

COMMUNITY IMPACT INITIATIVE

2025 GRANTEE

PROJECT

Brown County Christkindl Market



Brown County Playhouse



\$3,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Tourism is the main economic driver in Brown County, and funding supports the 5th Annual Brown County Christkindl Market. This festive holiday event brings residents and visitors together while supporting local businesses, restaurants, artists, and performers.



- Improves Quality of Life
- Improves Community Livability
- Creates Active, Vital Downtown Destinations
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Community Engagement
- Increases Access to Public Arts
- Increases Year-Round Recreational Opportunities
- Helps Foster Walkable Neighborhoods
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Increases Business Retention
- Increases Small Business Support and Growth
- Encourages Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Promotes Unique Visitor Experiences





COMMUNITY IMPACT INITIATIVE



2025 GRANTEE

PROJECT

Beech Grove Parks Summer Concert Series



GRANTEE

Beech Grove Community Parks Foundation, Inc.



\$2.500

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Funding supports the Beech Grove Parks Summer Concert Series, a free, family-friendly event that brings live music, local artists, and food vendors to the community. Now in its third year, the series continues to grow by adding more activities while showcasing Beech Grove's parks to residents and visitors alike.







- Improves Quality of Life
- Improves Community Livability
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Community Engagement
- Increases Access to Public Arts
- Increases Parks Programming
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Creates New Events to Attract New Visitors





Juneteenth Foodways Festival



Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site



\$5,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site hosted the 4th Annual Juneteenth Foodways Festival, celebrating the lasting legacy of Black culinary traditions and their influence on American culture. The festival highlighted Indiana Black-owned businesses while giving attendees the chance to sample food, shop local vendors, and learn about Dolly Johnson, the White House chef hired by President Benjamin Harrison. Showcasing some of Indianapolis' most diverse food offerings, the event featured Black-owned restaurants, local entrepreneurs, and partnerships with historically Black nonprofit organizations. Nearly 2,200 people attended the one-day festival, which included close to 30 food and retail partners.













- Historic Preservation
- Improves Quality of Life
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Organizational Programming
- Increases Community Engagement and Participation
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Increases Support for Small Businesses
- Encourages Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Supports Minority Owned Businesses
- Engages Businesses to Positively Impact Communities
- Promotes Unique Visitor Experiences
- Increases Tourism Opportunities





2025 Levitt VIBE Indianapolis Music Series



Big Car Collaborative



\$5,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Funding supports the Levitt VIBE 2025 Indianapolis concert series, presented by Big Car Collaborative, Arte Mexicano en Indiana, and partners. Following a successful launch in 2024, the free, family-friendly series will bring diverse live music and creative activities to the Tube Factory campus from April through October. Each month, national and local performers from underrepresented communities will take the stage. In addition to live music, the series features interactive artmaking, cultural programming, outdoor games, local food trucks, and artist markets that support neighborhood creatives. With backing from the Levitt Foundation and local partners, this series cultivates a sense of belonging by bringing people together to celebrate art, culture, and community in a vibrant public space.



- Improves Quality of Life
- Improves Community Livability
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Community Engagement
- Increases Access to Public Arts
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Creates New Events to Attract New Visitors





Community in Bloom



Bloom Madison County



\$5,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Bloom Madison County, a grassroots nonprofit, is transforming community spaces in Anderson through food, art, and connection. Bloom enhanced the Anderson Farmers Market lot, Bloom classroom and kitchen, and three community gardens to strengthen food security, entrepreneurship, and community engagement. Upgrades included electrical hookups for market vendors, outdoor seating and shade, a renovated teaching kitchen, and new storage, signage, and raised beds at the gardens. These improvements ensure that each space is accessible, welcoming, and equipped for long-term programming such as cooking classes, gardening workshops, and public art activities. With every dollar raised matched up to \$50,000 through the IHCDA CreatINg Places Program, the project doubled its impact—supporting local growers, expanding educational opportunities, and creating vibrant, inclusive spaces for the community to thrive.

