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**Meridian Foundation New Arago Honors to Award Central Indy Nonprofits up to \$10,000 for Innovation**

*Central Indiana nonprofits encouraged to apply before September 15, 2021, deadline*

Ind. (July 19, 2021)—Indianapolis-based Meridian Foundation announced today that applications are open for a new award, the Arago Honors. The Arago Honors builds on the previous work of the Indiana Achievement Awards and Impact 100 and celebrates innovation in the nonprofit sector. The top three winners will be awarded \$10,000 in 2021.

"Innovation and the discovery of how nonprofits solve complex community challenges has been at the heart of my philanthropic passion," said Donna Oklak, founder, Meridian Foundation. "The new Arago Honors strives to accelerate nonprofit program innovation. By measuring public value, nonprofits demonstrate how their programs made a difference."

There are a wealth of nonprofits in the community, each solving problems in new and different ways. The Arago Honors hopes to spotlight that work. The foundation saw firsthand how innovation encouraged nonprofits to pivot during the global pandemic and social unrest of 2020. It is the Meridian Foundation's hope to encourage continued innovation to inspire and unite the community at this critical time.

"The global pandemic greatly altered everything about the world, and nonprofits taking on new risks to deliver services and missions need additional financial resources and deserve public recognition of their hard work," said Oklak. "Indianapolis is home to a robust nonprofit community, and we hope this award incentivizes and encourages continued innovation for all central Indiana nonprofits."

Arago Honor award applications are due on September 15, and nonprofit organizations are encouraged to review their eligibility and the process requirements on the Meridian Foundation's [website](#). Applicants must be a nonprofit organization under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code and be based in Marion County or the six donut counties of Hamilton, Hancock, Shelby, Johnson, Morgan, or Hendricks. Applicants may self-nominate or apply on their own behalf by submitting a short LOI (Letter of Inquiry)/Nomination Form on the website.



Learn more about the Arago Honors at [indymeridianfoundation.org](https://indymeridianfoundation.org).

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**About the Meridian Foundation**

The Meridian Foundation, founded in 2019, is a new initiative that seeks to support, accelerate and celebrate nonprofit innovation in central Indiana. For more on the Meridian Foundation, please visit [indymeridianfoundation.org](https://indymeridianfoundation.org).