



Community Foundation of Wabash County

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Press Release

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Community Foundation fund provides \$102,000 for Town Life Center repairs

North Manchester, Indiana – The Town Life Center, 603 Bond Street in North Manchester, will be able to continue its renovation plans thanks to \$102,000 grant from a fund at the Community Foundation of Wabash County. The Thomas Marshall – Town Life Center Maintenance Endowment Fund was created in 1995 to provide funds to cover major repairs or improvements to the Town Life Center, formerly know as the Thomas Marshall School.

The Town of North Manchester sold the Town Life Center to Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana for \$1.00 in 2003, with the agreement that Historic Landmarks would develop a rehabilitation plan and funds would be raised to implement the rehabilitation. Since the plan was developed and implemented, nearly \$750,000 has been invested in the building, including roof replacement and repair, masonry repair, installation of a new elevator, updated electrical and communication lines, new lighting, window improvements and new handicapped-accessible restrooms on the first floor. While Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana owns the building, Community Services of North Manchester, Inc. has been managing the building's operations and renovation.

The \$102,000 will be added to more than \$83,000 in existing funds to install a new heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) system. This system will serve the entire building, which houses several organizations that serve North Manchester and surrounding communities. Some of those organizations include, Learn More Center, Manchester Area Programming, LIFE Center, Education for Conflict Resolution, Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and Shepherd Center. The facility also is used for recreational activities and as a voting site.

“The individuals who created this endowment fund more than 10 years ago knew that a need existed but did not know specifically how they would help preserve this piece of our history and serve the community,” said Community Foundation President Dave McFadden, “But their generous gift has produced income over the years

