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Philanthropy in Indianapolis: A Discussion

Philanthropy extends throughout Indianapolis in ways few of us recognize. The *Encyclopedia of Indianapolis* addresses the subject most directly in the section on "Philanthropy and Social Services." It also examines voluntary action and not-for-profit organizations in other sections, including "Cultural Institutions," "Education," "Sports," "Fine Arts," and "Performing Arts."

Contributing Editor Robert Payton, also Director of the Indiana University Center on Philanthropy, will describe and interpret the central role played by the voluntary sector in Indianapolis. His tasks include identifying the most significant themes, people, agencies, and events in 175 years of Indianapolis philanthropy. To aid him, Payton recruited an advisory committee drawn from the city's philanthropic community.

A discussion held by the advisory committee on November 15, 1991, revealed the richness and complexity of the third sector's role in Indianapolis, as well as the intellectual challenges in describing that role in the 50,000 words allocated to it in the *Encyclopedia*.

Participating in the discussion were:
Michael A. Carroll, Lilly Endowment Inc.;
Patricia Dean, POLIS Research Center at IUPUI;
Kenneth Gladish, Indiana Humanities Council;
Irvin Katz, Community Services Council of
Central Indiana; Martha D. Lamkin, USA Funds;
Diana Chambers Leslie, Trustee Renewal Project;
Gary R. Lowe, IUPUI School of Social Work;
Gregory Lynn, The Indianapolis Foundation;
Daniel MacDonald, United Way of Central
Indiana; and Katherine Tyler Scott, Trustee
Leadership Development.

Payton: When I agreed to be a Contributing Editor, it was clear to me that if this volume was to describe Indianapolis, it needed to have an awful lot of philanthropy in it.

Most people look at an encyclopedia in terms of discrete entries and see no connection between a specific description of something like the "German Women's Benevolent Association," the historic environment in which it was established, and human services today.

[It is] important to interpret the interrelation between philanthropy and human services, the arts, religion, and government. The reader needs to understand the pervasive nature of philanthropy.

In addition, we want to bring to the surface the connections between the philanthropic sector and the other two sectors — business and government. The principal role of the overview essay is to get people to think about philanthropy in new ways. Within that overview essay we can provide cross-references to entries and mini-essays in the *Encyclopedia* to show how those connections work.

The overview ought to be not just comprehensive, but historical. Being relatively new to the city, I discovered here the story of Oscar McCulloch, in the full range of his extraordinary activities as a philanthropist and reformer in the nineteenth century. Within 175 years of history, there must be other, equally extraordinary individuals and organizations.

I want the overview essay to resonate with the expressions of earlier philanthropic ideas, such as "relief" and "benevolence" and "charity" and all of the rest of that wonderfully elegant nineteenth century language which, if

Continued inside

Philanthropy - continued

left out, cuts us off from this tradition. My responsibility is to get at some of that legacy. Part of your responsibility is to help me identify that tradition in this community.

MacDonald: The Family Service Association was founded as the Indianapolis Benevolent Society in 1835. Children's Bureau, a major organization now, began in 1849; the first Charity Organization in Indianapolis was founded in the offices of Benjamin Harrison in 1879. This speaks very well of Indianapolis as a philanthropic community.

Planning and coordination of human services took a lot of different forms historically. The efforts extend over some 150 years, from the Charity Organization Society up to the Community Service Council. The whole effort to bring some sense of system to human service delivery has been an important experience here and probably deserves a separate mini-essay.

Katz: There's one kind of latter-day wrinkle in that system—the coalition of funders which we've had since 1978. Some cities are just experimenting with that sort of thing. As far as I know, ours was not modeled after anything; it was simply a local arrangement.

MacDonald: It's important to remember the importance of the human service sector because that's the root of philanthropy in this community. And, particularly in the very early days, much of the philanthropy in that area was centered about the activity of individuals.

Lamkin: That's an important part of the historical perspective. Voluntarism was a way that we used to minister to others in the form of freely offered, uncompensated service.

Dean: Since women have historically been a primary source of volunteers, can we capture their role in an essay on voluntarism?

