



THE WORKING HUNGRY

# Impact Report

2022 - 2023



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# the why

**A documentary, *The Working Hungry*, is a film created to spark conversation and deeper understanding about the issues of hunger. To further explore themes and resonance for audiences watching the film, and to motivate toward action, the team built a strategy to encourage statewide showings followed by intentional discussions.**

The Working Hungry is a 30-minute film built around the stories of three families experiencing the shared story of hunger and food insecurity that impacts over 700,000 people across the state of Indiana.

Most of these are working families, and their hunger is hidden from those around them. In a time of low unemployment and food abundance, why is this happening – and what can be done.

Consultants, Lauren and Sara, were employed to support the building of a turnkey strategy to elevate awareness of the issue of the working hungry across Indiana and to mobilize communities around solutions.

- Over the course of 9 months, the team developed tangible resources for community partners to both host successful screening conversations and inspire action by community members
- Additionally, to further encourage showings, a mini-grant program to support screening partners with associated costs, such as: promotion, printing, food, rental of screening location, and technology

This impact report outlines the goals and outcomes of a 12-month effort to facilitate dozens of film screenings and the action energy because of the effort.

# film screenings

## statewide showings.

- Sara and Lauren supported the promotion and screening of the film statewide, including a feature at the KanKan Arthouse Cinema in Indianapolis.
- A robust Discussion Guide was made available to all screening hosts and the wider public on the website. This Discussion Guide provides best practices for planning a screening, promotional language and facilitation discussion questions.
- Interested hosts were encouraged to utilize the Discussion Guide, which helped them to prepare for the film, facilitate a meaningful discussion, and follow up with attendees on action steps.
- Screening locations ranged from community centers, food assistance providers, churches, conferences, major theaters, and universities. All locations that contacted the team were listed on the official website to encourage attendance and showcase their support.
- As part of the Discussion Guide, film screening hosts were provided social media and promotional language, a press release template, and suggested introduction language to ground the audience.

## mini grants.

- In an effort to get as many eyes on the film and discussions happening, up to \$500 was offered to host sites. An application requested information about the goals, anticipated discussion themes and speakers, hope for attendee makeup and budget outlining need for the mini grant funds.
- \$8700 was distributed to support the showing of the film at 18 locations across the state. More than 50 other sites showed the film without additional funding support and locations continue to host showings.
- Grantees were supplied with a robust Discussion Guide, promotional poster, and templates for a media release and social channels.
- Post-showing, each grantee was asked to fill out a short survey with feedback and recap.

mini grant funds  
awarded

\$8700

# outcomes & wins

## 1

### Big and small groups

The film was shown at over 70 different locations across the state of Indiana.

Viewings took place in small community rooms and large theaters, in churches and at universities. The breadth of host locations parallels that of those impacted by low-wages and inadequate services.

## 2

### Audience impact

At the more than 70 showings, audience numbers ranged from 12 – 200 individuals.

At the KanKan Cinema in Indianapolis, more than 100 people attended a viewing of the documentary and an engaging, action-oriented panel discussion afterward.

## 3

### Making it possible

A mini grant program supported **lean** organizations that needed additional funding to make a showing possible.

**Keep your sentences concise when** These organizations utilized the up to \$500 available to cover technical costs, administrative or panelist fees, and **support is** promotional efforts. **Understanding your mission, your work, and your audience,** A total of \$8700 was granted to 18 **h the** statewide organizations.

