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Monroe County United Ministries



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For Immediate Release

MCUM Awarded Substantial Grant from Early Learning Indiana

Bloomington, IN – December 4, 2017

Today Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM) welcomed a \$64,750 Capacity Building Grant from Early Learning Indiana to create new early learning opportunities for area families.

Specifically, the grant will be used to help MCUM prepare its Compass Early Learning Center-Downtown to care for an additional 48 children beginning on January 2, 2018.

The grants, which are made possible through the Lilly Endowment's support of Early Learning Indiana, are designed to create more opportunities for early education at high-quality programs. Since 2015, Early Learning Indiana has made 17 different capacity-building grants, totaling more than \$888,000 and has created more than 900 new high-quality seats across the state.

The expansion is a direct response to the immediate and critical community need for high-quality, affordable childcare, especially for low-income families. Brian Drummy, President of MCUM's Board of Directors, said "We believe the expansion will provide a significant benefit to the community during this direct time of need and for many years into the future."

MCUM will continue its online campaign to raise funds for Compass-Downtown's expansion. Community members wishing to help meet this extreme need are encouraged to make a gift to MCUM's expansion online at www.fundly.com/compass.

About Early Learning Indiana

Early Learning Indiana is the state's oldest and largest early childhood education nonprofit, founded in 1899 as Day Nursery. Today, Early Learning Indiana operates 10 high-quality Day Early Learning centers in Central Indiana, educating more than 1,400 children each year. Through regional (Child Care Answers) and statewide (Partnerships for Early Learners) programs, the organization helps families find quality care, works with teachers and providers to improve program quality and advocates for greater access to early educational opportunities for Hoosier families. More information is available at EarlyLearningIndiana.org.

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