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Indiana Latino Scholarship Fund Raises More Than \$1.2 Million for Latino Scholars

Indianapolis, IN, August 1, 2012 – On July 27, USA Funds® sponsored the 5th Annual Indiana Latino Scholarship Fund Dinner at the Indiana Roof Ballroom in downtown Indianapolis with the theme “Race to the Finish.” This year, USA Funds again matched the first \$50,000 raised and pledged an additional \$50,000. Including the USA Funds donation, this year’s dinner collected approximately \$220,000, bringing the total funds raised for scholarships to more than \$1.2 Million.

“Our work at USA Funds is centered on one goal — ensuring that every deserving student has the opportunity to benefit from higher education,” says Carl Dalstrom, USA Funds president and CEO. “Federal government reports project members of ethnic minority groups will make up a large percentage of the college-going population in the coming years, and that many of these prospective students will need financial aid to pay for college,” he says. “Because of this projection, USA Funds supports programs such as the Indiana Latino Scholarship Fund.”

Headquartered in Indianapolis, USA Funds is a nonprofit corporation that works to enhance postsecondary education preparedness, access and success by providing and supporting financial and other valued services.

According to the U.S. Census, the number of Hispanic youth under 18 years of age in Indiana doubled from 2000 to 2012. Educating this fast-growing Latino/Hispanic population is critical for the state’s economic future. The Indiana Latino Scholarship Fund is focused on increasing college attainment among Latino/Hispanic youth by one percent in support of the Talent Dividend Initiative.

In the spring of 2008, seven auxiliary organizations created the Indiana Latino Scholarship Fund to support key Latino community-based organizations that already provide scholarships to Latino students. As a result, the Indiana Latino Scholarship Fund Alliance’s combined fund-raising efforts and resources naturally generated a larger pool of funds, resulting in more financial opportunities through awarded scholarships for Indiana’s top Latino students.

The Indiana Latino Scholarship Fund Alliance member organizations are: Central Indiana Community Foundation, Indiana Latino Institute, La Plaza, Mexican Scholarship Fund, National Society of Hispanic MBAs, Sociedad de Amigos de Colombia, and USA Funds.

“Central Indiana Community Foundation is proud to continue its support of the Latino Scholarship Fund, and to help these hard-working, determined students achieve the education they need to become more successful in life. They are an incredibly valuable resource, and we believe the entire community will benefit from this investment for many years – and many generations – to come,” said Brian Payne, President and CEO of Central Indiana Community Foundation.

For more information about the ILSF, follow them on Facebook page at www.facebook.com, Indiana Latino Scholarship Fund or visit their Website at: www.IndianaLSF.org.

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