



Every quarter we feature a photo of one of our member governments.

This quarter: Vandalia

Highlights of this Issue:

- **W.D. Heisel Memorial Scholarship is Awarded**
- **Center for Local Government Annual Survey**
- **CLG Leadership Academy More than Half Complete**
- **CLG Partners with Hamilton County on grant program**
- **Finance and Budgeting Training Returns**



Regular Features:

Page 2: About Us

**Page 4: New Faces/
New Places**

Page 5: News Bits

Page 5: Calendar

The Center for Local Government Summer 2023 Newsletter

CLG Strategic Planning Process Moving Forward

The Center for Local Government is currently engaging in its next strategic planning process. This strategic plan will guide the Center's operation until 2028. The goal of this next strategic plan is to assist in guiding the growth and mission of the Center over the next five-year period and help us to identify strategies that we can undertake to best serve our members.

Earlier this summer, a Customer Satisfaction survey was sent out to our membership that allowed us to identify some of the Center's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats and gauge trends from among our members on topics such as our engagement and communication, our programmatic offerings and our ability to develop strategic partnerships. Thank you to everyone that took time to provide their input and help guide CLG.

Over the next few weeks, Center staff will be convening small group sessions with CAOs from among our membership to hear their ideas, recommendations and priorities for the Center over the next five-year period. To continue to be an organization that provides our members with the best possible service, we need as much input as possible from those that we serve. If you have suggestions or recommendations that you would like to discuss with CLG staff, please reach out to Assistant Director Cody Smith, who would be happy to set up a time to meet and discuss how the Center can best serve you!

Staff will also be working closely over the coming weeks with the CLG Board to develop the next set of goals and implementation strategies with the direction that we receive from our members. We will continue to provide updates as the strategic planning process progresses.

If you have any questions regarding the strategic planning process, please reach out to Cody Smith at Csmith@C4LG.org or in the office at (513) 741-7999. Thank you.



The Center for Local GOVERNMENT

4015 Executive Park Dr. Suite 226
Sharonville, OH 45241
513-741-7999

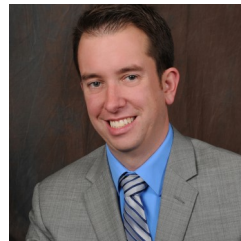
ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION:

The Center for Local Government (CLG) located in Cincinnati, OHIO is a unique non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation, created in 1990 as a clearinghouse for inter-governmental collaboration, training and information sharing.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jack Cameron, Silverton (President)
Vicky Earhart, Anderson Township (Vice President)
Jim Lukas, City of Sharonville (Secretary / Treasurer)
Amanda Zimmerlin, City of Clayton
Michael Rahall, Village of Cleves

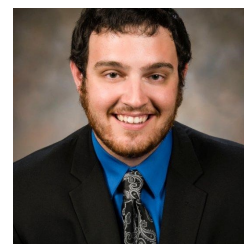
Effective Governance Through Collaboration



T.J. White,
Executive Director,
twhite@C4LG.org



Lori Stuckey,
Director of Operations,
lstuckey@C4LG.org



Cody Smith,
Assistant Director,
csmith@C4LG.org

Interesting Fact: The City of Vandalia joined CLG this spring. They are our 63rd member.

W.D. Heisel Memorial Scholarship Winner Selected

We at the Center for Local Government would like to congratulate NKU Masters in Public Administration student Amy Martin for winning the 2023 W.D. Heisel Memorial Scholarship. Donald Heisel was referred to in a 1988 article in The Cincinnati Enquirer as "The Father of Public Administration" in Southwest Ohio. The Heisel Scholarship goes to a local graduate level student who has a passion and a career intention relating to local government management.

In addition to being an MPA student at NKU, Amy Martin serves as the Assistant Director for the Northern Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy. Prior to that, she worked at the Northern Kentucky Area Development District and for the Department of Local Government in the Office of the Kentucky Governor. Her career intention is to utilize her experience in government and become a city or county manager in the Northern Kentucky region. She looks forward to learning from passionate leaders who truly care about their communities.

Please reach out and congratulate Ms. Martin when you have an opportunity. She can be reached at martina51@mymail.nku.edu. She will also be invited to the joint Cincinnati Area Management Association (CAMA) / Northern Kentucky City/County Management Association (NKCCMA) meeting in January where she will be recognized.

