WE BELIEVE IN HERE.

AUGUST 2023 BOARD REPORT





The objective of the ECCVB tourism marketing, sales & service strategy is to drive the destination brand awareness and visitor conversion among broader and more diverse target audiences that include the niche markets identified by Destination Think! There are three targeted strategies for the leisure travel market and three for the group travel market.

DIVERSIFY PILLAR GOAL

Diversify the destination visitor base to better integrate multiple generations and interests. We expect to achieve higher travel conversion and extend stays by increasing the county's brand awareness and aligning experiences with an expanded market.

DIVERSIFY PILLAR TARGET MARKETS OF FOCUS

- Arts and cultural heritage tourism
- Outdoor recreation and adventure travel
- Visiting friends & relatives and pass-thru travel
- · Group meeting and social/reunion travel
- Sports event tourism
- · Group tour travel

WELL CRAFTED DESTINATION

Tactics

- Create and manage a content plan integrating website content, social media actions, paid media campaigns, eNewsletter initiatives, and digital content (January - December) - Ongoing
- · Manage photo and video shoots highlighting Heritage Trail assets / activities (January December) Ongoing
- Produce and promote custom digital content focusing on storytelling of partners and highlighting Heritage Trail assets and experiences that focus on niche audiences (January December) **Ongoing**
- · Place ads in publications that target the external visitor and internal resident (January December) Ongoing
- Develop and update existing mobile Heritage Trail passport program (January December) Ongoing
- Promote the Heritage Trail assets and experiences utilizing mobile passport programs (January December)
- Promote mobile destination passport program (January December) Ongoing
- Refresh existing and create new trip ideas and itineraries to align with niche audiences (January December)
 Ongoing
- Manage Google ad campaign to promote the destination brand and its assets along the Heritage Trail across digital channels (January December) **Ongoing**
- Produce and distribute eNewsletters to promote Elkhart County assets (January December) Ongoing
- Host travel journalists on FAM tours highlighting the Well Crafted destination brand (January December)
 Ongoing
- Produce and distribute press releases and story pitches to local, regional, national and travel media (January - December) - Ongoing

Metrics

- Track mobile passport program participants, check-ins, prize pick redemptions (January December)
 (YTD 620 Sign Ups; 0 Check-ins; 1 Redemptions)
- Track Well Crafted paid and organic digital promotion engagement, impressions, click-through rate, cost per click, video views and fans (January December) (YTD Engagement 1,753,507; Impressions 81,859; Post Link Clicks 32,189; Video Views 52,543; Fans 21,833)
- Track Google ad campaign promoting of the destination brand and its assets along the Heritage Trail across digital channels quarterly (March, June, September, December) - (YTD Impressions 73,143; Clicks 16,579; Cost Per Click \$0.63)
- Track qualified media inquiries, generating media placements in print, broadcast, online and blog through impressions and advertising value equivalents (January December) (YTD 1,212 placements, 4,710,675,221 impressions, \$43,573,745.40 AVE)
- Track unique page views of Media Site (January December) (YTD 1,188)
- Track unique page views of RV Site (January December) (YTD 18,146)
- Track Views of Leisure Itineraries (January December (YTD 12,194)

HERITAGE TRAIL

Tactics

- Promote Heritage Trail audio driving tour (January December) Ongoing
- Manage Heritage Trail wayfinding signage and inventory (January December) Ongoing
- Produce Heritage Trail maps (January) Complete

Metrics

- Track Heritage Trail audio driving tours distribution via CD, USB, and streaming (January December) (YTD 1,259)
- Track Heritage Trail printed map distribution (January December) (YTD 11,910)
- Track PDF downloads of Heritage Trail map (January December) (YTD 10,067)
- Track Views of the Heritage Trail page (January December) (YTD 35,916)

Heritage Trail Performance Metrics is the amount in visitor spending generated by the distribution of the Heritage Trail (Research Resource: 2021 Economic Impact Report by Certec Inc.)

