At the IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs at IUPUI, we envision safer, healthier communities. Public servants trained to effect positive change in their communities. Environmental stewardship that enhances the sustainability of our shared planet.

The world needs idealistic thinkers and a solid plan for improvement. At SPEA, we deliver on these needs each and every day—through our nationally ranked MPA program; through our exceptional faculty and their groundbreaking research; through our students, who receive the most comprehensive training available; and through the new ways of thinking that we share with national and global leaders.

Today, in the heart of Indiana’s capital city, we’re poised to broaden this already substantial impact on our state, nation, and world. With the launch of For All: The Indiana University Bicentennial Campaign, we’re seeking to generate the critical private support that’s necessary to maintain and build on SPEA’s strong foundation of success.

Together, we’ll create stronger communities, better leaders, and a brighter future for all.
Your support will help educate more people like Marty Posch, who inspired 2,300 volunteers.

- AND TO GIVE $1.5 MILLION TO SPECIAL OLYMPICS INTERNATIONAL
- AND $584,000 TO KIDS’ ORGANIZATIONS (all in just one year)
- TO PUT IN 10,099 HOURS OF VOLUNTEERING

Like the new Finish Line Boys and Girls Club in Indianapolis, that will serve over 1,200 kids annually with programs that support development and active lifestyles, making a real difference for young people and improving the world one community at a time.
GOAL #1: INCREASING STUDENT SUPPORT

With every new class of students, SPEA equips tomorrow’s leaders to effect positive change in communities around the world. Leaders like Marty Posch, MPA’08, who came to our program with a deep passion for helping others—and who gained the knowledge, skills, and experience to fully use that passion to achieve the greatest good.

Today, Posch is president of the Finish Line Youth Foundation in Indianapolis, where he determines the most effective ways to distribute hundreds of thousands of dollars to children’s charities around the nation. Locally, he’s using his education and experience to make Indianapolis a better place to live for generations to come by engaging people to volunteer their time, share their support, and improve their community.

EDUCATE CHANGE MAKERS

Posch is just one of the countless graduates who go on to shape their communities in life-changing ways. But competition for the brightest, most capable students—those who will make the very best out of a SPEA education—is fierce. Scores of qualified and deserving students miss out simply because they can’t afford to attend. Merit-based financial assistance is one of the most powerful tools we have to attract them to SPEA at IUPUI. When you join us by contributing to student support, you create more opportunities for deserving, talented students to gain access to a first-rate education and begin their careers of serving others.

“There’s zero chance I’d be doing what I’m doing today without the SPEA program. I had so much guidance from professors and administrators, and from classes that were taught by executives from nonprofits around the city. That’s invaluable.”

—Marty Posch, MPA’08

Undergraduate scholarships build a diverse, talented community and help equip students to tackle society’s greatest challenges.

Graduate fellowships and assistantships attract the best and brightest scholars to SPEA at IUPUI, where they assist faculty in teaching, contribute to new research, and participate in the discovery of new knowledge.
GOAL #2: CREATING TOMORROW’S GLOBAL LEADERS

The answers to some of our most pressing issues—like public safety, food security, and environmental sustainability—require leaders with intercultural understanding and sensitivity. By facilitating study abroad opportunities and bringing international thought leaders and scholars to campus, we equip our students for success in the twenty-first century.

International experiences open our students’ eyes to new cultures, new ideas, and new opportunities for collaboration and leadership as they share our legacy around the globe.

IT STARTS WITH YOU

Andre Zhang Sonera came to Indianapolis from Puerto Rico for the national conference of the Future Farmers of America. He soon fell in love with the city and learned more about SPEA IUPUI through a college fair. Sonera started at IUPUI in biology, but moved to SPEA quickly because of his desire to serve others and better his community. During the summer of 2014, he worked in the White House through the Washington Leadership Program, assisting with domestic and international presidential events, as well as preparing briefing books for senior staff members.

Sonera’s passion for service, when paired with an intercultural perspective, is the perfect tool for meeting today’s global challenges head on. However, sustaining national and international study abroad programming demands significant investment from the school, and for many, financial need is too steep a barrier. Your support of international study and exchange will enable even more SPEA students to gain the skills and experience they need to better contribute to their future careers.

