



IMPACT REPORT

2022

OUR MISSION

Indianapolis Indians Charities is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to helping youth and families grow stronger together, learn more and live healthier lives. The nonprofit is focused on supporting organizations in four areas: youth development, family success, education and neighborhood development.



CONTENTS

Our History	4
Community Pillars	7
Victories in the Community	8
Youth Development	10
Family Success	16
Education	18
Neighborhood Development	20
Victories at the Ballpark	22
Bigger Than Baseball	26

OUR HISTORY

For the last 120 years, the Indians have taken great pride in serving the Central Indiana community as both an entertainment option for fans and, more increasingly, a partner to nonprofit organizations who uplift the communities served by the Indians. As the Indians' popularity and success have grown, the organization has challenged itself to give back to the community at ever-increasing levels over the years. This desire to improve the lives of Central Indiana residents gave rise to Indianapolis Indians Charities (IIC), a charitable organization created to help Central Indiana youth and families grow stronger together, learn more and live healthier lives.

IIC provides and supports both sports-related and nonsports related opportunities for children under 18 to have productive and healthy outlets. In partnering with groups like Major League Baseball's Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities (RBI) initiative, IIC has the opportunity to provide and support clinics, lessons, leagues and seminars to instruct and educate children on baseball and softball and each sport can guide them toward an educated and physically healthy lifestyle and away from trouble in their neighborhoods. Created by the longest-running sports organization in Indianapolis, IIC has a dedicated mission to developing the city's local neighborhoods.





YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Indianapolis Indians Charities understands that by investing in and allocating resources to youth development today, the next generation of Hoosiers can leave a lasting impact on society tomorrow. Since its inception in 2019, IIC engrained itself as an asset to youth development in Indianapolis by renovating baseball and softball diamonds at Forest Manor Park, JTV Hill and Manual High School, providing underprivileged youth opportunities to remain active and build trust through teamwork amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.



FAMILY SUCCESS

Indianapolis Indians Charities supports families with resources including after-school programming, mentor opportunities, and assistance with college and post-college career preparations. The Indianapolis Indians staff improved facilities for therapy programs in and around Marion County.



EDUCATION

Indianapolis Indians Charities' third pillar focuses on education at all levels, from pre-K through the college ranks.



NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Indianapolis Indians Charities' focus on neighborhood development ranges from combating food hunger to supporting first responders and essential workers.

COMMUNITY PILLARS

To help youth and families grow stronger together, learn more and live healthier lives, IIC focuses on supporting organizations in four areas: youth development, family success, education and neighborhood development. Since IIC's inception in September 2019 **over \$816,000** has been distributed to community partners.



VICTORIES IN THE **COMMUNITY**



Indianapolis Indians Charities and Indianapolis Indians staff devote their time and energy to the community and Central Indiana nonprofits that align with IIC's four pillars – youth development, family success, education and neighborhood development. Each pillar is given the necessary resources and attention to ensure IIC's impact on those in need is maximized.

Indianapolis Indians Charities takes Hoosier hospitality to the next level.



SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Special Olympics Indiana is a part of the movement to use sport, health, education and leadership programs to end discrimination against and empower people with intellectual disabilities. Softball is Special Olympics Indiana's fourth-most popular sport, promoting personal growth and development among its athletes, to encourage active lifestyles, and to improve self-esteem among children and adults with intellectual disabilities throughout Indiana.

Starting in 2020, Special Olympics has featured activities in the Indianapolis Indians Baseball in Education workbooks. These three age-specific interactive resources facilitate conversation on how to be tolerant and inclusive.

NINE13SPORTS

Nine13sports was founded by a professional cyclist in 2012 as a nonprofit that uses cycling to encourage health and fitness for children of all ages and abilities. This year, IIC hosted Nine13sports' Alumni Ride and Kids Ride at Victory Field.



LEAGUE OF MIRACLES

League of Miracles is a sports complex located in Indianapolis that is specifically designed for people with special needs and their families to participate in recreational activities.

INDY THUNDER

Indy Thunder Beep Baseball is an organization for the blind and visually impaired community who wish to participate in an organized sport. IIC has partnered with the Indy Thunder for many years and are proud to celebrate with them as they won their fifth consecutive World Championship.



TEENWORKS

TeenWorks empowers teens to discover a new level of self-confidence, recognize that achieving professional success is within their reach, and build their resources to make it happen through community-based work and weekly professional development.





