



Goals

- Improve academic outcomes for Indianapolis students, from Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade, by supporting the conditions necessary to grow the supply of high-performing schools and programs.
- Minimize the workforce skills gap in Indianapolis by supporting the delivery of cost-effective post-secondary education and training programs that align with the demands of America's knowledge-based economy.

Strategies

- Support the design and implementation of highly effective Pre-Kindergarten programs serving low-income children.
- Strengthen the systemic conditions most likely to result in a K-12 system that provides a robust set of high-performing school options for Indianapolis students and their families.
- Support the launch and replication of high-performing, autonomous schools.
- Attract, retain, and develop great talent, particularly school leaders and teachers.
- Support the launch and replication of high-performing, cost-effective, competency-based college and career preparation models aligned with the needs of employers.
- Communicate what is, and what isn't, working across stakeholder groups.

Foundation Funding Since November 2015, Categorized by the Foundation's Education Funding Strategies

Support the design and implementation of highly effective Pre-Kindergarten programs serving low-income children.

Grants:

United Way of Central Indiana (August 2016: \$112,500 for one year)

- Grant to support an eight-month advocacy plan for education and outreach to elevate the importance of high-quality early childhood education in Indiana.

NORC at The University of Chicago (June 2017: \$181,402 for eighteen months; March 2019: \$33,759 for one year)

- Contracts to support the development and validation of a new Kindergarten Readiness Indicators (KRI) assessment for Pre-K students that will measure basic skills in literacy, oral language, numeracy and spatial thinking.

Early Learning Indiana (June 2017: \$20,000 for one year; February 2019: \$19,293 for six months)

- Grants to pilot the Kindergarten Readiness Indicators assessment developed by NORC through administration of the tool to Marion County students in a variety of pre-K settings (i.e., center-based, school-based, family childcare homes) in the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years.

Central Indiana Corporate Partnership (May 2018: \$86,000 for three months; May 2019: \$73,977 for nineteen months)

Early Learning Indiana (May 2019: \$550,000 for nineteen months)

- Grants to Ascend Indiana and Early Learning Indiana to develop and build an innovative model to grow the pipeline of high-quality early childhood educator talent in Indiana.

Strengthen the systemic conditions most likely to result in a K-12 system that provides a robust set of high-performing school options for Indianapolis students and their families.

Grants:

The Mind Trust (November 2015: \$3,000,000 over three years; November 2018: \$3,000,000 over three years)

- Grants for The Mind Trust's core operating expenses to support their continued efforts to grow great schools, recruit quality school leaders, and increase stakeholder engagement.

Network for Quality Education (February 2016: \$200,000 over two years)

- Grant for general operating funds to help launch the Network for Quality Education (NQE), which supports charter schools and seeks to improve their academic and operational quality.

National Association of Charter School Authorizers (August 2016: \$43,000 for one year)

- Grant to provide training and resources for the Indiana Charter School Board and the Indianapolis Mayor's Office of Education Innovation, the primary authorizers of charter schools in Marion County.

Network for Quality Education for BoardOnTrack (August 2016: \$420,000 over two years)

- Grant to develop a partnership with BoardOnTrack (BOT) to offer professional development for Marion County charter school boards to strengthen governance practices as one method to improve school performance.

EdChoice (November 2016: \$200,000 over two years; November 2018: \$400,000 over two years)

- Grants to EdChoice for general operating support to engage students, families, and stakeholders regarding challenges and opportunities in the education landscape.

Institute for Quality Education (November 2016: \$200,000 over two years; November 2018: \$400,000 over two years)

- Grants to Institute for Quality Education (IQE) for general operating support to engage students, families, and stakeholders regarding challenges and opportunities in the education landscape.

Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce Foundation (February 2019: \$500,000 over two years)

- Grant to support Indy Chamber's work with Indianapolis Public Schools to identify and implement operating efficiencies to lower operating costs and improve the district's financial stability.

Support the launch and replication of high-performing, autonomous schools.

Grants:

Purdue Polytechnic High School (March 2017: \$1,250,000 over three years)

- Grant to support the launch and replication of Purdue Polytechnic High School (PPHS), a new STEM-focused high school in Marion County. Funding is allocated to hire and train teachers each Spring preceding the launch of a new grade to ensure that teachers are fully immersed in the school model and engaged in curriculum planning. Funding is also allocated toward developing the PPHS network infrastructure.

Attract, retain, and develop great talent, particularly school leaders and teachers.

Grants:

Public Impact (November 2015: \$73,000 for one year; April 2016: \$150,000 for one year; June 2017: \$200,000 for one year; May 2019: \$60,000 for one year)

- Grants to support the design, implementation, and evaluation of the impact of Opportunity Culture (OC) within Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS). OC was created to extend the impact of excellent teachers to reach more students, for higher teacher pay, within the existing budget. OC also creates a school design that attracts, retains and develops teacher talent by creating career pathways for teachers that provide growth and higher compensation opportunities.