We would also like to thank all of our scholarship recipients and applicants for their continuing hard work in the region. To learn more about the Heisel Scholarship, [please click here](#).



**2023 Heisel Scholarship winner
Amy Martin**



CLG Leadership Academy Over Halfway Complete

The CLG Leadership Academy is more than halfway done for 2023. The Local Government 101 session, the Xavier University Leadership Institute sessions, the Communications session, and the Human Resources Management sessions have been completed. Finance & Budgeting, and Economic Development & Land Use are the only classes left to finish before our 10th Leadership Academy class graduates at the CLG Annual Meeting.

The Leadership Academy has evolved in a lot in the last 10 years: This year's class has 30 students, as opposed to the initial cohort of 15. Additionally, a large enough Leadership Academy alumni base has been built up that alums teach a large portion of the curriculum. This includes partially or completely teaching the human resources class, the finance and budgeting class, and economic development and land use. We thank all of the Leadership Academy graduates who have partnered with our professional instructors over the course of 2023.

For anyone who's community has a current Leadership Academy participant, or for anyone who wants to celebrate our 10th class, please save September 13th in your calendars. This will be our Leadership Academy graduation ceremony and CLG's Annual Meeting. We will celebrate our 200th Leadership Academy graduate since the inception of the program. More information about the graduation and the Annual Meeting will be released in the coming weeks. We hope to see you there!



Leadership Academy participants take part in the Effective Communications class

CLG Annual Survey Coming Soon

The warm summer months mean that it is time to start planning for CLG's next Annual Survey. The Annual Survey is distributed to members in August of every year, with the results being published in November. This survey is the instrument that we use to collect all of our benefits data that compliments our pay range and salary information available in our database. CLG members can access the current database through our member log-in.

The Pay and Benefits database is one of the most widely used CLG programs offered and tracks information such as health insurance information, holidays, pay practices and budgetary information, among other things.

In previous years, the Annual Survey has been sent out solely to each jurisdiction's CAO or their designated contact for the survey. This year, to try to garner as much response as possible and to be able to provide the best service possible to our members, we will be sending out the survey to both a jurisdiction's CAO (or designated contact) AS WELL AS their pay and salary range data contact. If your jurisdiction would like the survey sent only to your CAO or other contact, please contact Cody at the information below with the request.

It is vital to the strength of this service that as many of our members respond and provide data as possible. If your jurisdiction filled out the survey in 2022, the information will be pre-populated and only updates will need to be made! You will not need to fill out the entirety of the survey again.

If you have any questions regarding the annual survey, please reach out to Cody Smith at Csmith@C4LG.org or in the office at (513) 741-7999. Thank you!

Interesting Fact: The Pay and Benefits Database no longer requires a separate password to view! Simply access the CLG website's Member Login and the link there will take you directly to the Database.



Hamilton County Grant Partnership Underway

Hamilton County Planning and Development, the NKU MPA Program, the UC MPA Program and the Center for Local Government recently worked on a project to help low income communities in Hamilton County apply for local grant opportunities. Under this partnership, governments with limited staff capacity can be paired with MPA students to assist with writing or research for Hamilton County grant programs (e.g. Community Revitalization Grants, etc.). This provides valuable experience to local MPA students, and helps small local governments expand their capacity.

Our major roles in the project were two-fold: We made the connection between the Hamilton County Planning and Development and the MPA programs, and we helped develop the application form that eligible governments will use to obtain MPA program assistance. We were happy to utilize our connections and expertise to help facilitate this program.

Governments were able to apply for assistance starting in June for the fall semester. For this first semester, there will be a cap of 4 projects total, in order to ensure that the workload for the MPA students is appropriate. This may be expanded or adjusted as the partnership between Hamilton County Planning and Development and the universities matures. Although our work at the Center is complete, we anticipate continuing to communicate with all participating parties in order to ensure that the program is off to a successful start.

To learn more about this partnership, contact Steve Johns Steve.johns@hamilton-co.org.

Finance and Budgeting Training Back for a Second Year

The Center for Local Government will be holding our second annual Finance for Non-Finance Personnel training this August; Please keep an eye out for the official invitation with more details coming soon.

