

# USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation's Program Book Benefiting

# NJTLS



USTA/MIDWEST  
TENNIS &  
EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION



**BiS is the premier sponsor of the USTA/ Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation. We thank all 28 chapters of the Midwest NJTL Network for all the dedication to their local communities and are proud to help them serve over 8,528 youth across the Midwest Section.**

*BiS actively manages your business records and documents while ensuring security, accessibility, and compliance with regulatory issues so that you can concentrate on running your day-to-day business. We don't just stack your material in a warehouse. We treat it as if your success depends on it.*



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

What's MTEF and NJTL.....	1
Our 2021 NJTL Chapters.....	3
Our New 2021 NJTL Chapters.....	14
NJTL Contact List.....	23
Stories of NJTLs in Their Communities.....	26
Free Money Available.....	35
Grants and Scholarships Available.....	36
Ways to Donate.....	38
Donor Recognition.....	39

# What's MTEF?

The USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation (USTA/MTEF) is the charitable arm of the USTA/Midwest Section. Its purpose is to provide financial support and educational

opportunities to community organizations, groups, programs, and individuals. We make a difference by providing tennis opportunities to diverse youth and adult populations from many cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds including Adaptive Tennis, Wheelchair Tennis, and Wounded Warriors. We also award scholarships and grants. By doing so, USTA/MTEF helps individuals' personal growth, bringing tennis to children who might not experience it otherwise. We enhance communities within the USTA/Midwest Section by promoting the sport of tennis as an enjoyable lifetime sport that contributes to good health, leadership, education, discipline, and self-esteem.

The Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation helps support our Midwest NJTL Chapters. NJTL stands for National Junior Tennis and Learning. Their mission is to bring tennis and education together to change lives. The goals remain the same today as the day it was founded: instilling in youth the values of leadership and academic excellence; and giving all kids (regardless of income, race, or gender) the opportunity to fully develop their tennis skills so they can enjoy this lifelong sport.

# What's NJTL?

The NJTL network features nearly 300 chapters nationwide. In 2021, the Midwest welcomed eight new NJTL Chapters, the most of any other Section, bringing the total to 28. They all provide free or low-cost tennis in addition to educational programming. This provides opportunities for kids in need to succeed on the court, in the classroom and in life. There are many big opportunities for NJTL participants, including scholarships and the annual USTA Foundation Essay Contest. The winners of the essay contest earn a trip to Arthur Ashe Kids' Day at the US Open in New York.

This booklet is to bring our NJTL Chapters into the spotlight and show our appreciation for the impact they make on the lives of youth through tennis and learning. We thank all our NJTL's, for all they do to carry out The Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation's Mission.

# National Junior Tennis and Learning Chapters Around the Midwest



# Our 2021 NJTL Chapters





## The ACE Project



The ACE Project's mission is to nurture children living in underserved communities by building character, confidence, and competency through the sport of tennis. Since launching in 2013, ACE adapted to provide comprehensive youth programs, adult workforce development, and community revitalization in Southland Chicago, Baltimore, and Detroit with a goal to expand capacity and advocate for positive youth development in underserved school districts nationwide.



## Advantage Cleveland Tennis and Education



Advantage Cleveland Tennis and Education's mission is to "Provide Cleveland's youth with tennis, wellness, fitness, literacy, STEM, and creative expression programs to promote hope, healthy living and productive futures."

We do this by providing a free eight-week camp to children in the Hough neighborhood for the past 12 summers. We also initiated an after-school program that focuses on literacy, tennis, and wellness in nearby Cleveland Metropolitan School District elementary schools, with the hopes to expand to more this fall. Finally, we have begun year-round tennis clinics for students who would like to pursue tennis and play competitively. Our vision is to bring tennis back to the city schools and recreation centers and grow literacy and STEM programs at the middle schools while creating tennis teams.



## Alpine Regional Tennis Association


 Alpine Regional Tennis Association (ARTA), an award winning non-profit organization, fosters interest and skill development for the lifelong sport of tennis for people of all ages in Northern Michigan. To achieve that goal, ARTA raised over \$300k to build a new USTA standard 4 court tennis center, and raised additional funding to provide benches, bleachers, windscreens, and a state of the art back board. We have worked each summer with over 50 kids ages 6-16 for several weeks of programs, and our tennis pros offer clinics, Start/Restart, group and private lessons and cardio tennis. We also host summer men and women leagues that fill the courts each week. All of these activities have significantly grown interest and participation for this life long sport of tennis, and the Otsego County Sportsplex Tennis Center has drawn competitive players throughout the Northern Michigan region for Northern Michigan Tennis Association tournaments and leagues.



## Cincinnati Recreation Commission


 Our goal is to introduce the game of tennis to children between the ages of 6-14. This is done by using a combination of instruction, games, and match play. Cincinnati Recreation Commission's NJTL program is held during the summer, is free, and provides all equipment at no cost. This year marks the 50th year of Cincinnati Recreation Commission's NJTL program.



