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Annual Report

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**JOHN BONER
NEIGHBORHOOD
CENTERS**



JOHN BONER NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS INSPIRES NEIGHBORS AND PARTNERS
TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE ON THE NEAR EASTSIDE BY PROVIDING
TOOLS FOR CHANGE AND GROWTH.

10,714 individuals were served in 2016

5,775 people were served through the Center for Working Families model



To our neighbors, supporters, and friends -

We have seen your courage, sacrifices and perseverance day in and day out. You take great risks and bold actions towards building a better future for yourself, your family and our community.

Because of your resilience, persistence and sheer determination, the setbacks you encounter become the platform for your comeback. You never let your struggles define or defeat you; for it is the very struggles themselves that have made you stronger, richer and tougher. You do not wait for someone else to change your circumstance because you have within yourself and your fellow neighbors the ability to create the change you seek in your situation and community.

We, as staff, are often asked why we work at the Center? The answer is simple:
BECAUSE OF YOU.

Because of you, we work tirelessly and fight for our community.

Because of you, we are a stronger group of individuals whose voices can be heard.

Because of you, change really does happen.

As we look back at 2016, we remember why we work together as neighbors and are reminded of the successes, big and small, that we share. Together, and in numerous ways, we have created a shared destiny built on the belief we can create a world that is a bit more kind, just and equitable - for we know we are stronger and are bonded together. This one's for you.

Warm Regards,

James Taylor, CEO

THE NEAR EASTSIDE IS A VIBRANT, THRIVING, WELCOMING COMMUNITY.

This one's for you



LILLY ENDOWMENT GRANT - LONG TERM FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Creation of an organizational endowment

Invest in Center staff

Invest back into the Center's programs and services



Lilly Endowment Inc. announced \$100 million in approved grants to 15 human service organizations who serve low income individuals and families. This grant will support initiatives that strengthen John Boner Neighborhood Centers' long-term financial well-being so that we can thrive for the sake of the people of Indianapolis and for our neighbors. As part of this initiative, we were overwhelmed with gratitude and the humblest of hearts to receive \$10 million to support our work and mission to serve YOU, our neighbors, on the Near Eastside.

A majority of this funding was invested to create the Center's own restricted endowment. This long-term asset will generate resources which will enable us to strengthen our operations and secure a strong financial future for years to come. Additionally, funding was earmarked for talent attraction and staff retention, including the implementation of a livable minimum wage of \$13.00 an hour for Center staff. Lastly, these funds will enable the Center to have the working capital and operating reserves to eliminate the need for outside lines of credit, provide capital improvements which will reduce energy expenses and to leverage technology to help staff and programs operate more efficiently. All of these improvements save resources that will be devoted to the various ways the Center serves our community.

The fact that Lilly Endowment Inc. selected our Center for this remarkable investment is a reflection of the dedication, talent and work of the board, staff, community partners and our neighbors. Together, we have built deep relationships, mutual interdependency and a culture within our community that has created a common unshakable belief in the power of individuals and neighborhoods to create change that promotes a shared destiny. Because of this investment by Lilly Endowment Inc., our collective ability to continue the work of building a thriving, vibrant, welcoming community will be stronger for years to come.

This One's for you



CHILDREN & YOUTH SERVICES

568 youth were served in 2016

13 Arsenal Technical High School students attended college and career readiness programming 261 times during Spring 2016

100% of PACT high school students graduated with their 4 year cohort



As we reflect on 2016, we remember the small successes that came from big efforts. Working with youth is not always easy. It takes time, patience, energy and care. It takes resilience and the ability to recognize your own limitations. We provide a safe, supportive, positive environment for youth and stress the importance of building positive relationships.

As a youth worker, we do not get to immediately see the impact we have on a student. It's difficult to measure or numerically grade how we've made a child feel and we can't predict how their life will be impacted because of our influence. At times it feels like an uphill climb without an end. That is the reason we must celebrate the small successes; for it's the mini victories which are visible that is important.

