

## Press Release

Jennings County Community Foundation has received a grant of \$500,000 as part of Lilly Endowment Inc.'s seventh phase of its Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT) initiative. With GIFT VII, the Endowment is making up to \$125 million available to help Indiana community foundations strengthen the towns, cities and counties they serve.

Jennings County Community Foundation can use this matching fund grant to build our financial assets and support our charitable activities. At least two-thirds of the matching fund grant must be designated to support the growth of Jennings County Community Foundation's unrestricted endowments, which over time will provide flexibility to help the foundation to meet community needs. The Endowment will provide \$2 for every \$1 contributed to Jennings County Community Foundation's unrestricted endowments during the matching period, October 1, 2018, through December 31, 2020.

Jennings County Community Foundation may choose to designate up to one-third of the matching fund grant to support the foundation's own operating needs or specific community or charitable projects. The Endowment will provide 50 cents for every \$1 that Jennings County Community Foundation raises during the matching period for these purposes.

The Jennings County Community Foundation team is excited about this incredible opportunity to promote our mission commitment to community/social service, education and the arts!

The Jennings County Community Foundation was founded in 1994 and will be celebrating 25 years of service to Jennings County in 2019 through grants, scholarships and other partnerships that enhance the quality of life for our residents. The Foundation has granted out to organizations and Jennings County students more than \$5,200,000 since 1996!

GIFT initiative is part of Lilly Endowment's grantmaking to strengthen Indiana communities and has been a priority of the Endowment since the first phase of GIFT in 1990. The initiative's primary aim is to help Indiana community foundations develop the philanthropic capacity to identify, prioritize and address local opportunities and challenges.

To encourage the engagement of Jennings County Community Foundation's board of directors, the Endowment also will award an additional \$100,000 unrestricted grant if the foundation achieves 100 percent financial support from our board members during the period January 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020.

Starting in 2019, Jennings County Community Foundation will have the opportunity to apply for more funds through GIFT VII's community leadership grants. This component includes both planning and implementation grants, which are available to help the foundation deepen its understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing its community; convene key local stakeholders and explore how it can effectively play a leadership role in implementing initiatives and strategies that enhance the quality of life in Jennings County.

**Lilly Endowment Inc.** is an Indianapolis-based private philanthropic foundation created in 1937 by three members of the Lilly family – J.K. Lilly Sr. and sons J.K. Jr. and Eli – through gifts of stock in their pharmaceutical business, Eli Lilly & Company. The Endowment exists to support causes of community development, education and religion. Lilly Endowment's community development grantmaking is designed to support efforts that enhance the quality of life in Indianapolis and Indiana.