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Counseling Initiative Planning Grants to Help Indiana Public School Corporations and Charter Schools Strengthen Student Pathways to Success

INDIANAPOLIS – Lilly Endowment Inc. is announcing the recipients of planning grants in the first phase of its Comprehensive Counseling Initiative for Indiana K-12 Students, a five-year effort to strengthen how public school corporations and charter schools help students from elementary grades through high school prepare for academic, career and personal success.

The Endowment is awarding a total of \$9.14 million in planning grants to 284 public school corporations and charter schools in Indiana. The individual grants range from \$8,302 to \$50,000. The amounts for which the recipients could apply were based on the enrollment of each school corporation or charter school.

As part of the planning grant process, recipients will spend the next three months collecting and analyzing data, assessing their current counseling programs, identifying best practices, visiting promising programs and engaging community partners, among many activities described in their proposals.

After this planning and study, they are invited to submit implementation grant proposals to fund the strategies they develop to move them closer to a comprehensive counseling model that addresses the academic, college, career, and social and emotional needs of their K-12 students.

Although the planning grant phase was not competitive, the implementation grants will be competitive. Implementation proposals, which must be submitted by May 19, 2017, can be used during a four-year grant period. Applicants may request up to \$100 per student enrolled, and the amounts may range from \$100,000 to \$3 million.

Many of the planning grant recipients are engaging consultants to help them with this work, including among others the Indiana Youth Institute (IYI), Center of Excellence in

Leadership of Learning at the University of Indianapolis (CELL), the Indiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation (Indiana Chamber) and Fleck Education.

“The Endowment is very encouraged by the response to the request for planning grants. The number of proposals received exceeded our estimates, which indicates that schools across Indiana want their counseling programs to be as effective as possible. They recognize the importance of counseling to students’ future success and quality of life,” said Sara B. Cobb, the Endowment’s vice president for education.

The Endowment launched the Comprehensive Counseling Initiative for Indiana K-12 Students in September. Through a request for proposals, the Endowment invited Indiana’s public school corporations and charter schools to submit proposals for planning grants to help them learn more about the best practices for comprehensive counseling programs in Indiana and from around the country, evaluate their current counseling programs, and consider developing plans to enhance the quality and expand the scale of their counseling programs.

“The Endowment is committing funds to this initiative because Indiana needs to increase significantly the number of K-12 students who are emotionally healthy, can realize academic success and graduate from high school,” Cobb said.

“And Indiana’s students need to achieve valuable postsecondary credentials, certificates and degrees that are essential for meaningful employment so they can compete and prosper in the global society in which they will live and work. We continue to hear that many Indiana employers have difficulty finding workers adequately prepared for the jobs they have available.”

Across Indiana, too few schools use a best practices comprehensive counseling model to prepare their students for successful lives beyond high school, according to research conducted by the Indiana Chamber in partnership with CELL. Among the findings: school counselors are often burdened with large caseloads, which limits their ability to help students. According to the National Association of College Admission Counseling, Indiana ranks 45th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia in the number of K-12 students per counselor with an average of one counselor for every 620 students.

In addition, students in Indiana struggle with mental health issues at a higher rate than their peers in most other states, which jeopardizes their ability to learn and thrive. According to the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s *2016 Kids Count Profile*, Indiana ranks 30th in the nation in the overall well-being of children and youth. And in its *2014 Issue Brief*, the Indiana Youth Institute (IYI) reported that in a national survey of 43 states, Indiana ranked first in the percentage of high school students who had considered attempting suicide and second in the percentage of high school students who attempted to take their own lives.

Indiana’s current school counseling challenges are part of a larger landscape of lagging educational attainment and economic prosperity. Too many Indiana students face limited

earning potential and weak prospects for satisfying careers, which jeopardizes long-term quality of life for themselves, their families and their communities.

According to U.S. Census data, in 2014 Indiana ranked 43rd in the nation in the percentage of adults, age 25 to 64, with at least a bachelor's degree. And according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, in 2015 Indiana ranked 39th in the nation in per capita income, having slipped from 29th in the nation since 1995.