- $Visitor\ Spending = (3\ people\ in\ travel\ party)\ X\ (2\ days\ average\ length\ of\ stay)\ X\ (\$122.80\ per\ person\ per\ day) = Visitor\ Spending\ per\ person,\ per\ day.$ Includes CD, USB, and distribution

QUILT GARDENS ALONG THE HERITAGE TRAIL

Tactics

- Update and create new copy and new sign backers for Quilt Gardens and Quilt Murals (January April) Complete
- Update creative concept for print and digital media (January April) Complete
- Confirm and maintain rack card distribution at Indiana Toll Road and Ohio Turnpike plazas (January September) Ongoing
- · Produce and place ads in publications that target the quilting and/or gardening market (January December)
 - Ongoing
- Update mobile Quilt Gardens passport programs (January December) Ongoing
- Promote mobile Quilt Gardens passport program participants, check-ins, prize pick redemptions (January December)
 - Ongoing
- Update partner brand management guide and promotion guidelines (April) Complete
- Produce and distribute upon request Master Gardeners Guidebook and Quilters Chronicles Guidebook (May-September) Ongoing
- Produce and distribute Quilt Gardens rack cards (May September) Ongoing
- Promote the Quilt Gardens through in-app ads (May December) Ongoing

Metrics

- Track mobile passport program participants, check-ins, prize pick redemptions (January December)
 - (YTD 1,048 Sign Ups; 4,114 Check-ins; 45 Redemptions)
- Track rack card distribution (January December) (YTD 10,070)
- Track qualified media inquiries, generating media placements in print, broadcast, online and blog through impressions and advertising value equivalents (January December) (YTD 1,212 placements, 4,710,675,221 impressions, \$43,573,745.40 AVE)
- Track unique page views of Quilt Gardens Site (January December) (YTD 15,751)
- Track PDF downloads of Master Gardeners Guidebook (May September) Cancelled
- Track PDF downloads of Quilter's Chronicles (May September) Cancelled
- Track Facebook, Twitter, Instagram paid and organic in-app impressions, engagement, link clicks received (June September) (YTD Impressions 79,092; Engagement 6,403; Clicks 1,005)

ELKHART COUNTY AREA GUIDE

Tactics

- Develop and produce electronic version of 2023 Elkhart County Area Guide for digital distribution (January)
 - Complete
- Update creative concept for digital media (January February) Complete
- Oversee distribution of 175,000 printed copies of 2023 Elkhart County Area Guide (January December)
 - Ongoing
- Confirm and maintain distribution at Indiana Toll Road and Ohio Turnpike plazas (January December) Ongoing
- · Coordinate and collaborate design of 2024 Elkhart County Area Guide (April September) Ongoing
- Manage sales, content and production of the 2024 Elkhart County Area Guide (June December) Ongoing

Metrics

- Track distribution of 2023 Elkhart County Area Guide (January December) (69,935)
- Track electronic version of 2023 Elkhart County Area Guide for digital distribution (January December)
 - (YTD 3,262)

VISITING FRIENDS AND RELATIVES (VFR)

Tactics

- Develop website landing page (February) Complete
- Develop and produce direct mail pieces for VFR campaign (March, September) Complete, September budget transferred to March
- Promote on social media channels (March October) Ongoing
- Distribute direct mail postcards targeting the local market (April, October) Complete (October budget transferred to April)

Metrics

- Track Facebook, Twitter, Instagram impressions, engagement, link clicks received (April October)
 - (YTD Impressions 1, 172; Engagement 44; Link Clicks 0; Unique Page Views 167)
- Track distribution (April, October) (YTD 11,984)

ELKHART COUNTY EVENT CALENDAR

Tactics

- Develop and produce event calendar campaign materials, billboard, digital graphics, direct mail (January February) Complete
- Distribute direct mail postcards targeting local market (April) Complete
- Schedule and run billboard campaign (April November) Ongoing

Metrics

- Track distribution (April) (11,984)
- Track social post link clicks received (June, September, December) (YTD Impressions 75,239; Engagement 4,022;
 Clicks 790)
- Track unique page views of Event Calendar (January December) (YTD 39,919)

INDIANA TRAVEL GUIDE & VISITINDIANA.COM

Tactics

• Brochure lead generation ad and listings (January - December) - Ongoing

Metrics

• Track Elkhart County Area Guide requests received (January - December) - (YTD 2,796)