- Improves Quality of Life
- Improves Community Livability
- Creates Greenspace Improvements
- Advocates for Expanding Green Spaces
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Community Engagement and Participation
- Promotes Volunteerism
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Encourages Approaches that are Community-Driven, Comprehensive, and Collaborative
- Supports Small Businesses
- Encourages Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Improves Standards of Health and Living
- Promotes Active Living
- Promotes Natural Features and Destinations
- Improves Access to Environmental Benefits





PROJECT

Blue River Trail Enhancements: Life-Size Kaleidoscope



Blue River Community Foundation



\$3,500

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

An interactive, life-size kaleidoscope is being installed along the Blue River Trail in Shelbyville's Blue River Memorial Park. Created by The Kaleidoscope Factory, the steel sculpture offers a colorful, hands-on experience for children, teens, and adults alike. With thousands of visitors each year enjoying the park's soccer fields, ball diamonds, splash pad, and trails, the kaleidoscope adds a unique artistic attraction that encourages repeat visits—since every view through it is different. This installation blends art, play, and community engagement in one of Shelbyville's most popular outdoor spaces.





- Improves Quality of Life
- Creates Greenspace Improvements
- Fosters Community Engagement
- Increases Access to Public Arts
- Encourages Walkable Communities
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Promotes Active Living
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Promotes Unique Visitor Experiences
- Provides Additional Amenities to Attract New Visitors





COMMUNITY IMPACT INITIATIVE

2025 GRANTEE

PROJECT

Community Theater at Brown County Playhouse





Brown County Playhouse Management, Inc.



\$2,500

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Brown County Playhouse Community Theater is a volunteer-driven theater program, where all actors and stage personnel donate their time. Directors receive a modest stipend, but production costs often exceed ticket revenue. Funding will support the remaining five productions for 2025—The Curious Savage, Harvey, Doublewide Texas, Dracula, and It's a Wonderful Life. This support allows high-quality, engaging performances to continue, including plays that provide powerful audience experiences even if they are not financially self-sustaining. These productions offer the community meaningful theater experiences and help maintain a vibrant arts presence in Brown County.



- Improves Quality of Life
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Community Engagement
- Increases Access to Public Arts
- Increases Programming
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Provides Events to Attract New Visitors
- Promotes Unique Visitor Experiences





Community Chip-in Mosaic Butterflies Installation







\$1,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The City of Carmel is installing 14 community-created mosaic butterflies throughout the Flower District, central core, and other key areas. Crafted during the 2024 Meet Me on Main events, these vibrant mosaics, made from glass, mirror pieces, and mortar, will enhance public spaces while celebrating resident creativity. The project fosters community engagement, strengthens neighborhood connections, and promotes pride through collaborative art. Once installed, the butterflies will provide lasting visual interest, making Carmel's public spaces more vibrant and welcoming for residents and visitors alike.



- Improves Quality of Life
- Fosters Community Engagement
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Access to Public Arts
- Encourages Walkable Communities
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Encourages Civic Engagement
- Promotes Active Living
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Promotes Unique Visitor Experiences
- Provides Additional Amenities to Attract New Visitors





PROJECT

The Rolling Canvas



City of Westfield



\$5,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Westfield is partnering with PATTERN, Inc. to create a retail pop-up shop in a refurbished IndyGo bus. A local artist designed the bus exterior, turning it into a public art piece while providing entrepreneurs an affordable way to test the local market. Located in Grand Junction Plaza, this initiative aims to grow small businesses, drive commerce to downtown Westfield, and expand the city's public art offerings. The project also supports long-term retail development, helping successful pop-up tenants transition into permanent locations and fostering a vibrant, creative downtown experience.







- Improves Quality of Life
- Creates Active, Vital Downtown Destinations
- Creates Opportunities for Talent Attraction, Retention and Development
- Supports Small Businesses and Small Business Development
- Connects Talent
- Encourages Entrepreneurship and Innovation







Free & Reduced Admission Programs



Conner Prairie Museum



\$3,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Conner Prairie provides reduced and free admission through its Access Pass program and partnerships with local youth organizations. Funding from MIBOR supports families who may not otherwise afford a visit, offering \$5 tickets for eligible households and free admission for youth served by community partners such as Youth Empowered, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana, A Kid Again, Indiana Kids Belong, and Youth Assistance Program. In 2024, more than 6,400 guests—approximately 1,615 families—experienced Conner Prairie's interactive exhibits, nature programs, and educational opportunities through these initiatives. By lowering financial barriers, these programs foster inclusivity, provide meaningful experiences, and support Conner Prairie's mission to engage all guests, regardless of background or ability.

