

WHITE RIVER MILITARY COORDINATION ALLIANCE



OUTREACH - JULY 2023

WHO WE ARE

The Alliance is a community organization that was formed in 2018 to promote positive development and growth in the communities that surround Naval Support Activity Crane.

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb's Next Level Agenda focused on several major funding increases in the state budget in the 2023 legislative session, including education, public health and safety, and community development. Two Senate Bills and two House Bills affecting the military bases and military families were passed this spring and will improve Indiana's defense environment. Radius Indiana, the Alliance and Crane Regional Defense Group worked closely with Indiana Representatives and community partners on the creation of these bills and we commend our leaders for recognizing the importance of the defense industry in our state.

- **Senate Bill 332:** Planning and zoning affecting military bases
- **Senate Bill 447:** Threats to critical infrastructure
- **House Bill 1555:** Military family occupational licenses
- **House Bill 1034:** Income tax exemption for military pay

5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

This November marks **5 years** since The Alliance was established as a result of the 2017 JLUS study, and we are excited to celebrate this milestone with you! Be on the lookout for a **Save the Date and Invitation** coming soon. We hope to see you at our 5-year celebration!

STATE OF THE COMMUNITY

The Alliance provided NSA Crane as well as fellow Alliance members and stakeholders with the fourth-annual State of the Community address in February. Input was provided by the five counties and nine incorporated towns that formed the Alliance in 2018. The briefing creates a forum for the communities to share accomplishments and initiatives in mutual interest areas between them and NSA Crane such as housing development, future infrastructure and long-term planning.

This year, the address focused on how communities and NSA Crane can increase collaboration to improve major initiatives in the following areas:

- **Opportunities to build long-term relationships**
- **Community Achievements and Initiatives**
- **Engagement in community events**
- **Resiliency planning and assistance with future base design**



CRANE REGIONAL DEFENSE GROUP

Crane Regional Defense Group (CRDG), a subgroup of the Alliance, aims to elevate the strategic value of Crane and expand southern Indiana's defense innovation ecosystem through defense-related outreach and legislative initiatives that enhance military missions in the region.

Key Leader Series

CRDG's Key Leader Series brings together defense industry peers, elected officials, small businesses and community organizations to hear from influential keynote speakers on topics related to Naval Support Activity Crane and its missions. The events were held quarterly in the first half of 2023 with an average of 50 attendees and discussed the following topics:

- **February:** CRDG 2022 Annual Report Briefing and a feature presentation by Tina Peterson and Joe Carley on the Uplands Science and Technology Foundation
- **May:** Keynote speakers Doug Crowe and Alyssa Robertson representing the National Security Technology Accelerator and the National Security Innovation Network

Connect to Mission

CRDG hosts Connect to Mission events to assist current or prospective businesses (small, large, or non-traditional) with understanding the needs of NSWC Crane's mission areas. This is the first year of these events and averaged 150 attendees. The events were held quarterly in the first half of 2023 and featured the following departments from NSWC Crane:

- **February:** Spectrum Warfare Systems Department on Electronic Warfare
- **May:** Global Deterrence and Defense Department on Strategic Weapons Missions

Washington D.C. Trip

Applied Research Institute and CRDG hosted a series of events last month in Washington D.C. in coordination with NSA Crane and defense industry leaders. The annual Team Crane Congressional Breakfast and Reception brought together government leaders, defense and technology firms, and constituents for conversations and updates about ongoing developments for the base and within Indiana's robust defense ecosystem.

Indiana Senators Mike Braun and Todd Young, and Indiana Members of Congress Larry Bucshon and Erin Houchin hosted the breakfast, sponsored by ARI, the Federal Managers Association Crane Chapter 170, the IEDC, and Radius Indiana. Featured speakers led a discussion on NSA Crane's impact and criticality to the Indiana ecosystem as the region works to bridge the gap between defense technology and innovation.



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