## Cincinnati Tennis Foundation



Our mission is to use tennis and education as a vehicle to positively impact lives. We offer tennis and educational programming at schools and parks across Cincinnati. We are currently in the process of fundraising for an indoor facility for our players.



## CrossCourt Tennis CTA



This program meets twice a week for ten weeks during the summer at Martin Luther King Park in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Students learn life skills in addition to tennis. A two-week fall camp in the fall is also offered. There is a reading project, parent/child tournaments, and an ending celebration picnic with fun activity games. Participants receive a certificate, awards, and prizes.



## Evansville Area Tennis Patrons



More than 400 boys and girls from 10-12 area schools participate in the Evansville middle school tennis league during the spring and fall. The Evansville Area Patrons help organize match schedules, recruit volunteer coaches for each school and provide balls and t-shirts to the players. The program partners with the Evansville Vanderburgh school corporation and offers annual free tennis lessons. Other partnerships include the YMCA and an after-school program.



## Inform Yourself Youth Development



Inform Yourself Youth Development's mission is to enhance the lives of at-risk youth through USTA Tennis, S.T.E.M., and Entrepreneurship.



## Love to Serve, Inc.



Love To Serve, Inc. Tennis and Education Foundation (LTS) is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide quality tennis and education programs that contribute to youth development in a supportive and safe environment; improved student academic outcomes through our ACT Prep Program and to build knowledge and transferable skills for future success in college and with careers.



## Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation



Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation's mission is to improve the lives and futures of Milwaukee's youth through tennis, education and mentoring. With a focus on building character, Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation coaches and volunteers engage participants throughout the year with activities including tennis, tutoring, educational enrichment, service opportunities, and more. Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation strives to create opportunities for children in Milwaukee, especially those from low-income families, to learn a lifetime sport and, more importantly, develop into healthy, well-rounded, well-educated, tolerant, and compassionate human beings. Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation coaches use a trauma-informed approach to their lessons to help children achieve. Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation's three primary programs are the School Year TEAM, Summer Camps, and After School programs.



## NJTL of Indianapolis



NJTL of Indianapolis follows the example set by Arthur Ashe to promote education, good character, and healthy lifestyles to children through the sport of tennis. We offer youth tennis and educational programs throughout the year for Indianapolis children and teens, regardless of family income levels.

Programs are open to everyone who wants to play and learn. Our programs serve as a foundation from which to build self-esteem, encourage youth interest in physical activity, and foster a lifelong love of the sport of tennis.



## People for Palmer Park



The People for Palmer Park Tennis Academy's mission is to create fundamentally sound tennis players, build self-esteem, and foster well rounded individuals.



## Racine Community Tennis Association



Racine Community Tennis Association's (RCTA) mission is to promote, educate, and develop the activity and sport of tennis, and to assist in the development of tennis facilities in Racine County, WI to benefit the community at large. RCTA is a 501c3 nonprofit.



## Southside Junior Tennis



Southside Junior Tennis Camp offers an affordable introduction to tennis with emphasis on fun, sportsmanship, perseverance, and building a foundation for future success in tennis and in life. Our program is available during the summer for eight weeks to children in kindergarten to eighth grade.



## Tennis Opportunity Program (TOP)



TOP is a Chicago based charity organization that provides tennis scholarships and academic support to under-served and disadvantaged youth. Our mission is to nurture and empower our participants to maximize their potential on and of the tennis court, and ultimately, to achieve a college education. TOP believes that the fun, skills and discipline learned through tennis will transfer to all aspects of life.



## Todd Martin Youth Leadership



Todd Martin Youth Leadership (TMYL) exists to prepare young people - especially those from under-resourced families and communities - for success as individuals and as active, responsible citizens, through innovative tennis, education, life skills, and leadership development programming.



## Urban Youth Tennis Foundation



Tennis is our tool to mentor urban youth with character qualities; promote reading, nutrition, and a healthy life-long sport; provide team competition opportunities and high school/collegiate potential, with love and encouragement for future aspirations.



## West Michigan Community Tennis



Our mission is to establish a sustainable nonprofit tennis facility in West Michigan focused on development and programming for existing tennis enthusiasts of all ages and levels, while providing the underserved and underprivileged of our community programming, opportunities and vehicle transportation to better their position through life-long racquet sports. The foundation of our community's tennis culture must be rooted in community programming and an accessible facility; the success of one is dependent upon the other.



## XS Tennis and Education Foundation



The XS Tennis and Education Foundation’s (XSTEF) mission is to provide Chicago’s underserved youth with an enriching safe-haven and positive pathway to college through a community-based tennis and academic enrichment program.”

We strive to introduce as many underserved Chicago youth as possible to tennis, with the intention of guiding them down a pathway to college through the attainment of a college tennis scholarship and sustained excellence thereafter in whatever endeavor they pursue. XS Tennis is open to everyone. We provide full scholarships to Chicago residents and income-based scholarships to everyone. No child is left behind.

