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For Immediate Release

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Devington Neighborhood to Receive \$100k from IMPACT Central Indiana & The Indianapolis Foundation

Proceeds from 38th and Sheridan project to be reinvested into the community

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana and Cook Medical recently announced that IMPACT Central Indiana & The Indianapolis Foundation will distribute \$100,000 in proceeds from the 38th and Sheridan project. Half of the funds will be used to help reduce food insecurity on the northeast side of Indianapolis, and the other half will be used to fund a feasibility study for a community center in the area.

This investment into the Devington community comes from net proceeds generated by the manufacturing facility built in partnership between Cook Medical, Goodwill, The Indianapolis Foundation, and IMPACT Central Indiana. The facility opened in April 2022, and 2023 is the first year that net proceeds are available to be used for community development initiatives, like reducing food insecurity. Decisions on the use of those funds are made by a group primarily consisting of community members convened by United Northeast Community Development Corporation (UNEC).

The funds aimed at reducing food insecurity will be used to provide financial support for Devington Neighborhood residents to purchase food and other necessities at Indy Fresh Market. Indy Fresh Market is a local grocery store that opened in October of 2023, built in partnership between Cook Medical and local entrepreneurs Michael McFarland and

Marckus Williams and funded with a blended capital stack of philanthropic grants and traditional loans, including \$515,000 from IMPACT Central Indiana and its charitable investors and donors.

“One of the original goals of this partnership was to reinvest a portion of the proceeds back into the surrounding community, and IMPACT Central Indiana & The Indianapolis Foundation are helping us make good on that promise,” said Kent A. Kramer, president and CEO of Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana. “They have been involved with this partnership from the beginning, and we’re incredibly thankful for their continued support.”

This partnership unites nonprofits, community, government and business to maximize the connection between business and community.

“We have a core belief that companies can do good business and do good in the world at the same time,” said Pete Yonkman, president of Cook Medical and Cook Group. “This unique partnership is a win for everyone involved, including the community, which now has more jobs, more access to fresh food, and partners who will continue to invest in their success.”

The feasibility study will be completed in collaboration with UNEC, which has been integral in connecting local residents with project leaders. For the study, UNEC will facilitate neighborhood meetings to learn directly about residents’ most critical needs.

“It’s been incredible to witness and be a part of the exciting things happening at 38th and Sheridan,” said Tom Kilian, President of IMPACT Central Indiana. “We’re grateful for the opportunity to partner with community leaders like Cook Medical, Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana, UNEC, and countless others who are illustrating what can be accomplished when we work together to solve common social problems.”

Key Partners:

- Cook Medical – built the sites with a goal of 100% minority-owned contractors
- Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana – operates the manufacturing facility and provides wraparound services to employees including housing support, legal aid, mental/physical health care, case management services, etc.
- United Northeast Community Development Corporation – creates community connections

- IMPACT Central Indiana & The Indianapolis Foundation – provide additional philanthropic and investment capital as well as community leadership and support from The Indianapolis Foundation’s Community Ambassador program
- Michael McFarland and Marckus Williams – owns and operates Indy Fresh Market
- Martin University – Developing an official curriculum that would allow individuals to earn accredited certificates and degrees in grocery store operations
- Joseph Welsh, aka “Joe the Grocer” – supervises the store’s development and training for owners

[Learn more about this project.](#)

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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. The organization serves 40 Indiana counties and operates more than 70 retail locations, as well as contract manufacturing services, charter schools for adults and youth, a maternal-child health program, a child care center and more.

About Cook Medical

Since 1963, Cook Medical has worked closely with physicians to develop technologies that eliminate the need for open surgery. Today we invent, manufacture, and deliver a unique portfolio of medical devices to the healthcare systems of the world. Serving patients is a privilege and we demand the highest standards of quality ethics, and service. We have remained family owned so that we have the freedom to focus on what we care about: our patients, our employees, and our communities.

We believe that it’s possible to do good business while doing good in our communities. We’re proud to work in collaboration with partners on a community development effort by building both a manufacturing site and a grocery store in Indianapolis. Located at the northwest corner of 38th Street and Sheridan Avenue, the project will help people and communities reach their full potential. Find out more: www.38thAndSheridan.com.

About IMPACT Central Indiana

IMPACT Central Indiana (IMPACT) is a limited liability company created by Central Indiana Community Foundation, The Indianapolis Foundation and Hamilton County Community Foundation to facilitate social impact investments into businesses, funds and not-for-profits that are generating positive, measurable social impact and financial

returns. IMPACT makes loans, equity investments and grants that further the charitable mission of the foundations. Learn more at www.CICF.org/IMPACT.

About The Indianapolis Foundation

The Indianapolis Foundation, founded in 1916, is a public charity and part of the larger Central Indiana Community Foundation (CICF) philanthropic collaborative. As Indiana's oldest and largest community foundation, The Indianapolis Foundation aims to mobilize people, ideas and investments to make this a community where all individuals have equitable opportunity to reach their full potential—no matter place, race or identity. It awards approximately \$9 million annually from its Endowment for Indianapolis to support current and future community needs and is governed by a board of six publicly appointed directors. [Learn more about The Indianapolis Foundation](#).