



Legacy Foundation Awards More Than \$760,000 in Grants to Lake County Nonprofits in 2013-14

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Legacy Foundation, Lake County's community foundation, funded grants totaling \$762,239 to Lake County nonprofit organizations that enhance the quality of life for people throughout the region.

Carolyn Saxton, president of Legacy Foundation, said, *"In the 2014 edition of Giving in Indiana, Legacy Foundation was listed as one of the top 10 Indiana Community Foundations based on grant amounts it had distributed. Donors who have contributed to the Legacy's unrestricted fund enabled us to award these grants for services to children, women and families in our communities. It is because of this individual support that Legacy is able to strengthen the network of services in Lake County. We thank our donors who helped make this possible."*

Legacy Foundation accepted applications for four major granting categories: Transform Lake County, Informed and Engaged Urban Communities, Thriving Hobart Seniors, and Nonprofit Capacity Building and Training to support programs for education, health, human services, environment, and arts and culture.



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Grants make positive impact in the community

Fifty-nine organizations in total were awarded grants. Their missions range from "providing fulfilling employment, job skills training, and volunteer opportunities in Lake County to those with intellectual/developmental disabilities" to "protecting habitats and ecosystems of Northwest Indiana through acquiring, restoring, and protecting environmentally significant landscapes for present and future generations."

"The Hammond Education Foundation's 'Come and Read with Me' program, funded by a Legacy Foundation Transform Lake County Grant, is a series of three workshops for parents of kindergarten and first grade students, to provide them with books and to give them strategies to help them when reading at home with their children. The success of this program after the second year led to us giving a presentation at a national conference for education foundations," said former Hammond Education Foundation Executive Director Gail Rodovich.

Although important, grant making is not the only way the Foundation strives to assist nonprofits in reaching their full potential. Legacy Foundation offers not-for-profit organizations, donors, local universities and even national partners the help they need to create innovative and effective programs and to make existing ones more viable.

Kimberly Smith, executive director of Early Learning Partnership of Northwest Indiana said "we applaud Legacy Foundation for choosing to fund a program that has proven outcomes and a track record of impact as well as compliance. Sustaining long term partnerships with local nonprofits that are invested in quality improvement and innovation is a smart investment of dollars entrusted to the Foundation."

Early Learning Partnership of NWI was given a grant for its Parents as Teachers Program that provides personal home visits, group connections, development and health screenings to Lake County families with children prenatal to kindergarten entry.

Legacy Foundation is set to award more than \$300,000 in new grants from the Lake County Community Fund and the Maria Reiner Senior Citizens Fund in October, 2014. To see a full list of grants awarded visit <http://legacyfdn.org/grants.php>.

Grants awarded

Legacy Foundation awarded grants to the following Lake County nonprofit organizations:

From the Lake County Community Fund (Transform Lake County)

Transform Lake County grants are targeted toward local organizations that provide services to improve our residents' quality of life.

Campagna Academy to re-open a vacant cottage and extend the residential program.

Carnegie Performing Arts Center for operational support to serve the East, Chicago population.

Center of Workforce Innovations and IU Northwest Center for Management Development to build positive employer-ready attitudes/skills in 25 discouraged long-term unemployed professionals

Chorus Angelorum for the 28th Annual Concert

Dunes Dog Training to help U.S. Veterans with PTSD and/or emotional issues through training and caring for dogs

Early Learning Partnership of NWI/Parents as Teachers in support of early childhood parent education and support serving Lake County families with children prenatal to kindergarten.

Gary Life Education Initiative to provide mentoring, essential and enriching life skills, and college and career readiness in the classroom.

Heinze Land Trust to support the Mighty Acorns Environmental Education.

Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center to support 10 Naturalist Interns

Indiana Parenting Institute for SHYNE, a school dropout prevention life skills program for students between 7 and 14 years, and their parents

Indiana Women in Need Foundation for the Survivor Support Program to provide individualized services and support to women with breast cancer

International Community Alliance, East Chicago Public Library, WorkOne and Books, Brushes and Bands for Education for a collaboration to improve job access, increase educational and vocational skills, improve the family structure, increase library access, and increase access to culture and arts for East Chicago residents

