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Citywide Commitment to Summer Youth Marks Milestone

INDIANAPOLIS – Children across Marion County are embarking on safe, enriching and fun summer experiences because of the Summer Youth Program Fund, a collaboration between Lilly Endowment Inc. and nine other funders.

Marking its 20th anniversary this year, the Summer Youth Program Fund is supporting 164 local organizations that are offering 194 programs. An estimated 50,000 young people ages 4 to 19 will benefit from the programs across Indianapolis. Many programs are opening this week (June 15-19) and will be offered through the end of July. Young people are learning to swim, going fishing, visiting museums, making their own art, exploring parks and trying out new sports like karate or golf.

For the 120 kids enrolled in the Summer Discovery program sponsored by La Plaza Inc. in Indianapolis, Fridays are field-trip days. Destinations vary - a dairy farm one week, the Indianapolis Zoo the next - but last summer when Lydia Salinas heard that a visit to Ball State University was on the agenda, she had her doubts. "Mommy, why do I have to go to college? I'm only 8!" she asked.

"I told her that she would be going to college soon enough, so she might as well learn about it now," recalls Emily Salinas, a third-generation Mexican-American who has taught English, Spanish and Latino studies to public school youth and Summer Discovery participants. "Many of the students that La Plaza serves are either immigrants or the children of first-generation immigrants," says Salinas. "La Plaza's work focuses on helping kids figure out their interests, develop their skills and set goals for the future."

A field trip to a college campus sends a positive message, according to Miriam Acevedo Davis, president and chief executive of La Plaza. "It shows them the do-ability of post-secondary education; it says that it's within their reach. Yes, they'll have to work hard, and yes, there will be challenges, but we want them to start thinking at an early age: 'I can do this. It's possible.' "

This year's La Plaza program begins June 22 and continues weekdays through July 24. Sessions take place at Gambold Preparatory High School, an IPS school, 3725 N Kiel Ave.

Lilly Endowment and its funding partners have learned during the last two decades that families, neighborhoods and school communities can benefit when children have happy, safe and enriching summer experiences.

"Young people thrive when summer programs keep learning and engagement going," said Barbara S. DeHart, program director for the Summer Youth Program Fund at the Endowment. "The organizations leading these summer programs are providing safe and constructive activities that let children and teenagers learn from and with each other. And they benefit from the mentoring and support of caring adults."

As part of its support of the Summer Youth Program Fund, the Endowment made grants totaling approximately $1.58 ($1,586,169) million to:

- 40 programs focused on academic achievement ($492,450)
- 52 programs focused on enrichment, such as arts and sports programs ($381,450)
- 56 daily programs based in community centers and congregations ($370,469)
- 25 residential camps for specific groups, such as children with autism ($187,100)
- 16 programs focused on youth employment ($154,700)

In addition to direct support for summer programs, the Endowment has awarded grants to organizations committed to young people that will strengthen summer offerings in diverse ways. They include:

- Grants totaling $800,924 to 40 organizations for capital projects that will help them strengthen their summer programs. Projects include building, transportation and technology improvements.
- A grant of $68,488 to Gleaners Food Bank of Indiana for its weekend feeding program. Gleaners is preparing to work with more than 30 summer youth program sites to give children food to take home on Fridays throughout the summer.
- A grant of $244,419 to the Marion County Commission on Youth (MCCOY). The grant will help MCCOY continue to support the work of the Summer Youth Program Fund and its grantees by providing adult and youth staff training, program evaluation and end-of-summer educational awards.

In 1995, Lilly Endowment and The Indianapolis Foundation created the Summer Youth Program Fund, which has become a national model to help non-profit organizations serving youth with summer programs. The Summer Youth Program Fund has allowed grantmakers to work together and streamline the application process for schools, arts organizations, religious congregations, neighborhood centers and other non-profit groups seeking funds for their summer programs.

This year Lilly Endowment joined the following funding partners: Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation; Christel DeHaan Family Foundation; City of Indianapolis Department of Metropolitan Development; Eli Lilly and Company Foundation; Kroger Central Division; Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust; The Clowes Fund; The Indianapolis Foundation and the Indianapolis Foundation Library Fund.

