed to identify areas of focus, track progress and document change in ways that are measurable over time.

Learning cohort communities are located in Moncks Corner, SC; Pittsfield, MA; Charlottesville, VA; Lafayette, LA; Los Angeles, CA; Muncie, IN; Philadelphia, PA; Pittsburgh, PA; Tucson, AZ; and Dacono, CO.

A photograph of three women standing in front of a vertical-plank wooden wall. They are all wearing red t-shirts with the text "Hands on. Hearts in." printed on them. The woman on the left is wearing a grey baseball cap and sunglasses. The woman in the middle is wearing glasses and a red headband. The woman on the right is holding a large, long wooden beam horizontally across her body. There are stacks of similar wooden beams on the ground to the right. A white text box is overlaid on the left side of the image.

## Lowe's

Lowe's has invested \$420,000 to help improve the 8twelve area in Muncie since 2016. Funding in 2018 from Lowe's supported new and improved housing projects, beautification along Walnut Street, Dumpsters Days, improvements at community gardens, and an adopt-a-lot program.

Over 2 days in October, Lowe's volunteers contributed 378 hours to projects throughout the 8twelve Coalition area.

photos: Do you have some photos from

# FOUNDATIONAL OUTCOMES

Sense of Community, Social Cohesion, Collective Action

## Small Sparks

Supported by the Ball Brothers Foundation, the resident-led Small Sparks Program kicked off. **Eleven resident projects were funded** that improved quality of life as defined by their neighbors. A variety of projects happened, some of which included a comic book club, nature backpacks at the library, pop-up porch parties, and dance team uniforms. This program is a finalist for the Neighborhoods USA Best Neighborhoods Award.





## Trunk or Treat

Avondale UMC, Ross Community Center, and Urban Light Church worked together to host a Trunk or Treat event on Halloween. The streets were filled with families having fun!



## Connection/Storytelling-website, logos, newsletters

Connecting and telling our story are important components of neighborhood revitalization. Thomas Park/Avondale and South Central created new neighborhood logos, a new 8twelve website was launched and all neighborhood residents received both a spring and fall newsletter in their mailbox.



## Training

Neighbors took part in several training opportunities. In the fall, nearly 50 people from Muncie traveled to Chicago for a community development conference. At South View Elementary, about 30 neighbors, teachers, and community workers participated in a Saturday training on Understanding People in Poverty and Trauma Informed Caregiving.

# HOUSING

In the true spirit of partnership that defines the 8twelve Coalition, during United Way's Day of Action boards were painted in the middle of Ball State University's campus and later installed by Lowe's volunteers on vacant properties in the neighborhood.



Removal of blight was addressed by not only the City of Muncie, but also the 8twelve Coalition.



Urban Light CDC completed rehab of a duplex at 1212 S. Jefferson.



The Muncie Mission continued to increase the number of housing units in their transitional housing program.



ecoREHAB completed rehab of 1211 W. 10th Street. Brian Carless moved in at the end of the year. Brian helped design the community garden just a few lots down from his house a few years ago as a student at Ball State.




Pathstone Corporation completed construction of a new home at 1324 S. Jefferson.

In addition to building and rehabbing homes for homeownership opportunities, Habitat for Humanity is in partnership with ecoREHAB, Homesavers of Delaware County and Pathstone Corporation to preserve existing housing in the area.



# 20 HOUSING UNITS WERE CREATED OR IMPROVED IN 2018!

# BEAUTIFICATION



Organized by South Central Neighborhood Association President, Lezlie McCrory, phase one of beautifying Walnut Street south of downtown was completed. Vectren volunteers worked alongside residents to see this dream come true!



## Dumpster Days & Neighborhood Cleanup



Inspired by a story told by Geoffrey Mearns, Ball State University President, neighborhood cleanups were coupled with Dumpster Days. The week leading up to the clean-up, free dumpsters were placed throughout the area. **Nearly 26 tons of refuse were collected in the dumpsters alone!** Neighbors were seen helping each other fill the dumpsters throughout the week.

# Education & Family Engagement

23 people connected to the 8twelve Coalition became training Family Navigators through BY5.

Working together with the Education & Family Engagement Action Team, WIPB applied for a \$175,000 Ready to Learn Grant. The grant was allocated to our area and will increase early childhood learning activities in the area using existing partners beginning in 2019.



