

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MCCOY releases free 2018 Youth Activity Directory

INDIANAPOLIS – The Marion County Commission on Youth, Inc. (MCCOY) recently released the 2018 Youth Activity Directory (YAD), which contains more than 600 listings of local summer and afterschool programs and events for youth in central Indiana.

For more than two decades, the purpose of the YAD has been to help parents and caretakers find programs around them that would help their children and teens develop in positive directions. The Youth Activity Directory, a catalog of program descriptions and contact information, is available as a free booklet, mobile app and online PDF. Programs included in the YAD vary in ages of youth served as well as areas of interest. In addition to summer and afterschool programs, other listings include special needs camps, volunteer openings and leadership and mentoring opportunities.

"The Youth Activity Directory is one of the most highly anticipated and useful resources we provide to the public," said John Brandon, MCCOY president and executive director. "We are honored to continue providing this unique resource year after year free of charge to support youth. We often hear thanks from community members who use the YAD to find activities that are helpful to them and their families. That kind of feedback that lets us know how valuable this resource truly is."

For the fourth consecutive year, MCCOY has made the YAD available through a free mobile app. This app can be downloaded to any Apple or Android smart phone or tablet. Unlike the booklet, which is printed yearly, the app is updated regularly to feature updated program information and coming events.

"The app helps us provide the Youth Activity Directory in a format more conducive to the everchanging world in which we live," said Brandon. "At MCCOY, we know families and youth service professionals need options; by providing this resource as a booklet, PDF and mobile app, everyone can have easy access based in their personal preferences."

To order copies of the booklet or view the PDF, click <u>here</u>. YAD booklets can be picked up at MCCOY's office located at 1375 W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street. Organizations can also submit their youth programs for inclusion in the YAD by clicking <u>here</u>.

This year's cover art was designed as part of a contest between third grade students at Merle Sidener Gifted Academy. The chosen cover was designed by Sonia Shepherd.



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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