INDY RBI

Indy RBI has been the proud exclusive Circle City affiliate of Major League Baseball's Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities (RBI) initiative since 1996. The program is designed to increase participation and interest in baseball and softball among youth. Indy RBI has served over **25,000** boys and girls ages 3-18 during its tenure and seeks an annual goal of having 2,500 youth baseball and softball players in its program.

\$300,000

In 2020 Indianapolis Indians Charities made a three-year, \$300,000 financial commitment to Indy RBI to help cover team, sponsorship, event and league operating costs. IIC's contribution has helped stabilize Indy RBI financially to better position the nonprofit for long-term success and community impact.





YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

THE PLAYERS WERE ALL SO APPRECIATIVE OF INDY RBI LETTING US COME OUT AND SPEND SOME TIME WITH THE YOUNG BALLPLAYERS. ANYTIME YOU CAN HELP SPREAD THE LOVE OF THE GAME TO THE NEXT GENERATION IS SPECIAL!"

- Jared Oliva #24
Indianapolis Indians Outfielder



MLB PLAY BALL WEEKEND WITH INDY RBI

The Indianapolis Indians teamed together with Indy RBI for a memorable weekend of youth baseball and softball fun on Saturday, June 11 at Forest Manor Park on the near eastside of Indianapolis. All kids ages 6-12 were eligible to participate in the PLAY BALL event that included a bat & ball game, home run derby, baserunning races and more alongside Indians players and the club's mascot Rowdie. Registration was free to all participants.

BADGES FOR BASEBALL WITH INDY RBI

The Indianapolis Indians, Indy RBI and Indy PAL partnered with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) on the annual Badges for Baseball program which fosters positive relationships between vulnerable, inner-city youth and law enforcement. IMPD had its horse patrol, paramedics and bomb squad in attendance plus motorcycles, drones and test tasers. The Badges for Baseball program was created by the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation, with youth participants being empowered through team sports while learning about fitness, nutrition, financial literacy, bullying, resilience, adaptive sports for children with disabilities and more. Badges for Baseball was held at Forest Manor Park on Tuesday, July 12 before moving to Garfield Park on Wednesday, July 13.



PITCH, HIT & RUN WITH INDY RBI

Victory Field hosted Pitch Hit & Run, the official skills competition of Major League Baseball, on Tuesday, June 28. Participation was free to all boys and girls ages 7-14. Participants competed in baseball and softball drills including pitching for accuracy, hitting for distance and baserunning for speed. Overall winners from each age group advanced to the regional team championship before ultimately finishing with the finals during MLB All-Star Week at Los Angeles' Dodger Stadium.



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



FAMILY
SUCCESS

THERAPLAY

The Children's TherAplay Foundation, Inc. is the largest pediatric hippotherapy facility in the country, providing physical and occupational therapies using equine movement as a treatment tool for children with special needs. In 2020, Indianapolis Indians Charities supported the expansion and renovation of its new facility. IIC also contributed funding for a 2021 need-based scholarship program for current families who are facing challenges that make payment of their co-pay and out-of-pocket expenses more difficult.



BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF CENTRAL INDIANA

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana serves over 1,200 youth in the two surrounding counties. IIC has supported this one-to-one mentorship program throughout the year by participating in several BBBSCI fundraising events including its annual Crew for Kids initiative with Crew Carwash.



BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF CENTRAL INDIANA MAIN EVENT

Indianapolis Indians Charities made a \$20,000 donation towards the Tailgate Sponsorship at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana's Main Event that took place on October 6. The Main Event is BBBSCI's biggest fundraiser of the year.



FAMILY
SUCCESS



TEACHERS' TREASURES

Teachers' Treasures obtains and distributes school supplies free to teachers of students who are living in poverty. Indianapolis Indians Charities was one of the few founders of Teachers' Treasures Global Language Library project which officially opened on Thursday, September 8. This library obtains and distributes books representing a global assortment of languages, reading levels and cultures to teachers to provide for students throughout Marion County.



INDIANAPOLIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Indianapolis Public Library Foundation partners with donors to enrich lives, foster lifelong learning and engage our diverse community through The Indianapolis Public Library. IIC is a proud supporter of the IPL's 2022 Summer Reading Program "Discover!" and welcomed its Bookmobile to the ballpark during an Indians game for fans to enjoy.



