



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Additional COVID-19 Relief Coming to United Way of La Porte County

LaPorte County, IN – United Way of LaPorte County is pleased to announce that it will receive a second *COVID-19 Economic Relief Initiative* grant for \$320,000 from Indiana United Ways, the state professional association of which United Way of LaPorte County is a member. The grant will be used to support our community in meeting basic human needs brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The grant is one of 47 grants that Indiana United Ways is making to member organizations and community foundations through the initiative, which was made possible by funding Indiana United Ways received from Lilly Endowment Inc.

“United Way of LaPorte County has been a key convener and coordinator of our community’s response to meet human needs for decades. Even before this crisis, we knew that families in LaPorte County were not able to make ends meet - despite working. In the wake of COVID, those needs became even more dire. Thanks to the generous, continued support of Lilly Endowment to our State Association, we can continue to help our community, through nonprofit partners, deal with and hopefully resolve the impacts of this trying time,” said Kelly Woloszyn, Board Chair of United Way of LaPorte County.

The second *COVID-19 Economic Relief Initiative* grant again calls for United Ways that receive funding to leverage partnerships and relationships to better meet COVID-related basic needs aligned with the social determinants of health as defined by the CDC. Specifically, United Way of LaPorte County plans to distribute these funds efficiently and promptly throughout the county. United Way of LaPorte County will begin accepting funding requests from area human and social service nonprofits whose IRS designation is in good standing beginning Friday June 11, 2021. Interested organizations should consult United Way of LaPorte County’s website for guidance on funding intent and application instructions.

In April 2020, Lilly Endowment helped Indiana United Ways establish the *COVID-19 Economic Relief Initiative* with an initial \$30 million grant. Lilly Endowment made an additional \$15 million grant in March to Indiana United Ways to support the initiative. Both grants are part of Lilly Endowment’s overall grantmaking to help organizations meet COVID-related needs. Since March 2020, Lilly Endowment has made grants totaling more than \$210 million to organizations working in Indiana and across the nation as they respond to the pandemic.

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United Way has served communities for more than 100 years and the United Way of LaPorte County has served locally as a leader in LaPorte County by establishing deep roots, developing strong relationships, and bringing partners together to fight our community's critical issues. In 2008, United Way addressed the changing social landscape across the nation and narrowed its focus to the three areas most essential

to the wellbeing of a diverse population – health, education, and financial stability. In 2013, United Way of LaPorte County piloted a new process, called collective impact, based on an integrated and collaborative structure that coordinates community-based health and human service efforts to advocate with a common agenda, pool resources, standardize measurement, share results, and avoid duplication.

Using the process of reviewing needs assessments, hosting community conversations, and researching best practices, your United Way and our partners worked with local experts and their organizations to develop strategies to improve the health, wellness, and quality of life throughout LaPorte County. With this successful framework for working together to address our community's needs, we can adapted quickly, efficiently, and effectively to address local challenges and needs now and in the future.

United Way of LaPorte County brings a legacy of community and agency trust, valuable resources and information, and a transformational approach to this vital work.

Our collective impact projects create pathways to success for our local youth, bring financial stability to adults and families, fight homelessness, and provide a safety net for our friends and neighbors in times of crisis.

For more information, contact Kris Pate, Executive Director of United Way of LaPorte County at kris@unitedwaylpc.org or call (219) 210-3534.

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Indiana United Ways is the state professional association for United Ways in Indiana and supports a thriving United Way system through capacity building, shared services, and network collaboration opportunities. For more information, contact Tonja Stokes, Vice President of Organizational Development at tonja.stokes@iuw.org.

[Lilly Endowment Inc.](#) is an Indianapolis-based private philanthropic foundation created in 1937 by J.K. Lilly, Sr. and his sons, Eli and J.K. Jr., through gifts of stock in their pharmaceutical business, Eli Lilly and Company. Although the gifts of stock remain a financial bedrock of the Endowment, it is a separate entity from the company, with a distinct governing board, staff and location. In keeping with the founders' wishes, the Endowment supports the causes of [community development](#), [education](#) and [religion](#). The Endowment funds significant programs throughout the United States, especially in the field of religion. However, it maintains a special commitment to its founders' hometown, Indianapolis, and home state, Indiana.

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