INDIANA FESTIVAL GUIDE

Tactics

· Produce and place full page ad (January - December) - Ongoing

NITDC INDIANA'S COOL NORTH REGIONAL PROMOTIONS CO-OP

Tactics

- Produce and place Toll Road Exit-by-Exit Guide ad (January December) Ongoing
- Produce and place Toll Road Exit-by-Exit Guide map ad (January December) Ongoing

DOWNTOWN ELKHART PROMOTIONS CO-OP

Tactics

- · Manage a digital ad campaign and print materials promoting assets in Downtown Elkhart (January December)
 - Ongoing

Metrics

- Track Facebook and Instagram impressions, engagement, link clicks received (March, June, September, December)
 - (YTD Engagement 242,794; Impressions 2,945,349; Post Link Clicks 18,202)

EXIT 92 PROMOTIONS CO-OP

Tactics

- Refine and develop messaging around hospitality support for I-80/90 Exit 92 Activity Measures (January December) Ongoing
- Confirm and maintain outdoor billboards along I-80/90 Toll Road (January December) Ongoing
- Confirm and maintain rack card distribution at Indiana Toll Road and Ohio Turnpike plazas (January December) **Ongoing**
- · Confirm and place full page ad in University of Notre Dame Football Program (April) Complete
- Promote I-80/90 Exit 92 and its high density of assets through in-app ads (April December) Ongoing

Metrics

- Track rack card distribution (January December) (YTD 6,000)
- Track in-app ad impressions received (May December) (YTD Impressions 762,808; Clicks 3,280; Exposed Visits 4,857)

SMALL MEETINGS MARKET

Tactics

- Produce and place print and digital content in publications that target small meeting and event planners looking for Midwest or Indiana destinations (January - December) - Ongoing
- Conduct in person meeting planner preview tours (January December) Ongoing
- Create and distribute press releases or story pitches to regional small meetings market media (January December)
 Ongoing
- · Attend trade shows targeting small meeting markets (January December) Cancelled
- · Provide services, information and assistance to meeting and event planners (January December) Ongoing
- Produce and distribute RV Rally Planners Guide (January December) Ongoing
- Generate and develop new meeting market contacts, leads, appointments and RFPs (January December) Ongoing
- Create and manage a digital retargeting campaign (March May) Cancelled
- Create and distribute Small Meeting Market eNewsletters (April August) Complete

Metrics

- Track unique page views of Meetings Site (January December) (YTD 671)
- Track unique page views to the Meeting Planner Request information page (January December) (YTD 81)
- Track PDF downloads of RV Rally Planners Guide (January December) (YTD 4)

SPORTS MARKET

Tactics

- Place print ad in publication that target sports rights holders and sports event planners (January December)
 Ongoing
- Create and distribute press releases or story pitches to local, regional and travel media for the sports market (January December) **Ongoing**
- Collaborate with Team Indiana on sporting event initiatives and promotions that align with Elkhart County assets (January December) **Ongoing**
- · Provide services, information and assistance to sporting event organizers (January December) Ongoing

Metrics

- Track unique page views to the Sports Facilities Profile Sheet (January- December) (YTD 12)
- Track unique page views to the Sports Information page (January December) (YTD 224)

TRAVEL TRADE MARKET

Tactics

- Produce and place print and digital insertions in publications that target tour operators and group planners (January - December) - Ongoing
- Conduct in person travel trade destination preview tours (January December) Ongoing
- · Attend tradeshows targeting tour operators and group planners (January December) Ongoing
- · Produce and distribute Travel Trade eNewsletters (January December) Ongoing
- $\bullet \quad \text{Provide services, information and assistance to tour operators and group planners (January December)}\\$
 - Ongoing
- Generate customized daytrip and overnight itineraries which extend stays and provide economic impact (January December) **Ongoing**
- Update and create group profiles and itineraries (January December) Ongoing

Metrics

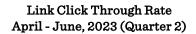
- Track unique page views on group site (January December) (YTD 1,575)
- Track PDF downloads of group profiles (January December) (YTD 9)
- Track page views of group sample itineraries (January December) (YTD 1,595)
- Track unique page views to the travel trade group request information page (January December) (YTD 81)
- Track travel trade leads and appointments (January December) (YTD 50)

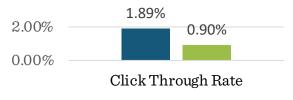
* Visitor Spending Performance Metrics (Research Resource: 2021 Economic Impact Report by Certec Inc.)

