GRASSROOT PROJECTS

#12

Play. Smile. Dream. Grow.

OCT 25

GRASSROOT GAZETTE

Monthly Newsletter

Thank You for Making a Lasting Impact

Your generosity continues to make a real difference for refugee and immigrant families bringing hope, connection, and opportunity to our community. This month, we're celebrating the power of collective action: from student-led book drives that inspire empathy to volunteer-powered school initiatives that prepare children for success. Because of your support, families are finding stability, children are discovering the joy of learning, and communities are growing stronger together. Every contribution, big or small, helps us build a more inclusive and compassionate future.

In this newsletter you will find:

Latest projects, special requests, and more. Keep Reading!

Kids Helping Kids

YOUTH IN ACTION: SPREADING HOPE FOR A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Seventh-grader **Zalia Berman** and her sister **Orli** (5th grade) kicked off our Back to School program by laminating cheerful "wishes" to include in the backpacks. Inspired by their example, a church youth group joined in, creating additional notes and helping stuff pencil pouches for the backpacks. Their combined efforts added a personal, heartfelt touch to 250 backpacks donated by **Salesforce** and individual supporters. Each backpack, filled with essential school supplies, was prepared with care. A huge thanks also to Salesforce employees who volunteered their time to support local students as they begin the new school year.

Literacy Fair

Grassroot Project partnered with Pages for Progress to support our first Literacy Fair at the Arthur Jordan YMCA. Thanks to the YMCA's generous venue sponsorship, children received literacy kits and families had the chance to win gift basket raffles. A fantastic event promoting early reading and family engagement!

Kids Inspiring Others - One Book at a time

Redmond High School freshman Arjun Nair turned his love of reading into action, leading a community book drive that collected over 3,400 books for refugee and immigrant children in the Seattle area. Partnering with Horace Mann Elementary students and Grassroots Projects, Arjun's initiative not only shared the joy of reading but also celebrated diversity, empathy, and inclusion through culturally rich stories in multiple languages. His efforts show how one student's idea can inspire a community and open doors for others.

SEE FULL STORY

“Open Hearts, Open hands”

A NIGHT OF ART, CULTURE, AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

Our Annual Fall Fundraiser at the Indianapolis Art Center was a beautiful success bringing in over $36,000! The event celebrated international artist **Rama Sharma** and showcased the rich traditions of Indian and Persian art enhanced by vibrant dance and drum performances that brought the cultural experience to life. We were honored to present Glick Philanthropies with this year’s Impact Award in recognition of their outstanding commitment to community empowerment. Thanks to the generosity of local artists, Aronstam Jewelers, our sponsors all who contributed, we proudly surpassed our fundraising goal. The compassion of our attendees and the dedication of our volunteers made the evening truly special —showing the power of a community united by

Grocery Cards for November

YOUR SUPPORT HELPS GRASSROOT PROJECTS HELP SNAP CUTS

Recent cuts to SNAP (food assistance) benefits are leaving many families—especially those in under-resourced and immigrant communities—struggling to put food on the table. At Grassroot Projects, we see firsthand how these policy changes deepen food insecurity for parents already working hard to make ends meet. You can make an immediate difference by gifting a $100 grocery card to help a family access healthy, nourishing meals.

Together, we can ensure no child goes hungry.

Please mail gift cards to:

For **Indiana** - 2201 E 46th Street, Suite 198; Indianapolis, IN 46205

For **Washington** - 300 Lenora St #1486 Seattle, WA 98118

Other Ways to Help

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Your support helps Grassroot Projects welcome and empower immigrant and refugee families in Indianapolis and Seattle —providing essentials, comfort, and a sense of belonging. Thanks to your generosity, newcomers like a recently arrived Afghan mother and her four children can truly feel seen, supported, and at home.

DONATE TODAY

Sponsor A Passion

REMEMBER YOUR FIRST SOCCER GAME?

Every child deserves the chance to dream big—and to have the tools they need to get there. For many refugee and immigrant children, joining a soccer team, learning an instrument, or participating in after-school activities represents more than just fun; it's a pathway to confidence, friendship, and belonging. Yet, for families starting over in a new country, the cost of uniforms, gear, or instruments can make those dreams feel out of reach.

Your support can help change that. By providing access to sports and music programs, you're giving these children the opportunity to express themselves, develop their talents, and build connections that strengthen our community. When a child steps onto a field or takes the stage with pride, it's not just their moment, it's a reminder of what's possible when compassion turns into action.

So far this year, over 115 children have participated in a sports or arts program. Consider becoming a recurring donor as very few children get the recommended 60 minutes of exercise a day.

Together, we can make sure every child has the chance to play, perform, and thrive, no matter where they come from.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY!

You can make a difference today! Donate now to help provide uniforms, sports gear, or musical equipment for refugee and immigrant children. Your contribution, time, or company's sponsorship can open doors for young newcomers to discover their passions, build confidence, and feel a true sense of belonging in their new community.

Our volunteer Sue helping children who participated in the 6 week art program at the Indy Art Center where they had an opportunity to try a different art media every week.

INDY ART CENTER
EVERYBODY'S ART

Thanks to King County Parks, more than 80 children and youth have participated on recreational teams or learned a new sport

King County PARKS
Your Big Backyard

Parent Testimonial

It was a very good program which helped my children be more active and make friends.

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