METAS to increase the number of Latino students who graduate high school and college.
First Tee of Valparaiso to provide teachers with training, curriculum materials and equipment
MAAP Services to provide series of workshops for families of individuals newly diagnosed with autism
Planting Possibilities gardening program for up to 12 youth with intellectual/ developmental disabilities in Campagna Academy's residential program
South Shore Arts/Northwest Indiana Symphony Arts Education Program
Taltree Arboretum and Gardens in support of an electric vehicle to make the Conservation-to-Go! Program mobile
First Christian Reformed Church – Teen MOPS to help young mothers reach goals pertaining to education, employment and parental confidence
Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Indiana and NWI Veterans Action Council to build a home for a Lake County, Ind. military veteran
Catholic Charities and Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Indiana Wheel Chair Ramps/ A Brush with Kindness program build and install wheelchair ramps
Kids Against Hunger – Greenwood to pack over 250,000 Kids Against hunger meals
Meals on Wheels of Northwest Indiana Food Subsidy Account to underwrite senior meals for those who cannot afford them.
Sojourner Truth House to place formerly homeless clients and their families in permanent housing
St. Jude House to give dependent children of domestic violence victims access to group activities and counseling
United Pentecostal Church International Christian Revival Center food pantry equipment
Boy Scouts of America – Calumet Council The S.T.E.A.M. initiative (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics)
Giving Backpack Foundation aims to provide at least 6,000 backpacks filled with school supplies to 5 different school districts in Lake County
Hammond Education Foundation series of workshops for parents, giving them strategies for helping their children while reading at home
School City of Hobart Parents as Teachers to focus on increasing motor development through physical movement in children under five
Shifting Sands Documentary will explore the diverse ecosystem and show a movement toward restoration and sustainability
Highland Parks & Recreation Department to establish a nature center at a rookery along the Little Calumet River in Highland, Ind.
Northwest Indiana Excellence in Theatre Foundation to give member theatres access to shared professional contractor services
Northshore Health Centers Non-Stress Test Program provides at risk pregnant women of Lake County, Ind. the opportunity to receive early assessment and intervention

From the Maria Reiner Senior Citizen Fund (Thriving Hobart Seniors)

Maria Reiner Senior Citizens Fund grants to organizations supporting the vibrant senior community in Hobart.

Hobart Arts League to promote and implement education in the field of art
Maria Reiner Center to provide opportunities that are social, educational and supportive of an active lifestyle for seniors that are 55 years of age and older
Linden House of Hobart for safe and age-appropriate exercise equipment for the senior resident population
Meals on Wheels of Northwest Indiana in support of the Food Subsidy Account to underwrite senior meals for Hobart residents
South Lake County Community Services provides free senior transportation services to residents in Hobart

From the Knight Foundation Fund (Informed and Engaged Urban Communities)

The Knight Foundation Fund at Legacy Foundation supports the success of informed and engaged urban communities, focusing on Gary neighborhoods

Hoosier Environmental Council to provide environmental technical assistance to a Gary community group
Miller Beach Arts & Creative District to modernize the Marshall J. Gardner Center for the Arts
Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights to assist clients who are working to overcome barriers to employment and housing due to past arrest and conviction records
Indiana Association for Community Economic Development to design a Neighborhood Spotlight grant with Legacy Foundation that works as a community development and capacity building program
Delta Institute in support of the Collaborative Gary Deconstruction Initiative: Cultivating Sustainable Vacant Land Management Strategies to Empower and Employ Gary Residents

Nonprofit Capacity Building and Training

Capacity building grants provide up to \$2,000 for organizations seeking to improve their operations, programming, and fundraising.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Northwest Indiana
Emerge South Shore
Gary Life Education Initiative
Humane Society of the Calumet Area
Old Sherriff's House Foundation
Urban League of Northwest Indiana
Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center
Hammond Education Foundation
Campagna Academy
Northwest Indiana Cancer Kids
Meals on Wheels of Northwest Indiana
Food Bank of Northwest Indiana
Indiana Writers Consortium
Books, Brushes & Bands for Education
Indiana Ballet Theatre
Indiana Lincoln Highway Association
Woodland Child Development Center

About Legacy Foundation

Legacy Foundation is a community foundation and the leading philanthropic partner in Lake County, Ind. Through the generosity of a wide base of donors, Legacy Foundation has awarded nearly \$30 million in grants and scholarships to nonprofit organizations and individuals since its founding in 1992. The mission of Legacy Foundation is to encourage philanthropy, support good works and inspire leadership. The foundation manages approximately \$50 million in assets and is governed by a volunteer board of directors representing a diverse spectrum of business, education, and the nonprofit and public sectors from throughout Lake County. Learn more at www.legacyfdn.org.

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