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Lutheran Child and Family Services receives million dollar grant

Submitted by Mary Beth Trotter

The Foundation for Lutheran Child and Family Services, Indiana, Inc. recently received a grant of \$1 million from The Glick Fund, a fund of Central Indiana Community Foundation, to support one of the largest construction projects currently underway on the east side of Indianapolis.

Specifically, the grant is designated for programming and capital support for the expansion of Lutherwood Residential Treatment Center & Education Academy. The expansion that began three years ago includes construction of new dormitories and a chapel (Phase I) that were completed in March, 2008. Construction will soon begin on the Family Strengthening Center (Phase II) that, with the help of the grant from The Glick Fund, will make the following initiatives and program expansions possible:

Therapeutic Day School for behaviorally challenged students from Indianapolis Public Schools

Family Preservation services for at-risk families

Independent living training for youth

Family education

Foster care

Mentoring and tutoring

"It is an honor to be a recipient of a grant from The Glick Fund," said Sven Schumacher, Chief Executive Officer of The Foundation for Lutheran Child and Family Services. "This gift will have a direct impact on the quality of services we provide to troubled children and their families. It is also a reflection of Mr. and Mrs. Glick's long history of care and concern for disadvantaged families in our community."

Brian Payne, President of Central Indiana Community Foundation, stated, "CICF is fortunate to partner with the Glick family on their charitable giving. Seeing local children and families benefit from the Glick's generosity is rewarding."

The Family Strengthening Center is located at the corner of East 16th Street and Ritter Avenue. "It's not far from where the Glick family construction business began building its first homes more than 60 years ago," noted David Barrett, President & CEO of the Eugene & Marilyn Glick Family Foundation.

Lutherwood is a residential facility for children ages 6-21 who are regaining their emotional and mental health. It is a program of Lutheran Child & Family Services of IN/KY, a non-profit, social service agency celebrating its 125th anniversary this year. In addition to Lutherwood, its ministries include The Sharing Place material assistance program, family preservation, mentoring, parenting education, independent living skills training, adoption and foster care.