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news@home

A PUBLICATION OF INDIANA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME, INC.

James E. Davis On-Grounds School... Where Students Are Achievers

School has started following several months of E-Learning due to Covid-19 isolation. According to Rich Lapinski, Executive Director/CEO, "As our new school year starts, we celebrate two of our graduates heading to college. One student will be heading to Vincennes University and one will attend St. Joseph's College of Marian University. This is a monumental achievement for our youth and we are extremely proud of their academic success."

A few weeks before the students left for college, the Home provided needed items for their dorm rooms. Rich added, "Even though this is an exciting time for them, it is also overwhelming so we do our best to prepare them for independent living."

For the students on campus, the on-grounds school provides a stimulating and fun place to learn. The accredited school accommodates grades 6-12 and credits earned transfer to any public school in Indiana. The Home has built a school program around creating an environment that promotes academic and behaviors in the students that are typically behind two to three grade levels when they arrive.

The school has adopted the Teaching Family Model as its primary tool for providing behavior support to students. Though typically used in home settings, the philosophy works well with teaching students who have behavior and emotional issues.

A small group toured the school recently and one of the visitors observed some of the teachers in the classroom. The visitor said, "It is evident the teachers teach from the heart and not just from the books."



Over the past year, 20 graduates have earned their high school diplomas. Several students have enrolled in post-secondary education.



Even though classroom sizes are small at the on-grounds school, students will wear masks and practice social distancing.

Mentoring With Mike

Meet Mike the Mentor of Brownsburg, Indiana. Mike and Brian have much in common including the love of digital photography. Brian meets with Mike frequently as they discover the wonderful world of photo composition. Their time together includes frequent trips to photograph nature and landscapes.

According to Mike, "Brian and I are like kindred spirits. He reminds me a bit of myself when I was his age. I get such satisfaction helping him build confidence and encouraging him to pursue his interest in photography. Plus, I really enjoy his company. Since I've been visiting Brian, I can see a progression of maturity which makes my time with him so worthwhile."

Brian enjoys having Mike as a mentor and someone to look up to. Many of the youth at the Home have not had good role models and Mike serves as a trusted mentor and friend.

Brian will be going to Vincennes University this month to pursue a degree possibly in graphic design and photography. And, Mike will be available to encourage him along the way as well as other staff at the Children's Home.

"For the first time in a long time, I've found someone to enjoy my hobby with. I've learned great techniques from Mike and I'm glad we can continue mentoring while I'm at Vincennes. I couldn't ask for a better photography partner," added Brian.



Mike and Brian have a common interest in photography. Mike will continue to meet with Brian as they explore photography together.



A Word from Christy Huston

Executive Director of the
Indiana United Methodist
Children's Home Foundation
christyhuston@iumchf.org

Today I received an urgent email request from the Home's School Counselor, Kylee Bunnell, who needed funding to help Brian, one of our recent graduates, gather some technical supplies needed for his freshman year at college. I felt relieved to know we can help. **Because of our generous donors, the Foundation has educational funds to buy Brian the tools he needs for success.**

We are honored and privileged to help this young man as he sets off to college. **Brian's life is changed forever.** (Read about Brian and his mentor Mike on page 1.)

Because of our generous churches and donors like you, the Home helps our youth prepare for a life of independence. Your partnership in our mission is helping change, and even save lives.

Your impact begins the day our youth arrive on our campus. Most are in crisis during their first days with us and are two to three years behind their peers in their education. The Home's specialized educational initiatives at our on-grounds James E. Davis School, combined with a loving and caring family environment, help our youth catch up and realize they can succeed.

The Jeremiah 29:11 scripture painted on the wall in our Gress Chapel has special meaning for our youth:

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope for the future."

What a wonderful message for our new school year and for Brian as he begins his journey in postsecondary education.

Please reach out to me to plan how you can shape your rewarding legacy of making a difference through education in the life of a child, like Brian. Through God's love, your partnership helps give children in crisis hope for the future, **especially in times like these.**

Blessings Abound,

Christy

Christy Huston, IUMCH Foundation
Executive Director

PS: Our churches and donors always rise to meet the needs of our children's mission. You have been supporting our children for more than 100 years. The Coronavirus crisis is no exception. Thank you!