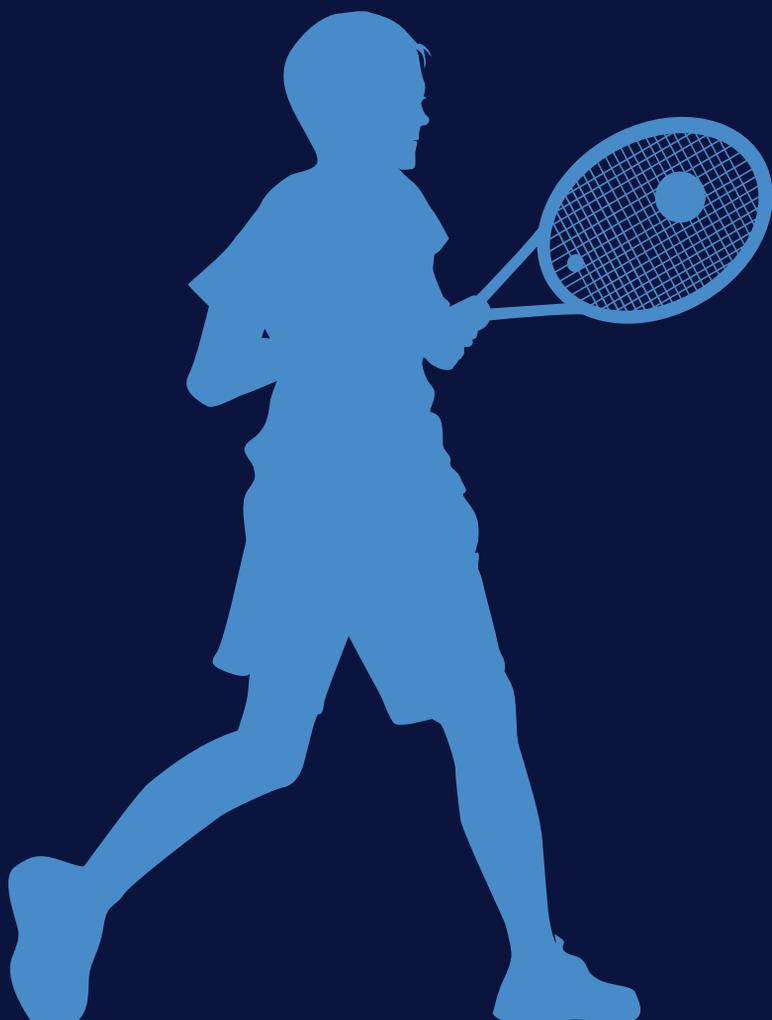


## YES Evanston NJTL



The mission of YES is to help level the playing field for at risk minority students who typically would not receive tennis instruction and academic tutoring to receive an hour of each every week of a fall and spring session. We also help to reinforce values such as sportsmanship, teamwork, respect, and community.

# Our 2021 New NJTL Chapters



# Amigos, Richmond Latino Center



The Amigos Club de Tennis Youth Tennis Program (NJTL) is dedicated to serving underserved youth in the Richmond, IN area to be physically active, to learn tennis skills, to build self-esteem and self-confidence, to develop positive relationships in a diverse setting, and to learn to care for body and mind through good nutrition and sport. The Amigos Club de Tennis program serves primarily Latinx and other underserved youth ages 10-17 and meets three days a week from May through October. Through Club de Tennis, underserved youth are mentored by adult coaches. Students build self-esteem and confidence, while learning to maintain an active/healthy lifestyle. Tennis skills, teamwork, cultural understanding, and an appreciation of tennis are also practiced.



# Indianapolis Tennis & Education Foundation



The INDY (Inspiring, Nurturing, and Developing Youth) Program (formerly Tennis and Education Development Fund), a part of the Indianapolis Community Tennis Program, serves nearly 50 at-risk rising third graders in our community. A combination of tennis instruction and education focuses on overall health and wellness, with a strong emphasis on social and emotional skills. This all scholarship program eliminates the financial barrier that prevents children from participating in youth sports, while instilling tennis and life skills necessary for success both in the classroom and in life.



# THRiVE Through Tennis



At THRiVE Through Tennis, our mission is to utilize tennis as a therapeutic model to positively impact the health and wellness of individuals and our community. We are dedicated to serving our community by providing tennis programs that are accessible to any child who wants to play and learn tennis, regardless of ability.

We offer both Adaptive and Wheelchair Tennis programs that are open to individuals of all ages who have physical, developmental, cognitive, emotional or social challenges that may limit their ability to participate in, enjoy and benefit physically and mentally from tennis. For families that choose homeschooling, we offer a Home School Tennis Academy that provides an opportunity for children ages 5 and older to participate in a physical education program where they can learn to play tennis or improve their skills.



# South Bend Boys & Girls Club



At Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Joseph County we have a bold vision: that success is within reach of every child. We believe every girl and boy deserves a safe place to learn and grow; life-enhancing programs, character development experiences, and hope and opportunity for the future. In such an environment, kids can discover how to see beyond the walls of their current situation and realize they can succeed. They are becoming better people, contributing members of the community—our future citizens, labor force, and leaders.

"The mission of Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Joseph County is to inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, caring, and responsible citizens."



