

What does philanthropy do for IUPUI?

You might be surprised at how much charitable giving contributes to the campus.

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Transcript

[Narrator] Giving of time and money is crucial to enabling IUPUI to achieve its mission. Philanthropy helps us to attract top researchers from around the world whose discoveries save lives and improve the quality of life for countless people.

[M. Yoder] It's philanthropy, gifts to IUPUI, that allow us to establish new programs and go out and recruit faculty to come here and do research. It also allows us to give the faculty some seed money to initially start their research, which they then use the results of to apply for further grant funding. So we recently have started a completely new program in basic diabetes research through gifts from the Lilly Endowment and the Lilly Corporate Foundation as well as from the Riley Children's Foundation.

This allowed us to go out and to recruit one of the top, young researchers in the country in basic diabetes research, and he has already recruited three other faculty members to join him in our program since a year ago. We hope to be able to come up with some really new and novel ways to provide treatments for patients with either type 1 diabetes or type 2 diabetes.

[Narrator] Philanthropy advances our community and state by creating a more educated workforce and developing programs in growing sectors of our economy.

[P. Ainslie] Delphi and Engineering Technology have been endowed for years and years with a lot of various roles particularly with the Dean's Advisory. Recently, Clate Nicholas, was on the advisory council, worked with Professor [unintelligible] here in EC Department to develop this concept of the Transportation Active Safety Institute. As that's been kicked off now and is currently a signature center here on campus, we've been developing more and more expertise in active safety research and development here at the TASI.

I think we've found that we can really leverage our resources, our limited resources in this area and use a lot of the capability down here to do a lot more in terms of the research we can do, make our product development more efficient, make our products actually better now by working with the people down here at IUPUI.

Right now the best thing we can do is keep our money here in the state. As we need to do the source of development like this, we're finding ways to work with state resources to add jobs here at IUPUI and Engineering and Technology. Going forward we have a new, open contract with NHSTA, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, as part of the Department of Transportation to do virtually on-demand research for them using the facilities here and the people at Delphi Electronics and Safety. As we go forward now we'll find more ways to bring more federal money into the operation also so that we can go forward now and add jobs and get more money into the state and do more of the research here.

{post ome}?? [Narrator]Philanthropy has changed the landscape of our campus in ways that advance research, learning, and the college experience.

[I. Hernandez] To me the Campus Center is like my second home, which I know is the same to a lot of students that go here. But as for me I am a staff member. I work here in the Campus Center, and I go to school. So I am at the IUPUI campus most of my time more than I am at home.

[Narrator] Philanthropy makes it possible for more students to achieve the dream of a college education.

[D. Hutchins] Being a Nina Mason Pulliam Scholar I was able to get in contact with different systems - people that were key decision-makers when it came to at-risk youth and nontraditional students. I believe having that opportunity and that association with the particular scholarship that I had, which was the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust Scholarship, that opened so many doors for me and allowed me to be able to really become the change agent that I like to be.

When I came upon the scholarship and got it and started the 2002 fall semester with the scholarship, the financial backing of the scholarship, it allowed me to solely concentrate on being a student. I did not have to worry about how my bills were going to get paid. I didn't have to worry about keeping a roof over my head - those types of things. How am I going to get back and forth to school, keep gas in the car? Those types of things because the scholarship totally took care of that and made sure that your focus was being a student.

That allowed me to take my, what I consider mediocre grades, and become that scholar that the program, the Nina Scholars Program, likes to cultivate you into becoming, and it's because of the financial support that they provide and the other holistic support that they give the student as well.

[Narrator] Thank you to the 2009 Spirit of Philanthropy honorees for the transformational gifts you have made, which enable IUPUI to make an impact.