



AUGUST 2022 NEWSLETTER



CRADLE TO CAREER MUNCIE BECOMES A MEMBER OF THE STRIVETOGETHER NETWORK

On June 21, 2022, Cradle to Career Muncie officially became a StriveTogether Network member. StriveTogether's President and CEO, Jennifer Blatz, describes the StriveTogether network as "a national movement with a clear purpose, helping every child regardless of race, ethnicity, zip code, or circumstance, succeed in school and in life from Cradle to Career. The work of this movement is to break down barriers, change systems, and improve outcomes for as many families as possible."

By joining the Network, Cradle to Career Muncie will now have access to:

- **Convenings**- opportunities for peer-to-peer learning
- **Coaching**- personalized coaching for collaborative action

- **Codifying**- learning from the progress and fail forwards of network members, self-assessments, and access to resources, toolkits, and stories
- **Investments**- access to strategic investments
- **Influence**- leveraging the network to advocate for policy that advances cradle to career outcomes and closes disparity gaps for youth across the country

Cradle to Career Muncie is honored to be a StriveTogether Network member. There are communities that have been doing this work for over 20 years, and we are looking forward to continuously learning best practices and developing strategies that fit well with the impact our community is working to achieve.

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PHOTO PROVIDED BY IVY TECH

RIBBON CUTTING: IVY TECH'S INTERCULTURAL CENTER FOR INCLUSION

Ivy Tech's Intercultural Center for Inclusion officially opened on June 30, 2022. The Intercultural Center for Inclusion was designed to be a space for students who desire a sense of community with other students during their academic career at Ivy Tech. Alisa Wells, Executive Director of Community Engagement and I.PASS (Ivy Parents Achieve Success with Support), stated that the new Center is "a place to belong!" Lesley DeVoss, Assistant Director of Marketing at Ivy Tech Community College Muncie-Henry County, stated "I.PASS is Ivy Tech Muncie-Henry County's newest initiative that helps support single parents in earning workforce-ready certifications and associates degrees. This program provides single parents with connections to community programs, mentors in the Ivy Tech community, and additional support through meetings."

A grant from the George and Frances Ball Foundation helped to support the design and build-out of this new Center.

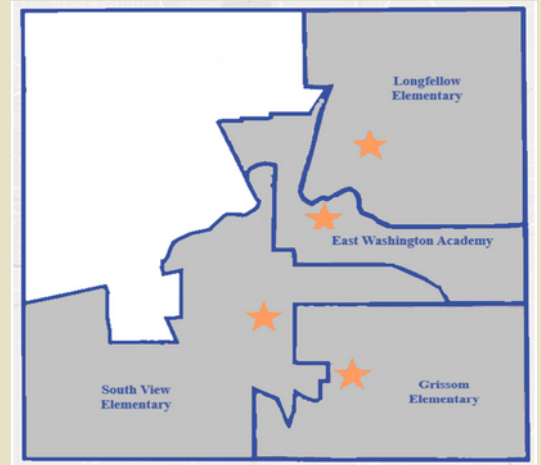
SITE VISIT: MUSIC FOR ALL 2022 SUMMER SYMPOSIUM

GFBB staff visited Music for All 2022 Summer Symposium that was held at Ball State University from June 27th to July 2nd. The Summer Symposium is the organization's biggest event of the year as a six-day, five-night residential scholastic music program for secondary performing



arts students and educators. The Summer Symposium brings thousands of individuals into the Muncie community, providing not only a great opportunity for students, but also economic impact to the city.

Muncie Promise Neighborhoods



2022 PROMISE NEIGHBORHOODS GRANT APPLICATION OPEN

It is with excitement that we share Muncie's intent to apply for the 2022 Promise Neighborhood Grant Program through the U.S. Department of Education. While Muncie's submission to this program for \$30 million last year was not awarded, our community's application received a high score.

Using the feedback from the grant review team, and the significant progress of the past year, we believe that we can present an even stronger plan that is rooted in a continuum of cradle to career solutions and partnerships already underway here locally.

Applications are due October 7th and the 2022 submission will build upon the 2021 request as well as the work of the Cradle to Career Muncie Collaborative Action Networks (CANs). The grant submission team will continue working alongside partners, with the help and leadership of the Cradle to Career Muncie CAN Leaders, to identify strategies and the partners responsible for carrying those strategies forward.



CRADLE TO CAREER MUNCIE' VISITS READ BY 4TH IN PHILADELPHIA , PA

On July 27-28, 2022, eight members from Cradle to Career Muncie attended a site visit in Philadelphia, PA to learn more about the Read by 4th initiative. Read by 4th is "Philly's early literacy movement and the nation's boldest call to protect every child's right to read." They believe that everyone has a role to play in growing stronger readers, and that the best way to solve life's toughest challenges is together. Read by 4th is a collective impact approach that brings together literacy advocates to connect, align, and bring transformative ideas to life. They do this by focusing on solutions at the Family, Community, and Systems levels. They have 150 organizational partners, 500+ Reading Captains, 350 community activists, and countless families involved in the campaign.