# Dublin Tennis Outreach Program (TOP)



Dublin Tennis Outreach Program is the first high school student led NJTL. We offer free tennis clinics and one-on-one tutoring sessions to hundreds of kids grades K-5, spread across multiple suburbs. All of our staff are unpaid volunteers, including our directors! Our mission is to promote and inspire the youth of the next generation without the cost barrier.



# Motor City Tennis Club



Our mission is to grow the sport of tennis by offering transformative, engaging, and low cost programs that positively impact adult and youth players' self-confidence, perseverance, sportsmanship, responsibility and healthy lifestyle. Our mission includes increasing diversity, inclusion, and access to the sport of tennis among adults and youth residing in underserved communities in the Metro Detroit area, regardless of their ethnicity, religion, gender, physical capabilities, or sexual orientation.



# Opportunity Tennis Academy



Opportunity Tennis Academy’s mission is to provide an OPPORTUNITY for children from all neighborhoods to play tennis while developing character traits to compete in LIFE.

Opportunity Tennis Academy provides an affordable, weekly two-hour program that combines tennis lessons and character building through education. Our Academy serves all interested student-athletes, but in particular, ones who are from low-income communities who do not have the opportunity to play tennis on a consistent basis due to their socio-economic status, including, but not limited to, a lack of financial resources. Our goal is to provide a program that can service children ranging from age 4 until 17 and contribute to their development into independent, responsible and resilient adults.



# Grassroots Tennis Program



Our goal is to develop tennis players in our community. Economic status does not matter, we just want people that want to have fun and play the game. We strive to have everyone have a chance to play who wants to play and try not to limit them along the way.



# NJTL Contact List



## **The Ace Project**

Susan Klumpner  
(630) 802-0247  
susan@activechildrenexcel.org

## **Advantage Cleveland Tennis and Education**

Liz Deegan  
(216) 255-8283  
ldeegan@advantagecle.org

## **Alpine Regional Tennis Association**

Sheila Simpson  
(989) 370-1567

## **Amigos, Richmond Latino Center**

Patty Lamson  
(765)-914-0310  
patty@amigoslatinocenter.org

## **Cincinnati Recreation Commission**

Nialani Robinson  
(513) 604-2725  
nialani.robinson@cincinnati-oh.gov

## **Cincinnati Tennis Foundation**

Matt Dektas  
(513) 265-6000  
mattdektas@gmail.com

## **CrossCourt Tennis CTA**

Dorothy Bowman  
(616) 808-5776  
crosscourtcta@aol.com

## **Dublin Tennis Outreach Program (TOP)**

Isaac Frank  
614-956-9350  
isaacw1218@gmail.com

## **Evansville Area Tennis Patrons**

Brian Poynter  
(713) 805-1193 (Mobile)  
(812) 401-6060 (Office)  
bpoynter@evansvilletennis.com

## **Grassroots Tennis Program**

Todd Anderson  
(262) 498-0389

## **Indianapolis Tennis & Education Foundation**

Melissa Fitch  
(317) 259-5377  
info@tennisprogram.com  
mfitch13@gmail.com

## **Inform Yourself Youth Development**

Pat Wiley  
(248) 866-8428  
informyourself2@comcast.net

## **Love to Serve, Inc.**

Lori James  
(773) 732-9944  
ljames@ltstennisacademy.us

## **Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation**

Rachel Badt  
(414) 442-8195  
rbadt@mtef.com

## **Motor City Tennis Club**

Burrell Shields  
(248) 701-3420  
burrellshields49@yahoo.com

## **NJTL of Indianapolis**

Dax Lowery  
(317) 429-9965  
dax@indynjtl.org

## **Opportunity Tennis Academy**

Lynnette Cain  
(313) 289-9309  
opportunitytennis@gmail.com

## **People for Palmer Park**

Leonora King  
(313) 828-8847  
leonorakng@aol.com

## **Racine Community Tennis Association**

Glenn Shultz  
(262) 770-5996  
racinecommunitytennis@gmail.com

## **Southside Junior Tennis**

Dola Thompson  
(708) 259-6354  
life.good.to.me@gmail.com

## **South Bend Boys & Girls Club**

Jacqueline Kronk  
(574)229-6484  
jkronk@bgcsjc.org

## **Tennis Opportunity Program (TOP)**

Luca Serra  
lucaserra1@icloud.com  
www.toptennischicago.org

## **THRiVE Through Tennis**

Brian Smallwood  
(216) 838-5600  
smallwood10s@yahoo.com

## **Todd Martin Youth Leadership**

Rebecca Swan Johnson  
(517)483-4021  
rebecca.johnson@tmyl.org

## **Urban Youth Tennis Foundation**

Pharrington Douglass  
(989) 239-2709  
pdouglass@zatkoff.com

## **West Michigan Community Tennis**

Deanri Human  
(208) 553-4510  
dhuman92@outlook.com

## **XS Tennis and Education Foundation**

Kamau Murray  
(773)548-7529  
info@xstennis.org

## **YES Evanston NJTL**

Ken Rattner  
(847)869-7429

## **\*Inner City Tennis Project**

Tony Pack  
(513)503-9930  
anthony.pack@zoomtown.com

\*New NJTL as of Fall 2021.  
Not Shown in Program Book

# Stories of NJTLs in Their Communities



# Advantage Cleveland



Advantage Cleveland (AdvantageCLE) is known for their innovative additions to programming – after all, they offer a creative expression program during their summer camps where staff work with the kids on poetry style, composition and writing, and it all culminates in a poetry slam in front of a live audience twice during the summer. So it's no surprise that when COVID forced their summer camps into the virtual space that staff hit the road and delivered racquets and supplies to the kids' homes directly so they could still participate. They offered