## Business

The focus of the Business & Economic Development Action Team in 2018 was identifying residents' dreams and concerns for the area and exploring solutions. Residents share concerns about the closing of the grocery store, lack of nearby healthcare and places to gather for things like a simple cup of coffee. Dreams of residents include healthcare, food, and a gathering space close by. Building partnerships and learning comprised much of the work this year. Action Team members took a field trip to learn more about aquaponics as a source of job creation and fresh food production.

# FUNDING

## 2018 Funds Secured for Collaborative Work in the 8twelve Coalition



**\$175,000**

WIPB-Ready to Learn



**\$100,000**

Lowe's



**\$220,000**

Robert Wood Johnson  
Foundation



**\$14,500**

Community Foundation of  
Muncie-Delaware County



**\$80,000**

Ball Brothers Foundation

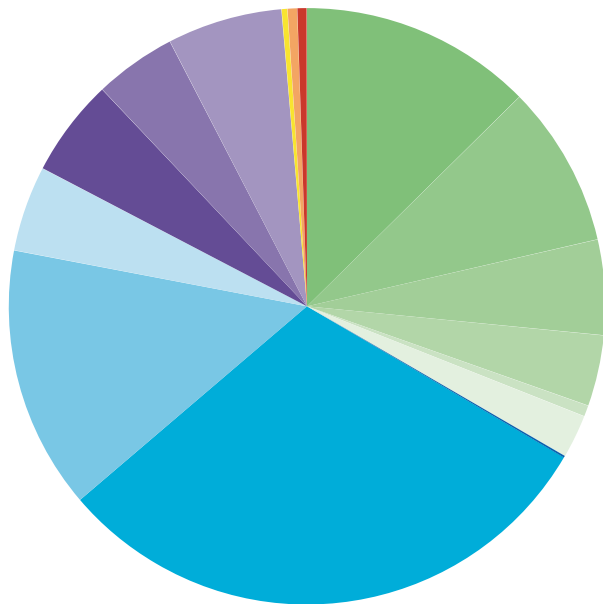
## Awards

The Muncie-Delaware Chamber of Commerce recognized the work of the 8twelve Coalition at their Annual Meeting. The Coalition received the 2018 Excellence in Public Service Award.



# 2018 EXPENSES FOR 8TWELVE COALITION

This represents the funds distributed to Coalition partners in 2018. This does not reflect individual organization's total work.



Beautification Action Team	TOTAL	\$143,084
Ross Center Improvements		\$54,094
Boys and Girls Club Improvements		\$37,622
Maring Hunt Community Garden		\$22,136
Avondale Community Garden		\$16,499
South Central Neighborhood Association		\$2,547
Miscellaneous (dumpster days, clean-ups, pocket park maintenance, meetings, etc.)		\$10,186

Housing Action Team	TOTAL	\$211,191
ecoREHAB		\$160
PathStone Corporation		\$130,000
Urban Light CDC		\$61,136
Muncie Mission		\$19,896

Foundational Outcomes	TOTAL	\$68,482
Sense of Community Projects (marketing, events, etc.)		\$22,693
Social Cohesion (training, etc.)		\$19,006
Collection Action (annual planning, resident meetings, data collection, etc.)		\$26,784

Business Action Team	TOTAL	\$1,342
Professional fees/consultation		

Education & Family Support Action Team	TOTAL	\$2,279
Afterschool programs, early learning marketing, etc.		

8twelve Coalition Management	TOTAL	\$2,190
Miscellaneous expenses: food, meetings, grant writing. Does not include Habitat staff time.		

## 8twelve Coalition Partner Involvement

Coalition Partners	Foundational Outcomes	Steering Committee	Resource Development Committee	Governance Committee	Housing Action	Education & Family Engagement	Business Development & Employment	Beautification
Avondale UMC	✓	✓				✓		
Building Better Neighborhoods-BSU	✓	✓	✓		✓			
Boys & Girls Club of Muncie	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Bridges Community Services					✓			
BY5		✓				✓		
City of Muncie					✓			
ecoREHAB	✓	✓	✓		✓			
Huffer Child Care Resource and Referral		✓	✓			✓		
Muncie Habitat for Humanity	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Muncie Mission		✓	✓		✓		✓	
Muncie Public Library	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
Open Door Health Services							✓	
Pathstone Corporation					✓			
Purdue Extension						✓		
Residents	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ross Community Center	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓
South Central Neighborhood Association	✓	✓						✓
South View Elementary						✓		
Thomas Park Avondale	✓	✓						
Urban Light CDC	✓	✓	✓		✓			
Urban Light Community Church		✓						
WIPB						✓		