Brett is a lifelong Fort Wayne resident with extensive family, friends, and professional roots in the northeast Indiana region. He is a Captain with the Fort Wayne Fire Department, serving the community as a firefighter since 1998. Brett has first-hand experience with the Red Cross as a US Army officer with a combat deployment to Afghanistan, retiring in 2012. He also worked hand-in-hand with the Red Cross as the Operations Officer for an Indiana state incident management team during recovery efforts for Hurricane Michael, in Panama City, Florida, in 2018. Brett earned a Master's degree in Public Administration in 2015, seeking to leverage that education in the world of disaster management and recovery.