## 4

### Advocacy and raising the voice for change

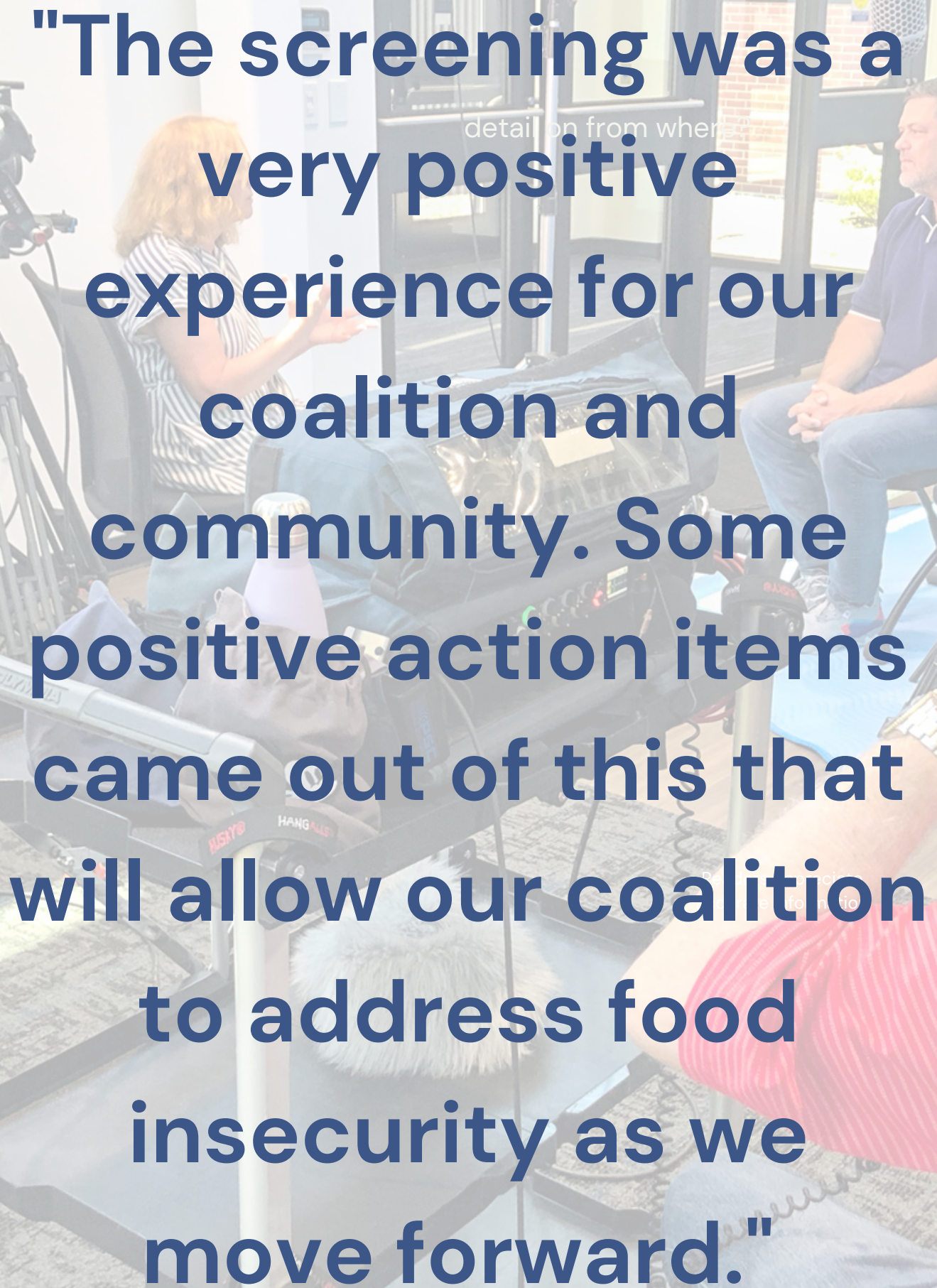
Partners were enthusiastic when asked if their screening and conversation inspired any next steps within their organizations or communities.

"We are having a follow-up meeting with anyone interested in continuing the conversation and discussing possible next steps for the community."

"We are partnering with Eastern Indiana Workforce to develop a workplace toolkit for employers to address issues with food insecurity."

"We have had two human service agencies that will make the film part of their trainings and to have it shown to all their staff."





**"The screening was a  
very positive  
experience for our  
coalition and  
community. Some  
positive action items  
came out of this that  
will allow our coalition  
to address food  
insecurity as we  
move forward."**