Payton: You don't want to talk about philanthropy without talking about the role of women in it. While women and their issues are dealt with more broadly in a separate section of the *Encyclopedia*, we've got to find a way to stress the role of women in philanthropy in this community.

Encyclopedia of Indianapolis Staff

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Katz: African-Americans in Indianapolis have been very creative in their voluntary service organizations, with organizations such as the Coalition of 100 Black Women, Black Expo, Dialogue Today. We're one of the few cities which have anything like that.

Carroll: You wouldn't think of it as philanthropy, but an important element, a component of Black Expo, is its philanthropic activities. For instance, Black Expo redistributes the proceeds of the Circle City Classic as scholarships to kids in Indiana. Philanthropy is not its major purpose but it's still a significant dimension.

Gladish: There is also a section on sports and recreation in the *Encyclopedia*, but if you think about Bob's definition of philanthropy as voluntary action for the public good, the notion is that most of the community-based recreational activity grows out of the philanthropic enterprise almost exclusively, from Little League to YMCA to the Police Athletic League. This represents a fundamental difference between the American, and especially the midwestern, experience and that of other nations.

MacDonald: In *Community Chest* [a 1957 book on Indianapolis philanthropy], the authors characterize Hoosiers as "aginners," possessing an ingrained tendency to oppose most changes. But I can't see how that's consistent with philanthropic activity in Indianapolis.

Katz: That comment was made many years ago when there was less migration in and out of the city. Now people come from different places and there is no longer an Indianapolis psyche—the culture here is like Cleveland or Columbus.

Lynn: I do think that there is some feeling of disfranchisement in certain segments of the community. Some of that is identified along geographical lines, so that people on the south side tend to feel an imbalance of power with the north side.

Gladish: I would characterize Indianapolis as conservative populist. There is an extraordinary devotion here to the notion of self-help. Sometimes this has a very narrow focus, but often it has flowered into a larger civic enterprise. There is common engagement among diverse groups in society in the problems that face the community. If individuals feel disfranchised, they are not angry about it because they recognize that there are opportunities to participate if they choose. An individual can band together with others.

Lynn: This community does seem to feel that there is nothing it can't do in the face of challenges.

Meet the Contributing Editors (Philanthropy & Social Services)

Robert L. Payton, director of the Indiana University Center on Philanthropy and professor of philanthropic studies, is the contributing editor for the Philanthropy and Social Services section of the Encyclopedia. A nationally known expert on both the theory and practice of philanthropy, Payton is much in demand as a lecturer and writer. Among his many writings is his book Philanthropy: Voluntary Action for the Public Good. His voluntary activities include serving as a board member of the Mandel Center on Nonprofit Organization at Case Western Reserve University, New York University's Program on Law and Philanthropy, and the Robert K. Greenleaf Center. He was president of the Exxon Education Foundation for a decade. His honors include honorary doctorates from several institutions and the Alumni Medal from the University of Chicago in 1988.

Assistant contributing editor Patricia Dean is a Research Associate at the Center on Philanthropy. She is responsible for assisting with research for the overview essay and for coordinating the work of the Advisory Task Force. The task force was invited by Payton to help with the selection of material to be included in the philanthropy section and with the designation of writers for mini-essays and general entries. Dean holds a bachelor's degree from Carleton, a master's from Wellesley, and a doctorate from the University of Minnesota.

Philanthropy and Social Services Section - Approved Entries to Date

Essays

Civic Groups/Fraternal Societies/Service Clubs Funding Human Services Delivery System

Philanthropy and the Arts

Philanthropy and Business Philanthropy and Community Development

Philanthropy and Education Philanthropy and Government

Philanthropy and Health Care Philanthropy and Recreation/Sports

Philanthropy and Religion

Philanthropy and Social Services Social Work, Professionalization of

Voluntarism

General Entries (Partial List) Catholic Social Services Charity Organization Society

Children's Bureau Christamore House

Clowes Fund and other Clowes' Family charities Coalition for Human Services Planning Coalition of One Hundred Black Women Community Chest/United Way Corporate Community Council Damien Center Hospital Guilds Indianapolis Benevolent Society Indianapolis Foundation IUPUI School of Social Work Jewish Welfare Federation Lilly Endowment, Inc. Lutheran Child and Family Services One Hundred Black Men Oscar McCulloch Rehabilitation Services (Crossroads, Goodwill, Noble Centers) Salvation Army Centers YMCA

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Philanthropy and Social Services in Indiana: Statistics

The following statistics from a study on giving and volunteering in Indiana, conducted by the Indiana University Center on Philanthropy, represent the types of data that *Encyclopedia* authors will examine as part of their study of philanthropic activities in the Hoosier capital city.