OUTREACH INC.

Outreach Inc. proudly equips and empowers homeless teens and young adults to achieve stability and life transformation. IIC celebrates high school graduates annually with supplies for their next chapter of life.

With the help of Elements Financial, funds also support financial education curriculum and resources. Further, Elements Financial has had an ongoing partnership with Outreach in recent years, supplying Outreach students and staff with financial education workshops, a relationship manager and access to an online financial education center.



VICTORIES AT THE BALL

PARK

From jersey auctions and in-park fundraising to honoring guests on field through a pre-fireworks Spark for Change initiative and creating an inclusive environment for attendees with sensory needs, Indianapolis Indians Charities' all-encompassing focus to enrich the game day experience and welcome all walks of life to the ballpark is a victory worth celebrating.

Indianapolis Indians Charities puts the victory in Victory Field.





JERSEY AUCTIONS

Fans have supported local charities by bidding on autographed, game-worn jerseys since 2015. A staggering **\$322,000** has been raised by generous fans at Victory Field through season-long jersey auctions. Jersey auction proceeds benefit Indianapolis Indians Charities, and those funds are then directed to local nonprofits and charitable work in Central Indiana.

50/50 RAFFLE

In April 2022, the Indianapolis Indians kicked off the organization's in-park 50/50 Raffle with half of the proceeds going directly to IIC. These funds are then allocated to IIC's community partners for future projects and initiatives. The 50/50 Raffle allows fans to win big while making a generous contribution to IIC at the same time. In its first year, the raffle raised close to **\$50,000** for charity.



SPARK FOR CHANGE

The Indians often recognize families, individuals and organizations who are sparking change in their communities. IIC recognized these nonprofit organizations by giving them the opportunity to ignite the fireworks on select nights at the ballpark.



BIGGER

THAN BASEBALL

THE NINE INITIATIVE

Minor League Baseball introduced "The Nine" initiative in January 2022 to attract, engage and welcome Black fans and businesses into MiLB ballparks across the country. The Indians first recognized the top Black ballplayers in Indianapolis' rich baseball history, including players from the Indians and Negro Leagues' Indianapolis ABCs and Indianapolis Clowns. Then in June, the Indians and Indiana Civil Rights Commission (ICRC) hosted a night to honor the Negro Leagues and the Indianapolis Clowns. Family members of former Clowns players were honored before the game, and the Indians sported Clowns jerseys which were auctioned off to benefit IIC.





KULTURECITY

KultureCity is the nation's leading nonprofit on sensory accessibility and acceptance for those with invisible disabilities. IIC partnered with KultureCity to provide sensory certification training to all Indians full-time and part-time staff. KultureCity also helped guide IIC in implementing areas and spaces throughout Victory Field to make it sensory inclusive in addition to providing sensory bags for fans on game days.

NICU RILEY CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

In early August, Indians outfielder Travis Swaggerty and his family, along with Indianapolis Indians Charities, each made \$1,000 donations to the Riley Children's Foundation. Swaggerty's wife Peyton gave birth to their baby girl, Sutton Hollie Swaggerty, six weeks early at 4 pounds, 14 ounces on September 12, 2021. Sutton then spent the next five days in the NICU at a hospital in Mississippi. The Swaggerty family was thankful for the care Sutton received in the NICU and as a sign of their gratitude, donated alongside IIC to the Riley Children's Foundation.



MICHAEL PARKER'S WISH

On Thursday, September 22, the Indianapolis Indians signed 8-year-old Michael Parker to a one-day contract to make him the newest member of the team prior to that night's game at Victory Field. Following months of treatment and a bone marrow transplant, Michael's up-and-down journey while fighting blood cancer and ultimately entering remission at Ronald McDonald House in Indianapolis inspired the Indians to fulfill Michael's dream of attending his first ever baseball game. In partnering with Make-A-Wish® Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana, Michael's one-day contract included a personalized Circle City jersey and hat, a team-signed and personalized Marvel Loki jersey, set of Marvel Super Hero bobbleheads and comic book, batting practice and a clubhouse tour with his new teammates and coaches, the chance to throw the ceremonial first pitch, and join Indians manager Miguel Perez for the pregame lineup exchange. Michael and his family then enjoyed the game with a table in the Elements Financial Club.



