



IMPACT 100 GREATER INDIANAPOLIS RESIDUAL GRANT FINAL REPORT FORM

Due December 31, 2018

Organization: Earth Charter Indiana
Contact Person: Jim Poyser, Executive Director
Address: Indiana Interchurch, 1100 w. 42nd Street Suite 220D
Indianapolis, IN, 46208
email and phone: jimpoyser@earthcharterindiana.org 317-529-6667
Amount of grant: \$5000

1. How did the unrestricted fund strengthen your organization?

First of all, just reaching the finals and thus receiving a residual grant was an emotional high for us! So we were strengthened by being recognized by the amazing women who comprise Impact 100.

Secondly, we were able to parse out the grant over three areas, giving us some greatly needed wiggle room in our finances: **Climate Camp, zero waste cafeterias and Thrive Indianapolis.**

Climate Camp is our summer program wherein we visit (guest program) at numerous camps around Indianapolis. Our signature camp, however, is our weeklong Climate Camps at Peace Learning Center at Eagle Creek. Those two weeklong camps took place the middle two weeks of July.

Our Climate Camps combine science, civics, art and nature connection so that young people can learn about climate change and climate solutions. Our first weeklong camp involves first time campers, ages 7-12; our more veteran campers (ages 12-16) served as paid counselors for that camp. Our second week camp was for our "All Stars" – youth who have attended numerous Climate Camps over the years.

Overall, our activities included field trips on IndyGo, a walkabout downtown Indy to explore sustainable architecture, rooftop gardens, and native habitat plantings. Because our Camps coincidentally concluded with a Saturday, July 22, national

march led by young people, This Is Zero Hour March, youth created speeches, songs and poems over the course of the two weeks so they could have their voice heard at the rally.

Our **zero waste cafeteria** project really took off during this period. For one thing, during Climate Camp, our School 91 Zero Waste Cafeteria leaders, 7th Graders Sophie and Ella, presented to fellow campers on their project, inspiring other campers to start a zero waste cafeteria project. For example, see below, three Climate Campers who saw Ella and Sophie's project during Climate Camp, have pitched a zero waste cafeteria project for School 60:



CLIMATE CAMPERS HIKARI, HIMIKO AND CHIOH DISCUSS ZERO WASTE CAFETERIA W HIKARI AND HIMIKO'S MOM, KATHERINE, THE ADULT COACH ON THIS PROJECT.

It's been a busy fall for us when it comes to zero waste cafeterias, see below in number 2 for our successes! In terms of finances, zero waste cafeterias require a modicum of materials, buckets and strainers for the milk cartons, and plastic gloves for the student leaders.

Thrive Indianapolis is the city's official climate planning process that originated with our own young people successfully getting a climate resolution passed thru the City-County Council in February 2017. In early November we held a Thrive event for our young people and utilized some of the residual grant funding to

make sure we had plenty of vegan snacks for our young people. Here's who attended:

These three aspects to our continue to be our main educational initiatives, and the residual grant was instrumental in supporting these endeavors.

2. Describe the specific successes achieved as a result of receiving the unrestricted funds from Impact 100 Greater Indianapolis.

As per our **Climate Camps**, the biggest success was the big involvement of youth at the This Is Zero Hour March, July 22. There was one adult who spoke, Mayor Joe Hogsett announced that Indianapolis was joining the Global Covenant of Mayors:



MAYOR JOE HOGSETT IS THE ONLY ADULT TO SPEAK AT THE THIS IS ZERO HOUR MARCH DOWNTOWN AT CITY MARKET; ALL THE OTHER SPEAKERS WERE YOUNG PEOPLE.

As per our **zero waste cafeterias**, our successes have been astounding. While School 91 has been the consistent leader in capturing cafeteria waste, they have also been a leader in teaching other students on how to do it. Oaklandon Elementary, International School of Indiana and Christ the King Catholic School

have all witnessed the zero waste cafeteria in action. Another school, Noble Crossing Elementary in Noblesville skyped with School 91 leaders. The peer-to-peer learning opportunities here are truly inspiring.



ELLA, FOURTH FROM LEFT, DESCRIBES ZERO WASTE CAFETERIA PROJECT WITH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL STUDENTS, LEFT, AND THREE ON THE RIGHT.



NOBLE CROSSING STUDENTS SKYPE WITH ELLA AND SOPHIE.

Perhaps the most dramatic success is that School 91 7th grader, Ella Comerford-Barnett won a prestigious Power of Children Award from The Children’s Museum for her work on the zero waste cafeteria at IPS School 91.



HERE'S ELLA AT THE NOV. 9 POWER OF CHILDREN AWARD EVENT.

Finally, we are excited to say our youth are very involved with the culmination in late 2018 of **Thrive Indianapolis**, participating in building Indy's resiliency plan. If we listen to the wisdom of our youth, we are sure to be a successful city when it comes to climate planning, mitigation and adaptation. What our young people did here in Indy will serve to motivate young people in other cities, throughout Indiana and, we hope, beyond. Here's a photo from our gathering:



Jim Poyser

James Poyser
Signature of Top Staff

11/15/18
Date

Executive Director
Title

Rosemary G. Spalding

Rosemary Spalding
Signature of Board Member

11/15/18
Date

Board President
Title