

Adams Township Trustee Office

1125 Hartzell Street, New Haven, IN 46774

Township Tea ~ October 2025

Seasons Change, Leadership with Love Remains

Every day, we have the ability to be kind. We can offer an act of kindness to someone we know or even to a stranger. It can happen in line at Starbucks, in traffic, at work, or at home.

Kindness is always a choice. I recently attended a conference where I watched a leader spend two to three days quietly celebrating others and making sure they had what they needed, whether raffle tickets, resources, or simple encouragement. He did this not for recognition or reward but simply so others could feel seen and supported.

On the final day of the conference, he received a call that a family member had unexpectedly passed away. In that moment of vulnerability, the kindness he had shown earlier became the bridge that drew people to him. His generosity had paved the way for others to rally around him when he needed it most.

That is the thing about kindness. You never know when you will have the chance again to extend it to someone you meet.

Sadly, many of us take everyday life for granted. We yell at someone in traffic. We dismiss the homeless, assuming they are lazy. As leaders, we sometimes miss opportunities to build up our employees, choosing instead to demean or control rather than collaborate.

This happens not only at work but also in our personal lives. Too often, when given roles of leadership, we forget to honor and to lead with love. There is a cost to leadership and to kindness. When done well, it creates loyalty and connection. When done poorly, it leaves you alone in your hardest hour. When that moment comes, you have to ask yourself: Which side will you be on?

It is in these moments that I remember my *why*. What is *your* why? I have learned that jealousy can cause people to act in ugly ways. As we step into this fall season, I challenge you to self-reflect. Are you the leader, coworker, or friend who shines with kindness and draws others in during your time of need? Or are you someone who pushes others away, only to find yourself alone when you need people the most?

Life comes in seasons. We welcome the joy of summer and its warmth. We dread winter and its cold. Yet winter offers us time to reflect and restore. It clears away disease, prepares the ground for renewal, and reminds us that even in darkness, spring always returns. Every season has its place.

We must honor them all, the times of cold and seclusion as much as the times of warmth and connection.

So, do not let people hold you back from the work. Leadership is humility. Love is humility. Both will humble you, teaching you to value people who have more or less than you. If you cannot read your staff or the room with the eyes of love, you will miss the strengths within your team that could help everyone rise together. Denita L. Washington, Trustee

Denita Washington, Trustee



Committed to Community through Service and Accountability.

Adams Township Trustee Office

1125 Hartzell Street

New Haven, IN 46774

Mon -Thurs 9 AM—5 PM

CLOSED For Lunch 12 PM-1 PM

CLOSED Fridays

Phone 260.749.4162

Fax 260.749.6086

Email: info@adamstownship.org

Adams Township Trustee Office

Check out our Website

<https://www.adamstownship.org>



Visit our Facebook Page!



Community Information

A Story Of Courage: My Breast Cancer Journey

Hello! My name is Adoria King-Dowdell. My Breast Cancer Journey began at the age of 33. Even though there was no family history of breast cancer, I would still from time to time do a self-breast exam while showering. This is how I felt a lump on May 24, 2002. I immediately called my mom and sister. After talking to them, I called my OBGYN doctor, and I was able to get an appt right away. I was given an order to go have a mammogram done. A lump was detected, and results came back that I had breast cancer. That news was devastating. It had me in tears.

I was referred to an oncologist. After more testing, it was determined that I needed to have a mastectomy, chemo, and radiation. I had a very strong support system. My family, church family and friends were so awesome to me during that whole process. I had strong faith, so I was determined to beat it. Yes, it broke me down plenty of times, but I got right back up. That overall process was 8 months. I was off work the entire time.

I am a 23-year breast cancer survivor. GOD IS GOOD! I thank God that I found it in time because it could have gone in a different direction.

Ladies, PLEASE do self-exams monthly if you're not at the age to get yearly mammograms! It's very important to know your body. If you feel something isn't right, call the doctor! Even if you do get yearly mammograms, it's still important to regularly check yourself.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, so please take care of yourselves! Hope to see everyone at the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on Saturday, October 25th at Parkview Field starting at 8:30 AM.

Breast Cancer Awareness: Together In Hope And Strength

In our community, we show up for one another, in good times and in hard ones. That's why it's important to talk about something that touches so many lives: breast cancer.

One in eight women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. In 2025, an estimated 316,950 women and 2,800 men will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer, and another 59,080 with non-invasive breast cancer. Whether it's a neighbor, friend, loved one, or even us, most of us know someone who has faced this disease.

But there is hope. When breast cancer is found early, the five-year survival rate is 99%. With advances in detection and treatment, survival rates have risen dramatically. Today, there are over 4 million breast cancer survivors in the United States. This a testament to the power of awareness, research, and community support.

As we move through Breast Cancer Awareness Month, let it be a time not only for pink ribbons but for real conversations, support, and encouragement. Remind your loved ones to schedule regular screenings.



