



## **Department of Communications**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **A “CELEBRATION OF ENTREPRENEURS”**

### **GARY CELEBRATES GRADUATES OF GARY MICRO-ENTERPRISE PROGRAM**

**Gary, Indiana**-The City of Gary held the first “Celebration of Entrepreneurs” this past week when the city acknowledged thirteen (13) graduates who completed 8 weeks of “New Start-up Business” workshops through the Gary Micro-Enterprise Initiative (G.M.I.).

Students attended workshops held on Monday and Wednesday evenings each week at Gary Arthouse located at 411 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Workshop topics included: Business Entity/Structures, Components of Business Plan, Start-Up Costs and Record Keeping with Quick Books, Marketing Plan and Using Social Media in your Business.

The Gary Micro-Enterprise Initiative is supported by the Department of Commerce with funding from the Community Development Division through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The goal of GMI is to provide a road map for Gary residents as they journey toward business ownership. GMI provides instruction and direction and works with students through challenges and in business planning.

Special thanks to the Department of Commerce and the Gary Economic Development Corporation for hosting the celebration and Foody’s Restaurant for providing the food. Foody’s Restaurant Owner, John Allen, is a former Culinary Business Institute (CBI) participant from Arthouse. The G.M.I. celebration was held on November 2, 2018 at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> G.M.I Cohort will begin in January 2019 and a 3<sup>rd</sup> Cohort is planned to begin in April 2019.

For more information about G.M.I., contact the Department of Commerce and Economic Development; Diana Sandlin, Program Manager, G.M.I. at 219-881-1312.