Annual Household Contributions, 1991

Indiana \$725 National \$734

Individual Volunteer Hours (average per week), 1991

Indiana 2.9 hours National 2.2 hours

Source: "Survey of Giving and Volunteering in Indiana," Indiana University Center on Philanthropy and the Indiana Donors Alliance, 1991.

Managing Editor's Report

We have made substantial progress during the past few months on three different but closely related aspects of the volume's development: entries identified, entries assigned, and entries submitted.

Contributing editors and task forces have now compiled final entry lists for 22 of the *Encyclopedia's* 26 subject categories, and completion of the remaining lists is imminent. By January 31, 1992, 1,328 entries had been approved and entered in the project's data base. The work of our contributing editors has been indispensable in developing preliminary lists of entries and then paring them down to a final, manageable number. They have been most helpful not only in suggesting possible entries but also in assessing significance.

We have also had great success recruiting individuals to research and write for the volume. By the time this newsletter appears we will have assigned approximately 750 entries.

Where Hoosier Households Give

	% Reporting	Est. Average
	Contributions	Dollar Amount
Religious	56.4	\$1108
Human Services	46.5	\$ 241
Health	37.5	\$ 323
Education	24.4	\$ 563
Recreation	14.6	\$ 133
Environment	13.2	\$ 190
Arts, Culture and		
Humanities	7.5	\$ 157
Other	6.9	\$ 249

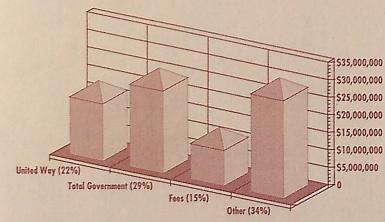
However, hundreds of entries are still in search of an author. We encourage anyone with an interest in writing for the volume — and authors

terest in writing for the volume — and authors who have already contributed — to contact the editorial staff. Most subject categories still have entries available; we especially need assistance in sections dealing with the city's economy (particularly short business histories), labor organizations, newspapers and other publications, philanthropy and social services, popular culture, and suburbs and neighborhoods.

Authors are submitting completed entries at a steady rate — over 350 of them at last count. We are pleased with the prompt response of so many authors. The editorial work continues apace, although authors should be patient as their entries move through the editorial process. Anyone concerned about the status of his or her entry is welcome to call the POLIS office for an update.

Robert G. Barrows

Public and Private Revenue of 71 Local United Way Agencies 1990 Total Revenue: \$92,918,078



"Fees" include mixellaneous services and third party payors. "Other" includes foundation grants, corporate public relations funds, and civic groups. Source: United Way/Community Service Council. 1991.

History of Philanthropic and Social Services Agencies in Indianapolis

1826 First volunteer fire company in Indianapolis organized.

1835 Indianapolis Benevolent Society established "to give temporary aid . . . to meet the needs of individuals and families on a community wide basis without regard to race or creed."

1866 Home for Friendless Women opened "for the aid and improvement of abandoned women." In 1935 name changed to Indianapolis Home for the Aged, accepting men and women.

1867 German Protestant Orphan Home (currently the Pleasant Run Children's Home) founded.

1879 Charity Organization Society established in law office of Benjamin Harrison at the instigation of Rev. Oscar C. McCulloch, pastor of Plymouth Congregational Church, Indianapolis.

1881 Free Kindergarten Society organized. Privately supported until 1902, then state supported and eventually becomes part of school system.

1887 Dime Savings and Loan Association established by Charity Organization Society to encourage habit of saving and to offset need for welfare.

