



CONTACT: Gretchen Wolfram  
317/916-7304  
317/255-2640

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***Lilly Endowment continues CAPE with \$32.9 million to eight counties***

Lilly Endowment Inc. has approved implementation grants totaling \$32.9 million to eight more Indiana counties in the initiative called CAPE (Community Alliances to Promote Education). This brings to 27 the number of counties that have received implementation grants to address their areas' most compelling education needs.

With up to \$5 million available for each county served, this action means that the Endowment has so far invested more than \$100.9 million in the CAPE initiative.

Launched in September 1999, CAPE is a vehicle for the state's community foundations to initiate discussions and conduct research about their areas' most urgent education needs. During this first phase, the foundations surveyed their counties; conducted focus groups; talked to educators, parents, children, residents, business and professional people; consulted college and university officials and other experts; and sponsored public discussions.

They presented planning proposals to the Endowment. Twenty-two planning grants of up to \$50,000 each were awarded in February 2000. From that group, the Endowment in December funded 10 grantees representing 19 Indiana counties with \$68 million in implementation grants.

The counties that did not receive funding in this round were encouraged to refine their work and re-present it to the Endowment.

(more)

CAPE  
Add 1

“We continued CAPE because we were convinced overwhelmingly that Indiana citizens had taken this situation seriously, that they were becoming more and more aware of their education problems, that they had researched and discussed the issues thoroughly – and perhaps most significantly – that the awareness of the importance of education had come to the forefront through these community efforts,” said Sara B. Cobb, Endowment vice president for education.

Recipients of the second round of CAPE implementation grants are the following:

### **Delaware County**

◆ Community Foundation of Muncie and Delaware County

\$5 million

Funds will support two programs that will provide out-of-school educational support to elementary-through-high school students who are at risk of academic failure. The first will offer all county school districts an alternative school for students in grades 6-12 who are at risk of dropping out, being suspended or expelled. The second will provide daily after-school educational and developmental programs for children in grades 1-5 and their families by creating several community learning centers.

Contact: Roni Johnson, executive director, Community Foundation of Muncie and Delaware County, 765/747-7181

### **Hancock County**

◆ Mount Vernon Community School Corp., Fortville

\$4,687,246

With the endorsement of the Hancock County Community Foundation, the school corporation will implement a countywide, technology-based initiative through three programs targeting youth, adults and the community-at-large. Planners also expect to promote enhanced understanding and use of technology in delivering educational programs and content to all levels of education in the county.

(more)

CAPE  
Add 2

◆ Hancock County Community Foundation, Greenfield

\$300,000

The funds will be placed in an endowment to help sustain the initiative after the CAPE grant period. The foundation expects that this endowment, in conjunction with other projected sources of financial support, will insure the sustainability of the three programs to increase the awareness and availability of technology-based curriculum and learning opportunities in the county.

Contact: John Carreon, executive director, Hancock County Community Foundation, 317/462-8870, Ext. 239

**Lawrence, Martin, Orange and Washington counties**

◆ Phi Delta Kappa, Bloomington

\$13,009,051

Phi Delta Kappa, with the endorsement of the community foundations serving Lawrence, Martin, Orange and Washington counties, will support a collaborative effort for the four-county region. Phi Delta Kappa, an international organization headquartered in Bloomington, offers professional development programs and publications for teachers on improving K-12 education. Several programs will address educational attainment of three target audiences. First, an early childhood and family program will provide curriculum, training and materials to child-care providers and parents of preschool children. Second, a K-12 school improvement program will support curriculum alignment efforts and professional development needs in the school systems. Third, a multifaceted workforce and career development program will support high school students and their career planning by creating four community learning centers. Expectations are to increase the economic viability of the region by improving the skills, capabilities and work ethic of the residents through

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CAPE  
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a network of support for families, enhanced quality of child care and better educational opportunities.

Contacts: Marge Lee, interim executive director, Lawrence, Martin and Orange county community foundations, 812/279-2215; D. Jack Mahuron, executive director, Washington County Community Foundation, 812/883-8803

### **Madison County**

◆ Anderson University

\$4,886,180

With the endorsement of the Madison County Community Foundation, the funds will be used to implement a reading initiative including two programs targeting 12 of the county's lowest-performing elementary schools. The first will provide early elementary students with intensive reading instruction and support. The second will train a select group of parents to promote and train other parents about the importance of parent-child reading at home. Expectations are that many more third-grade students will reach or exceed the Indiana reading standards and that many more parents will read with their children.