CONNER PRAIRIE

- Increases Opportunities for Historic Preservation
- Improves Quality of Life
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Community Engagement
- Increases Access to Public Arts
- Increases Accessibility of Public Amenities
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Promotes Inclusive Activation and Programming





PROJECT

Youth Sports Complex Dugout Benches



GRANTEE

Decatur County Parks and Recreation Department



\$3.750

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Decatur County Youth Sports Complex is upgrading its four main diamonds with new turf infields and colorful, surface-mounted steel player benches. Built in 2000, the complex's original wooden benches have weathered over time, and these upgrades will enhance both safety and aesthetics for athletes and spectators. Creating a modern, welcoming environment for youth sports in the community.



- Enhances Park Department Assets
- Promotes Active Living
- Increases Opportunities for Park Programming





PROJECT

DREAM Alive Middle School Career Development Trips



This grant supports experiential field trips for DA Middle School scholars. These trips introduce students to career opportunities at Indianapolis partner companies, helping them explore potential career paths and understand the education and training needed to achieve their goals. By exposing scholars to real-world professions, the program fosters career awareness, inspiration, and planning for life after high school.



DREAM Alive



\$5,000

- Improves Quality of Life
- Increases Opportunities for Talent Attraction
- Engages Businesses to Positively Impact Communities
- Encourages Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Supports Discovering Career Pathways for Students





PROJECT

Riley Arts Trail Artwork



GRANTEE Greenfield Main Street, Inc.



\$5,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Riley Arts Trail project integrates visual art into Greenfield's trail system, enhancing community engagement, placemaking, and the local economy. By installing murals, sculptures, and interactive art along the trail—connecting to the Pennsy Trail and weaving through downtown—residents and visitors experience a vibrant cultural journey that showcases local heritage, creativity, and talent. The project supports local artists, draws visitors to downtown shops and restaurants, and transforms public spaces into welcoming, visually stimulating areas. By combining art with recreation, the Riley Arts Trail fosters civic pride, encourages exploration, and strengthens community connections while promoting the economic and cultural vitality of Hancock County.

- Improves Quality of Life
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Access to Public Arts
- Increases Community Engagement
- Encourages Walkable Communities
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Promotes Active Living
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Provides Additional Amenities to Attract New Visitors
- Improves Access to Environmental Benefits





COMMUNITY IMPACT INITIATIVE

2025 GRANTEE

PROJECT

Art On The Trail



Greenwood Parks and Recreation



\$2,500

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Art on the Trail in Greenwood is a biennial public sculpture program that brings new artworks to the Polk Hill Trail along Smith Valley Road. Since 2014, four to five sculptures are rotated every two years, connecting residents and visitors to diverse artistic expressions. Artists from across the country lease their sculptures to the city, which are then displayed for trail users and thousands of daily vehicle passersby, creating a vibrant, accessible outdoor gallery. MIBOR funding supports artist commissions for the two-year installations. Free and ADA-accessible, the trail allows people of all ages and backgrounds to experience public art, enhancing placemaking, community engagement, and the cultural landscape of Greenwood.

- Improves Quality of Life
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Access to Public Arts
- Increases Community Engagement
- Encourages Walkable Communities
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Promotes Active Living
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Provides Additional Amenities to Attract New Visitors
- Improves Access to Environmental Benefits





COMMUNITY IMPACT INITIATIVE

2025 GRANTEE

PROJECT

Playground Communication Boards



Hamilton County Parks and Recreation



\$5,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Hamilton County Parks and Recreation installed communication boards at playgrounds to support children and adults with speech and communication challenges. These boards provide tools for expression, fostering inclusivity, social interaction, and community engagement. By enhancing accessibility and awareness, the project creates welcoming spaces where all visitors can participate fully, promoting a stronger sense of belonging and improving quality of life for individuals with diverse communication needs.



