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Lilly Endowment presents gift to Hear Indiana

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Indianapolis—Hear Indiana announced today that Lilly Endowment Inc. will provide a \$50,000 grant for the “Hear from the Start, Talk for Lifetime” campaign.

“We would like to thank Lilly Endowment for supporting the ‘Hear from the Start, Talk for a Lifetime,’ campaign. We are so grateful that the Endowment has provided these funds to improve the educational attainment levels for all deaf and hard of hearing Hoosiers. We believe that this initiative will improve early intervention and school age services, which will in turn improve language and literacy levels. As a result of this campaign, we hope to see more deaf and hard of hearing students graduating from high school, going on to college, and becoming independent and contributing members of society,” said Naomi Horton, Executive Director of Hear Indiana.

About Hear Indiana

Hear Indiana is the non-profit Indiana chapter of the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (www.agbell.org). For over 30 years the organization has helped children with hearing loss achieve their fullest potential as independent members of society. For more information about how deaf children can learn to listen and speak like their hearing peers, please contact Hear Indiana at 317-828-0211 or online at www.hearindiana.org.

About the “Hear from the Start, Talk for a Lifetime” Campaign

Children with hearing loss have the same opportunities to listen and talk as hearing children, but if parents aren’t aware of their options from the beginning, they could miss an important window of opportunity.

Most babies learn language by hearing it long before they can talk, and a baby’s first months are critical in this process. Missing out on that short time frame could mean depriving a child during a critical window of opportunity – the fleeting moments when

children are best primed for learning language, a skill that will help them grow into independent, successful adults.

For more information about the “Hear from the Start, Talk for a Lifetime” campaign please visit http://www.agbell.org/DesktopDefault.aspx?p=Campaign_Press_Kit.

To learn more about how Hoosier children are benefiting from this campaign, contact Hear Indiana Executive Director Naomi Horton at (317) 828-0211 or email info@hearindiana.org.

About the Lilly Endowment

Lilly Endowment Inc. is an Indianapolis-based, private philanthropic foundation created in 1937 by three members of the Lilly family to support the causes of community development, education and religion. For more information about Lilly Endowment visit <http://www.lillyendowment.org>.