

\$10,000 GRANT WILL SUPPORT HIRING A DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR FOR THE SPRINGS VALLEY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

FRENCH LICK, INDIANA — A grant from the Indiana Association of Public Education Foundations (INAPEF) will allow the Springs Valley Education Foundation (SVEF) to hire their first paid staff member, a part-time development director. For 16 years the foundation has been run entirely by dedicated volunteers. This award, in addition to a \$10,000 commitment from the foundation, will enable SVEF to take its next steps in serving the Springs Valley school community. "Securing a development director has long been an aspiration for the SVEF board, and the current grant opportunity provides a tangible path to realize this objective. Introducing this compensated role will enhance our capacity for fundraising, expand our ties with alumni and local businesses, bolster our collaborations with faculty and administration, and, above all, fortify our commitment to supporting our students." said Todd Marshall, President of the SVEF since 2007. Additionally, the school corporation has committed to providing necessary office space, which will be located in the Superintendent's building, as well as computer and technology support for the new director.

"We are excited to award this grant to the Springs Valley Education Foundation. The SVEF board is a very committed group, who put forth a solid plan for how the position will be sustained in the future, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact on Springs Valley Schools." said Krista Baber, INAPEF association administrator.

INAPEF'S 72 education foundation member organizations raise more than \$16 million annually to support education outcomes for students throughout the state. While these foundations have traditionally supported classroom grants and scholarships, many of these organizations now find themselves more involved in funding district-wide initiatives. By expanding staffing and obtaining fundraising certifications, these non-profit foundations can better meet the needs of their partner school corporations.

Funding for the grant originated with a \$180,000 Lilly Endowment, Inc. grant awarded to INAPEF, to fund hiring and capacity-building programming for growing INAPEF-member foundations.

"Our data shows that staff-run education foundations generate 200% more revenue than those run by volunteers; therefore, Lilly Endowment's grant to INAPEF will likely result in increased funding and educational initiatives for our state's schools as INAPEF members strengthen their ability to lead," Baber concluded. "With expanded professional staffing and training based on defined needs, INAPEF and its members will be able to continue to support public education. We are grateful for this investment in INAPEF and our members."

To learn more about SVEF, visit <https://www.svalley.k12.in.us/sv-alumni/svef>.