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**Bank of America Announces the Center for Leadership Development (CLD) and Horizon House its Indianapolis 2024 Neighborhood Builder***®* **Honorees**

*Each Nonprofit Will Receive a $200,000 Multiyear Grant & Comprehensive Leadership Training to Expand Critical Services Locally*

**INDIANAPOLIS** – Bank of America today announced the Center for Leadership Development (CLD) and Horizon House as the 2024 signature [Neighborhood Builder®](http://www.bankofamerica.com/neighborhoodbuilders) awardees in Indianapolis. The two nonprofits were selected for their work to address underserved neighborhoods and assisting individuals experiencing homelessness in our city.

Celebrating its 20th year, Bank of America’s signature [Neighborhood Builders®](http://www.bankofamerica.com/neighborhoodbuilders) program continues to be one of the nation’s largest philanthropic investments into nonprofit leadership development, while providing unique multiyear flexible grant funding annually to two high-impact nonprofits in nearly 100 communities nationwide. Specifically, both Indianapolis nonprofits are each awarded a $200,000 grant over two years, comprehensive leadership training for each organization’s executive director and an emerging leader, and access to a national network of nonprofit peers.

“This year celebrates seven years of strengthening Indianapolis nonprofits that provide solutions to local challenges and promote economic advancement," said Andy Crask president, Bank of America Indianapolis. “Providing these nonprofits with flexible funding and comprehensive leadership training helps them address critical needs and create meaningful lasting change in our communities. Countless individuals, families and neighborhoods have felt the profound impact that these 12 Neighborhood Builder nonprofits have had in Indianapolis since 2019.”

**The Center for Leadership Development** was founded in Indianapolis in 1977 with a mission of fostering the development of Indianapolis African American youth as future professional, business and community leaders. The grant will enable CLD to expand its efforts in engaging youth and families in some of Indianapolis' highest-crime and lowest-income neighborhoods. By bolstering satellite and in-school programming, CLD will be able to extend its reach and support more students on their journey toward academic, post-secondary, and career success. The grant will underwrite key program, operational, and staffing costs, allowing CLD to offer exceptional learning and development experiences at little to no cost.

“We are honored to partner with Bank of America through its Neighborhood Builders program to help engage underserved youth in relevant, substantive program experiences that nurture belief and aspiration, personal development, improved behavior, greater academic performance, and stronger post-secondary education readiness and success,” said Dennis Bland, president of the Center for Leadership Development. “With this funding, we will be able to not only provide youth and families access to quality, impactful program experiences at nominal cost. These enriching programs will also equip students with the values, behaviors and habits that ultimately lead to greater skills and economic independence for hundreds of youth across Indy. Beyond merely lamenting the problems facing youth, we are committed to provide answers and solutions for the youth and families we serve.”

**Horizon House** provides integrated services to empower people experiencing homelessness to achieve lasting stability. Offerings include basic survival resources, job readiness and placement, peer support, street outreach, and supportive housing. The grant will enable Horizon House to expand its employment program, RISE (Reaching for Independence and Self-Sufficiency through Employment), The expansion is expected to increase program outputs and outcomes by approximately 80-120% over the next year, addressing the growing demand for job search assistance among neighbors at risk of long-term unemployment. By helping individuals secure and retain steady employment, Horizon House will not only lift neighbors out of poverty but also contribute to the local economy through their active participation.

“Horizon House is deeply grateful to Bank of America for their generous grant, which will expand our employment services for neighbors experiencing homelessness,” said Teresa Wessel, CEO, Horizon House. “We anticipate nearly doubling the number of neighbors served through our RISE employment program.  This gift not only empowers our neighbors to secure stable employment, but also strengthens their pathways to sustainable housing. Thanks to Bank of America’s generous support, we will make meaningful strides toward a more equitable community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.”

In Indianapolis, 12 nonprofits have been selected as Neighborhood Builders since 2019, with the bank investing $2.4 million in philanthropic capital into these local nonprofits

Neighborhood Builders is part of the bank’s longstanding efforts to build thriving communities by addressing issues fundamental to economic opportunity. The invitation-only program is highly competitive, with awardees selected by a committee comprised of community leaders and past awardees. Since 2004, Bank of America has invested over $300 million in grants to nearly 1,800 nonprofits and helped more than 3,500 nonprofit leaders strengthen their leadership skills in nearly 100 communities across the U.S. through Neighborhood Builders and Champions.

Past Indianapolis Neighborhood Builders include: Christamore House and Westside Community Development Corporation (2019); La Plaza and Groundwork Indy (2020); Hawthorne Community Center and 100 Black Men (2021), Flanner House and Indiana Latino Institute (2022); Community Alliance of the Far Eastside and Edna Martin Christian Center (2023).

**Bank of America**

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