SUCCESS IS the 8th grader who thought all afterschool programs were lame, but decided to give ours a chance and kept coming back because of the relationships he formed. He chose us instead of risky situations when he was home alone.

SUCCESS IS the student who proudly shows you their report card or weekly tests because they know you care about their class work.

SUCCESS IS the Kindergartner that had a safe place to go after school so that her mother could work in order to provide stable housing for her family.

SUCCESS IS the budding artist that never believed in her ability until she submitted her a piece of art for "1st Friday Family Night" and was asked to showcase her work at the Radial Point Gallery.

SUCCESS IS the youth that felt angry all the time and only knew how to deal with their frustrations by being physically aggressive, but now tries deep breathing and meditation techniques to deal with their emotions.

These may not feel like monumental successes, but it's the small successes and ways that we support youth, added up over time, that make the real difference and have the greatest impact. It's easy to get caught up in the day to day stressors. As a Center, we will continue to focus on the positive and the small successes - focus on what we do each day that impacts our youth, how we make them feel, and recognize how truly lucky we are to be in a position to do so.

This One's for you



FINANCIAL FOUNDATIONS

601 individuals were served through Financial Foundations
4,187 individuals received energy assistance
2,076 tax returns were prepared through the Center
159 individuals increased their net income




In life, we all have to deal with obstacles and unexpected changes. Dreams and goals may seem impossible to reach when all we want to do is get by. Living paycheck-to-paycheck is not only financially restricting, it's emotionally draining and suffocating. It is tough to make financial choices that don't always feel good. Yet, as time goes on, we see the benefits of those responsible decisions and learn from our mistakes or missed opportunities.

It's important to be able to share, encourage and inspire neighbors who walk through our doors. We want to encourage people to believe they can achieve their goals no matter how big they dream. Sometimes, we just need to know that someone is there with us to provide the support, resources and knowledge needed to take that leap of faith. Your goals are attainable. You can do it, we will help.

After renting for 11 years, "Amanda" was ready to put her hard earned money into a home she could call her own. She decided to open an Individual Development Account (IDA) and work towards her dream of homeownership. With her husband and 5 children, the path to owning a home large enough for her family seemed daunting. Alongside the Centers' financial coaches and a local housing counselor, Amanda developed a spending plan that allowed her to put money aside for her IDA and other home-related expenses, as well as improve her credit to become mortgage-ready. All of this was accomplished while raising a family, working and studying architectural design.

Amanda's dream didn't stop at homeownership. She went on to design a custom home in which each of her children have their own rooms. To get to this point, Amanda worked diligently with Center staff, saved, paid down debt and increased her credit score by 40 points. Today, Amanda is proud to be a homeowner with plenty of space for her children to play. She also plans to complete her degree and pursue a career in architectural design.

This One's for you



FITNESS ZONE

There were 56,842 check-ins to participate in physical activity sessions at the Fitness Zone
454 individuals served were younger than 18 years of age
1,578 individuals served were between the ages of 19 - 59
286 adults over the age of 60 used the Fitness Zone

Physical fitness is a passion and priority for many, especially for staff at the Boner Fitness & Learning Center at the Chase Legacy Building. It is a never-ending journey of education; a way for individuals to learn about themselves mentally, physically, and sometimes spiritually. Staff work at the Fitness Zone because it allows them to use their passion for fitness as a way to serve and help people of all ages. Teaching group exercise classes, such as Boot Camp, has helped to develop deep relationships with our members. This job gives us the opportunity to be a good influence in people's lives, help them to achieve their fitness goals, and to stay healthy, not only physically but also mentally.

"Marie" along with her husband and 4 children have been members of the Boner Fitness & Learning Center since November 2012. As a family, they set a goal to become healthier - together. The family, including their teenaged children, workout at the Center faithfully. In this day and age, when families can be disconnected, it is refreshing to see a family take time together on a regular basis and make their health a priority. We value family unity at the Center and Marie and her family is a great example.

Marie is committed to improving her overall health, but her main goal is weight loss. Since joining the Center, she has lost more than 30 pounds. Marie loves being a member of the Fitness Zone because it is family oriented.