their traditional programs, and even incorporated Friday webinars centered around current events. This summer, they have been back outside, but still offer a virtual camp as well.

Since 2010, AdvantageCLE has impacted over 9,000 children in the Cleveland area with their tennis and educational programs. Each year, they host a free, eight-week summer camp that draws kids from over 70 urban schools. Tennis instruction is coupled with STEM, literacy and wellness programming, all designed to empower kids and help abate the summer learning slide. Building on their summer camp success, AdvantageCLE now offers an after-school program for kids in grades 1-4.



# Cincinnati Recreation Commission

This year marks 50 years of Cincinnati Recreation Commission's tennis program! Tennis rackets, balls, court time and group instruction are provided free of charge for youth ages 6-14. The eight week summer program is offered in more than 10 public parks around Cincinnati. In addition to tennis, participants learn about health, nutrition, and life skills. Hundreds of children take advantage of the program each year, and it reaches those who may not otherwise have an opportunity to learn to play tennis. This program is supported by annual donations from the charitable arm of the Western & Southern Open – Tennis For Charity. In 2018, Cincinnati Recreation Commission was named USTA/Midwest Section NJTL Chapter of the Year.



# The ACE Project



Susan Klumpner co-founded The ACE Project in 2013 and spun around an acronym that used to mean ‘adverse childhood experiences’ and reframed it, so ‘ACE’ could have a new meaning — ‘active children excel’. The word ‘ace’ is also a double entendre for the point-winning serve! But rather than focusing on potential negative outcomes for children who have experienced trauma, The ACE Project uses a strengths-based model to assist with positive youth development by nurturing children in underserved communities through sports. Schools and parks are critical social infrastructures The ACE Project works through.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, all of ACE’s programming in Baltimore and Detroit went virtual, with both asynchronous and synchronous opportunities. In March 2020, when in-person programs were halted in Chicago, ACE began doing wellness checks through a parent-mentor program: seeing if anyone needed a ride to the grocery store, supplying personal protective equipment (PPE), and creating schedules to take folks to and from their doctors’ appointments. When ACE ran its annual summer camp, it provided meals for children to take home with them. The ACE Project has also talked of starting a client choice food pantry. As ACE’s Executive Director, Susan Klumpner along with Rebecca Johnson, Executive Director for Todd Martin Youth Leadership, petitioned the USTA/Midwest Tennis Education Foundation Board for \$50,000 in Covid-19 grants for Midwest NJTLs. The ACE Project continues to lift lives through its programming, while reminding us of the emotional connections between sport and humanity.



# The Scars Foundation: Grace Notes

This past June, three Midwest NJTLs came together for the first of its kind collaboration. People For Palmer Park, Motor City Tennis Club and Opportunity Tennis, along with the Scars Foundation, facilitated the “Juneteenth Celebration of Tennis & Kids Tennis Tournament”. Moving the body by playing tennis and moving the soul through music was the goal of this new collaboration.

The Scars Foundation was established by Sully Erna and rock band Godsmack to help raise awareness of the mental health issues that so many are faced with today. Athletes, including the tennis community, are not excluded from this. SCARS is dedicated to providing resources and tools and empower those who struggle with these challenges to embrace these imperfections. In their words: “We are all imperfectly perfect”. They sponsor a project called Grace Notes Project whose general purpose is for musicians to use their talents to offer service to “underserved, under recognized communities”...similar communities as those served by these NJTLs.

Between tennis matches and games, the participants had an opportunity to engage both in music activities and open discussions. It began with Carl Schmid, a classically trained violinist, leading the kids in a “drum circle” of orange buckets from Home Depot. This technique was paired with movement exercises for an interactive session between Carl and the drummers.





Liz Dickison, the Development Director for MTEF was able to talk about the mission of the MTEF and why tennis and education are excellent avenues for providing life skills and opportunities. Elizabeth Erna, mental health coach for SCARS, held an open dialogue with the children and shared tools on how to deal with the stress of life's ups and downs. The music continued, and the room was soon filled with harmonizing drumbeats and a soaring violin accompaniment. To cap off the festivities, the event organizers commemorated Juneteenth, our newest National holiday.

The NJTLs that participated in the event provided the perfect platform for this collaboration to happen. The Grace Notes Project paired with tennis is just one offering that helps youth improve physical, emotional, and mental health. From this weekend, you can see how the culmination of tennis and music was a unique and lasting reminder that we are all imperfectly perfect!