Meet Kylee Bunnell, Academic Advisor



Kylee meets with a student heading to college in August.

Kylee Bunnell, LBSW, believes that all youth at Indiana United Methodist Children's Home have great potential. That's why she has all of the qualities to be the perfect Academic Advisor for our students. In the first few months of her job, Kylee has helped students navigate entrances into IUPUI, Ivy Tech, St. Joseph's-Marian University and Vincennes University. She also helps guide the students on an array of career paths including culinary arts, hospitality and cosmetology. "As the Academic Advisor, I want to help youth build their confidence and self-esteem.

I want them to learn the skills to be productive on their own. And, once they discharge from the Children's Home, I want them to know that I am always here to encourage them," stated Kylee.

Kylee helps students fill out college applications and provides information on financial aid. She also encourages students to apply for the Home's Hoffman Family Scholarship and the Pulliam Family Scholarship.

Most recently, Kylee has been a great support to students heading off to college. According to one of the students, "Kylee seems to understand exactly what to say and do to make me feel less stressed and keeps me motivated to pursue my degree in Social Work. In fact, I told her I might be her boss someday."

Kylee added, "I have the privilege of working with these students every day and I couldn't ask for a more fulfilling job."

A Little Church With a Big Heart

Greene County Chapel United Methodist Church, Solsberry, is a small but very mission minded church located in rural southern Indiana. Membership consists of 45 to 50 people.

On the second Sunday of the month, the congregation takes up an offering for the Children's Home. Over the past 16 years, the congregation has raised more than \$21,000 for the Home. According to one of the members, "We give what we can and through God's goodness, it will be multiplied."

The Home is grateful to all of our United Methodist Churches from around the state. You are a true blessing to the Home!



Members of Greene County Chapel are proud to be partners in ministry with the Home.



Russ Nicoles

Russ Nicoles toured Indiana United Methodist Children's Home a few months ago. "Immediately, when I walked into the boy's group home, I knew they were well cared for and loved. I received a hardy handshake from one of the older boys and I felt instantly welcomed," stated Russ, a retired engineer from Eli Lilly and a resident of Indianapolis.

Once Russ toured the Home and met some of the youth, he was convinced that this was a mission he wanted to support. Through a Charitable Gift Annuity given to the Indiana United Methodist Children's Home Foundation, Russ has peace of mind that he is giving to a worthy organization. He added, "It's important for me to know that my charitable giving is going to help children that need help. I like to see results and when I met the boys, it was evident that the Home was making a positive difference in their lives. I observed that the Home was treating the whole person and that meant a lot to me. They were all highly respectful, which is a trait I value."

It Only Took a Handshake

When asked what he would say to other people who are thinking about giving a legacy gift, Russ stated, "Go and meet the youth and staff. Go tour the group homes and visit the school. It meant the world to me. It helped me make my decision to help the youth as long as I can."



Children Matter Most

The Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church has made the well-being of children and youth a priority.

A group of leaders, who also love and have concern for children have begun meeting regularly to focus on the needs of children throughout Indiana. This group was first convened

by Bishop Trimble who named the committee "Children Matter Most."

The leaders include those in local ministries, Children's Homes and youth leaders. The Home has representation on the committee which includes board members, Edna May of Indianapolis and Rev. Larry Whitehead, Executive Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Connectional Ministries. Christy Huston, Executive Director of the Indiana United Methodist Children's Home Foundation and Susan Bennett, Director of Public Relations for the Home also serve on the committee.

The group believes children are the most vulnerable amongst us, as well as the more resilient when given opportunities to thrive. The committee will focus on getting more youth to church camp and help our churches with resources to assist schools. Being trained in the realities of trauma, abuse, and neglect and how it impacts our children is also an imperative with the committee.

More news about the committee will be shared during the sessions of Annual Conference. Together, we will make Indiana a place where children are fully thriving and valued.

Look What Your Auxiliary Gifts Support

The IUMCH Auxiliary has been a vital volunteer group for five decades. Funds raised by the Auxiliary support programs and projects that directly benefit the youth.

Most recently, the Auxiliary provided funds for a new scoreboard in the gym. "The scoreboard enhances our recreational activities and we are grateful to the Auxiliary for all that they do for the school. We also appreciated all of the backpacks they supplied for the new school year," added Principal Jim Stuart.

