



Same Lacasa. New look.

Throughout Lacasa's 48 years of impact, we've expanded our services and our reach. Our branding materials no longer matched our full audience or scope of services. We are in process with a major rebranding effort to expand the visibility of our services while maintaining the Lacasa name that the community knows well. Our rebranding tackles three primary challenges: maintaining the brand that people know well, reaching our full audience, and showcasing our scope of services. The Lacasa name is important in the community and is a name that families find comfort in. We do not want to change that. We want to reach everyone who would benefit from the programs Lacasa provides. As our tagline states "Strong Foundations. For Everyone." we want to make sure the community understands our commitment to all who need our assistance. We are excited for this new era at Lacasa and to continue being an organization for everyone in the Elkhart County community.



Moving Forward: Lacasa's New Leader

On April 24, Lacasa's Board of Directors announced their appointment of Chris Kingsley as the successor to Larry Gautsche as Lacasa's President/CEO. This was the result of a nationwide search conducted over late 2017 and early 2018. Chris has been with Lacasa for seven years, working for the first five to spearhead creation and delivery of financial empowerment services and for the past two as the Vice President of Development. Chris assumes the president responsibilities starting on August 6th.

"One component of the board's search process was seeking input from a wide variety of stakeholders across the county," states Lacasa Board Chair Nathan Mateer Rempel. "We asked what qualities were needed in leadership for Lacasa going forward, and how Lacasa could support our community. Chris' strengths align beautifully with what we heard from the community and we look forward to working with Chris in bringing Lacasa to a new level of service in Elkhart County."

From Chris:

It's an honor to serve Lacasa and our community in this capacity. I believe deeply in our work and I'm passionate about the services we provide. I've had the privilege of working with so many inspiring, hard-working people from our community who have committed to their goals and successfully created stability for their families. That's really what we exist for.

What's great about Elkhart County is that there are so many like you who care about and give of their own resources to support hard-working people who are struggling. This is work that impacts families and neighborhoods directly and also contributes to the community's overall health and economic development. It's a win-win.

I believe in the people we serve and in the many players in this community who are working for the betterment of all. It's what makes me eager to lead Lacasa's next chapter. I look forward to working together with you to change lives in our community in the years ahead!



Looking Back: Celebrating 17 Great Years



Serving as Lacasa's president for the past 17 years has been an adventure and a real honor. Over the years, I've operated with the assumption that if we focus on the most challenging housing and community development priorities of our community, we can trust that the resources will follow. That strategy resulted in numerous adrenaline-generating experiences: struggling to meet payroll in the early years, the unexpected collapse of the 3-story back wall of the Hattle during construction, the onset of the great recession within months of Lacasa's commitment to \$8 million in housing development in Elkhart, deploying staff resources to provide foreclosure counseling without an established funding source, to name a few.

Despite the challenges, Lacasa has continued to mature as an organization, significantly expand the scope and impact of services, extend opportunity to thousands of families, and make a noticeable impact in many neighborhoods.

I am particularly grateful for:

- Our many donors and volunteers who consistently support and advocate for our mission.
- Our first-time homebuyers, financial empowerment graduates, tenants, foreclosure survivors, and immigration clients who willingly share their success stories and promote Lacasa services.
- Lacasa's reputation that consistently attracts a very talented, mission-driven staff and board of directors.
- Productive partnerships with other quality service organizations: Oaklawn, Habitat for Humanity, Campus Center for Young Children, ADEC, and others that enhance our community impact.
- Leveraging Lacasa resources for greater community benefit through partnerships with local government, neighborhood associations, churches, civic organizations, and the business community.
- Consistent support from United Way, the Community Foundation of Elkhart County and external partners at the state and national level that invest millions of dollars in Elkhart County annually.

As I turn over CEO responsibilities to Chris Kingsley on August 3, it is with great confidence in the Lacasa team to continue the mission of creating "opportunity for personal empowerment, family stability, and neighborhood vitality". Lacasa's strategic 5-year plan is designed for significant growth, extending Lacasa resources to all of Elkhart County. The Impact Fund campaign will make that expansion of services possible.

On behalf of the many persons enriched by your support, thank you for all the ways you have supported Lacasa's mission over the past 17 years! I hope you will join me in continuing to support this great work, providing "strong foundations, for everyone" in our communities.

Sincerely,

Larry Gautsche
President

Join us at an Open House in honor of Larry's retirement
Friday, August 3, 4:30 - 7 pm
Gaining Grounds Coffee House
114 E Lincoln Ave, Goshen, IN 46528



Impact Fund

To position Lacasa for growth necessary to meet Elkhart County's needs, we are raising a \$1.2 million Impact Fund. Lacasa would not be in a position to sustainably grow without Larry's dynamic leadership over the past 17 years. Please consider a one-time personally significant gift to this campaign to honor Larry's legacy and invest in the creation of more opportunity for personal empowerment, family stability, and neighborhood vitality throughout Elkhart County in the years ahead.