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Lilly Endowment gave grants to the following 159 organizations for their summer youth programs:

Adult and Child Center - $13,000

Aftercare for Indiana Through Mentoring - $7,000

Agape Therapeutic Riding Center - $4,000

American Diabetes Association, Indiana Affiliate - $11,500

Anglican Church of Resurrection - $5,000

Art With a Heart - $14,000

Asante Children's Theatre - $3,500

Athenaeum Turners School (dba Young Actors Theatre) - $5,000

At-Your-School (AYS) Child Services - $2,500

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana - $4,500

Big Car Media - $2,700

Boys & Girls Clubs of Indianapolis (5) - $47,500

Brebeuf Preparatory School - $2,500

Brightwood Community Center - $6,800

Broadway United Methodist Church - $9,000

Brooke's Place for Grieving Young People - $6,500

Burmese American Community Institute - $7,500

Butler University - $7,500

Calvary Temple of Indianapolis - $5,000

Camptown - $16,000

Catholic Charities Indianapolis (2) - $18,000

Catholic Youth Organization - $7,000

Centro Familiar Vida Nueva - $7,500

Chapel Rock Christian Church - $3,000

Charitable Allies - $7,500

Children's Museum of Indianapolis - $7,500

Christamore House - $8,500

Christel House Academy - $5,000

Circle City Frontiers Club - $7,500

Claude McNeal's Musical Theatre Training Program - $7,000

Coburn Place Safe Haven - $5,500

Community Alliance of the Far Eastside (CAFE) - $23,500

Community Health Network Foundation - $6,000

Concord Center Association - $25,000

Corinthian Baptist Church - $5,000

Cosmo Knights Scholarship Fund - $7,000

Damar Services - $7,500

Dance Kaleidoscope - $2,500

Dayspring Center - $7,500

Diabetic Youth Foundation of Indiana - $11,000

DirectEmployers Association Foundation - $5,000

Dyslexia Institute of Indiana - $9,000

Early Learning Indiana - $5,000

Earth Charter Indiana - $2,400

East Tenth United Methodist Children and Youth Center - $15,000

Edna Martin Christian Center - $12,000

Englishton Park Presbyterian Ministries - $6,000

Entrepreneurial Ventures in Education - $35,000

Fay Biccard Glick Neighborhood Center at Crooked Creek - $7,500

Felege Hiywot Center - $13,000

First Samuel Missionary Baptist Church - $7,000

Flanner House - $14,000

Fletcher Place Community Center - $2,750

Forest Manor Multi-Service Center - $21,000

Freetown Village - $17,000

Freewheelin' Community Bikes - $4,000

Girl Scouts of Central Indiana - $7,500

Girls Inc. - $10,000

Good News Mission - $4,000

Great Commission Church of God - $11,500

Guidance Life Skills and Mentoring (G.L.A.M.) - $5,000

Happy Hollow Children's Camp - $20,000

Harrison Center for the Arts - $9,500

Hawthorne Social Service Association - $23,000

Health and Hospital Corp. - $4,000

Health and Science Innovations - $7,500

Hear Indiana - $7,500

Hemophilia of Indiana - $5,000

Hispanic Latino Minority Health Coalition - $5,000

Honor Without End - $5,000

Iibada Dancers - $5,300

Indiana Amateur Baseball Association - $4,500

Indiana Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church - $3,200

Indiana Deaf Camps Foundation - $6,000

Indiana Golf Foundation - $6,000

Indiana Latino Institute - $6,000

Indiana Performing Arts Centre - $4,500

Indiana School for the Deaf - $5,500

Indiana State Museum Foundation - $4,200

Indiana University Foundation (2) - $22,500

Indianapolis Algebra Project - $34,000

Indianapolis Art Center - $10,000

Indianapolis Ballet - $2,000

Indianapolis Children's Choir - $5,500

Indianapolis Housing Agency - $22,000

Indianapolis Interfaith Hospitality Network - $3,500

Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library Foundation - $7,500

Indianapolis Museum of Art - $5,000

Indianapolis Parks Foundation (5) - $35,500

Indianapolis Soap Box Derby Association - $4,000

Jackson Center for Conductive Education - $1,000

James Whitcomb Riley Memorial Association (dba Riley Children's Foundation) - $8,000

