



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Foundation Awards \$366,731 to 12 Local Organizations

Richmond, Ind. — The Wayne County Foundation is pleased to announce that 12 local organizations have been awarded \$366,731 in funding through the first grant cycle of the year. These awards will support local programs and projects that build a stronger, more vibrant Wayne County for everyone who calls it home.

“We’re excited to support these creative and innovative proposals for programs and projects that will allow our nonprofit partners to expand their services and increase their impact on our community,” said Brian Schleeper, Director of Nonprofit Engagement. “Our committee was very impressed with the thought and care that went into these applications, and we look forward to seeing the impact of the work.”

The following grants were awarded through a combination of unrestricted and field of interest funds. These resources are made possible by donors who entrust the Foundation board to direct support where it’s needed most across Wayne County.

- **Ainsley’s Angels of America (\$25,000)** to purchase additional adaptive equipment to expand racing opportunities for participation in local fitness events
- **Brighter Path Inc. (\$25,000)** to update horse watering systems and purchase a portable handicap accessible bathroom
- **Cope Environmental Center (\$39,423)** to improve accessibility to the outdoor classroom
- **Golay Community Center (\$50,000)** to replace the aging dehumidification system in the facility
- **Independent Living Center of Eastern Indiana, Inc. (\$35,000)** to provide assistive technology devices for clients
- **Lutheran Cemetery Foundation of Pershing Indiana Inc. (\$48,558)** to provide professional mapping, data integration and software services for four Wayne County cemeteries
- **Neighborhood Health Center (\$25,000)** to expand its Patient Advocate (CHW) program to provide assistance for patients in navigating SNAP benefits and obtaining health insurance
- **Nettle Creek Community Coalition Inc. (\$25,000)** to purchase supplies, materials, and equipment for the operation of its food pantry
- **Noah’s Ark Day Care Center (\$22,250)** to create a safe indoor and outdoor gross motor play environment
- **Richmond Family YMCA (\$36,500)** to conduct a feasibility study for a new facility
- **Shepherd’s Way Christian Ministries, Inc. (\$25,000)** to remodel and furnish the kitchen and dining room
- **Well Care Community Health Inc. (\$10,000)** to purchase equipment and supplies for its food pantry

In addition, the Foundation has awarded five Rapid Response grants so far this year. Rapid Response grants support smaller projects, short-term programs, or unplanned opportunities that require immediate funding.

- **Dublin Community Club (\$5,000)** to replace an HVAC unit
- **NAACP (\$3,000)** to support a Town Hall focused on community engagement
- **Noah's Ark Day Care (\$5,000)** to repair a damaged and leaking roof
- **Richmond Civic Theatre (\$3,950)** to support community events and activities celebrating the 250th anniversary of the USA
- **Rock Solid Ministries (\$5,000)** to perform building repairs

Two grants were also awarded earlier this year outside of Grant Cycle I:

- **Northeastern Wayne Schools (\$27,300)** to purchase a software platform for all Wayne County schools to manage their work-based learning programs
- **Wayne County Schools (\$25,000)** to support early childhood learning programs of each district

Since 1979, the Wayne County Foundation has existed to foster and encourage private philanthropic giving, to enhance the spirit of community, and to improve the quality of life in the Wayne County, Indiana, area now and for future generations. For more information, visit the Foundation [website](#).

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