“At the Endowment, we believe that enhancing and expanding in a comprehensive way the academic, college, career, and social and emotional counseling in Indiana's schools could help reverse Indiana's negative trends,” Cobb said. “Addressing these challenges is critical to the future quality of life for Indiana residents.”

The following is a list of planning grant recipients in the Comprehensive Counseling Initiative for Indiana K-12 Students:

Akron

Tippecanoe Valley School Corporation

Albion

Central Noble Community School Corporation

Alexandria

Alexandria Community School Corporation

Anderson

Anderson Community School Corporation

Central Indiana Military Academy

Frankton-Lapel Community Schools

Arcadia

Hamilton Heights School Corporation

Attica

Attica Consolidated School Corporation

Aurora

South Dearborn Community School Corporation

Austin

Scott County School District 1

Avon

Avon Community School Corporation

Bainbridge

North Putnam Community School Corporation

Batesville

Batesville Community School Corporation

Bedford

North Lawrence Community Schools

Beech Grove

Beech Grove City Schools

Berne

South Adams Schools

Bicknell

North Knox School Corporation

Bloomfield

Bloomfield School District

Eastern Greene Schools

Bloomington

Monroe County Community School Corporation

The Project School

Bluffton

Bluffton-Harrison M.S.D.

Bourbon

Triton School Corporation

Bremen

Bremen Public Schools

Brookville

Franklin County Community School Corporation

Brownsburg

Brownsburg Community School Corporation

Brownstown

Brownstown Central Community School Corporation

Bunker Hill

Maconaquah School Corporation

Butler

DeKalb County Eastern Community School District

Campbellsburg

West Washington School Corporation

Canaan

Canaan Community Academy

Carmel

Options Charter School

Cedar Lake

Hanover Community School Corporation

Centerville

Centerville-Abington Community Schools

Chalmers

Frontier School Corporation

Charlottesville

Community School Corporation of Eastern Hancock County

Chesterton

Duneland School Corporation

Churubusco

Smith-Green Community Schools

Clarksville

Clarksville Community School Corporation

Clinton

South Vermillion Community School Corporation

Cloverdale

Cloverdale Community Schools

Columbia City

Whitley County Consolidated Schools

Columbus

Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation

Connersville

Fayette County School Corporation

Converse

Oak Hill United School Corporation

Corydon

South Harrison Community School Corporation

Crawfordsville

Crawfordsville Community School Corporation

North Montgomery Community School Corporation

Crown Point

Crown Point Community School Corporation

Culver

Culver Community Schools Corporation

Daleville

Daleville Community Schools

Danville

Danville Community School Corporation

Delphi

Delphi Community School Corporation

Denver

North Miami Community Schools

Dubois

Northeast Dubois County School Corporation

East Chicago

School City of East Chicago

Elkhart

Baugo Community Schools

Concord Community Schools

Elkhart Community Schools

Ellettsville

Richland-Bean Blossom Community School Corporation

Seven Oaks Classical School

Elnora

North Daviess Community Schools

Eminence

Eminence Community School Corporation

Evansville

Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation

Fairmount

Madison-Grant United School Corporation

Ferdinand

Southeast Dubois County School Corporation

Fishers

Hamilton Southeastern Schools

Flora

Carroll Consolidated School Corporation

Fort Branch

South Gibson School Corporation

Fort Wayne

Fort Wayne Community Schools
Northwest Allen County Schools
Southwest Allen County Schools

Fortville

Mt. Vernon Community School Corporation

Fountain City

Northeastern Wayne Schools

Fowler

Benton Community School Corporation

Francesville

West Central School Corporation

Frankfort

Clinton Prairie School Corporation
Community Schools of Frankfort

Franklin

Franklin Community School Corporation

Fremont

Fremont Community Schools

French Lick

Springs Valley Community Schools Corporation

Fulton

Caston School Corporation

Garrett

Garrett-Keyser-Butler Community School District

Gary

21st Century Charter School at Gary
Gary Community School Corporation
Gary Middle College
Lake Ridge New Tech Schools
Lighthouse Academies of Northwest Indiana

