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For Immediate Release

Contact: Jenny Kakasuleff, Marketing & Communications Manager
317.345.4176
jennifer.kakasuleff@goodwillindy.org

**Goodwill to Receive $250k Grant from Lumina Foundation**
*Funds will support ethnic and racial equity in northeast Indianapolis*

**INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. —** Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana announced today that it is the grateful recipient of a generous $250k grant from Lumina Foundation, which will support Goodwill’s collaboration with Cook Medical, the global medical device manufacturer based in Indiana, to bring meaningful employment opportunities to a predominantly Black neighborhood in northeast Indianapolis with higher-than-average poverty and unemployment rates.

By the end of 2021, Goodwill will operate a newly-constructed, 45,000 square-foot facility that manufactures a variety of products for Cook Medical, including introducers, sheaths, drainage catheters and needles. The average beginning wage will be $15/hour, and employees will have access to a range of wraparound services, such as skills training and support in housing, education, health care and more.

“These funds from Lumina Foundation will help support the ambitious goals of this project, and we’re thankful to have the support of a leading educational institution in this important work,” said Kent A. Kramer, president and CEO of Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana. “We expect this project to spur additional development and investment in the neighborhood and to provide residents with hope about their future.”

In addition to employment, the project at 38th and Sheridan will include Indy Fresh Market, a full-service grocery store adjacent to the manufacturing facility, which is located in a current food desert. Future plans include workforce housing.

“Goodwill is the most effective mission-based organization I have ever worked with,” said Pete Yonkman, president of Cook Medical and Cook Group. “Their ability to combine wraparound services to remove obstacles to work, education, and career opportunities is unmatched both in expertise and scale. We’re proud to partner on this project.”

A portion of the funds generated by facility rental profits will be reinvested into the community through a managed trust held by the Central Indiana Community Foundation.

“It is a privilege to join forces with Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana and Cook Medical to provide critical job opportunities to the northeast side of Indianapolis. This grant is part of the 3-year $15M Racial Justice and Equity commitment Lumina announced in 2020. We are committed to making educational and economic mobility opportunities available to all, and that
includes in our own backyard,” said Tim Robinson, vice president of administration and partnerships at Lumina.

A groundbreaking event is planned for Saturday, October 2, to celebrate the upcoming Indy Fresh Market. Visit 38thandsheridan.com to learn more.

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About Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana
Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana changes lives every day by empowering people to increase their independence and reach their potential through education, health and employment. Goodwill serves 39 Indiana counties and operates more than 70 retail locations, as well as charter schools for adults and youth, a maternal-child health program, a child care center and more.

About Lumina Foundation
Lumina Foundation is an independent, private foundation in Indianapolis committed to making opportunities for learning beyond high school available to all. We envision a system that is easy to navigate, delivers fair results, and meets the nation’s need for talent through a broad range of credentials. The Foundation’s goal is to prepare people for informed citizenship and for success in a global economy.

About Cook Medical
Since 1963, Cook Medical has been inventing, manufacturing and delivering a unique portfolio of medical devices to healthcare systems around the world. We work closely with physicians to develop technologies that improve patients’ lives. Because we remain family owned, we have the freedom to focus on what we care about: patients, our employees and our communities.