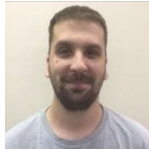
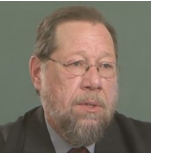


Meet our Board of Directors



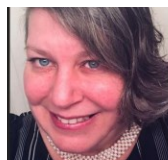
LISA BENFIELD: is a specialist at the PATINS Project who is also foster & adoptive parent of children with disabilities. Lisa believes in connecting her community to the work of IN*SOURCE and has fundraising experience that she hopes to share with the organization.

RICH BURDEN: is the former IN*SOURCE Executive Director for 35 years; has a wealth of knowledge and experience with the organization. Rich is from North Central Indiana and a parent of an adult child with a disability who is currently a teacher in Indiana serving diverse families. He has shared, "I will be glad to do whatever I can to help the organization move forward."



MICHAEL COPLEY: has been an IN*SOURCE volunteer and is passionate about advocating for his nephew identified with a disability; long term substitute teacher and coach; recently completed a second bachelors in behavioral sciences and hopes to be a BCBA behavioral analysis; from NW Indiana; believes in finding common ground.

KRISTEN DAUSS, MD: joined the board in 2020 fueled by a passion to ensure all children have access to quality education. Her grandfather, who grew up in an era of segregation, instilled in her the importance of education. His reminder to 'get an education, it is something no one can ever take away' stuck as she went on to obtain a bachelor's degree from Indiana University and her medical degree from Morehouse School of Medicine. She is board certified in general and child and adolescent psychiatry. Her experience allows her to examine systems of care and treat the whole person. She is committed to advocating for all students and families in an effort to ensure their voices are heard. Dr. Dauss resides in Indianapolis with her husband and their three children.



JACKY DOKE: Is excited to be a part of 'something bigger' to help others; parent of a son with a disability. She is from Indianapolis area and shares, "I cannot express how thankful I am for the work you all do! I would like to share I have an optimistic disposition, especially during challenging times where problems need to be solved or questions answered."

STEPHANIE GARNER: is a parent and staff member of Down Syndrome Indiana. She shared that she refers parents to IN*SOURCE weekly and is passionate about inclusion. She is from Indianapolis area.



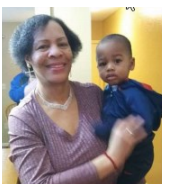
JULIE GOODMAN: is a long time IN*SOURCE volunteer who says it is 'her dream job' and one of the most important roles she's had. She lives life with a 'yes, we can' attitude. Additionally, she is an active CASA volunteer and resides in NE Indiana.

DR. KELLY GRILLO: is an award-winning educator, who is currently a coordinator of Special Education Services for Cooperative School Services. She has served as a member of a multitude of committees, councils and boards, most of which focus on children and special education. She was the International CEC Teacher of the Year 2020, 2019 International Division of Learning Disabilities Teacher of the Year, 2018 Florida CEC Teacher of Year. She is a national advocate for persons with learning disabilities so that she herself can accept her own disability and create a pathway to literacy for people with dyslexia.



VENDETTA GUTSHALL: believes all children deserve the opportunity to learn and to be taught based on their unique needs and has strived to make this possible as a special education teacher and a Director of Special Education, among other roles. She has had the honor of serving on various state committees and has always had a desire to work closely with parents to find the most appropriate services for their children. Currently serving as an Educational Consultant for a neuropsychologist, she assists parents in identifying programs, curriculum, and educational services that work best for their child.

CHERIE MCCORD: is a long time IN*SOURCE volunteer; parent and grandparent; from Indianapolis. She is excited to join the board and shares "My mind went into so much brainstorming after we spoke that I just can't wait to be a part of the board. I call it the team. I realize you have a number of applicants with a wealth of experience. I would love to be on the team."



ERIC MELNYCZENKO: is both a parent and administrator, Eric is from NW Indiana and also serves as an IN*SOURCE volunteer. He shares, "The one thing I would want the whole board to know is that being an educator and parent of a child with multiple needs makes me extremely passionate and knowledgeable about the work that IN*SOURCE does for the families of Indiana. I cannot wait to get started! =)"

HUMAIRA MOHIUDDIN: is a new and excited IN*SOURCE volunteer and a parent of a son with a disability. Humaira works closely with the Muslim community to help parents who have children with disabilities. She is appreciative of the IN*SOURCE focus on diversity. She resides in Northwest Indiana.



JOLLY PIERSALL: was a special educator for over 35 years and is currently the Director of the Indiana IEP Resource Center (IEPRC), a federally funded project administered by Indiana Department of Education (IDOE). She is considered a leader in special education policy and procedures, special education law, and has been instrumental in collaborating with multiple statewide organizations to bring needed resources to Indiana. She serves on the ESSA Core Team at IDOE Office of Special Education, MTSS Core Team at IDOE School Improvement, The ARC of Indiana's Education Committee, and co-chair for the Program Advisory Committee for the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) National Convention.

LAURA POLIAN: joined the board in 2021, combining her experience in the nonprofit arena with her experience as the mother of a child with an IEP to help aid families of students with special needs. She worked in fund development directing robust annual giving programs and coordinating special events, then served as an account executive at RHB advising nonprofit clients in research, strategy and design to develop the most effective marketing communications strategies. But those roles would be eclipsed by her most important role—mother to her two children. Navigating the special education system can be a daunting task, especially if parents don't have a background in education or know their rights. Laura is honored to be on the board. She shares, "I believe it's my calling to help other families like mine. I want them to know that there is hope. You don't have to go down this road alone. IN*SOURCE is here to be a support to you and your family." Laura holds a Bachelor's degree from the Roy H. Park School of Communications at Ithaca College and resides in Granger with her husband and two children.

