

CHAPTER CONNECTION

No EHRA meeting in August due
to SHRM IN Annual Conference

A publication of the Evansville-Area Human Resource Association

August 2026



AFFILIATE OF
SHRM[®]
SOCIETY FOR HUMAN
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT





2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 22, 2026 • 7:30 AM TO 4:45 PM
CITY VIEW AT STERLING SQUARE
210 N. Fulton Ave., Evansville, IN • cityviewevv.com

Join us!

AGENDA:

7:30 AM.....Registration/Breakfast

8:15 - 8:30 AMOpening Remarks

8:30 - 10:00 AM.....Session 1
WHEN RIGHT AIN'T EASY -
ETHICAL DECISION MAKING
Dr. Niki Walker

10:00 - 10:30 AM.....Sponsor/Vendor Break

10:30 AM - NOON.....Session 2
MIND THE GAP:
DEVELOPING LEARNING JOURNIES
JoDee Curtis

NOON - 1:00 PMLunch

1:00 - 2:30 PMSession 3
DOCUMENTING & DEALING
WITH TOXIC BEHAVIOR PART 1
Alise Isbell

2:30 - 3:00 PMSponsor/Vendor Break

3:00 - 4:30 PMSession 4
DOCUMENTING & DEALING
WITH TOXIC BEHAVIOR PART 2
Alise Isbell

4:30 - 4:45 PMClosing Remarks

LEARN ABOUT:

- ETHICAL DECISION MAKING
- DEVELOPING LEARNING JOURNIES
- DEALING WITH TOXIC BEHAVIOR

MEET WITH VENDORS

NETWORK WITH HR PROFESSIONALS

**THREE
SPEAKERS
FOUR
SESSIONS**

BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROVIDED

**REGISTER
NOW**



<https://ehranet.starchapter.com/meetinginfo.php>



EHRA Monthly Meeting Schedule 2026

**NO MEETING IN AUGUST 2026, DUE TO THE
SHRM INDIANA CONFERENCE (8/24—8/26)**

Visit ehranet.org and click on meetings to register or for more information.

Please mark your calendars for future 2026 EHRA monthly meetings:

*September 17th— Laurie Pierce—From Draining to Dynamic: A Framework
For Collaborative Team Meetings*

*October 22nd— EHRA 2026 Annual Conference 7:30am to 4:45pm
City View at Sterling Square*

November 19th- Legal Update with Josh and Jake

Meetings are typically the 3rd Thursday of every month.



AUGUST 24-26, 2026

MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY

JOIN US AUGUST 24-26 AT THE INDIANAPOLIS CONVENTION CENTER & THE WESTIN.

Registration is now OPEN! *Registration closes on August 10, 2026 at 11:59pm. No on-site registrations will be accepted.*

THE 2026 CONFERENCE HAS BEEN PRE-APPROVED FOR 21.75 SHRM AND HRCI CREDITS.

The SHRM Indiana Conference is one of the largest regional human resources conferences in the United States.

Our goal is to be a best in class, regionally-focused SHRM conference, both in quality of our programming and in our attendance. We offer world-renowned keynote speakers, three days of educational sessions, networking opportunities, and exposure to the latest HR products and services. No matter if you are just starting out as an HR Generalist, or you are a Senior VP of HR, SHRM Indiana has just the right education for you.

Keynote speakers for 2026 include:

- Erin Brockovich
- Jennifer McClure
- Lindsay Boccardo – Emcee
- Drew Robinson
- David Przybylski

Hello EHRA Members,

If you're attending the Indiana SHRM Conference this year, we've got exciting news!

Instead of organizing a separate chapter dinner or outing, we'd love for our members to join us at the **SHRM Indiana After Hours Event**, hosted by **HUB International**. This annual gathering is a fantastic opportunity to connect with HR professionals from across the state while enjoying great food, drinks, games, and conversation in a fun, relaxed setting.

Event Details **Punch Bowl Social, Indianapolis**



Monday, August 24



6:00 – 8:00 p.m. ET



Whether you're attending conference sessions all day or just looking for a chance to unwind with fellow HR professionals, this event is a great way to expand your network, strengthen connections, and represent EHRA alongside your colleagues.

HUB has generously opened registration to our chapter members, and we'd love to see a strong EHRA presence there!

Register at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/shrm-indiana-after-hours-2026-tickets-1991716336177?aff=oddtcreator>

We hope you'll join us for what promises to be one of the most enjoyable networking events of the conference week!

See you in Indianapolis!

Warmly,

Dana Pool, SHRM-CP

President-Elect, Evansville-Area Human Resource Association (EHRA)



Welcome New EHRA Members!

Nicole Blaine — On The Spot Utilities Resources

Jill Hale — Koch Finishing Systems

Amanda Vollman— Warrick County School Corporation



Please refer HR Professionals to EHRA!

*MEMBERSHIP REQUIRES DUES TO BE PAID TO BE RECOGNIZED IN EHRA SYSTEMS AS A MEMBER.

