

Mayor Joe Hogsett Unveils Music Cities Strategy Recovery Program

\$125k allocated to program assisting venues impacted by COVID-19

INDIANAPOLIS – Today Mayor Joe Hogsett announced the Music Cities Strategy Recovery Program, a grant program directed at independent music venues disadvantaged by Public Health Orders surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. Applications are available at musicalfamilytree.org/blog and will be due by August 7, 2020.

“Indianapolis has some of the finest independent music venues in the country,” said Mayor Hogsett. “As we safely reopen our economy, we want to make sure that our venues have the resources they need to survive and thrive.”

The City has designated \$125,000 to the program, which is available to independent music venues located within Marion County. Grants are to be used for overhead costs, which may include monthly rent or mortgage payments and utility payments. The program is funded by federal CARES Act dollars approved by the City-County Council on June 8.

Last year, the City of Indianapolis and Musical Family Tree joined the Indy Chamber and other civic partners in the launch of the Indy Music Strategy, an economic development initiative focused on building the city’s diverse and growing music industry. Both partners are participating in the Music Cities Strategy Recovery Program, with Musical Family Tree handling the application process and the distribution of funds.

“Independent music venues are the lifeblood of the music scene, where local musicians learn their trade and build careers. We’re proud to continue our partnership with the City to provide assistance to them when they need it the most.” said Jim Rawlinson, Board Chair of Musical Family Tree. “Music venues were the first to close and the last to open. Hopefully these funds will allow them to hang on and reopen responsibly and safely.”

Indianapolis residents impacted by COVID-19 should visit the City of Indianapolis resource guide, which can be viewed at www.indy.gov/covid. Spanish speaking residents can view the Resource Guide [here](#). Individuals who are unable to navigate the city’s website can call 317-327-4MAC between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to talk to a customer service representative. Residents can request a free face covering at indy.gov/masks.