

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Jennifer Hashem | Public Relations Manager | office: 317-921-1313 | cell: 563-271-4385
jennifer.hashem@uwci.org

Lindsey Hill | Director of Mission Advancement | office: (317) 968-9048 | lhill@thetangramway.org

Tangram Receives Major Grant from United Way’s Basic Needs Fund

INDIANAPOLIS– United Way of Central Indiana today announced the final round of grant recipients of the Basic Needs Fund for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Tangram received \$75,000 dollars in funding to support transportation and affordable, accessible housing for people with disabilities in need.

The Basic Needs Fund is one of three new United Way of Central Indiana impact initiatives announced earlier this year that address poverty in the region by partnering with community-based organizations who align with the goals and metrics of the fund. The Basic Needs Fund specifically targets outcomes in housing, food, health, and transportation. In this round, 40 organizations applied for grants and 22 were recommended for funding by a 12-member workgroup comprised of United Way board members, staff and community volunteers. The grants ranged from \$10,000-\$90,000 per organization.

For Tangram, the Basic Needs Fund grant will address transportation and housing barriers for people with disabilities. Tangram has long provided services to enable individuals with disabilities to live independently at home, including daily living supports, affordable housing, rent and utility assistance, and access to legal services. Furthermore, Tangram provides accessible, on-demand transportation for hundreds of individuals on a daily basis. The Basic Needs Fund grant will enable Tangram to continue to provide these services and empower the people we serve to live full and meaningful lives.

“Tangram is committed to building an inclusive community, and that starts with ensuring that each citizen has access to stable housing and reliable transportation. Housing and transportation are two of the largest barriers to independence and quality of life for people with disabilities, which is why this grant is so important to Tangram and the people we serve. We extend our sincere thanks to United Way of Central Indiana and their supporters for making this grant possible,” said Onias T. Muza, president and CEO of Tangram.

2019-2020 BASIC NEEDS FUND GRANTEES – FINAL ROUND

The ARC of Greater Boone County
Bosma Enterprises
Boys & Girls Club of Boone County
Community Alliance of the Far Eastside
Catholic Charities Indianapolis, Inc.
Child Advocates
Children's Bureau
Concord Neighborhood Center
Easterseals Crossroads
Hawthorne Community Center

HVAF of Indiana, Inc.
Indiana Youth Group
Indianapolis Legal Aid Society
Little Red Door Cancer Agency, Inc.
Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic
The Salvation Army
Southeast Community Services
St. Mary's Child Center
Sycamore Rehabilitation Services Hendricks County Arc, Inc.
Tangram, Inc.
Wellspring Center
Youth Connections

Grant recipients are expected to regularly report and update United Way of Central Indiana on progress toward meeting the goals of the fund to achieve maximum impact for the individuals and families they serve. With \$5 million in total grants awarded from the Basic Needs Fund this year, United Way expects an estimated 106,000 individuals and families across Central Indiana who need improved access to food, housing, transportation and healthcare will be served.

United Way Community Investments for 2019-2020

For the 2019-2020 fiscal year, United Way plans to invest more than \$52 million in the community, through programs, grants and services, which include unrestricted grants to community-based organizations and donor designations to nonprofits. Also included are programmatic investments in the Centers for Working Families, the Indy Preschool Scholarship Program, and targeted homelessness initiatives as well as grants from the Energy Assistance Program, the Winter Assistance Fund, the Capital Projects Fund and the Facilities Maintenance Fund.

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About Tangram: Tangram’s mission is to assist individuals with disabilities to live full, meaningful, and happy lives, at home and as members of the community. Tangram is committed to advancing inclusion for individuals with disabilities by providing a wide range of customized services, including residential supports, community exploration, employment services, behavioral health, transportation, healthcare coordination, life coaching, and more. Tangram also provides disability inclusion training to corporate partners across Central Indiana, helping them better serve the community and improve their bottom line through a dedication to diversity. Visit www.thetangramway.org to learn more.

About United Way of Central Indiana: United Way is a community of donors, advocates, volunteers, and partners who fight for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in every community. United Way invites all members of our community to LIVE UNITED by giving, advocating and volunteering to improve lives in Central Indiana. Visit www.uwci.org to learn more.