- Improves Quality of Life
- Increases Community Engagement
- Increases Accessibility of Public Amenities
- Enhances Park Department Assets
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Promotes Inclusive Activation and Programming







2026 Walk & Bike Summit



Health by Design



\$1,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The 2026 Indiana Walk & Bike Summit in downtown Indianapolis brings together attendees to explore safety, health, community design, and accessibility in active mobility. Featuring nationally and regionally recognized presenters, the Summit provides interactive tools, showcases successful initiatives, and fosters networking among advocates and community leaders. Attendees gain practical strategies to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety, promote physical activity, and create healthier, more connected, and inclusive communities across Indiana.



- Improves Quality of Life
- Improves Community Livability
- Fosters Community Engagement
- Encourages Walkable Neighborhoods
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Encourages Approaches that are Community-Driven, Comprehensive, and Collaborative
- Creates Opportunities for Civic Engagement
- Supports Complete, Livable Streets
- Increases Opportunities for Connectivity
- Encourages Collaboration Among Organizations, Agencies and Local Government
- Promotes Active Living
- Encourages Increased Safety Measures
- Encourages the Improvement of Standards of Health and Living





Indianapolis Cultural Trail Welcome Center



Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc.



\$10,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

This grant supports the renovation of the Cultural Trail Welcome Center and its surrounding outdoor space, creating an inviting hub for visitors, volunteers, and community members. With expanded interior and exterior space following the recent acquisition of adjacent property, Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc. will enhance visitor amenities—including water. restrooms, and maps—while expanding operational capacity to support the growth of the Cultural Trail and Pacers Bikeshare. The project will increase visitor satisfaction, improve staff efficiency, and strengthen neighborhood connectivity, encouraging a bike-friendly, car-light lifestyle. By investing in a permanent facility, the organization will redirect resources from rent to core programming, supporting long-term financial resilience and sustainable growth for the Trail and Bikeshare, benefiting over 1,000,000 residents and visitors annually.

- Improves Quality of Life
- Improves Community Livability
- Creates Active, Vital Downtown Destinations
- Provides Enhancements to the Streetscape
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Community Engagement
- Increases Accessibility to Public Amenities
- Encourages Walkable Communities
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Increases Opportunities for Connectivity
- Promotes Active Living
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Promotes Unique Visitor Experiences
- Improves Access to Environmental Benefits





COMMUNITY IMPACT INITIATIVE

2025 GRANTEE

PROJECT

Wealth Building Pitch Night Event



Indy Black Chamber of Commerce



\$5,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Wealth Builder - Pitch Night gives graduates of IBCC's 10-week Wealth Building Through Business Ownership cohort the opportunity to present their business concepts to a panel of judges and compete for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes. Each graduate has five minutes to showcase their business knowledge, talent, and plans. The Wealth Building cohort provides entrepreneurs—those in business at least two years or generating over \$25,000 in annual revenue—with in-person instruction twice per week, equipping them with the foundation for long-term business success.





- Supports Talent Retention and Development
- Supports Small Business Development and Growth
- Connects Talent
- Encourages Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Supports Minority and Women Owned Businesses
- Supports the Retention of Young Professionals in Central Indiana





COMMUNITY IMPACT INITIATIVE

ubilee

4th Annual INRC

2025 GRANTEE

Thursday, October 9 Doors open at 5 p.m.



PROJECT

INRC's 4th Annual Jubilee



GRANTEE

Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center



\$5.000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center (INRC), now in its 30th year, empowers neighbors and neighborhood-based organizations through training, collaboration, and leadership development. Funding from the Community Impact Initiative supports INRC's 4th Annual Jubilee Fundraiser, which raises critical funds for its Neighborhood Services programs and celebrates the impact of initiatives like the Neighborhood Grant Program and Public Allies. INRC's core offerings include the Indianapolis Community Building Institute, a 19-year leadership development program; Neighbor Power Indy, a free annual event that connects residents through workshops and community awards; and Public Allies Indianapolis, which engages young adults in service and leadership development. The Jubilee brings together alumni, neighbors, community partners, and nonprofit professionals to celebrate these accomplishments and sustain INRC's ongoing work.



