

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

CreAtINg Places

Building Vibrant Communities Across Indiana



CREATING PLACES



Patronicity 



CARING FOR CREITZ PARK IN CAMBRIDGE CITY

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Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority

The [Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority](#)'s (IHCDA) mission is to advance opportunity, affordability, and stability in housing, with the vision that each and every Hoosier feels at home in their community.



See the impact of the CreatING Places program!





LEWISVILLE OUTDOOR SKATING RINK



PLAYGROUND PARADISE



BUILDING BRIDGES AT THE RES

About CreatINg Places

Indiana's ability to retain and attract talent is improved when its communities can develop their unique sense of place, public amenities, and one-of-a-kind experiences. CreatINg Places empowers Hoosiers to play a role in achieving community improvements and building community pride.

In 2016, the [Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority](#) (IHCD), in partnership with [Patronicity](#), developed [CreatINg Places](#), a place-based crowdfunding program.

CreatINg Places aims to assist Indiana communities in funding place-based projects that highlight and build upon a community's identity and strengths, improving quality of life and enhancing the quality of place for residents across the state. CreatINg Places has supported projects in 86 of Indiana's 92 counties, with projects in 182 unique communities across the state. The program has provided over \$12 million in matching grants.

How It Works

CreatINg Places supports projects that activate underutilized public spaces or create new public spaces across Indiana. The program transforms communities by harnessing the power of crowdfunding combined with a matching grant from the IHCD.

First, changemakers identify an opportunity for growth or change in their community.

Patronicity supports the CreatINg Places program and provides an easy-to-use crowdfunding platform with one-on-one project coaching, helping communities develop a strategy to reach their fundraising goals and engage their community.

Community members buy in and support projects with their dollars. Crowdfunding democratizes access to capital, allowing local residents and organizations to create the change they want to see in their community, fostering a sense of pride as they invest in their surroundings.

Local units of government and nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) status are eligible to apply and, if successful, receive a matching grant between \$5,000 and \$50,000 to further the project's impact on the community.

Do you have an idea to improve a public space in your community?

Learn more at www.patronicity.com/creatingplaces.



Impact by the Numbers

This is a snapshot of CreatINg Places projects from November 1, 2024, to October 31, 2025.

Total Crowdfunded



\$2,190,166
2025

\$14,141,546
LIFETIME

Total Matched*



\$1,885,012
2025

\$12,034,713
LIFETIME

Total Projects



47
2025

346
LIFETIME

Total Patrons



7,081
2025

69,302
LIFETIME

**97% Crowdgranting
Success Rate**

7.84:1
Total Project Investment Ratio

For every \$1 invested by IHCDA, \$7.84 was
invested by public and private sources.

\$12,617,428
LEVERAGED FUNDING

\$14,807,594
Total Project Investment (TPI)
CROWDFUNDING AND LEVERAGED FUNDING

PROJECT CREATORS BY ENTITY TYPE

57% Nonprofits
43% Municipalities

*Total Matched by IHCDA.

Impact by the Numbers

This is a snapshot of CreatINg Places projects from November 1, 2024, to October 31, 2025.

\$40,319

AVERAGE CROWDFUNDING GOAL

\$46,599

AVERAGE CROWDFUNDING RAISE

151

AVERAGE CAMPAIGN PATRONS

SMALLEST CAMPAIGN GOAL

Farms to Friends
Farm Stand

\$6,000

HIGHEST RAISE

Project Shoe City
\$88,144

LARGEST NUMBER OF PATRONS

Park Lighting
in Holland

660

SMALLEST COMMUNITY

Leavenworth
Population: 289

LARGEST CITY

Indianapolis
Population: 887,642

NEW COMMUNITIES

18 Cities & Towns
5 Counties

Participated in the program for the first time



Groundbreaking Public Spaces

Explore a few of Indiana's newest public spaces.

Peru, Indiana Splash Pad Park

PERU, INDIANA	POPULATION: 11,073
CROWDFUNDED: \$50,100	CROWDGRANTING MATCH: \$50,000
PATRONS: 21	

The Miami County Economic Development Authority and the City of Peru constructed a splash pad at River Walkway Park along the Wabash River, creating an inclusive outdoor water play experience for families and individuals of all ages to enjoy. The project was funded through a grant from the Indiana DNR Land & Water Conservation Fund, with the crowdfunding campaign and CreatINg Places grant providing the final funding for the project. The splash pad celebrates Peru's unique identity as the Circus Capital of the World through playful themed elements, including an elephant sprayer, a circus-themed gateway arch and mural.