Gas City

Mississinewa Community Schools

Gaston

Wes-Del School Corporation

Goshen

Fairfield Community Schools
Goshen Community Schools

Greencastle

Greencastle Community School Corporation
South Putnam Community Schools

Greenfield

Greenfield-Central Community School Corporation

Greensburg

Decatur County Community Schools
Greensburg Community Schools

Greentown

Eastern Howard School Corporation

Greenwood

Center Grove Community School Corporation
Greenwood Community School Corporation

Griffith

Griffith Public Schools

Hagerstown

Nettle Creek School Corporation

Hamilton

Hamilton Community Schools

Hamlet

Oregon-Davis School Corporation

Hammond

Hammond Academy of Science and Technology
School City of Hammond

Hartford City

Blackford County Schools

Hebron

M.S.D. of Boone Township

Hobart

River Forest Community School Corporation
School City of Hobart

Huntingburg

Southwest Dubois County School Corporation

Huntington

Huntington County Community School Corporation

Hymera

Northeast School Corporation

Indianapolis

Avondale Meadows Academy
Christel House Academy
Damar Charter School
Franklin Township Community School Corporation
Global Preparatory Academy
Herron High School
Hoosier Academy
Hope Academy
Indiana Connections Academy
Indiana Math and Science Academy - North
Indiana Math and Science Academy - South

Indiana Math and Science Academy - West
Indiana Virtual Education Foundation
Indianapolis Academy of Excellence
Indianapolis Public Schools
KIPP Indy Public Schools
Lighthouse Academies of Indiana
M.S.D. of Decatur Township
M.S.D. of Lawrence Township
M.S.D. of Pike Township
M.S.D. of Perry Township
M.S.D. of Warren Township
M.S.D. of Washington Township
M.S.D. of Wayne Township
Neighborhood Charter Network
Paramount School of Excellence
Southeast Neighborhood School of Excellence
State of Indiana, Department of Correction
Tindley Accelerated Schools

