

PRESS RELEASE

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City of Shelbyville and Partners to Receive Local Government Cooperation Award

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indiana Association of Cities and Towns (IACT) announced the City of Shelbyville, Shelby County, Shelbyville Central Schools and Shelby County Fair Board have been named a **2014 IACT Local Government Cooperation Award** winner for two projects. The entities will receive their award during the Annual Awards Luncheon presented by Umbaugh on Sept. 10, at the 2014 IACT Annual Conference & Exhibition in Fort Wayne.

The City of Shelbyville spearheaded two excellent initiatives that exemplify how collaboration and cooperation can achieve success in economic development and community improvement. The City of Shelbyville partnered with Shelby County and Rose Hulman Institute that increases STEM curriculum for students and provides a benefit to local industry. The four part program, Project IMPaCT encourages students to get involved in STEM related curriculum and offers opportunities for Rose Hulman undergraduates to interact and inspire high school students. Project IMPaCT also benefits undergraduates by placing them in internships with local businesses to solve problems and encourage them to seek employment in Indiana after graduation.

The second project honored is The Shelby County Fair Grandstands. Members of the Shelby County Fair Board, City of Shelbyville, and Shelby County came together to find a solution to replace the historic Grandstands. A design team and contractors built a new Grandstands that the community can take pride in using.



Shelbyville Mayor Tom DeBaun said it best, "We can do a lot of things for the citizens we serve. One of those things is knowing how to find the right partners with similar goals in mind. If we weren't all willing to work together for the greater success of our community, we wouldn't get very far."

"Our members frequently ask for best practices that embrace the principles of operating at maximum efficiency while building communities with a great quality of life. The City of Shelbyville, Project IMPaCT and the outstanding fairgrounds improvements will be examples that other communities can learn from," said IACT Executive Director and CEO Matt Greller.

In its 38th year, the IACT Annual Awards program, presented by Umbaugh, recognizes communities and individuals in municipal government for excellence and outstanding achievement. A nine-member panel of qualified judges selected this year's winners from a competitive field of nominees from around the state.

Media are welcome to attend the awards luncheon. Please notify Jennifer Simmons (jsimmons@cititesandtowns.org) at your earliest convenience to secure a media credential.

The Indiana Association of Cities and Towns (IACT) is a coalition of municipal officials who seek to improve the quality of life in Indiana through effective government, and is a member of the National League of Cities. Founded in 1891, IACT is one of the oldest state municipal organizations in the country, with 470 cities and towns as members. IACT advocates for municipalities as the official voice of municipal government in Indiana, and promotes good government through education, training and leadership.

Conference Facts:

2014 IACT Annual Conference and Exhibition September 9-11

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Grand Wayne Convention Center, Fort Wayne

Attendance: 1,000 (pending final registration count)

Further information: www.citiesandtowns.org