Jameson Camp - $20,000

John H. Boner Community Center (2) - $16,000

Julian Center - $7,500

Just the Beginning - $4,500

Keep Indianapolis Beautiful - $6,000

La Plaza (2) - $25,000

Lawrence United Methodist Church - $5,000

LifeBridge Community - $3,500

Lillian Davis Foundation - $6,919

Little Red Door Cancer Agency - $8,500

Lutheran Child & Family Services of Indiana - $8,500

Madame Walker Urban Life Center - $7,500

Marian University (2) - $32,750

Marion County Commission on Youth (2) - $28,000

Martin Luther King Multi-Service Center - $7,500

Mary Rigg Neighborhood Center - $30,000

Metropolitan School District of Pike Township - $7,500

Metropolitan School District of Warren Township - $4,000

Miracle Place - $5,000

Mission Indy - $3,500

Montessori Educational Charity - $6,500

Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church - $7,000

Music for All - $7,500

National Junior Tennis League of Indianapolis - $11,250

Net Literacy Corp. (dba Senior Connects Corp.) - $16,000

New Beginnings Church - $6,000

New Covenant Church - $5,500

Nine 13 - $2,500

Noble of Indiana - $7,500

Northside New Era Community Outreach - $6,000

Oaks Academy - $6,000

100 Black Men of Indianapolis - $23,000

Paramount School of Excellence - $6,200

Partnerships for Lawrence - $6,000

Pathway Resource Center - $6,500

Peace Learning Center - $17,000

People's Burn Foundation of Indiana - $7,000

Philharmonic Orchestra of Indianapolis - $9,000

Pro 100 - $23,000

Project Endure - $5,000

Promise Land Christian Community Church - $7,000

Purdue University- $7,500

St. Florian Center - $28,000

St. Richard's School - $22,000

Salvation Army (3) - $17,500

Saturday Evening Post Society - $6,500

School on Wheels - $4,000

Shepherd Community (2) - $20,500

Social Health Association of Indiana - $15,000

Southeast Community Services - $8,000

Speedway Baptist Church - $6,500

SpringHill Camps - $4,000

Starfish - $7,500

Stop the Violence Indianapolis - $5,400

Storytelling Arts of Indiana - $4,000

Symphonic Youth Orchestra of Greater Indianapolis - $4,000

Teachers' Treasures - $5,000

Trinity House Academy - $5,500

VSA Indiana - $7,500

Wayne Township Education Foundation - $5,000

Westminster Neighborhood Ministries - $10,000

Writers' Center of Indiana - $7,500

YMCA of Indianapolis (13) - $51,800

Young Audiences of Indiana (2) - $21,000

Young Life Indianapolis Urban - $3,000

Youth Outdoor Exploration Academy - $7,500

Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church - $7,500

Lilly Endowment made capital grants to the following 40 organizations:

Aftercare for Indiana Through Mentoring - $25,400

Anglican Church of Resurrection - $24,696

Art With a Heart - $20,000

Brightwood Community Center - $8,500

Burmese American Community Institute - $20,000

Christamore House - $25,896

Christel House Academy - $30,000

Coburn Place Safe Haven - $30,000

Concord Center Association - $4,031

Damar Services - $17,755

Edna Martin Christian Center - $30,000

Felege Hiywot Center - $8,025

First Samuel Missionary Baptist Church - $23,812

Flanner House - $29,286

Girl Scouts of Central Indiana - $30,000

Happy Hollow Children's Camp - $28,651

Hawthorn Social Service Association - $27,820

Health and Science Innovations - $15,000

Indiana Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church - $4,327

Indiana Deaf Camps Foundation - $700

Indiana Performing Arts Centre - $12,694

Indiana State Museum Foundation - $1,506

Indianapolis Art Center - $15,000

Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library Foundation - $27,450

Indianapolis Parks Foundation - $20,120

Jameson Camp - $20,396

John H. Boner Community Center - $30,000

Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church - $30,000

National Junior Tennis League of Indianapolis - $5,659

Net Literacy Corp. - $15,000

Oaks Academy - $30,000

100 Black Men of Indianapolis - $15,520

Peace Learning Center - $13,421

Pro 100 - $25,000

Social Health Association of Indiana - $21,578

Southeast Community Services - $30,000

VSA Indiana - $19,636

Westminster Neighborhood Services - $30,000

Writers' Center of Indiana - $4,045

Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church - $30,000