After the event last year, we heard about the value of the training from the attendees. Furthermore, interest in putting together a similar event on this year's training calendar during our first round of outreach visits. Due to this popular demand, we are bringing this topic back for 2023.

The itinerary for this event will include Local Government Finance 101, instructed by Jefferson Health Plan Chief Fiscal Officer Mark Schlagheck and State Regulations/Auditing, instructed by Woodlawn Interim Municipal Manager Timothy Engel. The Local Government 101 portion of the event will discuss items such as the objectives of governmental financing, the budget cycle, fund accounting and revenues vs. expenditures. The State Regulations and Auditing portion will cover the audit process, how audits apply to you and how to prepare for one, as well as various types of state and federal funding and their reporting requirements.

While details are still being finalized, the event will be a half-day and will most likely take place during the morning hours. If you are interested in learning more, contact Cody Smith at Csmith@C4LG.org or 513-741-7999.

New Faces/New Places

The City of Vandalia joined CLG in May. They are our 63rd member government, which is an all-time high. Their City Manager is **Dan Wendt**. Mr. Wendt recently was the Assistant City Manager for Fairfield, so he may be familiar to some within the CLG membership. Please reach out and welcome him into the Center at dwendt@vandaliaohio.org.

Chris Lohr was recently hired as the Municipal Manager in **Carlisle**. He takes over for **Julie Duffy**, who took a new position as the Finance Director for the City of West Carrollton. Prior to his time at Carlisle, Mr. Lohr most recently served as the Human Resources Director / Assistant City Manager for the City of Riverside. Please reach out and welcome him into his new position at clohr@carlisleoh.org.



Dan Wendt



Chris Lohr



News Bits

Outreach Visits are Underway

We have begun our annual outreach visits for 2023. We try to get to as many member governments as we can in a given year. We prioritize new governments or governments who did not get an outreach visit in 2022 first. We will then try to reach the highest number of additional communities possible. We appreciate you for accepting our outreach visit requests. They help us identify our training priorities, learn about the goings-on of our member governments, and help us develop better programming. We hope to see you soon!

Preliminary Annual Meeting planning started

The 2023 CLG Annual Meeting and Leadership Academy graduation is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday September 13th. We are in the process of finalizing our location and speaker, and we should have information for you soon. Please keep an eye on your e-mail as we move into August. It is important that we have quorum to conduct business, so we strongly encourage you to attend. We will see you in September!

Find us on LinkedIn

The Center for Local Government is now on LinkedIn! CLG's LinkedIn page is another way for us to connect with our members and to hear about training offerings, programmatic updates and other newsworthy notes about the operation of the Center for Local Government.

If you have not yet followed CLG on LinkedIn, please do so. We look forward to connecting with you all there!

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-center-for-local-government/>

CLG Calendar

Road Safety Audits Course, offered by Ohio LTAP, registration is now open for the following free regional sessions of this 2-day training: August 2&3 – Columbus, August 16&17 – Lebanon, August 22&23 – Bowling Green, August 29&30 – Akron, and September 12&13 – Marietta. [Please click here to see flyer with more information.](#)

Cincinnati Area Management Association (CAMA) July Meeting, July 20, 11am until 1pm, The Meritage in Glendale. Cost: \$20. E-mail Twhite@C4LG.org for more information.

Five Day Developing the Leader in You, presented by MVCC on August 31, September 14, October 26, November 9, and December 14, 2023, 9:00am-noon. [Please click here for more information and to register.](#)

Finance and Budgeting for Non-Finance Professionals, presented by the Center for Local Government. Date and location TBD, September, 2023

Center for Local Government Annual Meeting, 11am-1pm on Wednesday September 13th. Location information and RSVP information coming soon.

Understanding Generational Differences and Commonalities Workforce, September 6, 2023, presented by MVCC at MVCC (1195 E. Alex-Bell Road, Centerville, OH 45249). Cost is Members:\$50/ Affiliate: \$60/ Non-members:\$70. [Click here to register.](#)

Supervisor Training Program, September 12 & 13, 2023, 8:30 am – 3:00 pm, presented by Wright State University. [Please click here to register.](#)

Peer to Supervisor Training, October 24, 2023 at MCVV (1195 East Alex Bell Rd. Centerville, OH 45459), cost: Members:\$50.00/Affiliate:\$60.00/Non-members: \$70.00. [Click here to register.](#)