Contact: Jeanne Lee, executive director, Madison County Community Foundation, 765/644-0002

### **Sullivan County**

◆ Indiana State University (ISU), Terre Haute

\$4,396,861

ISU, with the endorsement of the Wabash Valley Community Foundation, plans to create a countywide technology infrastructure and community learning center in Sullivan County. The initiative will address educational attainment and opportunities in the county through four strategies: 1) creating an integrated countywide technology  
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CAPE  
Add 4

network; 2) creating a community learning center to provide lifelong learning opportunities; 3) providing video-enabled, distance-learning opportunities for all county residents; and 4) implementing a staff development and training program to support the integration of technology into the community and school curriculum. Planners expect that the initiative will increase educational opportunities for all residents, as well as create a technological infrastructure for other organizations and businesses to build on in the future.

◆ Wabash Valley Community Foundation, Terre Haute  
\$603,139

The foundation will place the funds in an endowment to help sustain the countywide technology infrastructure and community learning center beyond the CAPE grant period. The foundation expects that this endowment, along with other sources of financial support, will insure the sustainability of the four initiatives to increase educational opportunities for residents and a technological infrastructure for other organizations and businesses.

Contact: Beth Tevlin, executive director, Wabash Valley Community Foundation.  
812/232-2234

“The work done so far around the state on this educational attainment issue has been most impressive,” Cobb said, “and CAPE still is not complete.”

In December counties that had not participated in CAPE were invited to receive planning grants of up to \$50,000. Fifty-one counties received \$2.6 million to formulate implementation proposals which must be postmarked or received at the Endowment by July 31. Recipients of implementation grants will be announced at the end of the year. As in the other phases, each implementation proposal may request up to \$5 million for each county served.

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CAPE  
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Long concerned about the unacceptable ranking of Indiana (50<sup>th</sup> among the 50 states and the District of Columbia) in the percentage of adults with a baccalaureate degree, the Endowment has sought to address the issue through a series of grant initiatives, including CAPE.

Other efforts have been aimed at student retention in Indiana colleges and universities, significant grants to Indiana higher education institutions to dramatically “raise the bar” of their levels of expertise with programs that will provide distinction for them and progress for the state, a series of “articulation” grants to ease the “disconnects” between high school and college and college and the workplace, and a 4-year-old statewide community scholarship program.

“We fully realize that the Endowment’s efforts alone will not change this situation, and we are encouraged by the impressive work of others focused on this problem,” Cobb said. “This is a long-term issue that requires the efforts of all citizens and sectors – public and private – to address successfully. We are heartened by the increasing evidence that more and more communities and residents are concerned about this educational attainment issue.

“It will take nothing less than all our best efforts to meet this critical challenge. The future of the state lies in the balance,” she said.

## **FYI:**

Recipients in the \$68 million first round of CAPE implementation grants covered programs in 19 counties. Announced in December, the grantees were:

- ◆ Community Partnerships, Fort Wayne, \$5 million, endorsed by the Fort Wayne Community Foundation (focus on reading opportunities for preschool through third-grade children and their families)
- ◆ Heritage Fund of Bartholomew County, Columbus, \$5 million (build on countywide Community Learning System to provide opportunities for residents, from kindergartners to adult workers)
- ◆ Southeast Indiana Network for Education, Evansville, \$19.9 million, a supporting organization of the Community Foundation Alliance (Davies, Gibson, Knox, Perry, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh and Warrick counties) (programs to raise low levels of youth and adult literacy, help at-risk youth, provide professional development for teachers, and improve communication among teachers, parents, students and communities)
- ◆ The Discovery Alliance, Valparaiso, \$15 million; alliance includes the Porter County Community Foundation, Crown Point Community Foundation and the Legacy Foundation in Lake County, and the Unity Foundation of LaPorte County (improve home and community support of youth by expanding five programs, providing literacy education and training, and developing a system to connect customers of higher education with the many providers in northwest Indiana)
- ◆ Spencer-Owen County Community School Corp., Spencer, \$3 million, endorsed by the Owen County Community Foundation (establish Owen County Learning Network to work directly with preschoolers and their parents and to add opportunities for middle and high school students)
- ◆ Community Foundation of St. Joseph County, South Bend, \$5 million (concentration on enhancing learning opportunities for children from birth to 8 years old through three programs focusing on parent involvement and training teachers in early-childhood development)
- ◆ Switzerland County School Corp., Vevay, \$5 million, endorsed by the Community Foundation of Switzerland County (strengthen high school science, technology and business curricula through distance-learning programs with Indiana University Southeast and Ivy Tech State College)

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- ◆ North Manchester Community Foundation, Wabash County, \$3.9 million; Step Ahead of Wabash County, \$1 million (work with community partners to establish seven programs involving parents of preschool children, child-care providers, teachers and area businesses)
  
- ◆ Metropolitan School District of Warren County, Williamsport, \$5 million, endorsed by the Warren County Community Foundation (develop learning and technology center to offer previously unavailable educational opportunities; enhance math and reading skills of K-12 students)

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