The Auxiliary also provided funds for a Quinceanera party for one of the girls. A Quinceanera is widely celebrated among Latinas. The party is an important milestone in a girl's life – part birthday celebration, part rite of passage as it symbolizes a girl's entrance into womanhood when turning 15. All youth attended the party and it was an educational experience for all in attendance.

For more information about the Auxiliary and how you can get involved, go to iumch.org/auxiliary or contact Susan Bennett at 765-482-5900.



Brittany Ward and Rachel Alstott helped organize the Quinceanera. They went shopping for the traditional party favors, gifts, decorations and clothing.

The Auxiliary provided funds for a new scoreboard in the gym. Over the years, the Auxiliary has provided thousands of dollars to fund programs and projects that directly benefit the youth.



Juneteenth Celebration... Celebrate... Connect... Cultivate

"It was one of the best youth events we've had on our campus." These were the words from Jim Evans, the Home's Director of Residential Services, when describing the first Annual Juneteenth Celebration. The purpose of the event was to celebrate the end of slavery in the United States.

"It was a cultural learning experience and everyone had the opportunity to learn about the importance of unity."

- Brittany Ward

The theme of the party was Celebrate...Connect...Cultivate. It was a learning experience for all in attendance. The celebration started out with a traditional outdoor meal. Following the picnic, there were African American history and cultural trivia games, dancing and outdoor water games.

Brittany Ward, Assistant Director of Residential Services organized the celebration. "It was a cultural learning experience and everyone had the opportunity to learn about the importance of unity," added Brittany.



Juneteenth Celebration at Indiana United Methodist Children's Home.

Check Out Our Latest Podcast



Susan Bennett, Director of Public Relations, interviewed Brittany Ward for the podcast on racism.

Indiana United Methodist Children's Home Teaching Family experts recommend speaking with children about racism. With this in mind, the Home has recorded a podcast addressing racism with love. Our expert, Brittany Ward, Assistant Director of Residential Services and former Family Teacher, addresses why so many youth are feeling scared, confused and angry about what is going on in our world and nation. She shares ideas on how parents can talk about racism with their teens.

To access the podcast, simply go to iumch.org and click on the communications drop down tab. Click on podcast.

Hope Has a Home podcast is made possible through a Mission and Justice Grant from the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Prayers of Hope

Abraham Lincoln was quoted as saying, "I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life."

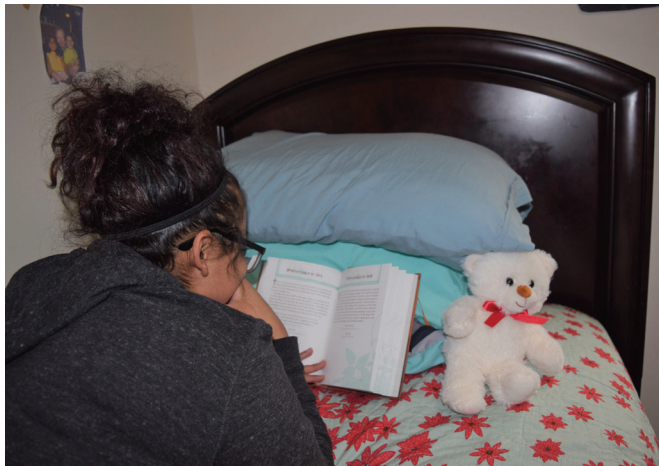
Prayers are powerful! That's why we are asking you to pray for our youth through our Prayers of Hope initiative. The youth at the Home have many prayer requests and need the love and support from our staff and from friends of the Home.

Here's how our Prayers of Hope works...go to the Home's website at iumch.org and click on the Make an Impact tab. Simply provide your e-mail and on the third Thursday of the month, you will receive five to six prayers from our youth. You may also contact Susan Bennett for a signup sheet which allows for multiple people to receive the prayers.

On behalf of our youth, thank you for lifting them up in your prayers.

