Foundation Supporters

July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024



Lilly Endowment, Inc. – A three-year, grant-funded initiative to support Indiana Lilly Endowment Inc. higher education institutions in their efforts to create new or expand or enhance A Private Philanthropic Foundation existing high-quality, on-campus educational camp programs for Hoosier youth. Recognizing that students — especially students of color, first-generation college

students, and students from families with limited resources – are more likely to attend college if they have early positive experiences on college campuses, ACA supports grantees selected by the Endowment as they design, test, improve, and scale youth programs on their campuses.

A six-year, grant-funded initiative to support Fostering Character through Camp Experiences, a national approach to improve, expand, and elevate character development in day and overnight camps across the US. Through this project, ACA will implement a competitive grant program through which camps pursue character-related projects, provide training and technical assistance for grant recipients before and during the grant program, and develop systems, tools, and resources to support character development in camps beyond the grant period.



Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies — A three-year grant to support ACA's strategic initiatives related to expanding equitable access and inclusion in summer camp experiences. Twenty-one day and overnight camps were selected to receive funds from this grant to design and expand counselor-in-training programs, with the goal of increasing access camp staff opportunities for young people from diverse backgrounds.



The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust – A grant supports a three-year professional development initiative. ACA provides an online customized learning management site, annual in-person half-day trainings, digital and print resources, as well as support for camps seeking ACA accreditation to a cohort of medical camps. Camp professionals participating in the cohort specifically serve campers and families experiencing Type 1 diabetes.



H. E. Butt Foundation – A multi-phase strategic grant to support the development of resources for fostering mental, emotional, and social well-being among campers and staff. Funding supports collaboration needs assessments, adaptation and testing of training curricula, and ongoing collaboration between ACA, Alliance for Camp Health, Camp HOPE America, and mental health experts working in camps.



Foundation for Jewish Camp – Generous support for ACA's ongoing strategic initiatives in the field of camp including education, research, and advocacy.



Charles Stewart Mott Foundation - A two-year grant to support 10 statewide after-school networks to advance the quality and impact of afterschool programs. Ten camps were selected to receive funds to support program improvement efforts to position afterschool as a key context for future federal allocations akin to American Rescue Plan.



The Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) Global Foundation (part of

SMBC Group) — Helping to increase access to outdoor-based programs. This grant supported seven camp school partnerships and sent children to camp who otherwise would have been unable to attend in California, New York, and North Carolina.



John Templeton Foundation — A three-year grant to support a community of camp professionals to work together to explore, define, and create resources to support character development in counselor-in-training programs in medical specialty programs. Twelve medical specialty camps participate in monthly meetings and gather at the ACA National Conference to share their work with the broader camp community.