- Advertising Performance is the amount in visitor spending generated by the ECCVB efforts Visitor Spending (Total Travel Guide Requests X Conversion Rate 56%) X (3 people in travel party) X (2 days average length of stay) X (\$122.80 per person per day)
- Website Performance is the amount of visitor spending generated by the ECCVB's website efforts Visitor Spending (Total Unique Visits X Conversion Rate of 10%) X (3 people in travel party) X (2 days average length of stay) X (\$122.80 per person per day)

ELKHART COUNTY DIGITAL PROMOTIONS METRICS

Paid Facebook & Instagram Performance April - June (Quarter 2)



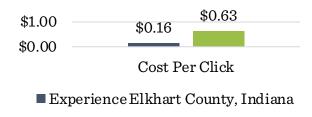


■ Experience Elkhart County, Indiana

■ AdBraze*

Link Click Through Rate: the higher your CTR, the better your ranking and the lower your costs.

CPC (Link) April - June, 2023 (Quarter 2)



Cost Per Click: the lower your CPC, the lower the cost to the advertiser every time someone clicks on an ad.

AdBraze*

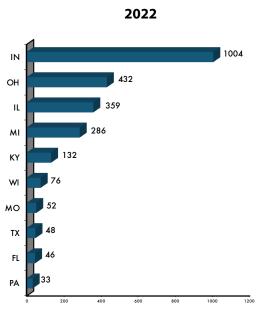
Amount Spent	Impressions	CPM		
\$5,285.31	1,722,717	3.07		
Link Clicks	CPC (cost per link click)	CTR (link click-through rate)		
32,576	.16	1.89		
Engagement	CPE	Video Views		
81,164	.02	11,167		

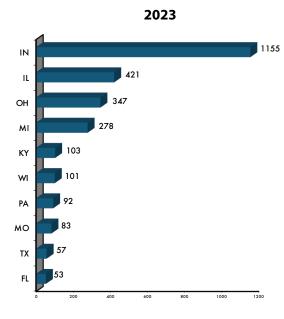
Digital Performance Analytics Resource: Q4 2022 Global Facebook Advertising Benchmark Report. AdBraze: A trusted source for industry standard ad analytics in the industry. AdBraze.com Social Activity Terms

- $\qquad \text{Impressions: Impressions: the number of times ads from the selected campaigns were displayed to a user during the reporting period of the contract of$
- CPM (Cost per Impression): The average cost per 1000 impressions across selected campaigns
- Link Clicks: The total number of times users clicked on your ads driven by selected campaigns
- CPC (Cost per Link Click): The average cost per link click
- Web Conversion: Web Conversions is the total number of events or conversions driven by selected campaigns, as calculated by the advertising network's tracking pixel or equivalent solution. The metric is calculated as the roll-up of all the standard and custom conversion events.
- Engagement: The total number of engagements across Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn
- CPE (Cost per Engagement): The average cost for a single engagement across selected campaigns
- Video Views: The total number of times a video was viewed, driven by selected campaigns. For Facebook and Instagram, the views are calculated based on the number of times your video played for at least 3 seconds, or for nearly its total length if it's shorter than 3 seconds