The Mind Trust for Relay Graduate School of Education (April 2016: \$366,000 over three years; November 2017: \$400,000 over two years; September 2019: \$990,000 over three years)

- Grants to support the participation of Indianapolis principals and aspiring principals in the Relay National Principals Academy Fellowship (NPAF). Relay's NPAF prepares current and aspiring principals and principal supervisors to become instructional and cultural leaders. Specific training areas include analyzing school data and effectively supporting educators.

Marian University (August 2016: \$250,000 for one year; June 2017: \$1,500,000 over two years; May 2019: \$900,000 over three years)

- Grants to Marian University to design and implement the Educators College, a new model to more effectively train teachers. The College's approach reflects best practices from high-performing OECD countries, such as rigorous content training coupled with hands-on experience beginning as a first-year student, culminating with a one-year clinical residency.

Education First (November 2016: \$68,025 for one year)

- Grant to help Indianapolis Public Schools refine its talent attraction, retention and professional development strategy and develop an associated implementation plan.

Teach For America (November 2016: \$1,000,000 over two years; November 2018: \$1,000,000 over two years)

- Grants to support Teach For America's general operations, including its efforts to grow and diversify the teacher workforce serving Indianapolis students – especially in hard-to-staff subjects such as Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM).

Education First (June 2017: \$177,820 for one year)

- Grant to support Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) in redesigning its preservice student teaching model to improve student teacher selection and placement within IPS, better select and support the cooperating teachers overseeing the student teachers, and develop a stronger student teacher clinical experience.

TNTP (June 2017: \$65,000 for one year; May 2018: \$49,379 for one year)

- Grants to support the Indiana Department of Education in developing a cohesive plan for school improvement under the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Support the launch and replication of high-performing, cost-effective, competency-based college and career preparation models aligned with the needs of employers.

Grants:

Central Indiana Corporate Partnership (May 2018: \$989,500 for one year)

- Grant to (1) support the work of Ascend Indiana and Conexus Indiana in conducting a feasibility study to assess whether a model adult workforce training program designed for one manufacturing company could be scaled statewide across all manufacturing sectors; (2) conduct a Sources and Uses analysis of state career and technical education (CTE) funding, and to assess the governance structure of CTE programs in Indiana; and (3) develop a comprehensive communications plan to raise awareness among parents, students and teachers of the importance of post-secondary education and training. Funding is also allocated toward the participation of Ascend Indiana, Conexus Indiana, and TechPoint in a convening of Indiana stakeholders working to design an employer-led, coordinated statewide system of high-quality "modern" youth apprenticeship experiences, as well as the development of a blueprint to pilot youth apprenticeships in Marion County.

New America (February 2019: \$250,000 for one year). EmployIndy, Indiana InternNet, Ivy Tech Foundation, and Vincennes University Foundation (February 2019: \$20,000 each for one year)

- Grants to support the convening of Indiana stakeholders and to support a facilitated process to design an employer-led, coordinated statewide system of high-quality “modern” youth apprenticeship experiences, as well as the development of a blueprint to pilot youth apprenticeships in Marion County.

Central Indiana Corporate Partnership (November 2019: \$3,000,000 over two years)

- Grant to support Ascend Indiana to develop and launch a modern youth apprenticeship pilot in Marion County, in partnership with EmployIndy, and to convene a statewide community of practice of regions piloting modern youth apprenticeship.

Ivy Tech Community College (November 2019: \$1,092,860 over two years)

- Grant to support the development and implementation of the Career Coaching and Employer Connections Initiative in Marion County, which will help Ivy Tech students align curriculum selections with high-wage, high-demand careers and obtain work-and-learn experiences to strengthen career placement.

Communicating what is, and what isn't, working across stakeholder groups.

Grants:

Chalkbeat Indiana (November 2015: \$50,000 for one year; November 2016: \$200,000 over two years; November 2018: \$200,000 over two years)

- Grants for general operating expenses to provide reporting coverage of education issues in Central Indiana.

National Conference of State Legislatures (April 2016: \$66,882 for one year; January 2017: \$6,080 for six months; June 2017: \$6,760 for six months; May 2018: \$197,502 for one year)

- Grants to support workshops, meetings and convenings with Indiana stakeholders to build awareness of common education practices shared by top-performing OECD countries and economies, to set a vision for reform, and to identify priorities for improving education outcomes in Indiana.

UNCF (May 2018: \$269,700 over two years)

- Grant to support UNCF's community engagement efforts regarding the Indianapolis K-12 education landscape.

Reports:

America's Promise Alliance/Civic Enterprises (April 2016: \$91,000 for one year)

- Case study exploring Indiana's high school graduation rate and achievement gap between low-income students and their more affluent peers. The report provides recommendations for how to improve graduation rates in Indiana.

Total Education Funding (November 2015 through December 2019): \$24.44 million

(Total funding reflects combination of grants awarded and paid between November 2015 and December 2019)