

# Indiana

## 2018-2019 IMPACT REPORT

Playworks Indiana saw significant growth during the 2018-2019 school year by expanding services in Central Indiana, launching services in Lafayette, Indiana, and training more educators and youth professionals than ever before!

### The Power of Play



In a 2018 clinical report, the American Academy of Pediatrics indicates that, “Play is fundamentally important for learning 21st century skills, such as problem solving, collaboration, and creativity, which require the executive functioning skills that are critical for adult success.” According to the report, play is a central part of healthy child development, a key to executive function skills, and a buffer against the negative impacts of stress.

### Playworks Indiana 2018-2019 school year

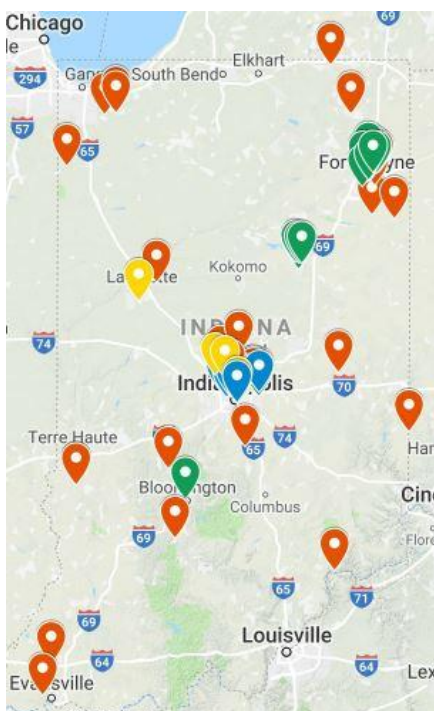
**34,500**  
KIDS

**223**  
JUNIOR COACHES

**69**  
SCHOOLS

**1,380**  
SCHOOL STAFF TRAINED

When play and safe, stable, nurturing relationships are missing in a child’s life, toxic stress can disrupt the development of executive function and the learning of prosocial behavior; in the presence of childhood adversity, play becomes even more important.



### See our Impact across the state!

The map on the left represents all schools that experienced safe and healthy play during the 2018-2019 school year and the map on the right represents all our direct service schools.



# Indiana Junior Coaches Practice Leadership on Martin Luther King Jr. Day!



On January 21, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Playworks Indiana hosted our annual Junior Coach Leadership Conference for nearly 175 Junior Coaches from 18 Indiana elementary schools. Playworks Junior Coaches, typically 4th-6th grade students, help their peers solve conflicts, engage in positive, active play on the playground, and set an example of inclusion and kindness. At this year's Leadership Conference, Junior Coaches participated in workshops to develop their leadership skills, met peers from other Playworks schools and learned new games to take back to their schools. Additionally, Jeff Harrison, CEO and President of Citizens Energy Group and Councilwoman and CEO of the Boys and Girls Club of Indianapolis, Maggie Lewis spoke to the group about their journey to leadership.

***"Playworks allows our students an opportunity for inclusive play, and teaches our students to work collaboratively with each other. We have seen a reduction in the amount of stress and anxiety in our students because they are able to go outside and play in a safe, non-threatening environment."***

**- Indianapolis Public School Principal**

***"Becoming a Junior Coach helped me build confidence and find the leader within! Now, I'm not shy and I feel good helping others and getting to know my peers!"***

**- Chyonne**





# Playworks and the Finish Line Youth Foundation Grow Play on the Far Eastside of Indianapolis



## *Results from the survey of schools participating in professional development:*

**93%**

of participants indicated learning either a great deal or many new skills.

**100%**

agreed or somewhat agreed that implementing the strategies introduced by Playworks would bring positive change for their students at their school site.

## *Results from the survey of Early Childhood Education (ECE) centers participating in professional development:*

**100%**

of participants were satisfied with the training.

**92%**

learned a great deal or many new things about the benefits of play and proactive group management.

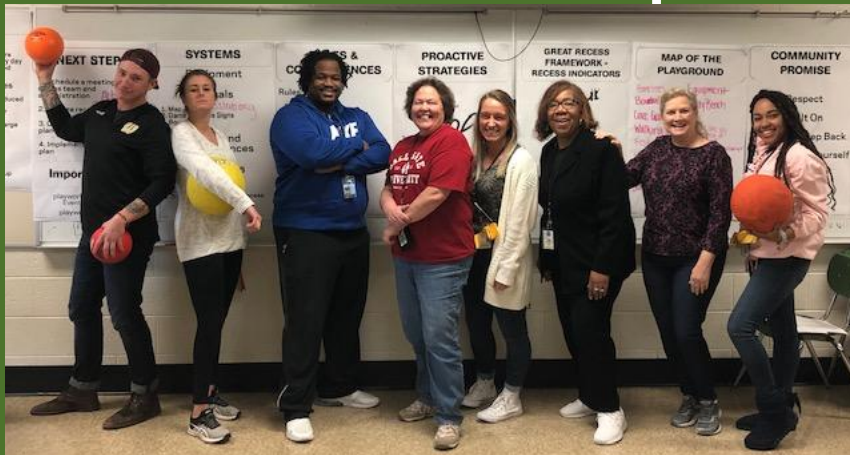
**100%**

learned tangible ways to promote inclusion and reduce exclusionary behaviors on the playground.

