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THE HERBERT SIMON FAMILY FOUNDATION SUPPORTS CHRISTEL HOUSE DORS WITH GRANT

Adult high school sees largest enrollment in 2017

The Herbert Simon Family Foundation will provide resource support assistance for students at Christel House DORS, an adult high school for students working to complete a high school diploma. Established in 2012, DORS currently serves an estimated 600 students at three Indianapolis locations.

"Every year, thousands of students encounter obstacles and challenges in traditional schools that result in students dropping out," says Carey Dahncke, Christel House Head of Schools. "Providing for themselves and their families is an ongoing struggle. Christel House DORS addresses the special needs of adult high school students, many of whom face tremendous family, community and workplace obstacles. This grant from The Herbert Simon Family Foundation will support Resource Specialists to motivate, guide, and support students. The impact of this work is absolutely life changing for our DORS students."

In the US, an estimated 3 million high school students drop out of school annually. Twenty percent of Indianapolis residents have neither a high school diploma nor a GED. According to a 2015 report by Education Week, a high school dropout is NOT eligible for 90% of jobs, and will make an average of \$260,000 less over a lifetime than a high school graduate.

Jennifer Simon, The Herbert Simon Family Foundation Board Member states, "Christel House DORS fits perfectly into our foundation's long-term plan and overall goals. One of our primary areas of focus is education and Christel House DORS is certainly a unique, one-of-a-kind program that helps adults get their diplomas." Jennifer continues, "Our foundation feels that adults are a drastically underserved demographic in the education arena and DORS makes it possible for adults to have flexible scheduling, extensive support and custom resources critical to their success in reaching their goals."

Christel House DORS has a remarkable record of success in transforming the lives of its students. In 2017, 100% of graduates earned a Core 40 diploma; 93% graduated with Dual Credit and/or an Industry Certification; and 93% of graduates are in college and/ or working.

About Christel House DORS

Christel House DORS is a tuition free high school for adults over the age of 18 who still need to earn a high school diploma. Students have access to multiple diploma types depending upon their career and post-secondary goals. This may include dual-credit and career certification options.

The DORS program offers flexible scheduling and utilizes a blended learning model which integrates computer technology and in-class instruction. This model allows students to work at different levels and progress at their own pace. Students who complete the DORS program will earn an Indiana Core 40 high school diploma.

For more information, please visit <u>www.chacademy.org</u> and follow us on social media: www.facebook.com/christelhouse; www.twitter.com/christelhouse