Jasonville

M.S.D. of Shakamak

Jasper

Greater Jasper Consolidated Schools

Jeffersonville

Greater Clark County Schools

Kendallville

East Noble School Corporation

Knightstown

Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corporation

Kokomo

Northwestern School Corporation

Kouts

East Porter County School Corporation

Lafayette

Lafayette School Corporation

Tippecanoe School Corporation

LaGrange

Lakeland School Corporation

Prairie Heights Community School Corporation

Lake Station

Lake Station Community School Corporation

Lakeville

Union-North United School Corporation

Lanesville

Lanesville Community School Corporation

LaPorte

LaPorte Community School Corporation
Renaissance Academy

Larwill

Whitko Community School Corporation

Lawrenceburg

Lawrenceburg Community School Corporation

Lebanon

Lebanon Community School Corporation

Leopold

Perry Central Community School Corporation

Liberty

Union County/College Corner Joint School District

Ligonier

West Noble School Corporation

Lincoln City

North Spencer County School Corporation

Linton

Linton Stockton School Corporation

Logansport

Logansport Community School Corporation

Loogootee

Loogootee Community School Corporation

Lowell

Tri-Creek School Corporation

Madison

Madison Consolidated Schools

Marengo

Crawford County Community School Corporation

Marion

Marion Community Schools

Marshall

North Central Parke Community School Corporation

Martinsville

M.S.D. of Martinsville

Mays

Northern Rush County School

McCordsville

Montessori Academy at Geist

Merrillville

Merrillville Community School Corporation

Michigan City

Michigan City Area Schools

Michigantown

Clinton Central School Corporation

Middlebury

Middlebury Community Schools

Middletown

Shenandoah School Corporation

Milan

Milan Community School Corporation

Mishawaka

Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation

School City of Mishawaka

Mitchell

Mitchell Community Schools

Monon

North White School Corporation

Montezuma

Southwest Parke Community School Corporation

Montgomery

Barr-Reeve Community Schools

Monticello

Twin Lakes School Corporation

Mooresville

Mooresville Consolidated School Corporation

Morocco

North Newton School Corporation

Mt. Summit

Blue River Valley School Corporation

Mt. Vernon

M.S.D. of Mount Vernon

Muncie

Cowan Community School Corporation

Delaware Community School Corporation

Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics and Humanities

Muncie Community Schools

Muncie Public Charter School for Inquiry

Nappanee

Wa-Nee Community Schools

Nashville

Brown County School Corporation

New Albany

Community Montessori

New Albany-Floyd County Consolidated School Corporation

New Carlisle

New Prairie United School Corporation

New Castle

New Castle Community School Corporation

New Haven

East Allen County Schools

New Market

South Montgomery Community School Corporation

New Palestine

Community School Corporation of Southern Hancock County

Noblesville

Noblesville Schools

Options Charter School

North Judson

North Judson-San Pierre School Corporation

North Manchester

Manchester Community Schools

North Vernon

Jennings County School Corporation

Orleans

Orleans Community School Corporation

Osgood

Jac-Cen-Del Community School Corporation

Ossian

Northern Wells Community Schools

Parker City

Monroe Central School Corporation

Pershing

Western Wayne Schools

Petersburg

Pike County School Corporation

Plainfield

Plainfield Community School Corporation

Plymouth

Plymouth Community School Corporation

Portage

Portage Township Schools

Portland

Jay School Corporation

Poseyville

M.S.D. of North Posey County

Princeton

North Gibson School Corporation

Rensselaer

Rensselaer Central Schools Corporation

Richmond

Richmond Community Schools

Rising Sun

Rising Sun-Ohio County Community School Corporation

Rochester

Rochester Community School Corporation

Rockport

South Spencer School Corporation

Rossville

Rossville Consolidated School District

Royal Center

Pioneer Regional School Corporation

Rushville

Rush County Schools

Russiaville

Western School Corporation

Salem

Salem Community Schools

Scottsburg

Scott County School District 2

Sellersburg

West Clark Community Schools

Selma

Liberty-Perry Community Schools

Seymour

Seymour Community School District

Sharpsville

Tri-Central Community Schools

Shelbyville

Shelby Eastern School Corporation

Shelbyville Central Schools

Southwestern Consolidated School District of Shelby County

Sheridan

Sheridan Community Schools

Shoals

Shoals Community School Corporation

South Bend

Career Academy

Goodwill LEADS

South Bend Community School Corporation

Spencer

Spencer-Owen Community Schools

St. John

Lake Central School Corporation

St. Leon

Sunman-Dearborn Community School Corporation

Straughn

South Henry School Corporation

Sullivan

Southwest School Corporation

Switz City

White River Valley School District

Syracuse

Wawasee Community School Corporation

Tell City

Tell City-Troy Township School Corporation

Terre Haute

Vigo County School Corporation

Thorntown

Western Boone County Community School Corporation

Tipton

Tipton Community School Corporation

Topeka

Westview School Corporation

Trafalgar

Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson United School Corporation

Valparaiso

Porter Township School Corporation

Union Township School Corporation

Valparaiso Community Schools

Veedersburg

Southeast Fountain School Corporation

Versailles

South Ripley Community School Corporation

Vevay

Switzerland County School Corporation

Vincennes

South Knox School Corporation

Vincennes Community School Corporation

Wabash

M.S.D. of Wabash County

Wabash City Schools

Walkerton

John Glenn School Corporation

Walton

Southeastern School Corporation

Wanatah

Tri-Township Consolidated School Corporation

Warsaw

Warsaw Community Schools

Waterloo

DeKalb County Central United School District

West Lafayette

West Lafayette Community School Corporation

Westfield

Westfield Washington Schools

Westville

M.S.D. of New Durham Township

Wheatfield

Kankakee Valley School Corporation

Whiting

School City of Whiting

Williamsport

M.S.D. of Warren County

Wolcott

Tri-County School Corporation

Yorktown

Yorktown Community Schools

Zionsville

Zionsville Community Schools

About Lilly Endowment Inc.

Lilly Endowment Inc. is an Indianapolis-based private philanthropic foundation created in 1937 by J.K. Lilly and his two sons, Eli and J.K. Jr., with gifts of stock in their pharmaceutical company. In keeping with the founders' wishes, the Endowment supports the causes of community development, education and religion and maintains a special commitment to its hometown, Indianapolis, and home state, Indiana.