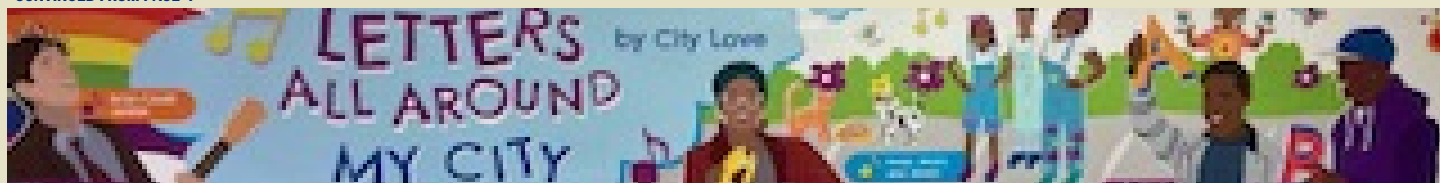
Read by 4th is leading the charge to strengthen teacher preparation in the Science of Reading and expand options for skilled tutoring. Because of their work, 11 programs in Pennsylvania are now accredited in *The Knowledge and Practice Standards for Teachers of Reading*. They have developed workshops to help families build confidence and skills to support young readers and have launched the nation's first community literacy volunteer corps through Reading Captains. Reading Captains are community volunteers that share resources with families and support community initiatives citywide.

Representatives from the George and Frances Ball Foundation, Muncie Community Schools, Muncie Public Library, Ball State University, Muncie BY5, and Heart of Indiana United Way enjoyed two full days of learning, exploring, seeing the tangible examples of successes, and understanding the structure of the system that has made this such a successful campaign.

Highlights of our first day include the following:

- Visiting the Read By 4th offices and learning about the history, structure, budget, Theory of Change, priorities, evidence-based strategies, and target outcomes of the organization.
- Exploring the Tasker-Morris subway station to experience the Come Aboard the Reading Promise campaign first-hand, which consisted of colorful wrapping of subway walls, cars, and other infrastructure. This artwork was geared towards children and helping them with reading, talking, and other literacy skills, as well as provide opportunities to connect with their caregivers while learning. Students were also able to write short stories at their schools that were made available for printing at kiosks in the transit locations.
- This campaign was developed by Mighty Engine marketing in conjunction with Read by 4th. The campaign was focused on





sharing the idea that reading is everywhere. During our visit to Mighty Engine's office, we were able to learn how the marketing firm built this campaign and integrated so many local touches.

- The final stop of the first day was dinner spent with some of the initiative's Reading Captains and Parent Council representatives. During our time we were able to ask questions and understand the role that Reading Captains have in developing trusting relationships with their neighbors while also encouraging reading at home and everywhere. Reading Captains serve as a resource to parents and are such an important link to family and community engagement and systems changes.

Highlights from day two of the visit include:

- A discussion session with the City of Philadelphia's Chief of Early Childhood Education, Sean Perkins. "Sean is responsible for setting the vision and executing the strategic development of a system of Early Childhood Education (ECE) for Philadelphia. He leads a team that ensures there is an ample and accessible supply of high-quality PHLpreK seats, a well-trained and compensated workforce, easy access for parents and providers, and an infrastructure that supports coordination across citywide early childhood systems and funding source."
- An introduction and Q&A session with in-home early learning service providers including ParentChild+ and Maternity Care Coalition.
- Met from experts in the area of playful learning about their experiences transforming spaces into learning landscapes and embedding playful learning strategies across the physical spaces in the city of Philadelphia, to bring literacy into environmental change. These experts represented a multitude of organizations including the Free Library of Philadelphia, William Penn Foundation, and Playful Learning Landscapes.
- Wrap-up session with Global Citizen, an organization that organizes all the volunteer opportunities through Read by 4th. We had the opportunity to discuss and ask questions about what it takes to support and facilitate a citywide volunteer effort.

IMPORTANT GFBF 2022 DATES

BOARD MEETINGS:

December 2, 2022

Grant Deadline: November 2

**Grant requests are reviewed the month between the deadline & corresponding Board Meeting. The Board makes final funding decisions at the meeting. Grant seekers should anticipate communication from GFBF within a month following the Board Meeting date.*

COFFEE & CONVERSATION EVENTS:

October 21, 2022

**GFBF program staff hosts a quarterly meet and greet session that discusses upcoming grant deadlines and information, introduces types of data that grantees can access, and ways in which to use this data to demonstrate progress and impact for their organization.*

CONFERENCES:

September 21-23, 2022

Strive Together Annual Convening

September 27-29, 2022

Indiana Philanthropy Alliance Conference

October 10-12, 2022

Exponent Philanthropy Annual Conference

October 24-26, 2022

Academies of Nashville Study Visit

TBD 2023

Harlem Children's Zone Visit

For more information, please contact us at admin@gfballdn.org or visit us at www.gfballdn.org.



George and Frances Ball Foundation

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