



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Terre Haute Casino Resort Foundation announces inaugural \$2.8M in grant awards

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. — The Terre Haute Casino Resort Foundation announced Wednesday the recipients of its inaugural grant funding cycle, awarding \$2.8 million to six community projects across Terre Haute and the greater Wabash Valley.

The funded projects align with regional and local community priorities and reflect the Foundation's focus on long-term, sustainable impact. The Terre Haute Casino Resort Foundation provides funding for initiatives that create meaningful community impact, expand opportunity and improve quality of life across the Wabash Valley, partnering with organizations committed to positive, sustainable change.

"This first round of grants sets the standard for how we approach community investment," said Claire Simms, a member of the Terre Haute Casino Resort Foundation Board and with Churchill Downs Incorporated. "These projects are about strengthening the systems that support our community, from education and childcare to workforce development and public spaces."

Inaugural grant recipients

Vigo County School Corp. — Student learning and development initiatives

The initiative expands student learning through Indiana Statehouse field trips for fourth-grade students, the launch of middle school football programs and the Strength in Schools program focused on student wellness and engagement.

Terre Haute Regional Airport Authority — West Central Indiana Aviation Academy

The project completes a dedicated aircraft hangar to expand hands-on aviation training and workforce pathways for students from nine counties.

Vermillion County Redevelopment Commission — Ernie Pyle Childcare Center

The project redevelops a former elementary school into a childcare center addressing a critical shortage of care options in rural Vermillion County.

City of Terre Haute Parks Department — Oakley Playground at Deming Park

The project improves safety and accessibility at Oakley Playground through resurfacing and ADA-compliant upgrades.



Swope Art Museum — Third floor renovations

The project completes third-floor renovations at the Swope Art Museum, expanding space for public programming and art education.

Art Spaces — Turn to the River

The multi-year initiative reconnects downtown Terre Haute to the Wabash River through public art, design and civic space improvements.

“These investments reflect the kind of partnerships and long-term thinking that strengthen a region,” said Kelsey Hancewicz, secretary of the Terre Haute Casino Resort Foundation Board of Directors and attorney at Wright, Shagley & Lowery. “Together, they support families, students and workers while contributing to a stronger quality of life across the Wabash Valley.”

For more information on the Terre Haute Casino Resort Foundation and information about future grant cycles, please visit terrehautescasinofoundation.org.

About the Terre Haute Casino Resort Foundation

The Terre Haute Casino Resort Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that invests in projects that strengthen Terre Haute and the greater Wabash Valley. The Foundation supports initiatives that enhance quality of life, advance education and workforce readiness, and deliver lasting community impact. Learn more at terrehautescasinofoundation.org.

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