In 2018, the Center received $4,319,218 in funding from Lilly Endowment Inc. as part of its Strengthening Indianapolis Through Arts and Cultural Innovation Initiative to support the continued development of the East 10th Street district. The award will continue the work of Inspire 10th Street, an organization founded to promote development activities along 10th Street through the use of arts and other tools to foster a thriving and vibrant corridor for community residents.

As approved by the neighborhood at the July 2018 Near Eastside Neighborhood Summit, John Boner Neighborhood Centers (JBNCC) submitted this proposal in collaboration with six arts partners, Near East Area Renewal (NEAR), Englewood Community Development Corporation (ECDC), and Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership (INHP).

The proposal’s vision is to create an authentic neighborhood district in which creativity, arts, heritage, and culture enriches the quality of life for near eastside residents. The core of the proposal focused on three components: transforming underutilized buildings into creative places, transform vacant areas into gathering spaces for residents, and fostering partnerships that will create unique and accessible art experiences for residents and visitors alike.

Near Eastside neighbors have always held an unshakeable belief in the power of individuals and communities to create change that promotes a shared destiny, social justice and equity. Together we will realize one aspect of this vision by creating a unique and authentic Arts + Design District in which the arts are welcoming, inclusive, thought-provoking, accessible and relevant to people from all backgrounds.

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The IndyEast Achievement Zone began vital training in Trauma Informed Care for all staff to gain knowledge to better care for a diverse population of backgrounds, personalities, and experiences and in communities as well as for one another. Neighborhood Trauma Informed Care Strategy Development continues including neighbors and staff at John Bomer Neighborhood Centers, EDGE Afterschool, Thomas Gregg Neighborhood School, East 10th Street Children & Youth Center, and DayStar Childcare.

In September of 2018, the IEAZ hosted the U.S. Department of Education Peer Education Network Event. The event brought together communities from across the country to hear about education accomplishments on the Near Eastside, discuss best practices around education, and implement strategies in their own communities across the U.S. The Center, partners, and neighbors continue to create vital change in our community with the belief that positively impacting things we can control will resonate across the country.

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS & DONORS!

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