



HAWTHORNE COMMUNITY CENTER BREAKS GROUND FOR \$3.5 MILLION RENOVATION

INDIANAPOLIS, JUNE 12, 2015 -- Hawthorne Community Center broke ground June 11 for the \$3.5 million renovation of its main building.

Capital Campaign co-chair and board president Phyllis Land Usher thanked the major donors who include: United Way of Central Indiana, the Ruth Lilly Philanthropic Fund, the late Katie Wadsworth, the Nina Mason Pulliam Fund, the City of Indianapolis for a Community Development Block Grant, Al Hubbard, the Lumina Foundation, Pedcor, Indianapolis Motor Speedway, the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), Heritage Crystal Clean, Citizens Energy, Paul George, the Indiana Pacers, Usher Funeral Home and Workingman's Friend as well as countless individual donors.

Joe Lilly, a trustee of the Ruth Lilly Philanthropic Fund, and Christi Gillespie of United Way also spoke at the groundbreaking.

Work will begin in August to replace the roof, expand and renovate the building and replace the heating and cooling system. This phase of construction is expected to take about a year. The first phase of renovations, to renovate early childcare rooms to offer affordable high quality full-day licensed early childcare, was completed in 2014.

Even though the \$3.5 million capital campaign was successful, Diane Arnold, Hawthorne Community Center executive director, said Hawthorne will continue to raise money and still has opportunities for rooms to be named. She showed the crowd historic pledge cards where the initial supporters of Hawthorne Community Center pledged from 25-cents to \$6 a month back in the 1920s to buy the land the Community Center sits on today.

The groundbreaking audience included friends, child care students and members of the Hawthorne senior activities program. Arnold said a current participant in Hawthorne Community Center has been coming to Hawthorne Community Center for 84 years.

“Today is a day to celebrate,” Arnold said.

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