CREATE CITIZENS FOR ALL WHO OF THE WORLD

André Zhang Sonera visiting the White House during his time in the Washington Leadership Program.

Mary Ann Sullivan MPA’00

Photo credit: Evan Semon, courtesy of PPI

Photo credit: Evan Semon, courtesy of PPI
IT STARTS WITH YOU

Faculty endowments and research support are critical tools for building a superior faculty and fostering a community of leading edge teaching and innovative discoveries.

FOR ALL WHO INSPIRE INNOVATION

GOAL #3: SUSTAINING FACULTY EXCELLENCE

The heart of any great academic program is its faculty: those who teach the leaders of tomorrow and advance the frontiers of human understanding. Today as never before, our continued excellence and nationally ranked programs depend on our ability to recruit and retain the very best professors.

In 2010, for example, Associate Professor Abdul-Akeem Sadiq conducted on-site research after the devastating earthquake in Haiti, with a focus on managing mass fatalities. Today, the results of his research have been shared in scholarly publications, advancing the discipline worldwide, and the students who now sit in his classroom will go on to apply this knowledge in their own careers.

Sadiq’s contributions and influence are matched by many of our professors, who uphold the high standard of excellence through research and service that SPEA is known for. But as state funding covers a smaller share of our operating budget, and as a highly competitive market vies for the greatest talents in the field, maintaining a superior faculty is a challenging task. Endowed faculty positions are our best opportunity to meet that challenge head on.

Research support and infrastructure are additional tools for building and sustaining faculty excellence. Our Public Policy Institute enables faculty and student researchers to generate the unbiased information that policymakers need to make objective, data-driven decisions that impact our communities and our state, and may inform other states as well.

Research centers like this give faculty members the opportunity to pursue deep study in their fields. They also give students the chance to gain firsthand experience working alongside faculty mentors. This process not only strengthens the ties between learners and leaders, but also helps SPEA to make real, lasting contributions to society.

With your investment, we will expand our research agenda, build on our faculty’s excellence, and continue to address the needs of our communities every day.

Abdul-Akeem Sadiq, associate professor of criminal justice and public safety
Civic outreach programs enable our students to apply and refine their skills in real-world settings, equipping tomorrow’s leaders with the practical experiences they need to build stronger communities and a better quality of life for residents.

IT STARTS WITH YOU

GOAL #4: SUPPORTING SERVICE LEARNING AND OUR COMMUNITY OUTREACH

To build stronger communities, we must find new ways to foster civic outreach. That’s why we’re committed to supporting programs that give our students hands-on experience in advancing economic growth, sound policy, and community well-being.

In 2012, for example, SPEA students Adriene Tynes and Erin (Braun) Lewis decided to take action when they learned that there were more than 500 homeless veterans in Marion County. They began collecting food and clothing in the inaugural Meat and Heat Drive for Homeless Veterans to support the Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation. Three years later, the program had expanded to include more than 15 local businesses and IUPUI organizations, joining together to make a difference for those who served and those who continue to face daily quality of life challenges after returning home.

Initiatives like this equip our students with direct experience in community outreach and civic engagement. These opportunities enable our leaders in training to take the knowledge and perspectives they’ve gained in the classroom and apply them to meet real-world needs in communities near and far.

Staffing, administering, and sustaining these programs requires additional funding from the school, beyond what is already committed to our teaching and research missions. With your help, even more students will benefit from firsthand immersive learning opportunities, and even more communities and external organizations will benefit from vital outreach and capacity-building support.
Together, we have the power to build stronger, healthier communities and a better quality of life for residents. We can shape the leaders who will craft smart public policy and protect the planet that future generations will inherit.

Your support of the IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs at IUPUI will empower student success, build global competency, sustain faculty excellence, and fuel leading edge programming. It will help children and families to flourish, communities to thrive, and society to advance.

Join us, and help fulfill the promise of a safer, healthier Indiana and a better world for all.