# COVID-19 Grant

The COVID-19 pandemic has strongly impacted so many, but none more so than our youth. Tens of thousands of youth across the Midwest have not only had their sport, play and educational experiences disrupted by the pandemic, but they have also lost the chance to connect with the community offered by our organizations, including mentors/coaches and peers. We know that the services provided to youth through our NJTL programs are imperative to their development and eventual success as individuals. These programs help youth improve physical, emotional, and mental health, and offer an outlet where young people can turn to in their communities.

Our USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation Board of Directors heard the collective needs of our NJTLs and responded to the crisis with immediate action. The Board of Directors created a \$50,000 emergency response fund for the Midwest NJTLs and created policies for NJTLs to remain open under financial hardship. This included resources and training support such as trauma training from *"We Coach"* for youth-focused coaches. Please read more below from our NJTLs who we were able to support during this time.

---

## AdvantageCLE Tennis & Education

I wanted to share that we were able to provide an eight-week virtual camp this summer to over 50 children, thanks to the support of the Midwest Section. We explored ways to teach tennis in this new platform and were able to have our instructors upload videos and use the Net Generation 10 and Under Curriculum that was posted on their website. We found new ways to connect with our campers and bring speakers to them- so we started weekly webinars to introduce our campers to Black professionals- such as reporters, NASA scientists, and local politicians. We also provided online opportunities such as coding camp, cartoon creation camp, and entrepreneurship camp where our campers designed their own t-shirts!





## Love to Serve, Inc.

Thanks to the COVID funding that we received from MTEF, we had an amazing summer! I have a series of videos that I would like to share with you from this summer that spotlight some of the activities our participants engaged in this summer. But first let me summarize how we utilized the funds we received:

1. Racquets and balls for 60 participants to be utilized in their homes
2. 240 poster boards and colored markers for weekly presentations provided by participants
3. 60 pedometers to track their daily activity
4. 60 jump ropes
5. \$25 emergency food and supply COVID-19 donation for each of the 60 participants households
6. Payroll assistance for coaching staff

---

## The ACE Project

Thanks to the USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education, The ACE Project was able to adapt our in-person youth program in Riverdale/Dolton; we launched a camp in Riverdale on September 14th in partnership with a local day care center and park district for 20 kids. Zion, one of the 3 boys participating, was a bit discouraged that he did not have more boys his age to pal around with and was showing signs of withdrawing. Our coaches provided Zion with opportunities to shine, though, and soon, he was helping the "Element Masters" win the multiplication races. Not only was he a great teammate, but he was also by far the fastest and most accurate with his math skills!





## Tennis Opportunity Program (TOP)

Tennis Opportunity Program (TOP) held its annual Kids Kick-Off Saturday, September 19, 2020 at XS Tennis Academy with all 40 of our scholarship kids and their parents and siblings. As tennis clubs have opened back up and the sport is on the "low risk" exposure list (in Illinois), our kids are able to get back to lessons and tournaments. Our Board of Directors were on hand to meet with their respective mentee kids (and facilities), sign their contracts, and go out and play some tennis. Two of our sponsors also provided new outfits (Peachy Tan) and new tennis racquets and gear (Wilson Sporting Goods) for all of our kids. It was a beautiful day for our tennis kick-off!

## People for Palmer Park

My only story is that I am truly thankful for the USTA's assistance in helping us to start our program this summer and fall as well. Information from the USTA was significant to convince the City of Detroit and our People for Palmer Park Board that tennis is a safe sport to play during this time. Other CTA's coming together to share protocol and ideas on how to set up a camp were of a tremendous help.

The funding we received also kept our program going. We lost some revenue because we had to shut down our indoor spring program. Since we had to buy new/different equipment, such as masks, hand sanitizer and other tennis equipment (non-touch items), this funding was greatly needed. Our coaching staff also lost income because of being unable to teach and the monies received helped them as well during these tough times.

What a blessing to have this sport. If anything, that can be of benefit from this pandemic, is that it has made me love tennis even more, if that were possible and appreciate the folks who have been with us all the while. Thank you, Midwest!



# Free Money Available!

**Sound too good to be true? Well, it's not! Check out funding that is available to our NJTLs.**

One of the goals of the USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation is to financially support programs and individuals that provide greater educational opportunities in Midwest communities. We emphasize programs and activities that provide youth with a positive, fun and disciplined environment to learn the game of tennis and create alternatives to negative recreation. In order to accomplish this, our NJTL chapters often need additional funding. Our chapters have many options to seek funding through our Grants and Scholarships. Some are funded by directed donors, which are philanthropic families or organizations who create and contribute personal donations to a cause near and dear to their hearts. We have many examples of these generous endowments. We would like to thank the following individuals.