1889 Salvation Army establishes corps at Fountain Square.

1895 Indianapolis businessman John Herron gives funds to Art Association of Indianapolis to establish art museum and school. Later becomes Indianapolis Museum of Art.

1898 Flanner Guild provides social services to local African-American community. Becomes Flanner House in 1912.

1903 Marion County Juvenile Home organized.

1904 Jewish Welfare Federation founded.

1905 Christamore House, a settlement house through which young college educated women and Butler College students could provide social services to poor residents of racially mixed Atlas neighborhood, opened.

1909 Andrew Carnegie gives \$100,000 to the Indianapolis Public Library for the construction of four branch libraries.

1910 Altenheim (German Home for the Aged) organized.

1911 Medical social service begun through the Indianapolis City Dispensary.

1912 Indianapolis Church Federation unites religious charitable efforts.

1913 Public Health Nursing Association founded.

1916 Indianapolis Foundation established.
1918 War Chest organized "to provide for all war and benevolent needs." Dissolved and relinquished assets to Community Chest in 1922.

1920 Community Chest organized to unite fundraising efforts and coordinate activities of forty different community service organizations. Created from structure of the World War I "War Fund" drive. In turn, it becomes

Community Fund 1923
Indianapolis Community Chest 1950
Indianapolis United Fund 1958
United Fund of Greater Indianapolis 1962
United Way of Greater Indianapolis 1970
United Way of Central Indiana 1986

1922 Indianapolis Council of Social Agencies consists of some 80 agencies.

1924 Mary Carey and the Progressive Education Association spearhead the establishment of the Indianapolis Children's Museum.

1930 Goodwill Industries established.

1931 Children's Bureau of Indianapolis Orphan Asylum opened.

1933 Planned Parenthood Association founded.

1936 Crossroads Rehabilitation Center established to aid rehabilitation and independence of the handicapped.

1937 Flower Mission Hospital (tuberculosis hospital) opened.

1937 Lilly Endowment, Inc. established.

1942 "War Fund" Campaign organized.

1943 Social Hygiene Association created.

1953 Noble School for Retarded Children opened.

1954 Multiple Sclerosis Society established.

1955 Lighthouse Missions founded to help the homeless.

1964 After a twenty year effort led by newspaper columnist Lowell Nussbaum, the Indianapolis Zoological Society, Inc. establishes a zoo in Washington Park.

1966 Children of Mr. & Mrs. Josiah K. Lilly, Jr., present parents' estate, Oldfields, as gift to The Art Association to develop the Indianapolis Museum of Art.

1980 Gleaners Food Bank of Indiana incorporated to collect, store and redistribute donated foodstuffs and grocery products to charities that feed the hungry.

1987 The Damien Center founded to provide and coordinate services for persons living with or affected by HIV/AIDS.

1989 The donations of Harrison Eiteljorg and others in Indianapolis support the establishment of the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indian and Western Art.

Urban Agenda: IUPUI on the Circle

The POLIS Research Center and the School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI announce a new series of public discussions on important urban issues currently affecting Indianapolis. These discussions will be of particular interest to professionals working in the private and public sector who are interested in new approaches to the challenges facing Indianapolis in the 1990s.

These lunchtime discussions will be hosted with the cooperation of the Associated Group in their new headquarters at 120 Monument Circle, Conference Room A. This central location is easily accessible to downtown workers who may bring a brown bag lunch to the presentation. All discussions are presented free of charge. Coffee and tea will be provided.

Upcoming presentations include:

Wednesday, March 25, 1992
12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.
"Decentralizing Local Governmental Services in Indianapolis: A Descriptive Analysis."
William Blomquist
Assistant Professor of Political Science, IUPUI.

Wednesday, April 29, 1992
12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.
"The Suburbanization of Indianapolis: An
Outline of Metropolitan Development in
Indianapolis, 1830-1980."
Lamont Hulse,
Senior Associate, POLIS Research Center
at IUPUI.

Wednesday, May 20, 1992
12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.
"The Encyclopedia of Indianapolis: A New
Reference for a Modern City."
David J. Bodenhamer,
Director, POLIS Research Center at IUPUI.

For more information on this series, contact Lamont Hulse at (317) 274-2458.

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