Community Information

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Standing Together Against Domestic Violence

Domestic violence can happen anywhere. It crosses all lines: age, gender, race, income, and background. In fact, Allen County sees some of the highest domestic violence rates in the state, with over 10,000 domestic violence-related calls made to Fort Wayne Police each year. But as a community, we can raise our voices and come together in support of those affected and hope for change.

You're invited to join local organizations, neighbors, survivors, and advocates at the annual **Flowers on the River**, **Date:** Thursday, October 16, 2025 **Time:** 6:00–7:00 PM, **Location:** Wells Street Bridge, Fort Wayne, **Admission:** Free

This event includes a reading of the Domestic Violence Awareness Proclamation, survivor stories, music, and a shared moment of silence. Together, we will drop flowers into the river symbolizing remembrance, resilience, and the collective hope for a safer future.

Wear Purple Every Friday in October

Show your support for survivors by wearing purple each Friday, and encourage friends, coworkers, and family to do the same. Don't forget to share your photos and tag #DVAM and #PurpleFridays on social media.

If you or someone you know needs help, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at **800-441-4073**. Free, confidential support is available 24/7.

Let's continue to support one another, speak out, and build a community where everyone feels safe and valued.



Brightpoint Energy Assistance

Beginning October 1st, the LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) applications will be available. Brightpoint will start taking applications this day as well, however, they will not begin processing them until November 1st. **Please continue to pay your electric and gas bills to avoid disconnection.** For more information, visit www.mybrightpoint.org or call 260-423-3546. If you or someone you know reside in Adams Township and need assistance completing the application, please call us to schedule an appointment for assistance at 260-749-4162, option 1.



Fall Fest 2025

SAVE THE DATE! Join Trustee Washington for Adams Township's **Annual HALLOWEEN EVENT, FALL FEST**. This year's Fall Fest will be a blast just like past years! We will have refreshments, community organizations with resources to share, books and lots of candy! You don't want your youth to miss it. Costumes are welcome but not required. All are welcome to join us.

📍 **Location:** East Central Fire Station, 4625 East Paulding Road, Fort Wayne 🗓️ **Date:** Friday, October 31, 2025 🕒 **Time:** 5:00—7:00



Stay In The Know

Do you follow our Facebook Page? If not, go follow us for current job openings at local and surrounding companies, Township and

local events, and other news that might be beneficial to you or some you know. Stay informed!



Advisory Board Meeting

There will be an Advisory Board Meeting on **Tuesday, October 14, 2025 at 6:00 PM** to adopt the 2026 budget.

The meeting will be held here at 1125 Hartzell Street, New Haven, IN 46774.



Community Information

Wellspring Interfaith Social Services

Wellspring: Food, Clothing & Mobile Support

Wellspring Interfaith Social Services offers free, **no-referral-needed** assistance for anyone in need.

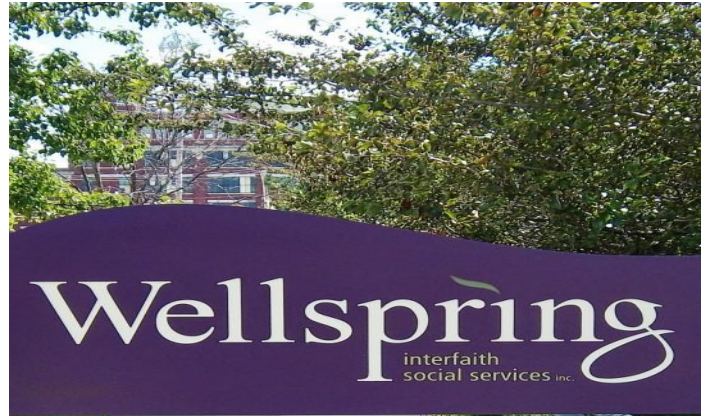
Food Bank Hours (visit every 30 days):

📍 1316 Broadway, Fort Wayne
Mon & Wed: 9–11 AM
Tue: 4–6 PM
Thu: 2–4 PM

Wellspring Shoppe offers free clothing **by appointment only**.

📅 Schedule online: wellspringinterfaith.org/wellspring-shoppe

☎ Or call: 260-422-6618 ext. 201



Wellspring Wheels, their mobile food program, has **no 30-day wait**. Locations vary—check the schedule at: wellspringinterfaith.org

Mustard Seed Furniture Bank

Since 2002, the Mustard Seed Furniture Bank has helped local families turn empty housing into homes by providing essential furniture and household items. This **once-in-a-lifetime service** is available to residents of Adams, Allen, DeKalb, Huntington, Noble, Wells, and Whitley counties, with a referral from an approved agency.

Eligible clients include those facing major life challenges—such as domestic violence, homelessness, foster care transition, or disaster recovery.

