



IAAQLI

6 PILLARS IN ACTION COMMUNITY CONNECT

IAAQLI continues to impact the quality of life within Indianapolis communities through the execution of the following pillars. 1. Business and Entrepreneurship, 2. Education, 3. Employment, 4. Health and Wellness, 5. Housing and Home Ownership, 6. Leadership and Civic Engagement

In this edition, we highlight the success stories of the following pillars:



Pillar 6: Leadership & Civic Engagement. **Reclaiming the Reins: The Black Rodeo Takes Center Stage on the Far Eastside**

Made possible by a transformative grant from the Indianapolis African American Quality of Life Initiative (IAAQLI), the event serves as a living extension of CAFE's broader mission to provide historical accounts of Black history. Through activations like these— alongside an upcoming dedicated museum on the second floor of their building—CAFE is ensuring the rich heritage of the community is both preserved and experienced.

Click the link to read the full story and learn more.

GO TO ARTICLE



Pillar 3: Employment **IAAQLI Six Pillars in Action: Keys2Work**

Keys2Work is providing support to Black individuals who are returning from the criminal justice system, offering a real second chance with paid work, hands-on training, and a path to higher-paying jobs. Glenn Johnson shares how the program is changing lives and restoring self-worth, one participant at a time.

Watch the video to see the impact in action.

GO TO VIDEO



Multiple Pillars **Inside the Impact: Meet the 2026 Honorees**

Big change starts with people who are willing to show up, serve, and make a difference. At the 2026 Indianapolis Urban League Gala celebration, nine IAAQLI Awardees and community leaders were recognized for the powerful work they're doing across Indianapolis—from strengthening neighborhoods and supporting students to empowering families and creating new opportunities. Click below to meet the honorees, hear their stories, and discover the impact happening right here in our community.

GO TO VIDEO

Erika Radford
Shine Early Learning

IAAQLI 6 PILLARS IN ACTION
PODCAST

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COMING SOON

Jennifer Murphy
Murphy Mentoring Group

IAAQLI, UP NEXT

Subscribe to our newsletter and stay up to date on the exciting developments impacting the **African American Quality of Life in Indianapolis**

The Indianapolis African American Quality of Life Initiative (IAAQLI) is a place-based community change project established through a partnership between the National Urban League, the Indianapolis Urban League, and the African American Coalition of Indianapolis. Funded through a \$100 million grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc. the goal of the IAAQLI is to acknowledge the concerns and increase the quality of life of African American residents in Indianapolis



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE **IAAQLI** INITIATIVE

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