**\*\*We invited a representative from the Indiana State Department of Health to observe the ECE training. ISDH will now be funding trainings for ECE centers across the state!**

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***“Thanks so very much - [my staff] said it was the best PD ever! We can’t wait to implement some of the games and other activities with our students.” -Maribeth Guhl, Principal at Francis Bellamy School 102***



This year, Playworks and the Finish Line Youth Foundation launched a partnership to:

- Provide services on the Far Eastside that lays the foundation for sustained safe, healthy, and inclusive play in schools and organizations.
- Provide capacity building direct services and professional development that build positive, inclusive learning environments, increase social/emotional skills in children, and decrease negative behaviors and bullying.

Through Playworks Pro, Playworks' professional development, as well as Playworks' direct services of Coach and TeamUp, Playworks trained 149 adults at 6 elementary schools and 8 out-of-school-time and early education centers impacting more than 6,400 children.

Elementary Schools participated in Recess Implementation, a comprehensive two-day training, which took place in February, and included the following key topics: 1) Introduction to a Healthy Recess; 2) Playground Games; 3) Group Management; 4) Recess Systems and 5) Successful Recess Indicators.

Early Education Centers and out-of-school-time organizations (OST) participated in Playworks Play Leadership Essentials (PLE). Covering similar topics to the Recess Implementation, the PLE for the early education centers focused on the skills and systems necessary when working with preschool aged students and the PLE for OST organizations focused on implementing Playworks strategies in a non school day based setting.

Additionally, two Far Eastside schools participated in our year long direct services.

# 2018-2019

## HIGHLIGHTS



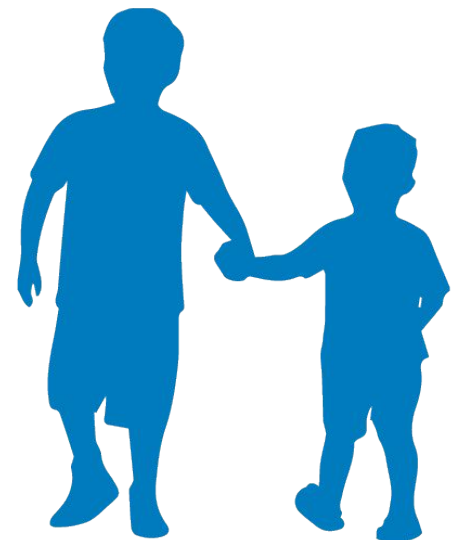
### Partnering for Play!

During the 2018-2019 school year, we expanded our direct services outside of Marion County for the first time. We added Mayflower Mill Elementary, a Tippecanoe County School in Lafayette, Indiana, as a TeamUp school. The success of that partnership resulted in partnerships with three additional Tippecanoe County elementary schools for the 2019-2020 school year (Wea Ridge Elementary, Dayton Elementary, and Hershey Elementary).

## Increasing Safe and Healthy Play throughout Indiana

Survey results from educators at our Indiana partner schools for the 2018-2019 school year showed that:

- 95%** of staff believe that Playworks helps create opportunities for **inclusion of diverse groups of students**;
- 100%** of staff report that **more students are physically active**;
- 95%** of staff reported **more student engagement in academics**;
- 99%** of staff reported **more cooperation** among students on the **playground** and **96%** reported more cooperation in **class**;
- 94%** of staff reported students are **better able to resolve conflicts** on their own;
- 85%** of staff reported **fewer bullying incidents** on the playground;
- 92%** of staff reported that Playworks **improved overall school climate**.





# 2018-2019

We hosted our largest Corporate Kickball Tournament to date!  
High Five to all of the companies who joined us!



**2019 Participating Companies**  
adidas • Angie's List • BCForward • Finish Line  
• Infosys • Indiana University Health •  
OneAmerica • Return Path • Salesforce • Zyllo



A big Playworks thank you to City Barbeque, Sun King Brewery, Indianapolis EMS and TEKSystems for helping to make it a great day!

Playworks believes in the power of play to  
give every kid the childhood they deserve.



We are grateful for the support of our generous sponsors and partners!



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