LET US RECOGNIZE YOU OR A TEAM MEMBER! IF YOU HAVE A FUN PHOTO OR KNOW OF AN ACCOMPLISHMENT OF ONE OF OUR MEMBERS, PLEASE SEND THEM TO ABBIEG1776@GMAIL.COM TO SHARE IN THE NEWSLETTER.



NEW EHRA MEMBER: Shelby Donnellan

Please join us in welcoming our newest EHRA member, Shelby Donnellan!

Shelby recently joined **The Cox Group** as a **Talent Development Manager** and is excited to connect with fellow HR professionals throughout the Evansville area.

After relocating to the region from the Houston area with her family, Shelby joined EHRA to expand her professional network and become involved in the local HR community.

Although she has been in her current role for only four months, Shelby brings a passion for helping employees reach their full potential. What she enjoys most about the HR profession, particularly talent development, is **identifying and developing employee potential to help achieve business objectives**. She finds fulfillment in creating opportunities for growth that benefit both employees and organizations.

We're excited to have Shelby as part of EHRA and look forward to the knowledge, experience, and perspective she will bring to our association.

Welcome to EHRA, Shelby!



HUMAN RESOURCES LAW UPDATE

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS UPDATE

with Joshua B. Gessling—Legislative Affairs Chairperson

NLRB Update: Senate Confirmations Give Republics 3-1 Majority on the Board

By: Joshua B. Gessling

On August 7, 2026, the U.S. Senate confirmed two nominees, James Macy and David Prouty, to the National Labor Relations Board (“NLRB” or “Board”). The confirmation of Macy and Prouty gives Republicans a 3-1 majority.

Macy is generally viewed as a business-minded member, having previously worked as a management-side labor lawyer and served in the U.S. Department of Labor under President Trump’s administration. Prouty will begin his second term on the Board. Prouty was originally nominated by former President Biden in 2021 and is staunch ally of organized labor.

Long-standing precedent requires at least three affirmative votes to reverse existing Board precedent. With a 3-1 majority, the management-minded members of the Board will now be able to overturn the Biden-era Board’s decisions, some of which expanded remedies for alleged labor law violations, the scope of individuals entitled to the protections of the NLRA, and the type of activities that are protected under the NLRA.

HR professionals are encouraged to monitor the NLRB’s activities in the coming months as legal developments could be voluminous and occur quickly.

This note is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. If you have questions about how this information may affect you, consult your legal counsel to discuss your specific circumstances. This information should not be relied upon as or substituted for legal advice.

August 2026 | From the Desk of the EHRA Workforce Readiness Chair

Megan O'Connor, SHRM-CP, CPRW



School is back in session, and our summer series has closed. Across five weeks, twenty plus middle and high school students worked through soft skills sessions at the Boys and Girls Club, ending with a Championship Day in the gym. Jamie Fairchild, PHR, SHRM-CP, and Kendra Krietemeyer showed up week after week and gave those students something no curriculum delivers on its own, which is an employer telling them the truth about what gets someone hired. Thank you both!

Two things landing on your desk this school year

Every item below links to its primary source. These conditions change quickly, so verify anything you plan to cite or act on, and use the links to pull the version relevant to your organization.

1. Federal training dollars now reach short programs, and states help decide which ones

SHRM reports that Workforce Pell is expected to begin in July 2026. Federal Pell aid would cover short term training, roughly 8 to 15 weeks, that leads to a recognized credential in a high skill, high wage, or in demand occupation. Approval runs through the accreditor, the Governor, and the U.S. Department of Education, with state workforce boards advising on which programs align with Indiana labor market needs. That advisory role shapes which programs become eligible here.

Indiana's State Workforce Development Board was reconstituted by executive order in December 2025, with appointments announced this year. If you hire in healthcare, manufacturing, logistics, or the trades, you know which credentials actually move a candidate to an offer. That knowledge is worth putting in front of the people making these decisions.

- [SHRM Workforce Pell overview and employer guide](#)
- [Indiana State Workforce Development Board](#)
- [Find your local workforce development board](#)

2. Schools may start asking you for work-based learning

Indiana's new diploma replaces Core 40 beginning with the class of 2029, built around readiness seals that require real workplace experience, per Indiana Department of Education guidance. Districts may opt in beginning with the 2025 to 2026 school year. You may start seeing requests for job shadows, internships, and mentorship placements, and it is worth building a simple intake process now rather than in 2028.

- [Indiana Department of Education diploma guidance](#)

Where the local market stands

Per the Indiana Department of Workforce Development's June employment report, the unemployment rate in June was 3.3 percent against a national 4.2 percent, with just over 100,000 open postings statewide as of early July. Hiring stays competitive. The [DWD WARN listing](#) remains the authoritative record of covered closures and mass layoffs in Indiana and is a practical sourcing tool for members tracking talent coming out of transition. Current state and county figures are available at in.gov/dwd.