[Learn more](#)



Valpo Creates Center

VALPARAISO, INDIANA	POPULATION: 34,151
PHASE I	
CROWDFUNDED: \$49,671	CROWDGRANTING MATCH: \$45,000 PATRONS: 479

PHASE II	
CROWDFUNDED: \$45,510	CROWDGRANTING MATCH: \$45,000 PATRONS: 538

The Valparaiso Creative Council, a nonprofit organization of community leaders entrusted with developing the city's Creative District, transformed an unused building into The Valpo Creates Center, a vibrant hub for creatives and the community, through two successful CreatINg Places campaigns. Phase I renovated the empty 3,000 sq. ft. building to provide rental spaces for artists, space for community programming, and office space for the organization. Phase II updated the exterior by activating two underused alleyways through creative placemaking, including public art and improvements to wayfinding and accessibility.

[Learn more about Phase I](#) and [Phase II](#).



My Community, My Vision



Engaging and inspiring the next generation of community leaders

My Community, My Vision (MCMV) was a youth-driven placemaking program connecting young people to their communities. The program engaged student youth councils and their sponsors in a semester-long program focused on community development, stakeholder engagement, and placemaking. Over four months, students developed an idea for a place-based community project, determined the project's scope and budget, and crowdfunded the project through the CreatINg Places program. Teams that met their crowdfunding goal received a matching grant from the IHCD to implement their project and create a lasting impact on their community.

Total Crowdfunded

\$194,149
2025

\$474,191
LIFETIME

Total Matched*

\$130,000
2025

\$365,000
LIFETIME

Total Projects

4
2025

12
LIFETIME

Total Patrons

716
2025

1,590
LIFETIME



Coy Park Renewed: Embracing the Future, Honoring the Past

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

POPULATION: 58,389

CROWDFUNDED: \$40,365

CROWDGRANTING MATCH: \$35,000

PATRONS: 260

The City of Terre Haute Mayor's Youth Council renewed Coy Park by building a new accessible playground designed for children of all ages and abilities. The project honors the park's cherished legacy and ensures it continues to serve future generations as a welcoming, inclusive space for all children in the community. The new playground features an upgraded swing set, a sensory dome, a tipi carousel, a hopper seesaw, and interactive murals.

[Learn more](#)

Visit patronicity.com/mcmv to explore youth-led projects from across the state.

*Total Matched by IHCD.

