

# THAT'S WHO WE

Real estate is an indicator of the economic health and overall well-being of communities. When the real estate industry thrives, a community grows.

**REALTORS®** help make our communities strong by representing the interests of homebuyers, home sellers and property owners. We help Illinoisans fulfill their homeownership dreams.

## WE CAN HELP YOU AND YOUR COMMUNITY! CONTACT US FOR THESE RESOURCES

Local **REALTOR®** Governmental Affairs Directors are your connection to resources in the real estate industry.

### We can provide:

- Information on legislative matters from property taxes to any and all private property-related ordinances.
- Insight into how policy issues affect residents.
- Emergency relief funds after natural disasters.
- Data on home sales, property values and economic trends.
- Feedback from the community.
- College scholarships.
- Assistance applying for diversity grants.



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**ILLINOIS  
REALTORS®**



On June 5, 2020, **Dearborn REALTISTS®**, along with their families, friends and neighbors cleaned debris in the West Chatham Neighborhood which experienced damage and looting.

## HOW WE CAN HELP

Illinois has an affordable housing crisis, and **REALTORS®** are working with all sides to resolve it. We will work with you to introduce bills that will help homeowners and the local economy. We will monitor government action on issues that affect real estate, work with grassroots advocates, and make recommendations to legislators.



Ed Bochniak, Executive Director Jo Daviess County Housing Authority; Emily Legel, Executive Director NW Illinois Economic Development; Daniel Payette, Executive Director Blackhawk Hills Regional Council; Northwest Chapter President Jackie Debes; and **ILLINOIS REALTORS®** Local GAD Neeley Erickson.

## ISSUES WE ARE ADDRESSING

**REALTORS®** are consumer advocates. We work with local governments to support a healthy housing economy and real estate transactions that are free from excessive taxes, fees and red tape. Some of our consumer advocacy issues include:

- Increasing housing inventory at multiple price-points.
- Supporting building code and zoning changes that encourage more housing options.
- Reducing or eliminating real estate transfer taxes.
- Stopping Home Rule initiatives that drive up property taxes.
- Protecting property owners from government intrusion, and excessive fees, fines and penalties for property improvements.



**REALTOR®** Lana Miller, who is also a University of Illinois Extension Master Gardener, has no problem digging into the project.