

Lincoln Foundation Supports Economic Development

Lincoln Financial Foundation is helping **Fort Wayne-Allen County Economic Development Alliance's** downtown marketing efforts through a \$48,500 grant. The award is part of \$329,560 in economic and workforce development grants Lincoln Foundation made recently to 11 local nonprofit organizations.

The Alliance is hoping to spur future downtown development that will attract and retain talent in Fort Wayne by launching a marketing program that reaches out to numerous audiences, generating more interest, building awareness, and continuing the momentum for development. New promotional materials will include a professionally-designed PowerPoint presentation, supplemental printed materials, a new website for the general public and a property inventory database tied to the public website listing all available properties in downtown. Potential investors and community leaders will be better educated on the downtown strategic plan through the presentation and use of these new marketing materials. The community will benefit as more interest is generated for downtown development.

Other Economic and Workforce Development grants awarded include:

Adult Education

- \$34,000 to **The Literacy Alliance** to fund the Family Literacy program that improves the basic educational skills of participating parents, provides age-appropriate education for their children and enables parents to function as teachers of their own children.
- \$30,000 to **East Wayne Street Center** to support Project Solve, an adult basic education and vocational training program that targets high school dropouts and adults who need to improve their reading, writing and math skills.
- \$30,000 to **Fort Wayne Urban League** to fund services related to employment, financial literacy and housing stability that help people become economically stable and financially self-sufficient.
- \$10,000 to **Consumer Credit Counseling Service** to support a financial literacy program that helps individuals develop a balanced budget reflecting their values and addresses financial responsibility.

Workforce Development

- \$46,000 to **Northeast Indiana Innovation Center** to support the student entrepreneurship program for high school and college students.
- \$41,000 to **Greater Fort Wayne Chamber of Commerce Foundation** to support the Graduate Retention Program that provides internships for high school and college students and the Young Leaders of Northeast Indiana Leadership Development Initiative that provides professional skill development opportunities to young leaders.
- \$39,000 to **Ivy Tech Foundation** to create 22 interactive learning videos for the Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) training program.
- \$25,060 to **Women's Bureau** for the Dress for Success program that provides appropriate clothing for low-income women interviewing for a job as well as employment retention programs.
- \$20,000 to **Fort Wayne Clubhouse d/b/a The Carriage House** to support the Transitional Employment and Supported Employment program that includes pre-vocational skills training and on-the-job skills training for low-income adults disabled by mental illness.
- \$6,000 to **Blue Jacket** to support Career Academy, a job readiness program for ex-offenders.

About Lincoln Financial Foundation

The Lincoln Financial Foundation, established in 1962, is a nonprofit organization formed and supported by Lincoln Financial Group. Under Lincoln Foundation guidelines, grants are made in the areas of arts, education, human services and economic/workforce development. The Lincoln Foundation awarded more than \$2.5 million to support nonprofits in the greater Fort Wayne area in 2011. Since 1962, the Lincoln Foundation has contributed over \$89 million to Fort Wayne nonprofits.

About Lincoln Financial Group

Lincoln Financial Group has set aside almost \$10 million of its pre-tax earnings for charitable causes that support

philanthropic endeavors in the communities where its employees work. Lincoln Financial Group is the marketing name for Lincoln National Corporation (NYSE:LNC) and its affiliates. With headquarters in the Philadelphia region, the companies of Lincoln Financial Group had assets under management of \$174 billion as of September 30, 2012. Through its affiliated companies, Lincoln Financial Group offers: annuities; life, group life, disability and dental insurance; 401(k) and 403(b) plans; savings plans; and comprehensive financial planning and advisory services. For more information, including a copy of our most recent SEC reports containing our balance sheets, please visit www.LincolnFinancial.com.