Area Guide Requests: Top 10 States - Quarter 2

April 1 through June 30



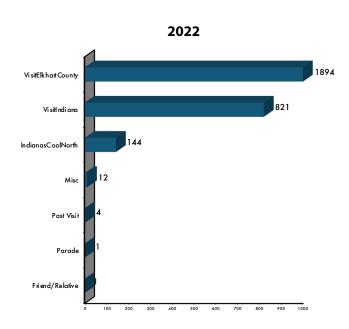


All States April - June, 2022: 2,871

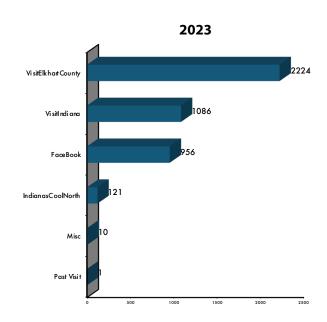
All States April - June, 2023: 3,423

Area Guide Requests: Top 10 Sources - Quarter 2

April 1 through June 30



All Sources April - June, 2022: 2,068



All Sources April - June 2023: 4,398

ELKHART COUNTY CVB INQUIRY & COLLATERAL								
DISTRIBUTION REPORT 2022 - 2023 COMPARISON								
	Apr-22	Apr-23	May-22	May-23	Jun-22	Jun-23	Qtr 2 2022	Qtr 2 2023
Total Visitor Information Requests	29,194	33,162	35,600	39,093	32,462	53,410	97,256	125,665
Total Collateral Sent	14,970	12,409	14,839	11,226	14,317	11,960	141,382	161,260
Visitors To Center	935	595	931	856	1,463	1,385	3,329	2,836
Total Visitor Center Distribution	937	840	1,325	2,876	1,338	4,619	3,600	8,335
Total Bulk Distribution	2,660	2,400	19,260	17,475	18,945	8,245	40,865	28,120
Total Collateral Distributed	47,761	48,811	71,024	70,670	67,062	78,234	185,847	197,715



The objective of the ECCVB curate strategy is to actively engage in product and community development activities that support the organization's role as a Destination Architect. This strategy approach will assist existing and new partners with development and delivery of more engaging experiences that align with the destination Well Crafted brand and targeted audiences while being synergistic with existing assets.

CURATE PILLAR GOAL

Encourage, support and assist the development of more diverse and engaging experiences throughout the county and its communities. We expect to expand connections with local RV manufacturers to increase their awareness of opportunities within the Elkhart County tourism space.

CURATE PILLAR TARGET MARKETS OF FOCUS

- Event Support & Development
- Small Business Support
- Outdoor Recreation
- RV Manufacturer Engagement
- Vibrant Communities Implementation

DESTINATION EXPERIENCE DEVELOPMENT

Tactics

- Facilitate development of a signature county-wide experience that aligns with Well Crafted and DNA niches (January December) **Ongoing**
- Develop an outreach strategy and facilitate discussions with ECCVB stakeholders in the RV industry to align with the Well Crafted destination brand and niche audiences (January - December) - Ongoing
- Identify existing and develop new experiential programs within the destination that align with niche segmentations (January December) **Ongoing**
- · Research and test extending the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail season (January December) Ongoing
- Develop a strategy to deliver core destination experiences to new markets through digital advertising (January - December) - Ongoing

OUTDOOR RECREATION DEVELOPMENT

Tactics

 Research and develop outdoor experiences in collaboration with local stakeholder organizations (January - December) - Ongoing

RV EXPERIENCE DEVELOPMENT

Tactics

- · Explore RV Experience concept for the destination (January December) Ongoing
- Facilitate discussions with local RV Industry and community stakeholders socializing the idea and concept of developing new RV Experience concept for the destination (March December) Ongoing

VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

Tactics

• Manage and coordinate Vibrant Communities activities in cooperation with community partners, including the Organizing Team, project team leaders and third-party vendors (January - December) - **Ongoing**



The objective of the ECCVB Balance strategy is to engage in research that informs and guides development and promotion investment. Research findings will help guide a balanced approach between tourism promotion and development.

BALANCE PILLAR GOAL

Balance the areas of focus of the ECCVB to optimize its potential and lead the visitor industry and communities. Operate as a fiscally responsible and highly performing destination organization through a highly effective team and leveraged partnerships.

BALANCE PILLAR TARGET MARKETS OF FOCUS

- Elkhart County Innkeeper Tax Commission Members
- ECCVB Board of Directors
- ECCVB Staff
- Industry ssuppliers / vendors
- · Industry partners