This One's for you



HOUSING SERVICES

485 individuals were provided with safe and affordable housing
12 households came from homelessness
179 individuals were housed in supportive housing
127 residents lived in Senior housing



Working in Housing Services doesn't come without its challenges. Every case is unique and different. To be able to work as a stepping stone in a positive direction is why we pride ourselves in the work we do. Often people come to the Center in a state of crisis, depressed, sometimes homeless, or just looking for someone to be on their side when it feels like the whole world is against them. Transformations take place in a person's life from when they first step through our front doors to when they are handed the keys to their new home. Often, individuals think they are not capable of being independent in a safe and affordable home.

"Jenny" had been in our permanent supportive housing program for almost 6 years. She was homeless when she first moved in, disabled, and had no income. Depressed, nowhere to go, and without health insurance, Jenny felt lost. Being convicted of a drug possession charge more than 10 years ago, it was hard for her to receive food stamps and Medicaid, and was denied disability. Even though she faced one disappointment after another, she kept smiling. She participated in our transportation services taking residents to the pantry once a week.

Finally, Jenny was able to obtain health insurance and was awarded her disability benefits and back pay. She was frugal with her new found income and used it to secure an affordable apartment. Jenny expressed her gratitude for the Centers' support in housing her in her time of need to be able to reach this point in her life. She no longer had to live in supportive housing and was eager to move on so she could allow someone else to move in and benefit from our program. Jenny is still actively participating in other Center programs and continues to work hard as she continues to improve her quality of life.

This One's for you



SENIOR SERVICES

36 individuals were served through Adult Day Service

136 individuals were served through the Senior Center

2,952 meals were served to Adult Day participants

1,876 meals were served to individuals through the Senior Center

Adult Day Service is a source of long-term care that provides a coordinated program of services for adults in a community-based group setting. This program allows working caregivers to attend to job responsibilities with the comfort of knowing their loved one is in a professionally staffed, supportive environment and helps to restore balance and enhance the overall quality of life for both the individual and caregiver. Programming is designed to provide social and basic health services to adults who need supervised care outside the home during the day.

We are grateful to be able to form friendships with our participants at John Boner Neighborhood Centers' Adult Day Program. "Jane" has been a participant for several years. Her daughter works full time and is unable to leave her mother home alone for safety reasons due to dementia. Even though she is spunky, active, and puts a smile on our faces everyday Jane is in her 90's and her health is steadily declining. She leans on her peers and Center staff for support, but little by little she is beginning to become withdrawn. Jane's decline has fostered an unintended positive for our program. Her peers are now taking initiative by caring for her and making sure she is included in social activities to keep her spirits lifted. Prior to Jane's decline, some of her peers were shy introverts and rarely engaged in conversation. But, these same individuals have come out of their shells and are helping their friend by assuming the role of caregiver. Not only is Jane getting the help she needs from Center staff, but her peers feel the accomplishment of re-asserting their identity as a valuable member of our small society. As Jane travels deeper into her dementia, her daughter has considered placing her in a long-term facility. Being able to utilize the Center's Adult Day Service has delayed this decision and has allowed Jane to remain at home with her family.

Not only are we prolonging long-term care placements, but we are creating a community and family that has re-learned how to take care of one another.

This One's for you





GRANTS AWARDED FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT USING PROMISE ZONE POINTS

Provided money for brownfield assessments on industrial sites
Created opportunities for an increase in arts programming
Created over 100 new jobs

Being a part of one of a select Promise Zone designation nationwide is an amazing opportunity. It provides our neighborhood with the chance to make a vast impact within 10 years. It's deeply inspiring to be able to work with passionate and dedicated community members towards creating not only a better neighborhood, but city as a whole. In 2016 growth and transformation took place in our neighborhood not only visibly on our roads and sidewalks, but in the lives of our neighbors, young and old. Every community and individual deserves the chance to have affordable housing options, to be able to work, to have thriving commercial activity, to have a quality education, and to feel safe and secure in all they do. We know through the IndyEast Promise Zone, we will create lasting change that will continue on through generations to come.