Requirements Include:

- 6 Months Indiana Residency
- Referral—Agency, Caseworker, Or Clergy
- Valid ID & Lease Agreement
- \$30 Processing Fee

Clients choose large furniture, while linens, kitchenware, and children's beds are matched based on need.

☎ For more information, please call **260-471-5802, extension 101**

or visit: www.mustardseedfortwayne.com



Mustard Seed also takes furniture donations. Please call **260-471-5802, extension 103** to schedule a pickup.

If you're a resident of the Adams Township Trustee Office, you may call the office at **260-749-4162** and **select option 1**, for information on how to receive a referral.

Community Information

Francine's Friends Mobile Mammography

When it comes to breast cancer, the best protection is early detection. *"Fifteen minutes can save your life."* Francine's Friends Mobile Mammography will be on site on Monday, October 27th. Call 260-483-1847 to make your appointment today before the schedule fills up.



A Time Of Giving



Can you believe that Thanksgiving is right around the corner?! Neither can we but it is! Trustee Washington and the team is gearing up for Adams Township's 6th Annual Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway. Starting at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, October 14th, we will be signing up families to receive a turkey, pan, and all the fixings. If you or someone you know would like to receive a basket, be sure to call the office at 260-749-4162 and select option 1. Please do not leave a voicemail message; you must speak with someone in order to register. Residents must live in Adams Township in order to be eligible. Pickup day is Monday, November 24th from 9 AM until 6 PM. Proof of residency will be required on pickup day.

Will You Donate?

The Township's Fall Fest will be held on Friday, October 31st from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM. We are in need of candy donations. If you or your organization is able to donate a bag or two of candy, it would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be dropped off at the office, 1125 Hartzell Street, New Haven, Monday through Thursday between 9:00 AM and 12:00 PM or 1:00 PM and 5:00 PM. If you need your donation picked up, please call 260-749-4162, option 1. Thank you in advance for your support.



Tis The Season...



Not only are we gearing up for our annual Fall Fest and Thanksgiving Basket distribution, but we are also getting ready for our annual Christmas Party! Trustee started with the yearly "Brunch With Santa" but due to the overwhelming response every year, we ran out of space. Last year Trustee Washington decided to try something different; we had a Bowling Christmas Party for families and boy was this a hit! So here we are again. Registration will begin on Tuesday, October 27, 2025 at 9:00 AM by calling 260-749-4162, option 1. Please do not leave a message, speak with a staff member. Space is limited so don't miss out. All are welcome to attend, no matter the Township you reside in.

"The purpose of human life is to serve, and to show compassion and the will to help others."

Community Resources

Mental Health

Raphael Bosley, Mental Health Counselor
260-255-4182

Women's Bureau
260-424-7977

Harvest Counseling Group, Inc.
260-485-4357

Courageous Healing
260-255-3514

Oaktree Guidance
260-570-4515

Parkview Behavioral Health
260-373-7500

Park Center
260-481-2700

Mental Health America of Northeast Indiana
260-422-6441



Financial Assistance

Broadway Christian Church (In As Much)

930 Broadway St., Fort Wayne, IN 46802 (Door #11)
Contact Info: (260) 422-3498

Available Assistance—Please contact In As Much to see what type of assistance they are currently offering.

Salvation Army

2901 N. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46805
Contact Info: (260) 744-2311

Available Assistance—Please contact Salvation Army to see what type of assistance they are currently offering.

***211 First Call For Help For More Resources**

Food Distribution Locations

The Impact Center (WOW)

Every 2nd Tuesday, 11:00 AM—1:00 PM
3420 E. Paulding Rd., Fort Wayne, IN

First Baptist Church

Every Thursday, 1:00 PM—4:00 PM
1716 Werling Rd., New Haven, IN

New Haven Community Center (WOW)

Every 4th Tuesday, 10:00 AM —12:00 PM
7500 SR 930 E, New Haven, IN

Community Harvest Wagon Mobile Pantry Drive Thru

1st & 3rd Monday 9:00 AM—10:00 AM

Jackson R. Lehman Family YMCA Parking Lot
5680 YMCA Park Drive West, Fort Wayne, IN

St. Peter's Church, Every Friday at 1:00 PM

518 E. Dewald St., Fort Wayne, IN

Community Harvest South, Every Saturday at
8:00 AM—10:00 AM

999 E. Tillman Rd., Fort Wayne, IN

Wellspring Interfaith Social Services

Mon & Wed, 9:00—11:00 AM

Tuesday, 4:00—6:00 PM, Thurs 2:00—4:00 PM

1316 Broadway St., Fort Wayne, IN

Saint Patrick's Catholic Church

Mon & Wed each week from 9:00—10:45 AM

2120 S. Harrison St., Fort Wayne, IN

The League (WOW)

Every 4th Thursday, 10:00 AM—12:00 PM

5821 S. Anthony Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN

Call 211 To Locate More Food Pantries