- Improves Quality of Life
- Improves Community Livability
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Access to Public Arts
- Increases and Encourages Community Participation
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Encourages Approaches that are Community-Driven, Comprehensive, and Collaborative
- Brings Diverse Community Members Together in Order to Assess Needs and Set Priorities
- Promotes Inclusive Activation and Programming







Economic Development Day

2025 GRANTEE



Leadership Johnson County



\$1,500

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Economic Development Day provides Leadership Academy participants with a hands-on, interactive experience where teams compete to attract fictitious companies to their towns. This simulation mirrors real-world economic development challenges, allowing participants to explore market forces, resource allocation, incentives, infrastructure planning, and community impact. By engaging in this competitive yet educational activity, participants develop problem-solving, teamwork, and strategic thinking skills essential for successful economic development.

- Increases Community Engagement
- Encourages Approaches that are Community-Driven, Comprehensive, and Collaborative
- Creates Opportunities for Civic Engagement
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Encourages Collaboration Among Organizations, Agencies and Local Government
- Provides Education and Training in Economic and Community Development





PROJECT

Music on Main



Main Street Plainfield, Inc.



\$3,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Music on Main is a free concert series in downtown Plainfield that brings the community together to enjoy live music, celebrate local artists, and enhance the cultural life of the area. Each performance features a variety of musical genres, offering entertainment for all ages and tastes. The series also provides an opportunity to connect with neighbors, support local businesses, and experience the vibrant character of downtown Plainfield.



- Improves Quality of Life
- Creates Active, Vital Downtown Destinations
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Community Engagement
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Promotes Inclusive Activation and Programming
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Provides Additional Events to Attract New Visitors





Rebuilding Together-Near North



Near North Development Corporation



\$5,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Rebuilding Together® Indianapolis, in partnership with Near North Development, provides no-cost home repairs for low-income homeowners who might otherwise struggle to maintain safe, secure homes. Earlier this year, volunteers helped repair homes and clean up the neighborhood, ensuring families can stay safe and comfortable in their community. Since 1999, over 400 homes have been improved with the help of 500 volunteers, making a lasting impact in Indianapolis neighborhoods.







- Improves Quality of Life
- Improves Community Livability
- Increases Community Engagement
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Promotes Equitable Housing
- Increases Property Values
- Advances Generational Wealth





COMMUNITY IMPACT INITIATIVE

2025 GRANTEE

PROJECT

The International Center Festival Funds



The International Center



\$5,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The International Center's Festival Fund supports small- to mid-sized nonprofits hosting international or culturally focused events across Indiana. Since 2011, the Fund has helped organizations showcase the state's growing diversity through music, art, food, and other forms of cultural expression. Grants ranging from \$500-\$2,000 enable events that strengthen community connections, foster understanding across cultures, and create welcoming spaces for all residents. Fund-supported events increase collaboration among diverse organizations, highlight multicultural traditions, and enrich life in Indiana.



- Improves Quality of Life
- Improves Community Livability
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Encourages Equitable Cultural Development
- Promotes Inclusive Programming
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Promotes Unique Visitor Experiences
- Provides Additional Events to Attract New Visitors





Indy Parks & Recreation Lifeguard Training



The Parks Alliance of Indianapolis



\$5,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Indy Parks & Recreation Lifeguard Training program provides high-quality, accessible training for youth and young adults, preparing them for in-demand jobs in public safety and recreation. Participants learn essential life-saving skills including CPR, AED use, first aid, and emergency response—while also developing leadership, teamwork, and communication abilities. This program removes financial barriers, making lifeguard certification accessible to all, and creates direct employment pathways as lifeguards, head lifeguards, pool managers, and aquatics instructors. By training at least 100 lifeguards before Summer 2025, the program helps ensure public pools remain safe, fully staffed, and available for community use. Through this initiative, Indy Parks & Recreation supports workforce development, water safety, youth employment, and vibrant recreational opportunities for families across Central Indiana.



- Improves Quality of Life
- Improves Community Livability
- Increases Community Engagement
- Increases Opportunities for Talent Attraction and Retention
- Supports Workforce Development
- Increases Safety
- Promotes Active Living





COMMUNITY IMPACT INITIATIVE

2025 GRANTEE

PROJECT

McCordsville Live at the Square



Town of McCordsville



\$5,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

McCordsville Live at the Square is a new series of free community events designed to bring residents and visitors together in the heart of McCordsville's Town Center. The program includes outdoor movie nights and a summer concert, offering fun, family-friendly entertainment for all ages. Set in the vibrant, newly developed Town Center, these events create a welcoming space for the community to gather, strengthen connections, and enjoy local culture. The initiative also supports local businesses by attracting visitors and encouraging activity in downtown McCordsville.



