



Cancer Resource Centre

July 28, 2014

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FIRST LADY KAREN PENCE AWARDS GRANT TO THE CANCER RESOURCE CENTRE

Award to support Art Therapy classes for cancer patients

INDIANAPOLIS – The Cancer Resource Centre in Munster is one of 28 organizations and charities across the state to be named among the Indiana First Lady's Charitable Foundation grant recipients. First Lady Karen Pence hosted the inaugural reception for awardees at the Governor's residence on Wednesday, June 25 where she presented Anthony Andello, director of the Cancer Resource Centre with a \$500 check.

"These grants represent the first step toward making a big impact in recognizing deserving organizations," said First Lady Karen Pence. "The Indiana First Lady's Charitable Foundation is a way to shine a light on the organizations across Indiana who lift up our communities and make our state strong. The Cancer Resource Centre is one of those organizations that is doing great work for our Hoosier families, and it is an honor to recognize them today," she said.

The Resource Centre is a program of the Community Cancer Research Foundation, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of cancer care available in Northwest Indiana. Since opening in 2003, the Cancer Resource Centre has offered its services free of charge to all who enter. The Centre is funded by donations and grants, in-kind donations and volunteer support.

"We offer patients and their families a safe environment; a tranquil, non-medical place where they can come to help manage stress and regain control of their inner-self through support groups, classes and programs," explains Cancer Resource Centre Director Anthony Andello. "Funding from the Indiana First Lady's Charitable Foundation will be used to help assist the Centre's Art Therapy classes," he said.

Expressive Art Therapy started in March, 2008 to provide patients with another component to their healing process, according to Amanda Wyatt, ATR-BC, LMHC, board-certified art therapist and class facilitator.

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"Art therapy helps cancer patients find their voice and provide a sense of control during their treatment," Wyatt said. "We provide a means – through drawing, painting, collage and other media – for them to show others the emotions they are going through on their journey. The group gathering can offer a sense of safety; provide another way to communicate and find renewed personal awareness," she said.

The Cancer Resource Centre is located at 926 Ridge Road in Munster. Those interested in participating in a support group or other programs are required to attend a brief orientation session. For more information about programs, upcoming classes and events, visit cancerresourcecentre.com or call 219-836-3349.

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About Indiana First Lady's Charitable Foundation

First Lady Karen Pence started Indiana First Lady's Charitable Foundation in August of 2013 as a way to recognize organizations and charities across the state. The Indiana First Lady's Charitable Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The First Lady receives no compensation. Donations are tax deductible. Learn more about how to make a donation or request a grant or monetary award on the Foundation's website at: www.IndianaFirstLadysCharitableFoundation.org