

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MCCOY, Indiana Fever celebrate Summer Learning Day in Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS – The Marion County Commission on Youth, Inc. (MCCOY) partnered with the <u>Indiana Fever</u> to celebrate Summer Learning Day on Friday, July 14 with more than 700 Hoosier youth, families and youth service providers.

Summer Learning Day is a national day of observance that promotes on-going learning during the out-of-school summer months through playing, reading, exploring, creating and developing. This campaign emphasizes the importance of helping kids retain information from the previous school year while also preparing them for the rigors of the upcoming school year.

"We celebrate Summer Learning Day because we want children to have every opportunity to succeed in life," said John Brandon, president and executive director of MCCOY. "They can't do that without quality programs that help them grow and learn in positive ways over the summer. We are thankful for the Indiana Fever for helping us create such a special night for the children, families and youth service providers who value summer learning!"

Participants of Summer Learning Day were provided with tickets to the game, as well as Fever hats, T-shirts and food vouchers. Select participants were chosen to engage in various on-court activities such as singing the national anthem, high-fiving players and cutting down the basketball nets. As extensions of Summer Learning Day, the Fever also organized clinics focused on literacy and fitness with a few of the participating organizations.

New to the schedule this year was a pre-game event that focused on careers in sports. More than 50 youth had the chance to listen to Fever staff speak about their love of the sport while also highlighting the different jobs that make a professional basketball game happen. Fever coach Pokey Chatman spoke about the need to study and prepare in different aspects of life, including school and work.

"The Indiana Fever is proud of our continued partnership with MCCOY and we are excited to see Summer Learning Day grow each year," said Kelby Lambe, a consultant with the Indiana Fever. "Community engagement is an important part of the Fever mission, and we are grateful to be part of such an amazing event that brings together kids and families from all over the city."



In support of youth development, Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett declared July 14, 2017 Summer Learning Day in a recent proclamation. The proclamation requested that all Indianapolis residents "consider the positive impact of summer youth programming on our city's growth and success."

Most participants in Summer Learning Day were recipients of the <u>Summer Youth Program Fund's 2017 grants</u>. In the spring, funds amounting to more than \$2.6 million were dispersed among more than 200 summertime programs in Indianapolis. MCCOY provided trainings earlier in the year to many of the grantees.

To learn more about National Summer Learning Day, click <u>here</u>. To learn more about the Summer Youth Program Fund, click <u>here</u>. To learn more about MCCOY, click <u>here</u>.







The Marion County Commission on Youth, Inc. (MCCOY) is the youth services intermediary for central Indiana whose mission is to champion the positive development of youth through leadership on key issues and support of the youth worker community. MCCOY's vision is that every young person in central Indiana has opportunities to thrive, learn, engage and contribute.

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