



FEBRUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER



The photo above was provided by Muncie Community Schools.

GEORGE AND FRANCES BALL FOUNDATION PROACTIVE STRATEGY

The George and Frances Ball Foundation, following its stated Mission of proactively improving the livability and educational attainment of citizens in our community, has adopted a goal of extending equitable assistance and support to families and youth in the historically underserved neighborhoods of Muncie (Promise Neighborhoods), starting at birth and extending through to successful employment that provides a living wage and a greater opportunity to thrive for current and future generations.

To implement this strategy, the Foundation has adopted and serves as the backbone convener for the Cradle to Career Muncie Initiative, supporting too its associated strategies necessary for success in this multi-generational approach. Cradle to Career Muncie utilizes both collective impact and results-based accountability frameworks to ensure effective, targeted, and

collaborative efforts. During the past three years, George and Frances Ball Foundation has authorized grants totaling more than \$4.5 million to support this effort. In 2021, in collaboration with Muncie Community Schools and Ball State University, George and Frances Ball Foundation participated in the preparation of a \$30 million grant request to the Department of Education with a focus on specific neighborhoods in Muncie. As part of the grant preparation process, the data revealed an urgency to address the inequities faced by families and their children living in the promise neighborhood.

We believe that the special attention that must be paid to the Promise Neighborhoods is a response to the historic consequence of the loss of a significant number of industrial and related jobs, not unlike other rustbelt communities.

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GEORGE AND FRANCES BALL FOUNDATION PROACTIVE STRATEGY CONTINUED

Continued from page 1. This disruptive community force that has spanned approximately the past 50 years, has impacted thousands of youth and their families. Based on the research, educational attainment and family support and involvement play a major role in unlocking economic prosperity.

It is estimated that youth today have 6,000 waking hours each year with only 1,000 hours involved in time at school. Therefore, it becomes obvious that to improve educational outcomes for students requires support not only for schools but a wide range of other community organizations including non-profits, philanthropic, faith based, business and industry, and families aligned and working together to provide the opportunity for each child to reach their full potential in life – we believe this is the obligation of our community.

Collaboration, meaning community organizations working together, is the key to the success that can be achieved. In this regard, the community is incredibly fortunate that it already has many organizations who have stepped forward to provide leadership for this effort- with many more to be involved in realizing commonly developed goals and objectives. The purpose of Collaborative Action Networks is to align existing community resources toward common goals. The leadership of each of the Collaborative Action Networks is as follows:

-  Kindergarten Readiness - BY5
-  Third Grade Reading - Heart of Indiana United Way
-  Middle School Mathematics - Innovation Connector
-  High School Graduation - Muncie Community Schools
-  Post-Secondary Success - IVY Tech
-  Career Employment - Chamber of Commerce/Delaware Advancement Corporation
-  Wrap Around Supports - Heart of Indiana United Way
-  Family and Community Engagement - YMCA of Muncie
-  Health - Open Door Health Services
-  Social and Emotional Learning - Project Leadership

By strengthening and expanding opportunities that ensure that all children and families have equitable access to a pipeline of solutions from cradle to career, we have the potential, in partnership with others, to provide a brighter future for all of Muncie.



MUNCIE PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD DATA PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

On December 16, 2021, the George and Frances Ball Foundation staff and the Cradle to Career Muncie leadership team held an informative presentation and luncheon focused on community and academic data that highlights the local need for an equity-based approach to educational attainment and economic prosperity. This luncheon was graciously hosted by Ivy Tech in their Community Room located in the Fisher Building and was used as an opportunity to present the data that was gathered as part of Muncie's attempt at the federal grant opportunity through the U.S. Department of Education, Promise Neighborhoods. While Muncie was not chosen as one of the seven national grantees in 2021, the community co-developed plan that was submitted to the U.S. DOE remains valuable and relevant to the positive change needed in Muncie. The Promise Neighborhood concept is rooted in a Cradle to Career collective impact approach, which shares many similarities with the Cradle to Career Muncie Initiative.

Cradle to Career Muncie is comprised of ten Collaborative Action Networks (CANs) convened by local leaders. Their focus areas range from Kindergarten Readiness to Career Employment to Wrap Around Supports, all working together to turn the curve on economic prosperity in the community. To accomplish this, these CANs work together to understand baseline data, set goals, and identify strategies that are known to successfully turn the curve. After discussions with the Postsecondary Success CAN, the goal of this data dive was to provide an opportunity for existing and potential Collaborative Action Network (CAN) members to see and better understand some of the foundational baseline data, as well as connect with stakeholders in the Cradle to Career work. Over 50 community members attended this event and gained a greater awareness of the Promise Neighborhood work and the Cradle to Career Muncie Initiative. Numerous partners that attended this event signed up to get involved with the CAN work, and 2022 CAN Meetings are already underway. Big things are happening in Muncie and will only continue to bloom with the collective impact work of the CANs.

IMPORTANT 2022 DATES FOR GFBF

BOARD MEETINGS:

May 12, 2022

Grant Deadline: April 12

August 12, 2022

Grant Deadline: July 12

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.

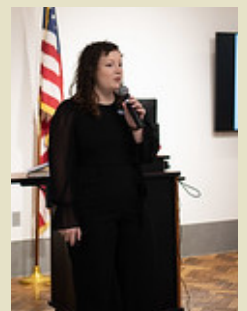
COFFEE & CONVERSATION EVENTS:

April 1, 2022

July 1, 2022

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.





MIDDLE GRADE MATH

January 2022 Meeting Update

IN ATTENDANCE:

Innovation Connector, City of Muncie, Southside Middle School, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Muncie Area Youth for Christ, Techwise Academy, Boys & Girls Clubs of Muncie, Northside Middle School, Delaware Community Schools, US Architects, Yorktown Community Schools



ACCOMPLISHED THIS MONTH:

- Reviewed the development of Cradle to Career Initiative
- Explored Current state of Cradle to Career
- Discussed the importance of Collective Impact
- Determined the Middle Grade Math Ecosystem

NEXT STEPS

- Collect additional data and information on the story behind the curve
- Determine goals, both short-term and long-term
- Develop strategies to work on collectively



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

February 2022 Meeting Update

IN ATTENDANCE:

Muncie Community Schools, Boys and Girls Clubs of Muncie, Project Leadership, GEAR UP, TeenWorks, Muncie Area Career Center, Ivy Tech



ACCOMPLISHED THIS MONTH:

- Built understanding of the story behind the data
- Defined for the group State of Indiana's various Diploma Types, the state graduation rate definition, MCHS graduation rate results, and evaluated a Graduation rate comparison
- Reviewed the various local CTE Programs, certificates, enrollment, and Dual Credit opportunities for students
- Evaluated supplementary data that impacts the local graduation rate

NEXT STEPS

- Vote on the BIG goal for high school graduation
- Narrow down contributing indicators



FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

January 2022 Meeting Update

IN ATTENDANCE:

YMCA of Muncie, Second Harvest, BY5, Motivate Our Mind, South View Elementary, 8twelve Coalition, Boys and Girls Clubs of Muncie, Ross Community Center



ACCOMPLISHED THIS MONTH:

- Reviewed how the Cradle to Career Initiative was developed
- Shared the current state of Cradle to Career both in Muncie and across the region, state, and nation
- Promoted the group's understanding of Collective Impact
- Determined the Family and Community Engagement Ecosystem
- Identified the need for this CAN to aid in the future work of all other Collaborative Action Networks' strategies

NEXT STEPS

- Understand how organizations and communities measure family and community engagement
- Select core and contributing indicators



George and Frances Ball Foundation

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