**-Get Healthy Scott County/Scott County Partnership**

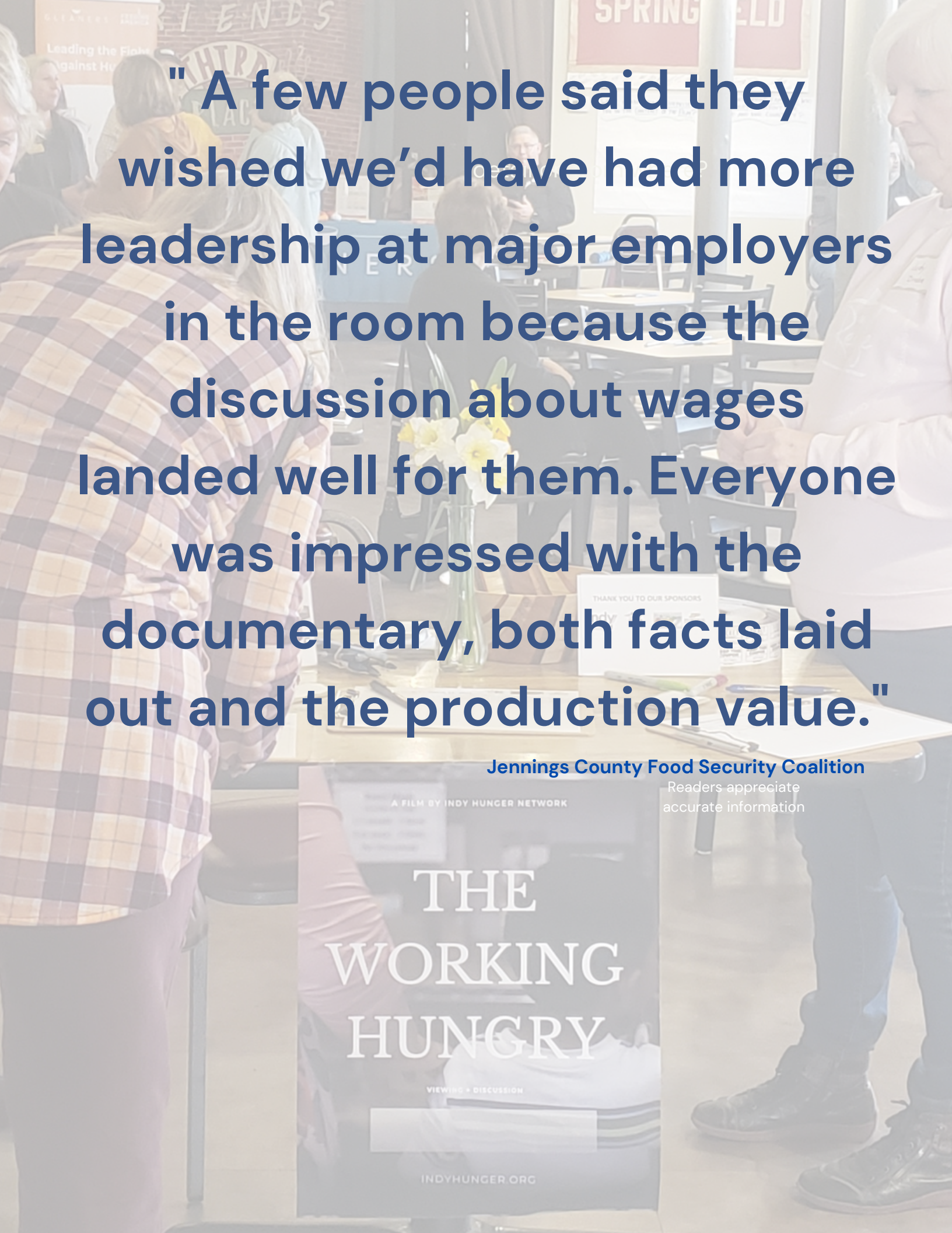


A man with a beard and a blue polo shirt is looking down at a white Riddell football helmet. He is wearing a gold cross necklace. The background is a blurred outdoor scene with trees and a blue sky. The text is overlaid on the image in a dark blue, bold font.

**"A major takeaway that was noted is that we could be surrounded by friends, neighbors, and classmates that are experiencing food insecurity and we would never know. This was further strengthened by personal testimonies from students really experiencing food insecurity."**