Here is a sample monthly prayer:

Dear God: Brian will be leaving for college in August. It will be his first year as a college student and he is excited but nervous. God, please help Brian choose a positive and productive path and grant him contentment with each new phase of his life. We pray that You guide his footsteps as he walks on his own. Guide and guard Brian in all of his choices and decisions as he enters adulthood. In Your Holy Name, Amen



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Children's Home
Hope Has A Home

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Rich Lapinski
Executive Director/CEO

Susan D. Bennett
Editor
Director of Public Relations

Our Mission Statement

To enrich the quality of life for children and families through Christian values

Our Vision

To be a place where youth are safe and cared for; where youth are given the opportunity to become healthy and self-sufficient adults; where families are reunited; and where every person is treated with love and respect.

Core Values

1. Compassion:

Serving those in need with a caring spirit, regardless of their faith or culture.

2. Commitment:

Making a lifelong commitment to generosity, integrity, leadership, and social justice.

3. Excellence:

Striving to continually improve services to children and families vested in our care.

4. Connection:

Fostering relationships with United Methodist Churches, clergy and our generous donors.

**Annual Auxiliary Program
cancelled for September 12, 2020
due to Covid-19 isolation. Thank you for
your patience.
See you next year in April!**

Tribute gifts honor those who value the important work of Indiana United Methodist Children's Home and the youth we serve. Together, we are breaking the cycle of abusive family relationships and teaching ways for a happy and independent adulthood.

We gratefully acknowledge the following tribute gifts received between January 1st through June 30, 2020.

CELEBRATION GIFTS

In celebration of Ramona

Eisinger
Roberta and Robert Croddy

In celebration of Ramona

Eisinger
Lois Jennings

In celebration of Norma Singley's 90th birthday

Mary Losey

In celebration of Psi Iota Xi Zionsville

Rhonda Fox

HONOR GIFTS

In honor of Jewel Boyd on her graduation

Elise Taylor

In honor of Rev. Toni Carmer

Mary Manuwal

In honor of Rev. Dick Eisinger

Donita and Jim Keidel

In honor of Jim Evans

Marilyn and Daniel F. Evans, Jr.

In honor of my mom, Nancy Hawkins - For her unending love for family.

Sheila and Mark Frye

In honor of Madeline and Charlotte Hawkins

Nancy Hughes

In honor of Luther Marr Hays

Anne F. and Albin B. Hayes, Jr.

Tawny Moreno

Little Green Apple Hallmark Corporate Office

In honor of Calvin and Betty Higgins

Louise Hoagland

In honor of Zei-Pao Huang

Sue and Wayne Weise

In honor of Rabbi Ron Klotz

Dalia and Elliott Keen

In honor of Linnea Krasutsky - I am very proud of her!

Sandi and Rob French

In honor of my sister, Dr. Jill Lindberg, on her birthday - A tireless health care worker who we celebrate.

Jodi Horst-Miller

In honor of our grandson, Jared Martin - A 2020 graduate of Henryville High School.

Jane and J.D. Burgess

In honor of Jan and Keith Mast Wayne and Sue Weise

In honor of Marilyn A. Napkins Rosemary and Dennis Edens

In honor of Jessica Read Russell Otte

In honor of Angie and Pastor Mike Roberts

Janet and Bob Armstrong

In honor of LuBea Scanlan

Revs. Drs. Carolyn and Andrew Scanlan-Holmes

In honor of Mary Katherine Schnitz

Kathy and Steven Hockett

In honor of Norma Jean Singley Revs. Tracey and Britt Leslie

In honor of Robert C. Stebbe Tracy and Mark Stebbe

In honor of Morris E. Thomas, Jr. - Friend and neighbor, and an outstanding example of Christian stewardship and service.

Angela and Bill Corley

In honor of Morris E. Thomas, Jr. Elaine and James Engledow

In honor of Jeffrey Vollmer Jane Slattery

In honor of Marlene Winkie - A dear friend who is like a second Mom to me. Happy Birthday Marlene!

With love from Jodi.
Jodi Horst-Miller

In honor of IUMCH - Thank you for your leadership in this ministry to youth.

June and Rev. David Owen

In honor of family we hold in our hearts from a distance.

Jodi Horst-Miller

In honor of Miracles and Blessings UMC - United Methodist Women

Rita Gaither-Gant and Rev. Michael Gant

In honor of my grandchildren Darlene and Robert Williams

Darlene and Robert Williams

In honor of our church people and minister.