- Improves Quality of Life
- Creates Active, Vital Downtown Destinations
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Community Engagement
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Promotes Inclusive Activation and Programming
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Provides Additional Events to Attract New Visitors





COMMUNITY IMPACT INITIATIVE





2025 GRANTEE

PROJECT

Shelby County Audubon Mural



Blue River Community Foundation



\$2,500

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

As part of the Pride In Place Initiative, a mural was created at the Shelby County Players Wortman Family Civic Theatre on Miller Avenue in Shelby County. Designed and painted by artist Carl Leck of Greenfield, Indiana, the mural brought art, conservation, and community together through dynamic imagery of local bird species—especially those identified as having High or Moderate Vulnerability to climate change.

The project was nationally registered with the Audubon Mural Project through the National Audubon Society and celebrated Shelby County's designation as Indiana's first Bird Town County. The mural ultimately wrapped around three sides of the theatre, with completion in spring 2026.

The project reflected the power of collaboration between community partners and the Shelby County Players to enhance local placemaking and celebrate the intersection of art, nature, and community pride.



- Improves Quality of Life
- Creates Active, Vital Downtown Destinations
- Promotes Community Engagement
- Increases Access to Public Art
- Enhances Small Town Quality of Place
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Increases Tourism Opportunities





IMPACT INITIATIVE

GREATRIARCHS

of Martindale-Brightwood

2025 GRANTEE

PROJECT

2026 Greatriarch Calendar



Harrison Center for the Arts



\$4,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Harrison Center's Greatriarch Calendar is an extension of its Greatriarch program, which honors long-term residents of the Martindale-Brightwood neighborhood. These "Greatriarchs" have helped shape the community's story and remind newcomers that the neighborhood is rich with history and culture.

Since 2018, the Harrison Center has painted portraits of Greatriarchs, with large-scale reproductions displayed along the 16th Street corridor. To broaden the reach, the portraits are also featured in a free annual calendar that has become a must-have across Indianapolis—circulated to neighbors, community leaders, city officials, and local businesses.

The 2026 calendar will feature twelve newly commissioned portraits, designed by a Harrison Center cultural entrepreneur intern specializing in graphic design. In addition to showcasing neighborhood stories, the project offers valuable professional experience for interns while strengthening the connection between art, culture, and community.

By distributing 2,500 calendars free of charge, the Harrison Center ensures that the stories of Martindale-Brightwood's residents are preserved, celebrated, and shared widely—building stronger connections across Indianapolis neighborhoods.

- Improves Quality of Life
- Increases Opportunities for Historic Preservation
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Community Engagement and Participation
- Increases Access to Public Arts
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place





COMMUNITY IMPACT INITIATIVE

2025 GRANTEE

PROJECT

Hendricks County International Festival



Hendricks County International Festival



\$1.000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Hendricks County International Festival celebrates the community's cultural diversity through music, dance, food, and art. The festival creates an inclusive environment where residents and visitors of all backgrounds can feel welcomed, represented, and inspired.

As part of its programming, the festival is expanding stage performances to feature dynamic dance traditions from around the world. These performances highlight cultural heritage, promote inclusion, and provide educational experiences for attendees. The festival also supports local artists, performers, and vendors, strengthening community connections and enriching the vibrancy of Hendricks County.

By bringing these global traditions to life, the Hendricks County International Festival aims to become a signature celebration of culture, belonging, and unity for years to come.



- Improves Quality of Life
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Community Engagement and Participation
- Increases Access to Public Arts
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Promotes Inclusive Activation and Programming
- Brings Awareness to Cultures Around the World
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Promotes Unique Visitor Experiences
- Provides Additional Events to Attract New Visitors





PROJECT

Holliday Park Playground Renovation



Holliday Park Foundation



\$10,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Holliday Park Foundation is reimagining the iconic Holliday Park Playground, one of the City of Indianapolis' most beloved and well-used public spaces. First built in 1992 and last updated in 2006, the playground now welcomes over 350,000 visitors annually and is nearing the end of its lifespan.