**-Purdue University Screening**



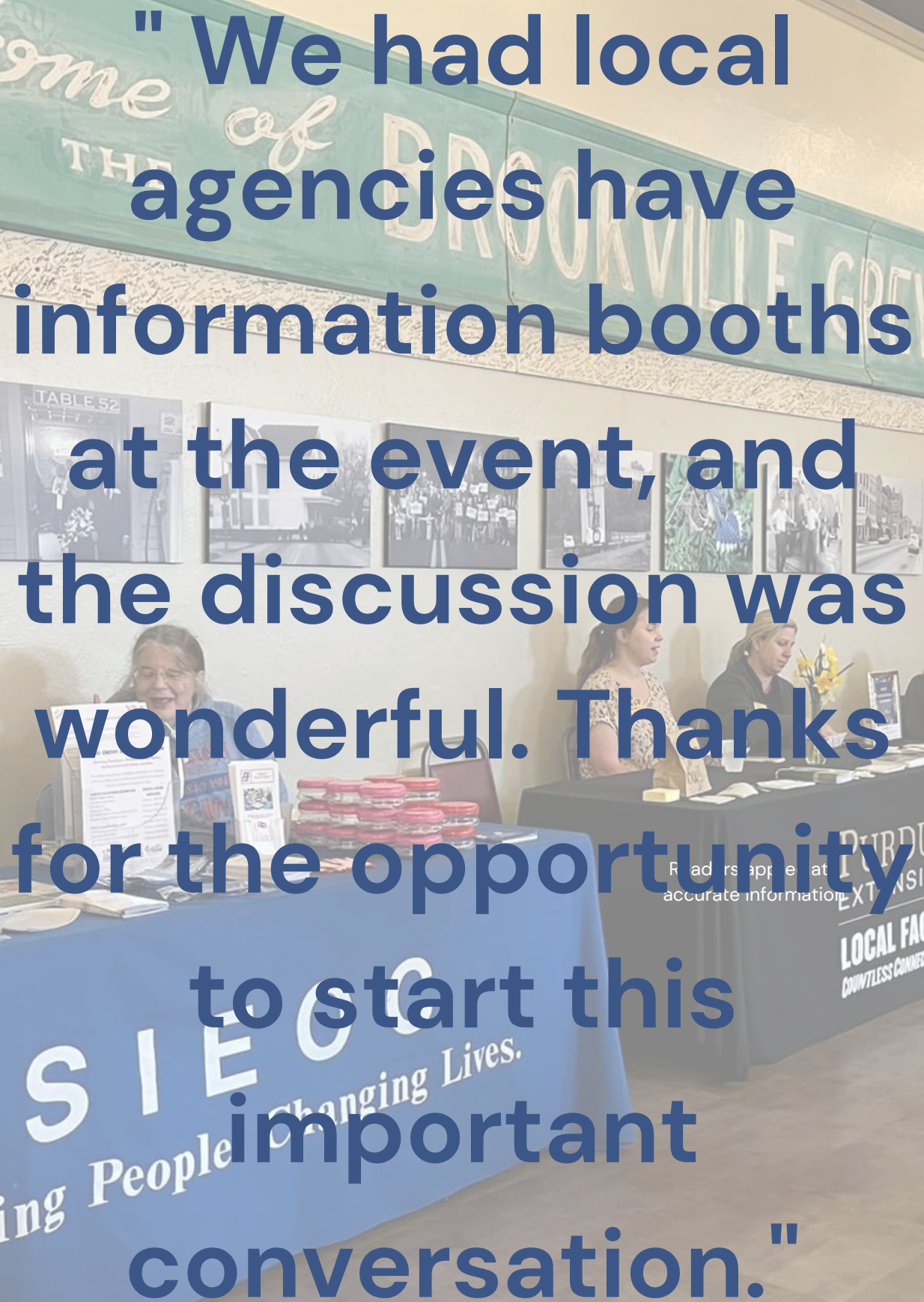
The background image shows a community event. In the foreground, a person in a plaid shirt is seen from the back. To the right, a woman in a light-colored jacket is looking down. In the background, other people are standing and talking. A movie poster for 'The Working Hungry' is visible, featuring the text 'A FILM BY INDY HUNGER NETWORK', 'THE WORKING HUNGRY', 'VIEWING + DISCUSSION', and 'INDYHUNGER.ORG'. There is also a sign that says 'THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS' and a sign that says 'Leading the Fight Against Hunger'.

**"A few people said they wished we'd have had more leadership at major employers in the room because the discussion about wages landed well for them. Everyone was impressed with the documentary, both facts laid out and the production value."**

**Jennings County Food Security Coalition**

Readers appreciate  
accurate information





" We had local agencies have information booths at the event, and the discussion was wonderful. Thanks for the opportunity to start this important conversation."

A person wearing a pink long-sleeved shirt is holding the hand of a young child. The child is wearing a white t-shirt with horizontal stripes in yellow, blue, and grey. They are standing in what appears to be a public space, possibly a library or a community center, with bookshelves visible in the background. The text is overlaid on the image in a bold, dark blue font.

**" This was really touching and lots of facts.**

**We are living this daily, it touches home for many."**

**-Indianapolis area screening**

The Working Hungry  
film and statewide  
effort were made  
possible by a team,  
most importantly the  
families who shared  
their story so that  
others may be heard.

Production and content team of Dave Miner,  
Shannon Cagle, David Duncan, and Anne Ryder.

Consultants Sara Beanblossom and Lauren Day.

Funding of the film was made possible by  
Ascension St. Vincent, Indy Hunger Network, Dave  
and Robin Miner, Steve and Cindy Gillman, and  
Brandt and Christine Lawson.

Thank you to all viewers, advocates, and all who  
fight to end hunger.

[www.indyhunger.org/workinghungry/](http://www.indyhunger.org/workinghungry/)