



MISSION:

Bank on Northwest Indiana is committed to providing affordable banking services and education to promote a secure, financial future for *EVERYONE*.

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**BANK ON NORTHWEST INDIANA AIMS TO HELP ‘UNBANKED’
GAIN
FINANCIAL STABILITY & SAVE FOR THEIR FUTURE**

(Griffith, Indiana) - A new program designed to help connect the region’s estimated 21,700 “unbanked or underbanked” residents with free or low-cost bank accounts, financial education and other mainstream financial services was launched Wednesday.

Called “Bank On Northwest Indiana,” the program brings together local financial institutions and community partners to assist low-income working families who often fall prey to high fees typically charged to them by predatory check cashing and advance payday loan outlets.

The goal of Bank On NWI is to help people who do not have bank accounts to immediately keep more of their hard earned money with free or low-cost checking and savings accounts through participating financial partners. In its first year, the program hopes to help 1,000 people open new accounts and to provide free high-quality financial education to 1,500 individuals.

Its message is simple:

Everyone deserves a chance. Everyone is welcome.

For many, opening a checking and a saving account is the first step toward climbing the economic ladder, achieving financial stability in their daily lives and to begin saving for their future.

Financial Literacy Event

Tuesday, April 19th
10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

- Free
- Open to the Public
- Lunch provided

Hosted by:
Purdue University Calumet, TRIO and
Bank On Northwest Indiana

2200 169th Street
Hammond, IN
Student Union & Library
Alumni Hall, 3rd Floor

To register, please call
219-989-2774 or email
maxfield@purduecal.edu

Through Bank On NWI, participants can keep an account open with no minimum balance even if they have had trouble with a prior account and even if they need to spend all their money each month.

Another key component of the program is helping participants make the most of their money. Bank On NWI has quarterly programs to help consumers learn how to better manage their money, set and stay on a budget, manage a checking account, improve their credit rating, and pay off debt.

The effort is supported by the FDIC, Indiana State Treasurer's Office, Centier, Citizens Financial Bank, First Midwest Bank, Peoples Bank, Northwest Indiana Community Action, and Lake Area United Way.

It was unveiled at a press conference held Wednesday attended by:

- David A. Bochnowski, Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, Peoples Bank
- Angelisa M. Harris, Community Affairs Officer, FDIC, Chicago Regional Office
- Lou Martinez, President, Lake Area United Way
- Richard Mourdock, Indiana State Treasurer
- Gary Olund, President & CEO, Northwest Indiana Community Action
- Daryl D. Pomranke, President & Chief Operating Officer, Citizens Financial Bank
- Mike Schrage, President & Chief Executive Officer, Centier
- Brad Vosberg, Regional Retail Sales Manager, First Midwest Bank

Nationwide there are at least 17 million Americans who are unbanked, according to the FDIC National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households. Most are African-American or Hispanic and earn less than \$30,000 a year.

Although the survey reports Indiana has 180,000 unbanked households, it does not have unbanked data for Lake County. A 2008 Pew Charitable Trusts estimated Lake County to have 17,000 unbanked households.

People who don't use mainstream financial institutions spend an estimated \$1,148 a year on check-cashing services, which charge a percentage of the value of the check, according to a study by the Pew Charitable Trust.

Similar Bank On programs have been started in New York City, San Francisco, Indianapolis, Lafayette, Evansville and other metropolitan communities.

“I applaud the efforts of Bank on Northwest Indiana in helping to decrease the number of unbanked consumers in their local communities,” said State Treasurer Richard Mourdock. “In the long run, individuals who have a relationship with their local financial institutions will reduce monthly expenses, save for their future, and establish a good credit history.”

Those interested in opening a bank account should look for the Bank On Northwest Indiana logo in the windows of their neighborhood bank or for a complete listing of current bank branches, go to: http://www.lauw.org/Bank_On_NWI.php.

Bank on NWI is the first activity of the Financial Stability Alliance. The group meets every month at Lake Area United Way’s office in Griffith and is seeking more banks, credit unions and community organizations to join the effort. For more information, please call Dave Sikes, LAUW’s Director of Allocations at (219) 923-2302, ext. 303.

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BANK ON
NORTHWEST INDIANA
Everyone is welcome.



EVERYONE DESERVES A CHANCE.

LEARN HOW YOU CAN OPEN A BANK ACCOUNT TODAY.

Today, everybody can get a bank account.

Here are ways participating banks can help:

- Open a free or low-cost checking account— Our partners are offering special free or low-cost products to help you keep more of your money.
- Keep an account open with no minimum balance—Our partners will keep your account open even if you need to spend all your money each month.
- Open an account even if you have had trouble with a prior account—Talk to a representative at a partner bank about your options.

Account Details	Checking	Savings
Minimum Opening Deposit	\$25	\$25
Minimum Balance Required	None	\$25
Monthly Maintenance Fees	None	Varies by bank (\$2-\$3)
ATM/Debit Card Offered	ATM/Debit	ATM
Free online banking	Yes	Yes

For additional information, contact a participating financial institution.

Learn to make the most of your money.

Bank on NWI has programs to help you learn to manage your money.

- Stay on a budget
- Manage a checking account
- Improve a credit rating
- Pay off debt



Lake Area United Way



Our Bank on NWI partners are here for you:

Bank on NWI has partnered with several banks to help you open your own bank account. Our current partners are:



Participating Branches	Address	Zip	Phone
GARY GLEN PARK	4883 BROADWAY	46410	219-884-1910
EAST CHICAGO	720 W 145TH ST	46312	219-397-7830
GARY MIDTOWN	1326 BROADWAY	46407	219-886-2526
GARY MILLER	650 S LAKE ST	46403	219-938-1240
MERRILLVILLE ULTRA	6110 BROADWAY	46410	219-884-2962
HAMMOND	5433 HOHMAN	46320	219-853-0160



Participating Branches	Address	Zip	Phone
EAST CHICAGO	4740 INDIANAPOLIS BLVD.	46312	219-228-2272
EAST CHICAGO - HARBOR	2121 E. COLUMBUS DRIVE	46312	219-228-2269
HAMMOND	5311 HOHMAN AVENUE	46320	219-933-0432
HIGHLAND	3853 45TH STREET	46322	219-924-6650
MERRILLVILLE	6101 HARRISON STREET	46410	219-513-5291



Participating Branches	Address	Zip	Phone
GARY CALUMET TOWNSHIP	1975 WEST RIDGE RD	46408	219-887-3708
HAMMOND HOHMAN	5231 HOHMAN AVE	46320	219-932-6900
HAMMOND COLUMBIA	6603 COLUMBIA AVE	46320	219-931-6670
HAMMOND HESSVILLE	6611 KENNEDY AVE	46323	219-845-4680
MERRILLVILLE 61ST AVE*	6001 BROADWAY	46410	219-887-4969
*Located inside PayLow			



Participating Branches	Address	Zip	Phone
EAST CHICAGO	4901 INDIANAPOLIS BLVD	46312	219-378-1000
HAMMOND	7120 INDIANAPOLIS BLVD	46324	219-844-4500
MERRILLVILLE	7915 TAFT ST.	46410	219-796-9000
GARY	1801 25TH AVE	46404	219-944-0005