



Black Philanthropy Month 2014

Power and Potential

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September 2014

Each August, Black Philanthropy Month (BPM) endeavors to reclaim how people of African descent understand their relationship to philanthropy, while actively reaffirming the urgency to reclaim giving and philanthropy as a means for crafting change across communities and across the world. BPM serves as an opportunity to bring awareness to the rich stories of donors making a difference, while sowing ideas of collaboration, collective giving and connection opportunities for those committed to making a change. At a time where news headlines give witness to the stark difference between that nation we aspire to be and the challenges faced by a growing economic divide, BPM is a reminder of the power and potential that rests within our personal, authentic giving stories.

Within our beloved IU community, Dr. Pat Treadwell is a known presence. An IU Health Dermatologist and Pediatrician, she is known as much for her philanthropic heart as her personal bedside manner and connection to patients. A long-time supporter of Sickle Cell services within the Indianapolis community, Pat's faith and family life have shaped a lifetime of giving back to the community. She talks passionately about the role of "Care Partners" in her life at Covenant Community Church, a community that she calls her second family. In life, her husband of 23 years, Eric serves as her philanthropic partner, committed to quiet acts of generosity, with a commitment to help others discover their own story along the way. BPM brings visibility to the everyday philanthropists that live and give generously. People like Pat Treadwell, with a giving story that spans multiple generations and decades, many organizations, interests and passions - reflects the transformation that a giver can spark to change lives and communities. BPM recognizes that there are more stories that must be told.

October 2 - 5, 2014 Lake Institute will co-sponsor Coming Full Circle: the Community Investment Network 2014 National Conference to celebrate stories of impact in Durham, North Carolina. The historic conference will highlight the powerful role of black philanthropy and collective giving in solving the challenges facing our communities and bring witness to a decade of donors investing in the promise and hope for tomorrow. Lake Institute on Faith & Giving has continued to foster diverse conversations about the intersection of faith and philanthropy over the past decade, intentionally shaping new partnerships that reflect a continuum of faith traditions and cultural perspectives. Each month through seminars and contractual programs, we examine "What does it mean to create a culture of generosity?" while helping donors examine, "What does it mean to live a generous life?" BPM is an opportunity to bring awareness to the stories of donors at every point on the economic spectrum and a reminder that our personal story is shaped by our giving.



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Our experiences at Lake are increasingly more reflective of the diverse nation where we reside. From pastors and laity, to students and donors alike, our conversations readily explore the hard questions facing religious institutions and non-profits aspiring to cast an inclusive vision that addresses what our tomorrow may look like. Spiritual and religious values, personal motivations and life passions that shape all giving, are the threads that weave our conversations together across the country. This inclusive framework for viewing giving comes at a time in our country when many news headlines highlight the divisions and misunderstandings in our communities. Black Philanthropy Month offers an opportunity for all donors to be reminded of both their power and their potential, with giving as a vehicle for authoring a future that more closely fulfills the dreams and the promise for a better tomorrow.



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