Suzy and Dennis Allen

In honor of the social worker who cared for George Leffler.

Marilyn and Rev. S. Douglas Leffler

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of Rex D. Adkins

Patricia Adkins

In memory of Charles C. Apple

Louise Apple

In memory of Helen Aylsworth

Mary Kay Aylsworth and Joyce Taylor

In memory of Mary Ella and Herbert Barber

Jeff Barber and Carl Smith

In memory of Donald S. Baxter

Verna Baxter

In memory of Fred L. Benner

Anne Benner

In memory of Marjorie and John Black

Diana Black

In memory of Dennis Brune

Peggy Brune

In memory of Irene and Stanley Bullock

Elise Taylor

In memory of Margaret D. Burton

Elaine Routh

In memory of Jeannette M. Chisler

Jeannette M. Chisler Revocable Trust

In memory of Arthur Clawson

Sharon and Joe Sare

In memory of Julie Cline - Julie and I have always believed in the Children's Home.

Relis Cline II

In memory of Julietta S. Coons - Our mother rescued us (adopted). God makes NO junk; everyone is worthy.

Judy Marsh
Trudy Williams

In memory of Lorie L. Coy

Jack Coy

In memory of Bishop Michael J. Coyner

Our former, faithful Bishop who is truly missed.
Evelyn and James Lafollette

E. Marlene and Rev. James Gentry

Christy and Jim Huston

Marsha Hutchinson

Stephanie and Rich Lapinski

Ramona Paulsrud

Catherine and Tom Royer

Barbara and James Siegfried, Jr.

Teresa and Keith Smith

Morris E. Thomas, Jr.

Linda and Bill Todd

In memory of Harry Denny

Martha Denny

In memory of Rev. Jewel Dewees

Anna Dewees

In memory of Ramona Eisinger

Donita and Jim Keidel

In memory of Ramona Eisinger

Luann Mitchell

In memory of Rev. Dr. John

N. Elliott - Deceased United Methodist Church pastor who also served as missionary to India (1959-1964) and interim head of the Asia Desk at the World Council of Churches in Geneva, Switzerland (1964-1965).

Joyce Elliott

In memory of Thelma Garner

Allen Garner

In memory of Daniel Gentry

E. Marlene and Rev. James Gentry

In memory of Ruth Graves, my mother on Mother's Day

Claudine Whalen

In memory of Sandra Halden

Koral and Jim Evans

In memory of Jane Harman

Richard Harman

In memory of Rev. William W. "Bill" Hatchel

Jane, Liz and Rob Hatchel and Ann Schafer

In memory of Luther Marr Hays

Mark Akard

Albin Hayes, Jr.

Marcia and Richard Miller

John Sieff

Mary Wilson

In memory of Mrs. Charles (Jackie) Heck

Sarah and David Tyrrell

In memory of Catherine and Jack Higgins

Nancy and Paul Higgins

Broad Ripple UMC - Builders Class

In memory of Richard Hillenburg

E. Marlene and Rev. James Gentry

continued >

In memory of Christopher Hockney
Mary Steele

In memory of Elizabeth Ann Housefield, my wife
Ken Housefield

In memory of Kathleen Hudleson
Martha Denny

In memory of Barbara Thayer Johnson
Betty Thayer

In memory of Stephanie Kennedy
E. Marlene and Rev. James Gentry

In memory of Mary C. Kitterman
Marshall Kitterman

In memory of Marie Lapinski
Christy and Jim Huston

Morris E. Thomas, Jr.

In memory of William Lewellen, II
E. Marlene and Rev. James Gentry

In memory of Knoefel Longest
Katherine Baxter

Dianne Best

Shirley A. and Percy E. Best

Rhonda and John Budzynski

Phyllis and Tom Buschman

Michelle and Tony Cain

Katie Cutshaw

Maureen and Chris Foster

Helen and Jerry Heimann

Sue and Bill Kaye

Donald McKee

Anita Reed

Glenda and Rick Siela

Ina and Wayne Stitz

Patty and Jim Stringfellow

Mary Toll

Gayla Warran

Marjorie and Roger Wealing

Denice and Ron Wilken

Tim Wilken

In memory of Richard Lunn -
Never forget the good times.
Verona and Mark Cook

In memory of Mary and Ralph Marshall
Beverly Marshall

In memory of Inez and John McGuire - IUMCH house
parents for many years.
Rev. Judi and Jay Marshall