**Rajeev Ram** who started the EntouRaj for Kids Junior Tennis Grant.

**The Harris Family** who started the Robert P & Barbara D Harris Community Tennis Grant.

**Brian Dean** who started the A.H. Sports Hunter Heck and Lynn Bender Youth Wheelchair Tennis Grant.

**Dorothy Kohl** who started the Dorothy Kohl Future Star Achievement Award.

**Tom Krupp** who started the Anne Krupp Memorial Scholarship.

**Katrina Adams** who started the Richard Bradley Memorial Scholarship.

# Grants and Scholarships Available

## Grants

### Individual

USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation Individual Grant  
EntouRaj for Kids Junior Tennis Grant  
Diversity Grant Individual Player

### Program

USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation Program Grant  
Robert P. and Barbara D. Harris Community Tennis Grant  
CTA Program Grant  
Diversity Program Grant

### Wheelchair

A.H. Sports Hunter Heck and Lynn Bender Youth Wheelchair Tennis Grant  
Wheelchair Player Grant  
Wheelchair Program Grant

### Adaptive

Adaptive Family/Individual Grant  
Adaptive Play Day Grant

### Competitive Tennis

Dorothy Kohl Future Star Achievement Award

## Scholarships

### Individual

USTA/MTEF College Scholarship  
Richard Bradley Memorial Scholarship  
Hooked on Tennis Scholarship  
Rick Van Horn Scholarship

### Wheelchair/Adaptive

USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation Anne Krupp Memorial Scholarship

# Learn More!

Read more on our website for deadlines and details to apply.

[www.midwesttennisfoundation.com](http://www.midwesttennisfoundation.com)

<https://www.usta.com/en/home/coach-organize/tennis-support/grants-assistance.html>

# Quotes From Past Winners

## **Robert P. and Barbara D. Harris Community Tennis Grant: NJTL of Indianapolis**

"The NJTL of Indianapolis's goal is to provide students with the opportunity to learn a sport to which they may have never been exposed and that they can play for a lifetime, and be 'coached' with new and different ways to improve their grades and understanding of their school work," NJTL of Indianapolis Executive Director, Dax Lowery said. "We'd like to thank the USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation and the Robert P and Barbara D Harris Grant for their support of NJTL. The funds will go toward the purchase of new racquets, books and supplies for this free after-school program. This program focuses on schools with minority populations in which most of the students qualify for free or reduced lunch. The program has made tennis more accessible to children who might not have been introduced to the game otherwise."

- Dax Lowry, Executive Director of NJTL of Indianapolis

## **Richard Bradley Memorial Scholarship: Cameron Raglin**

"I am so very happy that I am now in a position to pay back much of the generosity that the Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation showed Cameron. He would not have been able to play the tournaments, have the training he received, play in college, and be the success that he is if not for this organization and tennis."

- Dolores Raglin, Cameron Raglin's mother

# Donate Now!

There are so many ways to help make a difference and support these NJTLs and youth in your communities. Whether it is with a donation to the USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation (MTEF) or other opportunities beyond monetary donations, we invite you to contact Elizabeth Dickison directly at (317) 669-0475 or email her at [elizabeth@midwest.usta.com](mailto:elizabeth@midwest.usta.com) for more information or to set up an appointment.

## Below are a few ways that you can make a difference!

- Donating to our NJTL Program Book: all proceeds will be held for the benefit of our Midwest Chapter NJTLs for the 2022 year
- Corporate Sponsorships
- Double your Donation Program - Find out if your company matches!
- Volunteer Programs
- US Open President Box Suite Access: Donation only
- Purchase a US Open Paver on the “Avenue of Aces” and Support the USTA/MTEF Indian Wells Package (Tickets/Condo): Donation only.
- Silent Auction: February (Annually - online)
- Planned Giving: RMD, Charitable Stock, Trusts, Life Insurance, Steps to Donate, etc.

## Learn More!

To learn more, contact Elizabeth Dickison directly at (317) 669-0475 or email her at [elizabeth@midwest.usta.com](mailto:elizabeth@midwest.usta.com)

Or go to our website:  
[www.midwesttennisfoundation.com](http://www.midwesttennisfoundation.com)

## Scan Here to Donate Now!



# Thank you to our Donors!

## **\$2,500 and up**

Business Information Solutions (BiS)  
Butzlaff Family Charitable Fund

## **\$1,000-\$2,499**

Bobbie and Jim Farley, Angela Farley Wilson  
Ohio Valley Tennis Association  
Old National Bank

## **\$750-\$999**

Lance Turner - Raymond James  
Michael Napariu - REI Real Estate Services  
Mike Manion - Woodley Farra Manion

## **\$500-\$749**

Dorian Dyson  
USTA Central Indiana  
Wisconsin Tennis Association

## **\$499 and Below**

Chicago District Tennis Association  
Crowe LLP: Accounting, Consulting, & Technology  
Elizabeth Dickison and Anna Napariu  
Southeastern Michigan District Tennis Association  
Western Michigan Tennis Association



Smart decisions. Lasting value.™

[crowe.com](http://crowe.com)



## *A Special Thank You*

to Dorothy Kohl for her generous contributions to young tennis players throughout the Midwest Section with the Dorothy Kohl Future Star Achievement Award!

The Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation

The USTA/Midwest Finance and Operations Department extends a warm welcome to the eight new 2021 NJTL Chapters and proudly supports all Midwest NJTLs!

Best wishes to all the Midwest NJTLs-

Dorian Dyson, Jennifer Conley, Zoy Brown, Kris Campbell, Tami Carnes, Amanda Cummings, Elizabeth Dickison, Matthew Gallagher, Anna Napariu, Cyd Raduchel, Kylie York

We offer support services for Midwest NJTLs and CTAs such as:

- Accounting
- Finance
- Administration
- Payroll Services
- And More!

If your NJTL is interested in any of these services, please contact Zoy Brown at [zoy@midwest.usta.com](mailto:zoy@midwest.usta.com)



USTA Central Indiana is honored to welcome our two new NJTLs for the 2021 year!

**Amigos, Richmond Latino Center**

**Indianapolis Tennis & Education Foundation**

We continue to support our long standing NJTLs in the community.

**Evansville Area Tennis Patrons**

**NJTL of Indianapolis**



**Wisconsin Tennis Association proudly supports our NJTL Chapters!**

Creating opportunities for youth to help them reach their greatest potential!



**Chicago District Tennis Association** applauds the work of NJTLs across the Midwest Section.

*Thank you for all you do!*

6 NJTL Chapters in the Chicago District served over 490 youth with 2,380 hours of tennis programming and provided 1,106 hours of educational programming in 2020



**Southeastern Michigan District Tennis Association**

We are proud to welcome our two new NJTLs for the 2021 year and continue to support our senior NJTLs in the community!

**People for Palmer Park  
Inform Yourself Youth Development  
Motor City Tennis Club  
Opportunity Tennis Academy**





REAL ESTATE SERVICES

---

Real Estate Solutions and  
Experience You can Trust

---

[www.reirealestate.com](http://www.reirealestate.com)



**We are proud to support the 28  
NJTL Chapters and welcome the  
8 new 2021 Chapters!**

When it comes to investing and safeguarding your future, we're in it for the long run. Read more about Portfolio Management, Independent Research and Investment Management at [www.woodleyfarra.com](http://www.woodleyfarra.com)



**WOODLEY  
FARRA**  
Independent Research & Investment Management



# Strengthening the fabric of our community.

## **Old National proudly supports USTA Foundation and NJTL.**

As much as we are a financial institution, Old National is a group of parents, volunteers, artists, athletes, neighbors and friends. By making investments of our time, talent and treasure, we work with you to strengthen the fabric of our community.



**OLD NATIONAL BANK**<sup>®</sup>

*Your bank. For life.*<sup>™</sup>

Serving communities in Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Kentucky

[oldnational.com](http://oldnational.com)

Member FDIC





## Up, down or sideways: Keep your head on straight when markets move.

Some investors have learned how to ride out the most stomach-churning market cycles. Others follow the urge to jump out mid-ride. So what can you do to play it smart in a roller coaster of a market?

For starters, you can turn to us. We can help you find a clear way forward before fear or concerns take over with a strategy tailored to your situation. In our experience, perspective is the ticket to helping endure the ups and downs as you pursue your financial goals. Contact us to learn how we can help.



11611 N. Meridian Street, Suite 600  
Carmel, IN 46032  
T 317-573-1777 // F 317-573-1799  
[www.firstheartland.net](http://www.firstheartland.net)

**RAYMOND JAMES**



# *Congratulations*

*to the 2021 USTA/Midwest  
Cincinnati, Ohio NJTLs*

*Cincinnati Recreation Commission  
Cincinnati Tennis Foundation  
Inner City Tennis Project*

*Bobbie and Jim Farley  
Angela Farley Wilson*



**W** **Western**  
ATHLETIC CLUB





MIDWEST  
OHIO VALLEY

# Ohio Valley Tennis Association honors our NJTLs

Cincinnati Recreation Commission  
Cincinnati Tennis Foundation (formerly known  
as Excellence Tennis Foundation)  
Dublin Tennis Outreach Program (TOP)

A special congratulations to:

Dublin Tennis Outreach Program (TOP)  
recipient of the 2021 Harris Grant

The Cincinnati Tennis Foundation recipient of  
USTA/Midwest 2020 CTA of the Year Award!



# Helping to serve the youth of tomorrow.

On behalf of the Butzlaff Family Charitable Fund, we wish to recognize all the NJTL chapters for their success in bringing tennis and education to children who might never otherwise experience it. Your impact has been felt throughout the USTA/Midwest Section. Thank you for your service to tennis.





# Board of Directors

Joy Albi, President  
Christian Bart Bronk, Vice President  
Ryan Ruzziconi, Treasurer  
Timothy Ross, Secretary  
Neil Harris, Delegate at Large  
Curt Bender, Director  
Lynn Callahan, Director  
Paul Farah, Director  
Don Harris, Director  
Jim Hendrix, Director  
Susan Klumpner, Director  
Don Newport, Director  
Fay Peters, Director  
Jonelle Smith, Director  
Jeff Stassen, Director

**USTA/MIDWEST  
TENNIS &  
EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION**