The new vision goes beyond replacing equipment—it will create an inclusive, engaging, and nature-inspired destination that reflects the park's natural beauty. Core features will include adventure and toddler play areas, a central lawn and shelter, climbing and sliding elements built into the ravine, and spaces designed to encourage exploration, imagination, and social interaction.

This reimagined playground will serve as a vibrant gathering place that connects children and families to Holliday Park's trails, river, Nature Center, and Ruins, ensuring the park remains one of Indianapolis' signature open spaces for generations to come.

- Improves Quality of Life
- Increases Community Engagement
- Enhances Park Department Assets
- Increases Accessibility of Public Amenities
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Promotes Active Living
- Improves Standards of Health and Living
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Improves Access to Environmental Benefits
- Promotes Natural Features and Destinations





IMPACT INITIATIVE

2025 GRANTEE

PROJECT

ARTSPARK Trails - Building Community Through Art



Indianapolis Art Center



\$7,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Building Community Through Art campaign is transforming the Indy Art Center campus into a sustainable, art-focused community destination for all ages. Located along the White River and Monon Trail, the campus serves as a cultural anchor in Broad Ripple and a gateway for residents and visitors to connect with nature, creativity, and each other.

Key enhancements include:

- Revitalizing ARTSPARK as a premier connection to the White River and Monon Trail
- A new boardwalk and woodland art walk, creating accessible outdoor gallery experiences surrounded by native landscapes
- East Lawn improvements with new walkways, terraces, and event spaces
- Riverbank stabilization and restoration with over 2,300 native plantings to protect wildlife and strengthen the ecosystem

This campaign is the most extensive in the Art Center's history, ensuring the campus remains a free and accessible resource for generations to come. By blending art, nature, and community, the project will create a one-of-a-kind destination that enriches both quality of life and cultural vibrancy in Central Indiana.

- Improves Quality of Life
- Creates Active, Vital Destinations
- Creates GreenSpace Improvements
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Community Engagement
- Increases Access to Public Arts
- Enhances Park Department Assets
- Increases Accessibility to Public Amenities
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Increases Connectivity
- Promotes Active Living
- Improves Standards of Health and Living
- Creates a Regional Tourist Destination
- Increases Safety
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Promotes Unique Visitor Experiences
- Provides Additional Amenities to Attract New Visitors
- Improves Access to Environmental Benefits
- Promotes Natural Features and Destinations





IMPACT INITIATIVE

2025 GRANTEE

PROJECT

Madam Walker Rooftop



Madam Walker Legacy Center



\$7,500

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Madam Walker Legacy Center (MWLC) converted the Walker Theatre rooftop into a vibrant skyline cultural gathering space, continuing its work to restore the nearly 100-year-old building into an equitable, outdoor storytelling venue. As a national historical landmark established in 1927, MWLC preserves the legacy of Madam C.J. Walker and serves as a hub for cultural arts, community engagement, and education.

The rooftop project created a one-of-a-kind outdoor destination, enhancing the building's historic Art Deco and Moorish architecture while offering breathtaking views of Indianapolis. The space has enabled MWLC to host a range of cultural programming—from performances and storytelling to heritage tours—welcoming youth, residents, and visitors to experience the legacy of Madam Walker in an inspiring setting.

Key outcomes included expanding MWLC's mission by providing a dynamic outdoor resource, visually reflecting the community's history in the design, and generating sustainable revenue to support ongoing history and heritage programming. The rooftop now strengthens MWLC's role as the anchor of the revitalized Indiana Avenue Cultural District and a signature destination for arts and culture in Indianapolis.

- Improves Quality of Life
- Creates Active, Vital Destinations
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Community Engagement
- Increases Access to Public Arts
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Creates a Regional Tourist Destination
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Promotes Unique Visitor Experiences
- Provides Additional Amenities to Attract New Visitors





Old Town Greenwood Alley Activation



Restore Old Town Greenwood, INC.