In memory of Jean Meeks, who
loved to play board games
with her grandchildren.
Pat and Craig Engel

In memory of David Milhouse
Diana Black

In memory of Velma Miller
Judy Jenkins

In memory of Ellen Nash
E. Marlene and Rev. James Gentry

In memory of Kenneth A. Nelson
Caroline Nelson

In memory of Rev. David W. Patrick
Rev. Marcy Patrick and Mike Runnebohm

In memory of Norma Jean Patton
Eloise Bowers

Virginia and Chalmer Crose

Sandra and William Culbertson

Todd Johnson

Marshall Kitterman

Edie and John Purcell

Martha and Larry Randel

Salem United Methodist Church

Elaine and Philip Stephens

Ruth and Daniel Stone

Barbara and Frederick Sullivan

In memory of Crystal Irick and Dorothy E. Price
Christine and Kenneth Price

In memory of Ruth and Clarence Rott
Nina and Al Babich

In memory of Diana Roundtree
Tom Roundtree

In memory of William A. Sigman, an outstanding
example of Christian
stewardship and service.
Angela and Bill Corley

Lee Hartsock

Christy and Jim Huston

Stephanie and Rich Lapinski

Phyllis and Gene Newton

Teresa and Keith Smith

Joanne and Gerry Solomon

Morris E. Thomas, Jr.

Linda and Bill Todd

In memory of Donald Sisloff
Patricia Sisloff

In memory of Joan Slavens
Beverly Hackley

In memory of Norma Jean Smith, my wife
Chaplain Eldon Smith, Jr.

In memory of Martha Smock
Christy and Jim Huston

Stephanie and Rich Lapinski

Teresa and Keith Smith

In memory of Martha Ann Smock - a dedicated and
loyal board member.
Sarah and Larna Spearman

In memory of Martha Smock
Morris E. Thomas, Jr.

Linda and Bill Todd

In memory of Dana Lynn Sparks' 56th Birthday
Pat and Kyle Sparks

In memory of Lois and Merrill Swarens
Jerry A. Swarens

In memory of Mary L. Thrall
Michael E. Thrall

In memory of Euleta and Howard Turner
Wade Turner

In memory of Brenda Venis
Brian Butz, Aflac - BPB Insurance Solutions

In memory of Wayne B. Wakefield
Mary and Ronald Wakefield

In memory of Martha F. and James B. Wallace
Nancy and Scott Wallace

In memory of Robert L. Weaver
Joyce and John Weaver

In memory of Karl Westgate
Patricia and Bruce Jansen

In memory of Kathy Williams
Susie and Frank Williams, Jr.

In memory of Sherry L. Williamson
Dennis Williamson

In memory of Emmett Wilson,
my father who was a
guiding force in my life.
Linda and Robert Schenk

In memory of my parents,
Muriel and Roger Wood *who*
were great examples to me. I
never realized how many
children cannot say that
about their home situations.
Susan Wood

In memory of Carol Youngblood
Joan Ward

In memory of COVID-19 Victims
Erna Foertsch

In memory of Debbie, my
daughter
Ann Lytle

In memory of our parents
Susan and Dennis Cobb

In memory of my wife
Albert Lefevra

PRAYING FOR
Praying for the congregation of
Linebarger Chapel UMC,
with love,
Anonymous

Praying for all of those who
suffer from cancer.
Robert Anderson

Praying for IUMCH and its
ministry to our children.
Beverly and Robert Elrod



"I give to perpetuate the good work that takes place at Indiana United Methodist Children's Home knowing that the lives of the youth will be changed for the better. I feel blessed and joyful that God has allowed me to share my resources. I give as the Lord provides and He directs me as to where I should share my resources." – Elise Taylor, IUMCH Auxiliary President and member of Christ UMC, Indianapolis

Elise made a tribute gift to honor her granddaughter's graduation.

We have taken great care to ensure that the list above is accurate and complete. Please accept our apology for any error or omission and notify us so we may correct our records.

To make a tribute gift in honor or memory of your loved one, go to www.iumch.org/donate or call the Foundation at 317.775.0606.