In 2015, a collaborative effort led by the John Boner Neighborhood Centers, in conjunction with the City of Indianapolis and nine other implementation partners was awarded what is now known as the IndyEast Promise Zone designation. In 2016, the first of the ten-year designation, the IndyEast Promise Zone secured 14 grants from 7 different federal agencies totaling in \$9.6 million. These resources will create more than 100 new jobs, serve ex-offenders returning into our community, provide jobs for at-risk youth, provide targeted fair housing enforcement, and enable neighbors to become certified in healthcare fields in addition to other efforts. These efforts not only benefit the Promise Zone catchment area but the entire City of Indianapolis.



This One's for you



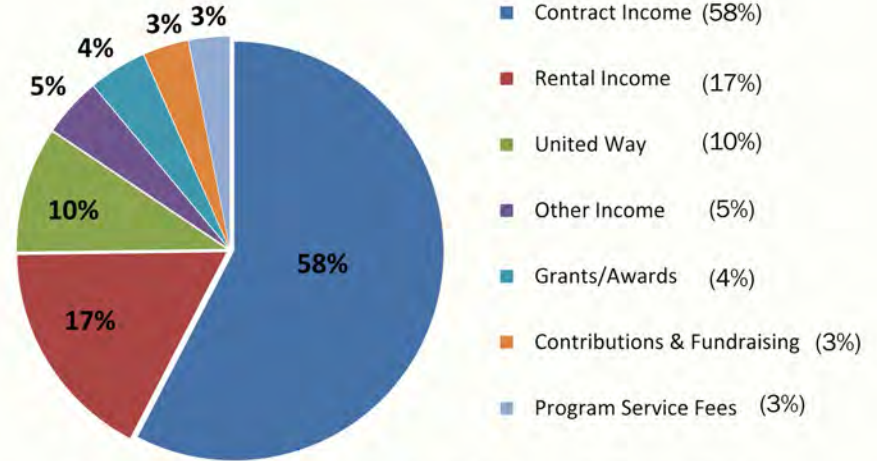
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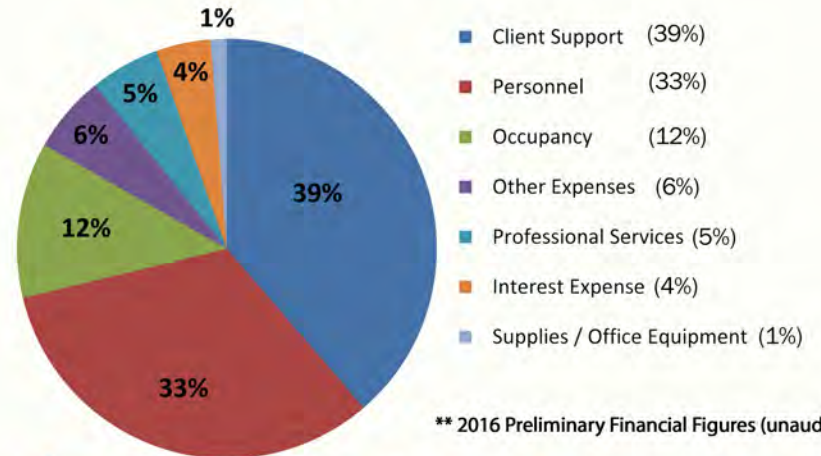


Revenue** (\$9.1M)



** Excludes \$10M financial sustainability grant from Lilly Endowment, Inc. received in 2016

Expenses (\$9.6M)



** 2016 Preliminary Financial Figures (unaudited)

This One's for you

At John Boner Neighborhood Centers, every moving part matters in the success of our services and initiatives to serve our neighbors. Moving into 2017, we would like to dedicate this year to you, because without you we would not have made such an important impact on our neighbors and families. You are the reason why we were able to help more than 10,000 individuals in 2016.

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John Boner Neighborhood Centers inspires neighbors and partners to improve the quality of life on the near Eastside by providing tools for change and growth.