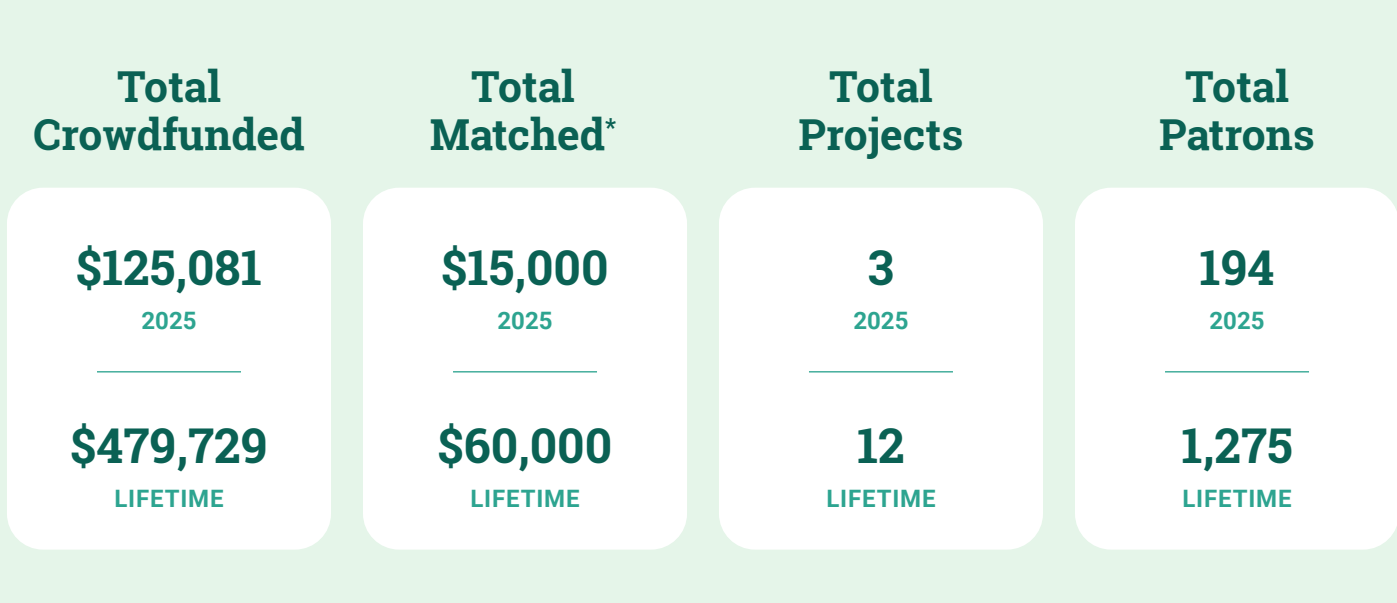


CreatINg Livable Communities



Multigenerational placemaking in partnership

A partnership between [AARP Indiana](#) and the Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority, [CreatINg Livable Communities](#), assists Indiana communities in funding projects for aging in place. The program provides additional funding to select CreatINg Places projects that benefit Hoosiers 50-plus. Over the past three years, AARP Indiana has contributed \$5,000 in matching funds for five projects totaling \$25,000 annually.



Montgomery Main Street Park

MONTGOMERY, INDIANA POPULATION: 792

CROWDFUNDED: \$51,000 CROWDGRANTING MATCH: \$55,000

PATRONS: 127

Montgomery is transforming a vacant gravel lot in the heart of downtown into a welcoming community gathering space. The park will feature a mural, green space, seating, a shade canopy, and a water feature. These elements combine to create an inviting destination that enhances Main Street while providing residents and visitors with a place to relax and connect. This beautification project emerged from a strategic planning effort for Main Street's future development. The park designs were developed through a collaborative partnership between students from Indiana University's Eskenazi School of Art, Architecture + Design, and the Town of Montgomery, as part of the 2024–25 Sustaining Hoosier Communities initiative through the Indiana University Center for Rural Engagement.

[Learn more](#)

*Total Matched by AARP Indiana.



Morocco's Chris LaCosse Multigenerational Park

MOROCCO, INDIANA POPULATION: 1,081
CROWDFUNDED: \$51,000 CROWDGRANTING MATCH: \$55,000
PATRONS: 53

[Chris LaCosse Park](#) transformed an underutilized space in Morocco into a vibrant multigenerational wellness park. The park features a paved walking path, an 11-piece Senior Fitness Zone, a Story Walk, an outdoor classroom, and landscaped gathering spaces. The project promotes physical activity, mental well-being, child literacy, and community connection for residents of all ages. Through collaboration between Purdue Extension, the Town of Morocco, and more than 50 donors and organizations, the park has become a lasting symbol of community pride and healthy living in Newton County.

We spoke with Deb Arseneau, Health & Human Sciences Extension Educator, Purdue University Extension, about the project.

Patronicity: How has the project impacted your community?

Deb: Chris LaCosse Park has provided a dedicated space for physical activity, learning, and connection. The walking path, senior fitness zone, story walk, and outdoor classroom have already created new routines and touchpoints for residents of all ages. It's clear that people feel a sense of ownership and pride in what's been created.

Patronicity: How did the matching dollars from the IHCD & AARP Indiana support your project and further its impact on the community?

Deb: The matching funds from IHCD and AARP Indiana were instrumental. They not only doubled our fundraising impact but also added credibility and momentum to our efforts. This support helped us turn vision into reality—allowing us to build infrastructure that meets the needs of all ages and supports aging in place, wellness, and intergenerational connection.

Patronicity: What could other communities learn from your project?

Deb: When local government, nonprofits, educators, and residents unite around a common goal, real change is possible. Focus groups, youth engagement, and creative funding sources—such as matching grants—can all drive progress. Even in small towns, big dreams are achievable with collaboration and perseverance.

Read our full interview at resources.patronicity.com.

Visit patronicity.com/aarpindiana to explore livable community projects across the state.



IMAGE COURTESY OF HADLEY FRUITS



CreatINg Places

patronicity.com/creatingplaces



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