\$300,000 Grant

Community Foundation of
Elkhart County

**This is a huge boost and we are
thankful for their vote of
confidence!**

\$500,000 Committed

Individual donations and grants

**Thank you to all who have
already donated or committed!**

\$400,000 Remaining

To ensure the investment is
not short-changed and full
impact is achieved.

Donate now on our website at lacasainc.net/lacasas-impact-fund... You may also download a pledge form at the same webpage to print and mail it to us: 202 N. Cottage Ave., Goshen, IN 46528.

Help-A-House 2018

28th

Annual

248

Volunteers

1,295

Hours worked

15

Sites in Goshen

14

Volunteer groups

(churches, service clubs, and businesses),
as well as many individual volunteers

LEAD SPONSOR:



Key Sponsors:



Multi-House Sponsors:

1st Source Bank
College Mennonite Church
DJ Construction, Inc.
Everence
First State Bank
InterCambio Express
Lippert Components
NIPSCO
Timothy and Marisa Yoder
Yoder Culp Funeral Home

Full House Sponsors:

Ancon Construction
Assembly Mennonite Church
Blue Star I.T. Services and Solutions
CDR Construction
Century 21 Affiliated - Christina Clauss & Barb Swartley
CommunityWide Federal Credit Union
Elkhart County Board of Realtors
First Federal Savings Bank
GDC, Inc.
Larry & Julia Gautsche
Goshen Noon Kiwanis
Hoover Feed Services
Horizon Transport
Jayco, Inc
John and Joy Liechty
LifePoint Church
Mission Woodworking
Mutual Bank
Benjamin & Susan Nelson
Rotary Club of Goshen
Schrock Homes
Silverwood Mennonite Church
Tax Solutions
Triangle Rubber
Veada
M. Douglas and Vicky Yoder

Supporters:

Aluminum Trailer
Bill's Heating
Bontrager Security
Bontrager Roofing
Clarkco
Craig's Carpentry
Dale Klassen Carpentry
Davis & Roose
Dutch Maid Bakery

Elkhart County Exchange Club
Erv's Vacuum Shop
Fidelity Title
First State Insurance
Gleason Industrial
Goshen Brewing Company
Greenfield Landscape Services, Inc.
Hamilton National Title
Andrew Harlow
Hawkins Water Tech
Hertzler Systems
Horoky Insurance & Financial Services, Inc.
Jimmy John's
John Hall True Value Hardware
Kappa, Kappa, Kappa
Allan Kauffman & Carol Miller
Lincolnway Dairy Queen
Mancino's Pizza
Maplecrest Insurance
Martin Brothers Contracting
Martin's Supermarkets
Maple Hill Psychological
Menno Travel
Meridian Title Corporation
Miller Brothers Builders
Sanford & Mary Lou Miller
Roger & Laurie Nafziger
Papa John's
Pike St. Dairy Queen
Pizza Hut Delivery
Richard and Thelma Ramer
Dean and Becky Rhodes
Signtech
Snyder Paints
South Side Soda Shop
Team Construction
Walmart
Whisler & Lavery
Amber & Dirk Wolfer
Yoder, Ainlay, Ulmer, & Buckingham

Help-A-House Fundraising Committee

Amber Wolfer, Chair, Lake City Bank
David Chupp, Keystone RV
Andy Harlow, Interra Credit Union
Allan Kauffman
Sanford Miller
Jon Miller, First State Bank
Matt Schrock, DJ Construction
Barb Swartley, Century 21



Say hello to our new team members!



Heidi Stoltzfus McHugh: VP Development and Community Engagement.

"I am delighted to join the dynamic leadership team at Lacasa and to bring together our new Community Engagement team. Lacasa has great energy moving forward and I'm excited to help further our mission and enrich Elkhart County communities, in part by connecting and engaging with you, our community of donors, volunteers, and partners. I truly look forward to getting to know you and welcome your call (574-533-4450) or email (heidi.mchugh@lacasainc.net)."



Nick Matthews: Marketing and Communication/Project Manager

"I'm extremely excited to be joining the Lacasa team. I've seen the impact it has on the community and I couldn't be happier to help provide my skills to a great organization!"



Tessie Molina: Promoted to Financial Empowerment Program Manager

"I am excited to start in this new venture of working with current and future partners to make our financial empowerment services available to all, no matter where they are right now in life, and equipping them to reach or even surpass their financial goals."

All Lacasa activities and services are provided without regard to race, age, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin, ancestry, or status as a veteran.

Lacasa, Inc. is a Community Development Organization serving Elkhart County. Our programs are designed to improve neighborhoods and strengthen families. Lacasa's programs are open to all people regardless of race, nationality, ethnic origin or religion.



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Strong foundations. For everyone.
lacasa
 202 N Cottage Avenue
 Goshen, IN 46528

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