DESTINATION RESEARCH

Tactics

- · Develop research reporting parameters to stakeholders and partners (January April) Ongoing
- Conduct a comprehensive sports facility audit, market analysis and strategic action plan (January May)
 - Complete
- Continue participation in the Destination Think! Tourism Sentiment IndexTM / TSI Live (January - December) - Ongoing
- Facilitate Certec Economic Impact Study (January December) Ongoing
- · Continue services with STR reports to track overnight stays in Elkhart County (January December) Ongoing
- · Collect and report findings of STR data (January December) Ongoing
- Analyze and communicate trends in Zartico reports (January December) Ongoing
- · Combine insights from multiple data streams into an Executive Summary (January December) Ongoing
- Develop dynamic visualizations for up to two Elkhart County events (July, September) (YTD 1)

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Tactics

- Develop a sound 2023 line-item budget (January) Complete
- Establish financial ratios and projections (January December) Ongoing
- · Develop monthly financial reports and statements for the corporation (January December) Ongoing
- Perform all accounts receivable and payable for the corporation (January December) Ongoing
- · Perform as the Commission's designated collections administrator for delinquencies (January December) Ongoing
- Develop monthly reports on collections activities and hotel occupancy trends (January December) Ongoing
- · Complete all county, state and federal employee withholding obligations (January December) Ongoing
- · Complete all grant financial requirements (January December) Ongoing
- Maintain a 95% collections rate of lodging tax receipts (January December) Ongoing
- · Maintain a 95% collections rate of Elkhart County Area Guide contracts (January December) Ongoing

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Tactics

- Keep current all personnel records for each employee (January December) Ongoing
- Work with all employees to assist with interpretation of benefit plans and filing procedures (January - December) - Ongoing
- Track and report all employee personal time off (January December) Ongoing
- Manage the corporate / employee SRA contribution plans (April, July, October, December) Ongoing
- Research benefit plans that best meet employee's needs and corporation budgetary requirements (January-December)
- Distribute Employee Professional Development Survey (December)

VISITOR CENTER SERVICES

Tactics

- · Provide friendly personal service in-person and digitally (January December) Ongoing
- Provide and distribute Elkhart County Area Guide, up-to-date local business brochures, maps, regional travel guides and other materials in an appealing Visitor Center (January December) **Ongoing**



The objective of the ECCVB is to build a better understanding of the tourism industry's contributions to economic vitality and resident quality of place.

ADVOCATE PILLAR GOAL

Build relationships and advocate on behalf of the ECCVB and the tourism industry ensuring the recognized role of tourism and its economic impact. Inform and advocate on the importance and value of tourism and the ECCVB's vital role as the leader and expert of the destination's tourism development and promotion.

ADVOCATE PILLAR TARGET MARKETS OF FOCUS

- Elkhart County Innkeeper Tax Commission Members
- ECCVB Board of Directors
- Elected and Appointed Officials
- Industry partners
- Trade associations
- Media
- Residents

ECCVB ADVOCACY

Tactics

- · Communicate and collaborate ongoing promotion campaigns with partners (January December) Ongoing
- Assist event organizers to increase attendance and build their digital audience for re-targeting (January December)
 Ongoing
- Develop and implement an advocacy meeting plan to connect the Elkhart County Innkeeper Tax Commission and ECCVB Board of Directors with key stakeholders/elected representatives (January December) **Ongoing**
- Distribute community Thank You Notes acknowledging Elkhart County partners, stakeholders and volunteer groups which support quality of place efforts (January December) **Ongoing**
- Facilitate meetings with Elkhart County stakeholders to develop relationships and better understanding of partnership opportunities (January December) **Ongoing**
- · Produce and distribute Business to Business eNewsletters (January December) Ongoing
- · Update and distribute key messages on the value of quality of place (January December) Ongoing

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Tactics

• Develop and distribute key messages on the value of tourism and its economic impact on the destination (January - December) - **Ongoing**

ECCVB SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMS

Tactics

- Support community-based quality of place events consistent with the ECCVB Sponsorship Program, Area Guide Assistance Fund, and Community Support & Engagement programs (January December) **Ongoing**
- Develop increased participation in sponsorship program from traditionally underserved communities of Elkhart County (January December) Ongoing
- Implement engagement tools and programs to assist ECCVB sponsorship partners in aligning with Elkhart County Well Crafted destination brand (January December) **Ongoing**
- Host the 2023 Indiana Tourism Association Annual Conference providing experiences, services, promotions and programming (March) - Complete
- Update sponsorship practices and internal guidelines as necessary (October December)