\$3,750

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Restore Old Town Greenwood (ROTG) transformed a highly visible but underused alley along Main Street into a vibrant, walkable destination for residents and visitors. The project featured a double-sided public art mural designed and painted by two local artists, celebrating Greenwood's 202-year history and honoring the city's role as the starting point of Indianapolis's first Interurban electric rail line in 1900. A 3D-style "pop-out" Interurban car created an interactive photo opportunity, drawing attention and encouraging social media engagement.

The alley also received exterior lighting, infrastructure enhancements such as bike racks and signage, and flexible design elements to allow temporary closures for community events like ROTG's Final Fridays. The project revitalized a previously overlooked space, turning it into a gathering place that increased foot traffic, supported local businesses, and encouraged further beautification efforts throughout Old Town Greenwood.

Through public engagement—including a community paint day and unveiling event—the project strengthened civic pride and created a lively, interactive space that celebrates Greenwood's history while fostering connection and economic activity in the downtown district.

- Improves Quality of Life
- Creates Active, Vital Downtown Destinations
- Creates Enhancements to the Streetscape
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Encourage Community Engagement
- Increases Access to Public Arts
- Creates Attractive and Walkable Communities
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Increases Safety
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Provides Amenities to Attract New Visitors





COMMUNITY IMPACT INITIATIVE

PORC

2025 GRANTEE

PROJECT

Pendleton Porch Music Festival





South Madison Community Foundation



S3.000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The first-ever Pendleton Porch Music Festival took place along the historic brick-paved Broadway Street. The festival featured seven resident porches hosting live music, along with a variety of other arts experiences, including maker-spaces, performance art, student-led storytelling and music activities, an Instrument Petting Zoo, and a community-created art installation.

Attendees enjoyed food and beverages, relaxed in a safe, traffic-free area, and experienced a welcoming, family-friendly gathering that connected residents and visitors while celebrating creativity and highlighting Pendleton's historic charm.

The festival was designed to become an annual tradition, fostering community engagement and creating a vibrant, interactive arts experience in downtown Pendleton.

- Improves Quality of Life
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Community Engagement
- Improves Community Livability
- Increases Access to Public Arts
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Promotes Inclusive Activation and Programming
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Provides Additional Events to Attract New Visitors





INITIATIVE

2025 GRANTEE

1831



PROJECT

Cumberland History Murals



Town of Cumberland



\$2,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Town of Cumberland brought local history to life through a vibrant series of student-created murals in its Historic District. The project installed three large-scale murals on removable panels affixed to key historic buildings, highlighting Cumberland's rich heritage and evolving connection to transportation—from the National Road to the interurban railway and mid-century Americana.

High school students from the town's three school districts—Warren, New Palestine, and Mt. Vernon—designed and painted the murals, fostering unity across the community while celebrating local stories. Each mural also featured signage recognizing students, schools, and funders, along with QR codes linking to a self-guided history tour.

By combining public art, storytelling, and economic development, the project created meaningful spaces that invited residents and visitors to explore, linger, and connect with Cumberland's history, strengthening both community identity and the vibrancy of the downtown corridor.

- Improves Quality of Life
- Creates Active, Vital Downtown Destinations
- Promotes Community Engagement
- Increases Access to Public Art
- Enhances Small Town Quality of Place
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Increases Tourism Opportunities





IMPACT INITIATIVE

2025 GRANTEE

PROJECT

Downtown Plaza



Town of Edinburgh



\$5,000

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Town of Edinburgh is creating a new downtown plaza that will serve as a central gathering place for residents and visitors. The multi-use space will feature a permanent performance stage, interactive water feature, seating areas, and landscaping that enhances the entrance to downtown.

A special design element will repurpose stones from the former Blue River Dam, preserving local history while providing functional seating and safety features.

The plaza will host concerts, markets, festivals, and community programs, making it a year-round destination for arts, culture, and entertainment. By attracting visitors and increasing foot traffic, the project will support downtown businesses, spark new opportunities, and strengthen community pride.

- Improves Quality of Life
- Increases Opportunities for Historic Preservation
- Creates Active, Vital Downtown Destinations
- Creates Enhancements to the Streetscape
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Encourages Community Engagement
- Increases Access to Public Art
- Creates Attractive and Walkable Communities
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Increases Safety
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Provides Amenities to Attract New Visitors