One free SHRM Foundation certificate, 10 PDCs

No cost, no membership barrier, and it maps directly to a talent pool many of our employers are already working to reach. [Military Community at Work](#) prepares you to recruit, retain, and advance military connected talent, and it pairs naturally with the veteran resume work below.

Beyond Traditional Talent Pipelines

SHRM Foundation defines opportunity youth as young people between the ages of 16 and 24 who are not in school or participating in the labor market, and its research makes the business case for hiring from this group. Whether that fits your organization is a decision worth making from the evidence rather than from instinct. Start with [SHRM Foundation's opportunity youth resources](#).

Two ways to get involved this fall

1. **Review a veteran resume.** Requests continue to come in following our visit with the Wounded Warrior Project peer support group. If you can translate military experience into civilian language, you are exactly who is needed.
2. **Support college students at Ivy Tech.** Our members provide mock interviews and resume reviews for Ivy Tech students, and there is room for more of you this fall. Students get practice with someone who actually screens candidates, and you get an early look at local talent. The time commitment is manageable and the format is set up for you.

Email me at mroconnor1@usi.edu if interested.

Thank you to all our members for all your help and support!

Warmly,
Megan O'Connor, SHRM-CP

EHRA, Workforce Readiness Chair | Director of Workforce Readiness, HR Indiana SHRM State Council



SHRM Membership Helps You See What's Coming—and Be Ready for It.

SHRM membership is for HR and business leaders who are accountable for outcomes—leaders who need their workforce decisions to hold up in the boardroom, with regulators, and with employees.

Your career. Your impact. Your future. Choose the membership that fits your needs and start unlocking your full potential today.

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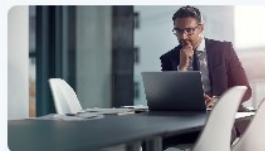
For Students

Gain access to mentors and resources to accelerate early career success.



For HR Professionals

Advance your career with toolkits, certifications, and mentorship opportunities.



For Executives & Leaders

Get strategic insights, workforce trend reports, and C-suite level connections.



For Small & Mid-Size Businesses

Reduce compliance risk with customizable handbooks and direct access to expert advice.



CLASSIFIEDS: JOB POSTINGS & HELP WANTED ADVERTISEMENTS

Help Wanted Advertisements

Companies, Recruiters, and Human Resources Professionals who are seeking applicants for human resource positions may place “Help Wanted” advertisements on the EHRA website. The advertisement, which will run for 30 days, will appear on the EHRA Jobs webpage that can be viewed by the general public. This option also provides additional reach with posts made on the EHRA Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn social media pages.

The following rates apply for “Help Wanted” Advertisements:

- EHRA Members: \$100/30 days
- Non-EHRA Members: \$200/30 days
- Staffing Agencies: \$250/30 days

To place a “Help Wanted” job listing, please visit our website and complete the online form. The Communication Chair will review the submission and contact the employer submitting the application. Once the posting has expired, the Communications Chair will contact the employer with an invoice and information on payment.

Job Wanted Advertisements

Members of EHRA who are seeking new career opportunities may place “Job Wanted” advertisements on the EHRA website. The listing, which will run for 30, will appear on the Job Link webpage viewed only by active EHRA members who are logged into the website. If the EHRA member placing this advertisement would like for the listing to be confidential, the EHRA Communication Chair will serve as liaison between the member and interested employers.

These advertisements are free of charge for EHRA members.



Don't miss this
months meeting with:

August—No EHRA Meeting

**August— SHRM IN Annual Conf:
Indianapolis, IN 8/24/26 to 8/26/26**

See you at the September mtg!

**What's Happening
at EHRA**

**Stay up to date on
events at our website:**

www.ehranet.org

2026 *board*

President

Jennifer Zimmer

jennifer.zimmer@countrymark.com

President-Elect

Dana Pool

danap@bestfriends.org

Secretary

Samantha Witte

switte@carhartt.com

Treasurer

Cori Deputy

CDeputy@kellerschroeder.com

Assistant Treasurer

Jessica Bailey

jessicabailey63@hotmail.com

Membership Chairperson

Amanda Gries

agries@kellerschroeder.com

SHRM Liaison and Certification Chairperson

Jessica Bailey

jessicabailey63@hotmail.com

Web Chairperson

Julia Pillow

juliakpillowhrin@gmail.com

College Relations Chairperson

Hailey Gwaltney

Workforce Readiness Chairperson

Megan O'Conner

hopingforblueskies@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Abbie Garrett

abbieg1776@gmail.com

Finance Chairperson

Brad Odil

bodil@referenceservices.com

Communications Chairperson

Julia Pillow

juliakpillowhrin@gmail.com

Professional Development Chairperson

Jennifer Skodinski

jskodinski@dccevv.com

Legislative Affairs Chairperson

Josh Gessling

jgessling@kddk.com

Past President

Amanda Gries

agries@kellerschroeder.com