

IBEW 873 pushes for hiring locally during Kokomo's boom

'Our members are part of this local economy'

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Tony Newton of IBEW Local 873 works on Maple Crest Middle School.

Hiring locally for all projects in Kokomo and Howard County can only help the area's economy, according to Mike Young, the business manager and financial secretary of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 873.

This ideal is bolstered by statistics gleaned by Young, which included research indicating that 70 percent of revenue brought into a community is by local residents. So, to him and IBEW, hiring locally should be an obvious choice when it comes to major construction projects.

“Our members are part of this local economy,” said Young. “They live here. They work here. They shop here. They invest all of their time and money and volunteer efforts. Pretty much every capacity of their life is included in the Kokomo area.”