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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**HCCF issues grants for police body cameras, domestic abuse survivors**

The Hancock County Community Foundation (HCCF) recently made Mini Grants to nonprofit organizations serving Hancock County from the Hancock County Enrichment Fund, a component fund of HCCF.

A \$1,000 grant to the Shirley Police Department will enable the department to purchase an additional three body cameras for their officers. Body camera recordings can help police review probable cause for an arrest and provide evidence for investigative purposes. Cameras can be used as information for officer evaluation and training, to collect information of public contacts, critical incidents and arrests, and document crime and accident scenes.

A \$1,000 grant to Alternatives Incorporated will assist survivors obtain necessities like safe housing, car repairs and other emergency needs. Last year Greenfield Police Department reported 247 domestic violence cases and other Hancock County law enforcement agencies responded to an additional 45 cases. Alternatives Inc.'s mission is to eradicate domestic and sexual violence through education, prevention, and intervention in Central Indiana.

Alternatives Inc. serves six Central Indiana counties. Its philosophy is all persons have the right to live in a loving, caring, safe, and secure environment. Staff support survivors through the initial crisis with the ultimate strategy of helping them achieve abuse-free and financially independent lives. To achieve this, they provide housing navigation; emergency shelter; transitional housing; outreach services (for survivors not seeking shelter); case management; support and education groups; emergency and essential transportation; and support, referrals, and advocacy. Additional services include prevention programming, community education, and training opportunities.

These grants were issued from a pool of funds that is set aside each year to meet nonprofit organizations' needs that arise outside of the major grant cycles. These Mini Grants can be made for up to \$1,000 until the pool of money is exhausted.

Created by HCCF, the Enrichment Fund addresses a broad range of needs. The Enrichment Fund helps support long-term solutions; respond quickly to emergencies; and meet changing social, cultural, educational, and environmental needs in our local community.

*HCCF provides philanthropic leadership by encouraging giving, learning, community pride and civic engagement. Working with caring individuals, families, and organizations to create or grow existing permanent endowment funds is critical to the organization's mission. These funds generate income that is distributed in the form of grants and scholarships to enrich and enhance life in Hancock County, as well as support the donor's favorite charitable causes, both at home and afar forever. HCCF has granted millions of dollars since their inception in 1992.*

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