

NICIA Members,

I have been a member of NICIA for almost ten years now and have served on the board for seven. I got my start in real estate in 2003 when I purchased my first rehab project in Gary, Indiana. Over the past thirteen years, I have buying and rehabbing single family homes solely in the city of Gary with the help of my biggest supporter, my father. I have bought homes through the MLS, tax sales, FSBO, and on land contract. One of the things that set our homes apart is the fact that we do most of our own work. I come from a long line of “do-it-your-self-ers” and we use that to our advantage.



Not only am I an investor and rehabber, I am a high school art teacher and have been teaching in Gary for eighteen years. Last year, I started my “Builder’s Club” and have been sharing my knowledge of building and investing with my students. Because many people have a negative view of Gary, I make it a point to show my students that there are many opportunities to not only making a living, or starting a business, but also to help our city in the process.

I am interested in serving on the NICIA board again for the upcoming year. I have held several positions over the years including, legislative, vendor, vice president, and currently, president. As a teacher of a high school that transitioned from an “F” school to a “B” school over a five year period, we focused on improving the user experience of our students. As NICIA president for the past six months, I’ve tried to focus NICIA with a similar idea.....Improving the user experience of our members. We’ve been working on streamlining our processes, from the by-laws to the day-to-day policies and procedures. We are currently making the membership process faster and easier to manage. The leadership has also been working on improving the monthly meeting experience by adjusting the pace of the meeting and paying attention to the guests and new members.

An organization like this is constantly transforming and improving and hopefully, with your vote, I hope to continue to serve you and help to improve your NICIA user experience.

Thank you,
Joe Peterson
President, NICIA