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Mission Accomplished: Hendricks County Community Foundation Secures \$4.5 Million Stronger Together Match

The Hendricks County Community Foundation (HCCF) is proud to announce the successful conclusion of its Stronger Together Campaign, reaching the ambitious goal of \$1.5 million in unrestricted endowment funds. This achievement was made possible through the generosity of local donors and a 3-to-1 matching grant initiative. With the match, the total community impact is \$4.5 million.

The campaign's success was fueled by a partnership with Lilly Endowment Inc. through its eighth phase of the Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT VIII) initiative, alongside a significant contribution from an anonymous local donor. Together, these partners provided a \$3-for-\$1 match, effectively turning every \$1 donated by the community into \$4 of local impact.

"We are incredibly moved by the way Hendricks County has rallied around this mission," said William Rhodehamel, President & CEO of HCCF. "Reaching this \$1.5 million goal is more than just a financial milestone; it is a promise to our future. These unrestricted funds allow us to address our county's most critical needs as they arise and make our community a better place for all, now and for years to come."

The funds raised through the Stronger Together Campaign will bolster the Opportunity Fund, HCCF's largest unrestricted endowment, as well as various Family Legacy Funds. These unrestricted assets provide the Foundation with the flexibility to respond to emerging and urgent community challenges through grants to local nonprofits working on the front lines of education, health and human services, parks and recreation, and many others. Ultimately, these contributions fuel long-term growth by investing in the county's future, helping to ensure that resources remain available to enhance the quality of life for all residents.

Lilly Endowment launched GIFT VIII to help Indiana community foundations grow their financial resources and strengthen their leadership within the counties they serve. By meeting this match, Hendricks County has secured their portion of the \$135.3 million allocated by Lilly Endowment for matching grants statewide. This initiative is based on the belief that community foundations are uniquely positioned to play a central role in building prosperity throughout Indiana.

"The success of this campaign has proven that we are stronger when we work together," said Tim Whicker, Owner of Electric Plus and HCCF Board Chair. "Our donors really stepped up and

because of that, our unrestricted funds will continue to be the heartbeat of our grantmaking, empowering us to make Hendricks County a place where everyone can thrive."

For more information about the impact of the Stronger Together Campaign or to learn how to start a Family Legacy Fund, please visit www.hendrickscountycf.org or contact the Community Foundation at (317) 268-6240.



HCCF Board & Staff celebrating the completion of the Lilly GIFT VIII Match at the December Board Meeting

The Mission of the Hendricks County Community Foundation: To be a trusted community partner in understanding needs, aligning resources, and empowering people to address today's priorities and create lasting impact. Our vision is Hendricks County as a place where everyone has the opportunity to have a fulfilling life and the tools they need to build a stronger future together. The Community Foundation manages assets of over \$30 million in a collection of funds created by individuals, families, businesses and organizations for charitable purposes. In 2024, the Community Foundation gave over \$2.2M in grants to charitable organizations and scholarships to local students. For more information, call 317-268-6240 or visit www.hendrickscountycf.org

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